



RETIRETEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

SINCE 1926

VOL. LXXVI | NO. 2

NEWS BULLETIN

FALL 2020

RTAC Zooms Ahead

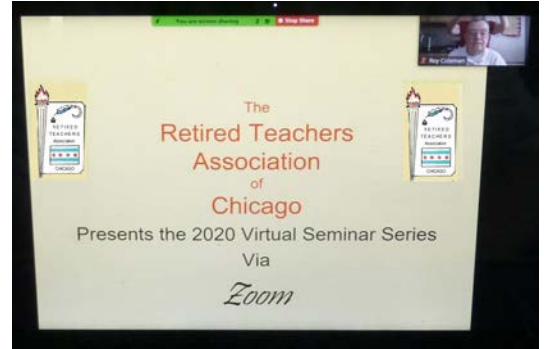
For the health and safety of its members, RTAC has adjusted its operation during the COVID 19 pandemic. The office continues to operate: soliciting and processing membership renewals and welcoming new members, receipting and acknowledging donations to our various funds, and most importantly assisting members via the phone and/or e-mail who are addressing a variety of issues related to pandemic life. Reservations for the Spring Luncheon were refunded and all of the regular operations have continued. The small team of staff assistants began to return to the office in July, utilizing proper safety measures.

We are now moving into a new era. Thanks to training and support provided by the National Retired Teachers Association (of which RTAC is a charter member), we anticipate moving our fall seminar program to Zoom technology. RTAC plans to offer seminars via the Internet. This will broaden our ability to provide information to members beyond the immediate Chicago area.

Although this is still in the developmental stage, our first seminar will feature RTAC Director Roy Coleman presenting a seminar on

computer security. The seminar will help members understand how to maintain personal computers at the most secure level, how to identify scams, and locate information.

Seminars on RTAC Dental Benefits and Preparing for 2020 Tax Filings are also being planned for this fall. See the back cover for dates and times. Reservations are required.



Spotlight on Springfield

By John D. Carr and Matt Maloney, RTAC's Legislative Advocates



Not since 1918 – the first year of the worldwide Spanish Flu virus – had Illinois conducted its legislative business

under a statewide quarantine.

As your legislative advocates, we found the 2020 legislative session fraught with difficulties. Generally we are accustomed to open access to our policy makers.

This year, though, there were no committee hearings to investigate the merits of

new legislation, nor were there intensive appropriations or revenue committee discussions to parse out a state budget. Instead, legislators and the Pritzker administration convened various working groups throughout the spring to discuss and develop state policies via conference calls and Zoom video sessions.

Generally, we were in the dark – just like you – and locked in our homes, until the Governor issued an Executive Order or the General Assembly posted an amendment to www.ilga.gov during the 4-day special session that occurred May 20-24, 2020.

Perhaps the most surprising development from this session had nothing to do with Springfield at all. It was guidance issued

from the U.S. Treasury Department in April and May, especially a document entitled “Coronavirus Relief Fund.” Previously, we had believed any federal assistance to states and cities would be limited, but this guidance was much broader. Without this federal assistance, there would have been across-the-board cuts to the State Budget.

The March federal legislation (The CARES Act) empowered the US Treasury to provide \$500 billion in assistance to state and local governments. Illinois borrowed \$5 billion from this program to fill in the budget deficit.

Illinois' FY 2021 budget will spend \$42.8 billion (a roughly flat amount from last year).

Continued 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.

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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)
425 S. Financial Place, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60605-1000 1-312-641-4464

CTPF Health Insurance Information 1-312-641-4464

Annual Membership \$50

Lifetime Membership \$300

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Dental/Vision Coverage

RTAC provides its members with access to two Metlife dental plan options. They are both PPO plans so one can use the dental providers of one's choice. Using a dental provider in the Metlife Network offers additional discounts and in-network discounted contracted rates which enable the subscriber to secure more services up to the allowable maximum. The two available plans include one modestly priced option and a more comprehensive plan which provides access to a full range of services at a higher charge. The premiums for both plan options which have been in effect since 2016 are being extended through November 30, 2022.



Enrollment is available at any time during the year. Rates are pro-rated, and billing is semi-annual. Both plans offer services in all of the 50 States. RTAC's plans are exclusively available to RTAC members, their spouses, and children under age 26. In addition to the dental services, RTAC members enrolled in either of the Metlife dental plans also have access to the complimentary eyewear program which provides them with discounts of up to 40% for eyeglasses, contact lenses, non-prescription sunglasses, and LASIK procedures.

