



# Louisiana Retired Teachers Association



www.lrta.net

Striving To Make Retirement Years Great!

March-Apr. 2014 • Vol. 41, No. 2

## LRTA Spring Meeting: You Are The Stars!

All Louisiana retired educators are invited to join LRTA for the 2014 Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 22 and 23. The meeting's theme will be: **You Are The Stars!**, and guests are encouraged to wear their red carpet best at the Tuesday night banquet. Red carpet pictures will be taken and posted on a web-site after the convention for you to view.

The LRTA Executive Board meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 22. A pre-convention dinner will be held on the evening of April 22. Meeting general sessions will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 23, and will conclude with a luncheon.

All meetings and meal functions will be held at the Sai Hotel and Convention Center, located at 2301 North MacArthur Dr. There is no cost to attend meeting sessions; meal function costs are \$30 for the pre-convention dinner on April 22 and \$26 for the luncheon on April 23.

A special hotel room convention group rate of \$79 per night for single

and \$89 per night for double, triple or quad, plus tax, has been negotiated with the Sai Hotel for LRTA attendees. Cut-off date for this special rate is April 8, so make your reservations early! To make a room reservation, call the Sai Hotel directly at (318) 619-3300. Be sure to ask for the special LRTA convention rate.

In order to eliminate long lines at registration, please pre-register by completing the Meeting Pre-Registration Form on page 8. Convention packets containing printed programs, name tags and other important meeting materials will be prepared for participants who pre-register before April 17. On-site registration will be available, but attendance at the pre-convention dinner on April 22 and the luncheon on April 23 are by pre-reservation only.

Mark your calendars and make your plans! We look forward to seeing you in Alexandria on April 22 and 23.



## LRTA Foundation to Meet at Spring Meeting

The LRTA Foundation Board will meet on Tuesday, April 22 at 10:00 a.m. during the LRTA Spring Meeting to conduct business and plan strategies for the future. Reports will be made to the Executive Board and the general membership during the convention. Appreciation is extended to individuals, LRTA, and districts and local units for their donations to the Foundation in honor or memory of individuals.

The Foundation will have a Silent Auction during the Spring Meeting.

LRTA leaders and foundation members are requested to contact local businesses and individuals for donations of items to be auctioned. Please call the LRTA office and provide staff information about items to be donated for auction, and a the value of the items.

Suggested value of auction items:

- \$10 to \$25 items
- \$25 to \$50 items
- \$50 to \$100 items
- Above \$100 items

The donor's name (business or individual) will accompany all items on the auction listing.

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## Lonnie's Lagniappe



Dr. Lonnie E. Dunn

I want to utilize my space in this edition of the Newsletter to thank all LRTA members who have worked with me the last two years to make our organization stronger and more proactive toward representing the needs and interests of retired educators in the State of Louisiana. My tenure as your president ends at the end of the Spring Meeting in April in Alexandria when the new slate of officers you have elected are installed on April 23. I have thoroughly enjoyed representing LRTA as your president and have taken the responsibility seriously. As each of you well know, we are a grass roots organization that is membership driven, so the most important cog in the wheel is the individual member. I thank each of you for your hard work moving toward the accomplishment of the three goals that were established for my tenure as president. We have (1) become much more proactive in communicating with Legislators and others on our behalf, (2) strengthened our local units and districts by utilizing new communica-

tion channels and making changes to the leadership selection process and better defining the roles leaders are expected to play in serving LRTA, and (3) made significant gain in our growth of membership. My job was to be a catalyst for improvement and change, and I trust that each of you is pleased with the job I have done. But again I say, this organization is only as strong as its membership and each individual member's involvement. Continue to do everything you can as a single member to promote support for issues that represent positive advancement of needs and concerns of retirees. Many of the benefits we have are tied to local school boards, so we also must stay informed and support measures that keep them properly funded and strong. Remember, as one voice you may not be heard, but together, we cannot be ignored.

