

Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

Vol. 36, No. 1 • January - February, 2009

Fourteen Good Reasons Why You Should Join LRTA and Your Local RTA Unit:

LRTA:

- 1. Represents the interests of Louisiana's retired education community on proposals considered by the TRSL board of trustees, by the Louisiana legislature, and by the U.S. Congress.
- 2. Supports annual cost-of-living adjustments for eligible benefit recipients.
- 3. Will continue to work with legislative leaders and committees to increase the level of benefits for oldest retirees and to review methods for granting future COLAs from the Employee Experience Account.
- 4. Is working toward obtaining legislative appropriations to pay down the IUAL.
- 5. Supports appropriate levels of health insurance coverage for retirees through the Office of Group Benefits and local school boards.
- 6. Provides current information about LRTA on <u>www.lrta.net</u>.
- 7. Provides six newsletters mailed to all members each year.
- Supports repeal of Social Security Administration benefit offsets known as GPO and WEP.
- 9. Opposes changes in the current governance, administrative, and benefit structure of TRSL.
- Opposes mandatory Social Security coverage of Louisiana's actively employed educators.
- 11. Maintains a staffed state office to coordinate state activities.
- 12. Works with district and local units to provide programs and information.
- 13. Provides a member benefits package through Association Member Benefits Advisors.
- 14. There is no other association that works exclusively for Louisiana's retired education community.

Membership Renewal Time

It's membership renewal time for LRTA members. Annual renewal members of LRTA, as well as former members with lapsed dues and non-members, will receive membership invitations/renewal letters with this issue of the newsletter. LRTA is the largest organization dedicated to the preservation of benefits and advocacy for the welfare of Louisiana's retired educators. Through the years, LRTA's members have worked together to create a strong, viable and professional organization, and the Association looks forward to carrying this legacy far into the future. We need your support to remain strong and to maintain a unified voice representing all retirees from Louisiana's educator community.

This mailing from LRTA once again includes several items in one package. This helps to economize on postage, to direct contents to appropriate recipients, to expedite delivery, and to help you in returning materials to the LRTA office. The table below shows the materials that you received, based upon your membership status in LRTA.

Member Class	Newsletter	Return Envelope	LRTA Ballot	Membership Form
Lifetime Member	~	~	~	
Continuing Member	~	~	~	
Annual Renewal	v	~	~	 ✓
Non-Member	~	v		 ✓
Associate Member	v			

Ballots are sent to voting members of LRTA: Lifetime Members, Annual Members who renew each year, and Continuing Members who have authorized payment of their annual dues by automatic deduction from their April retirement benefit. Membership renewal forms are sent to all members who renew annually. Non-members receive a complimentary copy of the LRTA Newsletter and an invitation to join LRTA. Ballots, membership forms and renewal checks may all be returned to LRTA in the postage paid envelope. Please return as soon as possible, but note that ballots must be postmarked by February 16 in order to be counted.

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www.LRTA.net

From the Desk of the President



Now that the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons are behind us. we can plan for LRTA achievements for 2009. I hope everyone had an enjoyable conclusion for the year 2008. The first Leadership Training Workshop was held November

Dr. Hugh C. Craft

13, 2008 at the Holiday Inn South in Baton Rouge. This was a remarkable and rewarding leadership opportunity. After introduction of all the participants involved, key elements of LRTA Articles of Incorporation, Constitution/Bylaws, Code of Ethics, Executive Board Policies, Strategic Plan, Membership, District Operations for the eleven Districts, Legislative Priorities and planning for the Day at the Capitol were covered. Executive Director Graig Luscombe and his staff prepared a detailed manual for this workshop. It received praise from all participants involved in the training sessions. Preparations are in the process now to send a condensed version of the Leadership Training Manual to all presidents of the local LRTA units. From this viable workshop, it is expected that more members will assume positions of leadership at the local, district and state levels.

As LRTA moves into 2009, the watchword is "communication," and dedicated involvement

> Happy New Year! My column for this issue is devoted to the ballot that voting LRTA members received with this issue of the LRTA Newsletter. The bal-

Graig A. Luscombe

of the existing LRTA constitution and bylaws into one document that will be known as Bylaws of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association. Inc.

