



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

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www.LRTA.net

Fall Meeting in Monroe: “Teachers Have Class!”

Plans are being finalized for the 2010 Fall Meeting in Monroe, with the theme “Teachers Have Class!” The meeting is being jointly hosted by LRTA Districts IX and X. Dorothy Brown and Randy Moore, respectively, presidents of those districts, invite all of you to attend. Meeting dates are October 25, 26 and 27. Sessions will be held at the Holiday Inn, 1051 Hwy. 165 Bypass. A special room rate of \$70, plus tax, per night is being offered for reservations made by October 10. To reserve

a hotel room, call the hotel directly at (318) 387-5100 and ask for the special LRTA rate.

The Fall Meeting promises a lineup of speakers and presenters who will entertain, inform and inspire participants who attend. You’ll hear a legislative update from local legislators who sit on the House and Senate Retirement Committees, as well as a presentation from the President of the Louisiana Association of Educators. Displays

featuring Name of Fame Honorees from Districts I and XI will be set up in the exhibit area during the meeting. Also, these two individuals will be presented with Name of Fame certificates and medals at the convention banquet on Tuesday. See page 3 for a full schedule of events.

To expedite meeting registration, please use the pre-registration form on page 8 of this newsletter.

Membership Update

The LRTA membership committee had a busy summer. Plans were made at a recent committee meeting to launch a membership recruitment campaign. A pilot program was planned for LRTA District IV, and district president Jerry Boudreaux called his key district leaders in for a brainstorming session.

Another component of the membership campaign was a third member-

ship appeal letter that was sent to all non-member retirees the beginning of September. Traditionally, two membership appeal letters are sent during the membership year. The first mailing is made in January to all retirees, urging renewal for members and inviting non-members to join LRTA. In early July a second appeal is made to non-members and former members who have not renewed. The September ap-

peal has brought great results thus far.

This year’s Fall Meeting will include a Membership Roundtable session. Membership recruitment materials, resources, and information about the pilot program developed in District IV will be provided. Fall Meeting attendees are encouraged to attend and participate.

Membership chairs and committee members in the districts and units are

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Membership Roundtable at Fall Meeting

LRTA will hold a membership roundtable session at the Fall Meeting in Monroe. The session will be held on Tuesday, October 26 at 3:00 p.m. at the Monroe Holiday Inn. Discussion will include details of the membership recruitment pilot program conducted in District IV, as well as recruitment ideas, strategies and resources available from LRTA. All Fall Meeting attendees are invited to participate.

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From the Desk of the President



Dr. James A. Taylor

These are “the best of times and the worst of times.” Whether we experience the best or the worst depends, in large part, upon our own actions. Never have the assets of TRSL been under such massive attack. Yet, as president of your association dedi-

icated to “Making Retirement Years Great!”, I will be talking about choices we must make to ensure that our retirement years are “the best of times.”

Let’s all make the choice to be present at the LRTA Fall Meeting, October 25-27, in Monroe. The presidents of the host districts, Mr. Randy Moore and Mrs. Dorothy Brown, together with Dr. Lonnie Dunn, State Second Vice-President, have been working with the Program Committee and the LRTA staff to make the program meaningful and exciting. You can contribute by bringing a group from your home town and making this a *mini-vacation* for renewal and revival of enthusiasm. A massive turnout is required to impress upon

guest legislators the wisdom of listening to and acting in our best interests.

Your leadership statewide will be working together in a “Leadership Training Workshop” on November 16 to enable them to provide vision, commitment and action. We have all dedicated ourselves to making your organization both effective and efficient in protecting your financial and social interests. Your support of your district leaders in this endeavor is needed and appreciated.

