



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

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www.LRTA.net

2011 Regular Legislative Session Update

Provided below is a list of bills to be monitored by LRTA during the 2011 Regular Session.

This information is current through May 23, 2011.

House Bill No. 32 by Representative James R. "Jim" Fannin

This bill provided for the ancillary expenses of state government. In the section regarding the Office of Group Benefits found on page 5, lines 25-29 of the original version of the bill, there is language dealing with the transfer into the Overcollections Fund in the Department of the Treasury the proceeds generated as a result of the sale or other transaction by the Office of Group Benefits which has the effect of transforming its operations.

LRTA will oppose this language in the Ancillary Expenses bill. **The House Appropriations Committee, on May 23, 2011, eliminated the language dealing with the sale of OGB found on page 5 of the bill, and adopted an amendment which reinstated \$10 million for the salaries and related benefits of 149 positions at the Office of Group Benefits.**

House Bill No. 150 by Representative Hollis Downs

This bill would allow a retired educator who has at least 30 years of service credit in TRSL, who is at least 60 years of age, and

who has been retired at least 12 months to return to work as an adjunct professor at an institution of higher education, and continue to receive retirement benefits while working. Earnings may not exceed the uniform schedule of pay for the post-secondary institution for adjunct professors. If compensation does exceed the uniform pay schedule, the retirement benefit received by the retiree will be reduced by the amount of the excess earnings.

- This bill was amended in the House Retirement Committee meeting May 5, 2011. The committee amendments eliminated the age and service provisions, and would now allow retirees to return to work as adjunct professors and earn up to 25% of their retirement benefit. If compensation exceeds 25% of the benefit in any given fiscal year, the benefit shall be reduced by the excess earned.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Passed by the House Retirement Committee May 5, 2011. Passed by the full House on May 12, 2011.**

House Bill No. 151 by Representative Frank Hoffman

This bill will allow any retired member of TRSL who has been retired at least 12 months to return to work in a position covered by TRSL and earn up to 25% of their retirement benefit in any given fiscal year. If earnings exceed 25% of the benefit

in any fiscal year, the benefit shall be reduced by the excess earnings.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Deferred by the House Retirement Committee on May 5, 2011.**

House Bill No. 369 by Representative Gary Smith

This bill will allow any retired member of TRSL who has been retired for at least 12 months to return to work on a part-time basis in a TRSL covered position and continue to receive their retirement benefit while working.

- This bill was amended in the House Retirement Committee meeting May 5, 2011, and on the House floor. The amendments will allow a retiree to return to work on a part-time basis and continue receiving benefits while instructing adults in adult education or literacy programs administered through a K-12 public school. Retirees may earn up to 25% of their retirement benefit. Earnings exceeding 25% will be reduced from the retirement benefit.

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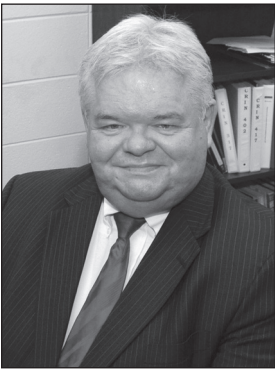
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Could This Be Your Last Newsletter?

Annual membership in LRTA runs from April 1 through March 31. This could be your last newsletter if your \$25 dues for 2011-2012 (or \$10 associate dues) have not been paid. If you are uncertain about your membership status, contact the LRTA office. If your annual membership has not been renewed, you will receive a reminder from LRTA in the next few weeks.

From the Desk of the President



Dr. James A. Taylor

The old Gershwin tune says, "Summertime, and the living is easy." I pray that each of you will use summer as a time when we all "take it easy" as much as we can. After all, we have earned the rest and relaxation associated with the summer vacation. We need

to use this time to renew our connections with our friends, our families, and, especially, our children and grand-children. Our purpose at LRTA is to support making your retirement years great.

