



RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

SINCE 1926

VOL. LXXII ■ NO. 3

NEWS BULLETIN

WINTER 2016/17



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 14, 2016

I am pleased to send greetings as you celebrate your organization's 90th anniversary.

Our Nation's future is written in our classrooms. Every day, dedicated teachers across our country help America's students realize their fullest potential. Through your commitment to supporting retired educators in and around Chicago, you are not only working to ensure their economic stability, but you are also furthering the belief that all our people should be able to live with dignity and security after a lifetime of contributing to their communities.

As you mark this milestone, you have my best wishes for the years ahead.

President Barack Obama Salutes RTAC on the Occasion of Its 90th Anniversary

The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago has served as a watchdog and guardian for retired Chicago Public School Educators for the past 90 years. President Obama recognized our work supporting retired educators and ensuring their economic stability with a hand-signed proclamation honoring our 90th anniversary. Members who attended the fall luncheon on November 3, 2016, had the opportunity to view the correspondence up close, and we share it with pride as we close out our 90th year of continuous operations. Find more pictures from the luncheon on page 3.

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO (RTAC)

111 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2010, Chicago, Illinois 60602 ■ www.RTAC.org

Since 1926, the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago (RTAC), an independent, non-profit, 501(c) 4 organization, has worked to protect the pensions of retired Chicago Public School (CPS) educators. RTAC is not governed by or a part of CPS, the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF) or the Chicago Teachers' Union (CTU). The RTAC Board of Directors meets monthly. RTAC members in good standing are welcome to attend; check www.rtac.org for the current meeting schedule.

RTAC NEWS BULLETIN

The News Bulletin is distributed free of charge to RTAC members three times per year. RTAC welcomes submissions on topics relevant to members. Material will be published as space allows, and may be edited. Send typed submissions to office@rtac.org.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

David T. Peterson <i>President</i>	Sylvia Asllani <i>Secretary</i>
Louella B. Preston <i>First Vice President</i>	John A. Butterfield <i>Treasurer</i>
Linda R. Williams <i>Second Vice President</i>	Marcella L. Morrison <i>Immediate Past President</i>

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Arlene R. Crandall

ELECTED DIRECTORS

2016-2017

Roy Coleman
John Garvey
Juanita Jordan
Carlene Lutz
Eva Nickolich

John Reilly
Mary Sharon
Reilly
Maria Rodriguez

2015-2016

Betty Cittadine
Hubert C. Jackson
Ralph A. Juss
Patricia Kubistal

Rita M. Naughton
James Patrick
Louise Ponce

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

PAST PRESIDENTS

Robert C. Konen	Ethel Philpott
Vaughn J. Barber	Walter E. Pilditch
Steven Kailes	Zygmunt Sokolnicki

RTAC SERVICE DIRECTORY

RTAC Office hours: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. school days	1-312-750-1522
RTAC E-mail	office@rtac.org
Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF) 203 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2600, Chicago, IL 60601-1231	1-312-641-4464
CTPF Health Insurance Information	1-312-641-4464

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 WINTER NEWS UPDATE**
Highlights from the Fall Luncheon, Armstrong Award Nominations Sought, RTAC Elections, Health Insurance Updates, RTAC's Seminar Program and more...
- 6 SPOTLIGHT ON SPRINGFIELD**
The Legislative Advocates report and RTAC's 2017 Legislative Agenda.
- 7 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**
David T. Peterson
- 7 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**
Arlene R. Crandall
- 8 WEBMASTER'S MESSAGE**
Roy Coleman
- 9 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**
Join, Renew, Refer a Friend today and receive the benefits of membership throughout the year
- 10 DONATION FORM**
One form, four ways to make a difference!
- 11 NEW LIFE MEMBERS**
- 11 LEGAL DEFENSE FUND GIFTS**
Including President's Circle gifts
- 12 DONATIONS**
Gifts to the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund, Retired Teachers Association of Chicago, and COPE gifts
- 13 VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**
- 15 SPRING LUNCHEON INVITATION**
Join us for a gala event on Monday, May 22, 2017, featuring Keynote Speaker Lily Liu. See page 15 for your invitation and additional information.

Annual Membership \$50

Lifetime Membership \$300



Fall 2016 90th Anniversary Luncheon and Business Meeting

The calendar read November 3, 2016, but the weather felt like spring, as more than 500 RTAC members and their guests gathered in the grand ballroom at the Hilton Chicago, for an afternoon of food, fun, and fellowship. The celebration concluded RTAC's 90th anniversary year celebrations and offered the opportunity to reflect on past accomplishments and look forward to challenges ahead. RTAC also conducted its business meeting where new directors and officers were elected for the 2017-2018 biennium (see page 4).

1: Director Hubert Jackson Jr. provides the invocation. 2: Friends from Medill Elementary included Aretta Berry, Elizabeth Allen, and Ruth Anderson. 3: An overview of the ballroom. 4: President-Elect Patricia Kubistal greets guests. 5: President David T. Peterson welcomes attendees. 6: Dr. Barbara Martin and Carol Sutton enjoy the luncheon. 7: Susan and Paul Binkis and Larry Josephson pause before dessert. 8: The office staff manages a busy registration table. 9: Nominating Committee Chair Roy Coleman with committee members, Frank Lacey, Barbara Martin, Maria Rodriguez and Eva Nickolich. 10: Lucky winners of the Fall 2016 Raffle prizes included Angela Ward, Eva Daniel-Bruce, Claudine A. Moore, Pat Kubistal, Beverly Brown, Robert Babbs, Jeannine Valentino, Ruth Anderson, Dorothy Jemison, Helen Marie Wallace, and Althea J. Jones.



