



IRTA-UNIT 90

Northwest Suburban - Unit 90

<http://www.irta-unit90.org>

A Message From IRTA President David Davison



A major issue being monitored closely by our IRTA State Office is the speculation the state may pass legislation to reduce or eliminate its subsidy for our Teachers Retirement Insurance Program (TRIP). You would have to expect the Governor to sign the legislation if it is passed, based on his having zeroed out the line item that provides the subsidy in his last two budgets. We are obtaining a legal opinion concerning this issue from the same law firm we worked with in getting the Illinois State Supreme Court to declare SB 1 unconstitutional.

Plans for our IRTA fall convention are underway. One possible Keynote Speaker is Attorney John Fitzgerald from the law firm we worked with in opposing SB 1. Please plan to join us on October 30 and 31, 2017, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield for a mostly informational convention along with a bit of entertainment on the night of the banquet. More detailed information for the convention will be available soon.

SAVE THE DATES!
2017 IRTA CONVENTION
October 30th and 31st
Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL



President's Notes

**Please join us for the
June Luncheon**

Our summer luncheon is quickly approaching. This June 14th event will be one that you don't want to miss. Our very own TRS trustee, Bob Lyons will be reporting for the last time at the summer luncheon. Bob has traveled thousands of miles across our state going to meetings and conferences informing us and others about the stability of our retirement security. He has spent countless hours preparing and monitoring the funds we depend on to live our dreams with our families. I've been able to attend many of these meetings. The two things that are always the same is the reaction from the individuals that listen to Bob's presentations. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and knowledgeable person representing us and he *really knows "his stuff."* I just returned from our Board of Directors meeting in Springfield. Our newest elected trustee spoke to the Board. He used a pair of gym shoes as a prop. He asked, What are these? After a number of possibilities were suggested, he quipped "They're a big pair of shoes to fill!" They certainly are, he said. That's how I feel about taking Bob Lyons' seat on the TRS board.

Mr. Lyons, you've set the bar very high! Thanks for your time and efforts protecting our retirement funds for such a long time. We know you will still be a leader in Unit 90 but thanks for your outstanding service for all Illinois TRS annuitants over the years.



Illinois Retired Teachers Association Unit 90

2017 JUNE LUNCHEON

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 (\$25 each)

Inverness Golf Club

102 N. Roselle Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067 (NW corner of Roselle & Palatine Roads)

(847) 358-2340

Valet Parking Available (\$3 suggested gratuity)

Dress Code: Shirts with collars, no jeans or cargo pants

Menu -- Choice of one:

Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad:

Romaine lettuce tossed with grated parmesan cheese, Caesar dressing, homemade croutons, topped with grilled chicken breast

-or-

Cobb Salad:

Fresh greens, red onions, tomatoes, bacon, egg, green onions, blue cheese, turkey, topped with avocado; balsamic vinaigrette dressing

-or-

Roast Pork:

Gently roasted pork loin, with pork gravy, mashed potatoes and fresh green beans

Social Hour

(cash bar)

11:00

Luncheon

12:00

Program

1:00

Program:

"Thank you!"

Bob Lyons

Each entrée served with: Chilled vichyssoise soup, hot rolls and butter, and coffee or hot tea**Dessert:** Hot fudge sundae**Reservation Deadline for members & their guests: Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

RSVP to Liz White, 5805 Prairie Lane; Palatine, IL 60067-7357

Questions? Please call Liz White at (847) 397-1678

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Name: _____ Chicken _____ Cobb _____ Roast _____
 Caesar Salad Salad Pork

Email Address: _____

Guest Name: _____ Chicken _____ Cobb _____ Roast _____
 Caesar Salad Salad Pork

Check enclosed for \$ _____ (\$25.00 each) Member Phone: _____

Make checks payable to Northwest Suburban IRTA Unit 90

Carolyn White's Volunteer Report



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are still looking for volunteers to help at community blood drives that are held at businesses and community groups. Responsibilities include: welcoming donors to the blood drive and managing the refreshment area as well as other duties.

