



## LOUISIANA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Summer 2024



# Constitutional Changes

## Opposing State Constitutional Changes: Answering Essential Questions

Included in this edition of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association (LRTA) summer newsletter is a message from our new president Clyde Hamner, a summary of bills and outcomes regarding retirement legislation that were tracked during the 2024 regular legislative session, and perhaps most importantly, information on why LRTA opposes a new state constitution or state constitutional changes.

[LEGISLATIVE  
EDITION 2024]

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I believe by answering essential questions regarding our current and potential new state constitution, it is in the voter's best interest to oppose constitutional changes until we take the time and energy to vet, discuss, and deliberate ramifications for changes to our current state constitution.

## **What is the purpose of a state constitution?**

The state constitution is the keystone of the law of Louisiana ensuring the rights of individuals, describing the distribution and power of state officials and local government, establishes the state and city civil service systems, creates and defines the operation of state lottery, and the manner of revising the constitution.

## **Why change the current state constitution?**

Many lawmakers have asserted the current constitution is too long and needs to be simplified like other states. There's truth that the constitution is very long but that's because voters over the years have approved amendments that clarify the current document, many of which include protections listed in the purpose of the constitution. The fact is, simplification sounds good, but there's been very little discussion with the public regarding which protections will be modified or removed. There's also been discussion about making constitutional changes in order to free up more money in the state budget to deal with an expected budget shortfall next year. However, we don't

know if that means taking monies that are already protected and dedicated to another source in the constitution. There has already been conversation regarding moving tax protections that could have negative consequences for most citizens in our state.

## **Are certain aspects of the current state constitution exempt from discussion in the proposed constitutional convention?**

Some amendments were adopted that would exempt certain protections from the proposed constitutional convention, including educational funding, retirement, and homestead exemptions. Scholars have pointed out that once the constitution is reconsidered nothing is exempt as demonstrated during our state's last constitutional convention in 1974. While House Bill 800 (HB800) did not pass, Senate president Cameron Henry said legislators might still convene an August special session to review the state's foundational governance document. This means the amendments to HB 800 would no longer apply. This also implies education and retirement are no longer exempt, putting these and other protections at risk.

## **Why rush the process of writing and voting on a new state constitution by November 2024?**

The Louisiana Retired Teachers Association (LRTA) supports the development of sound policy that would potentially become our new or modified state governing document, but we need to take the time to discuss and deliberate any changes to the state constitution that has served our state well since 1974. In the past the state has taken at least two years to conduct a convention and make recommendations while seeking public input before submitting a new document to the public for consideration. Currently the plan is for committees to meet in July and make recommendations during a special session for considering articles to change during a two-week period in August. That's an extremely short period

of time to develop a new document given the length of our current constitution. That leaves only two months to inform the public about the changes to a document that could remove protections and change the way we govern our citizens at the local and state levels.

## **Who represents the voters at the proposed state constitutional convention?**

During prior constitutional conventions, both in Louisiana and other states, delegates campaigned and were elected by the voters of the state. Under the new scenario, the legislators themselves would develop the proposed changes for the public to vote on during the fall of 2024. This is problematic for several reasons. First, many legislators did not run on a platform for constitutional change. Therefore, they do not know our views on what kinds of changes might be made in the constitution. Second, we had a significant turnover of 48 new legislators being elected last fall. Finally, in terms of representing the people, 68 current legislators ran unopposed. It stands to reason that if we elected delegates for this important task there would be great interest from the voters in creating a sound document that governs our great state.

## **Why oppose a new state constitution?**

LRTA opposes the state constitutional convention and the writing of a new constitution or constitutional changes, because procedurally the time necessary to thoughtfully deliberate change without appropriate input and notice from the residents of Louisiana could create a document that would be detrimental to the citizens of our state.

For these reasons we encourage members, and perhaps most importantly, all voters in Louisiana, to oppose constitutional changes now and in the future.

*Rodney R. Watson*

Rodney R. Watson  
LRTA Executive Director



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR **LRTA** PRESIDENT



In 1991 I made a promise on behalf of all retirees to my mentor, Warren Sevin. Warren preceded me on the TRSL Board of Trustees from 1978-1991 and was instrumental in getting the 1984 constitutional protections for retirement systems in the State Constitution, Article 10 Section 29. Warren instilled in me the passion to protect the benefits of all retirees and the promise I made was two-fold: to keep those protections in the constitution and never let our retirement system fall prey to the legislature or any elected official. Over the years, we managed to defeat legislative attempts and attempts by elected officials to weaken our control of our constitutionally protected funds. We now face another potential threat—a new constitution.

Led by the efforts of LRTA, a convention bill failed to pass, but the Senate president was quoted saying, “Lawmakers haven’t shut the door on it completely yet.” That said, I predict a special session to bring it back since the convention is the Governor’s top priority. Honoring my promise to Warren, I will continue to oppose any efforts that threaten our constitutionally-protected retirement funds.

The governor picked 27 of his own delegates to take part in a convention; the rest of the delegates would be the members of the House and Senate, 171 total. For the 1974 convention, voters elected delegates having a clear purpose, explicit goals, transparency, and specific procedural direction. These measures are currently unknown, and will continue to be, if the convention is proposed again. That is a clear-cut issue that contributes to my hesitancy to support a convention and my suspicion of even a limited constitutional convention.

