



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association



www.lrta.net

Striving To Make Retirement Years Great!

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LRTA Foundation Update

The LRTA Foundation will hold a silent auction at the LRTA Fall Meeting in Lake Charles. LRTA Foundation Board members are asking for donations of items from local businesses and individuals to be auctioned. Anyone wishing to donate auction items is asked to call the LRTA office and provide information about items to be donated, along with an estimate of the value of the items. Donor's name (business or individual) will accompany all auction items.

All winning auction bidders must claim their items at the close of the Fall Meeting on October 28. Payment may be made by cash or check; 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.

2015 Fall Meeting to be Held at L'Auberge Resort in Lake Charles

The 2015 Fall Meeting, hosted by LRTA District VI, will take place October 26-28 at L'Auberge Resort Hotel, 777 Avenue L'Auberge in Lake Charles.

District VI President Clara F. Duhon, along with Host Committee Co-Chair Lizzie K. Syas and their committee members from the local units in District VI, are working closely with LRTA staff to provide a meeting packed with interesting programs and activities for attendees. LRTA President James T. Stewart and State Program Chair Nancy L. Quigley invite you to come and enjoy fun and fellowship with other retired teachers from across the state.

A special hotel room convention group rate of \$99 per night, plus tax, has been negotiated with L'Auberge. **Cut off date for the special rate is October 12, 2015.** Individuals may make hotel room reservations directly with the hotel by calling 866-580-7444, and identifying themselves as members of the La. Retired Teachers Fall Meeting 2015, **Group**

Code #SLRT15. All reservations must be guaranteed and accompanied with a first-night room deposit or guaranteed by credit card. Individual reservations that are not cancelled within 48 hours prior to arrival date will be charged for the first night's room and tax. **To receive the special room rate, you must give the Group Code (#SLRT15), not just the group name.**

Use the form on page 8 of this newsletter to register for attendance at the Fall Meeting. Please note: attendance at the evening banquet function Tuesday, October 27 is by pre-reservation only. Pre-registration will ensure that upon arrival you will receive a packet containing your name tag and other meeting materials. Register today!



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President's Report



James T. Stewart

We are now in the middle of a HOT summer. However, we will soon feel the HEAT of political rhetoric as candidates outline their "To Do" lists to the voters.

This is a very important election for us as retired teachers. Those elected will determine the changes, good or bad, that will be made to our retirement system and our insurance plans.

We must do our best to help ourselves and our fellow retired teachers. How can we do this?

- Be sure that you are registered to vote
- Determine the candidates who will support issues that affect Louisiana retirees positively
- Vote, and encourage family and friends to vote

District and unit officers need your help and support as they work to help our association meet the challenges facing all retirees.

Help our Email Club continue to grow – encourage all to join!

Make plans to attend the LRTA Fall Meeting in Lake Charles, and help us welcome LRTA's new Executive Director Rodney Watson to his first state meeting as a member of the LRTA staff.

Be Safe – Encourage and Help Others – Stay Cool!

Executive Director's Report



Rodney R. Watson

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Executive Director for LRTA. I have spent more than thirty years in Louisiana's educational system, ranging from a classroom teacher

to a local superintendent. Additionally, I served many years as an Assistant Superintendent in the Louisiana Department of Education.

I believe my extensive experience with the state and federal governments will allow me to effectively represent you on important matters of retirement legislation. Our priority this fall will be to communicate to political candidates the importance of retaining our defined benefit structure, the retention of TRSL as an independent retirement system, support for PBIs/CO-LAs, and paying down the UAL to ensure financial stability for our retirement system. The LRTA Executive Board has provided us with a clear vision on how to achieve our mission to improve the quality of life for our retirees.

I look forward to visiting with each of our eleven districts and have scheduled dates to meet with you during September and October. I have already met with several of our local units and have been very impressed and honored by your welcoming spirit and delightful hospitality.

Please be reminded that our Fall Meeting will be held in Lake Charles at the L'auberge Resort on October 26 – 28. Details and registration information are included in this newsletter. We thank District VI President Clara Duhon and her planning committee for hosting our Fall Meeting this year.

Finally, I would like to thank the LRTA Executive Board for their support of me as your new Executive Director. As a state retiree, I have a vested interest in maintaining the integrity of the Teachers' Retirement System. I look forward to meeting many of you at the local unit, district, and state meetings.