The Executive Committee and the Executive Board members have provided me dedicated support these past two years. The officers that you elected to serve with me have done an excellent job carrying out the duties and responsibilities associated with their offices. Mrs. Maria Sly George, First Vice-president, Mrs. Bertha Breland, Second Vice-president, Mr. James Stewart, District President representative, and Mr. Ben Sandifer, Legislative Committee Chair-

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## Executive Director's Report



Graig A. Luscombe

The 2014 Regular Legislative Session convened at noon on Monday, March 10. The legislature must complete work by 6:00 p.m. Monday, June 2. LRTA is a professional non-profit, tax-exempt organization incorporated under the provisions of Section 501(c)4 of the Internal Revenue Code. In order to maintain LRTA's tax-exempt status, the association cannot endorse, or monetarily support, candidates for public office, and our lobbying efforts are limited to pieces of legislation which directly affect our membership or their retirement system.

Retirement legislation has already been

pre-filed and introduced for consideration by the legislature. The most important pieces of legislation are the proposals to provide eligible retirees or their beneficiaries a 1.5% Permanent Benefit Increase (PBI) beginning July 1, 2014, which would be applied to the gross retirement benefit being received from TRSL on that date. Senate Bill No. 21, House Bill No. 4 and House Bill No. 31 all propose the PBI for retired educators, and the 1.5% increase is the maximum allowed under current law.

In addition to those three bills specifically dealing with the PBI, Senator Gerald Long of Winnfield, Louisiana has agreed to introduce, on behalf of LRTA, Senate Bill No. 17. This bill will augment the 1.5% by an additional percentage based upon the balance in the Experience Account held at TRSL after the PBI obligations are met. LRTA will be supporting Senator Long's efforts on this legislation during the session.

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## LRTA

### Executive Board

#### President

Lonnie E. Dunn, Ed. D.  
3750 Christy Dr.  
Shreveport, LA 71129

#### Past-President

James A. Taylor, Sr., J. D., Ph. D.  
8122 Royalwood Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

#### First Vice-President

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

#### Second Vice-President

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

#### District I President

Theodore H. George, Sr.  
P.O. Box 15713  
New Orleans, LA 70175

#### District II President

Donald A. Bascle  
220 Douglas Dr.  
Houma, LA 70364

#### District III President

Lazette L. Watterson  
P. O. Box 873  
Bogalusa, LA 70429

#### District IV President

Joyce K. Rome  
P.O. Box 751  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

#### District V President

Martha G. Bryant  
1087 Ruth Bridge Hwy.  
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

#### District VI President

Clara F. Duhon  
614 Oleo St.  
Lake Charles, LA 70601

#### District VII President

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

#### District VIII President

Genevieve A. Gordon  
1646 Tobe Nabours Rd.  
Many, LA 71449

#### District IX President

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

#### District X President

Cathryn L. Buckley  
12764 Hwy. 2  
Bernice, LA 71222

#### District XI President

Nancy L. Quigley  
5210 Airline Dr.  
Bossier City, LA 71111

#### TRSL Board of Trustees:

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

Jerry J. Baudin, Ph. D.  
15323 Alma Mater Ct.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810

#### OGB Board

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

#### AARP Louisiana

Brenda G. Hatfield, Ph. D.  
301 Main St., Suite 1012  
Baton Rouge, LA 70825

#### LASS-R

Donald A. Songy  
37617 Seven Oaks Ave.  
Prairieville, LA 70769



## 2014 Legislative Session Update

*Provided below is a summary of the four bills to be considered by the legislature regarding the Permanent Benefit Increase.*

### **House Bill No. 4 by Representative Patrick Williams and Representative Herbert Dixon**

This bill provides for the payment of a 1.5% permanent benefit increase out of the balance on deposit in the Experience Account to eligible members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to begin on July 1, 2014. The benefit increase will be provided to those individuals receiving a benefit from TRSL who have been retired for at least 12 months, and who are at least age 60, on June 30, 2014. The benefit increase will be applied to the first \$93,755 of the annual benefit currently received from TRSL. The benefit increase will also be paid to disability retirees and to the beneficiaries of retirees and disability retirees who would have met the above stated eligibility requirements.