2021 Open Enrollment

Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund (CTPF) Health Insurance Open Enrollment runs from October

1-31, 2020. During Open Enrollment you can change health

insurance plans or join a CTPF health insurance plan for the first time. Information about 2021 health insurance plans will be sent via U.S. Mail and should arrive by October 1, 2020. CTPF expects to post materials online before they are mailed, visit www.ctpf.org for information.



Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the health insurance seminars that are normally presented in early October will be offered as webinars during the first full week of October. Audio only options will also be available for members without Internet access.

Enrollment materials must be returned on or before October 31, 2020. Please note that if you are currently enrolled in a CTPF health plan program, you do not need to take any action to stay enrolled. Changes become effective January 1, 2021.

Other health insurance providers may solicit your enrollment in a variety of plans. Contact CTPF at memberservices@ctpf.org or call 312.641.4464 if you have questions about your insurance needs.

Spotlight on Springfield (continued from page 1)

In addition to borrowing from the Feds, the General Assembly 1) instituted a 41.5 billion dollar capital bill for infrastructure; 2) fully funded the required payment to the SURS, TRS, and CTPF; 3) earmarked \$4.6 million for the College Insurance Program, and approximately \$14 million to the Teachers Retirement Insurance Program; and on the last day of the session, with bi-partisan votes 4) passed a bill to create a Chicago casino; and 5) the Illinois Senate restructured and formed a new Pension Committee.

What this all means is that Illinois – like every other State in the Union – is treading water as a result of plunging tax revenues and COVID-19 related expenditures.

However, in no way are we out of the woods yet. Coronavirus infection rates and

deaths are rising in the US. State and local governments have cut 1.5 million public sector jobs since March. More cuts are certainly on their way.

That is why all of you need to write to your elected federal officials TODAY. From President Donald Trump, to Illinois' Senators Durbin and Duckworth to your Illinois federal representatives.

Tell elected officials that until COVID-19 is under control, the country, the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois need more federal stimulus support to: 1) ensure our teachers can return to their virtual or classroom environments in the fall; and 2) our health care workers get the support and necessary protective equipment.

Many times in the past, we have asked all of YOU for help in getting our State

legislators to do the right thing. Now, in the black light of a once-in-a-hundred-year-pandemic, we are urging you to do the same with our federal legislators.

RTAC's web page has information on how to locate your legislators at www.rtac.org. Thank you for your advocacy. RTAC, our city, and our State are depending on you.

If you have not already done so, please complete your 2020 Census form and urge your family and friends to do the same. Important funding is on the line.

Illinois has a vote by mail option for the November 3, 2020, election. We recommend you request a mail ballot. You can always change your mind and vote in person if you feel it is safe to do so, but having a mail-in option helps ensure that your vote will count.

RTAC Welcomes New Members: Membership Drive

Hubert C. Jackson, RTAC Treasurer and Membership Committee Chair

As we began 2020, we had no hint that such a challenging year lay ahead. RTAC has also experienced a number of disappointments. First, as we sent out our Spring 2020 *RTAC News Bulletin* in March, we had no idea that our 94th Annual Spring Luncheon would be cancelled, along with all of the seminars that were developed for our members. Due to Illinois' Governor Pritzker's Shelter-in Place order that began March 22, 2020, RTAC had to adjust its operation as well.

As I am writing this, we believe that the in-person opportunities that RTAC usually uses to recruit new members at various seminars and events, have been and will continue to be replaced with webinars or other forms of electronic communication. Now, we need your help at this difficult time to secure new members.

In 2019 and through the first half of 2020, RTAC's membership rolls were diminished by the passing of a substantial number of our members. In 2019, we lost 309 members and during the period from January 2020 through June 2020, we lost an additional 131 members. In addition, the diminishing CPS enrollments in the Chicago Public Schools, which at the beginning of this century included over 410,000 students, dropped to 350,000 in 2019. The reduced enrollment results in fewer teachers and ultimately fewer retirees.

We are asking our current members to recruit non-member CPS retirees. There will be a drawing for new 2020 life members and their recruiters in 2021. Both the new life member and his/her

recruiter will be awarded a significant prize. The main point in securing new members is to increase the number of individuals who will support our mission to protect our pensions and ancillary benefits. One of the most significant ways that our members do that is by contacting their Illinois Representatives and Senators to propose and pass legislation that supports the economic security of retired CPS educators.

