



# Louisiana Retired Teachers Association



www.lrta.net

Striving To Make Retirement Years Great! May - June, 2014 • Vol. 41, No. 3

## LRTA Foundation Update

Plans and preparations are moving forward for the upcoming LRTA Fall Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge on October 27, 28 and 29, 2014. Make plans to attend this event for fun, food, fellowship and valuable information for retirees. The LRTA Foundation will meet to discuss progress and future goals. Reports will be made to the LRTA Executive Board and to the general membership during the state meeting.

This past spring silent auction's proceeds were \$1,433.00. Much appreciation is extended to those individuals and businesses providing the 52 items that were donated for the silent auction and to those individuals bidding on those items. Individuals, local units and districts are encouraged to provide 65 items for the upcoming October, 2014 Meeting. New items valued at \$25 or above, antique items and collector items are needed to reach this goal.

Thanks to all who donate to the LRTA Foundation in honor or in memory of individuals. Send checks payable to LRTA Foundation to LRTA's address on the back of this Newsletter. Send a note with the check indicating the person you are honoring or memorializing and also the address where the acknowledgement should be sent. Of

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## 2014-2016 LRTA Officers Installed



The newly elected LRTA officers 2014-2016. (Left to right) Nancy L. Quigley, second vice-president; Bertha H. Breland, first vice-president; and James T. Stewart, president were installed at the LRTA Spring Meeting in Alexandria on April 23. Outgoing president Dr. Lonnie Dunn was the installing officer.

## 2013 LRTA 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 23. These awards are:

### New Member Awards:

**DeSoto Parish** (greatest percentage of new members) – Samuel Johnson, DeSoto RTA president; Mary Thompson, DeSoto RTA Unit I president

**East Baton Rouge Parish** (greatest number of new members) – Dr. Alice Irving, Baton Rouge Area RTA president; Dorothy Wilson, Educators of Yesteryear president; Dr. Terril Faul, LSU Faculty and Staff Retiree Club president

### Total Member Awards:

**St. James RTA** (greatest percentage of members) – Doris Jacobs, president

**Tensas RTA** (greatest percentage of increase in members) – Ora Clark, president

### Cornerstone Award:

**District VIII** (greatest percentage of members) – Raymond Powell, president

### Associate Member Awards:

**St. Tammany Parish RSEA** (greatest number of associate members) – Marian Arrowsmith, president

**District III RTA** (greatest number of associate members) – Lazette Watterson, president

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## President's Report



James T. Stewart

Thanks for your vote of confidence in electing me as president of LRTA. It is an honor and privilege to serve you.

Pat and I would like to express our appreciation to you for your help, support and words of encouragement as we provided leadership for the Spring Conventions held in Alexandria over the last several years.

Our association's leadership positions are made up of dedicated volunteers. MANY of you have served in our association either on the state, district, or unit level. Therefore, you know the dedication and hard work that goes into "working to make our retirement years great!". Please take the time to help and encourage these leaders. I would like to thank Dr. Lonnie Dunn and his executive committee on a job well done these past two years.

The LRTA Executive Board, President James T. Stewart, Immediate Past President Lonnie E. Dunn, First Vice-President Bertha H. Breland, Second Vice-President Nancy L.

Quigley, District President Representative Lazette L. Watterson, and Legislative Chairman Benjamin L. Sandifer, met on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 to begin putting together ideas and developing plans for the coming years. Please join in our efforts by submitting any ideas and suggestions you have to staff or board members.

This last legislative session that ended on June 2, 2014 was a very challenging one. Benjamin Sandifer, legislative chairman, as well as your other officers and staff, provided leadership and lobbied on your behalf. Your intent was represented by either oral or written testimony to the appropriate committees. Thanks for your help as many of you contacted your representatives and senators asking for their support. Be sure to refer to Mr. Luscombe's report for a listing of the bills that were monitored by LRTA and the legislative actions taken on them.

Please make plans to attend the Fall Meeting on October 27-29 at the Embassy Suites in Baton Rouge, LA. Come - learn - give input. Last but not least, meet old and new faces.