2017 Armstrong Award Nominations

This spring RTAC will seek nominations for the James E. Armstrong Award. The award, named to honor RTAC's founding President, is the organization's highest honor. RTAC members in good standing may nominate an RTAC member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment, dedication, and service

to RTAC. The nomination form is available online at www.rtac.org. Submit nominations to RTAC First Vice President Linda R. Williams, by Monday, April 3, 2017. The award will be presented at the spring luncheon on May 22, 2017.



Save the date for the Spring 2017 luncheon on May 22. Find your invitation on page 15.



2017-2018 RTAC Elections

RTAC members elected new officers and directors during the November 3, 2016, business meeting and luncheon. The following individuals will serve two-year terms, January 2017 through December 2018.

2017-2018 Executive Board



Patricia B. Kubistal, President



Linda R. Williams, First Vice President



Ralph A. Juss, Second Vice President

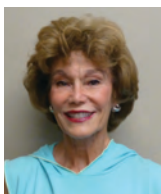


Sylvia Asllani, Secretary



John Butterfield, Treasurer

2017-2018 Directors



Elizabeth Cittadine



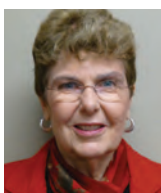
George Drelis



Kevin B. Huber



Hubert C. Jackson, Jr.



Rita M. Naughton



James Patrick



Louella B. Preston



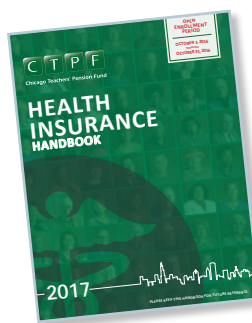
Diane Yonkers

Retiree Health Insurance

RTAC was pleased to be invited to provide feedback to the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF), regarding the health insurance program options which it secures on behalf of its annuitants. CTPF assumed responsibility for this coverage when CPS discontinued coverage for retired teachers in 1988. Since that time CTPF has worked to provide retirees with well-negotiated coverage options.

For 2017, the Fund was able to negotiate modest increases averaging 2.9% for Medicare level participants and an average of 4.6% for Pre-Medicare participants. The *2017 Health Insurance Handbook* includes a description of plan changes and costs. All changes and prices become effective January 1, 2017.

RTAC continues to work proactively to protect/maintain this essential element of our retirement security.



Nominations Sought



RTAC Directorships

Are you interested in getting more involved with RTAC? Would you like to serve as a Director or on a Committee?

This spring RTAC will seek nominees for eight directorships open for the biennium 2018-2019. Per the RTAC Bylaws, any member in Good Standing is encouraged to self nominate. Qualifications to serve as an RTAC Director are:

1. Possess computer competency (either Windows or Apple)
2. Have regular access to the Internet to send/receive information.
3. Be prepared to work collaboratively.
4. Attend monthly meetings (generally the first Wednesday of the month).
5. Engage new and current CTPF retiree annuitants to join RTAC.
6. Offer constructive ideas to support the organization's goals.
7. Participate in activities which focus upon the organization's mission.

Applications are due on or before April 30, 2017, and will be available at www.rtac.org. The 2017 Nominating Committee will interview the 2018-2019 candidates in late spring 2017.

Volunteer for an RTAC Committee

RTAC has several committees which support the work of the organization. Find a complete listing of committees and responsibilities at www.rtac.org.

All RTAC members interested in serving on a committee should send a letter of interest and a brief professional resume to office@rtac.org on or before December 31, 2016.



RTAC's Free Seminar Program

RTAC continued its successful free seminar program with four offerings in September and October 2016.

October 12, 2016, Bill Blyth and Carla Nitz offered members an opportunity to examine tax returns and effectively plan for the coming tax season. They reviewed complicated concepts related to income taxes and helped the attendees consider how to best prepare for the completion of their 2016 returns.

September 29, 2016, Lynne Lukas, of The Clare, provided a session on Senior Housing Options. Ms. Lukas' presentation included descriptions of the various types of housing which are available to seniors ranging from independent housing options to continuous care retirement communities. Her suggestion was to prepare in advance so that seniors understand the various options in order to make the most informed decision when a change becomes necessary. Mobility and financial challenges are common reasons which make independent arrangements untenable (i.e. multi-level homes when one's mobility is compromised).

September 27, 2016, Ward Powell of Estate Plan Chicago set forth issues to consider when "Closing the Gap to Secure Financial Peace Retirees." The seminar examined ways in which personal situations present opportunities to ensure financial security.

September 20, 2016, Tony Tovar of Oak Street Health provided a presentation on Healthy Sugars which focused upon how one can address the issue of pre-diabetes. According to current statistics, a substantial percentage of the U.S. population is presently pre-diabetic and is unaware of the dangers. Tovar's presentation focused on current research about pre-diabetic trends. The presentation shared information on how the consumption of carbohydrate-laden dietary staples and lack of exercise contribute to the onset of type two diabetes which can seriously impair health and longevity.