Warmest Personal Regards,
Rodney R. Watson

LRTA

Executive Board

President

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

Past President

Lonnie E. Dunn, Ed. D.
3750 Christy Dr.
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5210 Airline Dr.
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District I President

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P.O. Box 15713
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District II President

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614 Oleo St.
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1001 Oak St.
Jonesville, LA 71343

District VIII President

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P. O. Box 523
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1207 Maple St.
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2015 Legislative Session Update

PERMANENT BENEFIT INCREASES

House Bill No. 42 by Representative Sam Jones

This bill provides for the payment of a permanent benefit increase out of the balance on deposit in the Experience Account, up to 1.5%, to eligible members of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana to begin on July 1, 2015. The benefit increase will be provided to those eligible 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, 2015. The benefit increase will be applied to the first \$60,000 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.

Similar PBIs are authorized for members of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System and the Louisiana State Police Retirement System.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Deferred by the House Retirement Committee on April 30. Reported unfavorably by the House Retirement Committee May 14. Passed to a third reading by the full House May 19. Passed by the House of Representatives May 26. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee with amendments on June 1. Passed by the Senate Finance Committee with amendments on June 5. The amendments delay implementation of the PBI until July 1, 2016. Passed by the Senate on June 8. In the waning minutes of the session, the House of Representatives and the Senate adopted a conference committee report which changed the implementation date of the PBI back to July 1, 2015. Enrolled and sent to the governor on June 15.

House Bill No. 42 was vetoed by the governor on June 19, 2015.

House Bill No. 83 by Representative Patrick Jefferson

This bill provides for the continuation of nutrition assistance for retirees of the four state retirement systems who are at least 80 years of age and whose SNAP benefits are reduced or eliminated due to income gained from the granting of a permanent benefit increase.

LRTA supported this legislation.

House Bill No. 83 failed to pass.

RETURN-TO-WORK RETIREES

House Bill No. 43 by Representative Harvey LeBas

This bill provides for an increase in the cap a retired teacher is allowed to earn when re-employed as a substitute teacher from 25% to 50% of the annual benefit paid by TRSL to the return-to-work retiree.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Passed by the House Retirement Committee on April 30. Passed by the House of Representatives with amendments on May 12. The amendments gradually increase the salary cap from 25% after the first year of reemployment to 50% in following years. The one year waiting period after retirement remains in effect. Deferred by the Senate Retirement Committee May 18.

House Bill No. 43 failed to pass.

Senate Bill No. 20 by Senator Gerald Long

This bill removes the grandfather provision which currently exists, and allows individuals who retired on or before June 30, 2010 to return to work without suspension of benefits. The bill will also allow school counselors to return to work without suspension of benefits.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on April 20 with amendments. The amendments add school counselors to the critical shortage category and allow retirees serving as substitute teachers under the 25% earnings limit to proctor certain tests. Passed by the Senate on April 27. Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 14 with an amendment adding education diagnosticians. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 28. Enrolled and sent to the governor on June 4.

Senate Bill No. 20 was signed into law by the governor on June 23, becoming Act 149 of 2015. Effective date June 30, 2015.

RETIREMENT SYSTEM FUNDING

House Bill No. 41 by Representative Joseph Harrison

This bill provides for the payment of employer contributions directly to TRSL from the state treasury rather than through the Minimum Foundation Program.

LRTA monitored this legislation.

This legislation was withdrawn from the files of the House prior to introduction on April 3, 2015.

House Bill No. 41 failed to pass.

House Bill No. 55 by Representative Harold Ritchie and Senator Ben Nevers

This bill is a constitutional amendment that levies a tax on usage at hydrocarbon processing facilities. The provisions of the constitutional amendment stipulate that \$250 million of the tax proceeds each year be dedicated to both the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. Each year's payment to the systems will be in proportion to the balance of the unfunded accrued liabilities of the systems.

LRTA supported this legislation.

House Bill No. 55 failed to pass.

House Bill No. 562 by Representative Kenny Havard

This bill proposes to set aside excess non-recurring revenue collected in any given fiscal year that is not credited to the Budget Stabilization Fund to be allocated to the payment of the initial unfunded accrued liability (IUAL) of TRSL and LASERS.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Passed by the House Appropriations Committee with amendments on May 26. Passed by the House of Representatives on June 1. Voluntarily deferred by the author on June 5.