For your LRTA leadership, however, relaxation will have to wait a bit. The Louisiana Legislature is in session. We are busy watching this "fiscal" session to try to ensure that impacts on our ben-

efits and insurance is minimized. It has become evident during this governor's term that he and his political allies clearly want to "privatize" everything they can, irrespective of higher costs to us and further burdens on our local school districts and universities.

In order for us to ensure that our future summers are "easy," we must look forward to actively participating in our state's fall elections. We must elect statewide officials and legislators who hold our interests high. We must let them know that labels have little meaning for us. Democrat versus Republican, conservative versus liberal, or any other labels must not dissuade us. We should support only candidates who are responsive to our interests. Will we find ourselves paying more for insurance so that a private company can make a profit on our insurance? Will our local school districts find themselves further burdened as the state shifts fiscal responsibility? Will employees

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Executive Director's Report



Graig A. Luscombe

The 2011 Regular Legislative Session is well underway. The Senate Retirement Committee and the Senate Insurance Committee have held hearings on the privatization/sale of the Office of Group Benefits.

The Office of Group Benefits issued a request for

proposals on May 6, 2011 to identify a company that has the capability of determining the value of all assets held by the Office of Group Benefits. Proposals are due back to OGB on June 6. A final determination by the commissioner of administration regarding the privatization/sale of OGB will not be made before a firm can be secured to assist in the valuation of the assets.

LRTA officers and staff have attended the legislative committee hearings as well as the meeting of the OGB Policy and Planning Board held May 4. We continue, on your behalf, to express the association's opposition to any attempt to sell

or privatize the health insurance plans offered by the Office of Group Benefits. On May 23, the House Appropriations Committee adopted amendments to House Bill No. 32 which eliminated language regarding the privatization/sale of OGB, and restored funding for the salaries and related benefits for 149 positions in the Office of Group Benefits.

I want to personally thank all of you who took time to contact members of the House Ways and Means Committee regarding House Bill No. 630, which would have eliminated 10% of your currently enjoyed state income tax exemption on your retirement benefit. The bill was deferred by the committee on May 16.

For information on all other legislation, I refer you to the listing of bills being monitored by LRTA during this session. Legislative actions taken through May 23 are incorporated in the comments. Those of you specifically interested in the retiree return-to-work issue should refer to the comments on House Bill Nos. 150, 151, 369, and 417. Senate Bill No. 10 regarding future provi-

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Legislative Update *(continued)*

LRTA supports this legislation. **Passed by the House Retirement Committee May 5, 2011. Passed by the full House on May 12, 2011.**

House Bill No. 384 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson and Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux

This bill is a constitutional amendment that would dedicate a minimum of 10% of any money designated in the official revenue forecast as nonrecurring to be applied to the unfunded accrued liabilities of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.

LRTA supports this legislation.

House Bill No. 386 by Representative Joel C. Robideaux

This bill allows a state retirement system to effectuate life insurance on its members and retirees when the beneficiary is the same retirement system. Any member of the retirement systems may make a written objection to the selected insurer ten (10) days after the policy is delivered to the retirement system, and the policy shall be voided for such member.

LRTA opposes this legislation.

House Bill No. 417 by Representative P. Page Cortez

This bill allows retired educators to return to work as a substitute teacher in a K through 12 classroom and continue receiving retirement benefits if they have been retired for at least twelve months, have 30 years of credited service in TRSL, and are at least age 60. If the period of reemployment exceeds 90 days in a fiscal year, then retirement benefits shall be reduced by the amount earned beyond 90 days of substitute teaching.

- This bill was amended in the House Retirement Committee meeting May 5, 2011, and on the House floor on May 16, 2011. The amendments eliminated the age and service provisions, and will allow retirees to return to work as substitute teachers and earn up to 25% of their retirement benefit. If compensation exceeds 25% of the benefit in any given fiscal year, the benefit shall be reduced by the excess earned.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Passed by the House Retirement Committee May 5, 2011. Passed by the full House on May 16, 2011.**

House Bill No. 422 by Representative Reed S. Henderson

This bill is a constitutional amendment which is a companion bill to House Bill No. 436. The bill removes the prohibition related to the imposition of an additional tax or license on gas, authorizes the levy of a tax, fee, permit, or license on natural gas transported in Louisiana, and creates the Fair Share Fund.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Deferred by the House Ways and Means Committee on May 23, 2011.**

House Bill No. 426 by Chuck Kleckley

This bill adds the commissioner of administration to the boards of trustees of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.