Furthermore, the limited period to revise the constitution makes it difficult to fully explore the implications of rewriting a complex document—two weeks—the 1974 convention took 110 days.

Most importantly, the public is deprived of participation in the process when citizens should have an opportunity to voice their opinions and actively take part in shaping the state’s foundational document.

There can be potential benefits of a new constitution, but with benefits come risks. Updating the constitution can address current needs and remove outdated provisions. But with the expiration of the state sales tax next year, will those so-called outdated provisions and current needs simply give the governor and legislature easier access to constitutionally protected funds? The expectation is that the debates will focus on which funds with constitutional protections should be removed. Supporters of this say removing these protections would allow better and more flexible budgeting. But at whose expense?

The convention should be an opportunity to focus on specific issues that the 216 piecemeal amendments may not adequately address. It should simplify and streamline the constitution by consolidating and reorganizing amendments, making it easier for citizens to understand. These outcomes are good, but in doing so, a new constitution could remove constitutional protections for education funding or protections for retirement funds, making them more accessible and easier to use by the governor and legislature if there is a shortfall in the state budget. Remember, the state sales tax goes away next year. That money must be replaced.

A convention can reexamine the balance of power among branches of government. The delegates may propose changes to enhance checks and balances or clarify the roles of different institutions. It is another risk. That balance of power should be equal for all three branches--executive, judicial, and legislative--and institutions, such as state boards, should be free of political influence to work effectively.

Clearly, the probable risks associated with a convention outweigh the unlikely benefits. Governor Landry’s goal is to present a new constitution to voters on November 5. On that day, I will keep my promise to Warren!

*Clyde F. Hamner*

Clyde F. Hamner  
LRTA State President



## 2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP

The legislative session began on March 11 and ended on June 2, 2024. Provided below is a list of bills that were pre-filed and/or introduced for consideration by the legislature during the 2024 legislative session that potentially impacted retired educators and/or the retirement system. The descriptions of these bills were pulled from the legislative digests and can be found at <https://legis.la.gov/>.

In accordance with LRTA legislative priorities for 2024, LRTA's position on each bill is stated in **red** below, with its outcome during the session next to it.

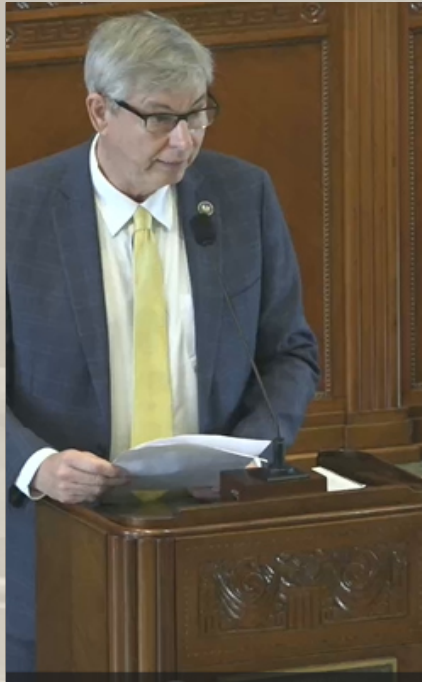
### CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

#### **House Bill No. 800 by Rep. Beau Beaulieu**

This bill proposed a rewrite of the Louisiana State Constitution. It states that there is a need to address a number of areas that require constitutional change, that the constitution restricts the legislature from effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and that revision of the state constitution is needed to address the state's critical needs and transition provisions that do not constitute the fundamental and foundational law of this state to statutory provisions, and to craft provisions that allow legislative solutions without the need to constantly amend the constitution.

**LRTA Opposed. Bill did not pass.**

*Representative Larry Bagley played a crucial role in protecting retirement pensions when HB 800 was on the House floor for debate in early May. He proposed an amendment that exempts retirement from the new Constitutional Convention. It passed without objection.*



(Pictured: Representative Larry Bagley, district 7)

### RETURN TO WORK

#### **House Bill No. 17 by Rep. Charles Owen**

This bill provides for the reemployment of contract or corporate contract teachers in the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL). It allows TRSL retirees to be reemployed through a contract or corporate contract without suspension of their retirement benefit.

**LRTA Neutral. Bill did not pass.**

#### **Act No. \_\_\_\_ (formerly House Bill 967) by Rep. Neil Riser**

This bill provides for reemployment of teachers in the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) in a critical shortage position.

Critical shortage areas without suspension of benefits are applicable to the following:

1. Retirees who retired on or before June 30, 2020, and who return to work in such a position on a part-time basis.
2. Retirees who retire after June 30, 2020, and who return to work in such a position on a full time or part-time basis.

**LRTA No Position. Bill passed.**

### OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PLAN

#### **Act No. 109 (formerly House Bill 31) by Rep. Barbara Freiberg**

This bill provides a window for active, contributing Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) participants to join the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana's (TRSL) defined benefit plan. The ORP is a defined contribution retirement plan similar to a 401(k). Most



participants are university employees.