House Bill No. 562 failed to pass.

Senate Bill No. 14 by Senator Elbert Guillory

This bill requires that projected noninvestment related administrative expenses for all state retirement systems for any given fiscal year be included as a factor in determining the retirement system's employer contribution rate.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author on April 20.

Senate Bill No. 14 failed to pass.

Senate Bill No. 15 by Senator Ben Nevers and Representative Harold Ritchie

This bill is a constitutional amendment that levies a tax on usage at hydrocarbon processing facilities. The provisions of the constitutional amendment stipulate that \$250 million of the tax proceeds each year be dedicated to both the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and to the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana. Each year's payment to the systems will be in proportion to the balance of the unfund-

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ed accrued liabilities of the systems.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Senate Bill No. 15 failed to pass.

Senate Bill No. 16 by Senator Elbert Guillory

This bill provides for technical corrections to Act No. 399 of 2014 dealing with the mechanics of the Experience Accounts held at TRSL and the other three state retirement systems. The bill also removes the prohibition that PBIs cannot be granted in consecutive years.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on April 20 with amendments. The amendments made technical adjustments to the bill. Passed by the Senate on April 27. Passed by the House Retirement Committee on May 14. Passed by the House on June 8.

Senate Bill No. 16 failed to pass.

Senate Bill No. 18 by Senator Robert Adley

This bill allows higher education systems (i.e. the LSU system, the State College and University System, the Southern University System) to opt out of TRSL. Opting out of TRSL will require the higher education system to pay TRSL for its proportionate share of existing system liabilities. No additional liabilities in the retirement system can be incurred. The higher education system will then create a new retirement plan for its employees. Funding for the payment of the liabilities may come from any income source including proceeds from the sale of bonds.

LRTA opposed this legislation.

A substitute bill was adopted and passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 18 with amendments. Senate Bill No. 18 now becomes Senate Bill No. 285. The substitute bill transfers \$83 million of payment to the IUAL from higher education institutions to local school boards. The amendments provide for a line item appropriation of \$83 million to local school boards to cover the transferred costs in order for the bill to become effective. See below.

Senate Bill No. 285 by Senator Robert Adley

The substitute bill transfers \$83 million of payment to the IUAL from higher education institutions to local school boards. The amendments provide for a line item appropriation of \$83 million to local school boards to cover the transferred costs in order for the bill to become effective.

LRTA monitored this legislation.

Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 18 with amendments for an \$83 million appropriation to local school boards to cover the cost of the legislation.

Senate Bill No. 285 failed to pass.

RETIREMENT SYSTEM MEMBERSHIP

House Bill No. 10 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This bill allows a current TRSL member to purchase service credit for time spent teaching in an elementary or secondary nonpublic school that was located in another state and was approved by that state's educational agency during the time the teaching service was rendered.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Passed by the House Retirement Committee on April 22. Passed by the House of Representatives on April 29. Passed by the Senate Retirement Committee on May 18.

House Bill No. 10 failed to pass.

RETIREMENT SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

House Concurrent Resolution No. 159 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This resolution establishes the Task Force on State Retirement System Sustainability. Members of the task force are: the speaker of the House or his designee, the president of the Senate or his designee, the chairman of the House Committee on Retirement or his designee, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement or his designee, the commissioner of administration or his designee, a representative of the Public Affairs Research Council, a representative of the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants, the manager of actuarial services for the Legislative Auditor, and two representatives appointed jointly by the four state retirement systems.

The task force's objective will be to study the current funding and benefits of the four state retirement systems and to investigate the need for further legislative reform relative to the retirement systems. The task force shall hold its first meeting no later than July 31, 2015, and shall submit its findings to the speaker of the House and to the president of the Senate no later than January 2, 2016.

LRTA monitored this legislation.

Passed by the House of Representatives on June 6.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 159 failed to pass.

OFFICE OF GROUP BENEFITS

House Bill No. 370 by Representative Chris Broadwater, Representative John Bel Edwards and Representative Robert Shadoin

This bill establishes the Group Benefits Actuarial Committee and requires an annual actuarial study of the premium rate structure. Members of the committee will include the commissioner of insurance, the state treasurer, and the legislative auditor. Rates must be approved by the committee prior to implementation.

LRTA supported this legislation.