LRTA will monitor this legislation. **Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 5, 2011.**

Passed by the full House on May 16, 2011.

House Bill No. 435 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson and Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux

This bill dedicates a minimum of 10% of any of money designated in the official revenue forecast as nonrecurring to be applied to the unfunded accrued liabilities of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. This is the companion bill to House Bill No. 384.

LRTA supports this legislation.

House Bill No. 436 by Representative Reed S. Henderson

This bill levies a tax on the transportation of natural gas through pipelines in Louisiana and provides that revenues generated shall be deposited into the Fair Share Fund.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Deferred by the House Ways and Means Committee on May 23, 2011.**

House Bill No. 479 by Representative M. "Kirk" Talbot

This bill increases the employee contributions for members of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System by 3%.

LRTA will monitor this legislation. **Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 19, 2011.**

House Bill No. 495 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson and Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux

This bill provides that the state treasurer, beginning with the 2012-2013 FY, shall pay certain UAL amortization payments directly to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. The payments shall be deducted from monies appropriated to the employer for that employer's proportionate share of the total amortization payment. The bill further provides if an employer objects to the direct payments, then the employer will pay the rate without the applied reductions for direct payments.

LRTA supports this legislation.

House Bill No. 530 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This bill increases employee contributions for TRSL members in higher education in any fiscal year in which the employer contribution rate exceeds 23%. Rates shall be increased by 1.5% for the first \$50,000 in salary, and by 3% on any amount of salary earned over \$50,000. The increase in the employee contribution rate

From the Desk of the President(continued)

and retirees shoulder greater burdens while continually handing out tax breaks to corporations, primarily foreign, under the guise of creating jobs? Is creating a few low-paid, no benefit jobs in the private sector at the expense of the medium-wage public sector (including adequate numbers of highly-qualified teachers) the path to prosperity for Louisiana? No, all these “disaster capitalist” ideas are bad economics and worse public policy. We must know where each candidate for ANY state office stands on these crucial issues. It is your money they want to use to benefit others.

How can we have “easy” summers and great retirement years? We must get every retiree active politically. We

especially need to implore those who have retired in the last decade to step forward and become active in our local units and at regional levels. We need to make things great by creating active social activities and numerous local interest groups. We must have an organized local political action group which stays in e-mail contact with the state office and monitors each action of every senator and representative. This may require some cooperation with neighboring units, but social opportunities will arise therefrom.

You elected me to lead in protecting and enhancing your retirement benefits. I need you to help me and to stand with me if this goal is to be accomplished. Please make sure every retiree you know has sent his dues de-

duction card to the LRTA office. Please become active in your local organization and volunteer to serve in the local unit. Especially important is service on the local committee to contact legislators on an ongoing basis. I especially want any of you who taught these persons to volunteer.

When this legislative session ends, your leadership will begin preparations for the role we must play in the fall elections. We must put forth our best efforts to identify and support candidates who value our interests more than of those of the well-funded interest groups currently holding sway.

I wish each of you relaxing summer days. Help us to ensure that we will have them every year.

LRTA Foundation Board Meets in Alexandria

The LRTA Foundation Board of Directors met on April 26, 2011 in conjunction with the LRTA Spring Meeting. Mr. Raymond Powell, Mrs. Evelyn Powell, and Mr. James Stewart were elected to serve additional three-year terms on the board of directors. Other items were also addressed, including the audit of the foundation financial records.