In October 2007, LRTA contracted the services of a consultant to assist the Executive

from the local to the district to the state level will be paramount. Building more effective twoway communications and connectivity from the state to the grassroots membership and from the grassroots membership back to the state level is our goal. This is the only way that LRTA and its membership can achieve common efforts to enhance member benefits. Many non-members of LRTA have viewed happenings from a distance in a spectator mode. Remember the old adage called the TEAM approach. The letters depict that "Together Everyone Accomplishes More." We need more retirees as LRTA members and their friends as associate members on the LRTA TEAM.

Active retiree dues are only a small investment of \$25. This is less than 7 cents per day! Nonteaching friends/relatives and active school personnel may join as associate members for only \$10 and receive the same access to Association member benefits package as regular LRTA retirees. This computes to less than 3 cents per day! AMBA offerings exclusively for LRTA members may be examined at www.amba.info. The only restrictions for associate members are that they may not hold office or vote in LRTA elections. Associate members and active retirees may attend state meetings with no registration fees. The LRTA membership year is from April 1 to March 31 of the following year. All new members, whether associate or active retirees, may join now and their dues are paid until

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Executive Director's Report

lot asks for your vote on the consolidation

Board in the development of a strategic plan for the association. During that process, Mr. Bob Harris, Executive Director of the Non-Profit Center who facilitated the plan's development, recommended that the two existing documents be consolidated into one.

Staff began the process of reviewing the documents for their consolidation back in December 2007. A draft of the consolidated constitution and bylaws was then provided to an attorney for review. The draft of the new bylaws, comments provided as a result of the legal review, and all recommended changes were sent to the LRTA Constitution and Bylaws Committee for consideration. That committee met on October 14, 2008, and recommended that the Executive

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LRTA Executive Board

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

Past President Vacant

First Vice-President Rupert E. Breland 1201 N. Columbia St. Bogalusa, LA 70427

Second Vice-President Felix Johnson, Jr 110 Magloire St. Lafayette, LA 70501

District I President Velma M. Pryce 4716 Lafon Dr. New Orleans, LA 70126

District II President Elicio P. Nicholas 3979 Hwv. 307 Thibodaux, LA 70301

District III President Bertha Breland 1201 N. Columbia St. Bogalusa, LA 70427

District IV President LeRoy Washington 3033 Rosedale Rd. Port Allen, LA 70767

District V President Jerry Caillier 140 Nickerson Pkwy. Lafavette, LA 70501

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

District VII President James T. Stewart 1638 Creed St. Pineville, LA 71360

District VIII President Raymond Christensen 1017 Oma St. Natchitoches, LA 71457

District IX President Dorothy W. Brown 1207 Maple St Winnsboro, LA 71295

District X President Sidney A. Seegers 2704 Pargoud Blvd. Monroe, LA 71201

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

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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 510 Lafayette St. Youngsville, LA 70592

LASS - R President Lloyd Dressel 18918 Beaujolaes Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70817

