



# Louisiana Retired Teachers Association



www.lrta.net

Striving To Make Retirement Years Great!

July - Aug. 2014 • Vol. 41, No. 4

## LRTA Foundation Update

The LRTA Foundation will be holding a silent auction at the LRTA Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge. The previous auctions have been extremely successful and we hope this one will be just as profitable.

LRTA leaders and foundation members are requested to contact local businesses and individuals for donations of items to be auctioned. Please call the LRTA office and provide staff members information about items to be offered to bidders, and a suggested price at which to begin the bidding.

Suggested value of auction items:

- \$10 to \$25 items
- \$25 to \$50 items
- \$50 to \$100 items
- Above \$100 items

The donor's name (business or individual) will accompany all items on the auction listing.

A minimum bid will be posted for each item, and incremental bids of \$1, \$5, \$10, etc. above the minimum will be provided.

*Continued on Page 7*

## 2014 LRTA Fall Meeting: It Starts With Us!

LRTA District IV President Janis Hernandez and her host committee members are already busy making plans for the 2014 Fall Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge. LRTA President James T. Stewart and State Program Chair Nancy L. Quigley invite you to come and enjoy fun and fellowship at the gathering to be held October 27, 28 and 29. The location will be the Embassy Suites, 4914 Constitution Ave., Baton Rouge, LA.

A special hotel room rate of \$89 (plus tax) per night has been negotiated with the hotel for LRTA attendees. Cut-off date for this special rate is **October 13**. To reserve a hotel room, call the Embassy Suites directly at **1-225-924-6566**. Be sure to mention the group code "LRT" when booking over the phone.

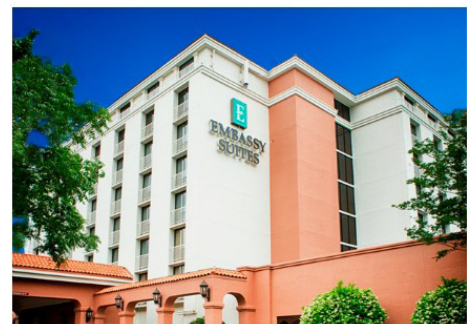
The Fall Meeting promises a lineup of speakers and presenters who will entertain, inform and inspire participants who attend. Already booked is Nikki Caldwell, LSU women's basketball head coach. An update from the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana is also on the agenda. Tuesday night's convention banquet will be followed by a ceremony

honoring Name of Fame Award recipients from LRTA Districts IV and VIII.

Because the President's Reception was so well received in Bossier City last year, Mr. Stewart will be hosting one in Baton Rouge on Monday from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Afterward you will have time to explore the great city of Baton Rouge and have dinner on your own.

Use the form on page 8 of this newsletter to register for attendance at the Fall Meeting. On-site registration will be available, but attendance at the evening banquet function Tuesday, October 28 is by pre-reservation only. Also, pre-registration will ensure you receive a packet upon arrival containing your name tag and other meeting materials.

**Register today!**



President's Report.....	2
Executive Director's Report.....	2
TRSL Update.....	3

### *An Inside Look*

LRTA Email Club Initiative.....	3
LRTA Around the State.....	5
Fall Meeting Registration Form.....	8

## President's Report



James T. Stewart

Summer has arrived in our great state – Louisiana. As this issue of the LRTA Newsletter reaches you, I'm not sure where your summer travels may have taken you, but here in Pineville, the heat is on! Besides trying to stay cool, let me encourage you to help yourself as well as your organization, LRTA.

help yourself as well as your organization, LRTA.

