



# Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

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www.LRTA.net

## Increasing LRTA Membership is a Must

As your new LRTA First Vice-President, I accept the responsibility to act as State Membership Chair of LRTA. It is of utmost importance that membership numbers in LRTA increase dramatically if retiree benefits and interests are to be served and preserved. In order to address membership development strategies, I have called a meeting of the State Membership Committee to be held June 23, 2010 at the LRTA office in Baton Rouge. Letters of invitation will go out to the Membership Committee members in the near future.

Suggestions from members are welcomed and should be e-mailed to the LRTA office at [info@lrta.net](mailto:info@lrta.net) for the committee's consideration. Your ideas are valuable to the organization.

Congratulations are in order for the LRTA districts and local units who received membership awards at the LRTA Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 14. These awards were:

### New Member Awards:

- Claiborne RTA – Marie Gray, President
- Claiborne RTA – James Scribner, President
- Baton Rouge Area RTA – Aaron Biggers, President
- Educators of Yesteryear – Harry Johnson, President
- LSU Faculty & Staff Retiree Club – Roland Dommert, President

### Total Member Awards:

- Assumption RTA – Nellie Landry, President
- Claiborne RTA – Marie Gray, President
- Claiborne RTA – James Scribner, President

### Cornerstone Award:

District X RTA – Randy Moore, President

### Associate Member Awards:

- St. Tammany Parish RSEA – Jack Loup, President
- District III RTA – Bertha Breland, President

Other districts and units are encouraged to increase membership before the end of 2010. Awards are based on the largest numbers and percentages of members by a district or

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**Installed as new state officers at the LRTA Spring Meeting were, left to right, Second Vice-President Dr. Lonnie E. Dunn, of Shreveport; First Vice-President Dr. Jesse W. Scott, of Slidell; and President Dr. James A. Taylor, of Baton Rouge.**

## Could This Be Your Last Newsletter?

Annual membership in LRTA runs from April 1 through March 31. This could be your last newsletter IF your \$25 dues for 2010-2011 membership (or \$10 for associate members) have not been paid. If your annual membership has not been renewed, you will receive a reminder from LRTA in the next few weeks. If you are uncertain about your membership status, contact the LRTA office.

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## From the Desk of the President



**Dr. James A. Taylor**

Greetings!

I want to express my appreciation to those who nominated me and to those who chose me, through their ballots, as president of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association. The trust you place in me to

lead the organization whose purpose is to protect and enhance the economic and social status of retired teachers humbles me greatly. I am aware of the huge shoes I will fill. I want to express my thanks to Dr. Hugh Craft for the leadership he has given to the organization. He and I follow a long line of faithful men and women who have served tirelessly to make the lives of Louisiana retired teachers as comfortable and prosperous as possible.

I also want to thank Mr. Graig Luscombe for the outstanding leadership he has given as the Executive Director. I have known him and his work for several decades and have absolute confidence in his ability to make sure the organization works as effectively and efficiently as possible. I want to announce to the mem-

### Executive Director's Report



**Graig A. Luscombe**

We have reached the point in the legislative session where most house bills that will be successful in making it through the legislative process to become law have been passed by the House of Representatives and await hearings in the appropriate senate committees. Likewise, the senate bills which have a good chance of being enacted by the legislature await hearings in the appropriate house committees. The 2010 Regular Legislative Session will end at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 21 unless the legislature completes its work before that time.

I want to thank all of you who contacted your members of the legislature and the members of the House Retirement Committee on House Bill Nos. 930, 931 and 1229. At the meet-

bership that his contract has been renewed for an additional two years. His staff, Mrs. Siccone and Mrs. Reed, work with great courtesy, insight, and efficiency. This tiny group accomplishes much for you with little notice or applause. I want to publicly applaud and thank all three.

