



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

Vol. 37, No. 1 • March - April, 2010

www.LRTA.net

LRTA Spring Meeting April 13 and 14

LRTA and Host District VII invite all Louisiana retirees to join them for the 2010 Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 13 and 14. District President James Stewart and his host committee promise to generate lots of fun around the theme "Let's Make a Deal!" Be sure to attend the meeting meal functions to get in on the wheeling and dealing!

The Executive Board meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 2:00 p.m. on April 13. A pre-convention dinner will be held on the evening of April 13. Meeting general sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday April 14. A representative from the Office of Social Security, whose presentation will focus on Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provisions (GPO/WEP), will be one of the featured speakers.

Reports and updates will be given by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, the Office of Group Bene-

fits, and the LRTA Foundation. LRTA Membership Awards for 2009 will also be presented. Just prior to the conclusion of the general session, a memorial service will be led by LRTA Second Vice-President Felix Johnson, Jr. The meeting will conclude with a mid-day luncheon at which honorees from Districts V, VI and VII will be inducted as Name of Fame award winners. Finally, at the close of the luncheon, new LRTA officers will be installed.

All meeting and meal functions will be held at the Alexander Fulton Hotel and Convention Centre, 701 Fourth Street in Alexandria. There is no cost to attend meeting sessions; meal function costs are \$24 for the pre-convention dinner on April 13 and \$20 for the luncheon on April 14.

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the Alexander Fulton Hotel and Convention Centre, (318) 442-9000. A special LRTA convention room rate is provided at \$70 per

night, plus tax, for reservations made before March 26, unless the hotel sells out before that date.

In order to eliminate long lines at registration, please pre-register by completing the Meeting Pre-Registration Form on page 8. Convention packets containing programs, name tags and other important meeting materials will be prepared for participants who pre-register by April 5.

LRTA Day at the Capitol

Thursday, April 29
10:00 a.m.

See page 5 for more details.

Join Our E-Mail Club

Join the LRTA E-Mail Club and stay informed up to the minute. All you need to do is send an e-mail to info@lrta.net with E-MAIL CLUB in the subject line. Once your e-mail reaches LRTA, your e-mail address will be added as a new contact, and you will receive all e-mail communications sent from the LRTA office. Consider joining, and stay informed!

Inside

From the Desk of the President.....	Page 2
Executive Director's Report.....	Page 2
2010 Legislative Priorities.....	Page 3
LRTA Foundation To Meet.....	Page 4
LRTA Day at the Capitol.....	Page 5
2009 Member Awards.....	Page 5
In Memoriam.....	Page 6
LRTA Mourns Alice Perry.....	Page 7

From the Desk of the President



Dr. Hugh C. Craft

My two year tenure as your LRTA president will end April 14, 2010 when a new president is sworn into office at the upcoming Spring Meeting. It has been my great pleasure, and privilege, to have had the opportunity to

serve the membership and the association as president. It has also been rewarding to me to serve with the Executive Committee, the Executive Board, and all other LRTA committees that have been busy going about the work of the association. I have had the opportunity to visit with members and to address many of the Units and Districts. Carolon and I have made many new friends along the way.

My first experience in service to LRTA was five years on the Executive Board representing District I as its president. After that, I was elected to a two-year term as first vice-president of LRTA and then to a two-year term as president. I will continue to serve on the Executive Committee and Executive Board for a two-year term as immediate past president.

During the last four years, one of my top priorities has been membership development, and I will continue to assist LRTA's first vice-president in that endeavor. Membership drives the vehicle called LRTA. It is imperative that we build a bigger LRTA by promoting membership involvement from grassroots to the state capitol. Retired education personnel have the influence, the clout, and the power to impact Louisiana in many positive ways. Now is the time to make that evident.

Last year I appointed Mr. Jerry Boudreaux to be coordinator of the first LRTA Day at the Capitol. Mr. Boudreaux did an outstanding job working with local leaders, district presidents, committee chairpersons and other LRTA leaders to sign up over 600 people for this first-time event. It will be repeated this year so LRTA can reinforce its positions on important pieces of legislation to the members of the legislature. LRTA membership must be on the defensive and show a united front in opposing legislation that is not in the best interest of retired educators. Mark April 29, 2010 on your calendar for the Second LRTA Day at the Capitol. This year, let's cover the capitol steps!