Passed by the House Appropriations Committee with technical amendments on May 4. Passed by the House of Representatives on May 12. Passed by the Senate Finance Committee on June 1. Passed by the Senate on June 4. Enrolled and sent to the governor on June 12.

House Bill No. 370 was vetoed by the governor on June 19, 2015.

House Bill No. 643 by Representative J. Kevin Pearson

This bill establishes the State Employer Health Insurance Fund to be managed by the State Treasurer. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to state agencies to pay the employer portion of the cost to provide health and life insurance benefits to retirees of agencies, departments, boards and commissions of the state.

LRTA monitored this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the author on April 28.

House Bill No. 643 failed to pass.

Senate Bill No. 260 by Senator Sharon Weston Broome and Senator Daniel Claitor

This bill establishes the Group Benefits Estimating Conference. The estimating conference shall develop official information relating to group health and life insurance plans, premium rates, and budgeting. All plan benefits offered and contracts negotiated to administer the plans must be approved by the appropriate standing legislative committees and through the Administrative Procedure Act. The Group Benefits Policy and Planning Board shall use any official information provided by the Group Benefits Estimating Conference to review and approve benefit plans and rate structures.

LRTA monitored this legislation.

Voluntarily deferred by the co-author on May 4. Passed by the Senate Finance Committee with amendments on May 11, 2015. Passed by the Senate on May 13. Passed by

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the House Appropriations Committee on June 1. Passed by the House of Representatives on June 8. Enrolled and sent to the governor on June 11. Enrolled and sent to the governor on June 11.

Senate Bill No. 260 was signed into law by the governor on June 19, becoming Act 146 of 2015. Effective date January 1, 2016.

STATE INCOME TAX EXEMPTIONS

House Concurrent Resolution No. 57 by Representative Jack Montoucet

This resolution will suspend the exemption from paying state income tax on benefits received from public pension plans. Individuals receiving retirement benefits from one of the state's public employee pension plans would be required to pay state income tax on their retirement benefits. The resolution would be effective upon adoption by the legislature through sixty days after the adjournment of the 2016 Regular Session.

LRTA opposed this resolution.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 57 failed to pass.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 71 by Representative James Fannin

This resolution will suspend the exemption from paying state income tax on benefits received from public pension plans. Individuals receiving retirement benefits from one of the state's public employee pension plans would be required to pay state income tax on their retirement benefits. The resolution would be effective upon adoption by the legislature through sixty days after the adjournment of the 2016 Regular Session.

LRTA opposed this resolution.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 71 failed to pass.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 2 by Senator Robert Adley

This resolution will suspend for one year the exemption from paying state income tax on benefits received from public pension plans. Individuals receiving retirement benefits from one of the state's public employee pension plans would be required to pay state income tax on their retirement benefits. The resolution would be effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

LRTA opposed this resolution.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 2 failed to pass.

Nominees for State Offices Requested

The January 2016 ballot will feature the election of LRTA President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President. The two-year terms of your newly-elected officers will begin when the successful candidates are installed at the 2016 Spring Meeting in April.

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

Prospective 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 hold office, or to vote in LRTA elections.

Information on suggested nominees should 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 suggested nominee should be prioritized due to space limitations in the LRTA Newsletter where the information furnished on eventual nominees will be published. Suggested nominees should also furnish a recent color photo that may be published with their candidate information.

The Nominating Committee looks forward to working with the LRTA membership to develop a slate of well-qualified candidates for LRTA's statewide elected offices that will be presented to the executive board at the Fall Meeting.

All prospective candidate information must be received in the LRTA office no later than October 1, 2015, 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:

Gail Foster, Chair

Joseph Clyde Crooks

Joyce Harris

Ivy Mouton

Nancy Young

In Memoriam

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

Deceased Retired Teachers - May 19, 2015 to July 24, 2015

District I

Inez C. Brown – New Orleans
Bessie J. Causey – New Orleans
Julienne Christensen – New Orleans
Elsie J. Dominique – Violet
Joan M. Flot – New Orleans
Sondra Freels – New Orleans
Gloria L. Gleason – Port Sulphur
Carmen U. Gossett – New Orleans
Charles M. Green – New Orleans
Margaret K. Johnson – New Orleans
Millie Jane Joiner – Arabi
Sibyl G. Leach – New Orleans
Audrey M. Wise – New Orleans