Our job as leaders is to organize and focus all our members’ efforts to protect and enhance benefits on a consistent, ongoing basis. We will only be as strong as your support for the organization. Many of you have really “stepped up to the plate” by supporting us during the last legislative session. We need the remaining other two-thirds of the recipients of TRSL checks to join us. We must insist that each representative and senator consider our interests to be a prime obligation of his/her office. Your compelling invitation to other retirees to become active in LRTA – and, thus, to be politically active on our and their behalf – is crucial. We can make these the “best of times” only through active membership in LRTA of all TRSL members. TRSL

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Executive Director’s Report



Graig A. Luscombe

During the month of August, I had the opportunity to attend some very important meetings. The first was the annual meeting of the Association of State Retired Teacher Executives (ASRTE), the association of all my counterparts in other

states. The program included many speakers who provided tips on making membership in retired educator associations more attractive, especially for new retirees who are interested in their well-being in their retirement years. Ms. Megan Hookey, Vice President of the National Retired Teachers Association, was on hand to update the attendees on research projects recently conducted by AARP/NRTA and the National Institute on Retirement Security.

The agenda also included a roundtable discussion of recent events in other states. The directors all had an opportunity to share activities of their associations as well as to summarize recent legislation affecting retired educators. Public pension plans for educators are coming under attack all across the country. Many of the directors reported that the age for retirement eligibility had been increased, and in one state that eligible age went up to 67. Other directors reported that COLAs were reduced, and even eliminated for their retirees. Louisiana is not the only state experiencing changes in its defined benefit plan for educators.

I share this information to remind all of you that we need to continue to be diligent protectors of our retirement plan. There will be future attempts at changing the defined benefit structure, or to consolidate the retirement systems and their assets. Although it sometimes seems that individually we struggle to be heard, collectively we cannot be ignored.

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LRTA

Executive Board

President

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

Past President

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P. O. Box 530
Chalmette, LA 70044

First Vice-President

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209 Grafton Dr.
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District I President

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1207 Maple St.
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TRSL Board of Trustees

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631 Voorhies Dr.
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TRSL Board of Trustees

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Baton Rouge, LA 70815

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Bossier City, LA 71111

AARP State President

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

LASS – R President

Lloyd Dressel
18918 Beaujolais Ave.
Baton Rouge, LA 70817

2010 Fall Meeting – Tentative Schedule

Holiday Inn – Monroe
October 25/26/27, 2010

Monday, October 25, 2010

- 10:00 LRTA Foundation Board Meeting
- 1:00 Registration
- 1:30 LRTA Executive Board Meeting
- 6:30 Pre-Convention Dinner
- Entertainment:
Carroll High School Choir

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

- 8:00 Registration / Exhibits / Flu Shots
- 9:00 Opening Ceremonies
- 9:30 Welcome from Monroe City and
Ouachita Parish Superintendents
- 10:15 Door Prizes and Break
- 10:30 Legislative Update:
Representative Hollis Downs
Senator Robert W. Kostelka
- 11:30 LRTA Foundation Report
- 11:45 Door Prizes
- 12:00 Lunch on Your Own
- 2:00 Joyce Haynes, LAE President
- 2:45 Door Prizes
- 3:00 Membership Roundtable
- 6:30 Convention Banquet
- Entertainment:
Richard Hood, Guitarist
- Name of Fame Awards: Districts I & XI

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

- 8:00 Registration / Exhibits
- 9:00 Georgiann Potts, Cultural Historian
- 10:00 Recognitions
- 10:15 Break
- 10:45 Door Prizes
- 11:00 Maureen Westgard, TRSL Director
- 11:30 Tommy Teague,
Office of Group Benefits CEO
- 12:00 Recognitions/Acknowledgements/
Announcements
- Door Prizes and Adjournment

Leadership Training Workshop to be Held

LRTA will hold a one-day leadership training workshop on November 16 in Baton Rouge to give training and support to members who may be interested in pursuing leadership positions in the Association. District Presidents will be contacted soon with details.

Executive Director's Report

Continued from page 2

The other meetings I attended were part of the national conference of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE). The thrust of all of the offerings on the agenda at this conference was centered on the general topic of how associations can improve operations to better serve their memberships. LRTA continues to strive to reach out for new members, and to provide the service that is expected from those who make the conscious decision to join the association. We look forward to hearing from you about how we can improve our services, and we hope that you will join the LRTA E-mail club in order to receive the latest information provided to our membership on issues affecting you as a retired educator. It is easy to join. Just follow the directions in the box provided below.