At the end of 2008, LRTA membership had grown to its highest point in its history with well

continued on page 4

Executive Director's Report



Graig A. Luscombe

The 2010 Regular Legislative Session begins at noon on Monday, March 29. I am already aware of legislation that may be introduced which could impact you as a retired educator, or have a potential impact on your retirement system. Under

the provisions of the Louisiana Constitution, the intention to introduce retirement legislation must be advertised thirty days prior to the introduction of the legislation. Here is a list of some of the topics advertised for consideration by the legislature.

- Consolidation of the four state retirement systems—these four retirement systems are: Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, Louisiana School Em-

ployees Retirement System and State Police Pension and Retirement System

- Implementation of a defined contribution retirement plan for new employees hired on or after July 1, 2010
- Provisions governing Permanent Benefit Increases (formerly known as COLAs) for state retirement systems
- Elimination of the Deferred Retirement Option Plan for all state retirement systems
- Elimination of, or adjustments to, the retiree return-to-work provisions for teachers.

Other legislation designed to lower the cost of providing a defined benefit retirement plan may be considered. This list includes:

- Using the highest 60 consecutive months of salary, instead of the highest 36 consecutive months, to compute retirement benefits
- Limiting increases in salary that can be used for retirement benefit calculations

continued on page 3

LRTA Executive Board

President

Hugh C. Craft
P. O. Box 530
Chalmette, LA 70044

Past President

Vacant

First Vice-President

Rupert E. Breland
1201 N. Columbia St.
Bogalusa, LA 70427

Second Vice-President

Felix Johnson, Jr.
110 Magloire St.
Lafayette, LA 70501

District I President

Maria S. George
P. O. Box 15713
New Orleans, LA 70175

District II President

Elicio P. Nicholas
3979 Hwy. 307
Thibodaux, LA 70301

District III President

Bertha Breland
1201 N. Columbia St.
Bogalusa, LA 70427

District IV President

LeRoy Washington
3033 Rosedale Rd.
Port Allen, LA 70767

District V President

James Broussard
6117 Sugar Oaks Rd.
New Iberia, LA 70560

District VI President

Eurella D. Cahanin
7129 Grand Prairie Hwy.
Rayne, LA 70578

District VII President

James T. Stewart
1638 Creed St.
Pineville, LA 71360

District VIII President

Raymond Christensen
1017 Oma St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

District IX President

Dorothy W. Brown
1207 Maple St.
Winnsboro, LA 71295

District X President

Sidney A. Seegers
2704 Pargoud Blvd.
Monroe, LA 71201

District XI President

Carol J. Lynch
3299 Mt. Bethel Rd.
Keithville, LA 71047

TRSL Board of Trustees

William C. Baker
631 Voorhies Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70815

TRSL Board of Trustees

Anne H. Baker
631 Voorhies Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA 70815

OGB Advisory Board

Merline T. Broussard
320 Briars Ct.
Bossier City, LA 71111

AARP State President

Charles W. Landry
P. O. Box 14
Youngsville, LA 70592

LASS - R President

Lloyd Dressel
18918 Beaujolaes Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

2010 Legislative Priorities

LRTA supports legislation that will positively affect retired teachers and opposes legislation that will adversely affect retired teachers. LRTA also supports efforts to maintain adequate funding for top quality public education in Louisiana. Although these priorities are listed in numerical order, the items listed are all top priorities of LRTA.

1. LRTA supports a viable Employee Experience Account for accumulating a portion of the excess interest earnings of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana for future funding of permanent benefit increases (PBIs) for retirees.
2. LRTA supports dedicated allocations from state funds for permanent benefit increases.
3. LRTA supports a stable, automatic permanent benefit increase provision for retirees as part of the benefit structure offered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.
4. LRTA supports dedicated allocations from state funds to meet the state's obligation to reduce the Initial Unfunded Accrued Liabilities (IUALs) of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.
5. LRTA supports state revenue enhancements that provide a meaningful economic impact on retired educators in enhancing their dignity, independence and overall quality of life.
6. LRTA supports funding from state funds to offset increasing costs of health insurance premiums and other benefits for retired educators offered by the Office of Group Benefits and other health care insurers and providers.
7. LRTA opposes any action that would negatively impact the actuarial soundness of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.
8. LRTA opposes the consolidation of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana with any other retirement system.
9. LRTA opposes the consolidation of assets of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana with any other retirement system, and opposes any other action that would dilute membership control of the investment of the assets of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.
10. LRTA opposes any action that would alter the current defined benefit structure offered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to its members.
11. LRTA opposes the provision of state funded scholarships/vouchers for public elementary and secondary school students to attend private and non-public schools, and supports a viable public education program that requires educators to become members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.
12. LRTA supports repeal of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) of the Social Security Administration and opposes mandatory Social Security coverage of public employees in Louisiana.