**TRSL will provide the 1.5% PBI increase in the July 1 benefit payment.**

## Executive Director's Report



Graig A. Luscombe

The 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana legislature ended at 6:00 p.m., Monday, June 2. At the beginning of the session, LRTA identified 34 legislative instruments that had been filed which could have an impact on you as a retired member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, or that could impact the daily operations of the system. Eight of those bills actually passed the legislature, the most important of which were Senate Bill No. 21 (Act No. 104 of 2014) and House Bill No. 1225 (Act No. 399 of 2014).

These two bills together, in conjunction with

similar bills for the other three state retirement systems, implement a 1.5% permanent benefit increase (PBI) for eligible retirees and beneficiaries of retirees on July 1, 2014. TRSL has already completed adjusting computer programs to allow the PBI to be included in July benefit payments.

There were five bills filed that would have adjusted the current provisions for retirees who return to work in a TRSL covered position. One of the bills never received a hearing by the retirement committees. The other four bills were deferred.

Bills that did pass raised the retirement age from 60 to age 62 for most members of the four state retirement systems, changed methods used by actuaries to determine funded status of the retirement plans, provided technical corrections to current statutory provisions which will allow TRSL to maintain compliance with provisions of the Internal Revenue Code for public pension plans, and

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## LRTA

### Executive Board

#### President

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

#### Past President

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

#### First Vice-President

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

#### Second Vice-President

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

#### District I President

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

#### District II President

Beth Plaisance  
310 Barrilleaux  
Lockport, LA 70374

#### District III President

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

#### District IV President

Janis M. Hernandez  
13313 Fleur de Lis Dr.  
Gonzales, LA 70737

#### 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

Benjamin L. Sandifer  
1001 Oak St.  
Jonesville, LA 71343

#### District VIII President

Raymond Powell  
P.O. Box 523  
Mansfield, LA 71052

#### 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

Jan Webb  
1830 Venus Dr.  
Bossier City, LA 71112

#### 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



## Membership Awards

*Continued from page 1*

LRTA district presidents and membership chairs were issued a challenge by the Executive Committee in May of 2013 to increase overall membership in LRTA, including active and associate members, by 5%. Thanks to the hard work of all of you, that challenge was met and the campaign is being continued in 2014. Seven districts met or exceeded the 5% challenge, but one district stood above the rest. District I, comprised of the Parishes of Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines, increased overall membership by 11.7% in the challenge period. District I president is Theodore George, Sr. of New Orleans.

When the campaign to increase overall membership by 5% began, in order to inspire district and lo-

cal membership recruitment efforts, the Executive Committee suggested, and the Board approved, a monetary incentive to the districts.

For every member over the 2012 final membership number recruited by the April 1 deadline, the district budget from LRTA would be increased by 50 cents. For every member recruited by the April 1 deadline OVER the 5% challenge total, an additional 50 cents increase was added. These additional incentive budget increases are added to the \$1.50 per member in each district that is already budgeted annually for each LRTA District to use in operating the District.

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 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 members in LRTA.

## LRTA Units Reactivated/Revitalized

Raymond Powell, District VIII president, and Genevieve Gordon, District VIII immediate past president, have been working to reactivate a unit in their district. In May the Red River RTA unit was reconstituted.

Red River RTA's new president is John Gardener.

Jan Webb, District XI president, and Nancy Quigley, District XI immediate past president reactivated the Bienville RTA unit. Milton Odom is currently serving as the newly elected unit president.

Please let us know if a unit in your parish has been reactivated or revitalized.

## LRTA Receives P.R.I.D.E. Award



Graig Luscombe, LRTA executive director; Nancy L. Quigley, LRTA second vice-president; and Dr. Lonnie E. Dunn, LRTA immediate past president with P.R.I.D.E. Award.