LRTA 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@lta.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. This was a valuable tool for keeping members informed of the actions being taken by the Louisiana legislature last session. Consider joining, and stay informed.

TRSL Update

1-877-275-8775

Direct Deposit Reminder!

As part of the state's Going Green Initiative, TRSL is making changes to the monthly mailing of direct deposit payment stubs in an effort to conserve paper and reduce mailing costs.

Beginning July 1, 2010, direct deposit payment stubs will be mailed only when one of the following occurs:

- Establishment of direct deposit
- Changes in net pay
- Every December

This change will save TRSL \$100,000 each year.

TRSL Board Announces Retiree Run-Off Election Results

At its September meeting, the Board of Trustees for the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) announced results of the run-off election for a trustee to represent retired members.

Retiree representative William C. "Bill" Baker, Ed. D., (Baton Rouge) was re-elected to his seat on the Board with 60.4 percent of the vote. Nancy L. Quigley of Bossier City received 39.6 percent of the vote.

Before his retirement in 1988, Baker worked with the Louisiana Association of Educators for 22 years. He is also a former classroom teacher and newspaper reporter. Baker was first elected to the TRSL Board in 1992, and begins his new four-year term in January 2011.

"I would like to thank the retired members of TRSL for their continued confidence in me," Baker said. "In keeping with my fiduciary duties, I will continue to act in the best interest of the entire system especially as efforts increase across the country to dismantle traditional public pension systems like ours."

The TRSL Board meets monthly to monitor investment performance, and review investment manager portfolios and System operations. The board's sole purpose is to safeguard and manage the assets TRSL holds in trust to provide retirement income for System members.

For more information about TRSL, please visit www.trsl.org.

Act 921: New Return-to-Work Provisions Affect TRSL

If you have considered returning to work after retirement, you need to be aware of changes to provisions of the return-to-work laws governing TRSL retirees. As of July 1, 2010, TRSL retirees who return to work in a TRSL-covered position will be categorized as either "retired teachers" or "retired members." Payment of retirement contributions and receipt of retirement benefits are determined by the category to which the return-to-work retiree belongs.

Re-Hired Retired Teachers

Re-employed "retired teachers" will have their TRSL benefits suspended during the 12-month period immediately following the effective date of retirement or the duration of such active service, whichever occurs first. Employee and employer contributions are also required on compensation received as a re-employed "retired teacher."

The new law provides the following criteria that determine whether a return-to-work retiree is a "retired teacher."

A "retired teacher" is...

A retiree who has returned to active service on or before June 30, 2010 (even if it was for one day several years ago), or

A retiree who returns to active service (full or part time) as a K-12 "classroom teacher" in a declared critical shortage area, or

A retiree who returns to active service as a full-time certified speech therapist, speech pathologist, or audiologist whose position of employment requires a valid Louisiana ancillary certificate approved and issued by the Louisiana Department of Education in a school district where a shortage exists in those positions.

What is a K-12 classroom teacher?

A K-12 classroom teacher is any employee (1) whose position of employment requires a Louisiana teaching certificate, and (2) who performs professional activities of instructing pupils in courses in classroom situations for which daily attendance figures are kept.

What is a critical shortage area?

Before a "retired teacher" can be rehired, a critical shortage area must be declared. A critical shortage area is defined as any subject area where a shortage of certified teachers exists. Employers must take the following actions to declare a critical shortage:

For full-time K-12 classroom teachers:

The employer must advertise on two separate occasions in the official journal notice that a shortage of certified teachers exists in the positions sought to be filled.

Certified applicants who are not retirees must be hired before a certified "retired teacher" unless there are fewer than three certified applicants.

The superintendent and personnel director must certify to the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and TRSL that a shortage of certified teachers exists for the subject area.

For part-time K-12 classroom teachers:

The superintendent and personnel director must certify to BESE and TRSL that a shortage of certified teachers exists. Advertising is not required.

For certified speech therapists, speech pathologists, or audiologists:

The school board must certify to BESE and TRSL that a shortage of full-time speech therapists, speech pathologists, or audiologists exists in the school district when they re-employ a TRSL "retired teacher" in any of these positions.