*LRTA will support this legislation.*

### **House Bill No. 31 by Representative Sam Jones and Representative Kenny Havard**

This bill provides for the payment of a 1.5% permanent benefit increase out of the balance on deposit in the Experience Account to eligible members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to begin on July 1, 2014. The benefit increase will be provided to those individuals receiving a benefit from TRSL who have been retired for at least 12 months, and who are at least age 60, on June 30, 2014. The benefit increase will be applied to the first \$93,755 of the annual benefit currently received from TRSL. The benefit increase will also be paid to disability retirees and to the beneficiaries of retirees and disability retirees who would have met the above stated eligibility requirements.

*LRTA will support this legislation.*

### **Senate Bill No. 17 by Senator Gerald Long**

This bill provides for a supplemental permanent benefit increase to eligible TRSL retirees in addition to the 1.5%. The supplemental permanent benefit increase is payable out of the experience account and will be based upon the remaining balance in the account after the payment of the 1.5% increase. The regular increase and the supplemental increase cannot cumulatively exceed a 3.0% increase in the benefit. The supplemental increase will be applied to the first \$93,755 of the annual benefit currently received from TRSL.

*This bill was pre-filed by Senator Long at LRTA's request, and LRTA will support this legislation.*

### **Senate Bill No. 21 by Senator Elbert Guillory and others**

This bill provides for the payment of a 1.5% permanent benefit increase out of the balance on deposit in the Experience Account to eligible members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to begin on July 1, 2014. The benefit increase will be provided to those individuals receiving a benefit from TRSL who have been retired for at least 12 months, and who are at least age 60, on June 30, 2014. The benefit increase will be applied to the first \$93,755 of the annual benefit currently received from TRSL. The benefit increase will also be paid to disability retirees and to the beneficiaries of retirees and disability retirees who would have met the above stated eligibility requirements.

*LRTA will support this legislation.*

*The LRTA staff has identified 30 pieces of legislation to monitor during the 2014 Regular Session. Space limitations only allowed for the summary of PBI legislation to be printed in this issue. Other topics of bills to be watched include retirement system funding, retirement system administration, retirement system mem-*

*bership, and the provisions governing retirees who return to work in a position covered by TRSL.*

*A complete summary of the bills and the LRTA position on each can be viewed on LRTA's website under the link entitled "LRTA & The Legislature". Weekly updates of legislative actions are sent to the LRTA Email Club members and posted on our Facebook page. See page 7 of this issue for instructions on how to become an LRTA Email Club member or how to like us on Facebook.*

### **Executive Director's Report**

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On March 10, Dr. Dunn sent a personalized letter to each member of the legislature asking them to favorably consider providing you your first benefit increase since July 1, 2008. Please take a moment to let your legislator know that you also support these measures.

Also, please take another moment to complete your LRTA Spring Meeting registration form included in this issue. Updates on the session and on LRTA's Membership Recruitment program will be offered on the agenda. I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Meeting in Alexandria. I hope you can make it!

### **Foundation Donations**

The following donations to the LRTA Foundation has been received:

St Charles Parish Retired Teachers- In Memory of Mr. Richard Keller

Mr. & Mrs. Merlin Duke - In Memory of Coach David Moore and Beth Boyet Breland

Lafourche Parish Retired Teachers - In Memory of all deceased educators of Lafourche Parish in 2013

If you would like to make a donation please fill out the form available at [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net) under the LRTA Foundation link.

## LRTA Around the State

*This section features photos LRTA members have submitted from their districts or units all around Louisiana. The photos can be from your meetings, a service project, etc. If you would like to have your photo published in the newsletter email it to Erica Rodriguez at Rodriguez@lrta.net. Please provide the following information about the picture: which unit or district, the names of the people in the photo, and when/where the photo was taken.*

*Here's a look at what our members are doing around the state!*



Important retirement issues that may come before the state legislature during the upcoming session were topics of a special meeting held recently for the St. Tammany Parish Retired School Employees Association (STPRSEA). Taking part in the discussion were (left to right) State Senator A. G. Crowe, a member of the Senate Retirement Committee from St. Tammany Parish; LRTA Executive Director Graig Luscombe; STPRSEA President Marian Arrowsmith; and State Representative Kevin Pearson, Chairman of the House Retirement Committee from St. Tammany Parish. The STPRSEA works closely with the St. Tammany legislative delegation to maintain open lines of communication between the organization, legislators and the LRTA.