1. Contact your district and unit officers. Thank them for serving and offer your assistance.
2. Make plans to attend the 2014 LRTA Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge on October 27-29.
3. Contact non-members and encourage them to join LRTA.
4. Make plans to attend your district and unit meeting. Please take a friend with you.
5. Visit with your state senator and representative. Thank them for their support of our PBI.
6. Check to see if you are a member of the

## Executive Director's Report



Graig A. Luscombe

I hope all of you had an opportunity to review our new publication "LRTA Year at a Glance: 2013-2014" that was mailed to you in June. Our greatest success highlighted in that annual report was the passage of Senate Bill No. 21, which

became Act No. 104 of 2014. This act of the legislature provided a 1.5% benefit increase to eligible retirees, and their beneficiaries, who receive benefits from the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL). TRSL implemented the first payment of the increase on July 1, 2014, and the increase will be provided to you and

LRTA Email Club. If you are not, then join. Mention to a friend that you just joined, and encourage them to also sign up. Please visit our website at [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net). Type your email address in the space provided under the heading "Join Our Email Club" and click on "Join". Please fill out the form that will be shown on your screen. It is that simple. Staff has included an article in this issue explaining why joining our email club is so important.

Many thanks to all who worked to secure our PBI, especially to Mr. Ben Sandifer, LRTA legislative chair, and Mr. Graig Luscombe for providing leadership and guidance throughout the legislative process.

More than 60% of the TRSL retirees are thinking that this PBI was just a gift from our elected leaders. The irony of this thinking is that it is simply wrong. Prior to the legislative session, your LRTA staff was compiling information that could be used by the LRTA officers and board members to support the passage of the PBI legislation. The LRTA officers, the LRTA legislative committee members, the LRTA staff and other active members attended meetings, contacted legislators by email, by phone,

*Continued on Page 3*

your beneficiaries for the rest of your lives.

As all of you know, this is the first Permanent Benefit Increase (PBI) that was able to be provided by TRSL since 2008. Between then and now, former LRTA presidents Dr. Hugh Craft, Dr. Lonnie Dunn, and Dr. James Taylor, and current LRTA president Mr. James Stewart worked closely with other LRTA officers and former Representative Jean Doerge, former Senator B. L. "Buddy" Shaw and Senator Gerald Long to provide PBIs and PBI supplements. Those legislators mentioned sponsored bills on LRTA's behalf over the six-year time frame in attempts to provide meaningful cost-of living adjustments and to address the needs of our oldest retirees.

*Continued on Page 4*

## LRTA

### Executive Board

#### President

James T. Stewart  
1638 Creed St.  
Pineville, LA 71120

#### Past President

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

#### First Vice-President

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

#### Second Vice-President

Nancy L. Quigley  
5210 Airline Dr.  
Bossier City, LA 71111

#### District I President

Theodore H. George, Sr.  
P.O. Box 15713  
New Orleans, LA 70175

#### District II President

Beth Plaisance  
310 Barrilleaux  
Lockport, LA 70374

#### District III President

Lazette L. Watterson  
P. O. Box 873  
Bogalusa, LA 70429

#### District IV President

Janis M. Hernandez  
13313 Fleur de Lis Dr.  
Gonzales, LA 70737

#### District V President

Martha G. Bryant  
1087 Ruth Bridge Hwy.  
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

#### District VI President

Clara F. Duhon  
614 Oleo St.  
Lake Charles, LA 70601

#### District VII President

Benjamin L. Sandifer  
1001 Oak St.  
Jonesville, LA 71343

#### District VIII President

Raymond Powell  
P. O. Box 523  
Mansfield, LA 71052

#### District IX President

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

#### District X President

Cathryn L. Buckley  
12764 Hwy. 2  
Bernice, LA 71222

#### District XI President

Jan Webb  
1830 Venus Dr.  
Bossier City, LA 71112

#### TRSL Board of Trustees:

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

Jerry J. Baudin, Ph. D.  
15323 Alma Mater Ct.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

#### OGB Board

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

#### AARP Louisiana

Brenda G. Hatfield, Ph. D.  
301 Main St., Suite 1012  
Baton Rouge, LA 70825

#### LASS-R

Donald A. Songy  
37617 Seven Oaks Ave.  
Prairieville, LA 70769



## TRSL Update

A run-off election for a retiree representative on the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) Board of Trustees will be necessary as no candidate received more than 50 percent of the vote.