Thanks to all those who purchased giveaway prize tickets at the Spring Meeting, and to those who donated prizes for the drawing. The gardening basket, donated by James & Pat Stewart, was won by Ann Chaudoin. The CD player/radio, donated by LRTA, was won by Charles Nero. The waffle maker, donated by Hugh & Carolon Craft, was won by Walter Lee. The \$50.00 cash, donated by Raymond & Evelyn Powell, was won by Benjamin Sandifer. The flat screen TV, donated by Gulf Coast Bank, was won by Jerry Boudreaux.

This year, the Foundation board of

directors honored Dr. William Smith as the LRTA Foundation Leadership Award winner. Dr. Smith is a member of LRTA District X, and the Ouachita RTA. He was recognized for his outstanding leadership at the local, district and state levels.

On behalf of the LRTA Foundation board of directors, I extend appreciation to all of you who made donations to the Foundation throughout the year. We are all grateful to you for your ongoing support.

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

LRTA Mourns the Death of Raymond Christensen

Raymond Christensen, former District President and LRTA Executive Board member, passed away in Coppell, TX on April 13. Mr. Christensen served as president of LRTA District VIII from 2008 to 2010. He also served as president of the Natchitoches Parish Retired Teachers Association for many years.

The LRTA Board, staff and membership extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Mr. Raymond Christensen.

Executive Director's Report (continued)

sion of Permanent Benefit Increases (formerly referred to as COLAs) was passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 23.

To stay informed, you can also refer to our legislative updates issued each week and posted on the LRTA website, www.lrta.net. You can also join our e-mail club by sending an e-mail to info@lrta.net. Put e-mail club in the subject line, and we will add you to the list of individuals who receive our updates via e-mail.

I wish you, your family and friends an enjoyable summer.

Legislative Update (continued)

shall be used to reduce the portion of the employer contribution rate paid by state general funds. The bill also proposes to reduce the amount of salary increases to be computed in determining final average compensation from 15% to 5%. The effective date of this legislation is July 1, 2011.

LRTA opposes this legislation.

House Bill No. 630 by Representative Harold L. Ritchie

This bill would require retirees to pay Louisiana state income taxes on 10% of their retirement benefit for the period of July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2014. Currently, all benefits are exempt from state income taxes. Revenues generated shall be deposited into the Temporary Assistance for Education Fund.

LRTA opposes this legislation. **Deferred by the House Ways and Means Committee on May 16, 2011.**

House Concurrent Resolution No. 93 by Representative Frank Hoffman

This resolution memorializes the U.S. Congress to review and consider eliminating the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions.

LRTA supports this resolution. **Passed the full House on May 12, 2011. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 23, 2011.**

House Concurrent Resolution No. 94 by Representative Gary Smith

This resolution memorializes the U.S. Congress to review and consider eliminating the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Social Security benefit reductions.

LRTA supports this resolution. **Passed the full House on May 12, 2011. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 23, 2011.**

Senate Bill No. 6 by Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux

This bill requires a TRSL employing agency to pay its proportionate share of the system's

unfunded accrued liability if it terminates participation in the retirement system.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 23, 2011.**

Senate Bill No. 10 by Senator B. L. "Buddy" Shaw

This bill eliminates certain provisions of Act 497 of 2009 to allow for the deposit of 50% of excess interest earnings into the Employee Experience Account, to provide for the payment of permanent benefit increases to eligible retirees age 55 and older, and to provide for the distribution of funds from the Employee Experience Account before TRSL reaches 80% of full funding. The bill eliminates the "hurdles" that were incorporated into Act 497.

LRTA supports this legislation. **Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 23, 2011.**

Senate Bill No. 12 by Senator D. A. "Butch" Gautreaux and Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This bill creates a second tier of benefits for all public employee retirement systems. Employee contributions for Tier 2 participants increase by 0.5%. Requirements to be met for an unreduced retirement benefit are 5 years of service at age 65. An actuarially reduced benefit is available to members in Tier 2 with 25 years of service at any age. Benefits will be determined using a 60-month final average compensation calculation. Enrollment of employees in Tier 2 is at the option of the employer. Employers participating in plans whose plan year begins on July 1 must notify employees by the previous December 31. Benefit calculations of employees who have accrued service in Tier I and in Tier 2 shall be governed by current reciprocal recognition of service laws.