Spring Seminar Suggestions

The RTAC seminar program will resume in the Spring. If you have suggestions for a program topic, please e-mail office@rtac.org. Program information will be posted at www.rtac.org as soon as dates and topics are finalized.



Lynne Lukas of The Clare discusses senior housing options during a September 29 seminar.

Dental Insurance

MetLife



RTAC is pleased that our 10-year relationship with Metlife Dental continues to provide our members with two cost-effective coverage options. Members who access either of the two options have extended benefits if they choose 'in network' dental providers. If an RTAC Metlife dental insured exceeds his/her annual \$1,250 maximum benefit level in either the high or low plan, you continue to receive discounts (35%-45%) from your in-network providers.

Semi-annual dental exams, cleanings, and x-rays can help maintain good dental and overall health. RTAC members who participate in the Metlife dental program are also eligible for discounts on glasses, contact lenses, Lasik procedures, and non-prescription sunglasses.

For further information, please call the RTAC office at 1-312-750-1522 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. weekdays when school is in session.

CTPF Ambassador Program



The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund offers an Ambassador program for its members.

Ambassador training sessions held online and in person help members learn effective ways to communicate with legislators, friends, family and neighbors about issues important to retirees. Ambassadors help elected representatives understand that pensions represent people – not just numbers on a spreadsheet. Find links to the Ambassador training program and useful materials available to download and share on the RTAC website, www.rtac.org.

Ward Powell of Estate Plan Chicago addresses retirees on September 27.



Spotlight on Springfield

In 2016, the General Assembly passed SB 318 which was signed into law by Governor Rauner and became Public Act 99- 0521. This law provides that the Chicago Board of Education MAY annually levy an additional tax of up to .383% of the current value of all real estate in Chicago, and this revenue must be remitted directly to the Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF). The levy will generate approximately \$250 million dollars. RTAC is committed to ensuring that this additional tax levy is fully implemented.

Between November 9, 2016, and January 10, 2017, we would like you to make a personal visit to get acquainted with your Illinois State Senator and Representative. RTAC members need to educate their legislators about our issues and our concerns. In particular, you will want to meet with any new "freshmen" legislators - the terminology we use for men and women who are newly elected to their

first term in either the Illinois House of Representatives or Senate. In addition to the current legislators, these new law-makers will especially need to hear about our issues and how we believe we can restore fiscal integrity to our Pension Fund.

Your legislators WANT to hear from you, especially when you visit them in their Local District Offices. What are you supposed to talk about to the legislators? Presently, your Chicago Teachers Pension Fund is only funded at about 52.4% of its liability to you and your future retiree colleagues. We need to ensure that they understand how critical your need for economic security is in retirement. Most of them don't realize that retired Chicago Public School teachers do not receive Social Security for their years of teaching. You rely upon your pensions to meet your expenses. Yes, your legislative advocates will support you; but, you have the most powerful voice. We encourage you to take this action to convey your concerns and ensure your economic well-being in the future.



RTAC legislative advocates Richard Lockhart and Bukola Bello during the fall 2016 luncheon (not pictured, John Carr).

In January, the Governor will deliver his "State of the State" message, and in February his Budget Message. The designated pension levy needs to be sustained and fully funded as set forth in SB 318.

Your help and support are critical to the success of RTAC's legislative advocacy initiative. You are a vital element in our work to protect your pension. Thanking you in advance for your efforts. – Bukola Bello, John Carr and Richard Lockhart.

RTAC's 2017 Legislative Agenda



The RTAC Executive Board, Directors, and Past Presidents approved the following legislative agenda for 2017, the first year of the 100th Illinois General Assembly.

Encourage Illinois General Assembly Representatives and Senators to support and VOTE YES for legislation which:

- ensures the implementation of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (CTPF) levy,
- secures equitable State of Illinois funding for Chicago teachers' pensions,

- stabilizes a viable health insurance program for CTPF annuitants,
- maintains the independence and fiscal integrity of CTPF,
- opposes 'pension holidays' for the Chicago Public Schools,
- increases elected retiree representation on the CTPF Board,
- supports educational funding that meets the needs of all Illinois children

RTAC watches over Springfield and helps to ensure that your voice is heard and that your pension and benefits stay protected.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David T. Peterson

During the years that I had the opportunity to serve as a member of the RTAC Board of Directors, the last two as your president, I have been impressed by the repeated efforts of the membership as you have risen to address the challenges to our pension fund and its member benefits.

Our opposition to any "pension holidays" which would relieve CPS from its obligation to our Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund, has led to full payments for three years in a row. These payments are a significant achievement considering previous years of failure to contribute which cost our Fund millions of dollars.

Our actions have been successful in maintaining health insurance as a part of our pension benefits.

Our continuous efforts lead to the acceptance and restoration of a dedicated tax levy for our Fund. This revenue stream will provide a consistent portion of the funding needed for our pensions, and is separate from the CPS budget.

Finally, our advocacy has forced the State of Illinois to recognize its obligation to fund CTPF in the same way it provides funding for the downstate/suburban Teachers Retirement System.

While these steps, successfully supported by our membership give us great satisfaction, we must remember that in this GAME what is given can be taken away, modified, or ignored.

RTAC is your watchdog on all pension and benefit matters related to retired Chicago public school educators. Our success requires numbers, financial support, and participation by our members.

We are constantly in need of volunteers to help govern our organization and make our work possible.