The CENLA Retired Teachers Unit recently held a meeting to celebrate black history month. It was "A Tribute to Nelson Mandela". The speaker was Rev. Arthur Allen.



The Ascension Retired Teachers Association met at and toured the Gonzales Police Department. Pictured with ARTA Members are Chief Sherman Jackson (front) and secretary Stephanie Bercegeay (front row, left)



## Lonnie's Lagniappe

*Continued from page 2*

man have been valuable members of the Executive Committee who have given me guidance and assurance as we worked together to set the direction of our organization. I especially want to thank Dr. James Taylor, Immediate Past President for his leadership, insight and the invaluable advice he provided. The Executive Board members have also been very supportive, and worked closely with the Executive Committee, to approve and ratify changes and improvements recommended to them to better our organization. I have the utmost respect for, and owe much gratitude to, these leaders who have encouraged and supported me during my tenure.

The engine that keeps all this machinery working efficiently and organized must be recognized by me because your officers and district presidents keep everything on course. Our staff members at the LRTA office are the most professional, proficient, and organized group with which I could have envisioned. Graig Luscombe, our executive director, is everything we could ever desire in a manager of our organization. He is knowledgeable in regard to everything needed

to keep us on the right track. He is organized, proficient in dealing with every aspect of government and politics, polite, yet direct, in dealing with people, compassionate, well-informed with every area of concern for our organization, and manages the office and other staff members exceptionally well. Renee Siccone, assistant executive director, knows more about the history of our organization than anyone I know. She is a valuable resource to assist Graig in all areas of keeping our organization moving efficiently, as well as filling in for Graig in many duties assigned to her. Ann Reed, our membership services coordinator has the daunting task of keeping up with all 23,706 of you. She is a valuable staff member who most of you speak with first when you call the office. And if you ever have the opportunity to visit the office in Baton Rouge, Ann will greet you at the door and make you feel at home. Her knowledge about our association also allows her to field many of your questions, or direct you to the person who can answer your inquiry. Erica Rodriguez, our public relations/communications coordinator, provides media information to relevant media outlets in addition to assisting local units and districts with many services designed to enhance and support dissemination of

information through many avenues. We could not function as an organization without these office staff people and I, personally, thank them for the valuable assistance and support given to me while serving as your president.

In closing, it goes without saying, Marsha and I have been blessed by the outpouring of support, love, prayers, compassion, and hospitality shown to us the past two years. Each and every one of you will always be dear to us and have a special place in our hearts. Please continue your good work and support for our causes, and keep us in your thoughts and prayers. Put us on your mailing list for your newsletters, events, or anything of interest from your local unit or district and invite us to visit a meeting or event from time to time. I look forward to continue serving on our Executive Board as your immediate past president. Continued good health and God's blessings go out to each of you.

*Lonnie E. Dunn  
LRTA President*

## Ann Reed Featured on Antiques Roadshow

LRTA's Membership Services Coordinator, Ann Reed, was featured on the television show, Antiques Roadshow. When the Antiques Roadshow made a stop in Baton Rouge in July, Ann brought two ivory cribbage boards to be appraised. The cribbage boards have been in her family for over 100 years. Her great-grandfather was a merchant seaman who brought the ivory to her great-grandmother in 1906. They have been passed down

through the family since then.



When Ann arrived at the Antiques Roadshow, they told her she needed to speak with John Buxton, Tribal Art Appraiser and Consultant. He was very excited to see her pieces, and explained that they were walrus ivory. The two masks on the side of the larger piece confirmed

they were carved by an Eskimo tribe residing on King Island off the coast of Alaska. Mr. Buxton estimated the

carvings were from the late 1800's. He called the larger piece a "tour de force", one of the finest he has ever seen.

Ann is very excited to finally know the history behind the pieces and their value. Her portion of the segment was filmed in July and aired in February on PBS.

If you would like to see more pictures of Ann's treasures and watch her segment of Antiques Roadshow, email us at [info@lrta.net](mailto:info@lrta.net) and we will send you the link.