Our leadership team for the next two years will also include Dr. Hugh Craft, Past President, Dr. Jesse W. Scott, First Vice-President, Dr. Lonnie E. Dunn, Second Vice-President and Mr. Benjamin Sandifer, Legislative Chair. Our agenda will be full as we represent your interests in the Louisiana legislature while it is in session and begin planning for the next session. I look forward to the wise counsel from each member as we face the ever-present threats and challenges to a well-funded, self-directed, and independent Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.

I want to thank all who participated in our Spring Meeting in Alexandria. It was very well planned and executed with much credit going to the many members of the Alexandria District Units who did much of the "heavy lifting" necessary to make a performance come alive. I want to express my appreciation to the District officers and members for much hard and skillful work. Please plan to join us for the Fall Meeting to be

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ing of the House Retirement Committee held Thursday, May 13, Speaker Tucker voluntarily deferred House Bill Nos. 930 and 931, the bills implementing a new defined contribution retirement plan. These bills will not be brought back up for further discussion this session. Speaker Tucker also deferred House Bill No. 1229 which proposed to consolidate the assets of the four state retirement systems and place those assets under a newly created State Retirement System Investment Commission. This bill has been rescheduled to be heard by the House Retirement Committee on Wednesday, June 2, and LRTA will provide you the latest information on this legislation as it develops. LRTA and TRSL, and other education groups, remain very much opposed to House Bill No. 1229.

The bill many view as the compromise which will reduce the costs of providing a defined benefit plan for members of the four state retirement systems (Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, Louisiana State Employees' Retirement

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## LRTA Executive Board

### President

James A. Taylor  
8122 Royalwood Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

### Past President

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

### First Vice-President

Jesse W. Scott  
209 Grafton Dr.  
Slidell, LA 70458

### Second Vice-President

Lonnie E. Dunn  
3750 Christy Dr.  
Shreveport, LA 71129

### District I President

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

### District II President

Donald A. Bascle  
220 Douglas Dr.  
Houma, LA 70364

### District III President

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

### District IV President

Jerry J. Boudreaux  
P. O. Box 264  
Zachary, LA 70791

### 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

Genevieve A. Gordon  
1646 Tobe Nabours Rd.  
Many, LA 71449

### District IX President

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

### District X President

Randy Moore  
2005 Hwy. 563  
Simsboro, LA 71275

### 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 Beaujolais Ave.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

## Increasing LRTA Membership *(continued)*

local unit, and also the highest numbers and percentages of new members recruited by a district or local unit.

The First Vice-President of each district or local unit serves as the membership chair of that district or unit. Each district or unit president is requested to send me the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of their membership chair. Send this information to my attention at the LRTA office.

Regular members of LRTA pay the reasonable amount of only \$25 annually. This may be done in one of two ways. One is to pay annually by sending a check to the LRTA office. The second and best way is by continuous membership. Authorization may be given for TRSL to deduct LRTA dues from your April 1 retirement check each year. Anyone wishing to become a continuous member may contact LRTA for an authorization form.

Associate membership is available for \$10 to any person not receiving a retirement benefit from the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, but who would like to support LRTA and

its mission. Active teachers, administrators and other school personnel are eligible for associate membership, as well as friends and family members of retired educators. Local unit members are urged to contact the principals and other school personnel at the schools in your areas to invite them to become associate members until retirement. Associate members receive the same benefits as regular members, with the exception of holding office or voting. Many associate members join to have availability of the AMBA benefits such as dental and vision packages, long term care insurance and other offerings.

Working together as a team, we can and must move membership numbers upward. Let us do this by recruiting one new member at a time, and then keep repeating the process. Face-to-face encounters with non-members will provide an opportunity for ongoing recruitment. Hopefully, we will get to meet many of you as we continue to strive to make retirement years great!