**LRTA Neutral. Bill passed.**

### **House Resolution 169 by Rep. Tony Bacala**

This resolution establishes a task force to study the Optional Retirement Plan within the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) and to report its findings to the House Committee on Retirement not later than 90 days prior to the 2025 regular session.

**LRTA Neutral. Sent to Secretary of State (passed).**

## **INVESTMENTS/ESG-RELATED**

(ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE)

### **Senate Bill No. 5 by Senator Blake Miguez**

This bill requires fiduciaries for public retirement systems to make investment decisions based solely on financial factors. The law requires that all investment decisions made by third-party service providers, defined as asset managers and proxy advisors, must be made using solely pecuniary factors. It also defines non-pecuniary factors to include factors aimed at furthering social, political, or ideological goals, objectives or outcomes.

It prohibits the use of nonpecuniary factors that include any action taken, or factor considered, with any purpose to further social, political, or ideological goals, objectives, or outcomes.

**LRTA Opposed. Bill did not pass.**

### **Substitute House Bill No. 981 (formerly HB 902) by Senator Michael Melerine**

This bill provides relative to the voting of proxies by public retirement systems on shareholder sponsored proposals.

The proposed law prohibits public retirement systems from voting a proxy relating to a shareholder-sponsored proposal submitted to an issuer of securities pursuant to specified federal law in a manner that is consistent with the recommendation of a proxy advisory firm unless one of the following applies:

1. The firm's recommendation is consistent with the recommendation of the board of directors of the issuer of the securities.
2. The firm has agreed that its recommendation, advice, and analysis regarding the shareholder-sponsored proposal is in compliance with present law regarding prudent investments by retirement systems and is in the best financial interest of the system..

The proposed law states that a proxy advisory firm is an entity that is engaged in the business of providing proxy voting advice, research, analysis, ratings, or recommendations to a retirement system and that has a direct contractual relationship with the system.

**LRTA Opposed. Bill did not pass.**

## **WEP/GPO**

(WINDFALL ELIMINATION PROVISION) /  
(GOVERNMENT PENSION OFFSET)

### **House Concurrent Resolution No. 20 (original bill HR 82) by Rep. Mike Johnson**

This resolution requests Congress and other state legislatures to request that Congress review and eliminate the provisions of federal law which reduce Social Security benefits for persons receiving pension from federal, state, or local government retirement systems.

**LRTA Supports. Sent to Secretary of State (passed).**

## **SERVICE CREDITS**

### **Act No. 46 (formerly Senate Bill No. 1) by Senator Ed Price**

This bill provides for the transfer of service credit from one public retirement system to another. The system from which a member transfers such credit will transfer to the receiving system employer contributions, and excludes excess contributions in certain situations.

**LRTA Neutral. Bill passed.**



**The 2025 regular session begins**

**April 14 and ends no later than June 12, 2025**

**Note:** Odd-numbered years are considered fiscal sessions. Legislators are limited on the number of non-fiscal bills they can file during such sessions.

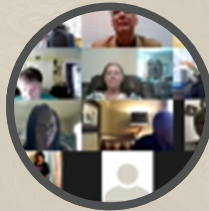




## REPEAL GPO / WEP IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Recently, we have seen new activity and discussions surrounding the repeal of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). The GPO and WEP unfairly penalize Louisiana's retired teachers by reducing or eliminating their spousal Social Security benefit or their own Social Security benefit. Janis Hernandez has been a very vocal advocate in repealing GPO and WEP.

# ADVOCACY TIMELINE



### August 2021

U.S. Representatives Garret Graves and Julia Letlow met with LRTA via Zoom to discuss federal legislation filed to repeal the GPO and WEP.



### November 2021

LRTA Executive Director Rodney Watson and Legislative Chair Janis Hernandez attend a luncheon hosted by State Rep. Mike Johnson to meet with members of Congress and plan future meetings in Washington D.C.



### March 2022

LRTA Legislative Chair Clyde Hamner joined State Representative Mike Johnson as part of a state delegation to lobby Congress to repeal the GPO and WEP.



### May 2022

LRTA Legislative Chair Janis Hernandez attends the National GPO/WEP Rally in Washington D.C.



### April 2024

Janis Hernandez represented LRTA in Washington D.C. when the topic was brought before the Ways & Means Subcommittee on Social Security earlier this spring.

Please continue to support the Louisiana author of this bill, Garrett Graves. He continues to work hard to repeal GPO and WEP. While the journey to repeal these unfair provisions is a road less traveled and certainly a difficult one, LRTA is proud of the progress that continues to be made. As this issue becomes more acknowledged in higher ranks of government, the likelihood of resolution also increases.



# WELCOME NEW OFFICERS

LRTA held our annual Executive Board Meeting in April of 2024. The Association would like to congratulate the following incoming LRTA state officers.