James A. Taylor, Sr., J.D., Ph.D. and Darlene L. LeBlanc both of Baton Rouge, were the two candidates who received the most votes in the primary election, and will be on the run-off election ballot.

The ballots were mailed on Monday, July 28. If you do not receive a ballot by August 4 please contact TRSL at 1-877-275-8775. The voting deadline is 4:30 p.m., Thursday, August 28.

Election results will be announced at the monthly TRSL board meeting on September 7.

### President's Report

*Continued from page 2*

by sending cards and letters, and by making personal visits. Many LRTA members became involved, and I personally want to thank those of you who did.

During my two years as president, one of my goals will be to build a more effective and useful email club membership database. The final product can be adapted for use by district and unit presidents to facilitate a vital communication link between LRTA units, districts, the state, and for contacting those LRTA members who have moved out of state. The staff is refining a sign-in form that can be used at all LRTA district and unit meetings for attendees to provide their home and email addresses. These forms will be provided to district and unit presidents soon.

Communication is the vital key that holds our association together. Please help! Be sure you are a member of the LRTA Email Club.

## LRTA Email Club Initiative

Recognizing the effectiveness of utilizing email as a communications tool, the LRTA executive committee has set a goal for LRTA to build a more sophisticated email communication system. A lot of people have email accounts and check them regularly, and we have found that email is a quick way to send timely information out to a large group of people. So, we are hoping our new email database will streamline our communications capabilities and efforts with the LRTA membership. LRTA would like to be able to contact as many LRTA members and associate members as possible, on short notice, using email. The LRTA staff is currently working to set up our email program with capabilities to identify the districts and units in which each member resides.

Mr. Stewart mentioned this initiative in his president's message. One of the very important functions the new email club membership database could accommodate is to direct specific messages to specific groups once we can tie your individual email address to your geographic location. Mr. Stewart has sent each district and unit president a request to collect their members' contact information (name, home address, email address, unit name and district number). LRTA has requested this information be mailed or emailed to our PR/Communications Coordinator Erica Rodriguez. She will be adding this new information

to our email database. Each member will be assigned to their appropriate district and unit. Therefore, district and unit presidents will be able to utilize the LRTA Email Club to get out information to their members more quickly and efficiently because the information can be personalized and sorted to reach only those members who belong to a district or unit.

**Please be assured that your contact information remains safe with LRTA.** Keep in mind that we already have your home address, and we are prohibited by law from releasing that information to others. We have no way to tie your email address with your geographic location without getting both pieces of information from you. The LRTA data maintained in the email club file is secured. We will not give away freely, or sell, any of your personal information to any third parties or spammers. Please know that when you receive spam email in your inbox it is not delivered to you because you shared your information with us.

If you have any questions about the LRTA Email Club and how your contact information is being used, and protected, please contact Erica Rodriguez at [Rodriguez@lrta.net](mailto:Rodriguez@lrta.net).

## Join LRTA's Email Club and Facebook Page

If you would like to join LRTA's Email Club please visit our website at [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net). Type your email address in the space provided under the heading "Join Our Email Club" and click on "Join". You will receive email updates regarding current events taking place with LRTA.

If you would like to stay informed via our Facebook page, please go to [www.facebook.com/lrta1](http://www.facebook.com/lrta1). Click on the "Like" button at the top right of the page. You will now be able to follow our updates and post on our page.

## Please Remember to Vote

During my term as LRTA president, I took the opportunity in some of my messages to remind all of you about the importance of voting for the candidates of your choice in elections that could impact you as a retired educator. President James Stewart has provided me space in this issue to, once again, mention the importance of taking the time to express ourselves through the voting process. Voter turnout in all elections is dropping. For example, in the most recent election for the new retiree representative to be seated on the board of trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, only 19.58% of those eligible to vote in the election cast a ballot.