DISTRICT	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	DISTRICT	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008
Parish	Members	%Mbrs	Retirees	Non-Members	Members	%Mbrs	Associate	Parish	Members	%Mbrs		Non-Members		%Mbrs	Associa
DISTRICT								DISTRICT VII							
Orleans	931	41.5	2,527	1,544	983	38.9	18	Avoyelles	174	44.1	434	260	174	40.1	
Plaquemines	45	40.9	139	81	58	41.7	3	Catahoula	56	44.4	137	79	58	42.3	
St. Bernard	45	42.9	126	69	57	45.2	31	Concordia	80	36.5	230	152	78	33.9	
TOTAL	1,021	41.5	2,792	1,694	1,098	39.3	52	Grant	87	33.1	230	183	89	32.7	
DISTRICT II									74	******	***		f		
Assumption	142	66.7	218	72	146	67.0	4	LaSalle	+	49.0	160	86	74	46.3	
Jefferson	1,073	36.2	3,171	2,131	1,040	32.8	15	Rapides	525	35.6	1,613	1,078	535	33.1	
LaFourche	500	50.6	1,083	578	505	46.6	20	Vernon	111	28.8	419	311	108	25.8	
St. Charles	165	42.5	426	269	157	36.9	4	TOTAL	1,107	36.7	3,265	2,149	1,116	34.2	
St. James	164	63.6	275	109	166	60.4	9	DISTRICT VIII							
St. John	135	45.3	327	192	135	41.3	27	DeSoto	140	53.0	286	144	142	49.7	
Terrebonne	401	46.7	954	535	419	43.9	127	Natchitoches	218	36.6	648	424	224	34.6	
TOTAL	2,580	43.2	6,454	3,886	2,568	39.8	206	Red River	23	32.4	75	47	28	37.3	
DISTRICT III								Sabine	109	37.5	301	191	110	36.5	
Livingston	228	34.5	732	498	234	32.0	236	Winn	94	48.2	214	117	97	45.3	
St. Helena	33	40.7	86	52	34	39.5	5	TOTAL	584	41.2	1,524	923	601	39.4	
St. Tammany	932	48.8	1,855	1,185	670	36.1	134	DISTRICT IX							
Tangipahoa	411	37.2	1,234	818	416	33.7	77	East Carroll	25	28.1	90	69	21	23.3	
Washington	220	43.7	539	306	233	43.2	84	Franklin	130	42.3	322	190	132	41.0	
TOTAL	1,824	42.8	4,446	2,859	1,587	35.7	536	Madison	40	35.4	127	84	43	33.9	
DISTRICT IV								Richland	106	47.1	244	139	105	43.0	
Ascension	245	39.0	706	446	260	36.8	129	Tensas	25	32.9	82	52	30	36.6	
East Baton Rouge	1,737	35.3	5,190	3,482	1,708	32.9	195	West Carroll	23 58	32.9	160	52 107	53	33.1	
East Feliciana	58	38.7	158	105	53	33.5	12	TOTAL	384	39.5 40.1		641	384	33.1 37.5	
Iberville	81	30.8	282	192	90	31.9	6		304	40.1	1,025	041	304	37.3	
Pointe Coupee	90	36.7	266	171	95	35.7	3	DISTRICT X							
West Baton Rouge	49	30.4	180	131	49	27.2	4	Caldwell	52	50.0	117	60	57	48.7	
West Feliciana	36	36.0	111	68	43	38.7	56	Jackson	99	44.4	237	141	96	40.5	
TOTAL	2,296	35.5	6,893	4,595	2,298	33.3	405	Lincoln	354	45.7	836	496	340	40.7	
DISTRICT V								Morehouse	144	58.5	260	107	153	58.8	
Evangeline	115	31.9	409	283	126	30.8	2	Ouachita	616	39.5	1,675	1,061	614	36.7	
Iberia	292	38.7	823	527	296	36.0	83	Union	106	48.8	248	133	115	46.4	
Lafayette	830	46.4	1,982	1,123	859	43.3	26	TOTAL	1,371	43.9	3,373	1,998	1,375	40.8	1
St. Landry	329	34.2	1,070	730	340	31.8	60	DISTRICT XI							
St. Martin	140	38.7	401	253	148	36.9	14	Bienville	97	48.0	214	123	91	42.5	
St. Mary	204	48.2	444	256	188	42.3	166	Bossier	319	38.5	919	590	329	35.8	
Vermilion	214	44.6	523	300	223	42.6	16	Caddo	1,002	38.2	2,868	1,856	1,012	35.3	
TOTAL	2,124	41.4	5,652	3,472	2,180	38.6	367	Claiborne	85	48.0	185	1,000	85	45.9	
DISTRICT VI								Webster	170	36.2	512	350	162	31.6	
Acadia	163	37.5	499	319	180	36.0	24	TOTAL	1,673	30.2 38.9	4,698	350 3,019	1,679	31.0 35.7	
Allen	60	34.5	193	133	60	31.1	11	TUTAL	1,073						
Beauregard	131	37.1	395	261	134	33.9	1	Out of State	2,511	40.2	6,541	4,096	2,445	37.4	
Calcasieu	800	42.1	2,083	1,291	792	38.0	5								
Cameron	16	50.0	34	17	17	50.0	1	TOTAL	18,780	40.4	50,194	31,556	18,638	37.1	2,0
Jeff Davis	135	46.1	327	203	124	37.9	3								
TOTAL	1,305	40.9	3,531	2,224	1,307	37.0	45	TOTAL ME	MDEDO		C OF 4	2/40/00- 4	0.642	L	