Executive Director's Report

Continued from page 2

- Raising the retirement eligible age to 60
- Increasing the percentage of salary contributed by employees to the retirement system.

Each year LRTA adopts a listing of legislative priorities. The 2010 priorities are printed above, and address many of the topics listed. One very important issue is the creation of a defined contribution plan for newly hired educators—a plan that would go into effect

July 1, 2010. This is a very complex issue, and my limited space here does not permit me to explain differences between defined contribution and defined benefit retirement plans. However, Dr. Craft's recent letter to the editor, which many of you saw printed in your local newspaper, and a complete explanation of the plan differences are provided under the LRTA & the Legislature section on the LRTA web site: www.lrta.net.

As always, the LRTA staff will be providing periodic updates throughout the session regarding these and other mat-

ters. The easiest way for you to receive this information is to join the LRTA E-Mail Club, and instructions on how to join that club are provided. Staying in touch with your staff and your legislators is of key importance during this time. Please take a few minutes to let members of your legislative delegation know how you feel regarding legislation mentioned above.

A complete update on all legislative matters will be provided at the LRTA Spring Meeting. A registration form is included on the back page, and I hope to see many of you there.

LRTA Foundation To Meet

The LRTA Spring Meeting will be held in Alexandria, LA on Tuesday, April 13 and Wednesday, April 14, 2010. All meeting activities will occur at the Alexandria Fulton Hotel and Convention Centre. District VII will again be hosting the meeting, and the theme for the meeting is "Let's Make A Deal!" The Foundation Board will meet on Tuesday April 13, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. The annual Foundation Leadership Award will be presented to an outstanding LRTA member selected from nominations received from Districts I, III, V, VII, IX, and XI. The foundation drawing will be conducted during the luncheon on April 14. Winners do not have to be present in order to collect their prizes. The Foundation Board is asking individuals, RTA Units and Districts to

contact businesses in local communities to secure donated items. Please advise the LRTA office about items you would like to donate for the foundation drawing.

Monetary donations received since the Fall Meeting in October, 2009 in honor or in memory of individuals will be announced. **Step Up for the Foundation** by bringing your individual, Unit or District donations to the meeting.

On behalf of the LRTA Foundation board members, I want to express our utmost appreciation for your ongoing generosity and support. Plan to attend the LRTA 2010 Spring Meeting and enjoy the fun, fellowship, speakers and other activities. Thanks for your involvement!

*Dr. Hugh Craft,
Foundation President*

From the Desk of the President

Continued from page 3

over 20,000 members. I asked Dr. John Foster to serve as the Associate Member Development Czar for LRTA. He trained retirees to visit schools around the state to solicit associate members from the ranks of active teachers. He traversed the state speaking to school faculties and recruiting associate members. As a result of his dedicated efforts, associate membership increased to over 2000. We must keep this drive alive. All active teachers will retire at some point in time, and until then, they need to be convinced that becoming an associate member of LRTA is the appropriate thing for them to do.

At the LRTA Fall Meeting in 2007, the LRTA Executive Board adopted a strategic plan to guide the association into the future. I am happy to report that the major goals set forth in that plan have all been achieved including the consolidation of the LRTA Constitution and By-laws.

Some other notable milestones:

Under the leadership of Mr. Benjamin Sandifer, chairperson of the Legislative Committee, the Executive Board expanded and clarified LRTA's legislative priorities. The priorities include many issues important to retired educators as well as seeking the repeal of the unfair federal statutes dealing with the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision

(WEP). The Executive Board passed a resolution advocating repeal of GPO and WEP. It was sent to the President of the United States and to the Louisiana congressional delegation. We must continue the fight to repeal these unfair federal statutes that negatively impact so many LRTA members.