District II

Linda M. Aycock – Harvey
James E. Barlow – Luling
Harwood I. Brown – Metairie
Jenette M. Brunette – Marrero
Martha Bryant – Metairie
Levie B. Chauvin – Jefferson
Marjorie D. Cheramie – Golden Meadow
Edwin J. Condoll – Marrero
Otis Dobson – Cut Off
Lucinda L. Frutos – Metairie
Dorothy L. Gaines – Edgard
Patricia Hanemann – Metairie
Donald J. Hecker – Terrytown
Evans J. LeBoeuf, Sr. – Raceland
Emile T. Magendie, Jr. – River Ridge
Louis Miller – Gray
Iona E. W. Mitchell – Harvey
Sidney D. Montz, Jr. – Thibodaux
Jasper L. Morgan – Marrero
William E. Palmer – Metairie
Frances J. Saracione – River Ridge
Felix J. Schexnayder, Jr. – Harahan
Rena Strickland – Metairie
Clarivis Tamayo – Metairie
Claire L. Valence – Marrero
Irma Lee Williams – Houma
Yolanda M. Youngblood – Metairie

District III

Cecile L. Alford – Kentwood
Rupert E. Brelaud – Bogalusa
Dorothy Mae Bush – Independence
Irma E. Carter – Slidell
Michael J. Catalanotto – Roseland
Victor A. Doucette – Slidell
Idella W. Gibson – Hammond
Carol Ann Hayes – Mandeville
John K. Hill – Denham Springs
Vivian S. Jones – Denham Springs
Janice S. Miller – Bogalusa
Joyce P. Powell – Hammond
Carrie W. Rayford – Slidell
John David Smith – Slidell
Patricia Spence – Denham Springs
Leoma Wilson – Kentwood

District IV

Rodney D. Adams – Baton Rouge
Mary H. Ammons – Baton Rouge
Russia H. Battiste – Baton Rouge
Michelle D. Brou – Baton Rouge
Doris P. Campbell – Baton Rouge
Irma B. Cassel – Baton Rouge
Jerry W. Charleville – Brusly
Mary Eleanor Cole – Baton Rouge
Lestly J. Collins – Baton Rouge
Joseph Cornelious – Baton Rouge
Marietta B. Curry – Baton Rouge
Doris B. Dantin – Prairieville
Lucille Z. Deville – Baton Rouge
James R. Dorroh – Baton Rouge
Richard M. Dugas – Baton Rouge
Bethener Ellison – Baton Rouge
Mildred L. George – Brusly
Helen Morton Gist – Baton Rouge
Louis E. Guillory – Baton Rouge
Mary K. Hamilton – Baton Rouge
Nora G. Heroman – Baton Rouge

Ruth R. Jackson – Baton Rouge
Jessie M. A. Joseph – Baton Rouge
James Keaton – Baton Rouge
Ella Lee Kelley – Baton Rouge
Joseph G. Kowalczyk – St. Francisville
Anna S. Lambert – Baton Rouge
Lorena C. LeDoux – Baton Rouge
Brenda S. Lewis – Baton Rouge
Elizabeth E. Louis – Baton Rouge
Judith B. Mattox – Baton Rouge
Margaret S. Scallan – Baton Rouge
Elizabeth A. Sorrell – Baton Rouge
Dolores M. Spikes – Baton Rouge
Leroy W. Stern – Gonzales
Margarita Suarez – Gonzales
Mary S. Tate – Baton Rouge
Martin E. Taylor – Baton Rouge
Edrice G. Thomas – Darrow
Roberta S. Tyson – Baton Rouge
Harley J. Walker – Baton Rouge
Bernice Warren – Baton Rouge
James N. White – Baton Rouge
Ralph P. Whitehead – Greenwell Springs

District V

Daniel Louis Alsandor – Carencro
Carita S. Boutte – Lafayette
Ruthie L. Brim – Patterson
Charles Campbell – Maurice
Serena R. Chapman – Eunice
David M. Chretien – Arnaudville
Geraldine Devillier – Eunice
Murphy Guillory – Opelousas
Marie Haik – New Iberia
Herman J. James – New Iberia
Sarah Shappell Jones – Lafayette
Charles H. Lewis – Lafayette
Charisse N. Murphy – Opelousas
Beverly J. Narcisse – Opelousas
Betty R. Odom – Lafayette
Jill M. Pere – Abbeville
Doris L. Regan – Lafayette
Jeanne B. Robin – Opelousas
Margaret Romero – New Iberia
Richard C. Zimmermann – Lafayette