LRTA received the 2014 P.R.I.D.E. Convention Partner Award from the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau. The 2014 P.R.I.D.E. Awards banquet was held Thursday, May 15, at the Horseshoe Riverdome in Bossier City. Attending the banquet to receive the award were Graig Luscombe, LRTA executive director; Dr. Lonnie Dunn, LRTA immediate past president; Nancy Quigley, LRTA second vice-president; and Jan Webb, LRTA District XI president. LRTA hosted its 2013 Fall Meeting at the Hilton

Garden Inn/Homewood Suites in Bossier City.

The purpose of the annual event is to honor individuals and groups in more than 20 categories who are all affiliated with the tourism industry. LRTA was one of three winners in the convention partner category. P.R.I.D.E. stands for "Proud Residents Involved in Developing our Economy."

## Foundation Report

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course, information recognizing your donation will be included in the next LRTA Newsletter. Your ongoing and generous support will help us reach \$100,000 in assets - only \$17,940 to go to reach this milestone goal. Thanks for all your support!

*Hugh Craft, Ed. D.  
Foundation President*

## 2014 LRTA Fall Meeting

Start making your plans to attend the 2014 LRTA Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge, LA at the Embassy Suites on October 27, 28, and 29. We look forward to seeing you there.

## 2014 Legislative Session Recap

### PERMANENT BENEFIT INCREASES

#### House Bill No. 1225

*by Representative Joel Robideaux*

This bill alters the current funding mechanism for the Experience Accounts held at the four state retirement systems. The bill also alters the payment mechanism and frequency of future PBIs. The bill requires that the state retirement systems increase amounts of excess investment income to payments on the outstanding debts of the retirement systems and restricts the creation of additional system liabilities by limiting the frequency of benefit increases to be provided from the Experience Accounts.

Future allocations of excess investment income to the payment of retirement system debt will be indexed each year by the percentage increase in the actuarial value of the assets of the system. The proposed legislation allows for the funding of future PBIs in the following manner:

A benefit increase funded by the account is limited to the lesser of the following:

1. The CPI-U for the twelve month period ending on the system's valuation date.
2. a. If the system is 85% funded or greater, 3%. (Amended from 85% down to 80%.)
- b. If the system is at least 75% funded but less than 85% funded and the legislature has not granted a benefit increase in the preceding year, 2.5%.
- c. If the system is at least 65% funded but less than 75% funded and the legislature has not granted a benefit increase in the preceding year, 2%.
- d. If the system is at least 55% funded but less than 65% funded and the legislature has not granted a benefit increase in the preceding year, 1.5%.
- e. If the system is less than 55% funded, no benefit increase shall be granted.

No benefit increase may be granted in any year the retirement system is 80% funded and the system does not meet its actuarially assumed rate of return of 8.0%.

Benefit increases granted after July 1, 2015 shall be calculated on the first \$60,000 of a retiree's annual benefit. Eligible retirees will have to be age 60 and retired for at least one year before the increase is paid, and beneficiaries will be eligible for the increase if the deceased retiree would have met these eligibility requirements. The bill must be enacted into law in order for the PBI legislation (Senate Bill No. 21) to become effective.

- LRTA will closely monitor this legislation.

Passed by the House Retirement Committee with amendments on April 24, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives with amendments on May 6, 2014. Amend-

ments address changes in the amortization schedule for UAL payments, and allow for the granting of a 3.0% PBI when TRSL is 80% funded. The original bill did not allow a 3.0% PBI until TRSL was 85% funded. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 12, 2014. Passed by the Senate on May 19, 2014. Enrolled and sent to the governor.

Becomes Act No. 399 of 2014.

#### 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.

Voluntarily deferred by the author during Senate Retirement Committee proceedings on March 31, 2014.

#### 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.

Amended by the Senate Retirement Committee on March 24, 2014 to include language granting the PBI to eligible TRSL retirees and their beneficiaries contingent upon the granting of the PBI to eligible retirees of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, and the Louisiana State Police Retirement System. The bills granting the PBI to eligible retirees of the other three state retirement systems were also amended to include similar language. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on March 24, 2014.

Passed by the Senate Finance Committee on March 31, 2014.