**Clyde F. Hamner**  
*State President*



**Genevieve A. Gordon**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*



**Alva J. Martin**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*



**Barbara L. Davis**  
*District IV President*



**Patsy Hebert**  
*District V President*



**Edith S. Keys**  
*District VI President*



April 2024, LRTA Executive Board Meeting in Baton Rouge, LA



## LRTA 2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD



Lazette L. Watterson, outgoing president of LRTA, and incoming president, Clyde F. Hamner, 2024-2026



New officers Alva J. Martin, Genevieve A. Gordon, and Clyde F. Hamner with outgoing president, Lazette L. Watterson

## LRTA DISTRICTS BY PARISH

District I	Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard
District II	Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, Terrebonne
District III	Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington
District IV	Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana
District V	Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion
District VI	Acadia, Allen, Beaugregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis
District VII	Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon
District VIII	DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Winn
District IX	East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Richland, Tensas, West Carroll
District X	Caldwell, Jackson, Lincoln, Morehouse, Ouachita, Union
District XI	Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Webster



LRTA Staff: Amanda Bourgeois, Communications Coordinator, Morgan Milling, Membership Coordinator, Renee Siccone, Assistant Director, and Rodney Watson, Executive Director



## THANK YOU

LRTA would like to thank Lazette Watterson and Janis Hernandez, who have served LRTA and its board for their time and dedication to the Association. We appreciate all that you have done and continue to do for our members and retirees across Louisiana.

## LRTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

### President

Clyde F. Hamner  
clydehamner@bellsouth.net

### Past President

Lazette L. Watterson  
lazettewatterson@gmail.com

### First Vice-President

Genevieve A. Gordon  
alandgen1945@gmail.com

### Second Vice-President

Alva J. Martin  
alvamars@bellsouth.net

### District I President

Dr. Levon LeBan  
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### District II President

William R. Picard, II  
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### District III President

Gayle T. Foster  
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### District IV President

Barbara L. Davis  
boldavis95@yahoo.com

### District V President

Patsy Hebert  
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### District VI President

Edith S. Keys  
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### District VII President

Sue R. Sandifer  
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### District VIII President

Chris Nolen  
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### District IX President

Leandra Mitchell  
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### District X President

Becky S. Solley  
mommasolley3@yahoo.com

### District XI President

Emma L. Shepard, Ed.S.  
ladyemshep1@aol.com

### TRSL Board of Trustees:

Clyde F. Hamner  
clydehamner@bellsouth.net

James A. Taylor, Sr., J.D., Ph.D.  
edleaders@bellsouth.net

### AARP Louisiana

Martha Hays  
mlhays@centurytel.net

# IN MEMORIAM

## Deceased Retired Teachers

February 26, 2024 to May 28, 2024

### District I

Cleo S. Augustine – New Orleans  
Mary Lou Balthazar – New Orleans  
Connie W. Boyle – New Orleans  
Emily D. Braneon – New Orleans  
Jean P. Cunningham – New Orleans  
Gail R. Fayard – New Orleans  
Carol W. Gelderman – New Orleans  
Celeste Gullage – New Orleans  
Barbara D. Henderson – New Orleans  
Willie E. Holmes – New Orleans  
Agatha R. Jones – New Orleans  
Nelda M. Jones – New Orleans  
Theresa W. Knight – New Orleans  
Gay M. Meaker – Meraux  
James H. Miller – New Orleans  
Lurena S. Muse – New Orleans  
Ronald W. Romanski – New Orleans  
Edwin P. Russo – Chalmette  
Joseph F. Schalck – New Orleans  
Lynn Shannon – New Orleans  
Carolyn Ann Smythe – New Orleans  
Melva L. Stevenson – New Orleans  
Gayle E. Thomas – New Orleans  
Meaurex M. Williams – New Orleans  
Beryl J. Wingate – New Orleans  
Marjorie V. Wynn – New Orleans

### District II

Doris B. Agin – Gretna  
Lloyd M. Alexander – Luling  
Janell P. Aucoin – Thibodaux  
Ronnie Authement – Houma  
David J. Ballas – Metairie  
Aundra Banford – Marrero  
Sharon F. Bascle – Bourge  
Jeannette L. Bond – Jefferson  
Richard N. Boneno – Garyville  
Nettie T. Borne – Thibodaux  
Judith W. Bowers – Metairie  
Bessie M. Brown – Thibodaux  
Yvonne H. Cole – Thibodaux  
Betty A. Cortez – Des Allemands  
Beverly J. Creecy – Reserve  
Gail W. Crech – Reserve  
Marilyn S. Curole – Larose  
Constance S. Deck – Metairie  
Betty Fields – Houma  
Donald J. Folse – Luling  
Robert F. Foster – Terrytown  
Patsy C. Gautier – Metairie  
Daisy Ester Giarelli – Kenner  
Geraldine Granger – Napoleonville  
Shirley Grows – Edgard  
Philip F. Gugliuzza – Thibodaux  
Eve B. Guidry - Ho  
Houma  
Agnes M. Hall – LaPlace  
Harry J. Hancock – Metairie  
Barbara N. Harris – LaPlace  
Darrell J. Hebert – Thibodaux  
Patricia V. Hebert – Raceland  
Marian J. Hubert – Marrero  
Evangeline F. Jones – Metairie  
Jean P. Jones – St. Rose  
Glenda S. Leboyd – Destrehan  
Samuel L. Liles – Metairie