# *In Memoriam*

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

## Deceased Retired Teachers - December 11, 2013 - March 10, 2014

### District I

Gwendolyn M. Anderson – New Orleans  
Jane C. Johnson – Meraux  
Inez D. Lilly – New Orleans  
Janice Marchand – New Orleans  
Paul L. Poydras, Jr. – New Orleans  
Varney F. Rannels – New Orleans  
Edgar H. Woods – New Orleans

### District II

Terry J. Adams – Montegut  
Marjorie H. Babin – Kenner  
Myrton F. Beeler – Thibodaux  
James Davis Blanchard – Napoleonville  
Jacqueline Brown – Killona  
Alphonse G. Cassagne – Luling  
Brenda C. Collins – Napoleonville  
J. Larry Crain – Metairie  
Laura T. Kern Davis – Kenner  
Ann M. Desalvo – Houma  
Frank J. Ehret – Marrero  
Rita Hickey – Kenner  
Mary M. Jackson – Marrero  
Laura P. Jones – Destrehan  
Richard J. Keller – Hahnville  
Carmela L. Landry – Metairie  
Judith A. Landry – Houma  
Linda A. LeBoeuf – Terrytown  
Della R. Matherne – Bourg  
Jean M. McCabe – Metairie  
Roland J. Neville – Reserve  
Elaine B. Palmer – Metairie  
Clara B. Perret – Norco  
Melanie D. Rieger – St. Rose  
Bettie G. Sullwold – River Ridge  
Mary A. Templet – Pierre Part  
Agatha Thibodaux – Napoleonville  
Gladys R. Webre – Thibodaux  
Lorraine Williams – New Sarpy

### District III

Donna Vicari Borne – Mandeville  
Beth B. Breland – Bogalusa  
Florence L. Cox – Denham Springs  
Billie J. Daquin – Lacombe  
Theodore R. Hayes, Jr. – Covington  
Thomas F. Higginbotham – Hammond  
Amelia B. Johnson – Covington  
Charles H. Keys – Denham Springs  
Gladys C. Magee – Franklinton  
Katherine G. Matthews – Greensburg  
Eddie Mae W. May – Angie  
Penny Dees McDowell – Fluker  
Sandra P. Oatis – Lacombe  
Jewette J. Quinn – Ponchatoula  
Willie Mae Reams – Walker  
Dallas F. Shaw – Hammond  
Sybil Sibley – Tickfaw  
Vera Smiley – Walker  
Nora S. Stevenson – Livingston  
Thomas H. Tedder – Hammond  
Bethany Moran Tomkins – Lacombe  
Donald T. Touns – Mandeville  
Sarah T. Vinyard – Ponchatoula

### District IV

Dorothy M. Anderson – Baton Rouge  
Maurie M. Anderson – Clinton  
Virginia L. Arceneaux – Prairieville  
Calvin J. Aucoin – Baton Rouge

Robert C. Barrett – Prairieville  
Leroy J. Bourque – Gonzales  
Joseph L. Braid – Maringouin  
Charles E. Bryant – Baton Rouge  
Aubrey Burrell – Baton Rouge  
Ollie M. Campbell – Baton Rouge  
Elnora Cole – Baton Rouge  
Samuel A. Distefano, Jr. – Plaquemine  
Geraldine D. Dyer – Zachary  
Larry Foil – Greenwell Springs  
Andrew H. Gasperecz – Baton Rouge  
Ira John Graham – Baton Rouge  
Lillian B. Harrison – Zachary  
Anna L. Hebert – Gonzales  
Elouise B. Henry – Baton Rouge  
Carrol L. Herring – Jarreau  
Oscar K. Huh – Baton Rouge  
Frances T. Jaccoks – Zachary  
Dorothy S. Kostuch – Baton Rouge  
Mary D. Liotta – Prairieville  
John R. May – Baton Rouge  
Rama C. Mohanty – Baton Rouge  
Ernest T. Murphree – Baton Rouge  
Viola Nicholas – Baton Rouge  
Joe Ann Nunley – Baton Rouge  
Richard S. Patin – New Roads  
Hubert L. Polk, Jr. – Clinton  
Amy B. Pugh – Baton Rouge  
Jessie J. Roussel – Gonzales  
Nina A. Spruel – Baton Rouge  
Irene Williams – Bayou Goula  
Amanda J. Winters – Zachary  
Margaret R. Zeringue – Baton Rouge