Passed by the Senate on April 2, 2014 with an amendment which states the PBI will not be paid unless the provisions of House Bill No. 1225 are enacted into law. A description of House Bill No. 1225 is provided above.

Passed by the House Retirement Committee on April 24, 2014.

Passed by the House of Representatives on May 13, 2014. Enrolled and sent to the governor.

Becomes Act No. 104 of 2014.

### RETURN-TO-WORK RETIREES

#### House Bill No. 29

*by Representative Kenny Cox*

This bill allows retired members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to return to work in areas covered by the system, and who are not returning to work as substitute teachers, to return to work with an annual earnings restriction of 25% of their annual retirement benefit.

- LRTA will support this legislation.

Deferred by the House Retirement Committee on March 13, 2014.

#### House Bill No. 82

*by Representative Sam Jones*

This bill will allow a retired member of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, including those retirees who do not possess a valid teaching certificate, to return to work as a substitute classroom instructor and continue to receive full retirement benefits.

- LRTA will support this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author during House Retirement Committee proceedings on March 13, 2014.

#### Senate Bill No. 29

*by Senator Michael Walsworth*

This bill allows a retired educational diagnostician or reading specialist to return to work in TRSL covered employment and continue to receive full retirement benefits.

- LRTA will support this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author during Senate Retirement Committee proceedings on March 31, 2014. Voluntarily deferred by the author during Senate Retirement Committee proceedings on April 14, 2014.

#### Senate Bill No. 555

*by Senator Dan Morrish*

This bill will allow retired educators who have celebrated their 65th birthday to return to work in a position covered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana without having an impact on their retire-



ment benefit.

- LRTA will support this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author during proceedings of the Senate Retirement Committee on March 31, 2014. Voluntarily deferred by the author during Senate Retirement Committee proceedings on April 14, 2014.

## RETIREMENT SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

### Senate Bill No. 13

by Senator Barrow Peacock

This bill provides for the use of the entry age normal actuarial valuation method for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and for the Teachers' Retirement System of the Louisiana. The current valuation method utilized by both systems is the projected unit credit method.

- LRTA has no position on this legislation.

Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on March 31, 2014. Passed by the Senate April 2, 2014. Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 19, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 29, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 29, 2014. Enrolled and sent to the governor.

### Senate Bill No. 20

by Senator Elbert Guillory

This bill provides for necessary technical corrections to existing statutory provisions to allow the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to maintain compliance with regulations regarding tax-qualified defined benefit public pension plans that are promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service.

- LRTA will support this legislation.

Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on March 17, 2014. Passed by the Senate on March 19, 2014. Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 7, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 27, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 27, 2014. Enrolled and sent to the governor.

## RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEMBERSHIP

### House Bill No. 38

by Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This bill increases the eligible age for retiring from the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana from age 60 to age 62. The new age eligibility requirement will be applied to members joining the system on or after July 1, 2014.

- LRTA has no position on this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author during House Retirement Committee proceedings on March 20, 2014. Passed by the House Retirement Committee on April 10, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on April 21, 2014. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on April 28, 2014 with an amendment to implement the legislation on July 1, 2015 rather than on July 1,

2014. Passed by the Senate on May 6, 2014. House concurred in the Senate amendments on May 13, 2014. Enrolled and sent to the governor.

Becomes Act No. 226 of 2014.

## OPTIONAL RETIREMENT PLAN FOR HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYEES

### House Bill No. 6

by Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This bill establishes a minimum employer contribution rate for the Optional Retirement Plan offered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to certain employees of the state's institutions of higher education. The rate is set at the greater of the regular plan normal cost or 6.25% of pay.

- LRTA has no position on this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author during House Retirement Committee proceedings on March 13, 2014. Amended and passed by the House Retirement Committee on March 27, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on April 7, 2014. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on April 28, 2014. Voluntarily deferred by the author during Senate Finance Committee proceedings on May 7, 2014. Passed by the Senate Finance Committee on May 12, 2014. Passed by the Senate on May 15, 2014. Senate amendments concurred in by the House of Representatives on May 21, 2014. Enrolled and sent to the governor.

## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OFFSETS

### House Concurrent Resolution No. 33

by Representative Henry Burns

This resolution memorializes the U. S. Congress to consider eliminating the Windfall

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## Executive Director's Report

*Continued from page 2*

changed funding provisions for members of the Optional Retirement Plan offered by TRSL to certain employees of our state's institutions of higher education.

Two resolutions, House Concurrent Resolution No. 33 and Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 5, were passed by the legislature memorializing the U. S. Congress to consider eliminating or modifying the Social Security Administration offsets applied to employees receiving a public pension but who did not contribute payroll taxes to the Social Security Administration on salaries earned while working. These two resolutions do not impact those offsets. Only the U. S. Congress can make changes in those laws affecting policies administered by the Social Security Administration.

A complete summary of the most important legislation monitored by LRTA on your behalf is included in this issue. The summary includes LRTA's position on the bill and the actions taken by the legislature on the bill. I personally want to thank all of you who became involved in the legislative process this year by contacting members of your legislative delegations regarding issues affecting you and all retired educators. Individually, we may not be heard, but collectively, we cannot be ignored.

## Name of Fame Award Recipients



Bertha H. Breland (left) and Berteal E. Rogers (right)

Name of Fame Awards were presented at the Spring Meeting luncheon. Bertha H. Breland was the honoree from District III, and Berteal E. Rogers was the honoree from District IX. The LRTA Name of Fame Award was created in 2002 to honor Louisiana's retired teachers for their leadership, organizational achievements and community involvement.

# In Memoriam

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

## Deceased Retired Teachers - March 11, 2014 - May 26, 2014

### District I

Tommie J. Alexander – New Orleans  
Allen H. Chappel – New Orleans  
Varol L. Finnie – New Orleans  
Melvin C. Jones, Sr. – New Orleans  
Lillie E. Matthew – New Orleans  
Mary M. May – New Orleans  
Sandra M. Palmer – New Orleans  
Charlene L. Pleas – New Orleans  
Juanita H. Schroeder – New Orleans  
Gerald J. Sellers – Belle Chasse  
Byrne H. Warren – New Orleans  
Delano J. Williams – New Orleans

### District II

Robert Carpenter – Harvey  
Stephen Crovetto – Luling  
Michael L. Denning – Chauvin  
Nason J. Dupuy – Houma  
William R. Fallon – Metairie  
Colleen A. Harrigan – Gretna  
Delores G. Hensley – Paradis  
Margaret V. Jolley – Thibodaux  
Isiah Jones – Reserve  
Rodney Lafon – Luling  
Gwendolyn T. Lenox – Kenner  
Charles G. Leonard – Thibodaux  
June D. Lumpkin – Kenner  
Beatrice B. Mire – Raceland  
John Mullen III – Kenner  
Mary L. Pepp – LaPlace  
Adele P. Pfister – Metairie  
Ruby L. Pierce – Cut Off  
Erba Emory Prinz – Metairie  
Marion H. Smith – Houma  
Betty S. B. Wallace – Larose  
Martha S. Zeringue – Thibodaux

### District III

Helen W. Amacker – Bogalusa  
Marcelle Carona Anzalone – Independence  
Lillie B. Barbre – Ponchatoula  
Mary Lou Burris-Scott – Ponchatoula  
Richard P. Callaway – Folsom  
Amos O. Cowart – Hammond  
Mary T. Jarreau – Denham Springs  
Walter B. Lowrey – Slidell  
Armand J. Matherne – Slidell  
Ruby A. McQueen – Pearl River  
Doris Mae B. Mitchell – Maurepas  
Clea E. Parker – Hammond  
John M. Parker – Denham Springs  
Celestine S. Partain – Slidell  
Janet S. Pfister – Covington  
Eddie L. Robinson – Hammond  
Eleanore C. Smith – Abita Springs  
Emile F. Stevens, Jr. – Denham Springs  
Kenneth E. Thomas, Jr. – Loranger  
Dale J. Thorn – Denham Springs  
Corliss S. Wilson – Denham Springs