We need funds to provide programs and to make sure our pensions and benefits are protected.

We need additional RTAC members to ensure that when we speak, the city, state,



David T. Peterson

and the public listen to and understand our concerns.

I hope that reading this *Bulletin* will inspire you to contact all the CTPF annuitants and urge them to become members of RTAC. We need active participants who understand the importance of protecting our pensions.

Our new president, Patricia Kubistal, and the Board of Directors are depending upon you for continued support leading to our continued success.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Arlene R. Crandall

As we look forward to the beginning of the final decade of RTAC's century of service as a protector of retired Chicago public school educators, we find ourselves challenged to ensure that what our predecessors devoted themselves to achieving continues into the future. We cannot lose sight of our founders' mission and vision.

As recently as four years ago there was an initiative on the statewide ballot that was designed to reduce our automatic annual increase. We and our fellow public employees from across Illinois overcame that initiative, and worked together to make sure that we received the benefits we were promised. We must forever maintain our vigilance on all aspects related to our retirement security. Many of our fellow retired employees who served in the fire, police, and other city municipal organizations are no longer eligible for well-negotiated group health insurance options. We must work collaboratively to avoid their fate and to protect what we earned.

Now is the time for you to again contact your newly elected and reelected Illinois

representatives and senators who represent us in the Illinois General Assembly. The 100th session will begin on January 11, 2017. We must inform legislators of our concerns and ask them to work on our behalf. We are their constituents. We elected these individuals and they need to fulfill the promises they made to us.

As you are considering your year-end contributions to worthy organizations and/or as you are making arrangements for bequests, please include RTAC in your planned giving.

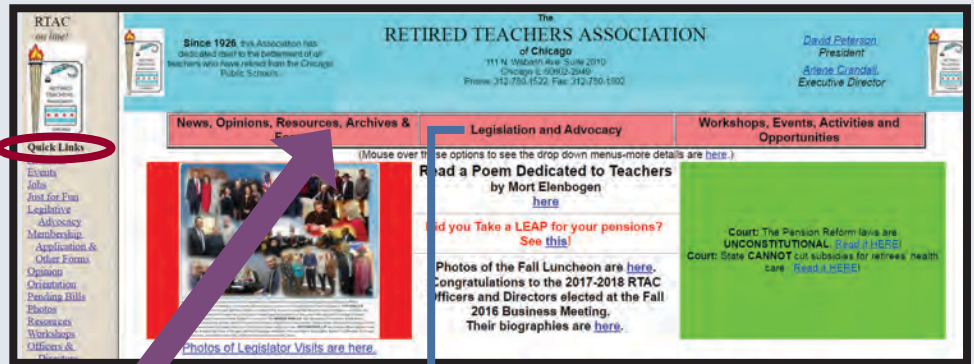
Naming RTAC as a beneficiary enables you to leave your imprint on our organization. Dues and the return on our investments cover about one-half of our ongoing expenses. Your contributions and legacy gifts enable us to continue our mission to protect retired Chicago Public School educators.

WEBMASTER'S MESSAGE



Webmaster
Roy Coleman

RTAC's Homepage: www.rtac.org



What's on the Web

The RTAC website www.rtac.org has many useful resources available to our members with a click or two. This is a guide to some of our most popular links and features.

There are two main navigational features: **Quick Links** (circled in red above) on the sidebar take you directly to areas of interest.

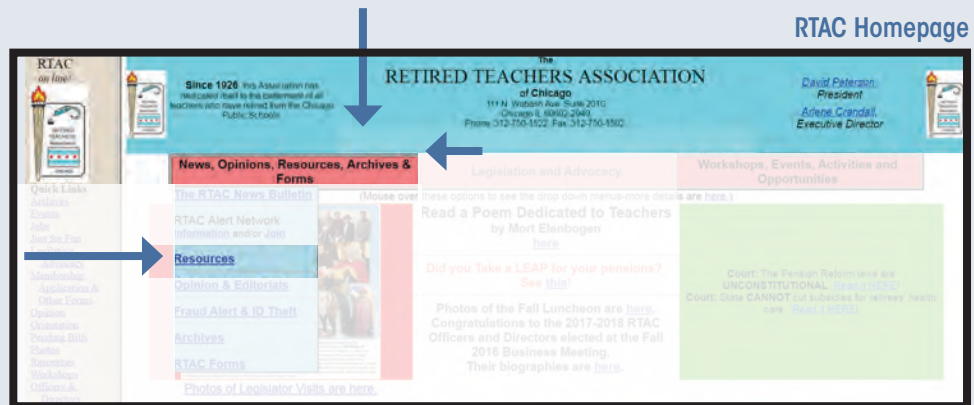
The Menu Bar at the top of the page (highlighted in red) contains three main topic areas: News, Opinions, Resources, Archives & Forms | Legislation and Advocacy | Workshops, Events, Activities and Opportunities. Clicking on any of these topics leads to a group of sub menus which have additional information.

Example: the Resources submenu under News, Opinions, Resources, Archives and Forms, has useful links ranging from election to traffic information. Information you can find here includes:

- Legislator look up: Illinois residents can click on the link, enter a nine digit ZIP code, and get a listing of all of your Illinois legislators and their contact information
- Webpages of the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund (CTPF) and the Chicago Teacher's Union (CTU)
- Cook County residents can check to see if you qualify for a property tax rebate
- Seniors in Cook County can access the Cook County Elder Justice Center
- Oak Street Health offers warming and cooling centers during extreme weather, identifying locations and services.