NOTE: Once a "retired teacher" is rehired in a critical shortage area, he or she can remain continuously employed for the duration of the declared critical shortage.

Re-Hired Retired Members

Re-employed "retired members" will have their TRSL benefits suspended for the duration of their re-employment, and no employee or employer contributions will be required. "Retired members" are individuals who do not meet the definition of a "retired teacher" as previously described. "Retired members" include, but are not limited to, administrators, secretaries, and higher education and vocational school employees, etc.

Need more information?

For more information about the new return-to-work provisions, please contact us at 225-925-6446 or 1-877-275-8775. Ask for Amber Coates at ext. 6556 or Jackie Fisher at ext. 3663.

An Inside Look – Office of Group Benefits

1-800-272-8451

OGB Medicare Advantage Fall Enrollment meetings will be held November 1 through November 12. A list of meetings will be mailed to all retirees who are eligible to enroll in an OGB Medicare Advantage Plan for the 2011 plan year. OGB Medicare Advantage enrollment dates are November 1 through December 31, and the plans will become effective January 1, 2011. Enrollment is open to any retired OGB plan member and covered spouse, if applicable, who both have Medicare Part A and Part B coverage.

OGB is offering five Medicare Advantage plans for the 2011 plan year: an HMO plan administered by Humana, an HMO-POS plan administered by Peoples Health, an HMO-POS plan administered by Vantage, a PPO plan administered by Humana and a PPO plan Administered by UnitedHealthcare.

If you are now enrolled in an OGB Medicare Advantage plan, you can...

- Stay in your current plan (unless you are currently enrolled in a PFFS health plan); or
- Transfer to a different OGB Medicare Advantage plan or an OGB standard plan – the PPO plan (administered by OGB), the HMO plan (administered by Blue Cross) or the Medical Home HMO plan (administered by Vantage).

If you did not join an OGB Medicare Advantage plan in 2009, and you and your covered spouse, if applicable, both have Medicare Parts A and B, you can...

- Join one of the five OGB Medicare Advantage plans; or
- Stay in your current OGB standard plan.

You **cannot** transfer from one OGB standard plan to another during OGB Medicare Advantage Fall Enrollment. Such changes must be made during Annual Enrollment in April.

As the result of recently enacted federal health care legislation, Medicare Advantage private fee-for-service (PFFS) health plans will no longer be offered after December 31, 2010.

This means retired employees who are now enrolled in either the Humana Medicare Advantage PFFS health plan or the Secure Horizons Medicare Advantage PFFS health plan through the Office of Group Benefits (OGB) must choose another health plan during this year's Medicare Advantage Fall Enrollment.

You can choose one of OGB's standard health plans – the PPO plan (administered by OGB), the HMO plan (administered by Blue Cross) or the Medical Home HMO plan (administered by Vantage) – or one of OGB's five Medicare Advantage health plans listed above.

Please note that some Medicare Advantage plans are limited to certain geographical regions of Louisiana.

Current participants in OGB's Medicare Advantage PFFS health plans who do not choose a new plan during Medicare Advantage Annual Enrollment will automatically be placed in the standard PPO health plan (administered by OGB) beginning January 1, 2011.

To enroll, you must complete an OGB Medicare Advantage enrollment form, sign it and mail it to the OGB Eligibility Section, P.O. Box 66678, Baton Rouge, LA 70896. OGB must receive all forms no later than December 31, 2010. However, if you want to make sure that your deductions are correct for January 2011, OGB must have your completed and signed form no later than November 30, 2010. All plan changes will take effect January 1, 2011.

If you have questions, call OGB Customer Service at 1-800-272-8451 (toll-free) or 225-925-6625 in the Baton Rouge calling area. I encourage you to attend a Medicare Advantage Fall Enrollment meeting in your area to learn more about your OGB health plan options for 2011.

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

LRTA Mourns Louis L. Dill, Jr.

Former LRTA President and Executive Board member Louis L. Dill, Jr. passed away on August 5, 2010. Mr. Dill served as President of LRTA from 1996 to 1998, and was honored as the District II Name of Fame recipient in 2003. He also served as chair of the LRTA Elections committee for many years.