The LRTA Executive Committee and LRTA Executive Board supported a resolution endorsing the LA Self-Help Plan created by Mr. J. Ronald Eldridge. This plan would impose an excise tax on pipelines which would be paid by 98.25% of individuals and businesses outside of Louisiana. It would tax gasoline going through the pipelines at the rate of 25 cents per gallon and natural gas at less than 3 cents per cubic foot. Revenues generated from this excise tax would build back the barrier islands and the Louisiana coastline to its condition that existed in 1900 prior to pipeline intrusion along our shores. It would also provide adequate revenues to zero out sales, income and property taxes for individuals and businesses in Louisiana. It would provide funds to eliminate the unfunded accrued liabilities of state retirement systems as well as provide for an increase of \$3,000 per month for retired teachers. It would be a financial boon for Louisiana thus eliminating the financial woes that exist today. I need your help in creating awareness of the Louisiana Self-Help

Plan. For our children's and grandchildren's sake, let us push forward on this plan. It will benefit all of us.

With the expansion of the LRTA website, members can find important information on legislation, locate the members on the House and Senate retirement committees, the LRTA position on bills being considered during a legislative session, how legislators voted on key bills, and other topics regarding LRTA membership. Information is provided about the LRTA Spring and Fall Meetings, and important links are included. The LRTA Foundation now has its own designated area on the site. Take some time to familiarize yourself with the information supplied at your fingertips.

The LRTA E-Mail Club gives members an opportunity to receive accurate and timely information on legislation. Belonging to the club allows members to be proactive and contact their legislators timely relative to their pending consideration of a bill. If you have not done so, send your e-mail address to info@lrta.net and join the E-Mail Club. You will then receive the latest communications from the office in Baton Rouge regarding legislation and other matters.

During my term, I began utilizing news releases and letters to the editor as tools to explain LRTA's positions on issues.

continued on page 7

LRTA Day at the Capitol - April 29

I want to get you excited about an upcoming event that is going to be even bigger and better than last year — **LRTA Day at the Capitol 2010**. Once again, the LRTA officers and executive board have asked me to serve as their LRTA Day at the Capitol coordinator. We have already met with your district presidents and their district coordinators to begin planning for this year's event. Put Thursday, April 29 on your calendars, and plan to join us in Baton Rouge. The event will begin at 10:00 a.m. on the capitol steps. For those attending, T-shirts, and lunch and refreshments will be provided. Your district president has a form you need to com-

plete to express your interest in attending. Please get this information back to your district president or district coordinator as soon as possible. My goal is to have 1,000 LRTA members in Baton Rouge on April 29. This will be **your** opportunity to meet with members of your legislative delegation and to watch the Louisiana legislature in action. Join us for the event, help express our interests as an association, and share fellowship with your friends and former colleagues. See you in Baton Rouge.

*Jerry Boudreaux,
President of LRTA District IV and
LRTA Day at the Capitol Coordinator*

Day at the Capitol Coordinators

District I: Maria & Theo George
District II: Donald Bascle
District III: Bertha Breland
District IV: LeRoy Washington
District V: Dudley Duhon
District VI: Eurella Cahanin
District VII: James Stewart
District VIII: Laurine Adcock
District IX: Dorothy Brown
District X: Randy Moore
District XI: G. Jeane Nichols

2009 Member Awards

Each year, at the LRTA Spring Meeting, Membership Awards are presented to districts and local units to recognize the recruitment of new LRTA members, and the recruitment and retention for total membership and associate members.

At the Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 14, it will be my pleasure to present membership awards to the following districts and local units in the categories listed:

New Member Awards

The parish with the largest percent of new members is **Claiborne Parish in District XI**, with 14.3%. The award winning units in Claiborne Parish are **Claiborne RTA**, with **Marie Gray** of Homer as president; and **Claiborne RTA**, with **James Scribner** of Summerfield as president.

The parish with the largest number of new members is **East Baton Rouge Parish in District IV**, with 216. The award winning units in East Baton Rouge Parish are **Baton Rouge Area RTA**, with **Aaron Biggers** of Baton Rouge as president; **Educators of Yesterday RTA**, with **Harry Johnson** of Baton Rouge as president; and **LSU Faculty and Staff Retiree Club**, with **Roland Dommert** as president.

Total Member Awards

The parish with the largest increase in percent of members is **Claiborne Parish in District XI**, with a 4.6% increase. Award winning units in Claiborne Parish are **Claiborne RTA**, with **Marie Gray** of Homer as president; and **Claiborne RTA**, with **James Scribner** of Summerfield as president.

The parish with the largest percent of members is **Assumption Parish in District II**, with 64.3%. The award winning unit in Assumption Parish is **Assumption RTA**, with **Nellie Landry** of Napoleonville as president.