District VI

Frances J. Broussard – Longville
Beatrix L. Cart – Crowley
Valerie W. Conner – Jennings
Wilda T. Guidry – Crowley
Mary M. Harmon – Crowley
Gloria D. Jack – Lake Charles
Constance Fruge Kelley – Elton
Virginia L. Lantier – Morse
C. Judith Mayo – Lake Charles
Bobby Ray Mills – DeRidder
Bobbie G. Moon – Lake Charles
Emily Louise Powell – Lake Charles
Pauline Spikes – Merryville
James Thomas – Lake Charles

District VII

Carolyn L. Addison – Montgomery
Gwendolyn V. Barnett – Ferriday
Carolyn S. Buxton – Leesville
Debra H. Corbitt – Montgomery
Abigail Bordelon Cryer – Leesville
Elwood Dyess – Alexandria
Bernadette W. Harrell – Simmesport
Betty Howard – Hornbeck
Johnny L. Jefferson – Bunkie
Henry Johnson – Alexandria
Johnnie Mae Palmer – Leesville
Shirley Ann Percy – Ferriday
Carol S. Rayner – Alexandria
Charles Roberts – Bunkie
Ralph T. Self – Alexandria
Robert L. Smith – Alexandria
Eileen Stannard – Leesville

District VIII

Patsy V. Clark – Winnfield
Rheshia I. Cox – Logansport

Trento O. Melder – Natchitoches
Bobbie Moss – Stonewall
Michael D. Nash – Mansfield

District IX

Joann C. Pickett – Oak Grove

District X

Melba Barmore – Dubach
Jimmy R. Childress – Choudrant
Sammie W. Disepany – Bastrop
Ever Lean S. Eiland – Ruston
Frank F. Futch – Spearsville
William O. Gay – Monroe
Mildred M. Gullatt – Simsboro
David A. Linzay – Monroe
Mary Lipscomb – Monroe
Mae S. Mackey – West Monroe
Frances F. Norris – Monroe
Governor Richardson – Monroe
Jeanette T. Richardson – Monroe
Alfred W. Twymon – Bastrop
C. Eugene Watkins – West Monroe
Elnora W. Wells – West Monroe

District XI

Katie M. Barnhill – Shreveport
Jimmy R. Bell – Doyline
Doris H. Culbertson – Shreveport
Dorothy J. Harman – Minden
Michael K. Lewis – Shreveport
Linda Mashell – Greenwood
Ruthie P. Morris – Minden
Clarice S. Parks – Shreveport
Lambert Peterson – Shreveport
Dorothy S. Quin – Arcadia
J. Dean Warren, Jr. – Bossier City
Roosevelt Williams – Shreveport
Jean B. Word – Shreveport

Out of State

Murty N. Akundi – Laurel, MD
Sana M. Alawady – Colleyville, TX
Richard Aslanian – Kingwood, TX
Nina R. Bahruth – Wesley Chapel, FL
Harold R. Battiste, Jr. – Los Angeles, CA
Laura V. Baudoin – Houston, TX
Grace A. Burge – Wimberley, TX
Ronald L. Butcher – Jane Lew, WV
Mary G. Caillier – Bay St. Louis, MS
Muriel G. Campbell – Cordova, TN
Otis T. Carollo – Madison, MS
Hollis U. Cox – Midwest City, OK
Blanche D. Dews – Tallahassee, FL
David E. Draper – Vicksburg, MS
Lodillia Evans – Pearlant, TX
John I. Fischer – Princeton, NJ
Marion R. Fleming – Houston, TX
Betty S. Fortenberry – Tylertown, MS
Terry G. Geske – Hot Springs Village, AR
Pearlie D. Hall – Jackson, MS
Mary K. Howard – Carriere, MS
Jerry L. Hutcheison – Zephyrhills, FL
Elneita V. Johnson – Missouri City, TX
Ava Marie B. Jones – Duncanville, TX
Charles E. Kirkfield – Magnolia, MS
Helen McAlmond – Dixon, CA
Virginia P. Miller – Albuquerque, NM
James E. Minter – Lockney, TX
Ann Bell Olliff – Orange, TX
Mary S. Sandt – Jupiter, FL
Patricia L. Sasser – Cantonment, FL
Helen K. Sexton – Seattle, WA
Chakravarthi Sharma – Allen, TX
Howelene S. Skinner – Houston, TX
Donald Stewart – Vicksburg, MS
Mable E. Towers – Stockton, CA
Josephine W. Wallis – Dandridge, TN
Hazel H. Webster – Diamondhead, MS
Roger Weinberg – Honolulu, HI
Betty P. Wells – Garland, TX
Dolores D. Wilmore – Oxford, GA
Carol P. Young – Cameron Park, CA