Mr. Dill retired from the Lafourche Parish School System with 37 years of service. After his retirement, he was an active volunteer in the local, district and state retired teachers associations, as well as many church and civic organizations in his community.

The Executive Board, the membership and the staff extend sincere condolences to Mary Ann Dill, their children, and other family members. His leadership and service were assets to LRTA.

From the Desk of the President

Continued from page 2

members must realize that if they are not active in managing their retirement affairs, others will manage them for us (and not necessarily for our mutual benefit).

We active members of LRTA must accept the motto "Each one reach TWO!" The organization will then be vibrant and supportive at the local, district and state levels. Only then can we have no fear about our benefits and focus on truly "Making retirement years great!"

*Dr. James A. Taylor
President*

In Memoriam

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

Deceased Retired Teachers July 13, 2010 through September 9, 2010

District I

Patricia Ann Haynes – New Orleans
Clyde R. Kerr, Jr. – New Orleans
Dolores Perrien – New Orleans
Michael R. Saizan – New Orleans
Marian D. Schmitt – New Orleans
Yvonne G. Schmitt – New Orleans
Fay S. Wallace – New Orleans
James B. Winder, Jr. – New Orleans

District II

Marie L. B. Aspelund – Metairie
Gladys W. Bazile – Kenner
Gerald J. Bergeron – Houma
Marie B. Brown – Harvey
John Danos – Cut Off
Louis L. Dill, Jr. – Thibodaux
Don L. Gary – Metairie
Sadie J. Gray – Harvey
Ida Hendler – Harahan
Gerard A. Heslin – Harahan
Robert J. Lorio – Hahnville
Ann H. Macomber – Metairie
Eugene F. Masingill – Metairie
Joandell M. Robinson – Houma
Ronald G. Rodrigue – Thibodaux
Carolyn S. Stephens – Gretna
Donald Stewart – Metairie
Elia M. Waguespack – Thibodaux
Dan Washington, Jr. – Destrehan
Alice L. Zernott – Luling

District III

John Brechtel – Hammond
Denise Lynn Comish – Walker
Johnny Cyrus – Denham Springs
Albert Fran Hezeau, Jr. – Slidell
Lorah D. Jackson – Hammond
George L. Lezu – Hammond
Mary June N. Pankow – Slidell

District IV

Donald R. Arnold – Baton Rouge
Delta L. Campo – Baton Rouge
Katherine K. Cockrell – Baton Rouge
Kathleen S. Craig – Baton Rouge
Jewel Fay Daniels – Gonzales
Mary M. Eggart – Baton Rouge
Lola B. Hays – Baton Rouge
Leo G. Jordan – Baton Rouge
Enrique Laluz – Baton Rouge
Eddie R. Lathon – Zachary
Josephine Leonard – Baton Rouge
Maggie W. Locks – Baton Rouge
Morice Mayeux – Gonzales
Gloria J. Miller – Baton Rouge
Norwood H. Rector – Baton Rouge
Robert S. Reich – Baton Rouge

Gerald E. Risinger – Baton Rouge
Emma C. Shamlin – Baton Rouge
George J. Simoneaux – Baton Rouge
Joyce M. Swanson – Baton Rouge
Mary Morris Wall – Baton Rouge
Jacqueline M. Ward – Baton Rouge
Emma H. White – Baton Rouge
Lillian Y. Wynn – Baton Rouge

District V

Brenda B. Broussard – New Iberia
Mary E. Cefalu – Morgan City
Phyllis B. Chatman – Broussard
Melba K. Debailon – Lafayette
Ralph Fase – Broussard
Georgeana T. Fields – Patterson
Gertrude V. Henke – Lafayette
Gertha M. Holmes – Ville Platte
Vince A. Madona – Lafayette
Ernestine D. Moss – Lafayette
Shirley A. Sam – Lafayette