Cornerstone Award

The Cornerstone Award recognizes the LRTA District that had the highest percentage of LRTA members at the end of the last calendar year. The Cornerstone Award Banner shows all of the LRTA Districts and the winning district includes a star with the year of the award. This banner is presented to the President of the award-winning district. The banner is to be displayed at retired teachers association meetings in that district during the next year.

The Cornerstone Award for the district with the highest percentage of LRTA members in 2009 goes to **District X**

for the fifth consecutive year. District X had 40.4% of the retired teachers in the district as members of LRTA. **Randy Moore**, of Simsboro, is president of District X.

Associate Member Awards

The parish with the largest number of associate members in 2009 was **St. Tammany Parish in District III**, with 79 associate members. The award winning unit is the **St. Tammany RTA**, with **Jack Loup** of Folsom as president.

The district with the largest number of associate members in 2009 was **District III**, with 155 associate members. **Bertha Breland** of Bogalusa is president of District III.

Congratulations to everyone in the award winning units and districts. We all extend our heartfelt thanks to the officers and leaders in each of the units for planning and conducting programs that attracted and retained members.

Membership recruitment must be an ongoing effort by everyone in order to maintain an active and effective LRTA. Please continue your efforts to recruit and retain members in LRTA.

*Rupert E. Breland
First Vice-President and
State Membership Chair*

In Memoriam

"...these immortal dead who live again in minds made better by their presence."

Deceased Retired Teachers December 3, 2009 through February 25, 2010

District I

Ernest J. Brin – New Orleans
 Mary A. Dandridge – New Orleans
 Earline Eugene – New Orleans
 Julie Francis – New Orleans
 Jessie B. Galatas – New Orleans
 Doris A. Green – New Orleans
 Shirley Mae Green – New Orleans
 Lynell Jones – New Orleans
 Bertha A. Lee – New Orleans
 Richard A. Lee – New Orleans
 Cesil K. Levin – New Orleans
 Doris C. Long – New Orleans
 Betty W. Matens – New Orleans
 Thomas D. Ripper – New Orleans
 Geraldine B. Talton – New Orleans
 Harold R. Watkins – New Orleans
 Charles R. Wilson – New Orleans

District II

Sophie Aramburo – Harvey
 Louvenia N. Armant – Vacherie
 Denise M. Arroyo – River Ridge
 Warren L. Authement – Thibodaux
 Lorraine L. Belanger – Kenner
 Peter W. Breithoff – Metairie
 Amelie C. Broussard – Thibodaux
 Melba A. Colvin – Houma
 Shirley R. Fauchaux – Paulina
 Donald R. Feltey – Metairie
 Olivia K. French – LaPlace
 Pierre A. Gaudet – Metairie
 Ralph Hargis – Lockport
 Leone H. LeBlanc – Lockport
 Maria C. Leiva – Metairie
 Shirley I. Lutz – Gretna
 Elizabeth I. Migliore – Kenner
 Irma P. Picou – Houma
 Georgianna F. Pierce – Harvey
 Raphael N. Songy, Jr. – Kenner
 Shirley B. Taravella – Gretna
 Margaret T. Toups – Thibodaux
 Nellie W. Traylor – Des Allemands

District III

Yvonne Alford – Hammond
 Ronald J. Alonzo – Covington
 John N. Bickers – Mandeville
 Judith B. Casey – Ponchatoula
 Judith C. Cockerham – Denham Springs
 Richard H. Collin – Hammond
 Douglas C. Courtney – Pine Grove
 Rose W. Crain – Franklinton
 Helen S. Evans – Bogalusa
 Sonia G. Evans – Mandeville
 Yvette F. Evans – Slidell
 Sally B. Giglio – Bogalusa
 Jeanette S. Gregoire – Hammond
 Mary T. Hamersly – Covington
 Argrea Hendrickson – Kentwood
 Anna Guice Hinson – Holden
 Gerald C. Keller – French Settlement
 Mary K. Koon – Covington
 Velma P. LeMaire – Mandeville

Arthur S. Leonard – Amite
 Agnes A. McClendon – Amite
 Wesley W. Miller – Slidell
 Hattie B. Peacock – Hammond
 Helen C. Sachse – Denham Springs
 Mary D. Schilling – Bogalusa
 William S. Simmons, Jr. – Covington
 Linda B. Smith – Slidell
 Arthur Tolis – Slidell