LRTA opposes this legislation. **Deferred by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 16, 2011.**

2010 Membership Awards

Congratulations are in order for the LRTA districts and local units who received membership awards at the LRTA Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 27. These awards were:

New Member Awards:

Allen Parish RTA –

Willie Mae Twiner, President

Oakdale RTA –

Alma Johnson, President

Baton Rouge Area RTA –

Alice Irving, President

Educators of Yesteryear RTA –

Harry Johnson, President

LSU Faculty & Staff Retiree Club –

Bill Cochran, President

Total Member Awards:

NORTA – Maria George, President

NORTA, Inc. – Audrey Ezzo, President

Assumption RTA –

Nellie Landry, President

Cornerstone Award:

District X RTA –

Randy Moore, President

Associate Member Awards:

Baton Rouge Area RTA –

Alice Irving, President

Educators of Yesteryear RTA –

Harry Johnson, President

LSU Faculty & Staff Retiree Club –

Bill Cochran, President

District IV RTA –

Jerry Boudreaux, President

Congratulations to everyone in the award winning units and districts. We all extend our heartfelt thanks to the officers and leaders in each of the units and districts for planning and conducting programs that attracted and retained members.

Membership recruitment must be an ongoing effort by everyone in order to maintain an active and effective LRTA. Please continue your efforts to recruit and retain LRTA members.

In Memoriam

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

Deceased Retired Teachers March 8, 2011 through May 15, 2011

District I

Jules M. Albrecht – New Orleans
Marion C. Arnoneit – St. Bernard
Joseph A. Bates – New Orleans
Elizabeth Daniels-Kennedy – New Orleans
Elizabeth L. Estorge – New Orleans
Lynn J. Lewis – New Orleans
Charles J. Ross – New Orleans
Lloyd L. Sensat, Jr. – New Orleans
John B. Williams – New Orleans

District II

Howard C. Acosta – Napoleonville
Marcelle M. Babin – Metairie
Helen M. Badie – Destrehan
Thelma L. Bankston – Luling
Linda M. Bates – Kenner
John M. Berthelot, Jr. – Metairie
Rose M. Caballero – Houma
Tulette B. Carrier – Houma
Corine S. Davis – Thibodaux
Clara Ann Dion – Houma
Ida M. Foster – Kenner
Camille F. Hatty – Lafitte
Joseph C. LeBlanc – Napoleonville
Margery C. Maggiore – Kenner
Charles M. Miller, Jr. – Marrero
Joyce L. Neil – Houma
Phyllis Touns Putman – Gretna
Elodie Rome – Vacherie
Caroline C. Saba – Harvey
David J. Seibert, Jr. – Harvey
Jacquelyn A. Simonds – Metairie
Rita K. Stein – Metairie
Anthony Sylvester – Edgard
Brenda Weber – Larose
Rose G. Williams – Marrero

District III

Lida W. Abernathy – Springfield
Dorothy P. Adams – Lacombe
Joann Bennett – Amite
Roy Bernard – Ponchatoula
Earle R. Brown – Franklinton
Ginger L. Francois – Amite
Dinah I. Hamilton – Slidell
Aldor Rogers Jacobs – Mandeville
Betty C. Jenkins – Franklinton
Faye C. Jenkins – Denham Springs
Maurice C. Morrisette – Walker
Patricia A. Morrow – Robert
Emma P. Moses – Angie
Tommie Mayhall Painter – Hammond
Virginia C. Phillips – Denham Springs
Doris Pigott – Loranger
Audrey G. Purvis – Bush
Charlotte H. Redmond – Ponchatoula
Anna G. Slavich – Slidell
Nell H. Smith – Denham Springs
Rebecca A. Stewart – Slidell
Lionel J. Washington – Slidell
Harold J. West – Hammond
Fochia V. Wilson – Kentwood