Finding the RTAC Resources page



- If you receive Federal Social Security benefits you can find information about legislation fighting the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset
- Information on enrolling in a group dental program through MetLife or a hearing program through Hear in America is available
- The Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund provides assistance to seniors in difficult financial circumstances. CRTAF has its own website with information and applications
- Information on the Affordable Care Act and how it affects healthcare insurance costs
- Travel information for Chicago's expressways, CTA, Metra and O'Hare and Midway airports



The best way to understand the RTAC webpage?
Explore on your own at www.rtac.org. Start clicking today!



RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Membership Application

Please use this form to:

Join the Retired Teachers
Association of Chicago (RTAC)

Renew your annual membership
 Join the RTAC E-Mail Alert Team
 Change your address

GENERAL INFORMATION: PLEASE PRINT

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Phone: _____

Retired in Year: _____ Position: _____

From: _____

(name of Chicago Public School)

Social Security Number: xxx-xx- _____

(last 4 digits only for verification purposes — your confidentiality is assured.)

Join our RTAC E-Mail Alert Team to receive time-sensitive information about your pension.

Non-CPS e-mail address: _____

(Your CPS e-mail address terminates when you retire)

Did a current RTAC member refer you? Yes No

If yes, please list name of referring member: _____

JOIN OR RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP

Enclosed is my check number _____ dated _____ made payable to RTAC.

Enroll me as a new annual member, \$50 for the calendar year 2017

Renew my annual membership, \$50 for the calendar year 2017

Enroll me as a life member \$300

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If the address listed above is new, please complete the section below:

Please note effective date for new address: (date: mm/dd/yy) _____ / _____ / _____

Please return this form and a check to: RTAC, 111 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2010, Chicago, IL 60602

THIS FORM IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.RTAC.ORG



MAKE A DONATION: MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A donation to the Legal Defense Fund, Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (CRTAF), RTAC, or the Committee on Political Education (COPE), is a meaningful way to show your support for your pension or to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one. There is a **\$20 minimum donation per honoree for all funds**. Return this form with your payment to: **RTAC, 111 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2010, Chicago, Illinois 60602.**



RTAC LEGAL DEFENSE FUND (LDF) DONATION

RTAC established a Legal Defense Fund to pay legal fees for a lawsuit when the Illinois General Assembly enacts legislation which diminishes CTPF pensions and/or ancillary benefits. *Donors contributing \$100 or more are acknowledged as President's Circle Members in the News Bulletin.* LDF donations are **NOT** tax deductible.

Enclosed is my check number _____ amount \$ _____ dated _____ payable to **RTAC LDF**.

Donor's Name: _____ Check box if this gift is anonymous

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND (CRTAF) DONATION SEE: WWW.CRTAF.ORG

CRTAF is a 501(c)3 charitable organization established in 1986 to assist retired CPS teachers and administrators in challenging financial circumstances. CRTAF donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. **\$20 minimum donation per honoree.**

Enclosed is my check number _____ amount \$ _____ dated _____ payable to **CRTAF**.

Donor's Name: _____ Check box if this gift is anonymous

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Please indicate purpose of gift congratulate celebrate memorialize general purposes

Honoree's Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (RTAC) DONATION

RTAC is a 501(c)4 organization established in 1926 to protect and enhance the pensions of retired CPS educators. RTAC donations are **NOT** tax deductible. **\$20 minimum donation per honoree.**

Enclosed is my check number _____ amount \$ _____ dated _____ payable to **RTAC**.

Donor's Name: _____ Check box if this gift is anonymous

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Please indicate purpose of gift congratulate celebrate memorialize general purposes

Honoree's Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION (COPE) DONATION

COPE is organized to support political efforts designed to educate legislators and protect pensions. Gifts to the COPE Fund are **NOT** tax deductible. **\$20 minimum donation, please.**

Enclosed is my check number _____ amount \$ _____ dated _____ payable to **COPE**.

Donor's Name: _____ Check box if this gift is anonymous

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

NEW LIFE MEMBERS, JULY 1 – OCTOBER 31, 2016

DONALD C. ANDERSON
MILDRED ANDERSON
CARLINE ARCHIE
MARIAN P. BLAND
PAMELA. BREITBERG
JOHN F. BRENNAN
MARY L. BUCHANAN
GEORGE BUCHHEIT
JERALD T. BUERGEL
PETER BUSHBACHER
VERA A. CLARK
DEBRA DANDELES
CARA L. DIGGS
PAMELA R. DOZIER
MARITZA GALLEGOS

BEVERLY L. GOOSBY
JAMES GRECO
MARIETTA K. GRIFFITH-
CROWDER
KENNETH GUZIK
ALICE HARPER-JONES
RUSSELL HENCINSKI
ROSEMARY HYNEK
BERNETTA JACKSON
JANICE C. KEELEY
JAN KOCEK
SYLVESTER A MARTIN
LAWRENCE KIM
MC DANDEL
ISABEL MC FAUL
MARY A. MILLER