### District IV

Carol K. Adams – Prairieville  
Mamie C. Baumann – Baton Rouge  
Thomas E. Bickham, Jr. – Plaquemine  
Floretta G. Boudreaux – Gonzales  
Mary J. Boyd – Zachary  
Mary Elizabeth Cain – Baton Rouge  
Enoch Carriere – Baton Rouge  
Jack Cole – Baton Rouge

Luetricia J. Collins – Baton Rouge  
Ruby H. Conrad – Baton Rouge  
Dorothy Cox – Baton Rouge  
Terry M. Francisco – Baton Rouge  
Mable B. Gaston – Baton Rouge  
Isaac B. Greggs – Baton Rouge  
Jean E. Hayes – Baton Rouge  
Catherine M. Hecker – Baton Rouge  
Teme P. Hernandez – Baton Rouge  
Paul E. Humes – Baton Rouge  
Ruby A. Jackson – Baton Rouge  
Dale G. Ketelsen – Baton Rouge  
Peggy G. Leggett – Baker  
Madelyn P. Maples – Baton Rouge  
Bernice R. Nick – Baton Rouge  
Eunice T. Pavageau – Baker  
Ida B. Randall – Greenwell Springs  
Marie A. Rotolo – Baton Rouge  
Robert Sheldon – Baton Rouge  
Mary N. Shirley – Baton Rouge  
Earl K. Spottsville – Baker  
Mildred C. Stevenson – Baton Rouge  
Iona J. Stewart – Baker  
James T. Sullivan – Prairieville  
William A. Talmadge – Baton Rouge  
John R. Tarver – Baton Rouge  
Miriam S. Tollett – Baton Rouge  
Zelma V. Young – Baton Rouge  
Mary V. Zbozen – Baton Rouge

### District V

Mary V. Auzenne – Carnecro  
Isabella C. Beverly – Franklin  
Claire T. Bourque – Lafayette  
Barbara H. Broussard – Abbeville  
Ruth B. Broussard – Abbeville  
Doris C. Catalan – Maurice  
Catherine A. Champagne – Lafayette  
Richard F. Doolin – Lafayette  
Rose G. Druilhet – Lafayette  
Teletha D. Duchane – Jeanerette  
Clifford Durand, Jr. – St. Martinville  
Theodore J. Griffin, Sr. – Opelousas  
Stephen Guilbeau – Breaux Bridge  
Constance W. Hulbert – Morgan City  
John G. Hutchinson – Lafayette  
Stephen Huter – Breaux Bridge  
Edmonia M. Jackson – St. Martinville  
Robert R. Jones – Arnaudville  
Evelyn T. Lewis – Maurice  
Willie M. Martin – Lafayette  
Geraldine E. Morris – Opelousas  
Germaine Munk – Berwick  
Theresa A. Musemeche – New Iberia  
Veronica S. Orbro – Opelousas  
Patrick D. Richard – Lawtell  
Leo C. Saporito – Kaplan  
Maybelle Thomas – Opelousas  
James E. Wallace – Jeanerette  
Beverly Anderson White – Lafayette  
Dixie Wilson – Carencro

### District VI

Barbara W. Bailey – West Lake  
Marie J. Broussard – Lake Charles  
Della B. Bruchhaus – Elton  
Beverly H. Captain – Lake Charles  
Zelma Fox Cates – Ragley  
James A. Hooper, Jr. – Lake Charles  
Margaret L. Krasso – Merryville

Kathleen T. Langlinais – Morse  
Juanita B. Melton – Lake Charles  
Jeanelle D. Menard – Church Point  
Sybil B. Moore – Sulphur  
Mary Evelyn F. Roberts – Merryville  
Mary J. Smith – Sulphur  
Clara G. S. Spence – DeRidder  
Leola E. Theriot – Grand Chenier  
Carol H. Wells – Crowley

