



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

Vol. 36, No. 5 • September - October, 2009

www.LRTA.net

Fall Meeting

Harvesting Knowledge for Challenges of the 21st Century

Plans are being finalized for the 2009 Fall Meeting in Lafayette. Meeting dates are October 19, 20, and 21, at the Lafayette Holiday Inn. The Holiday Inn is located at 2032 N. E. Evangeline Thruway (Hwy. 167 just south of I-49). A special room rate of \$79 per night (\$89 for atrium rooms), plus tax, has been negotiated with the Holiday Inn for LRTA attendees. The deadline to receive this special rate is October 6, 2009. Individuals may make room reservations by calling the Lafayette Holiday Inn at (800) 942-4868.

The meeting will be hosted by LRTA District V. Host Committee Chair is Jerry Caillier, and Co-Chairs are Bonnie Lyons and Hazel Turner. Together, they chair a committee of District V volunteers that is working hard to make this a Fall Meeting to remember. This year's meeting theme is "Harvesting Knowledge for Challenges of the 21st Century."

Meeting activities kick off with the Executive Board Meeting, scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19.

The Board meeting is open to the public.

Guests attending the Pre-Convention Dinner at 6:30 on Monday evening will be entertained by local musicians. Tuesday evening Convention Banquet attendees will be treated to the wit and wisdom of Ginger Cormier. The banquet program will conclude with presentations of the LRTA Name of Fame awards to honorees from Districts IV and VIII. Tickets for both meal functions are available by pre-reservation only.

A Membership/Advocacy Workshop will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, after the close of the general session. This year an advocacy component has been added to what was previously called the Membership Roundtable. Membership recruitment will be discussed, as well as ideas for strengthening relationships and communication between legislators and local units / individual retirees in their home districts. Presentations will be

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Nominating Committee to Meet

The LRTA Nominating Committee will meet in conjunction with the Fall Meeting on Monday, October 19 at 11:00 a.m. The Committee is requesting suggestions for nominees for the offices of LRTA President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President for consideration at this meeting. The ballot for the election of LRTA officers will go out in January 2010.

Members of the LRTA Nominating Committee are:

- Dr. John Foster, Chairman
- Mrs. Josephine Allen
- Mr. Joseph Clyde Crooks
- Mr. Roland Simon
- Mrs. Joyce Harris

Suggested nominees must be LRTA members in good standing and must have agreed in advance to serve, if elected. A brief biographical sketch, including educational background, career experience, and honors, awards

and involvement in retiree and community activities since retirement should be included for each nominated candidate. Members are welcome to submit their own names to the committee for consideration, as well as names of fellow LRTA members.

It is requested that the information on nominees be furnished on an LRTA Prospect Sheet. The Prospect Sheets may be obtained from any member of the Nominating Committee, or by contacting the LRTA office. Note: Associate members of LRTA are not eligible to run for office or to vote in any LRTA election.

Nominee information must be received no later than October 14, 2009 to be considered at the October 19 meeting. Prospect sheets should be mailed to:

Louisiana Retired Teachers Assn.
9412 Common St., Suite 5
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

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Membership/Advocacy

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From the Desk of the President



Dr. Hugh C. Craft

The LRTA Executive Committee and the LRTA Legislative Committee met August 12, 2009 to formulate plans for the future. It was a very productive session which covered many topics of concern for our organization and its membership. Act 497 of 2009 was the major topic of discussion for the LRTA leaders assembled in the boardroom of the LRTA office.

Act 497 originated in the senate as Senate Bill No. 296 and was passed on the senate floor on May 28, 2009, the day we gathered on the capitol steps for the "LRTA Day at the Capitol". The bill passed the senate with no votes to spare. It took a minimum of 20 votes to pass. If one senator of the 20 would have voted "No" to SB 296, it would have failed to pass that morning. The bill passed the House Retirement Committee and then passed on the floor of the House of Representatives. Governor Bobby Jindal signed it into law on July 10, 2009. Act 497 swept all the funds (approximately \$290 million) from the Employee Experience Account to make a payment on the Initial Unfunded Accrued Liability which was created by the state not paying its share to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. The Employee Experience Account was set into place by the legislature and the governor in 1992 to provide cost-of-living adjustments for retired educators on a consistent basis.