District IV

Ralph Ainsworth – Baton Rouge
Marion Bridges – Baton Rouge
Eva S. Brooks – Baton Rouge

Mamie M. Burrell – Baton Rouge
Arnold G. Chauvin – Port Allen
Elaine Covington – Zachary
Alice Cushenberry – Gonzales
Nancy S. Davis – Baton Rouge
Margaret M. Durboraw – Baton Rouge
Edna M. Fontenberry – Baton Rouge
Kuniko Fujisaki – Baton Rouge
Neitha J. Grimes – Port Allen
Kathleen M. Hebert – Baton Rouge
Florence Judson – Baton Rouge
Eva B. Landry – Rosedale
Prentiss J. Partin – Zachary
Lynn L. Pesson – Baton Rouge
Leila B. Pole – Baton Rouge
Lawrence Lee Seymour – Plaquemine
Leo H. Shelby – Ethel
Carlys Sibille – Addis
Shirley Simms – Gonzales
Joyce S. Soule – Darrow
Jesse Spears – Baton Rouge
Charles P. Speeg – Slaughter
Henry L. Thurman – Baton Rouge
Aline N. Vance – Geismar

District V

Curtis L. Barber – Centerville
Marjorie L. Barrow – Opelousas
Colleen T. Bienvenu – St. Martinville
Inez S. Bourgeois – Franklin
Willis J. Bourque, Jr. – Lafayette
Jeannie M. Boutte – New Iberia
Edward J. Broussard – Lafayette
Helen H. Broussard – Lafayette
Ludovic A. David – Lafayette
Helen B. Davis – Melville
Lawrence W. Erbe – Lafayette
Gloria B. Fuselier – Breaux Bridge
Roy P. Guerin, Jr. – New Iberia
Sigred Lanoux – Lafayette
Winola O. Laverne – Eunice
Melba S. Melancon – New Iberia
Diane Melvin – Lafayette
Barbara F. Orillion – Lafayette
Doris Racca – New Iberia
Eliza H. Rideau – Washington
Anthony Rizzuto – Gueydan
Jeffery F. Shaw – Opelousas
Beryl Shipley – Lafayette
Minnie M. Smith – Sunset
Frank Spell, Jr. – Maurice
Horace Tabor – New Iberia
Robert Thibodeaux – St. Martinville
Janette M. Trahan – Lafayette
Gwendolyn L. Vice – Erath
Clifford Watson – Berwick

District VI

Ned Terry Barrett – DeRidder
Faith Marie Blackburn – Lake Charles
Eleanor A. Bourgeois – Rayne
Mildred W. Collings – Lake Charles
Gerald W. Dobbs – Vinton
Theodora H. Faulk – Rayne
Barbara M. Ford – Sulphur
Jimmie C. Fullilove – Jennings
Emogene L. Garst – DeRidder
Carmen B. Girouard – Rayne

Myrtle H. Golemon – Lake Charles
Mary S. Gordon – Lake Charles
Bobbie H. Gossen – Rayne
Philip M. Grass – Lake Charles
Willie Bernard Grayson, Sr. – Lake Charles
Eula M. Guillory – Welsh
Roy R. Guillory – Lake Charles
Bessie Mae Harmison – Kinder
Kenneth S. Hoffpaur – Crowley
David L. McDaniel, Jr. – Iota
Janet G. Nettles – Morse
Jeanne S. Nooijen – Rayne
Beverly R. Reina – Reeves
Eugene D. Richard – Lake Charles
Jacquetta P. Rosenthal – Lake Charles
Ida W. See – Lake Charles

District VII

Claudette Jones – Alexandria
Albert C. Rambo – Bentley
James B. Smith – Alexandria
Cladie J. Wade – Alexandria
Causby L. Watson, Jr. – Alexandria

District VIII

Raymond Christensen – Natchitoches
Lois S. Kitchings – Coushatta
Waple Lilley – Natchitoches
Bernice T. Rives – Natchez
Mary E. Welch – Natchitoches