### District VII

Ronald Melder Akins – Alexandria  
F. Gayle R. Barnhill – Deville  
Gayle D. Blankenbaker – Alexandria  
Mary S. Campbell – Pineville  
Walter C. Hughes – Hornbeck  
Pauline M. Jones – Ferriday  
Gertrude Laborde – Marksville  
Ann E. Matthews – Alexandria  
Ronald N. Mayeux – Hessmer  
Brenda Richard – Simmesport  
Pamela Ann Sauseda – Boyce  
Gale D. Williams – Leesville  
Robert B. Winegeart – Jonesville

### District VIII

Gladys Bell – Winnfield  
Cato W. Bissic – Logansport  
Barbara Bruning – Clarence  
Daniel Butler – Natchitoches  
Bobbie F. Ellis – Natchitoches  
Margaret O. Guillory – Natchitoches  
Eunice A. Gay Morrow – Natchitoches  
Allen H. Plummer – Mansfield  
Melanie A. Schweiger – Many  
Maxine A. Southerland – Natchitoches

### District IX

Melanie M. H. Navarro – Tallulah  
Mrs. Neely C. Roach – Chase  
Betty Jo Robinson – Mangham  
Allen T. Tobin – Tallulah  
Harold E. Turner – Waterproof

### District X

Berta L. Adams – West Monroe  
Wally H. Biggs – West Monroe  
Bessie A. Cash – West Monroe  
Levoie T. Emanuel – Bastrop  
Constance J. Garrett – West Monroe  
Rubye J. Hamilton – Bastrop  
Frank D. Mancil – Columbia  
Joyce F. Mehl – Monroe  
Elaine R. Miles – Monroe  
Ollie Miller – Ruston  
Willie Minor, Jr. – Monroe  
Authurine Murphy – Grambling  
Gladys O. Smith – Monroe  
Pamela L. Smith – Monroe  
Maxine Washam – Ruston  
John Q. Watley – Bernice  
Mary Eston Williams – Ruston  
Richard Worthington – Monroe  
Leonard M. Young – Monroe

### District XI

James K. Corley – Bossier City  
Judith Ann Dodd – Shreveport  
Rose P. Ebarb – Shreveport  
Sandra Poss Harper – Shreveport



## *In Memoriam (continued)*

Lula Larkin – Shreveport  
 Eula B. Mitchell – Shreveport  
 Donna Rodgers Oliver – Bossier City  
 Winifred H. Owens – Bossier City  
 Cassyle C. Price – Shreveport  
 Mary Rambo – Shreveport  
 Jean B. Rockhold – Bethany  
 Connie W. Selva – Ringgold  
 Jessie M. Summage – Haughton  
 Robert H. Taylor – Minden  
 Jimmie K. Thomas – Shreveport  
 James White – Shreveport  
 Evelyn T. Willis – Shreveport