JAMES MITCHELL
NOURI ESHAFI
MOHEBAHMADI
AIRETTA MYRICK
BLYTHE OLSHAN-FINDLEY
GIUSEPPINA PALMERI
DORTHY DREW PANDEL
GLORIA A. PELT
ANKA G. POPOVICH-
KRSTIC
MARIANNE PYSTER
JANICE J. RANSOM
NANCY RIVERA
JO ANN ROBERTS
YOLANDA RODRIGUEZ
EILEEN M. RONNING

MONICA G. SKYLAS
HENRY L. STANCIEL
HAROLD STEPHENS
THOMAS SZOT
GAY TATE
TERRANCE M. TAYLOR SR
RENEE A. THOMAS
NANCY THOMAS-
DONALDSON
LONNIE WALKER-RIVERS
KATHERINE WOODS
LORRAINE YOUNG
DIANE S. ZMACZYNSKI
DENNIS J. ZYGADLO



LEGAL DEFENSE FUND GIFTS JULY 1 – OCTOBER 31, 2016

RTAC has established a legal defense fund for the purpose of initiating legal action to protect CTPF Pension benefits. Gifts of \$100 or more are acknowledged as President's Circle members.

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE MEMBERS (DONATIONS OF \$100 OR MORE)

Anonymous	Connolly, Angela P.	Lattyak, Jerome & Dorothea
Bonner, Barbara	Gamble, Michelle Denise	Maynor, Virginia A.
Carlson, Gwynne N.	Holmes, Rosemary & Warren	Ruffalo, Kathryn

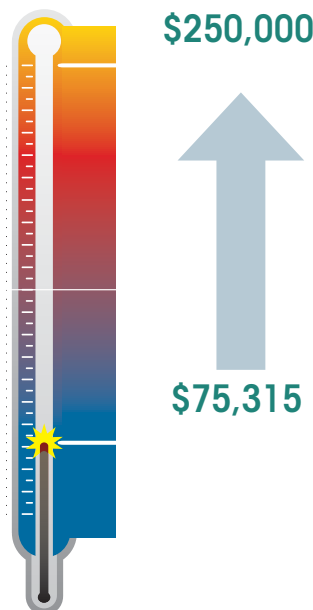
OTHER GIFTS

Anonymous (2)	O'Neal, Ida M.
Hutchinson, Juanita	Schur, Lenora
Mitchell-Jones, Annie A.	

LDF Surpasses 75K

RTAC launched a Legal Defense Fund to prepare for legal action if Illinois passes legislation to reduce pension benefits. RTAC is making good progress towards a \$250,000 goal. Recent donations pushed the balance above \$75,000.

Your continued support is vital. Please make a gift today. Donors are listed in the *News Bulletin*, and gifts of \$100 or more are listed in the President's Circle. Find a donation form on page 10.



End of Year and Legacy Gifts

Your donations make the work of RTAC possible. As the end of the year nears, please consider making a gift to RTAC so that we can continue the fight to safeguard your pension and ancillary benefits.

Name a Gift

A gift honoring a friend or family member is always the perfect size.

A Lasting Legacy

Naming RTAC or the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (CRTAF) in your estate plans or as a beneficiary of your CTPF death benefit, enables RTAC to provide assistance to retired Chicago Public School educators who find themselves in constrained financial circumstances. CRTAF provides monthly grants-in-aid and one-time grants to assist our former colleagues to address basic economic needs.

Donation form

Find a donation form on page 10, or contact RTAC for more information about naming a legacy gift.

CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND GIFTS JULY 1-OCTOBER 31, 2016

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Anonymous	Andrea Kerr, Larry J. Thomas, Virginia Vaske
Anderson, Donald H.	Donald T. Dufner, Ursula H. Maethner, Philip E. Vierling
Carlson, Gwynne N.	Johanna R. Kasper
Chaney, Jeanne H.	William T. Yates
Connolly, Angela P.	Marie Ann Cristol
Diori, Esther	Ron Giranio
Eaglin, Louis	James McGee, Betty Thompson
Fetes, Dolores	Bridget Cruz, Judith Cantrall, Jennifer Kaczar, Carol Katzberger, Carole Takiff, Linda Lent
Foley, Ruth	James L. Foley
Frantz, John J.	Frank Lucente, Jr.
Friend, Richard & Hannelore	Alice Maresh
Gallo, Jeannie	Andrea Kerr
Geijer, Jo Ann	Linda Carlson, Nancy Gerich
Green, Thomas R.	Dr. Larry Hawkins, Madeline S. Morris, Dr. June Penbroke, Odessa Wilson
Hill, Harold & Trudy	Marie Jernigan, Andrea S. Kerr, Donald Pleas, Angelena Jemison Smith, Larry J. Thomas, James F. Ward, Willie J. White
Jagielski, Veronica F.	Arthur Jagielski
Johnson, Delphine	Julia Shelton

Keating, John P.	Diane T. Faubl
Koch, Jewel B.	Marie Ann Cristol, Margaret Junker
Lattyak, Dorothea	Alice Maresh
Lieberman, Carl & Alice	Ian Campbell, Thomas M. Finnegan, Susan Landsman, Lois S. Moore
Moscinski, John & Donna	Sharon Goldberg
Newton, Johnnie	Frances Hale, Albert Pirtle, Melvin Walker, Ella B. Watkins, Odessa Wilson
Nickolich, Eva	Alice Maresh
O'Malley, Eileen B.	Barbara A. Cousins
Richter, George J.	Ian Campbell, Tom Finnegan, Kurt Kopfstein
Smeriglio, Elizabeth & Rocco	Frank Lucente, Jr.
Ursula H. Maethner Estate	Ursula H. Maethner
Warden, Bill	Joseph Stepanek