*Dr. Jesse W. Scott  
LRTA First Vice-President and  
State Membership Chair*



**Recipients of the 2010 Name of Fame award at the LRTA Spring Meeting were, left to right, District VII honoree Benjamin L. Sandifer, and District V honoree Daniel L. Verret, Sr. Also honored, but unable to attend, was District VI recipient Bonnie V. Lyons.**

## 2010 Foundation Spring Meeting

The LRTA Foundation Board met at 9:00 a.m. April 13, 2010 at the Alexander Fulton Hotel in Alexandria. Board members voted to extend the terms of the current officers of the Foundation for their respective terms. The board also filled a vacant position by electing Dr. Jesse W. Scott for a two-year term on the Foundation Board. Dr. Scott resides in Slidell, Louisiana, and serves as LRTA First Vice-President.

Leadership award recipients from the LRTA odd numbered districts were recognized during the final portion of the LRTA luncheon on April 14. Mr. Rupert Breland received a leadership plaque for his overall leadership at the local, district and state levels. Mr. Daniel Verret was recognized from District V for his many contributions at all levels of service. Mrs. Dorothy Brown was recognized from District IX for her service at the three levels. Mrs. Jo Allen from District XI was recognized for her many years of service to her local, district and state RTAs.

During the LRTA Foundation giveaway at the Spring Meeting, Eurella Cahanin won the color television which was donated by Gulf Coast Bank. Other lucky attendees won an electric griddle donated by Mr. and Mrs. James Stewart, a wrist

## Notice to Orleans Parish School Board Retirees

Retirees of the Orleans Parish School Board who participated in the school board's self-insured health plan may contact Mr. Kerry Punzo to obtain the latest information regarding health insurance coverage. There are some pieces of legislation moving through the legislative process that may address some of your concerns regarding the future payment of health insurance premiums. Mr. Punzo would like to hear from you. He can be reached at his e-mail address: [beckyandkerry@cs.com](mailto:beckyandkerry@cs.com), or by calling him at: 504.887.5667.

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## Update – Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

### Retiree Representative Board Election

The election process to select a retiree representative on TRSL's Board of Trustees is in progress.

Election information and ballots were mailed earlier this month to retired members. Voting by telephone and via the internet must be completed no later than 4:30 p.m., June 30, 2010. All paper ballots must be received by this date as well.

If you have questions, please call TRSL at 225-925-6109 or send an e-mail to [elections@trsl.org](mailto:elections@trsl.org) and specify "Retiree Election" in the subject line.

### Social Security Benefits May be Reduced

The Social Security Administration (SSA) now applies the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) reduction to members who participated in DROP and were eligible to retire with 10 years of service before September 1, 1985.

The WEP penalizes public servants who work in government jobs, but also held jobs in the private sector. Basically, it uses a modified formula to reduce, but not totally eliminate, their Social Security benefits earned in the private sector. In 2010, retirees could lose as much as \$380.50 per month in Social Security benefits under the WEP formula.

Please file a Request for Reconsideration (Form SSA-561-U2) with the SSA if you feel that you have been penalized because you have a DROP account. The form is available at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

### Periodic Re-exam Notices for Disability Retirees to be Sent July 1

If you are a disability retiree, you may be required to undergo periodic medical re-examinations to maintain your benefit payments.

Your re-exam notice and the Physician's Annual Report of Disabling Condition (Form 12D) will be sent to you on July 1. You will need to have a physician of your choice complete Form 12D. Please return the form to TRSL by August 31.

Periodic re-exams are required as follows:

- Once per year for the first five years of disability retirement
- Once every three years thereafter until age 60.

Not required if eligible for service retirement.

### Student Certification Age Limit Remains 23 for TRSL Benefits

A provision of the new health care reform law allows parents to keep an adult child on their health insurance plan longer. Dependent children can

now remain on their parents' insurance plans until age 26.

However, this federal insurance provision does not apply to pension benefits, nor does it affect TRSL's student certification process for disability retirees and survivors receiving dependent child benefits.

Eligibility requirements for dependent children receiving TRSL benefits remain the same. The dependent child must (1) be an unmarried, full-time student under age 23, and (2) attend an accredited secondary or post-secondary educational institution, if between ages 21 and 23.