In the upcoming months you are going to have the opportunity to participate in a number of very important elections. A run-off election for the TRSL retiree representative is being held. You have already received your ballot, and you will have until 4:30 p.m., Thursday, August 28 to vote in that election. In November, we will be voting to elect one of our U. S. Senators. Many of us will also have the opportunity to vote for candidates running for seats in the U. S. House of Representatives. The successful candidates will become part of the make-up our Louisiana congressional delegation representing us in Washington, D.C.

All too often we elect those who will be speaking for us and making decisions on our behalf by "default." Candidates who may not represent our best interests are elected because we did not vote for the candidate who might have been more sympathetic to our causes. Please take the time it requires to complete your TRSL ballot, and to get to your local polling location in November. Let's not pass up an opportunity to participate in one of the most important processes we are provided as citizens of this great country.

*Lonnie E. Dunn, Ed. D.  
Immediate Past President*

### Executive Director's Report

*Continued from page 2*

Senator Elbert Guillory and Representative J. Kevin Pearson, chairmen of the Senate and House retirement committees, respectively, have also been very involved in the PBI discussion over the past six years. Their dedicated leadership has served the LRTA membership well as they guided important pieces of retirement legislation, including those dealing with PBIs, through their committees and the legislature. Another important advocate for LRTA members and all retired educators has dedicated countless hours of time to the effort. Mr. Benjamin Sandifer, chairman of LRTA's legislative committee, has been one of your champions. He guided the development of LRTA's annual legislative priorities during this period. The top three LRTA legisla-

tive priorities for the past six years dealt with the funding and the implementation of PBIs for retired educators. The LRTA staff referred to these priorities many times during testimony before the House and Senate retirement committees when COLA/PBI legislation was being discussed.

Retirement issues and retirement legislation are often very complex, and sometimes not easy to understand. Ms. Maureen Westgard, director of TRSL, and her staff do a notable job in translating these complexities into common terms. They were all closely involved in the discussions that occurred regarding this year's PBI legislation.

On behalf of the LRTA officers and executive board members, and all retired educators, I offer special thanks to all of you who

became involved in the process of communicating with members of your legislative delegation regarding the importance of Act No. 104. The 1.5% PBI granted by the legislature is the maximum it could have been based upon the increase in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) for the 2013 calendar year, which was 1.5%.

An overview of all legislation affecting retired educators considered during the 2014 Regular Session will be provided at the LRTA Fall Meeting. The registration form to reserve your spot at the Fall Meeting is included in this issue, and I hope you can join us in Baton Rouge.



## LRTA Around the State

*This section features photos LRTA members have submitted from their districts or units all around Louisiana. The photos can be from your meetings, a service project, etc. If you would like to have your photo published in the newsletter, email it to Erica Rodriguez at Rodriguez@lrta.net. Please provide the following information about the picture: which unit or district, the names of the people in the photo, and when/where the photo was taken.*

*Here's a look at what our members are doing around the state!*



**Janis Hernandez, President of Ascension Retired Teachers Association, presented \$500 scholarships to two East Ascension High School graduates during their recent awards program. Gabrielle Gutierrez (left) and Allison Petite (right) will major in education and are this year's recipients. ARTA members considered grade point average, ACT or SAT scores, extracurricular activities and community service as guidelines for the awards.**

**District IX of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association held a meeting to revise its by-laws. Seated left to right: Mary Gilmore, Dorothy Brown, Marie Hill, Alma Kendrick, Dorothy Carradine, and Doris Pollard. Standing left to right: Ola Bunnitt, Berteal Rogers, Valeri Whitmorth, Myrtle Leonard, Freddy Rivers, Grace Blount, Allye G. Lockett, Ida Rayford, and Ora Clark**



**District II of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association held its Spring Meeting at the St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus home. Renee Siccone, LRTA assistant director, installed the officers for 2014-2016. From left to right are Karen Dusenbery standing in for secretary Lynn Ellzey (Terrebone RTA), Treasurer James Hubbell (Assumption RTA), President Elizabeth Plaisance (Lafourche RTA), First Vice-President Mercedes Bascle (Terrebonne RTA), and Second Vice-President William Picard (St. Charles RTA).**