Proposal Seeks to Consolidate LRTA Constitution and Bylaws

All LRTA members (except associate members) receiving this newsletter will also receive a ballot which contains one proposal: to consolidate the LRTA Constitution and LRTA Bylaws into a single document. The consolidation will simply merge all information contained in both documents into one. The only substantive change will be that the LRTA Nominating

Committee will be elected in odd-numbered years instead of even-numbered years. To find details about the proposal to merge the Constitution and Bylaws, see the Executive Director's Report on page 2 of this newsletter. Please note that ballots must be postmarked by February 16, 2009 in order to be counted.

An Inside Look - Office of Group Benefits

1-800-272-8451

An Important Note About Dependent Verification

The deadline for the Louisiana Office of Group Benefits (OGB) to receive dependent verification documents was November 30, 2008. Effective December 8, 2008, OGB stopped paying claims on unverified (ineligible) dependents for medical care, prescription drugs and life insurance. In addition, all unverified dependents were dropped from OGB health and life coverage December 31, 2008.

Because unverified dependents are not eligible to receive OGB benefits, all health claims OGB paid on behalf of these dependents must be repaid. OGB mailed letters to employees and retirees who owe OGB for claim payments made on behalf of unverified dependents. The letters list the amount they owe OGB, which reflects credit given for the employee share of premiums paid for unverified dependents. These overpayment amounts must be repaid in full to OGB within 60 days, unless you contact OGB at (225) 925-6625 or (800) 272-8451 and successfully negotiate an alternative repayment plan.

OGB must receive dependent verification documents no later than March 4, 2009, to restore coverage for dependents retroactive to January 1, 2009, with no lapse in coverage if all back premiums owed are promptly paid. If OGB does not receive verification documents for your dependents by March 4, 2009, you will lose coverage for these dependents forever!

If you have questions regarding dependent verification, call OGB Customer Service at 800-272-8451.

I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

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

From the Desk of the President Continued from page 2

March 31, 2010. Of course once active educational personnel retire with TRSL benefits, they become eligible to vote and hold office in LRTA with dues of \$25. In St. Tammany and St. Bernard Parishes, active school personnel as associate members may renew their membership by having their checks payroll deducted once per year in April for \$10. Other associate members outside these parishes should send their \$10 check or money-order before April 1, 2009. Active retirees have choices of either 1) life membership and never have to pay dues again, 2) continuous membership where the \$25 is deducted from their retirement check on April 1 each year, or 3) mail in dues check or money-order by April 1 each year. Your small investment of dues assures that someone will be looking out for your benefits all year long--year in and year out! For someone to represent your needs and benefits, you need to be a member of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association. Be a member; get involved at the local, district and state levels. You need LRTA and LRTA needs you.

Plans are actively being made to hold an "LRTA Day" at the Capitol in Baton Rouge to urge the Louisiana Legislators and Governor Jindal to provide monies from the State General Fund to supplement available Employee Experience Account dollars to provide retirees an ongoing <u>annual</u> cost of living adjustment of at least 3% if the consumer price index (CPI-U) is 3% or more for the said year. The May 2009 LRTA Day Rally will be the largest in the fifty-year history of LRTA. All educational retiree members and all associate members are urged to attend this tremendous event. Bring your sunscreen and umbrella to keep the sunrays minimized. Wheel chairs, walkers, canes and motorized carts are welcomed. Large signs will desig*continued on page 6*

The Louisiana State Museum is in Search of Docents

The Louisiana State Museum is looking for volunteer docents. Docents are tour guides who assist the museum's Education Department:

- Give tours to students and adults
- Help with special events
- Mentor new docents

Qualifications:

- Commit about 2 hours weekly for a minimum of one year
- Be dedicated to the best interest of children
- Be interested in Louisiana history and culture

• Attend and complete docent training

By interacting with the public, docents play an extremely important role in the operation of the museum and are depended on to deliver a positive educational experience to their visitors.