The dependent child benefit will end once the student reaches age 23 or when he is no longer an unmarried, full-time student, whichever occurs first.

This child benefit is separate from any insurance coverage you may have for your child through your insurance provider, such as the Office of Group Benefits.

If you have any specific questions pertaining to TRSL's student certification process, please contact TRSL at 225-925-6446 or toll free (outside the Baton Rouge calling area) at 1-877-ASK-TRSL (1-877-275-8775).

*The information above is provided to LRTA from the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. If you have any questions about the contents, please contact TRSL at (225) 925-6446 or 1-877-ASK-TRSL.*

## From the Desk of the President

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held in Monroe on October 25, 26, and 27. If you have suggestions on how we can make our gathering in Monroe even more meaningful, please send them to the LRTA office.

The LRTA Day at the Capital, April 29, was a success. Mr. Jerry Boudreaux, Zachary, did a superb job of organizing the day. We were pleased that several legislators took time to visit with us. Please give your thanks to all who worked so hard on this project.

**We need your help!** Only the active membership and leadership of LRTA stands between the constant threat from forces who see benefit in wresting control of the TRSL from our hands to those whose interests are not ours and our handling our own affairs prudently. They call it "consolidation of assets," "expert management" and similar terms. The TRSL has been led, administered, and managed very well since 1936 by teacher controlled boards. We need all 50,000+ retirees to have the \$25.00 annual dues deducted from their April checks each year automatically. We have less than one-half of the retirees as members of LRTA, and so, less than one-half carries the burden of protecting all TRSL retirees. I

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## An Inside Look – Office of Group Benefits

1-800-272-8451

### Changes to your OGB health plan for the upcoming plan year

#### OGB will offer three health plans for all retirees:

- OGB will continue to self-administer the **PPO plan**. Plan members who are currently enrolled in this plan and wish to stay in this plan were not required to fill out a form.
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana will administer the **HMO plan** (currently administered by Humana). The Blue Cross proposal received the highest score during a competitive bid process. The plan will enable OGB's HMO plan members to access Blue Cross' extensive nationwide network of doctors and hospitals, which is key for retirees who live outside Louisiana or have children enrolled in out-of-state colleges and universities. The EPO plan (currently administered by UnitedHealthcare), which now offers a nationwide provider network, will be folded into the HMO plan. Current EPO plan members and HMO plan members will be shifted to the HMO plan administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana if they did not select another health plan during Annual Enrollment.
- The current fully-insured medical home HMO plan (currently administered by Vantage Health Plan) is

available statewide. Plan members who enroll in the **MH-HMO plan** must choose a primary care physician in Region 9, a 10-parish area in northeast Louisiana. Plan members who are currently enrolled in this plan and wish to stay in this plan were not required to fill out a form.

#### OGB will no longer pay higher cost of brand-name drug for which FDA-approved generic is available

The contract for prescription drugs was awarded to Catalyst Rx. We have been working with them since 2004. Effective July 1, 2010, if you are taking a brand-name drug and there is an FDA-approved generic for it, take the generic drug. You will be saving money. If you are utilizing generic drugs, you do not have a problem.

If you insist on taking a brand-name drug for which an FDA-approved generic equivalent is available, you will pay the difference in cost between the brand-name drug and the generic drug, plus the 50 percent co-insurance amount for the brand-name medication up to the \$50 maximum. In addition, the cost difference will not apply to your \$1,200 out-of-pocket maximum. You will never be required to pay more

than the full cost of the brand-name drug, but in many cases your total out-of-pocket cost will equal the full amount of the brand-name drug.

Studies have shown that generics are just as effective as brand-name drugs. If you are of the opinion that generics do not agree with you or that you are allergic to them – call Catalyst Rx at the customer service number found on the back of your OGB ID card. They will inform you to have your physician submit a letter to Catalyst Rx listing the specific reasons as to why you need a brand-name drug. Catalyst Rx will respond by submitting a letter to your physician and to you. They will also contact your pharmacist.