### District V

Ruth W. Brooks – Lafayette  
Aileen Broussard – Breaux Bridge  
Ira Jane Broussard – Rayne  
Winnie P. Brown – Lafayette  
Voncel L. Cazalot – Lafayette  
Mary F. Cestia – New Iberia  
Max Ann D. Dantzler – Lafayette  
Ellen Elizabeth Dore – St. Martinville  
Dudley John Duhon – Kaplan  
Diana M. Gaudin – Lafayette  
Louwilda B. Hamilton – Opelousas  
Janet R. Hebert – Erath  
Marie M. Jennings – Lafayette  
Charles F. Jones – Lafayette  
Wilma Langlinais – Youngsville  
Herbert L. Levy – Abbeville  
Phyllis Loyd – Crowley  
Rosalie F. Moore – Lafayette  
Edna Mae Mouton – St. Martinville  
Oren Davis Ortego – Lafayette  
John F. Rogers – Morgan City  
Janelle F. Schexnider – Ville Platte  
Margaret W. Shoemaker – Opelousas  
Hattie R. Spencer – Crowley  
Betty H. Thevis – Lafayette  
Eli D. Thomas, Sr. – Ville Platte  
Larry B. Tinguet – Jeanerette  
Theodore A. Tudury, Jr. – Morgan City  
Janis S. Welcome – Lafayette  
Veronica J. White – Opelousas

### District VI

Dorothy D. Abraham – Lake Charles  
Lorita H. Bearb – Rayne  
Laurene Broussard – Lake Charles

T. B. Byles – Lake Charles  
Ethel G. Derouen – Lake Charles  
Linda Darnell Duffell – Oakdale  
Judith Ellis – Sulphur  
Luke LeJeune – Lake Charles  
Virginia Little – Sulphur  
Lela R. H. Malveaux – Lake Charles  
Marjorie N. Myers – Westlake  
Georgia D. Rion – Lake Charles  
Robert W. Sheffield – Sulphur  
George V. S. White – Lake Charles

### District VII

Marguerite B. Alexander – Alexandria  
Dora Beard – Vidalia  
Hosea J. Beasley – Alexandria  
Elizabeth D. Boothe – Vidalia  
O. Clayton Bullard – Marksville  
Elsma J. Ducote – Simmesport  
Roy P. Dupont – Bunkie  
Sandra B. Fowler – Pineville  
Herschel H. Green – Jena  
Willie L. Greene – Pitkin  
Frances B. Hathorn – Alexandria  
Carrie C. Holloway – Pineville  
Lucy B. Hoover – Glenmora  
Beverly B. Jeansonne – Mansura  
Billy Merchant – Anacoco  
Nelda R. Nolan – Jena  
Vera G. Rawson – Alexandria  
Shirley A. Riche – Pineville  
Blake E. Sims – Olla  
Tommy G. Smith – Alexandria  
Walter L. Stampley, Jr. – Vidalia  
Finly S. Stanly – Leesville

### District VIII

Ella M. Crawford – Zwolle  
Edith G. Owens – Natchitoches  
Joy Erwin Roan – Natchitoches  
David R. Rougeau – Mansfield  
James L. Shelton – Winnfield  
Alton L. Townsend – Natchitoches  
Nell B. R. Weeks – Goldonna

### District IX

Shelton Blunt – Winnsboro  
James E. Clark – Winnsboro  
Gay Bertha P. Curtis – Rayville  
Quitman W. Durbin – Oak Grove  
Troy L. Hammett – Oak Grove  
Shelia T. Hudolin – Oak Grove  
Rebecca Joiner – Rayville  
Juanita T. Lain – Winnsboro

### District X

Catherine C. Ballard – Farmerville  
Elaine G. Brodnax – Monroe  
Roosevelt Bryant, Jr. – Grambling  
Earl Eugene Callens, Jr. – Ruston  
Jean E. Christian – Monroe  
Diane F. Coleman – Monroe  
Lois R. Dabbs – Monroe  
Marjorie M. Desordi – Ruston  
Beryl Franklin – Monroe  
Lory M. Frey, Jr. – Monroe  
Linda Faye Harper – Monroe  
Wiley W. Hilburn, Jr. – Choudrant  
Leslie G. Jackson – Ruston  
Linda F. Kennedy – Bernice