RTAC was founded in 1926 in response to the Chicago Board of Education's December 9, 1925, firing of 70 teachers who had reached age 70 or above. In the Spring of 1926, as more teachers were terminated due to their age, ten individuals, led by Dr. James E. Armstrong, (who eventually became RTAC's first President), sought legal relief against the Chicago Board of Education in the Circuit Court of Cook County. The case failed there. However, Dr. Armstrong and his cohort proceeded to the State of Illinois' Supreme Court where they prevailed and the Chicago Board of Education was mandated to rehire the dismissed educators. Unfortunately, there are still some individuals and organizations that continue to engage in activities that would have a negative impact on the economic security of retired CPS educators. RTAC has been at the forefront of protecting us for over 94 years and is committed to doing so in the future. In order to carry on Dr. Armstrong and his colleagues' mission, members are needed to maintain an open dialogue with our Illinois General Assembly legislators. Vigilance is needed at all times. We must maintain Dr. Armstrong's vision and mission if we are to maintain our economic security at this time and in the future. In order to

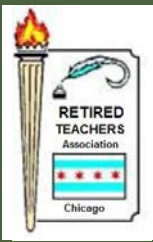
do that RTAC needs members who are willing to carry RTAC's torch into the future.

It is incumbent upon every member to approach their non-member former colleagues and persuade them to join our cause. If we don't do it, we cannot expect others to do it for us. Please make the effort to bring at least one new member, preferably a life member, into the RTAC family.

Page 5 has a message to prospective retirees and page 6 is a membership form that we believe will assist you in engaging non-RTAC member retirees to become members. Please send it along to a former colleague.



Hubert C. Jackson, Jr., RTAC Treasurer and Membership Committee Chair is welcoming new members with open arms and a chance to win a special prize.



RETIRED TEACHERS

ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

SINCE 1926

Dear _____,

Congratulations on having graduated into retirement following the completion of your career as an educator in the Chicago Public Schools (CPS). Your graduation into retirement comes with my best wishes for a long and happy life as a CPS retiree. May you enjoy sunny days ahead, the leisure to pursue your interests and discover new pastimes, as well as the time to celebrate your many years of accomplishment in preparing the young people of Chicago to assume their roles as self-actualized citizens. In addition to celebrating and enjoying the benefits of your new status, please be sure to join the Retired Teachers Association of Chicago (RTAC).

RTAC is a 94-year-old organization that has dedicated itself to ensuring that your economic security will be protected throughout this new chapter of your life. It was founded in 1926 by a brave cohort of ten who were dismayed when CPS terminated the employment of 70 of our predecessors because they had reached age 70 or beyond. A group of these teachers took legal action and the State of Illinois' Supreme Court found that the termination of the 70 teachers was illegal. The Chicago Board of Education had to rehire those unlawfully dismissed. The group was led by Dr. James E. Armstrong, who eventually became the RTAC's first President. The organization has continued to work tirelessly over the past 94 years to ensure that the economic security of retired Chicago Public School educators is protected. I urge you to join this organization so that you can become part of the mission to protect you and all of our other fellow CPS retirees. If you wish more information about RTAC, please feel free to visit its website www.rtac.org to learn more about the organization. Over the course of your CPS career you experienced the power of individuals working together towards a common goal. Now you have a new opportunity to join an organization committed to protecting you and your economic and personal well-being in retirement.

Sincerely,

P.S. a new member enrollment form is on the reverse side of this form, please complete it and send it along with your membership payment. New life members who join on or before December 31, 2020, and their sponsors, will be entered into a drawing for a special prize. I look forward to seeing your name among those new life members when RTAC issues its Spring 2021 *News Bulletin*.

Please detach and send to a former colleague who is not currently a member of RTAC





RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Moving? New Address?
Don't miss out! Use this form to share your new address and stay in touch!

Membership Application/Change of Address Form

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.)

Did a current RTAC member refer you? Yes No

If yes, please list name of referring member: _____

If a current member recruits a new Life Member, both names will be entered into a drawing for special prizes. Winners will be announced at the next RTAC luncheon.

JOIN OR RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP

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

- Renew my annual membership – \$50 through December 31, 20____
- Enroll me as a life member – \$300

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

RTAC Alert E-mail Network

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 is terminated when you retire)

Change of Address Notification

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

Please note effective date for new address:

(date: mm/dd/yy) _____ / _____ / _____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John A. Butterfield, RTAC President

Hello Retirees!

I hope all of you are persevering during these difficult times. At first, I thought it would be “relatively easy to do nothing”, but I’ve discovered how much I miss those small parts of my old regular routine. I’m sure the same is true for all of you as well.