District IX

Lelia Juanita B. Bell – Mangham
Betty B. Livingston – Rayville
Lynella C. Scarf – Oak Grove

District X

Carletta H. Bayne – Monroe
Carolyn W. Jones Bolds – Jonesboro
Charles Brown – Monroe
Archie W. Craig – Ruston
Bobbie J. Davis – Grambling
John T. Garrett – Clarks
Garland D. Gregory – Ruston
Wallace S. Harrison – Ruston
Jesse Hollis – Monroe
James G. Johnston – Ruston
Onzie L. Jones – Monroe
Margie M. Lyons – Ruston
Verlee G. Manning – Monroe
Carrye McKillips – Ruston
Merrill S. Nicklas – Monroe
Cleo D. Portis – Grambling
Pearlie B. Scott – Monroe
Malvin Staff – Grambling
Gloria M. Stokes – West Monroe
Shirley R. Townsend – West Monroe
Martin A. Verhagen – Monroe
Herman C. Wilson – Monroe
Velma A. Young – Eros

District XI

Benjamin D. Arnold – Shreveport
Margaret S. Bryan – Shreveport
Opal Grace Buckner – Bossier City
Eleanor V. French – Haughton
Hattie Mae F. Graham – Homer
Julia Ann King – Shreveport
Herbert Kinnard – Shreveport

In Memoriam (Continued)

John J. Langdon – Shreveport
 Patricia F. Lieber – Shreveport
 Thomas O. Matlock – Shreveport
 Doris McGinty – Shreveport
 Elias Richard Moore – Shreveport
 Betty Roby – Benton
 John H. Rosser – Shreveport
 Odell Scott – Ringgold
 Nancy Olivia Wilhelmi – Shreveport

Out of State

Blanche F. Alexander – Russellville, AR
 Muriel D. Arceneaux – Vicksburg, MS
 Willie Ivory Banks – Houston, TX
 Emmett W. Bashful – Tamarac, FL
 Elzora M. Bates – McComb, MS
 Patricia P. Beach – San Angelo, TX
 Floyd N. Beckcom II – Port St. Lucie, FL
 Frederick E. Beckett – Bruce, MS
 Harl M. Bowen – Holiday Island, AK
 Dorothy P. Bradley – Fort Myers, FL
 Lucy M. Chambliss – Raleigh, NC
 Ruby H. Collins – Charlotte, NC
 Richard L. Colquette – Pompano Beach, FL
 Madeline C. Couret – West Palm Beach, FL
 Joseph A. Cuminala – Marietta, GA
 Jeannette W. Davis – Arden, NC
 Julia P. Davis – Dallas, TX
 Verda G. Davis – San Antonio, TX
 Helen S. Duncan – Osyka, MS
 Gwen V. Duplantier – Katy, TX
 Martha L. Ellis – Gulfport, MS
 Betty I. Felton – Conroe, TX
 Rosie Goldsmith – Grand Forks, ND
 Velma D. Hampton – Austin, TX
 Francis Hanna – Kapolei, HI
 Samuel Henry, Jr. – Victorville, GA
 Carolyn M. Howard – Austin, TX
 Teresa L. Hudspeth – Louisville, MS
 James S. Jones, Jr. – Tyler, TX
 Joseph H. Jones – Hutchinson, KS
 Naomi M. Kiern – Franklin, TN
 Lucille W. Kilgore – Mesquite, TX
 Philomena N. Lasseter – Tuscaloosa, AL
 Agnes W. Lewis – Berkeley, CA
 Lavinia Lundy – Danville, CA
 B. Burmah Macklin – Columbus, OH
 Ethel D. Manuel – Stamford, CT
 John T. Marshall – Tigard, OR
 Evelyn V. Martel – Schaumburg, IL
 Lillie B. Martin – Las Vegas, NV
 Raymond E. McGuire – Collinsville, OK
 Exie E. McPherson – Savannah, GA
 Monica W. Mire – Katy, TX
 Robert J. Morgan – Aliquippa, PA
 Vivian L. Oglesby – Albuquerque, NM
 Irazzone R. Osborne – Albany, NY
 Erlene C. Parks – Village Mills, TX
 Irene B. Pearson – Orlando, FL
 Joy H. Powell – The Woodlands, TX
 Zoella L. Robinson – McDonough, GA
 Edmund N. Roots, Jr. – Hot Springs, AR
 Edith C. Saunders – Stone Mountain, GA
 Charles D. Thompson – Houston, TX
 Jeanne Tipton – Jacksonville Beach, FL
 Edward D. Walker – Oxford, MX
 Billy Wallis – Dandridge, TN
 Mary D. Wasson – New Hebron, MS
 Robert D. Wasson – Madison, MS
 Carol A. McAdam Weaver – Apison, TN
 Lorraine M. Wharton – Carriere, MS
 Phyllis G. Wilenzick – Sandy Springs, GA
 Myrtle M. Williams – Tyrone, GA