If there is no FDA-approved generic equivalent for a brand-name drug, the present guidelines will continue. The plan member pays 50 percent up to \$50 for a brand-name drug. When the plan member has expended \$1,200 out of pocket for prescriptions, brand names are reduced to \$15 and generics are reduced to \$0.

I wish you an enjoyable and healthy summer. If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me.

*Dr. Merline T. Broussard  
Your Group Benefits Policy  
& Planning Board Member*

### From the Desk of the President

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am asking each member of LRTA to “reach one” retiree who is not presently a member. The threats to our independent retirement system can only be stopped with an active membership wherein everyone receiving benefits from TRSL accepts responsibility for supporting the personal and common good of retirees.

As I write this, your leadership team is preparing for an early morning House Retirement Committee meeting where we will oppose any consolidation of your funds to the hands of an outside board. If we don't want to wake up one day with our major financial asset as retired teachers depleted, we must exercise *constant* vigilance. United we must and will stand.

### Foundation Spring Meeting (*continued*)

watch donated by Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Powell, a DVD player donated by LRTA, and a school house bird house donated by Mr. Daniel Verret. Appreciation is extended to those donating the prizes and those individuals purchasing tickets in support of the Foundation. Treasurer Mary Ann Edwards reports that the tickets were a sell-out and brought in a total of \$686.00. On behalf of the entire Foundation Board, thanks are in order for the support of this event. We look forward to seeing many of you in Monroe in October, 2010 for the LRTA Fall Meeting.

*Dr. Hugh Craft, President  
LRTA Foundation*

## In Memoriam

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

### Deceased Retired Teachers – February 26, 2010 through May 12, 2010

#### District I

Lorraine R. Detiege – New Orleans  
 Anthony A. Fernandez – St. Bernard  
 Ellen Mathes Fuge – New Orleans  
 Lucy Gagliano – St. Bernard  
 Myrtle A. Gaspard – New Orleans  
 Suzanne D. Hill – New Orleans  
 Frank M. Hoadley – New Orleans  
 John M. Lee – New Orleans  
 Mary Theresa H. Lefevre – New Orleans  
 Gary M. Leingang – Harahan  
 Katherine J. Schaefer – Harahan  
 Peggy Ann Wallace – New Orleans

#### District II

Katherine M. Bourgeois – Thibodaux  
 Bernice Champagne – Luling  
 Marjorie D. Clark – Gramercy  
 Hilda C. Detiveaux – Houma  
 Constance C. Dolese – Kenner  
 Roger D. Dunn – Marrero  
 Ruby Ann Grant – Jefferson  
 Hilda F. Hanisee – Luling  
 Mildred S. Harris – Westwego  
 Elizabeth E. Laird – Gretna  
 Ruth T. LeBlanc – Metairie  
 Charlene B. McCarty – Houma  
 Carmelite Mitchell – Metairie  
 Clement Raynal, Jr. – Thibodaux  
 Maebelle M. Terry – Harvey  
 Philip Davis Uzee – Thibodaux  
 Henry S. Webert – Thibodaux  
 Annie Mae Williams – Houma  
 Cassandra Ann Zanca – Metairie

#### District III

Claude Joseph Boyd – Slidell  
 Billie C. Carter – Natalbany  
 Eleander Carter – Kentwood  
 Marilyn S. Crain – Franklinton  
 Gene P. Firmin – Hammond  
 Hugh R. Fortenberry, Sr. – Mt. Hermon  
 June R. Frey – Denham Springs  
 Ruth Mary Harrell – Amite  
 Brenda B. Herring – Bogalusa  
 Lawrence R. Humpe – Slidell  
 Vadelia B. Kliebert – Lacombe  
 Mary C. O'Hara – Mandeville  
 Lawrence Penton – Bogalusa  
 Marvin L. Richardson – Ponchatoula  
 Karmer Lea S. Sullivan – Livingston  
 Lenora F. Trudeau – Slidell  
 Rhea Weiss – Walker  
 Marilyn Williams – Hammond  
 Juanita M. Willie – Folsom  
 William J. Ziegler – Madisonville