District VI

Sybil L. Champagne – Westlake
Carrie L. Cramer – Welsh
Pinkie Farris – DeQuincy
Quenola R. Hanks – Lake Charles
Bobbie M. Harris – DeRidder
Jay C. Hollingsworth – Lake Charles
Jeannette B. Jackson – Jennings
Robert C. Jennings – Lake Charles
Virginia Paul Key – Lake Charles
John L. Lyons, Jr. – Westlake
Dorothy L. Moore – Lake Charles
Paul J. Moses – Lake Charles
Don T. Obannon – Oakdale
Clara Ogea – Lake Charles
Lionel Thibodeaux – Lake Charles
Barbara A. Travis – DeRidder

District VII

Cathy L. Ambler – Rosepine
Elizabeth W. Gunn – Montgomery
Wanda J. Hoffpauir – Leesville
Thelma H. Miller – Alexandria

District VIII

Margaret W. Ackel – Natchitoches
Brian H. Hines – Atlanta
Rufus U. Johnson – Mansfield
Chris G. Noles – Mansfield
Dolly Mae Price – Natchitoches

District IX

Aller B. Norwood – Rayville

District X

Sherry L. Bell – Monroe
Clifton W. Burns – Grayson
David V. Doggett – Grambling

Norman R. Golson – West Monroe
Dorothy W. Impson – West Monroe
Daisy S. Martin – Bastrop
Armed M. Mathews – Jonesboro
Earleene D. Nolan – Mer Rouge
Harry Rushing – Monroe
Beverly Thomas – West Monroe
Karen O. Watkins – Monroe
Frances L. Young – Ruston

District XI

Ary D. Bailey – Minden
Ann Brock – Bossier City
Burlene Coleman – Benton
Helen B. Dear – Shreveport
William P. Dews, Sr. – Bossier City
Billy P. Gray – Sibley
Dorothy H. Harris – Sibley
Helen E. Hortman – Minden
Driskill B. Horton, Jr. – Shreveport
Mildred Q. Johnson – Minden
Jeanette H. Morrison – Haughton
Julie A. Mowad – Shreveport
Catherine Sansalone – Shreveport
Eldridge John Turner – Shreveport
Pinkie E. Wade – Bossier City
John J. Ward – Bossier City
Herbert D. Webb – Shreveport

Out of State

James L. Babin – Alexandria, VA
Charlsie Barabin – Missouri City, TX
Melba Bray – The Villages, FL
Sharman S. Burgess – Canton, GA
Clayton D. Callihan – West Palm Beach, FL
Mary Lou Clanton – Houston, TX
Edith M. Conkerton – Houston, TX
Claire Dantoni – Carriere, MS
Therell P. Darensbourg –
Colorado Springs, CO
Robert L. Durr – Henderson, TX
Beulah S. Dwyer – Spring, TX
James R. Felton – Houston, TX
Jacqueline B. Gordon – Powell, OH
George H. Graham, Jr. – Biloxi, MS
Kathleen S. Green – Waco, TX
David B. Greenberg – Cincinnati, OH
Lillian J. Hall – Mary Esther, FL
Sally Maria Hardy – Raleigh, NC
Raynetta S. Haydel – Pearland, TX
Lucille Headen – Birmingham, AL
Joan B. Henderson – Brunswick, OH
Grace M. Y. C. Hu – Laguna Woods, CA
Margie Thomas Hudson – Marietta, GA
David B. Johnson – Asheville, NC
Elma P. Johnson – Dallas, TX
Marjorie A. Keigley – Humble, TX

In Memoriam (continued)

Mae Belle F. Lindsey – Pasadena, TX
 Sarah Mack – Burleson, TX
 Eva F. Martin – Katy, TX
 Christine B. Maxie – Dallas, GA
 Joyce A. Otis – N. Las Vegas, NV
 Patricia B. Rawls – Mountain Home, AR
 Barbara H. Rutledge – Carrollton, TX
 Eunice M. Sasser – Humble, TX
 Inez A. Smith – Austin, TX
 Loura Temple – San Antonio, TX
 Anita G. Thomas – Woodbridge, VA
 Jerald W. Warrick – Vicksburg, MS
 Bernice M. West – Texarkana, TX
 Luther H. Williams – Little Rock, AR
 David G. Yerton – Hollister, MO

Foundation Donations

The following donations to the LRTA Foundation have been received:

Mrs. Barbara M. LeBlanc –
 In memory of Morice Mayeux, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Powell –
 In memory of Louis L. Dill, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. James Stafford –
 In memory of Sam E. Dale

Dr. James A. Taylor –
 In memory of Louis L. Dill, Jr.,
 Robert Lorio and Dan Washington, Jr.