DONOR	PURPOSE
Anonymous (6)	General Purposes
Holmes, Rosemary & Warren	General Purposes
Markus, Ann (2)	General Purposes
Moscinski, John & Donna	General Purposes
Pyster, Louis N.	General Purposes
Ramirez-Odell, Helen	General Purposes
Rosen, Sandra	General Purposes
Vasquez, Rosetta	General Purposes

RTAC GIFTS JULY 1-OCTOBER 31, 2016

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Eaglin, Louis	Phillip Carr, John Everett, James Sloss, Edna Thompson
Henry Suder Club	Georgia Chrisos, Fran Layo
Nawrocki, Ronald	James F. Ward
Panos, Tina	Marian Panos
Pruchnicki, Carol Lynn	Michael Pruchnicki, Michaeline Rojek
Rubin, Fred	Ursula H. Maethner
Scarpaci, Joseph	Robert Firman, Leonard Mickas
St. James, Lloyd A.	Ethelynn St. James
Tadin, Antoinette B.	Roger M. Koenig
Tauchman, Charles A.	John J. Glazier, James R. Harden, Roger M. Koenig

RTAC DONATIONS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES

Anonymous (2)	Hunter, Fred R.
Augustiny, Frank J.	Hutchinson, Juanita

COPE GIFTS JULY 1 – OCTOBER 31, 2016

Anonymous (3)
Schur, Lenora S.

Errata

RTAC extends its apologies to Ms. Delora Mitchell, former supervisor in the CPS Teacher Nurse program, who made a generous contribution to the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund in June 2016. Our Fall 2016 *News Bulletin* incorrectly indicated that she had passed. We are most pleased to be able to advise you that she is alive and well. Ms. Mitchell kindly and thoughtfully made a gift to honor the memory of her former colleagues: Mildred Lavizzo, Beatrice Lites, Marion Mitchell, Daphne Rose and Holly Stephenson. Thank you again to Ms. Mitchell. May you continue to enjoy your retirement years.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Many retired teachers find working for a worthy cause as a volunteer extremely satisfying. The following organizations are among those who have asked us for help in recruiting. RTAC does not endorse any organization.



JOIN OUR SERVICE COMMITTEE

NOTE: Please consider joining our Service Committee. This committee meets monthly to write notes on the birthday cards RTAC sends to our members age 85 and above. If you have clear penmanship and like to write, call us at 312-750-1522 and ask for the Service Committee's schedule.

Agency	Location	Contact Person	Phone
AARP Illinois Center	Chicago	Beverly Moore	312-458-3604
American Cancer Society	West Suburbs	Marni Fredrickson	708-484-8541x231
American Heart Association	Chicago	Traci Bruce	312-476-6643
American Lung Association of Chicago	Chicago Central	Alexis Lewis	312-628-0234
Battered Women's Network	Chicago Central	Betsy Minor	312-750-0730
Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Ctrr	Chicago Near North		773-754-3911
Blind Service Association	Chicago Central	Theresa Togtman	312-236-0808
Chicago History Museum	Chicago Near North	Marne Bariso	312-642-4600
Chicago HOPES (Homeless Support)	Chicago	Arifa Boyer	773-553-2242
Chicago Youth Centers	Chicago Central	Michelle Gauthier	312-762-5655
Corazon a Corazon (Heart to Heart)	Chicago Southeast	Amanda Koss	773-221-0620
Council for Jewish Elderly	Chicago	Anne. L. Simon	773-50 64
Crown Family Playlab at Field Museum	Chicago Central	Kate Cary	312-665-7307
DuPage Historical Museum	DuPage County	Mary Johnson	630-682-6746
Forest Preserve District	Western Suburbs	Deborah C. Brooks	630-933-7681
Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance	Chicago West	Kirsten Akre	773-638-1766x24
Gary Comer Youth Center	Chicago South	Reggie Tucker	773-358-4088
Glessner House Museum	Chicago Near South	Clare Schaecher	312-326-1480
Howard Area Community center	Chicago Rogers Park	Kirsten Pomykala	773-262-6622x264
Ill. Volunteers of America	Northeastern Illinois	Peggy Schweiger	312-707-8707
Kids Voting	Chicago	Ellen Solomon	312-332-3107
Madison School	Skokie	Hillary Schab	847-414-8920
Metropolitan Family Services	Chicago Midway Ctr	Dee Speich	773-884-2267
Midwest Palliative/Hospice Care-Center	North Suburban	Lisa Dye	847-467-7423
Peace Corps	Chicago Region		312-353-4990

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Click here for additional volunteer opportunities.

This list is only a part of the full list of volunteering opportunities available to RTAC members. For a full listing, visit www.rtac.org and go to "volunteers."

The "Other Opportunities" page on the RTAC website may also list requests for volunteers for specific events like the Chicago Marathon, election workers and docents for various museums along with occasional requests for information on the Chicago Public Schools.