I’m lucky that my daughter, her husband, and two of my grandchildren live nearby. Both parents can work remotely, so we all did a two-week quarantine and then moved up to a little place we have near Powers Lake, Wisconsin. It’s about a seventy-five minute drive. It’s great to have others to talk with, especially our grandchildren. My wife and I return to the Chicago area every two weeks or so for a day or two to check on things and then go back to Wisconsin. The change of scenery each time seems to freshen our outlook.

The big news in my family is that in early June my son and daughter-in-law, who live in New York, provided us with a new granddaughter. They are coming our way in early August for an extended stay. We can hardly wait. At that same time my other son and his wife are driving to join us from their home in Springfield, Illinois. At some point in time, all of us will be together. We are looking forward to this special reunion.

Enough of that personal stuff. Let me tell you what little I know about RTAC business. I’ll lead with the comforting knowledge that all of us have received monthly pension payments in full and on time. I expect that to continue.

Our Executive Director, Arlene Crandall, has been tending to our organization’s business at our downtown office on a regular basis. We are lucky that she lives in the Loop and can walk to work. She and I communicate at least once a week.

I’ve spoken on the telephone with almost all of the RTAC Board members and I feel they are in accord with RTAC during these strange times. I will continue to reach out to them as we proceed. I am sure they will contact me with any thoughts or concerns that may come to mind.

May I take a moment here and make a pitch to each of you on two items that are of the utmost importance to our organization. The first is membership. We are unable to recruit in our regular fashion during this pandemic. I’m asking each of you to find one recent retiree from your former school and personally invite them join us. You know all the

**I’M ASKING EACH
OF YOU TO FIND ONE
RECENT RETIREE FROM
YOUR FORMER SCHOOL
AND PERSONALLY
INVITE THEM TO
JOIN US.**

important reasons for doing so, but do emphasize pension protection. We are the only organization with this as its primary purpose, and we need all pensioners to join in the fight. There is a membership application on page 6 of this bulletin that you can use.

The second item is also about money. It’s our Legal Defense Fund and the need to reach our desired goal of \$250,000. We’re a bit over halfway there presently, but we can’t rest on that achievement. Please contribute now so that we’ll be



John A. Butterfield

fully armed **when** the crisis arises. There is also a Legal Defense Fund form in this bulletin on page 9.

I wish I could tell you that we will be holding our luncheon this Fall, but that is not appropriate now. All of us want to join together in person and celebrate our retirements and meet with our friends and former colleagues. We look forward to doing this again as soon as it is safe to do so. We are all hoping for the miracle that will enable us to do so, but it IS unwise to do so at the present time. Remember who we are: all RTAC members have the age risk, and many of us also have one or more other complications (mine are type two diabetes and overweight). We really should be the last group in our general society to gather in large numbers. We must set the good example.

I’ll close by reminding all of you – as my wife continually reminds me – to wear a mask and maintain a six-foot social distance when one goes out. May we all be looking back on this great adventure and smiling. Until I write my next column. Be safe!

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

– *John Butterfield*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Arlene R. Crandall

Words are inadequate to truly express the experiences that we have all shared since the COVID-19 Pandemic upended our lives earlier this year and continue to do so even now. At the time this was written, the future is still unclear. Most Chicagoans have complied with governmental agencies request to address and conquer the scourge of this infectious disease and our community is doing well.

My personal hope for a return to an opportunity to move forward in a manner that replicates what we enjoyed previously is for the development of **the vaccine**.

Once that occurs, we can begin to plan and prepare to interact with one another in the variety of ways that sustain us and help us to enjoy the benefits of our retiree status. It was with a heavy heart that RTAC had to cancel/postpone its 94th Annual Spring Luncheon and the Spring 2020 seminars that were scheduled for April and May 2020.

RTAC President John A. Butterfield wisely “paused” the RTAC Board’s meeting schedule to avoid putting the Officers, Directors, and Past Presidents at risk of becoming ill. Our committees also had to cancel their meetings, including RTAC’s Service Committee which was unable to meet monthly to prepare

and send cards to our senior members celebrating their birthdays.

You may recall that RTAC’s Spring 2020 94th Anniversary Luncheon was to focus upon the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which gave U.S. Women the right to vote. We hope that the Honorable Barbara Flynn Currie, former Illinois State Representative, our scheduled keynote speaker, will be able to celebrate and belatedly mark the occasion with us in Spring 2021.

Prepare to Vote in November

The pandemic poses a special challenge for all of us as we look ahead to one of our most important civic responsibilities, voting. Please plan ahead so that you can cast your ballots in person or by U.S. Mail on/or before November 3, 2020.