### **Out of State**

Cleo S. Braden – Riverside, CA  
 James H. Brooks – Summerfield, FL  
 Laura B. Brown – Houston, TX  
 Betti Callaghan – Little Rock, AR  
 Edith M. Canal – Frisco, TX  
 Gertrude Chelette – Houston, TX  
 Louis J. Cheramie – Diamondhead, MS  
 Russell W. Cronin, Jr. – Lufkin, TX  
 Marjorie J. Ducote – Los Gatos, CA  
 Gertrude G. Emelle – Humble, TX  
 Port G. Evans – Gulf Breeze, FL  
 Adele S. P. Folse – Lake Ann, MI  
 Helen M. Friedel – Edmond, OK  
 Patricia Gardner – Acworth, GA  
 Johnnie Mae R. Golden – Humble, TX  
 Bobbye L. Gordy – Humble, TX  
 Mary P. Green – Cheverly, MD  
 Audrey B. Harris – Great Falls, VA  
 Joyce T. Hatch – The Woodlands, TX  
 Hervis D. Haynes – Birmingham, AL  
 Richard F. Haynes – Rockfall, CT  
 Ruby E. S. Henry – Ocean Springs, MS  
 Alice V. Houston – Portland, OR  
 Mildred M. Jenkins – Argyle, TX  
 Atwood Jones – Manvel, TX  
 Frederick H. Kasten – Johnson City, TN  
 Robert L. Kastner – Tucson, AZ  
 Walter P. Kessinger, Jr. – The Woodlands, TX  
 Winifred Kilpatrick – Rowlett, TX  
 Mary Jo King – Louin, MS  
 Paul F. Loup, III – Hurley, MS  
 Henry Louviere – Houston, TX  
 Walton Mallerich – El Paso, TX  
 Alfred C. Meador – Alpharetta, GA  
 Cheryl D. Mercadal – Bedford, TX  
 Shirley A. O'Connell – Woodbridge, VA  
 Russell C. Paster – Lewisville, TX  
 Billie W. Perlman – Houston, TX  
 Pauline Pierre – Gulfport, MS  
 Henry Reeves – Mansfield, TX  
 Charles E. Stull – Las Vegas, NV  
 Beulah R. Swindell – Natchez, MS  
 Gilda R. Thomas – Richmond, TX  
 Mae Etta C. Tolver – Austin, TX  
 Janie P. Wagner – Los Angeles, CA  
 Sandra M. Webb – Powder Springs, GA  
 Henri Alice Wise – Hattiesburg, MS  
 Carolyn E. Wroten – Sylacauga, AL

## **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@lrrta.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!*



**Bogalusa Councilman Michael O'ree representing Mayor Charles Mizell presents a city proclamation to Bogalusa unit president Lazette Watterson in recognition of Retired Teachers Day held on March 20th. Each retired teacher who attended the meeting was presented with an official city lapel pin.**

## **LRTA Mourns Clifford Durand, Jr.**

Clifford Durand, former LRTA District V president and member of the LRTA Executive Board, passed away March 10, 2014. Mr. Durand taught for over 30 years in the St. Martin Parish School System. After retirement, he helped organize the St. Martin RTA and served as the first president of the unit. He was also a very strong supporter of the LRTA Foundation.

LRTA expresses our condolences to both family and friends.

## **Foundation Donations**

The following donations to the LRTA Foundation have been received:

Edna-Marie Campbell Sevin - In honor of: Dr. Lonnie E. Dunn, Dr. Hugh and Carolyn Craft, Dr. Sidney and Carolyn Seegers and Mary Ann Edwards

Renée M. Siccone – General donation

Bossier Parish RTA - In memory of all deceased retired teachers from Bossier Parish this past year.

Educators of Yesteryear - In honor of Geraldine Brown

Linda B. Day - In memory of Frank Rayson and Judy Ellis

LRTA District V - In memory of Hazel S. Turner and Clifford Durand.

Acadia Parish RTA - In Memory of all deceased retired educators of Acadia Parish for 2013-2014.

Dr. & Mrs. Hugh C. Craft - In memory of Richard Keller, Alda Smith, Betty Crovetta and Mary Jo King.

Anonymous - In memory of all deceased retired educators from October 22, 2013 through April 23, 2014

LRTA - In memory of Clifford Durand, Jr.

St. Charles Parish RTA - In memory of Dr. Rodney LaFon and Stephen Crovetto

## **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 the 2014-2015 membership year (or \$10 for associate members) have not been paid. If your annual membership has not been renewed, you will receive a reminder from LRTA in the next few weeks. If you are uncertain about your membership status, contact the LRTA office.

## 2014 Legislative Session

Continued from page 5

Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) Social Security benefit reductions.

- LRTA will support this resolution.

Passed by the House of Representatives on March 25, 2014. Passed by the Senate on May 28, 2014.

### Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 5 by Senator Elbert Guillory

This resolution memorializes the U. S. Congress to reduce or eliminate the reductions mandated by federal law, the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), applicable to social security benefits for those receiving public retirement system benefits.

- LRTA will support this resolution.

Passed by the Senate Retirement Commit-

tee on March 31, 2014. Passed by the Senate on April 1, 2014. Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 15, 2014. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 27, 2014.

## 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 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

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

## 2014 Spring Meeting