Agency	Location	Contact Person	Phone
Polish Museum of America	Chicago Near NW		773-384-3352
Prairie Avenue House Museum	Chicago Near South	Michael Soet	312-326-1480
Prologue Adult Education (Literacy)	Chicago North	Christina Mang	773-728-7221
Read to Learn	Northwest Suburbs	Lesley Goldberg	847-718-7224
Refugee Program (Summer Tutoring)	Chicago North	Kaylee Sonnek	773-553-1930
Spring Valley Nature Center	Schaumburg	Susan Findling	847-985-2100
Substance Newspaper	Chicago	C. Blumenthal	312-736-1702
TEC Tutoring	Chicago	Konora Maxwell	773-374-2363
The Learning Center	Chicago Lawndale	Sr. M. Kavanaugh	773-277-3111
The University of Illinois Extension	South Suburbs	Karen Meyer	708-449-4320
Travelers & Immigrants Aid	Chicago	Brian Harvey	312-629-4500x5011
Triton College (Literacy)	River Grove	Carol Di Fatta	708-456-0300x3407
Working in the Schools	Chicago	Liz Murphy	312-368-9487
School Children's Aid Society	Chicago	Margaret Paul	773-247-1311
Sierra Club's Inner City Outings	Chicago-North		847-274-0127
Woman Made Gallery	Chicago Near NW	Pamela Callahan	312-328-0038



The Chicago Public Schools 2017 Science Fair depends on volunteers and sponsors to provide a successful program.

Visit <http://cpsscifair.org/Main/contribute.html> to find out how you can contribute financially, or work directly with students as a volunteer as a mentor or science fair judge.



RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO 2017 SPRING LUNCHEON

You are cordially invited to join RTAC friends and Board Members

MONDAY MAY 22, 2017

11:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (doors open at 11:30 a.m.)

HILTON CHICAGO GRAND BALLROOM

720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60605

The ballroom is immediately inside the main hotel entrance and up the staircase on the left. An elevator is available. Discounted parking for hotel self-park is available.



2017 Spring Luncheon Program

Please join us as we enjoy lunch, hear the latest information about our pensions, and learn about Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, founder of the the National Retired Teachers Association. As a founding member of NRTA (which evolved into AARP), RTAC played an active role in NRTA's creation. Our keynote speaker, Lily Liu, AARP Archivist *Emerita*, will share research about Dr. Andrus, a Chicago born and raised educator who in retirement spearheaded the movement to provide retired teachers with access to appropriate housing and medical care. Dr. Andrus also dedicated her life in retirement to curtailing age discrimination practices, and her efforts led to the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967. Door prizes will be called during the latter part of the program, and there are always special surprises.



2017 SPRING LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESERVATION TO RTAC TODAY. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO RTAC 2017 SPRING LUNCHEON.

This form is also available at www.rtac.org.

Enclosed is my check number # _____ dated _____
in the amount of: \$ _____ \$ _____ for _____ member tickets at \$45 each
\$ _____ for _____ guest tickets at \$50 each

Member's Name: _____ Entree: Chicken Fish Veg.

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Paid Guest's Name: _____ Entree: Chicken Fish Veg.

Paid Guest's Name: _____ Entree: Chicken Fish Veg.

Paid Guest's Name: _____ Entree: Chicken Fish Veg.

WE URGE YOU TO MAKE AN EARLY RESERVATION. RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, MAY 11 2017, TO: RTAC, 111 NORTH WABASH AVENUE, SUITE 2010, CHICAGO, IL 60602-2949

Tickets will not be mailed. All tickets will be held at the door. No REFUNDS for any reason. **We are unable to accommodate walk-ins or meal changes at the hotel.** RSVP Deadline is Thursday, May 11, 2017. No exceptions.

Not a member but want the member rate? Complete the form (available on page 9 and at www.rtac.org) and return it with this reservation form and your separate payments for membership and the luncheon. Need additional information? Call 1-312-750-1522.



RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO (RTAC)

111 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2010
Chicago, IL 60602-2949

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHICAGO, IL
PERMIT NO. 705



VISIT WWW.RTAC.ORG
"LIKE US" ON FACEBOOK



RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO (RTAC) MISSION STATEMENT

To serve as the primary advocate for retired Chicago Public School teachers and to empower them by engaging in activities and services that will promote their well-being with particular emphasis on the maintenance and enhancement of their pension benefits.

RTAC Protects Pensions

RENEW, JOIN, OR INVITE A FRIEND TODAY

An investment in RTAC is an investment in your retirement security. Join or renew your membership in RTAC today and share your support with our powerful group of active and engaged educators. Already a member?

Encourage a friend to join RTAC or purchase a membership for a special holiday gift. We're stronger together.

Need to renew? Find a membership form on page 9

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Renew today and enjoy these benefits throughout 2017:

- Access to affordable dental insurance, vision, and hearing programs
- Free educational seminars
- Annual subscription to the RTAC *News Bulletin* sent three times per year
- Access to the RTAC Alert E-mail network
- Fellowship, networking, leadership, volunteer, and outreach opportunities
- Legislative advocacy on behalf of members

RTAC CALENDAR

January

- 1 Automatic Annual Increases (3% COLA) for CTPF pensioners and new health insurance rates for CTPF plans in effect

April

- 1 2017 Armstrong Award nominations due, see page 3
- 30 Nominations due for eight RTAC directorships. Self-nomination encouraged, see page 4.

May

- 22 Annual Spring Luncheon at Hilton Chicago, see page 15