## *In Memoriam (continued)*

Alvis C. Lawrence – West Monroe  
Calvin A. Lemke – Ruston  
Robertine F. McCaa – Monroe  
Joyce H. Milstead – Chatham  
James P. Mobley, Jr. – Calhoun  
Mary A. Moore – Kelly  
Eva B. Parks – Sterlington  
Davis Ross – Oak Ridge  
Irma G. Sawyer – Oak Ridge  
Patricia D. Scarbrock – West Monroe  
Goldie J. Sensley – Farmerville  
Willie T. Sensley – Farmerville  
J. W. Smith, Jr. – Monroe  
Lawrence C. Smith – Ruston  
Sue Williams – West Monroe  
Alverne Woodward – West Monroe

### District XI

Gardner Adams – Greenwood  
Dorothy B. Baker – Bossier City  
Dolores C. Bedford – Shreveport  
Mamie L. Beltz – Shreveport  
Herbert Blow, Jr. – Greenwood  
Raymond D. Boswell – Shreveport  
Joseph W. Cook, Jr. – Shreveport  
Laura C. Dyball – Saline  
Virginia B. Gladney – Shreveport  
Joan C. Graham – Shreveport  
Rosemary M. Gray – Springhill  
Phillip Haley – Benton  
Craig N. Hardy – Bossier City  
Mary B. Haughee – Bossier City  
Mary C. Hockett – Bossier City  
Eugene Holtzclaw – Castor  
Bettye J. Huggins – Bossier City  
Zella Mayfield – Benton  
Nancy G. McGee – Benton  
Barbara E. Parrott – Bossier City  
Ernest D. Peterson – Bossier City  
Marie Reid – Haughton  
Effie B. Romby – Shreveport  
Madge E. Rosemond – Shreveport  
Alice R. Schmitt – Shreveport  
James H. Smith – Minden  
Mary C. Sweeters – Shreveport  
Selma K. Weaver – Arcadia  
Rubye J. Wiley – Shreveport  
Elizabeth J. Williams – Haynesville  
Cornelia Wright – Shreveport

### Out of State

Elizabeth A. Andrew – Kingwood, TX  
Ernest Benson – Temple, TX  
Kathryn Breithaupt – Tyler, TX  
Ruby Brooks – Winter Springs, FL  
Carrie A. Cole – Atlanta, GA  
Della H. Coughran – Oklahoma City, OK  
Juliet B. Crawford – Decatur, MS  
Charlene Smith Crumby – Greenville, MS  
Kenny K. Curtis – Tupelo, MS  
Garland S. Cutler – Deweyville, TX  
Mary T. Day – Miamisburg, OH  
Robert F. Dyer – Richmond, TX  
Betress Q. Echols – Foxworth, MS  
Judith B. Fournier – Charlottesville, VA  
Charlene Y. Gibson – Magee, MS  
Rose L. Glee – Tallahassee, FL  
Theresa F. Gonzalez – Roswell, GA  
Ollie Mae Goudeau – Teoria, IL  
Carolyn M. Gousset – Pearland, TX  
Sarah Lynn Greenlee – Coppell, TX  
Larry D. Gros – Houston, TX  
Floyd J. Guidry – Export, PA  
Edith S. Hannah – Pensacola, FL  
Grace L. Heurtin – Pass Christian, MS  
William N. Hibbs – Vine Grove, KY  
Pearl S. Hickey – Perdido Beach, AL

