

NEWS AND MORE - - -

From North Lake Shore

North Lake Shore Retired Teachers Association
Unit 18 of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association

September, 2022

Well, Folks,

It's That Time of the Year Again...

No, NOT the start of a new school year. (Although, for many of you who are subbing, it is!) It's our Annual Legislative Meeting (on Zoom) on Thursday, September 15th, from 1-2:00 PM. After having a wonderful (albeit windy and chilly) in-person outdoor meeting at the famous Hackney's last year, the NLSRTA Board voted to have it on Zoom, given the uncertain Covid conditions.

Thus far, we have confirmed the attendance of:

Senators: Ann Gillespie (27th); Julie Morrison (29th) Laura Murphy (28th); Ram Villivalam (8th)

Representatives: Jonathan Carroll (57th); Robyn Gabel (18th); Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz (17th)

Charles Hutchinson (18th); Lindsay LaPointe (19th); Bob Morgan (58th); Kevin

Olikal (16th); Vince Romano (16th); Brad Stephens (20th); Rory Welch (57th)

Unfortunately, this year, Rep. Mark Walker and Sen. Laura Fine will be unable to join us. All of our legislators, as well as challengers, have been invited, but not all have responded.

Please be SURE to check your Voter Registration cards (we received new ones well before the June 28th Primary Elections) regarding your Districts--many of our members were redistricted, and those who were will have a new State Representative, State Senator and may have a new Congressperson (a number of NLSRTA area members have moved from the 9th Congressional District {Schakowsky} to the 10th {Schneider} or another. The new map takes effect January 1, 2023, so these new districts are for voting in November.

As in the past, incumbents will introduce themselves and give us a brief recap of the last legislative session. Challengers will introduce themselves and their platforms. A lively question and answer session will follow.

Please make sure to sign onto the Zoom AT LEAST 10 MINUTES BEFORE 1:00 PM, so that we can stay on time; we might go a bit past 2:00 P.M., since we have both incumbents and opponents this year.

We suggest that you put the newsletter into the "Starred" section of your inbox, where you can more easily access the Zoom link below on September 15th!

Looking forward to "seeing" you on Thursday, September 15th!

Topic: **NLSRTA Zoom Meeting**

Time: **Sep 15, 2022 12:45 PM Central Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81369430891?pwd=ajBTalJIWUxnTms5ejArQytwdVdpUT09>

Meeting ID: 813 6943 0891

Passcode: 855545

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,81369430891#,,,,*855545# US (Chicago)

+13092053325,,81369430891#,,,,*855545# US

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81369430891?pwd=ajBTalJIWUxnTms5ejArQytwdVdpUT09>

Thanks to some diligent work and persistent contact with the author by Sheila Fitzsimmons, a member of our board, our November meeting will feature T. Edward Siedle, co-author of the widely read *Who Stole My Pension?* and an authority on defined benefit pensions, such as ours. The meeting will, of course, be virtual, and because of its broad significance the IRTA will be sponsoring the event, making it available to all IRTA members. They will pay Mr. Siedle's fee and will make arrangements for the meeting. This will take place on Thursday, November 17th, just a week before Thanksgiving. **You will need to register beforehand and should do so NOW!** Register: <https://ambabenefits.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMvceuvqz0uH9EBrM6mJjoMRPhusl4M6gZ7> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

We have received a few copies of Mr. Siedle's book from the publisher for distribution; if you would like to have a copy, please contact Chaya Rubenstein at 847-877-6678 or chrubenstein36@gmail.com by Sept. 5. You will have to arrange for pickup of the book or pay the cost of mailing; this will be strictly first come, first served. North Lake Shore RTA is pleased to be able to share this timely presentation with all state retirees, and we thank Sheila for her effort in bringing this distinguished speaker to IRTA.

COMING UP!



- Thursday, Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m. Coffee with Jim Bachman – a virtual, informal gathering of members to chat and receive information from our Executive Director
- Thursday, September 15, 1:00 p.m. NLSRTA Membership Meeting (Virtual) State Legislative Candidates
- Thursday, Oct. 13, 9:30 a.m. Coffee with Jim Bachman – virtual gathering
- Thursday, Nov. 10, 9:30 a.m. Coffee with Jim Bachman – virtual gathering
- Thursday, Nov. 17, 1:00 p.m. Membership Meeting, *Who Stole My Pension* (Virtual)

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION?

You should have received a new voter registration card recently, and as a result of the redistricting you may have found that the legislators that you have known for so long are no longer yours, not because they are no longer serving but because you are part of a new district, Congressional or State Legislative. The state legislators listed below are those currently serving the districts where most of our members reside, and we know that there may be changes among them after the November election. If your senator or representative is not listed, be sure to get the contact information and keep it available.