Clearbrook is looking for volunteers who will become buddies for adults with disabilities. The buddy program is held evenings and on weekends. There is a particular need for individuals with a knowledge of sign language for hearing impaired clients or maybe the buddy can learn sign language as a volunteer.

Senior Companions, one of the Senior Corps-RSVP programs, is a program which pairs volunteers with senior clients that may require additional assistance to continue living independently in their own home. Volunteers are paired with clients in their own communities and the volunteer provides assistance, companionship and friendship.

To volunteer for any of the above, contact RSVP at rsvp@handsonsuburbanchicago.org

Volkering Heritage Farm in Schaumburg is looking for volunteers to be on-site in 1880's period dress to greet visitors and offer information on the farmhouse, barns, livestock and outbuildings on the property. You would be expected to volunteer for at least two 4-hour shifts per month when the farm is open between April and November. Volunteer applications are available on the Schaumburg Park District website under Spring Valley. Send your completed applications to the Volunteer Coordinator, Judy Vito at Spring Valley, 1111 E. Schaumburg Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60194

Upcoming Events

2017 June Luncheon - *Inverness Golf Club*
June 14 , 2017

2017 Tall Ship Windy - *Cruise on Lake Michigan*
July ? , 2017

2017 Newbie Breakfast - *Arlington Senior Center*
September 6 , 2017

2017 TRS Fall Meetings - *to be announced*

2017 State IRTA Convention - *Crowne Plaza, Springfield, IL*
October 30-31 , 2017

2017 Holiday Luncheon - *Inverness Golf Club*
December 1 , 2017

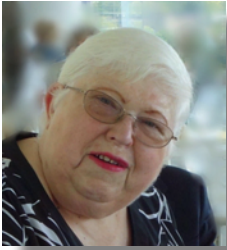
More details at:

<http://www.irta-unit90.org/events/>



Doris Haack's Foundation Report

"Excellence in Education Grants for Teachers" Program



The Illinois Retired Teachers Association (IRTA) Foundation is making \$36,500 in grant money available statewide in Illinois.

This special grant money will provide additional funds to public school educators Pre-K through 12) so that their students will have the means to participate in special projects. Please download, complete, and submit the application online by visiting **www.irtaonline.org** and looking under the IRTA Foundation section.

All proposals must be submitted by June 1, 2017.

A special committee will select the recipients of the grant money over the summer. Grant awards will be presented in the fall.

** Chicago Public School employees are not eligible for this grant program.*

Planning Ahead - Save the month!

We are thinking about having another Windy City Sail this summer. We can't sign up until May, but we are thinking of booking sometime in July.

As soon as we know any details, we will email you and put it on our website.



Bobby Reinhardt's Membership Report



Unit 90 (Northwest Suburban) is one of the 93 Units of IRTA in the State of Illinois. **We are in Area 2, Region 3**

Currently we have **924 members** in Unit 90, but only 789 of those are members of the State IRTA.