#### District IV

Anna M. Armstrong – Baton Rouge  
 Sue M. Barlow – Baton Rouge  
 Hattie M. Bateman – Baton Rouge  
 Betty F. Bennett – Baton Rouge  
 Clovis Bergeron, Jr. – Morganza  
 Roger L. Burford – Baton Rouge  
 Joseph Cassin – Baton Rouge  
 John W. Chisholm – Baton Rouge  
 Robbie T. Cowart – Baton Rouge  
 William D. Garrett – Baton Rouge  
 Helon W. Hunt – Baton Rouge  
 Newty A. Jeansonne – Baton Rouge  
 Sadie C. Keel – Baton Rouge  
 Mamie B. Lowe – Baton Rouge  
 Allen F. Martin – Baton Rouge  
 Augaree M. McGee – Baton Rouge  
 Alex Palmer – New Roads  
 Jacob B. Riley – Baton Rouge  
 Lolette B. Robert – Baton Rouge  
 Mabel S. Slay – Baton Rouge  
 Leon Smith – Baton Rouge  
 Carolyn J. Stephens – Baton Rouge  
 Minnie B. Thomas – Baton Rouge  
 Julie M. Tomeny – Baton Rouge  
 Ethel D. Wilson – Baton Rouge

#### District V

Frans C. Amelinckx – Lafayette  
 Michael J. Axelrod – Lafayette  
 Linda B. Benoit – Breaux Bridge  
 Dorothy F. Blakely – Scott  
 Mary Ruby Broussard – Eunice  
 Kermit J. Couvillion – Arnaudville  
 Bernice P. Daly – Lafayette  
 Willie J. Daniels – Opelousas  
 Charles Duhon – Breaux Bridge  
 Billy Duncan – Breaux Bridge  
 Joseph J. Ewell – Opelousas  
 Daniel A. Gardiner – Crowley  
 Harvey J. Gil – Eunice  
 Gertrude Henderson – New Iberia  
 Raymond E. Jenkins – Lafayette  
 Sheldon J. Landry – New Iberia  
 Norma Lombas – Patterson  
 Lillian G. Longman – Lafayette  
 Roland Manuel – Ville Platte  
 Estelle L. Melancon – Lafayette  
 Mary C. Polk – New Iberia  
 Rita S. Rives – Lafayette  
 Margaret M. Touchet – Cecilia  
 Sam M. Vaccarella – Berwick  
 Gloria C. Vallien – Opelousas  
 Lee B. Ventroy – Lafayette  
 Francis A. Westley – Lafayette  
 Maria G. Wiese – Patterson

#### District VI

Ted Chapman – Lake Charles  
 Willa Nell Chitty – Bell City  
 Jacqueline M. Chol – Lake Charles  
 Mary M. Cochran – Westlake  
 Benjamin C. Harlow – Lake Charles  
 Wallace F. Manuel, Sr. – Jennings  
 Josephine Moss – Lake Charles  
 Stephen E. Racca – Hackberry  
 Wilma S. Scott – DeRidder  
 Elizabeth W. Shidler – Lake Charles  
 Nelda Sonier – Vinton  
 Melba B. Windham – DeRidder

#### District VII

Rita J. Duplan – Alexandria  
 Cynthia C. Golmon – Pineville  
 Ernest W. Hammons – Pollock  
 Wilson P. Miller, Jr. – Vidalia  
 Myrtle Mitcham – Leesville  
 Merrill G. Robinette – Pineville  
 Doris Nell Sanchez – Alexandria  
 Alvy Jean Smith – Deville  
 Maxine Spinks – Jonesville  
 Joyce Tisdale – Ferriday  
 Barney Q. Whatley - Jena