Ruth B. Mitchell – Jefferson  
Claudia Zeno Moore – Vacherie  
Mary D. Murrell – Jefferson  
Howard D. Neely – Luling  
Henry Orgeron Jr. – Marrero  
John Phillips Jr. – Kenner  
Reva S. Poche – Marrero  
Daphanne J. Poole – Lutchet  
Debra M. Portier – Houma  
Wade R. Ragas – Metairie  
Rudolph Robichaux – Raceland  
Milton C. Rowlison – River Ridge  
Linda J. Ruiz – Terrytown  
Simone M. Scanio – Gretna  
Edward Ray Scott Jr. – Marrero  
Marion L. Swible – Kenner  
Judith V. Templeton – Houma  
Bessie B. Theriot – Westwego  
Francis A. Thibodeaux – Thibodaux  
Annette B. Thornton – Metairie  
Eugenie F. Vathy – Harahan  
Gail A. Veal – Houma  
Clementine S. Young - Vacherie

### District III

Norma A. Allen – Roseland  
Carolyn A. Babin – Abita Springs  
Hardy Barnett – Denham Springs  
Jo Frances G. Bice – Hammond  
Joyce J. Brecheen – Greensburg  
Judith Ann Brecheen – Greensburg  
Marilyn D. Broaddus – Slidell  
Margie E. Brown – Bogalusa  
Mildred O. Cade – Kentwood  
Juanita Chandler – Denham Springs  
Melvin J. Chelena – Madisonville  
Yvonne H. Curtis – Kentwood  
Irene Deshotel – Hammond  
Sabel B. Domingue – Ponchatoula  
Linda E. Dunnington – Greensburg  
Elizabeth Y. Dykes – Amite  
Leslie C. Ellis – Walker  
Jose R. Espinosa – Madisonville  
Anthony R. Galbo – Denham Springs  
Jo Ann L. Genco – Mandeville  
Blanche J. Guillot – Hammond  
Louis I. Ippolito – Tickfaw  
Linda M. Lacombe – Bogalusa  
Don C. McKenzie – Slidell  
Dorothy Montgomery – Hammond  
Vergie N. Nolan – Bogalusa  
Rose M. Pearce – Denham Springs  
Edrel L. Pichon – Slidell  
Susan T. Pierce – Walker  
Martha J. Reynolds – Greensburg  
Denise M. Robertson – Pearl River  
Brenda D. Rogers – Mandeville  
George H. Sexton Jr. – Covington  
Linda P. Sisson – Slidell  
Marsha Spikes – Bogalusa  
Evelyn W. Stafford – Walker  
George Stanfill – Covington  
Hayward Steele – Denham Springs  
Catherine A. Taylor – Folsom  
Mary R. Veca – Ponchatoula  
Annie F. Verzwylt – Slidell  
Joann G. Vest – Pearl River  
Charlotte P. Weller – Slidell  
Marilyn B. Wenzel – Covington

Marilyn Westfall – Slidell  
Beverly H. Williams – Walker  
Marilyn H. Wright – Bogalusa  
Lois Zeller- Covington

### District IV

Toni P. Baird – Baton Rouge  
Avis Baier-White – Baton Rouge  
Helen M. Bazile – Baton Rouge  
Elizabeth Blanchard – Brusly  
Mary C. Bolin – Baton Rouge  
Beatrice Bova – Baton Rouge  
Alice E. Bowman – Baton Rouge  
Henry G. Brinkmann – Baton Rouge  
Larry H. Christy – Prairieville  
Bonnie D. Collins – Baton Rouge  
Juanita A. Culbert – Baton Rouge  
Felix W. Dawson Jr. – Gonzales  
Marian F. Fatout – Baton Rouge  
Gregory L. Garrett – Oscar  
Madelyn K. Gaspar – Baton Rouge  
James B., Gauthier – Greenwell Springs  
Angel K. Gautreaux – Zachary  
Sheila Glynn – Baton Rouge  
Ralph Gordon Sr. – Baton Rouge  
Malissa A. Gore – Baton Rouge  
Charlie B. Granger – Port Allen  
Susan K. Gray – Baton Rouge  
Edward W. Griffin – Baton Rouge  
Mary T. Heaton – Baton Rouge  
Carolyn G. Himel – St. Amant  
Cornelius Hyde III – Baton Rouge  
Rose A. Jackson – New Roads  
Sallie Jackson – Baton Rouge  
Anna P. Johnson – Prairieville  
Mary E. Jordan – Baton Rouge  
Ulysses Joseph – Baton Rouge  
Jeanette D. Kaub – Port Allen  
Bobbie B. Kendrick – Baton Rouge  
Carolyn J. Landry – Baton Rouge  
Vera Mackyeon – Gonzales  
Sean P. McGlynn – Baton Rouge  
Evelyn McKay – Baton Rouge  
Lawrence H. Meares – Slaughter  
Victoria B. Meares – Zachary  
Walter R. Morales – Zachary  
Katie B. Morgan – Baton Rouge  
Billie D. Munnerlyn – Baton Rouge  
Curtis J. Mustiful – Zachary  
Stephen Ory – Prairieville  
Carolyn C. Owens – Baker  
Jacklyn B. Pora – Baton Rouge  
Gwendolyn Robinson – Baton Rouge  
Rosa L. Robinson – Slaughter  
Joyce K. Rome – Baton Rouge  
Pearl P. Ross – Baton Rouge  
Harriet B. Rush – Baton Rouge  
Lois B. Sams – Baton Rouge  
Margaret A. Sanders – Prairieville  
Myrtle A. Saxon – Baton Rouge  
Martha Simmons – Zachary  
Louise M. Smith – Greenwell Springs  
Ellen D. Spears – Baton Rouge  
Dennis R. Stipe – Baton Rouge  
James H. Stone – Baton Rouge  
James G. Traynham – Baton Rouge  
Shirley N. Turner – Baker  
Angela F. Wall – Baton Rouge  
Thomas F. Walsh – Baton Rouge  
Joyce E. Waters – Baton Rouge