To apply to vote by mail for the November 2020 election you can request a Vote by Mail application from your local election authority. The metro Chicago links are listed below:

Chicago: www.chicagoelections.gov/en/vote-by-mail-application.html

Suburban Cook: www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/vote-mail

Lake County: www.lakecountylil.gov//4321/Voting-by-Mail

Before, moving ahead, I want to acknowledge and thank all of our RTAC members who maintained/renewed their memberships and sent donations. All your renewals and gifts are appreciated and have been recorded and acknowledged. We look forward to a time when we can resume our luncheons, seminars, and other activities. In the interim, we are also pleased with the individuals who called to inquire about matters on a variety of topics. Everyone expressed appreciation for the information and assistance that our office was able to provide during this challenging time to help them navigate

We must stay vigilant and continue to communicate with our legislators to convey that our economic security must be maintained.

the variety of situations in which we all found ourselves. As your resource colleagues, we are pleased to be able to continue providing assistance with your questions and concerns.

Many also expressed appreciation for the fact that they were able to sustain themselves with their monthly pensions. How fortunate we are to have them. Nevertheless, we must stay vigilant going forward. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois sustained substantial economic damage which will take a significant amount of time and resources to restore. We must continue to communicate with our legislators to convey that our economic security must be maintained. This reflects back to our continuing mission to inform them that we retirees depend upon them to fulfill their commitments to us. Our monthly remittances from the Chicago Teachers Pension Fund sustain us. But, we also, in turn, sustain the variety of businesses large and small in our communities.

Please also take the time to read RTAC Treasurer’s Hubert C. Jackson, Jr.’s Membership Report on page 4. At this time, more than ever, RTAC needs you to help secure new members. If you are able to recruit a new life member, both you and the new life member will be entered into a drawing for a significant prize to be awarded in the Spring of 2021.



MAKE A DONATION: MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A donation to the Legal Defense Fund, Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund (CRTAF) or RTAC is a meaningful way to show your support for your pension or to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one. All donations of \$20 or more will be recognized in print. Return this form with your payment to: RTAC, 111 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 2010, Chicago, Illinois 60602. *When contributing to more than one Fund, please write a separate check for each Fund.*



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. Donations of \$20 or more will be recognized 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: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____



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. *Donations of \$20 or more per honoree will be recognized in the News Bulletin.*

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

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

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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. *Donations of \$20 or more per honoree will be recognized in the News Bulletin.*

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

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

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please indicate purpose of gift congratulate celebrate memorialize general purposes

Honoree's Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

FEBRUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 2020

Welcome to RTAC's newest Life Members.

All 2020 new life members and their sponsors are eligible for a drawing with significant prizes to be held and announced at the next RTAC luncheon.

DIANE G. BRYNIARSKI
 PATRICIA A. CAHILL
 KAREN CHAMBERS
 FRANCIS J. CONROY
 MARYANN S. CONROY
 MARILYN GILREATH-GOLUB
 ARLEEN C. GORDON-MOORE

STEVEN L. GREEN
 EVELYN J. HURST
 RUBY L. JENKINS
 IRMA MARKS
 VICTORIA MCMAHON
 MARY R. POLK
 ROBERT T. QUINNETT

MARY ELLEN SANCHEZ
 L. ENAJ SCHLAK
 RICHARD F. STRAUSS
 MILLICENT J. TOLBERT
 EVIE G. TROTTER
 KELVIN WARD



LEGAL DEFENSE FUND GIFTS

FEBRUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 2020

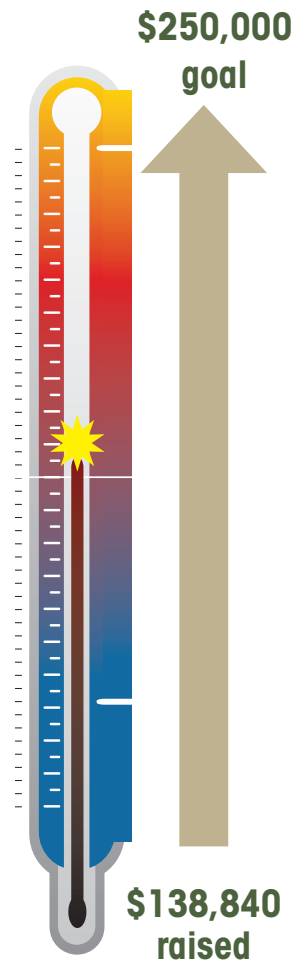
RTAC has established a legal defense fund for the purpose of initiating legal action to protect CTPF Pension benefits.