District IV

Charles A. Abbott – Zachary
 Daisy C. Allen – Baton Rouge
 John L. Babb – Baton Rouge
 Victor T. Baham, Jr. – Baton Rouge
 Mary S. Baker – Baton Rouge
 Beverly Bartol – Baton Rouge
 June G. Bouchereau – Donaldsonville
 Sybil Capdevielle – Baton Rouge
 Irma L. Chambliss – Baton Rouge
 Elvin J. Dantin – Baton Rouge
 Lee Roy Dantin – Baton Rouge
 Alease Darensbourg – Baton Rouge
 Leila C. Day – Baton Rouge
 Elton J. Derouen – Brusly
 Joseph B. Ewing III – Innis
 Elaine S. Fremin – Baton Rouge
 Linda Mel Guillory – Baton Rouge
 Sander G. Hunter – Baton Rouge
 Madeline B. Jackson – Geismar
 Marian W. Jackson – Baton Rouge
 Rosamond Killebrew – Baton Rouge
 Saul Litvinoff – Baton Rouge
 Maureen McCullough – Baton Rouge
 Helen A. Meeks – Baton Rouge
 Rita W. Montgomery – Baton Rouge
 Paul Poydras – Baton Rouge
 Vivian B. Robertson – Baton Rouge
 Albertha D. Singleton – Plaquemine
 Lawanna S. Sumrall – Baker
 Malcolm Swearingen – Baker
 Camilla Watson – Baton Rouge
 Rose M. Weatherspoon – Baton Rouge
 Sybil E. Webb – Gonzales
 Kathy L. Weimer – Port Allen
 Austin Whitaker – Baton Rouge
 Royce H. Whittington – Baton Rouge
 Lloyd Williams – Donaldsonville
 Tricia A. Williams – Baton Rouge

District V

Irvine A. Auzenne – Opelousas
 Mary Rose Broussard – Kaplan
 Myrtis G. Broussard – Kaplan
 Katherine Cancienne – Carencro
 Dalcour Cecile – Palmetto
 Evelyn T. Comeaux – Opelousas
 Barry M. Daste – Lafayette
 Eva B. Dugas – New Iberia
 Elizabeth H. Goudeau – Lafayette
 Alzena Guy – Baldwin
 Lawrence V. Jacobs, Jr. – Breaux Bridge
 Dean F. Keeley – Lafayette
 Thelma Lacour – Opelousas

Gloria Lee – Opelousas
 James R. LeMaire – Grand Coteau
 Robert G. Miller – Ville Platte
 Irvin Mocerri – Jeanerette
 James Moran – Port Barre
 Bernice T. Racca – Lafayette
 Roy G. Simmons – Morgan City
 Donald R. Smith – Lafayette
 Ethel D. Stockman – New Iberia
 Ruth B. Waites – New Iberia
 Mae M. Wilton – Carencro

District VI

Marelia C. Ancelet – Rayne
 Inola H. Brown – Sulphur
 Genevieve Chiasson – Lake Charles
 Martha C. Crick – Sulphur
 Ora Lee S. Eubanks – Sulphur
 Annie C. Fusilier – Crowley
 Wilbur Gautreaux – Mermentau
 Ethel Grace – Oakdale
 Theresa A. LeBlanc – Lake Charles
 Freddie B. Loyd – Vinton
 Ethel M. MacDonald – Lake Charles
 Bonnie R. Perkins – DeQuincy
 Donald J. Pitre – Lake Charles
 Gilda P. Prine – Sulphur
 Ann M. J. Steward – DeRidder
 Helge Stolzle – Lake Charles
 Rubylie Wright – Sulphur

District VII

Beth V. Cheek - Lecompte
 Willis Leo Fuqua – Effie
 Sharyn M. Harrington – Bunkie
 Esther W. Lee – Alexandria
 Bronis M. Martin – Olla
 Barbara W. Newton – Alexandria
 Wilmer W. Parker – Anacoco
 Ruby J. Porter – Alexandria
 Charlotte R. Wyont – Alexandria

District VIII

Ernest W. Bamburg – Winnfield
 Charles V. Christian – Mansfield
 Lloyd D. Jackson – Mansfield
 James E. Roberts – Natchitoches
 Nettie B. Winston – Natchitoches