Martha M. Whitmer – Gonzales  
Oscar L. Williams Jr. – Baton Rouge

### District V

Julius C. Ardoin – Basile  
Ola R. Ayers – Lafayette  
Karen Berry – Franklin  
Patsy Boudreaux – Kaplan  
Johanna L. Boxie – Opelousas  
John D. Carriere – Lafayette  
Norma Nell D. Colligan – Lafayette  
Raymond Dilly Jr. – Maurice  
Arlene Frost – Morgan City  
Patty M. Gary – Lafayette  
Peggy O. Gayneaux – Abbeville  
Joyce B. Goodman – Baldwin  
Charlotte Guidry – Opelousas  
Elizabeth O. Guillory – Ville Platte  
Jeanette C. Guillory – Ville Platte  
Joseph D. Hebert – Erath  
Wilbert J. Hebert – Lafayette  
Robert P. Helmer – Ville Platte  
James C. Jackson – Lafayette  
Barbara Jones – Lafayette  
Shirley Ann Jordan – Opelousas  
Evelyn Julian – Lafayette  
Linda D. Kaai – Morgan City  
John D. Keller – Lafayette  
Martha Landreneau – Lafayette  
Joycelyn F. Lee – Opelousas  
Keller Madere – Lafayette  
Charles A. Mamer – Lafayette  
Sylvia Marcantel – Eunice  
Audrey F. Martin – Lafayette  
Samuel A. McManus – Eunice  
Yvonne Mercier – Breaux Bridge  
Juanita W. Reed – Krotz Springs  
John W. Tate – Ville Platte  
Lou Thibodeaux – New Iberia  
Todd G. Viator – Franklin  
Nellie G. Watkins – Lafayette  
Lucy M. R. Watson – Franklin  
Joseph F. Wiltz – St. Martinville

### District VI

Margaret L. Armand – Jennings  
Glen W. Ashworth – DeRidder  
Ramona C. Avant – DeRidder  
James D. Cain – Dry Creek  
Frances Clark – Starks  
Mary Margaret David – Lake Charles  
Rose Marie Duhan – Lake Charles  
Arlita M. Duplechain – Lake Charles  
Ann M. Eisen – Lake Charles  
June Ervin – DeRidder  
John E. Garner – Lake Charles  
Cynthia B. Gordon – Iowa  
Nell C. Hardy – Rayne  
Katherine W. Jean – Lake Charles  
Joan R. Kennedy – Elton  
Helen Kimball – Lake Charles  
Linda McCoy – Elton  
Vickie B. Melanson – Iowa  
Denise A. Perry – Lake Arthur  
George E. Reado – Lake Charles  
Gloria T. Sanchez – Crowley  
Betty K. Spell – Jennings  
Janice K. Stewart – DeRidder  
Betty P. Thibodeaux – Morse



## “...THESE IMMORTAL DEAD WHO LIVE AGAIN IN MINDS MADE BETTER BY THEIR PRESENCE”

Charles D. Whitman – Lake Charles

### District VII

Louis L. Bordelon – Cottonport  
Lela Bozeman – Alexandria  
Sandra B. Bracknell – Ball  
Michael Brinkley – Simmesport  
James S. Brookover – Pineville  
Dean J. Brouillette – Marksville  
Linda S. Faraldo – Alexandria  
Judy Gagnard – Marksville  
Patricia R. Harmson – Pineville  
Ronnie L. Kaiser – Pineville  
Helen Y. Lewis – Pineville  
Kenneth R. Maillet – Moreauville  
Joseph Martin Jr. – Alexandria  
Richard V. McQuillin – Montgomery  
Betty Ann Moore – Mansura  
Wanda K. Moreau – Simmesport  
Melba C. Neal – Jonesville  
Shirley G. Parker – Simpson  
Nelson J. Robbins – Alexandria  
Barbara J. Rutland – Clayton  
Dee A. Slavant – Alexandria  
Rita L. Tolbert – Pineville  
Dorothy D. Webster – Alexandria  
Therisa West – Pitkin  
McKinley Williams – Alexandria  
Thelma T. Works – Deville  
Guynell B. Young – Pollock

### District VIII

Ron Chen – Natchitoches  
Larry D. Dziekan – Many  
Donna C. Ellzey – Florien  
Sharlee S. Funderburk – Florien  
Patricia Lee – Logansport  
Nelda G. Liles – Natchitoches  
Leola H. Loftin – Coushatta  
Bonita G. Martin – Winnfield  
Rosella M. Rushing – Natchitoches  
Sandra R. Self – Zwolle  
Earnestine Starks – Many  
Vivian S. Taylor – Sikes

