



# IRTA-UNIT 90

Northwest Suburban - Unit 90

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

## President's Notes



Thank you for reading this! The daily barrage of emails and news is often overwhelming, so when you take the time to read our newsletter, it is appreciated.



The Illinois Secretary of State's Office has extended the renewal deadline for expired driver's licenses and state ID cards to December 1.

It is the latest extension that Secretary of State Jesse White has granted since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The previous extension was set to end this coming Sunday. This extension does not apply to commercial driver's licenses or CDL learner's permits.

Online renewal for expired licenses and ID cards has been expanded, and the Secretary of State's Office continues to mail letters to eligible customers. Visit [www.ilsos.gov](http://www.ilsos.gov) to learn more.

Reinhard Taylor is really the brains behind the newsletter, so kudos to him. If there is some issue that you would like to see addressed in these pages, drop a line ( actually, an email ), or better yet, come to our monthly meeting at the Arlington Senior Center on the first Wednesday of the month ( NOT in July nor December).

I am personally very excited that we are planning to have an in-person get-together on



Wednesday, September 7! As you know, it is an election year and we have traditionally had an opportunity for you to meet local candidates who will be on the ballot in November. This meet-and-greet will be at the Inverness Country Club as we find out which candidates have our interests at heart. More about that in this newsletter.

Enjoy the rest of your summer,

*Jane McCauley*



## Bob Lyons' TRS Report



Here is a recent snapshot of investments in Russian-based assets at some of the largest public pension funds in Illinois and Chicago. These investments represent a minuscule amount of the total portfolios, or about 0.1 %. Despite a demand from Gov. J.B. Pritzker and strong rhetoric from the state's top lawmakers, legislation to force the divestment in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine failed to pass in the Spring session that ended on April 9. Lawmakers say they will take up the issue in the fall veto session.

Fund	Russian Assets
Teachers' Retirement System	\$58.8 Million
Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund	\$23 Million
State Universities Retirement System	\$22.7 Million
Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund	\$4.5 Million
Firemen's Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago	\$1.7 Million
Municipal Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago	\$1.2 Million
State Employees Retirement System, Judges Retirement System & General Assembly Retirement System	\$40,000
Laborers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Chicago	\$32,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$111.9 Million</b>

Source: Pension Audit Reports/BGA Research

Compared to the roughly \$155 billion in total investments those funds comprise, the Russian slice is only a fraction of 1%.

*Bob Lyons*

### Update on Teacher Health Insurance Security Fund Litigation

Our lawsuit challenging the underfunding of the Teacher Health Insurance Security Fund is proceeding in the Circuit Court for Sangamon County. The defendants, who include the TRS Board of Trustees, the Director of the Illinois Department of Central Management Services, State Comptroller Susana Mendoza and State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, have answered our complaint, and they responded to our requests for discovery shortly before the Fourth of July holiday weekend. Our attorneys and expert witness will carefully analyze the data they have produced about the current fiscal status of the Fund. The answer and discovery responses have pointed to one key legal dispute in this case. The defendants acknowledge that "retired teachers have a constitutionally protected right to the benefits specified in sections 6.5 and 6.6 of the State Employees Group Insurance Act of 1971 (5 ILCS 275/6.5, 6.6)," but they disagree that retired teachers have a constitutionally protected right "to a particular program of benefits that CMS has established under that authority at any given time." This appears to mean that the defendants believe you have a constitutionally protected right to participate in some type of health insurance program, but not to any particular level of benefits. We strongly disagree with that argument and will continue to advocate for the full extent of your constitutional rights in this litigation.





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**May 4, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting**

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**June 1, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting**

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## Diane Pfister: Foundations News



The Illinois Retired Teachers Association Foundation's goal is to assist past, present and future teachers. This is accomplished by assisting retired educators with living expenses, providing scholarships to aspiring teachers, working to protect the rights of the elderly, and providing grants to educators.

Below you will be able to read about the Area 2 scholarship recipient, Stevie Burton. This outstanding young woman is the perfect example of how the Foundation supports future educators!

Our unit supports the activities of the state IRTA Foundation by making a memorial donation when one of our members passes. Please email us when you become aware of a death so that we may honor that person's memory.

Recently our unit contributed to the Foundation in memory of Gary A. Peterson, Harold Connell, Donald Ring, Diane Uhl, Jeffrey Huebner, and Charles Wagoner.

## Scholarship Recipient- Area 2

The IRTA Foundation awards six \$1,500 scholarships to incoming juniors or seniors in college that are pursuing a degree in education. Thanks to a very generous private donation from one of our members, Areas 4 and 6 each will award a second scholarship of \$2,500. The eight winners were chosen through competition with other applicants from their own area of the state.