If you are interested in becoming a museum docent, please fill out the online application at the museum's website, at <u>http://lsm.crt.state.la.us/education/</u> <u>volunteer/docents_ap.asp</u>, you can also call 504-568-6968 or 1-800-568-6968 for more information.

Membership Recruitment: Now is the Time

The last issue of the LRTA Newsletter reported that membership is now 20,000 strong. There is strength in numbers, and it is important to keep our membership growing in order for LRTA to maintain a strong presence in representing the retired education community. Recently, the LRTA Executive Board issued a new membership challenge to LRTA: increase membership to 25,000.

If we all work together, this goal is achievable. I personally believe that one of the most important methods of membership recruitment is one-on-one contact. I am asking that each LRTA member make an effort to recruit one new member. LRTA members, who know the value of supporting the only membership organization in Louisiana devoted solely to representing the interest of retired Louisiana educators, are asked to contact their fellow retired educators and encourage their membership in LRTA.

Associate members are also important to LRTA. Active educators, family members and friends of retirees are all good prospects for associate members. In addition to providing financial support to LRTA, associate membership facilitates public awareness of LRTA and its advocacy for retired educators.

As LRTA kicks off its annual membership campaign, I encourage LRTA members to get involved in membership recruitment. Let's get started and get the job done! THANKS!

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

LRTA Foundation

Hopefully, for all of our retirees, the holiday season leaves fun filled memories with family and friends. With the New Year's resolutions still fresh in our minds, our wish from the Foundation Board members is that everyone will continue to remember the LRTA Foundation when making donations. As you probably know, donations may be made in honor or in memory of individuals. These donations may be made by individuals, LRTA districts or local RTA units, and donations may be designated as restricted or unrestricted. The names of the donors and those individuals honored or memorialized will be published in a subsequent LRTA Newsletter.

As 2009 progresses and moves rapidly forward, we need to be keenly aware of so many in our retired ranks who have been retired for a number of years and who are facing the bleak reality that their retirement checks do not even come close to maintaining a decent standard of living. So many, unfortunately, are at poverty levels. These retired school personnel are in the neighborhoods of our local RTA units and districts. It is imperative that we seek them out and provide some assistance and encouragement to them. Please provide a narrative of their circumstances and send it to our office so the LRTA Foundation can seek and/or provide assistance for them. We need LRTA leaders who can utilize their knowledge of programs available in order to provide necessary aid to those on low, limited incomes.

Go to the LRTA website: <u>www.lrta.net</u> and click on LRTA Foundation for additional information. Remember there are no dues for being affiliated with the LRTA Foundation. You are urged to offer ideas for the growth of the Foundation and its effectiveness. The LRTA Foundation Board welcomes your involvement and comments. Our ongoing goals are to make things better for all retirees.

> Hugh C. Craft, Ed. D. Foundation President

Make Plans Now for the 2009 Spring Meeting

Mark your calendar to attend the 2009 LRTA Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 28 and 29. The Executive Board meeting and preconvention dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 28, and the general session and luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 29. All meeting sessions will be held at the Alexander Fulton Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn) in downtown Alexandria.

A meeting registration form may be found on page 8 of this newsletter. To make hotel reservations, contact the Alexander Fulton Hotel directly at (318) 442-9000 and ask for the special LRTA convention rate of \$70 per night.

Executive Director's Report

Continued from page 2

Board approve the consolidation to be sent to the voting members of LRTA. In accordance with Article XI of the existing bylaws, they can only be amended by a majority vote of the members on an official ballot.

The consolidated document contains all the provisions of the existing *Constitution of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association, Inc.* and of the *Bylaws of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association, Inc.* There is one substantive change to the bylaws being recommended by the Executive Board to the voting membership. That change deals with LRTA's Nominating Committee, and provides the committee with additional time to develop the LRTA slate of officers every two years. In fact, if the recommendation is approved, the LRTA Nominating Committee can begin its work to identify candidates for state-wide offices a year earlier than is currently provided by the existing documents. The changes being recommended by the Executive Board are outlined below.