# In Memoriam

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

## Deceased Retired Teachers - May 27, 2014 - July 11, 2014

### District I

Joyce C. Clark – New Orleans  
Beatrice D. Land – New Orleans  
Mary Ann C. Smith – New Orleans  
Katherine Thornton – Chalmette  
Hilda Tompkins – New Orleans  
Ivy E. Walker – New Orleans  
Leola M. Williams – New Orleans

### District II

Lolita W. Anderson – Thibodaux  
Joe H. Barnett – Kenner  
Ralph L. Bates – Houma  
Helen R. Bergeron – Houma  
Jacquelyn Boveland – Thibodaux  
Camile J. Chaisson, Jr. – Kenner  
Agnes G. Desselle – Kenner  
James A. Dewitt – Destrehan  
Mary T. Dillenkoffer – Gretna  
Melanie Inez Guillory – Marrero  
Christine L. Hamner – Houma  
Muriel M. Hebert – Gretna  
Myrtle A. Ichante – Metairie  
Lillian E. Kolman – Gramercy  
Nellie L. Landry – Napoleonville  
Yvette R. Lawson – Marrero  
Janice H. Maronge – Marrero  
Cyril J. Millet – Houma  
Ertha M. Rhodes – Thibodaux  
Donna V. Volker – Metairie  
Mary S. Webber – Kenner  
Dudley F. Williams – Kenner  
William Thomas Young – Metairie

### District III

Verlie S. Beraud – Independence  
Valerie Monahan Bowser – Slidell  
Mary M. Brumfield – Franklinton  
Mary M. Couvillion – Hammond  
Pauline M. Cutrer – Denham Springs  
Mary J. P. Dale – Hammond  
Mary K. Deas – Hammond  
Gladys B. Denham – Hammond  
Elaina C. Didier – Denham Springs  
Glynn A. Fairburn – Slidell  
Elizabeth Ferrera – Covington  
Joanne D. Foster – Independence  
Evelyn H. Pepitone – Ponchatoula  
Bobbie S. Pierce – Hammond  
Penney L. Purvis – Bush  
Joan B. Reed – Independence  
Lorena W. Sibley – Pine Grove

Freddie Wilcox – Lacombe  
Shirley V. Winter – Pearl River

### District IV

Charlene Bonaventure – Baton Rouge  
Elmire M. Caffarel – Plaquemine  
Dorothy B. Chance – Baton Rouge  
Carl T. Ford, Jr. – Baton Rouge  
Zachary Gallion – Baton Rouge  
Marietta F. Guedry – Baton Rouge  
Olinde S. Haag – New Roads  
Emma L. Harrison – Baton Rouge  
Bobby J. Hooker – Baton Rouge  
Willie Jackson, Jr. – Baton Rouge  
Sedonia C. Johnson – Baton Rouge  
Patrick L. Jones – Prairieville  
Selena M. Piper – Baton Rouge  
Gloria G. Poree – Gonzales  
Hubbard C. Reagh – Baton Rouge  
Elsie F. Schott – Baton Rouge  
Cynthia A. Soileau – Baton Rouge  
Katie M. Young – Baton Rouge

### District V

Marilynn J. Andrews – Palmetto  
Malcolm E. Aucoin – Mamou  
Mary G. Auzenne – Sunset  
Dorothy M. Bernard – Breaux Bridge  
Joseph K. Brignac – Washington  
Mary V. Calcote – Lafayette  
Frederic O. Daspit – Lafayette  
Lloyd J. Frith – Kaplan  
Clifford E. Gauthier – Opelousas  
Clerphe D. Guilbeau – Cecilia  
Norman L. Horn – Sunset  
Gloria A. Kern – Breaux Bridge  
Marie F. Lacaze – Lafayette  
Elizabeth McMurray – Patterson  
Myrna L. Patrick – Lafayette  
David L. Scarff – Lafayette  
William E. Shirley, Jr. – Breaux Bridge  
Phillis A. Winters – New Iberia