The Employee Experience Account created by the legislature in 1992 still exists in Act 497, but it has no funds in it. ZERO!!! Our LRTA staff, LRTA officers, LRTA Executive

Committee and Legislative Committee have determined that under Act 497, there is very little likelihood that a permanent benefit increase will be forthcoming in the foreseeable future. In Act 497, the term Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) was replaced by the term Permanent Benefit Increase (PBI). Under the stipulations of Act 497, in order for retirees to receive a PBI, the investments of TRSL would have to exceed 8.25% in earnings. The first \$100 million above the 8.25% earnings will reduce the Initial Unfunded Accrued Liability which is estimated to be \$7+ billion. (Note: The state is using TRSL investment earnings to pay for a liability that should be its responsibility to pay with state funds.) The second \$100 million will be used to pay down the Unfunded Accrued Liability which was created when the Employee Experience Account had a negative balance which was eliminated by the legislature and governor in 2004. This amount is approximately \$1.2 billion, and it is reasonable for TRSL surplus earnings to be used to pay on this liability.

In years when TRSL investment earnings are above 8.25% on an actuarial basis, certain conditions must be met in order for the retirement system to grant a 3% permanent benefit increase. First, the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) increase from December to December must be 3% or more. It is anticipated that a 3% permanent benefit increase for all eligible retirees will cost in the neighborhood of \$350 million. So, the retirement system's excess interest earnings will have to be at least \$900 million for sufficient funds to be available to provide that increase. The unfunded accrued liabilities will receive the first \$200 million. The remaining \$700 million will be split: \$350 to TRSL for the system's liabilities, and \$350 million to the Employee Experience Account.

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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

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

District II President

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

District III President

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

District IV President

LeRoy Washington
3033 Rosedale Rd.
Port Allen, LA 70767

District V President

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

District VI President

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

District VII President

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

District VIII President

Raymond Christensen
1017 Oma St.
Natchitoches, LA 71457

District IX President

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

District X President

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

District XI President

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

TRSL Board of Trustees

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

TRSL Board of Trustees

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

OGB Advisory Board

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

AARP State President

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

LASS - R President

Lloyd Dressel
18918 Beaujolaes Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

Membership/Advocacy Workshop to be Held at Fall Meeting

Join us to discuss membership recruitment ideas and learn how to get to know your legislative delegation by using the Internet. LRTA will offer the Membership/Advocacy Workshop on Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the Lafayette Holiday Inn. All Fall Meeting attendees are invited.

Executive Director's Report



Graig A. Luscombe

As Dr. Craft mentioned in his message, "From the Desk of the President," your LRTA officers have already begun planning and strategizing for the 2010 Regular Legislative Session. The session will begin at noon on Monday, March 29. We are anticipating that a number of issues very important to retired educators will be presented as legislation. They include: payment of future permanent benefit increases

under the provisions of Act No. 497 of 2009, discussions involving the development of a defined contribution plan for members of the state retirement systems, placing limits on boards of trustees regarding investments of the trust fund from which your retirement benefits are paid, and other issues involving the administration of that trust fund.

Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux, chairman of the Senate Retirement Committee, and Representative Joel D. Robideaux, chairman of the House Retirement Committee issued a press release soon after the 2009 Regular Legislative Session indicating their interest in studying mechanisms by which future benefit increases could be financed. Dr. Craft has issued both chairmen an invitation to share their ideas with the LRTA membership at our Fall Meeting.

During the next session of the legislature, it will be extremely important for us to get in touch with you in order to keep you informed. Using traditional approaches such as

the issuance of legislative updates, faxes and phone calls is helpful, but in many cases we need immediate action from our members. One way to accomplish this is to contact you through LRTA's E-Mail Club. If we do not have your current e-mail address on file, please consider joining. It's easy, and takes just a minute of your time. Instructions on how to join are provided in the box below. Also remember to check LRTA's web site. We will continue to provide legislative updates and other information on the link entitled "LRTA & the Legislature." The website address is www.lrta.net.

Plan on attending the Fall Meeting. District V has a great program lined up, and your registration form is included with this issue. I hope to see you in Lafayette.

E-Mail Club

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

From the Desk of the President

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In the years when TRSL investment earnings are less than 8.25% but TRSL is at least 80% funded and the CPI-U is 2% or more, then a 2% PBI may be granted if there are adequate funds in the Employee Experience Account. Please note: TRSL has never been 80% funded. If the account balance is not adequate to fund the full 2% or 3% PBI, then no partial PBI will be granted. Partial increases are not allowed under this new act. Only those 60 years old or older are eligible for Permanent Benefit Increases. Prior 1992 legislation granted full or partial COLAs to retirees 55 years of age or older. Act 497 is not friendly legislation for educational retirees. It is a method for the

governor and legislature to pay down the Initial Unfunded Accrued Liability on the backs of retired teachers who did not create the liabilities. We as active teachers and school personnel paid our fair share into the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, but former governors and former legislatures did not pay the state's share. For many years they made only partial contributions. The 2009 legislature and governor decided that \$290 million in the Employee Experience Account and future surplus earnings of TRSL up to \$100 million per year will be used to pay on the IUAL. LRTA will be considering revisions that can be made to Act 497 during the 2010 Regular Leg-

islative Session to make it more palatable to retired educators.