Article VI of the existing bylaws currently states:

ARTICLE VI: ELECTION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Executive Board shall establish five areas of the state where membership numbers shall be corresponding to each other as nearly as possible. Before January of each evennumbered year each District in an area shall submit one name of an LRTA member in that district to be placed in nomination for a Nominating Committee member in the established areas. One Nominating Committee member from each area shall be elected by a majority vote of official ballots for a two-year term beginning at the close of the April meeting. Official ballots will be sent to voting members by direct mail, and must be received in the LRTA office at least 30 days prior to the Spring Meeting. In case of a vacancy on the Nominating Committee, the candidate from the same Area with the next highest number of votes in the last election for that position shall be named to the Nominating Committee. If no other candidate is available, the vacancy shall be filled by a special election.

If approved, the new language in the consolidated document would read as provided below. The changes are highlighted in red and bolded. The article dealing with the election of the Nominating Committee members is assigned a new number "X" from number "VI" as a result of the consolidation, not because additional items were added to the bylaws.

ARTICLE X: ELECTION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Executive Board shall establish five areas of the state where membership numbers shall be corresponding to each other as nearly as possible. Before January of each odd-numbered year beginning in 2011, each district in an area shall submit one name of an LRTA member in that district to be placed in nomination for a Nominating Committee member in the established areas. One Nominating Committee member from each area shall be elected by a majority vote of official ballots for a two-year term beginning at the close of the April meeting. Official ballots will be sent to voting members by direct mail, and must be received in the LRTA office at least 30 days prior to the Spring Meeting.

Section 2: The five areas of the state are: Area A: District X and District XI Area B: District VII, District VIII, and District IX Area C: District V and District VI Area D: District III and District IV Area E: District I and District II

Section 3: In case of a vacancy on the Nominating Committee, the candidate from the same Area with the next highest number of votes in the last election for that position shall be named to the Nominating Committee. If no other candidate is available, the vacancy shall be filled by a special election.

I hope this explanation provides you the information you need to make an informed decision regarding your vote.

Graig A. Luscombe LRTA Executive Director

From the Desk of the President

Continued from page 4

nate each district and the parishes in the district for the members to gather. Retired teachers and other school personnel taught many of the current legislators. It is time for those who were taught so well to return the favor by providing an ongoing cost-of-living adjustment on an annualized basis. To do any less is totally unacceptable. I am excited about this upcoming rally but the determining factor to its success is the number of people who turn out. It is all about numbers. Your leaders and members at the local and district levels will determine the success or failure of this rally. If thousands rather than hundreds turn out, then this will be a positive show of intensity for a cause that is just, fair and drastically needed. Those of you who are on the sidelines and have not paid your LRTA dues--it is time to step up to the plate and knock a home run by paying your dues now. May we all continue to strive to make retirement years great!

> Hugh C. Craft, Ed.D. LRTA President

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

Deceased Retired Teachers, November 7, 2008 through December 12, 2008

District I

Patricia M. Addison – Violet Lawrence A. Armour – New Orleans Myrna J. Bright – New Orleans Ruenette W. Delone – New Orleans Elias J. Morris, Jr. – New Orleans Aldrich H. Seals – New Orleans Annie L. Thompson – New Orleans Edward J. Tuohy, Jr., - Belle Chasse Alma H. Watkins – New Orleans

District II

Betty M. Cenac – Houma Sandra K. Dubuisson – Marrero Thelma Johnson Duffourc – Westwego Barbara W. Julien – Garyville Doris Monconduit – St. James Gayle M. Plaisance – Marrero Bert E. Robinson – Marrero Bernadette Rogan – Metairie

District III

Fannie R. Adams – Slidell Z. Richard Conerly - Madisonville Audrey L. Hills – Ponchatoula Thomas Hufstetler – Hammond Earlean D. McClain – Mandeville Franklin Owens – Covington John J. Sugar – Hammond

District IV

Leo Bossier – Baton Rouge Rosa J. Dupre – Brusly Huey L. Gray – Brusly Kellet W. Hathorn – Baton Rouge Ella Louise Jefferson – Baton Rouge Odessa B. Johnson – Baton Rouge John J. Mackler – Baton Rouge Elizabeth A. P. Miles – Baton Rouge Thorton Rhodes – Baton Rouge Charles D. Stevenson – Baton Rouge Linda Kay R. Taylor – Baton Rouge Ruby Johnson Young – Plaquemine