St. Landry RTA -
 In memory of all deceased members
 of St. Landry Parish RTA

Anonymous donation in memory of
 all deceased retired teachers.

Membership Update (continued)

working diligently to recruit LRTA members. Please continue to give them your support in their efforts to make LRTA a stronger, more viable organization. Updated membership numbers will be provided by parish for each district at the meeting. Come to hear my report on how successful you have been!

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

Share Your Program Ideas

We all know that local unit meetings are the life-blood of LRTA and are most valuable to communicate with all of our retired educators throughout the organization. Our goal is to build LRTA into a force with which to reckon, so we need to use every avenue we have to attract retired educators, inform them, and empower them to be a forceful body of influence. Effective/interesting local unit meetings are essential to spread the platform that we embrace for LRTA and also to provide information to retirees that is relevant to their lives in the here and now.

In an effort to share successful unit meeting ideas with other units, we are going to request that each local unit review past meetings that they have held, decide the best two or three in terms of effective/interesting meetings, and submit them in writing to me at the LRTA office. Send them to the attention of Program Committee, or Lonnie Dunn.

After they are received, they will be compiled into a presentable format and copies sent to each local unit. This will allow each local unit to not only learn what other units are doing, but also to glean ideas for meetings that may work for their individual local unit. Please give this your immediate attention and follow through ASAP.

*Dr. Lonnie E. Dunn
 Second Vice-President
 State Program Chair*

AARP Honors Maria George

LRTA District I President Maria Sly George has been selected by AARP to receive Louisiana's 2010 AARP Andrus Award for Community Service, the Association's most prestigious and visible volunteer award for community service. This award symbolizes an individual's power and ability to make a difference in the lives of others.

AARP Louisiana selected Mrs. George for her remarkable service and for the impact she's had on the lives of others and on her community. Mrs. George, a resident of New Orleans for 30 years, is a tireless advocate for strengthen-

ing education. Whether Mrs. George is mentoring elementary school children, driving seniors to the doctor or working at the AARP New Orleans Information Center, she continually gives her time and talents to the community she dearly loves.

LRTA Executive Director Graig Luscombe attended the award ceremony and recognized Mrs. George's contributions to LRTA. She currently serves as the LRTA District I President. Congratulations to Mrs. Maria Sly George for this well-deserved honor.

Foundation Report

As plans and preparations are being made for the Fall Meeting in Monroe, the LRTA Foundation is gearing up for changes and strategies for the future. RTA Units, LRTA Districts and individuals continue to support the Foundation by sending donations in memory or honor of individuals. On behalf of the Foundation Board members, appreciation is extended for the ongoing generous support of so many.

The Fall Meeting giveaway will be available again this October. A nice modern color television, three-in-one cooker, atomic clock, school house birdhouse and other items will be forthcoming for the drawing. Members have been generous in buying the tickets for this Foundation fundraiser. As always, the Foundation members look forward to greeting you at the meeting in Monroe.

*Dr. Hugh C. Craft
 President, LRTA Foundation*

L.R.T.A. NEWSLETTER

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Membership Services Coordinator

OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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 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

2010 FALL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2010 Fall Meeting in order to expedite registration in Monroe. To make a reservation for the pre-convention dinner on Monday, October 25, and/or for the convention banquet on Tuesday, October 26, 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 (\$25 per person) = \$ _____
 (Beef Tenderloin)

____ Number of tickets for Tuesday night Convention Banquet (\$22 per person) = \$ _____
 (Chicken Marsala)

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Note: Pre-registration/dinner reservations must be received in the LRTA office by **October 16, 2010**. 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 22**. Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.