To ensure that our collective voice is heard, plans are in place for the second LRTA Day at the Capitol on April 29, 2010. Also, the Legislative Contact Teams will be strengthened and expanded. New LRTA legislative priorities will be developed by the LRTA Legislative Committee. There will be a Membership/Advocacy Training Session held in conjunction with the Fall Meeting.

Mark your calendars for our Fall Meeting in Lafayette on October 19, 20 and 21, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Lafayette

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An Inside Look – Office of Group Benefits

1-800-272-8451

The Office of Group Benefits has been busy processing your claims and helping you with your individual questions. Mr. Tommy Teague, CEO will again be invited to provide all of the latest information regarding the plans offered by OGB at LRTA's upcoming Fall Meeting.

If you cannot attend the meeting, be sure to become familiar with all the information provided in the OGB publication *For Your Benefit*.

I want to take this opportunity to provide a personal thank you for your prayers and expressions of

concern during my recent hospital stay and recuperation period. They have been very much appreciated.

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

TRSL Update

1-877-275-8775

Information about deadlines to redeposit hurricane distributions

Did you receive funds from a DROP or ILSB distribution made under the provisions of the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 (KETRA) or the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005 (GO Zone)? Would you like to redeposit them back into your TRSL account?

State law allows TRSL members who received a DROP/ILSB qualified hurricane distribution before January 1, 2007, to repay some (or all) of those funds, as long as it is done within three years from the date the funds were received. For example, if you received a hurricane distribution in September 2006, your deadline to repay all or a portion of those funds would be September 2009.

To make a repayment, please submit the following form and your check to TRSL within three years of the date of your distribution: *DROP or ILSB Qualified Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 (KETRA) or Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005 (GO Zone) Withdrawals Repayment* (Form 11-RD).

This form can be found on our website, www.trsl.org. For federal reporting requirements, please refer to IRS Form 8915. It can be found at the IRS website, www.irs.gov.

New online presentation about Social Security reductions added to TRSL website

TRSL's online multimedia series, "TRSL Now Showing," has a new

four-minute presentation that explains the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), two important Social Security reductions that can affect retirement benefits. *Social Security Offsets* provides information to help members understand how these two federal provisions may affect their retirement income.

To view the presentation, visit the TRSL website at, www.trsl.org. Click on the "TRSL Now Showing" link in the "Quick Links" section.

*Lisa Honore
Public Information Director
Teachers' Retirement System of La.*

Fall Meeting (continued from page 1)

made by Membership Chair Rupert Breland, State Legislative Chair Benjamin Sandifer, Executive Director Graig Luscombe, and others. Opportunities for networking between participants will be encouraged. Appropriate district and local unit personnel will be sent special invitations to encourage participation from all areas of the state. Fall Meeting attendees are also invited to attend this session.

Fall Meeting speakers will represent the Teachers' Retirement System of Loui-

siana, Office of Group Benefits, and LRTA Foundation; speakers from the local area will present topics of interest to attendees. In addition, Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux and Representative Joel C. Robideaux, chairmen of the Senate and House Retirement Committees, have been invited to provide their thoughts on the upcoming 2010 Legislative Session. Exhibit booths and a health fair, including flu shots, will be present in the registration area on October 20 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Registration and exhibits will continue on Wednesday, October 21.

See page 8 of this newsletter for a meal function reservation/meeting registration form. Additional information about the Fall Meeting may be found on LRTA's website: www.lrta.net.

We hope to see you in Lafayette on October 19, 20 and 21.