Thesta Ann Hogan – Denton, TX  
Nolia Jean Howard – Clinton, MS  
Martha J. Johnson – Delaware, OH  
Mary W. Johnson – Houston, TX  
Barbara Jean Z. Jones – Katy, TX  
Johnny Jones, III – Pflugerville, TX  
Garbis A. Kerimian – Sunnyside, NY  
Carl L. Lege – Frisco, TX  
George D. Lindberg – Pensacola, FL  
Ruth McNeiland-Monlezun – Pensacola, FL  
Blanche H. Milloy – Missouri City, TX  
Bettie P. Mitchell – Norfolk, AR  
J. Lynn Montgomery – St. Louis Park, MN  
Helen J. Murphy – Dallas, TX  
Irene W. Nitz – Hot Springs, AR  
Wanda L. Noble – Jeffersonville, IN  
George W. Nobles – Red Oak, TX  
Paralee F. Norman – Orlando, FL  
Mary Nell Padgett – Ellisville, MS  
Sandra H. Platt – Tallahassee, FL  
Agnes G. Pogue – Dallas, TX  
Barbara S. Posey – Hixon, TN  
Virginia G. Robb – Natchez, MS  
Josie W. Rollins – Carriere, MS  
Irwin A. Ruiz – Carriere, MS  
Edwina B. Saulny – Apopke, FL  
Theodore R. Sines – Holly Pond, AL  
James A. Skipper – Montgomery, AL  
Alda F. Smith – Tylertown, MS  
Rose M. Squarsich – Bourbonnais, IL  
Mertie W. St. Pierre – Houston, TX  
Eugene W. Steinquest – Fayetteville, TN  
Odell J. Sullivan – Landover, MD  
Lexye Tillman – St. Petersburg, FL  
Toni A. Trufant – Cleveland, TN  
Albert H. Wehe – Raleigh, NC  
Iris S. Wiggins – The Woodlands, TX  
Donna Wilson – The Woodlands, TX  
Charles R. Wood – Centerville, MS  
Janet B. Wright – Springfield, MO

## **LRTA Foundation**

*Continued from page 1*

A minimum bid will be posted for each item, and incremental bids of \$1, \$5, \$10, etc. above the minimum will be provided.

The highest bidders will pay for the items at the end of the state meeting on Wednesday, April 23. Cash and checks will be accepted. Credit cards will not be accepted.

If you have questions regarding the auction, please contact Dr. Hugh Craft, LRTA Foundation president at (504) 451-4248.

We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Meeting!

*Dr. Hugh Craft*  
*Foundation President*

## **LRTA Mourns Catherine Ballard and Richard Joseph Keller**

LRTA mourns the loss of Catherine Ballard and Richard Joseph Keller.

Catherine Ballard, a retired teacher from Farmerville, LA passed away on February 4, 2014. She was a former District X president, a member of the Union Parish RTA and a member of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Richard Joseph Keller, a retired teacher from Hahnville, LA, passed away on December 19, 2013. He was 95 years old. He was a former District II president and the second LRTA Foundation president.

LRTA expresses our condolences to both families and friends.

## **Join LRTA's Email Club and Facebook Page**

If you would like to join LRTA's Email Club please visit our website at [www.lrta.net](http://www.lrta.net). Type your email address in the space provided under the heading "Join Our Email Club" and click on "Join". You will receive email updates regarding current events taking place with LRTA.

If you would like to stay informed via our Facebook page, please go to [www.facebook.com/lrta1](http://www.facebook.com/lrta1). Click on the "Like" button at the top right of the page. You will now be able to follow our updates and post on our page.

**LRTA NEWSLETTER**

9412 Common St., Suite 5  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
 Phone: 225.927.8837  
 Toll-Free: 888.531.1992  
 Email: info@lrta.net  
 Website: www.lrta.net

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**LRTA STAFF**

**Graig A. Luscombe**  
*Executive Director*

**Renée M. Siccone**  
*Assistant Director*

**Ann S. Reed**  
*Membership Services Coordinator*

**Erica T. Rodriguez**  
*PR/Communications Coordinator*

**OTHER IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

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

**2014 SPRING MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM**

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2014 Spring Meeting in order to expedite registration in Alexandria. To make a reservation for the pre-convention dinner on Tuesday, April 22, and/or for the convention luncheon on Wednesday, April 23, 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 also use the form in order to obtain a registration packet (photocopies accepted).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Attendance only, no fee

\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets for Tuesday night Pre-Convention Dinner (\$30 per person)= \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Pork tenderloin)

\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets for Wednesday luncheon (\$26 per person)= \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Baked chicken)

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Pre-registration/meal reservations must be received in the LRTA office by April 11. Registration will be available at the meeting; however, meal function tickets are sold by pre-reservation only. No meal reservations will be taken by phone. NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 17. Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809