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

Anonymous	Curran, John F.	Moscinski, John and Donna	Pydlo, Jean L.
Brody, Yale	Eshoo, Bernie	Jones, Phyllis A.	Rossino, Paula
Castellano, Enrique	Fresse-Giffels, Maria	Krueger, Carol A.	Ruffalo, Kathryn J.
Connolly, Angela P.	Gurley, Annette	Lubov, Rudy Joan	Scott, Ruby Jewel
Conway, Carol M.	Hampton, LaDonn K.	O'Callaghan, Sheila H.	Swiercz, Roman P. and Sharon H.
Craig, Robert	Holmes, Rosemary and Warren	Patterson, Rogette S.	Tocwish, Victor
Crowe, Anthony M.	Horton, Barbara J.	Pollett, Mary Ann	

OTHER DONATIONS

Anonymous (2)	Jabour, Tamara V.	McIntosh, Sherry A.K.	Shepard, Barbara S.
Bernstein, Frieda O.	Keenan, William J.	Perry, Dennis	Vasquez, Rosetta
Coleman, Roy	Klein, Melva Kadish	Rigoni, Gloria	White, Jesse
Farber, Michael	Lesof, Adrienne J.	Rozanski, Patricia	Wilmot, Martin
Higgins, Thomas J.	McGrath, Beverly	Rzeminski, Stanley V.	



CHICAGO RETIRED TEACHERS AID FUND GIFTS

FEBRUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 2020

RTAC GIFTS

FEBRUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 2020

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Anon	James L. Foley
Banks, Sheridan H.	Thomas Coleman, Kahler B. Jackson, Jimmie Johnson, Lucille Lightfoot, Betty Traverso
Benson, Bernadette	Thomas & Lila Benson, Lorraine Devoe
Cosme, James & Mary	Mary Jo Nyhan Catherine Sugrue
Covan, Burl L.	Frances G. Friedman
Derbas, Therese	Lorraine M. Pettigrew
Dever, Judith M.	Bob Bures, Al Korach, Tom Lalagos, Jerry Tunney, George Zilliac
Fashingbauer, Betty	Dan Cieslik, Loretta Spisak, Diane Zmacynski
Gonet, Daniel J.	Camille E. Chase, Phil Dominguez, Sandra Goldstein, Lin Lattyak-Teren, Mary Anne Nardi, David T. Peterson
Green, Thomas R.	Luther Bedford, Bob Hambric, Larry Hawkins, Lewis Thorpe
Hedstrom, Thomas	Alan Schonberg
Holmes, Rosemary & Warren	Rhonda Wilson Veal
Jagielski, Veronica F.	Arthur Jagielski
Massey, Jayne M.	Lucille Klekotko
McIntosh, Sherry	Ruth M. Valentine
Moscinski, John & Donna	Preston Raper, Lorraine Pettigrew

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Newton, Johnnie	June Finch, William Finch, William Gwynn, Gladys Ray, Bernard Spillman
Nusinson, Sally	Frances G. Friedman
Olson, E. Robert	Joseph D. Nixon
Pollett, Mary Ann	Evelyn Kiesow Cecilia Kangles
Rozanski, Chester & Patricia P.	Marian Stettler
Shelton, Emmer K.	Jean Teer Pryor
Stringfellow, Sylvia	Julia W. Palmer
Tocwish, Victor & Donna	Donnette Tocwish Rizzo

DONOR	PURPOSE
Anonymous (5)	General Purposes
Bernstein, Frieda O.	General Purposes
Brody, Marsha	General Purposes
Cogen, Clarice J.	General Purposes
Craig, Robert	General Purposes
Crowe, Anthony M.	General Purposes
Jabour, Tamara V.	General Purposes
Lodree, Mamie	General Purposes
Rosen, Sandra Maison	General Purposes
Semisch, Martha del Campo	General Purposes
Svensen, Karen A.	General Purposes
Swanson, Jay	General Purposes
Vasquez, Rosetta	General Purposes
White, Jesse	General Purposes

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Anonymous (4)	General Purposes
Bernstein, Frieda O.	General Purposes
Craig, Robert	General Purposes
Crowe, Anthony M.	General Purposes
Jabour, Tamara V.	General Purposes
O'Connor, Deborah	General Purposes
Ruffalo, Kathryn J.	General Purposes
Thomas, Leona	Celebrate RTAC
Vaughn-Bennett, R. Elizabeth	General Purposes
Waterman-George, Karen	General Purposes
White, Jesse C.	General Purposes