District Fall Meetings

District I

(Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard)
September 23 – 10:00 a.m.
New Orleans Council on Aging
2475 Canal St., New Orleans

District II

(Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, Terrebonne)
September 23 – 10:00 a.m.
St. James School Board Office
1876 W. Main St., Litcher

District III

(Livingston, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington)
September 21 – 1:30 a.m.
Regions Bank
201 NW Railroad Ave., Hammond

District IV

(Ascension, E. Baton Rouge, E. Feliciana, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, W. Baton Rouge, W. Feliciana)
October 7 – 9:00 a.m.
West Baton Rouge Community Center
749 Jefferson Ave., Port Allen

District V

(Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Vermilion)
September 9 – 10:00 a.m.
Lafayette Parish School Board Office
113 Chaplin Dr., Lafayette

District VI

(Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis)
September 23 – 1:00 p.m.
Acadia Parish Media Center
1933 W. Hutchinson Ave., Crowley

District VII

(Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, Grant, LaSalle, Rapides, Vernon)
September 24 – 10:00 a.m.
Alexander Fulton Hotel
701 Fourth St., Alexandria

District VIII

(DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Winn)
September 23 – 9:00 a.m.
Travel Lodge
7624 Hwy. 1 Bypass, Natchitoches

District IX

(E. Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Richland, Tensas, W. Carroll)
September 22 – 10:00 a.m.
Madison Parish Library
403 N. Mulberry, Tallulah

District X

(Caldwell, Jackson, Lincoln, Morehouse, Ouachita, Union)
October 14 – 2:00 p.m.
West Monroe City Hall
2305 N. 7th St., West Monroe

District XI

(Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Webster)
September 21 – 10:00 a.m.
Caddo Parish Library/Hamilton South Branch
2111 Bert Kouns Ind. Loop, Shreveport

From the Desk of the President

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and also for the Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 13 and 14, 2010. I have sent letters to Senator Butch Gautreaux, chair of the Senate Retirement Committee and to Representative Joel Robideaux, chair of the House Retirement Committee inviting them to address our members and guests at the Fall Meeting relative to permanent benefit increases for the future. Make plans to hear their proposals.

I urge all retirees to stay active in your local unit, your district and the state organization. Contact the LRTA office by email at info@lrta.net, and find valuable information on our web site at www.lrta.net. You will also find information on Act 497 under the link entitled "LRTA & the Legislature." Together we can make that difference for those now retired and for those who retire in the future. Together, let us continue striving to make the retirement years great!

2010 Spring Meeting

The 2010 LRTA Spring Meeting will be held April 13 and 14 at the Alexander Fulton Hotel in Alexandria, La. Please note this on your calendar. This meeting was moved to an earlier date than previously announced in order to accommodate the scheduling of the LRTA Day at the Capitol.

2010 LRTA Day at the Capitol

Plans are already under way for this event to be held again at the Capital Park Welcome Center. The date is April 29, 2010.

Foundation Donations

The following donation to the LRTA Foundation has been received:

Mr. & Mrs. Merlin Duke: In memory of Dorman R. Fendlason and Ethel Z. Torregrossa

Anonymous: In memory of all deceased retired teachers

LRTA: In memory of Leonard A. Brown

Membership Update – Get Active!

I get excited each week when Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) sends me the list of active and retired educators who have become members of LRTA. All new members in LRTA, I want to encourage you to join a local unit in your area, and become active in our fight.

Did I say fight? Yes I did! We are having to fight for the protection of our benefits. All retired educators must band together and take a stand. If your colleagues are not aware of what is going on—then you need to get them to join LRTA so they can find out. We still have some out there who are waiting for someone else to do their fighting for them! Folks, we need everyone standing together. Encourage your fellow retirees to pay their dues and get active! Encourage them to join your local unit and take a stand for themselves. Please get involved!

We are planning another LRTA Day at the Capitol next April 29. I encourage every one of you to start making plans

to be a part of that endeavor.

We are still recruiting associate members – have you signed up at least one? It's time for you to send yours in to the LRTA office! Associate members will receive issues of the *LRTA Newsletter*, and are eligible for all AMBA benefits. There are many new retirees who have not yet been recruited. Those new people are potential participants and leaders in your local units. Many of us need fresh ideas that can be offered by new members on how to make our organization stronger. Come on folks, let's all work together to make LRTA stronger. As we all know, there is power in numbers, so we all need to work together to recruit LRTA members.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Fall Meeting in October.

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

Fall Foundation Preparations

As the hot days of summer turn into autumn with fresh cool breezes and the falling leaves display beautiful colors as the trees prepare to weather the winter, we plan and prepare also for the changing seasons. Each season has its own uniqueness. The four seasons help us to be ready for change. They do not allow us to settle into a comfort zone.