### District VI

Dennis J. Broussard – Welsh  
Lauretta S. Fluitt – DeQuincy  
Barbara Ann Francois – Jeanerette  
Alvin R. Friesner – Westlake  
Ramona Green – Lake Arthur  
Jeannette P. Hicks – DeRidder  
Delores L. Jones – Elton

Mildred M. Jones – Merryville  
Mary L. Lyons – Midland  
Edna R. Malbreaux – Lake Charles  
Andrew McGowan – Westlake  
Gwynda P. Mounce – Sulphur  
Tyrone J. Rubin – Jennings

### District VII

Gertrude B. Barber – Ferriday  
Frances Louise Beason – Alexandria  
Sarah Bowman – Pineville  
Cecilia R. James – Alexandria  
Gladys B. Johnson – Alexandria  
Betty H. Nelson – Jena  
Ruth L. Onellion – Urania  
Clifton D. Randall – Pineville  
Joan Elizabeth Rist – Deville  
Ruth G. Thompson – Alexandria  
Earnest P. White – Jonesville  
Myrtis F. Williams – Alexandria

### District VIII

Mattie Demars – Natchez  
Dian C. Jones – Cloutierville  
Willard C. Speights – Keatchie

### District IX

Cynthia F. Lensing – Lake Providence  
Rebecca J. McMillan – Waterproof

### District X

Irma Hall Detiege – Monroe  
Sue Greer – West Monroe  
Charles Ray Hancock – Ruston  
Jeannine Hawkins – Monroe  
Earnestine Payne – Grambling  
Jewel P. Sibley – Ruston  
Leonard Splond – Monroe  
Helen J. Sproull – Farmerville  
Mary Elizabeth Taylor – West Monroe  
Billy B. Watson – West Monroe  
Martha A. Willson – Monroe

### District XI

Virginia H. Bogan – Keithville  
David G. Burton – Shreveport  
Ivey Carr, Jr. – Benton  
Charles E. Dickens – Shreveport  
Mattie R. Draughn – Keithville  
Ruth J. Duggan – Springhill  
Fay M. Greene – Shreveport  
Mary S. McClanahan – Shreveport



*In Memoriam (continued)*

Dorothy Obee - Shreveport  
 Edwin C. Pritchard – Bossier City  
 Hazel Vickrey – Bossier City  
 Marguerite A. Williams - Minden

**Out of State**

Jessie D. Abadie – Oviedo, FL  
 Leola Noel Anderson – Missouri City, TX  
 Dianne O. Bouvier – Indianapolis, IN  
 James W. Bowers – Grundy, VA  
 Julia L. Bradley – Dallas, TX  
 Sheila C. Breland – Picayune, MS  
 Clement Ted Breville – Grapevine, TX  
 Juanita P. Brinsmade – Biloxi, MS  
 Veren C. Brooks – Clarksburg, MD  
 Elenora A. Cawthon – Coppell, TX  
 Yolonde D. Clivens – Snellville, GA  
 Clifford T. Cook – Huntsville, AL  
 Sylvan C. Davy – Del Rio, TX  
 Margaret C. Hicks – Sherman, TX  
 Charlene V. Holmes – Kingwood, TX  
 Carolyn M. Jones – Antioch, TN  
 Raymond M. Kassouf – Houston, TX  
 Vincent F. Kuetemeyer – Monticello, IL  
 Miriam B. Lacey – Cummings, GA  
 Virginia L. Lash – Matthews – NC  
 Raymond D. Miller – Rio Rancho, NM  
 Lois B. Monk – LaPorte, TX  
 Wilma L. Moore – Summerville, SC  
 Mary D. Nealy – Rockville, MD  
 Mary E. Oglesby – McGehee, AR  
 Caroline S. Price – Houston, TX  
 Lois G. Salter – Spring, TX  
 Joyce G. Tyler – Orange, TX  
 Veronica J. Westbrook – Virginia Beach, VA

**Foundation Donations**

The following donation to the LRTA Foundation have been received:

Dr. and Mrs. James A. Taylor, Sr. - In memory of Dr. Elenora A. Cawthon

If you would like to make a donation please fill out the form available at [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net) under the LRTA Foundation link.