#### District VIII

Geraldine F. Brice – Natchitoches  
 Marion W. Finuf, Jr. – Natchitoches  
 Eugene Love – Winnfield

#### District IX

Mary Lee Brown – Winnsboro  
 Claud Ezell – Winnsboro  
 Kathlyn Goforth – Winnsboro

#### District X

William H. Blanton, Jr. – West Monroe  
 Jo Beth Bridges – Downsville  
 Clyde L. Butler – Quitman  
 Helen F. Clark – West Monroe  
 John S. Clark – West Monroe  
 Jose M. Crisostomo – Monroe  
 John D. Edwards – Monroe  
 Peggy Ford – West Monroe  
 Reba S. Harrison – Ruston  
 Lucille L. Hicks – Jonesboro  
 Mary Alyce Hobdy – Grambling  
 Robert J. Horne – Jonesboro  
 Dorothy A. Hoyem – Monroe  
 William R. Lansing – Monroe  
 Howard S. Minn – Ruston  
 Joe E. Mitcham – Ruston  
 Patricia F. Mott – Columbia  
 Betty Edna W. Pope – West Monroe  
 Joyce H. Posey – Downsville  
 Jeannette Reynolds – West Monroe  
 Betty E. Smith – Ruston



*In Memoriam (continued)*

Oliver L. Sutton – Dubach  
Lottie T. Wilkins – Columbia  
Charles W. Wilson – Ruston  
David Wright – Grambling

**District XI**

Brenda D. Adkinson – Keithville  
Lucille S. Anderson – Shreveport  
Adalene B. Barnes – Bossier City  
Lenora A. Brock – Plain Dealing  
Gloria Bryan – Shreveport  
Roy Fuller – Shreveport  
Elizabeth P. Gatti – Shreveport  
Charles Anna Gerard – Shreveport  
Phyllis B. Graves – Shreveport  
Odis Green – Arcadia  
Jarrell F. Heard – Minden  
Boyce Hensley – Haughton  
Frank M. Hess – Shreveport  
R. Jean Hunter – Shreveport  
Lawrence A. Kahlden – Shreveport  
Merle Rice Little – Benton  
Margaret E. Martin – Minden  
Margaret R. Matlock – Shreveport  
Norma Jean McCray – Shreveport  
Ruby L. McDonald – Bossier City  
Charles W. McLain – Shreveport  
Charles Miller – Shreveport  
Jeannette Montgomery – Shreveport  
Marjorie B. Moore – Shreveport  
Helen J. Ray – Shreveport  
Anthony W. Rye, Jr. – Shreveport  
Sybil O. Stamper – Shreveport  
Laverne D. Stroud – Shreveport  
Catherine C. Thompson – Shreveport  
Thelma M. Tobin – Minden  
Ralph T. Tyler – Bossier City  
Norvin L. Wagner – Bossier City  
Florence S. Yearling – Shreveport

**Out of State**

Geraldine H. Anderson – Houston, TX  
Joseph L. Avard – Texarkana, TX

Sammie J. Banks – Dayton, TX  
Nancy E. Brodtman – McKinney, TX  
Lloyd G. Carter, Jr. – Fletcher, NC  
Mary Charles – Houston, TX  
O’Neal L. Chube, Jr. – Indianapolis, IN  
Eva M. Dixon – Daphne, AL  
Beatrice G. Duhe – Biloxi, MS  
Trilby W. Estes – Converse, TX  
Joan L. Fields – Jamestown, KY  
Larry G. Fontenot – Austin, TX  
Marzette S. Foster – Ellettsville, IN  
Dorothea T. Gremillion – Beaufort, SC  
Dean S. Hartley, Jr. – Oakridge, TN  
James E. Johnson – Blue Springs, MO  
Jesse H. Johnson – Cedar Park, TX  
Maude L. Kennedy – Jefferson, TX  
Betty J. Lambert – Lewisville, TX  
Gordon J. Landry – Kennesaw, GA  
Mary N. P. Lindsey – Jenks, OK  
Ella F. Lorio – Waller, TX  
Lorena B. Lymberis – Sugarland, TX  
Willie Mae Mayfield – Houston, TX  
Anita E. McCohn – Los Angeles, CA  
Leon C. Megginson – Montrose, AL  
Marjorie E. Miller – Hot Springs Village, AR  
Percy L. Milligan – Dallas, TX  
John Moland, Jr. – Montgomery, AL  
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Virginia A. Shumaker – Mt. Olive, MS  
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Ruth S. Smith – Katy, TX  
Sylvia L. Taylor – South Pasadena, CA  
Barbara Thompson – Lewisville, TX  
Maxine D. Tillett – Waco, TX  
Bernard J. Weiss – Milwaukee, WI  
Juanice S. Whitaker – Eufaula, AL  
Martha J. Williams – Dallas, TX  
Peggy S. Wisterman – Gibsonville, NC