The Area 2 recipient is Stevie Burton of Elk Grove Village, IL. Stevie will be a senior in the fall and attends Illinois State University. She is a Special Education/Specialist in Learning Behavior major. Stevie is involved in the honors program as well as Kappa Delta Pi, an honors society for education. She is also an IS division 1 cheerleader and a volunteer student ambassador representing the Department of Special Education at ISU school sponsored events. During the summer, Stevie works with children with disabilities in a park district setting for an organization called NEDSRA which is a special recreation association.

***Congratulations!!!***



## Janette Wanner's Membership Report



Unit 90 (Northwest Suburban) is one of the 89 Units of IRTA in Illinois.

We are in Area 2, Region 3.

Currently we have **635 members** in Unit 90, but only **550** 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 **236 life members**.

**The State IRTA and the Unit 90 memberships are separate.**

Membership forms for both can be found on our webpage: [irta-unit90.org](http://irta-unit90.org).

**You should join both!**

### Unit 90 Members Who Recently Died



Donald Ring (March 2022)



Marcia Bennett (Feb. 2022)



Gary A. Peterson (Feb. 2022)

Elizabeth Campbell (Feb. 2022)

Charles Francis (Jan. 2022)

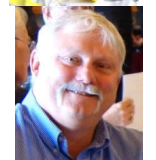
Daniel Moore (Jan. 2022)

Daniel Nestor (Jan. 2022)

Mike Wietlispach (Jan. 2022)

Robbie Murphy-Elliott (Dec. 2021)

Alice Davitt (Dec. 2021)



## Carolyn White: Volunteers Needed



**Read to Learn** is looking for volunteers for one-to-one tutoring of adults learning English. New tutors must attend the full day training session on Saturday, August 22 at Forest View Education Center. Classes are held at various sites throughout the District 211/District 214 area. Morning classes are from 9:30 - 12:00, the afternoon class is from 12:30 - 3:00 and evening classes run from either 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm or 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm. Each session is for 10 weeks; fall classes begin somewhere between

September 7 - 12 and end between November, 10 - December, 7, depending on the site. For more information or to register for tutor training, go to <https://www.ce.d214.org/readtolearn> or call 847-718-7724.



One day event: **Elderwerks** is seeking volunteers for the Aging Better Expo to be held on August 31 at the Triphahn Center, 1685 W. Higgins in Hoffman Estates. Elderwerks is a not-for-profit organization that helps seniors find assisted living or senior housing in their community, considering price, amenities, etc. The Expo runs from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. Volunteers can choose their shift. Possible shifts are 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, 8:00 am - 11:00 am, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, or 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

For more information or to volunteer, call the Elderwerks office at 855-467-0100.



***If you're a State IRTA member, you're eligible for many benefits:***

**1-800-728-4782**

**<https://www.irtaonline.org/benefits>**



# A Breakfast with Your Legislators and Candidates

Sponsored by

## The Northwest Suburban IRTA Unit 90

Unit 90 Members and their Guests are invited to attend

at Inverness Golf Club

102 N. Roselle Road, Palatine, Illinois 60067 (corner of Roselle & Palatine Roads)  
(847) 358-2340 Valet Parking Available (\$3)

**\$20 each (\$25 for non-member guests)**

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

**Wednesday September 7, 2022 9:00 am**

Invited guests include:

State Senator <i>Christina Castro</i>	(Democrat)	22 <sup>nd</sup> District
Candidate <i>Bill Robertson</i>	(Republican)	22 <sup>nd</sup> District
State Senator <i>Ann Gillespie</i>	(Democrat)	27 <sup>th</sup> District
State Senator <i>Laura Murphy</i>	(Democrat)	28 <sup>th</sup> District
State Representative <i>Fred Crespo</i>	(Democrat)	44 <sup>th</sup> District
Candidate <i>Patrick Brouillette</i>	(Republican)	44 <sup>th</sup> District
State Representative <i>Chris Bos</i>	(Republican)	51 <sup>st</sup> District
Candidate <i>Nabeela Syed</i>	(Democrat)	51 <sup>st</sup> District
State Representative <i>Mark Walker</i>	(Democrat)	53 <sup>rd</sup> District
Candidate <i>Jack Vrett</i>	(Republican)	53 <sup>rd</sup> District
State Representative <i>Michelle Mussman</i>	(Democrat)	56 <sup>th</sup> District

Click [here](#) to find your legislative districts

Fill out the attached registration form and return it with your check for \$20.00 (\$25 for guest)

**Reservation Deadline for members & their guests must be received  
by Wednesday, August 31, 2022**

**RSVP to:** Liz White, 1225 Luther Ln Apt 121, Arlington Heights, IL 60004-8132

**Questions?** Please call Liz White at 847-309-5805

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of guest (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of check: \_\_\_\_\_ Make the check payable to: Northwest Suburban IRTA - Unit 90



**Northwest Suburban IRTA Unit 90  
12 Country Oaks Ln  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-9620**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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