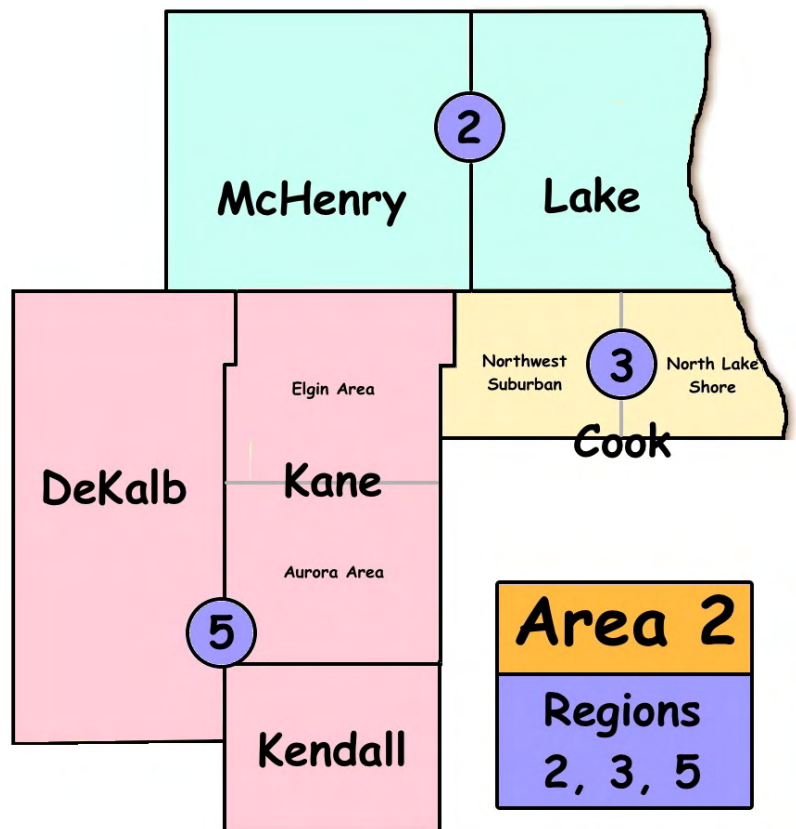
We now also have a Unit 90 life membership available for \$100 or for free if you're 90 or older.

We currently have **115 life members**.

The State IRTA membership is separate. You should join both!

Membership forms can be found at: <http://www.irta-unit90.org>

If you haven't yet, don't forget to renew your State and Unit memberships for 2017.



There is speculation that the State may pass legislation to reduce or eliminate its subsidy for our Teachers Retirement Insurance Program (TRIP).

Previous Event: *Saturday Night Fever* at the Drury Lane Theatre



STATE IRTA Stay Informed



The 100th General Assembly was brought to order in Springfield on January 11, 2017, with the inauguration of new legislators. There are a combined 32 members this year who experienced their first inauguration.

During the remainder of January and February, the legislature was busy introducing legislation. There are currently over 2000 bills in the Senate and nearly 4000 bills that have been introduced in the House of Representatives.

The Senate has been busy putting together the "Grand Bargain," a legislative package that will hopefully bring a real budget to the state. As of February, Illinois is facing 20 months without a budget.

Some of the proposals included in the "grand bargain" are property tax relief, an income tax increase, workers compensation reform, procurement reform, pension reform, local government consolidation, gaming expansion, and education funding reform.

On the heels of the proposal of the "grand bargain," Governor Rauner introduced his budget to the General Assembly on February 15, 2017. One of the most important aspects of this proposal is the zeroing out of funding for the Teachers Retirement Insurance Program (TRIP). The IRTA is working with legislators and will continue to work with them on your behalf to ensure the Governor's proposal to defund TRIP does not come to fruition.

In addition to not funding insurance, Governor Rauner is renewing his call for changes to pensions this year by proposing an optional Tier 3 benefit plan for newly hired employees. Moreover, the Governor is again urging enactment of the funding changes he initially proposed a year ago. These changes would underfund the pension systems once again, "kicking the can down the road" for others to deal with in the future.

He also is proposing changing the benefits that future annuitants receive through the pension consideration model. It would require active Tier 1 employees who are part of **TRS, SURS, GARS and Chicago Teachers Pension Fund** (this excludes state employees and judges) to elect to make an irrevocable election to either:

- (i) keep all increases to pensionable salary until retirement but have automatic annual increases in retirement annuity delayed and reduced (no more compounded COLA if you add raises to your salary up until you retire)
- (ii) maintain the current benefit package with additional limitations on pensionable salary (keep compounded cola on your pension, but no additional raises you receive after the effective date of this bill will be applied to the pensionable amount you receive)

As you can see, the IRTA is in for a busy year at the Capitol. Votes can happen quickly and sometimes without warning. If and when bills are to be voted on, the IRTA will update you through the Voter Voice system. If you are not currently signed up to receive these email alerts, please visit the IRTA website at irtaonline.org or call the IRTA Office at 1.800.728.4782 to sign up.

Northwest Suburban IRTA Unit 90
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Barrington Hills, IL 60010-9620

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

<http://www.irta-unit90.org>