**LRTA Foundation Silent Auction**

*Continued from page 1*

The highest bidders will pay for the items at the end of the state meeting on Wednesday, October 29. Cash and checks will be accepted. Credit

cards will not be accepted.

If you have questions regarding the auction, please contact Dr. Hugh Craft, LRTA Foundation president at (504) 451- 4248.

## Hurricane Survival: Severe Storm Emergency Supply Bin

Having emergency supplies in a storage bin will make going through hurricanes, tornadoes or any other disaster easier and safer. Here are some ideas about what you should have on hand and how to store them. Additional suggestions can be accessed on web sites provided at the end of this article. Be sure to update your supplies periodically to keep batteries and other items with expiration dates fresh. The items should be stored in a sturdy, easy-to-carry container such as a back-pack, duffel bag, or a covered trash can.

The supply kit should include:

- A three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil. Store water in plastic containers like soft drink bottles. Get foods that require no refrigeration, preparation or cooking, and little or no water. If you have to heat food, pack a can of Sterno. Also, try and select foods that are lightweight and compact. Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables are a good bet;

- A can opener;
- One change of clothing and footwear per person, and one blanket or sleeping bag per person;

- A first aid kit that includes your prescription medication in its original bottle, sterile adhesive bandages, soap/cleansing agent, sunscreen, scissors, tweezers, moistened towelettes, antiseptic, thermometer, aspirin or non-aspirin pain reliever,

anti-diarrhea medication and anti-acid;

- Emergency tools and supplies including a battery-powered radio, flash light and plenty of extra batteries, paper plates, cups and plastic utensils, tape, waterproof matches, aluminum foil, needles, thread, medicine dropper, toilet paper, personal hygiene items, plastic garbage bags, ties, disinfectant, plastic bucket with lid;

- Household chlorine bleach;
- An extra set of car keys and a credit card, cash or traveler's checks;
- Sanitation supplies;
- Special items for elderly or disabled family members;
- An extra pair of glasses;
- Games and books.

Change your water supply every six months. Replace stored food every six months. Ask your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications.

Additional information about preparedness for hurricanes and other disasters may be found at the following websites:

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
[www.fema.gov/areyouready/](http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/)  
[www.bt.cdc.gov/](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/)  
[www.72hours.org](http://www.72hours.org)

**LRTA NEWSLETTER**

9412 Common St., Suite 5  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
 Phone: 225.927.8837  
 Toll-Free: 888.531.1992  
 Email: info@lrta.net  
 Website: www.lrta.net

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

**Return Service Requested**

LRTA STAFF
<b>Graig A. Luscombe</b> <i>Executive Director</i>
<b>Renée M. Siccone</b> <i>Assistant Director</i>
<b>Ann S. Reed</b> <i>Membership Services Coordinator</i>
<b>Erica T. Rodriguez</b> <i>PR/Communications Coordinator</i>

OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS
<b>TRSL (Retirement Benefits and Check)</b> ..... 225.925.6446 Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) ..... 877.275.8775
<b>Office of Group Benefits</b> ..... 225.925.6625 Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) ..... 800.272.8451
<b>Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA)</b> ..... 800.258.7041
<b>LRTA Office</b> ..... 225.927.8837 Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) ..... 888.531.1992 Fax ..... 225.927.8838

**2014 FALL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM**

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2014 Fall Meeting in order to expedite registration in Baton Rouge. To make a reservation for the convention banquet on Tuesday, October 28, 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 also use the form in order to obtain a registration packet (photocopies accepted).

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Attendance only, no fee

\_\_\_ Number of tickets for Tuesday night banquet (\$33 per person)= \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (pecan-crusted chicken breast)

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Pre-registration/meal reservations must be received in the LRTA office by October 17. 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 OCTOBER 23. Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809