### District IX

Sharlotte D. Cain – Gilbert  
Elaine R. Holley – Epps  
Johnnie M. Jackson – Lake Providence  
Doyal McDade – Delhi  
Edward H. McDowell – Oak Grove  
Lawrence Smith Jr. – Pioneer

### District X

Lee R. Alford – Farmerville  
Cathy P. Beckley – Grayson  
Bobbie Jo Brantley – Farmerville  
Luida Brown – Monroe  
Grace C. Cascio-Houston – Monroe  
Ricardo G. Cerna – Ruston  
Judy B. Edington – Monroe  
Margaret P. Feazell – Monroe  
Margie DF. Fisher – Clarks

Sarah M. Grant – West Monroe  
Edward Harrison – Grambling  
Emmett Johnson – Grambling  
Lori B. Kirby – Calhoun  
Virginia G. Peters – Monroe  
Barbara Roberts – West Monroe  
Cherry Lynn Sanderlin – Eros  
Shirley Shankles – Jonesboro  
George Stadter – Calhoun  
Bettye V. Thomas – Farmerville  
Mary S. Wiley – Eros  
Mattie H. Williams – Ruston

### District XI

Marvis P. Anderson – Keithville  
Bettye G. Barnes – Benton  
Cheryl K. Beckerdite – Shreveport  
Lula Mae Brown – Shreveport  
Joye T. Byrd – Haughton  
Sally E. Cook – Bossier City  
Charlene J. Day – Greenwood  
Linda S. Demann – Shreveport  
Arthur J. Duhon Sr. – Haynesville  
Sara L. Duvall – Shreveport  
Rebecca L. Earp – Bossier City  
Celia B. Frazier – Benton  
Wilfred L. Guerin – Shreveport  
Rozelle Hahn – Shreveport  
Richard Hawkins – Keithville  
Lottie Hennigan – Shreveport  
Helson S. Hodge – Shreveport  
Dora E. Huffman – Shreveport  
Evelyn L. Jackson – Shreveport  
Henry R. Jackson – Ringgold  
Betty J. Kelley – Shreveport  
Thomas G. Larance Jr. – Shreveport  
June M. McClure – Homer  
Gladys P. McGee – Minden  
Irene M. Myles – Shreveport  
Edna H. Nash – Shreveport  
Joann W. Nelson – Shreveport  
Joyce Ann Pamplin – Shreveport  
Joe E. Penny – Shreveport  
Margaret C. Petrosch – Bossier City  
Betty J. Plunkett – Bossier City  
Eleanor L. Powell – Oil City  
Gerald Pruett – Bossier City  
Ruthie M. Rhodes – Shreveport  
Sharon W. Ricke – Bossier City  
Judith D. Sherrill – Arcadia  
Brian P. Stewart – Shreveport  
Sheryl M. Tarver – Shreveport  
Ova Jean Taylor – Minden  
Clarence K. White – Shreveport  
Rudolph S. White – Shreveport  
Carrie S. Wright – Minden

### Out of State

Jimmye H. Akins – Conroe, TX  
Rodney O. Albritton – Austin, TX  
Kenneth R. Allen – Berea, KY  
Susan G. Anderson – Hilton Head Island, SC  
Freida Eliza Bloomingdale – Dade city, FL  
Lera C. Bradley – Prescott, AR  
Michael W. Britt – Corpus Christi, TX  
Elizabeth J. Brown – Dallas, TX  
Glendal W. Brupbacher – Spring, TX  
Robert Burton – Bartlett – TN