DONOR	IN MEMORY OF
Anonymous	Jim Pappas
Connolly, Angela P.	Robert Bures
Eaglin, Louis	Philip Carr, Marylyn Drew, James Sloss, Laurel Spitzbarth
Frantz, John J.	Marcus Ahmed, Beverly Blake, Billy Gray, Cecelia Kangles, Ruth Muth
Lubov, Rudy Joan	Lowell Greene, Richard Lieberman, Alvin Lubov, Dorothy Oakley, Catherine Sugrue, Iris Wenig, Marshall Wolf
Nakayama, J.	Harry J. Donahoo
Pruchnicki, Carol Lynn	Douglas Gordon, Michael Pruchnicki, Dan Stewart
Remahl, Daniel F.	Dave Shlemon
Schaefer, Mary Hortense	Alcenia Hodo

Find a complete listing of recent obituaries in our *News Bulletin*, available exclusively to RTAC members. Find a membership form on page 6 and join today.



Marion Hoffing

The RTAC Officers, Directors and Past Presidents report the passing of former RTAC Director Marion Hoffing, April 12, 2020, two days prior to her 105th birthday. At RTAC's 90th Anniversary Spring Luncheon in 2016, Mrs. Hoffing received the Armstrong Award, RTAC's highest honor. During her lengthy service as a RTAC Director, Mrs. Hoffing served on the RTAC Social Committee where she secured raffle prizes and assisted with a variety of the tasks to ensure the success of RTAC's semi-annual luncheons. She also was a dedicated member of the RTAC Service Committee. May her memory serve as a blessing for all.



Robert C. Konen Bequest

The Retired Teachers Association of Chicago and the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund gratefully acknowledge generous gifts from the estate of the late Robert C. Konen. Mr. Konen served as an RTAC President and a Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund trustee during his retirement years. In addition, he was an active member of the Grants Committee of the Chicago Retired Teachers Aid Fund. Mr. Konen lived a full life following his retirement from the principalship of Sutherland Elementary and was 101 when he passed in May 2019. Legacy gifts such as Mr. Konen's enable RTAC and CRTAF to be able to continue to protect the economic security of retired Chicago public school educators. As you consider your personal legacy, please consider making gifts to RTAC and CRTAF. They are fitting testimonials to your commitment to our profession and our retiree colleagues.

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
826CHI Tutoring, Field trips, Workshops	Chicago-Northwest	Maggie Farren	773-772-8108
A. C. E. S.	Chicago	Eric Werge	773-535-6922
Abraham Lincoln Center	Chicago Near South	Hannah Katz	773-451-3360
Adler Planetarium	Chicago Central	Maria Christus	312-542-2411
Alex Haley Academy	Chicago South	Karen Demots	773-371-3661
Alternatives For The Older Adult	Outlying Counties	Tracee Keefer	800-798-0988
ANS Preparatory Institute	Chicago-North	Doris Franklin	773-442-6192
Aquinas Literacy Center (ESL) (Literacy Tutoring)	Chicago Near South	Sabrina Poulin	773-927-0512
Boys/Girls Clubs	Chicago	Desiree McIntosh	312-285-5009
Brookfield Zoo	West	Regi Mezydlo	708-485-0263x366
Burr Oak School	South Suburbs	Natashia Harris	708-388-8010
Cabrini Connection (Mentor Tutor)	Chicago Near North	Daniel Bassill	312-467-2889
Centro Loyola	Chicago North	Daniel Loftus	312-226-7887
Chicago Botanic Gardens	Glenco	Judy Cashen	847-835-6800
Chicago Distance Classic	Chicago Central	Dani Chitwood	217-390-1163
Chicago Public Library	Chicago	Cristina Medina	312-745-0994
Child Services	Cook, Lake & DuPage	Greta Nielsen	773-693-0300
ChildServe at Bryant E. S.	Harvey	Jennifer Collins	773-867-7362
Community Animal Rescue Effort	Skokie	Heather Brown	847-705-2653
Court's Special Advocate (Child Advocacy)	Cook County	Imogene Harris	312-433-6997
CPS STEM Exhibition (Judges)	Chicago	Luba Johnson	773-553-6319

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Click here for additional volunteer opportunities.

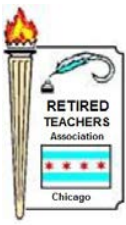
This list is only a part of the full list of volunteering opportunities available to RTAC members. For a full listing, visit www.rtac.org and go to "volunteers."