Foundation Donations

The following donations to the LRTA Foundation have been received:

Ouachita Retired Teachers Association - In Honor of LRTA Executive Director, Graig A. Luscombe, on his retirement.

Dr. & Mrs. James A. Taylor - In Memory of James E. Barlow and Rupert E. Breland.

District Fall Meeting Schedule

At the request of President James Stewart, District Fall Meetings were scheduled so that he and Executive Director Rodney Watson could attend every meeting. This way, LRTA members will have an opportunity to meet Mr. Watson in their district. We hope you will be able to attend your district meeting, and visit with our new Executive Director!

District I – 11:00 a.m., Thursday, September 24, AARP Office, 3542 S. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans

District II – Wednesday, September 23, Holiday Inn, 2261 N. Causeway Blvd., Metairie

District III – 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 22, First Christian Church, 305 E. Charles St., Hammond

District IV – 8:30 a.m., Monday, October 5, Jackson United Methodist Church, 1727 Sycamore St., Jackson

District V – Wednesday, September 9, Heyman Park Center, 1500 S. Orange, Lafayette

District VI - Monday, September 21, Pat's of Henderson, 1500 Siebarth Dr., Lake Charles

District VII – Thursday, October 15, Downtown Holiday Inn, 701 4th St., Alexandria

District VIII – 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 16, Natchitoches Inn, Hwy. 1 Bypass, Natchitoches

District IX – Thursday, September 17, Tallulah

District X – 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 6, West Monroe Convention Center, 901 Ridge Ave., W. Monroe

District XI – 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 15, Ryan's, 2400 Airline Dr., Bossier City

If you have any questions about your district fall meeting, please contact your district president.



Where in
Louisiana
do you call
"HoME?"

Show us where you live!

TRSL wants to showcase YOUR Louisiana hometown in our 2014-15 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Each year's report reflects a theme; in the past, we have used classroom photos and student artwork, but this year we want to see where you call home.

Images will be selected primarily on creativity, image quality, and available space.

Photos selected for use in the report will credit the photographer.

If you have questions, please contact Jill Courtney at jill.courtney@trsl.org or 225/925-7894

Submission guidelines

- Focal point should be a sign that shows the name of your hometown. (Photos without people preferred)
- Digital photos should be in color and high-resolution (at least 300 dpi).
- Entries submitted after August 15, 2015, will not be considered.

Visit **WWW.TRSL.ORG**
for submission form and link.

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. 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 in LRTA.

If you would like to stay informed via our Facebook page, please go to 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.

District and Unit Presidents: If you would like for the LRTA staff to manage an Email address book for the purpose of sending targeted notifications to your members, please contact LRTA staff to find out how this can be done.

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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Return Service Requested**LRTA STAFF**

Rodney R. Watson
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)	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

2015 FALL MEETING PRE-REGISTRATION / MEAL RESERVATION FORM

Please use this form to pre-register for the 2015 Fall Meeting in order to expedite registration in Lake Charles. To make a reservation for the convention banquet on Tuesday, October 27, indicate in the space provided and send a check for the appropriate amount. Each person pre-registering and/or reserving a meal ticket should return a separate form in order to receive a registration packet. Guests may use the form in order to have a registration packet. (Photocopies accepted.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Email: _____

____ Attendance only, no fee

____ Number of tickets for Tuesday night Convention Banquet (\$33 per person) \$ _____
 (roasted pork loin)

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Note: Pre-registration/dinner reservations must be received in the LRTA office by October 16, 2015. 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 RE-FUNDS WILL BE GIVEN for cancellations after October 20. Mail forms and checks to LRTA, 9412 Common St., Suite 5, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.