District IX

Mary C. Clarkson – Delhi
 Ruth S. Cuny – Winnsboro
 Gussie Davis – Winnsboro
 James M. Fletcher – Winnsboro
 Curtis C. Grimble – Winnsboro
 Claude Minor – Rayville
 Juanita Moore – Winnsboro
 Annie Elizabeth Reeves – Gilbert
 Lanelle F. Rusk – Epps
 Sarah L. Sharbono – Rayville
 Patricia W. Thompson – St. Joseph
 Elizabeth B. Trass – Lake Providence
 Kermit L. Walters – Rayville
 Adrienne S. Wilson – Winnsboro
 Myrtle W. Wyche – Tallulah

*In Memoriam continued***District X**

Bessie Babb – Monroe
 Frances B. Bullington – Monroe
 Vonzella Cunningham – Jonesboro
 Audrey L. DeLee – Monroe
 Mary L. F. Dring – Simsboro
 Kenneth Griswold – West Monroe
 Felix J. Harris – Monroe
 Sarah N. Howell – Monroe
 Evelena C. Johnson – Monroe
 Elton A. Lamkin – Ruston
 R. A. Laney – Ruston
 Patsy T. McCracken – Marion
 Bobbie Moss – West Monroe
 George W. Muse – Monroe
 Alice H. Perry – Bastrop
 Matthean Seay – Collinston
 Jo A. Smith – Monroe
 Betty Trimble – Monroe
 Charles F. Turner – Grambling
 Dorothy W. Wasson – Sterlington
 Beatrice H. Wright – Downsview

District XI

Verble M. Augustine – Shreveport
 Evelyn P. Brazell – Shreveport
 Shirley S. Brown – Shreveport
 Minnie Siel Clark – Greenwood
 Nellie W. Dandridge – Minden
 Ruth K. Duncan – Shreveport
 Marilyn L. Gibson – Shreveport
 Lillian H. Hall – Bossier City
 Billie J. Jackson – Shreveport
 Henry M. Jackson – Shreveport
 Comiel H. Kendall – Shreveport
 Laholman Kendrick – Shreveport
 Betty J. Lattier – Shreveport
 Kay Leggett – Haughton
 Eunice B. N. Lipe – Shreveport
 Laura P. Martin – Shreveport
 James E. McMichael – Minden
 Betty Jean F. Monk – Haynesville
 Steve H. Nehring – Shreveport
 Dorothy P. Pate – Jamestown
 Luther E. Self – Oil City
 Treby L. Staten – Springhill
 Henry E. Turner – Benton
 Dennis B. Wade – Vivian
 Mari W. Webb – Shreveport
 Marianne F. White – Shreveport
 Daisy B. Whittaker – Shreveport
 Amanda J. Williams – Arcadia

Out of State

Ralph F. Boulware – Stamps, AR
 Priscilla C. Carter – Virginia Beach, VA
 Conrad S. Castle – Brandon, MS
 Marie S. Condon – Helotes, TX
 Gertrude T. Cooke – Normal, IL
 Alfred W. Dubuisson – Carmichael, CA
 Sybil L. Duran – Lufkin, TX
 John S. Ellett, II – Charlottesville, VA
 Bonnie D. Faulkner – Tulsa, OK
 Clare K. Favret – Austin, TX
 Mary W. French – Fox Island, WA
 Elizabeth B. Gasaway – Vicksburg, MS
 Paula C. Gebhardt – Bala Cynwyd, PA
 Gwendolyn C. Gilbert – Fairfax, VA
 Frank R. Groves, Jr. – Louisville, KY
 Dorothy Kate Hall – Boulder, CO
 Dorothy M. Hanks – Rexford, NY
 Evelyn R. Henry – Birmingham, AL
 Helen R. Hibbets – Enid, OK
 Suzanne Hitt – Mansfield, TX
 Melba Hutchinson – Sugarland, TX
 Etta S. Jackson – Galveston, TX
 Nadya Clark Keller – Charlotte, NC
 Thelma H. Leonard – Palestine, TX
 Marion E. Longmeyer – Missouri City, TX
 Olga Manuel – Senatobia, MS
 Elnora R. Matthews – Midlothian, TX
 Billie McBroom – Houston, TX
 Mary McLemore – Colorado Springs, CO
 Marguerite H. Mealus – Houston, TX
 Martha C. Melton – Bend, OR
 Rose M. K. Mitcham – Festus, MO
 Benjamin E. Mitchell – Pearland, TX
 Patterson B. Moseley – Benton, AR
 Lois Newsome – Antioch, TN
 Barbara Odom – Rosenberg, TX
 Yvonne H. Oliver – North Augustus, SC
 Charles D. Patterson – Arvada, CO
 Alma L. Pete – Grand Prairie, TX
 Charles M. Poole – Celebration, FL
 Maxine D. Porter – Houston, TX
 Geneva B. Pradia – Kensington, MD
 Myrtle L. Purnell – Washington, DC
 Leona Randall – Wake Forest, NC
 Marcia J. Ritch – Panama City Beach, FL
 Veda D. Roberts – Claremore, OK
 Helen W. Robinson – Plano, TX
 Betty C. Rosenthal – Georgetown, TX
 Lewis Isaac Smart – Bryan, TX
 Lee B. Smith – Marietta, GA
 Johnnie B. Sonnier – Hemphill, TX
 Mildred L. Tedeton – Grand Prairie, TX