Nominees for State Offices Requested

The January 2012 ballot will feature the election of LRTA President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President. The two-year terms will begin when the successful candidates are installed at the 2012 Spring Meeting in April.

The LRTA Bylaws charge the Nominating Committee to nominate individuals for each statewide elected office. Suggestions of nominees are requested by the committee and should be forwarded to the LRTA office in Baton Rouge.

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. Note: Associate members of LRTA are not eligible to vote or hold office in LRTA elections.

It is requested that information on nominees be furnished to the committee on an LRTA Prospect Sheet, which may be obtained from any Nominating Committee member or by contacting the LRTA office. Qualifications of each nominee should be prioritized due to

space limitations in the LRTA Newsletter where the information furnished will be published. Nominees should also furnish a recent color photo that will be published with their candidate information.

The Nominating Committee will meet in early July and again in early October to review prospect sheets. The committee looks forward to working with the LRTA membership to develop a well-qualified list of candidates for LRTA's statewide elected officers that will be presented to the executive board at the Fall Meeting.

All nominee information must be received no later than October 1, 2011, but may be submitted any time before that date. Prospect sheets should be mailed to:

LRTA
 Attn: Nominating Committee
 9412 Common St. #5
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Members of the LRTA Nominating Committee are:

William Gullatt, Chair
 Gloria Napier
 Roland Simon
 Gail Foster
 Joyce Harris

LRTA Foundation Donations

Mrs. Patricia T. Floyd: In memory of Cecilia G. Nadeau

Mr. and Mrs. James Stafford: In memory of Earle Brown and Jewel Thompson

Dr. James A. Taylor: In memory of Mary Robert of Luling, Charles J. Ross of New Orleans, Lloyd L. Sensat of New Orleans, and Edith C. Saunders of Stone Mountain, GA

Acadia Parish RTA: In memory of all deceased educators of Acadia Parish in

2010-2011

Bossier Parish RTA: In memory of all deceased retired teachers from Bossier Parish in 2010-2011

St. Bernard RTA: In memory of Claudia Boackle, John Brechtel, Hazel DiLorenzo, Lucy Gagliano and Marie Louise Preble

St. Charles Parish RTA: In memory of Sylvia Hanson and Lloyd Sensat

LRTA District XI: In memory of all deceased member from District XI.

L.R.T.A. NEWSLETTER
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 Telephone (225) 927-8837
 Toll-Free (888) 531-1992
Info@LRTA.net
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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



Elicio Nicholas, District II Name of Fame honoree, with wife Mary Nicholas.



Mary Sue Smith, District X Name of Fame honoree, with William Gullatt, left, and James Stewart, right.

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!

Welcome New Associate Members!

LRTA extends a warm welcome to new associate members who are receiving the Newsletter for the first time. Your support of LRTA and its mission are much appreciated. Many thanks to all who worked so hard to recruit these newest members of the LRTA membership family.

*Cordially,
 Dr. Jesse W. Scott
 First Vice-President and
 State Membership Chair*