**Executive Director’s Report**

*Continued from page 2*

System, Louisiana School Employees’ Retirement System, and State Police Pension and Retirement System) is House Bill No. 1337 by Representative Robideaux and Speaker Tucker. This legislation was passed by the House Retirement Committee on Thursday, May 13 with amendments supported by LRTA. During the hearing of this legislation, Representative Pearson, chairman of the House Retirement Committee, mentioned that most of the e-mails received on this and the other bills referenced above came from retired teachers. The voice of the LRTA membership was heard. With all of your help, the association was successful in getting provisions added to the bill that are important options to provide to future members of the teaching profession and the Teachers’ Retirement System of Louisiana. The amendments continue the five year vesting period for teachers, and also continue the early retirement option at 20 years of service at any age with an actuarial reduction in benefits. These provisions will now also be applied to future members of the other three retirement systems.

Both of the bills dealing with future Permanent Benefit Increases (PBIs), Senate Bill No. 632 by Senator Gautreaux and Senate Bill No. 729 by Senator Shaw, were deferred by the Senate Retirement Committee at a hearing held Monday, May 17. Senator Gautreaux will request the adoption of a study resolution to look into mechanisms that might be used to provide future PBIs. The study will be conducted during the interim.

For the actual text of the bills, and the latest legislative action taken on any of them, please go to the website of the Louisiana Legislature at [www.legis.state.la.us](http://www.legis.state.la.us). A listing and summary of all the bills being monitored by LRTA can be found on LRTA’s web site at [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net) under the link entitled “LRTA and the Legislature.”

**Foundation Donations**

The following donations to the LRTA Foundation have been received:

Dr. Julianna L. Boudreaux –  
In memory of Velma Moore Pryce

Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Punch –  
In memory of Bonnie Punch

Dr. & Mrs. James A. Taylor –  
In memory of Bernice Champagne,  
Connie C. Dolese, John M. Lee, and  
Bernard J. Weiss

Acadia Parish RTA – In memory of  
all deceased retired educators of Aca-  
dia parish for 2009-2010

Bossier Parish RTA – In memory  
of all deceased retired educators of  
Bossier Parish for 2009-2010

St. Charles Parish RTA – In memory  
of Bernice Champagne

Anonymous donation in memory of  
all deceased retired educators from  
October 2009 through April 2010

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Renée M. Siccone  
*Assistant Director*

Ann S. Reed  
*Membership Services Coordinator*

**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



*Fred Hoyer, Janet Hoyer, James Broussard, Flo Vogel, and Pat Connor (pictured left to right) pause to have their photo taken in front of the Capitol Park Welcome Center during LRTA's Day at the Capitol held April 29. Mr. Broussard is the president of LRTA District V.*



*Jerry Boudreaux, LRTA Day at the Capitol coordinator and president of LRTA District IV, confers with Senator Ben Nevers from Bogalusa about legislation affecting retired educators. Mr. Boudreaux was honored by the Excalibur Club in Baton Rouge on April 9, 2010 for his volunteer service to LRTA.*