The LRTA Foundation is making plans and preparations for the upcoming Fall Meeting of the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association. The LRTA Foundation board will meet on Monday, October 19 at 9:00 a.m. The theme of the Fall Meeting is an appropriate one: *Harvesting Knowledge for the Challenges of the 21st Century*. Knowledge is readily available to those who search for it. Let us all take advantage of the Fall Meeting as a venue to gain and share knowledge about issues that affect all retired educators.

The Foundation board will again recognize those companies, LRTA districts, local units, and individuals that have made donations since the Spring Meeting in Alexandria. Recognition will be acknowledged in the LRTA Newsletter,

the Foundation link on the LRTA website and at the Fall Meeting in Lafayette. Donations may be made in honor or in memory of individuals. Donors may join the Walk for the Foundation by presenting donations at the Fall Meeting. Check the website at: www.lrta.net and go to the LRTA Foundation link for more information.

The Foundation still needs donated items for the Foundation Giveaway. Gulf Coast Bank has agreed to provide a high density color television for the drawing. If an individual, unit, district, or company wishes to donate an item, please call me at 504.451.4248 or email me at craftcrew@bellsouth.net soon so the donor and item can be printed on the drawing ticket.

Hopefully, the Foundation board members will have the opportunity to greet many of you in person on October 19, 20 and 21. Thank you in advance for your encouragement and support for the LRTA Foundation.

*Dr. Hugh Craft
President, LRTA Foundation*

In Memoriam

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

Deceased Retired Teachers July 9, 2009 through August 26, 2009

District I

Inez P. Arceneaux – New Orleans
 Mary Bartley – New Orleans
 James J. Berryhill – New Orleans
 Elver W. Brumfield – New Orleans
 Octavia T. English – New Orleans
 Alice R. Geoffray - New Orleans
 John M. Glapion – New Orleans
 Henry W. Johnson – New Orleans
 Frank Jones – New Orleans
 Wanda H. C. Lowe – New Orleans
 Ray D. Minor – New Orleans
 Rosie M. Parker – Belle Chasse
 Daisy Pollet – New Orleans
 Gloria W. Rock – New Orleans
 Jack H. Stocker – New Orleans

District II

Betty J. Anderson – Boutte
 Ethel E. Bossier – Metairie
 Audry B. Boyce – Metairie
 Rose M. Briere – Metairie
 Jeannette Cangelosi – River Ridge
 Stephen G. Cipriano - Kenner
 Rudolph G. Dinvaut – Reserve
 Annabel A. Gaubert – Lockport
 Hazel R. Hurst – Jefferson
 Adele S. Langkopp – Destrehan
 Aline Levy – Marrero
 Myrtle J. McGlory – Kenner
 Clarann McLafferty – Jefferson
 Manuel A. Urzabia - Gretna

District III

Lorraine Alfaro – Covington
 Jean H. Beall – Covington
 Robert H. Blanchard – Slidell
 Mary McCoy Chatmon – Bogalusa
 Dorman Fendlason – Bogalusa
 Doris Mary Michel – Slidell
 Opal Nadine Pruitt – Mandeville
 Vicki Cieutat Rodriguez – Folsom
 Rose Sanders – Roseland

District IV

Luella D. Abbott – Livonia
 Wilbert C. August, Sr. – Baton Rouge
 Judy N. Carpenter – Prairieville
 Cass Collins, Jr. – Baker
 Jack Garon – Baton Rouge
 Mildred D. Hambrick - Prairieville
 Sherley P. Jacobs – Baton Rouge
 Karen W. Mayer – Baton Rouge
 Isaac Redditt – Baton Rouge
 Mary Moore Slaughter – Port Allen
 Slema A. Zebouni – Baton Rouge

District V

Angela D. Aymond – Opelousas
 Mary T. Badon – New Iberia
 Donald R. Begnaud – Lafayette
 Lynn S. Boudreau – Lafayette
 Robert L. Breaux – Lafayette
 John Harry Domingue – Youngsville
 L. D. Dupuis, Jr. – Lafayette
 Kenneth G. Jacob – Youngsville
 Margaret M. LaSalle – Lafayette
 Leander J. Laverne – Lafayette
 Juanita L. Layssard – Opelousas
 Russell J. McBride – Opelousas
 Dorothy Miller – Carencro
 Emma J. Price – Lafayette
 Emile J. Thomassie, Jr. – New Iberia
 Ethel Torregrossa – Lafayette