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
FreshStart (GED Tutors)	Southwest Suburbs	Donna Thomas	708-205-1334
Ginkgo Organic Gardens	Chicago North		773-404-7114
Graue Mill	DuPage County	Sandy Brubaker	630-920-9720
Heartland Alliance Vista	Chicago Central	Carol McNeill	312-696-4500x4085
Ill. Action for Children (Children's Advocacy)	Chicago Central	Rebecca Klipfel	312-986-9591
Ill. Holocaust Museum & Education Center	Evanston	Jessica Hulten	847-967-4853
Jesse White Tumblers (tutors)	Chicago Central	Yvonne C. Jones	312-943-4846
KIPP Ascend Charter School (Tutors and Mentors)	Chicago West	Sheri Barrette	773-261-9972
Kohl Children's Museum	Glenview	Patty Timothy	847-832-6892
Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing	Chicago	Lindsey Ravizza	312-347-7600
League of Women Voters	Chicago Central	Courtney Balok	312-939-5935
Lincoln Park Zoo	Chicago Near North	Betey Maher	312-742-2124
Literacy Connection	Chicago Northwest Suburbs	Karen Oswald	847-742-6565
Loyola Museum of Art	Chicago Near North	Ann Meehan	312-915-7604
Mercy Home for Boys and Girls	Chicago Central	J. Brown/E. Dordek	312-738-7554
Mercy Housing Lakefront	Chicago	LeKeeta Charley	312-913-1605x112
MetroMentors	Wheaton	Gregory O'Donnell	630-784-4810
Metropolitan Tenants Organization	Chicago	Rebecca McDannald	773-292-4980x223

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Agency	Location	Contact Person	Phone
Misericordia Home	Chicago	Therese Loftus	773-273-4163
Naper Settlement	Naperville	Josh Charteier	630-420-6010
National Hellenic Museum	Chicago Central	Hannah Imber	312-655-1234x27
North Shore Senior Center (Senior Advocacy)	Northfield	Paul J. Luzwick	847-784-6000
Oakton Community College	DesPlaines & Skokie	Rita Stewart	847-635-1434
Oriental Institute, University of Chicago	Chicago Hyde Park	Cathy D or Terry F	773-702-1845
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum	Chicago Near North	Jennifer Labows	773-755-5141
PetCare Curriculum	Chicago	Julie Smith	773-784-5605
Red Cross	Chicago Area		312-729-6100
Second Sense	Chicago Central	Kathy Austin	312-236-8569
Smith Village	Chicago South	Sarah Jewett	773-474-7300
Teen Parent Services	Chicago Near West	Sylvester Hughes	312-633-1664
The Art Institute's Ryan Education Center	Chicago Central	Karin Jacobson	312-443-3798
The Chicago Lighthouse	Chicago	Dick Carlson	312-666-1331x3141
Vocational Bridge Academy	Chicago	Robert Kos	773-772-7170x3002
Woman Made Gallery	Chicago Near Northwest	Pamela Callahan	312-328-0038
Youth Service Project	Chicago Humboldt Park	Esther Prins	773-772-6270



RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO (RTAC)

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Inside: RTAC's All New fall News Bulletin

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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.

Health Insurance REMINDERS

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is warning that scammers are using the COVID-19 pandemic to try to steal Medicare Numbers and personal information. Con artists have been offering free masks, COVID-19 testing kits, "COVID-19 cures," or protective equipment in an attempt to steal information. If anyone reaches out to get your Medicare Number or personal information in exchange for something, it is likely a scam. Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card. Find more information and report fraud at Medicare.gov.

Be Wary of Third-Party Health Insurance Solicitations

Health insurance providers actively solicit Medicare-eligible individuals to join their plans. You may receive invitations to join different health insurance plans this fall. If you are unsure if a solicitation is legitimate or requires action, contact CTPF at 312.641.4464 or email memberservices@ctpf.org to confirm.

Open Enrollment materials will be sent in late September. The previous in person seminars are being replaced by webinars which will be held the week of October 5-9, 2020. Find more information on page 3.

RTAC Calendar

Note: vote by mail ballots are now available in Illinois. Contact your local election board for information.

September

- 16** Zoom with RTAC: Computer security workshop.
- 30** Zoom with RTAC: Maximizing Your Metlife dental benefits

October

- 1-31** Open Enrollment for CTPF Health Insurance. Return forms by 10/31.
- 5-9** CTPF Open Enrollment seminars and webinars.
- 14** Zoom with RTAC: Strategies for Preparing your 2020 tax return.

Find additional Zoom seminar information at www.rtac.org.