Barbara S. Cady – Fayetteville, AR  
Gladie M. Clayborne – Dacula, GA  
Claudette G. Clement – Hattiesburg, MS  
Robert H. Clement – Longview, TX  
Carl N. Crane – Gilbert, AZ  
Robert E. Deloach – Dadeville, AL  
Anne N. Dungan – Harpers Ferry, WC  
Beatrice E. Edinburgh – Converse, TX  
Eloise D. Edwards – Spicewood, TX  
Annella J. Flowers – Huntsville, AL  
Janie R. Flynt – Palestine, TX  
Frank Fox – Gastonia, NC  
Murray W. Francis – St. Louis, MO  
Levertha A. Frank – Katy, TX  
Brenda C. Fusilier – Banning, CA  
Lucille R. Gaston – Spring, TX  
Nina B. Geiss – Atlanta, GA  
Joyce M. Gerard – Frisco, TX  
Louis Gerard – Frisco, TX  
Mary R. Glancy – Augusta, ME  
Mary W. Green – Arlington, TX  
Gwendolyn Gros – Providence, RI  
Nathan M. Hale – Montgomery, TX  
Blanche R. Hamilton – Billings, MT  
Millard T. Harkrider – Frisco, TX  
Mary Hicks – Mountain View, AR  
Wilda O. Highland – Vero Beach, FL  
Emma Hill – Cerritos, CA  
Mary P. Hodge – Columbus, OH  
Joyce W. Ivery – Rockwall, TX  
Edward J. Jacobs – Saraland, AL  
Eva G. Jacobs – Friendswood, TX  
Gaynell A. Johnson – Byram, MS  
Lynda M. Jones – Wynne, AR  
Nettie Jones – Cypress, TX  
Manjit S. Kang – Carbondale, IL  
Margaret Sue Kelly – Belleville, IL  
Jack E. Kimball – Bella Vista, AR  
Ferne B. Kistner – New York, NY  
Joe W. Kotrlik – Weatherford, TX  
Trudy L. Livingston – Rudy, AR  
Sydney C. Manuel – Kingwood, TX  
Mary Maples – Perkinston, MS  
Jay M. Marion – Overland Park, KS  
Helen L. McCollum – Virgin Islands  
Ernest A. Mendrela – Poland  
Frances N. Miller – Heathrow, FL  
Ursula M. Ned – Katy, TX  
Judy A. Noel – Pueblo, CO  
Sigrid Novak – Terrance, CA  
Barbara G. Nugent – Austin, TX  
Richard Ozment Jr. – Mt. Olive, MS  
Lawrence Patterson – Phoenix, AZ  
Frances C. Peabody – Orange, TX  
Julia M. Pearre – McKinney, TX  
Phyllis K. Peralta – Savannah, OK  
Laurita D. Pete – Alexandria, VA  
Inez R. Phillips – San Francisco, CA  
Mary E. Phillips – El Dorado, AR  
Kathleen C. Pias – Raleigh, NC  
Lela B. Pickett – Texarkana, TX  
Marjorie Pierce – League City, TX  
Ulrich C. Pool – Diamondhead, MS  
Margaret Rodenbeck – Austin, TX  
Dorothy F. Rogers – Long Beach, CA  
Verlyn Salter – Stuarts Draft, VA  
Leroy J. Sanford – Oviedo, FL  
Jerry H. Sewell – Perkinston, MS  
Sarah D. Spence – Dallas, TX  
Elda Taravella – Denville, NJ

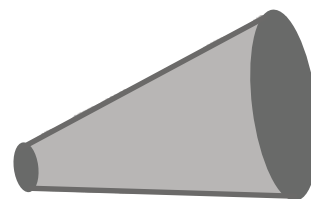
Donna P. Taylor – Houston, TX  
Gayle L. Thompson – Houston, TX  
Laurin Thoms – Chandler, AZ  
Laura Mae Tinguue – Houston, TX  
Judith M. Townes – Waxahachie, TX  
Kathy J. Triche – Madison, MS  
Brenda C. Valles – Long Beach, MS  
Daniel A. Veith – Abington, PA  
Harriet A. Vogt – Durham, NC  
Betty M. Walker – Del Rio, TN  
Mary C. Walker – Little Rock, AR  
Freddie Watson, Jr. – Conway, AR  
Patricia C. Williams – Melissa, TX  
Evelyn L. Wilson – Columbia, SC  
Aaron Witherspoon – Memphis, TN  
Yvonne C. York – Atlantic Beach, FL

### **LRTA Foundation Donations**

**By Dr. and Mrs. James  
A. Taylor, Sr.,**

**In Memory of:**

**Lloyd M. Alexander  
Glenda S. LeBoyd  
June McDonald McClure**



**Remember  
To VOTE  
November  
5, 2024.  
OPPOSE  
Constitutional  
Changes.**

**LRTA NEWSLETTER**  
9412 Common St., Suite 5  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
Phone: 225.927.8837  
Toll-Free: 888.531.1992  
Email: [info@lrta.net](mailto:info@lrta.net)  
Website: [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net)

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### **LRTA STAFF**

**Rodney R. Watson**  
Executive Director

**Renée M. Siccone**  
Assistant Director

**Morgan M. Milling**  
Membership Services Coordinator

**Amanda G. Bourgeois**  
Public Relations/Communications Coordinator

### **OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

TRSL (Retirement Benefits and Check) .....	225.925.6446
Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area) .....	877.275.8775
Office of Group Benefits (OGB) .....	225.925.6625
Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area).....	800.272.8451
Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA).....	800.258.7041
LRTA Office.....	225.927.8837
Toll-free (outside of Baton Rouge area).....	888.531.1992
Fax.....	225.927.8838

# **SAVE THE DATE!**

## **FALL DISTRICT MEETINGS**

Tuesday, Sept. 3: District VII  
Wednesday, Sept. 4: District VI  
Thursday, Sept. 5: District V  
Friday, Sept. 6: District IV

Monday, Sept. 16: District III  
Tuesday, Sept. 17: District II  
Wednesday, Sept. 18: District I

Monday, Sept 23: District IX  
Tuesday, Sept 24: District X  
Wednesday, Sept 25: District XI  
Thursday, Sept 26: District VIII

Additional meeting information will be published on the LRTA website as the dates get closer.

## **LRTA STATE FALL MEETING**

October 28-29, 2024  
Courtyard by Marriott  
Houma, LA



Additional meeting and registration information will be included in the fall newsletter.

Email club members will receive a notification when registration is open for the meeting. LRTA will also publish this information on our Facebook page and website.