District VI

Le Noah Bettis – DeRidder
 Lois Fischer – Lake Charles
 Ronald G. Geddes – Sulphur
 Susan Teresa Herpin - Crowley
 Virginia Midkiff – Merryville
 Katherine W. Rainey – Crowley
 Melvin H. Shaw – Lake Charles
 Joyce J. Shields - Jeanerette
 Evelyn C. Thompson – Lake Charles

District VII

Alma L. Brown - Leesville
 Nathan J. Cannella – Alexandria
 Charles R. Carter – Leesville
 Velma R. Clark – Jena
 Peter A. Couvillion – Cottonport
 Alice W. Hyams – Sieper
 Katherine B. Jones – Tioga
 James H. Shade, Jr. – Leesville
 Doris T. Robert – Alexandria
 Aline Smith – Pineville
 Carley B. Wright - Alexandria

District VIII

Wynell P. Crews - Natchitoches
 Johnny Evans – Mansfield
 Jessie J. Paige – Natchez
 Ethelyn R. Stott - Logansport
 Versie Waldrip - Coushatta

District IX

Fred Dunham – Baskin
 Claudia B. Keith – Archibald
 Mary Jo Berry Mason – Winnsboro
 Richard D. Rockett – Rayville
 Henrietta Tannehill – Archibald
 Ethel P. Thompson - Winnsboro

District X

Marie Burns – Grayson

David S. Byrd – West Monroe
 Marcus L. Earles – Grambling
 Dorothy J. Evans – Ruston
 Starline B. Hill – West Monroe
 Woodrow W. Howse – Monroe
 Sarah R. Kimble – Jonesboro
 Etta Smith Moore – Bastrop
 Berry A. Petterson – Monroe
 Ralph Douglas Pierce – Farmerville
 Lois W. Porter – Ruston
 Catherine K. Vaughan – Monroe

District IX

Mary L. Butler – Minden
 Athalie W. Coleman – Haughton
 Willie B. Harper – Shreveport
 Virginia A. Howell – Shreveport
 Paxton W. Moreland, Jr. – Bossier City
 Alva C. Rast, Jr. - Shreveport
 Miriam D. Upchurch – Shreveport
 Betty C. Webb – Shreveport
 Linda M. Wess - Cullen

Out of State

Desmond W. Baldwin – Madison, AL
 Helen H. Bedford – Sacramento, CA
 James C. Bobbitt, Jr. – Missouri City, TX
 Ann G. Butler – San Antonio, TX
 Dorothy W. Demoss – Deer Park, TX
 Blanche D. Dillard – Kokomo, IN
 Mildred F. Harris – Tomball, TX
 Mrs. Clinton Head – Okeechobee, FL
 Catherine Hopkins – Roanoke, TX
 Mary Ingrid Jones – Richardson TX
 Joy D. Joseph – Houston, TX
 Harry L. Kirby, Jr. – Asheville, NC
 George Kneller – Destin, FL
 Alice P. Lemieux – Chesterfield, MO
 J. J. Lindley – Natchez, MS
 Rebecca Lineberger – Greenville, SC
 Anne M. Merrick – Bowie, MD
 Francine Merritt – Brownwood, TX
 Wanda K. Outlaw – Chandler, AZ
 Bobby Pearson – Chicago, IL
 Rita Pennison – Houston, TX
 Helen D. Perry – West Covina, CA
 Myrtle M. Pitrie – Houston, TX
 Oliver L. Poole, Sr. – Gloster, MS
 Joseph F. Rankin – Tazewell, TN
 Roy Edward Stedman – Mystic, CT
 Willie E. Tarbutton – Houston, TX
 Juanita F. Thibodeaux – Ingleswood, CA
 Patricia A. Vaughn – Tallahassee, FL
 Willie B. Webber – Orangeburg, SC
 Aileen H. Wintle – Dallas, TX
 Wilma B. Wright – Jackson, MS

L.R.T.A. NEWSLETTER

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

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

Return Service Requested**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 FALL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2009 Fall Meeting in order to expedite registration in Lafayette. To make a reservation for the pre-convention dinner on Monday, October 19, and/or for the convention banquet on Tuesday, October 20, 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 Monday night Pre-Convention Dinner (\$26 per person) = \$ _____
 Entrée choice (please choose one of the following)

____ Grilled Catfish topped with Crawfish Etouffee, or

____ Roasted Pork Tenderloin

____ Number of tickets for Tuesday night Convention Banquet (\$24 per person) = \$ _____
 (Seafood-Stuffed Chicken Breast)

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Note: Pre-registration/dinner reservations must be received in the LRTA office by **October 9, 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 WILL BE GIVEN for cancellations after October 15.** Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.