District V

Barbara A. Bergeron – Lafayette Doris D. Creed – Lafayette Dolores Eastin – New Iberia Alzenia G. Jackson – New Iberia Joseph P. Nicoletti – Lafayette

District VI

Dennis Wayne Batts – Sulphur Mona F. Bertrand – Iowa Bobbie Jean LeBouef – Vinton James L. Loyd – Westlake Fanelia R. Miller – Iowa Byron R. Shirey – Lake Charles Sheldon Simmons – DeRidder Elizabeth Young – Lake Charles

District VII

James K. Best – Cottonport Judith M. Brown – Vidalia Henry Couvillon – Mansura Marie S. Frasher – Leesville Burrell R. Harvey – Pitkin Rosalind Pearl James – Alexandria Jennie P. Williams – Alexandria

District VIII

W. E. Carpenter, Jr. – Calvin Vernon Ray Davenport – Winnfield Maybelle S. Haddox – Winnfield Gary E. Hunt – Mansfield

District IX

Carl W. King, Jr. – Winnsboro Elwyn C. Lyles – Mangham Dorothy L. Self – Winnsboro Dolores Ann Whatley – Pioneer

District X

Robert P. Covington – Monroe Kathryn Etzel – Ruston James R. Farr – Monroe Linda Sue Haye – Farmerville Betty Hill – Monroe Nealy L. Johnston – West Monroe

Join the LRTA E-Mail Club! Stay informed up to the minute. Send an e-mail to info@Irta.net with E-MAIL CLUB in the subject line. Patti S. Mella – Quitman Glen F. Post, Jr. – Farmerville Erma E. Webb – Monroe Catherine J. Williams – Grambling

District XI

Linda A. Coday – Bossier City Mary K. Mosley – Bossier City Stanley M. Powell – Shreveport Nolan B. Thomas, Jr. – Shreveport Betty C. Walmsley – Greenwood Mary D. Williams – Shreveport

Out of State

Frances C. Boykin - Roland, AR Mae Etta Castain - Davis, CA Marie A. Clinesmith - Topeka, KS Claudia N. Darby - Memphis, TN Frances I. Hanson - Broken Arrow, OK Doris F. Hardnett - Decatur, GA Gregory Hobson - Houston, TX Mary M. Jones - St. Louis, MO Howard Marsellus, Jr. - Rowlett, TX Junealee B. Populus - Spring, TX Barbara W. Reid - Bellaire, TX Rudolph A. Schroeder -Chippewa Falls, WI Irene S. Smith - Preston, MS Olga A. Spears - Boyds, MD Horace E. Thompson - Lakewood, CO Carolyn C. Turner - Houston, TX Betty L. Vincent – Pensacola, FL Willie Wheatley - Oakland, CA Frances M. Williams – Longwood, FL Viola C. Woods - Ft. Worth, TX

Foundation Donations

The following donation has been received by the LRTA Foundation:

Lafourche Parish RTA – In memory of Dr. Wade L. Ledet

LRTA STAFF

Graig A. Luscombe *Executive Director*

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			

2009 SPRING MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2009 Spring Meeting in order to expedite registration in Alexandria. To make a reservation for the pre-convention dinner on Tuesday, April 28, and/or for the luncheon on Wednesday, April 29, indicate in the space provided and send a check for the appropriate amount. **Each person pre-registering and/or reserving a meal ticket should return a separate form** in order to receive a registration packet. Guests may use the form in order to have a registration packet. (Photocopies acceptable.)

Name:	_Social Security No	
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
Telephone: ()	E-mail	
Attendance only, no fee		
Number of tickets for Tuesday night Pre-Convention Dinn	er (\$24.00 per person) = \$	
Number of tickets for Wednesday luncheon (\$20.00 per pe	erson) =	\$
	Total Enclosed	= \$

Note: Pre-registration/meal reservations must be received in the LRTA office by **April 20, 2009**. Registration will be available at the meeting; however, meal function tickets are sold by pre-reservation only. **No meal reservations will be taken by phone. NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 23.** Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.