John H. Thomas – Bogue Chitto, MS
 Ethel W. Trahan – Houston, TX
 Margaret G. Watson – Houston, TX
 Willa J. Willis – Los Angeles, CA
 Elmira B. Yancy – Houston, TX

From the Desk of the President

Continued from page 4

Be on the lookout for future publications in your local paper. A major newspaper in New Orleans has a history of ignoring LRTA news releases and letters to the editor, but our efforts will continue to bring certain issues to the forefront using the media outlets throughout the state.

Also during my term, I realized how much our LRTA staff does for all of us. I have garnered much respect and appreciation for our Executive Director Mr. Graig Luscombe, our Assistant Director Mrs. Renee Siccone and our Membership Services Coordinator Mrs. Ann Reed. Their dedication to LRTA and the membership is outstanding. I want to take this opportunity to thank them for their commitment to retired educators, and for the support they have provided me during my term as president. I also want to thank all of those who served with me in state-wide offices, as members of the executive board, as chairpersons and members of committees, and all of you who continue to support the mission of the association.

Hopefully, I will see many of you in Alexandria at the Spring Meeting on April 13 and 14. I expect to see an even greater number of you in Baton Rouge on Thursday April 29, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at the LRTA Day at the Capitol. Thank you for providing me the opportunity to serve as your president during these past two years. Let us all continue to turn challenges into opportunities in order to make retirement years great! I look forward to working with you in the future to achieve that ultimate goal.

LRTA Mourns Alice Perry

Mrs. Alice H. Perry, former LRTA Board member and one of the organization's most dedicated supporters, passed away in January at the age of 101. Mrs. Perry moved to Virginia from her home in Bastrop a few years ago in order to be near her daughter. Although she was living away from her fellow Louisiana retirees, she stayed active in legislative and membership matters through frequent phone calls to the LRTA office and to her retired friends and colleagues in District X.

The Executive Board, the membership and the staff extend sincere condolences to Mrs. Perry's family. Her service to LRA will be greatly missed.

L.R.T.A. NEWSLETTER

9412 Common St., Suite 5
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Telephone (225) 927-8837
Toll-Free (888) 531-1992
E-mail Info@LRTA.net
Web www.LRTA.net

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BATON ROUGE LA
PERMIT NO 317

Return Service Requested

LRTA STAFF
Graig A. Luscombe <i>Executive Director</i>
Renée M. Siccone <i>Assistant Director</i>
Ann S. Reed <i>Membership Services Coordinator</i>

OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS
TRSL (Retirement Benefits and Check) (225) 925-6446 Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) 1-877-275-8775
Office of Group Benefits (225) 925-6625 Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) 1-800-272-8451
Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) 1-800-258-7041
LRTA Office (225) 927-8837 Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) 1-888-531-1992 Fax..... (225) 927-8838

2010 SPRING MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2010 Spring Meeting in order to expedite registration in Alexandria. To make a reservation for the pre-convention dinner on Tuesday, April 13, and/or for the luncheon on Wednesday, April 14, indicate in the space provided and send a check for the appropriate amount. **Each person pre-registering and/or reserving a meal ticket should return a separate form** in order to receive a registration packet. Guests may use the form in order to have a registration packet. (Photocopies acceptable.)

Name: _____ Social Security No. _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ E-mail _____

____ Attendance only, no fee

____ Number of tickets for Tuesday night Pre-Convention Dinner (\$24.00 per person) = \$ _____

____ Number of tickets for Wednesday luncheon (\$20.00 per person) = \$ _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Note: Pre-registration/meal reservations must be received in the LRTA office by **April 5, 2010**. Registration will be available at the meeting; however, meal function tickets are sold by pre-reservation only. **No meal reservations will be taken by phone. NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 8.** Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.