Do You Know Your Legislators?		
North Lake Shore members live in a number of legislative districts. We cannot list everyone, but the following represent most of our membership. Be sure you know who represents you. If you are not sure of your district, check your voter card.		
<u>Senatorial Districts:</u>	<u>Representative Districts:</u>	
8 Ram Villivalam (D) 3851 W. Devon Chicago 60630 872-208-5188	15 Michael Kelly (D) 4200 W. Lawrence Chicago 60630 773-736-0218	53 Mark Walker (D) 120 W. Eastman St. Arlington Heights 60004 847-749-1137
9 Laura Fine (D) 1812 Waukegan Rd., A Glenview 60025 847-998-1717	16 Denyse Stoneback (D) 8707 Skokie Blvd., Ste. 102 Skokie 60077 847-673-1131	55 Martin Moylan (D) 24 S. River Rd., #400 Des Plaines 60016 847-635-6821
10 Robert Martwick (D) 4349 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago 60641 773-286-1115	17 Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz (D) 1812 Waukegan Rd., B Glenview 60025 847-486-8810	57 John Carroll (D) 3153 Dundee Rd. Northbrook 60062 847-229-5499
27 Ann Gillespie (D) 120 W. Eastman, Ste. 207 Arlington Heights 60004 847-749-1880	18 Robyn Gabel (D) 2100 Ridge Ave., Ste. 2600 Evanston 60201 847-424-5401	58 Bob Morgan (D) 425 Sheridan Rd. Highwood 60040 847-780-8471
28 Laura Murphy (D) 880 Lee St., Ste. 100 Des Plaines 60016 847-718-1110	19 Lindsey LaPointe (D) 4349 N. Milwaukee Ave., Ste. 2 Chicago 60641 773-647-1174	
29 Julie Morrison (D) 43 Highwood Ave. Highwood 60040 847-945-5200	20 Brad Stephens (R) 5515 N. E. River Rd. Chicago 60656 773-444-0611	

WHAT'S NEW FROM IRTA?

We hope that you're reading *Good Dog News*, the eNewsletter published by IRTA on the 1st and 15th of each month. It's timely and informative. If you know retirees who do not have email, why not be a good friend and let them know the significant facts that are included? Be sure, too, to check your Spam files to be sure that mailings like these are not being directed there; we have found that this has happened with a couple of recent VoterVoice mailings, and we don't want our members to miss any information that is significant for them.

IRTA's vice-president, Larry Pfeiffer, has resigned from that position for personal reasons. Our *Constitution* gives the authority to name a successor to the IRTA Executive Board; they will do so very soon.

Our lawsuit challenging the underfunding of the health insurance fund is proceeding through the Sangamon County court system, being monitored by our attorneys. It is a slow process, but you will be kept informed.

Many of us have been affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) of the Social Security Act. H.R. 82, which would repeal these sections, now has more than 290 cosponsors, the number needed to mandate a floor vote. We ask you to urge your representative to encourage Speaker Pelosi to bring this to the floor.

If you have questions about IRTA, TRS, your insurance, benefits, or anything related to your retirement, the monthly "coffees" with our executive director, Jim Bachman, are the place to ask them. These gatherings, planned via Zoom on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m., are a great source of information. Take advantage of them!

TRS INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

After a hiatus of a couple of years due to the pandemic, TRS is again having informational meetings for educators contemplating retirement, but the format will be somewhat different than in the past. There will be both virtual and face-to-face meetings, with fewer of the latter than there used to be. In the North Lake Shore area, there will be only one face-to-face, on October Tuesday, October 18th at Maine South High School; we have been asked to help at the meeting by handing out information to those attending. We will distribute TRS material and information about IRTA. You would need to be at the school by 4:00 p.m. (the meeting is at 4:30) and stay until there are no more teachers arriving. This volunteer task is especially fun for recent retirees because you are likely to meet some of your colleagues! If you could help, please contact Irene Jinks, 847-698-3113 or wijinks@aol.com.

NLS LOOKS AHEAD

For over two years, now, our unit has been meeting virtually. COVID is still with us, but groups are beginning to have face-to-face meetings once again. How do you feel about this? We would not be able to meet as a group until our February meeting because arrangements have already been made for meetings prior to that, but we are wondering whether we should look for a venue that can accommodate us. We have been fortunate to be able to have Zoom meetings, but all of us miss the opportunity for socialization that is a part of our organization. Please communicate with your officers to let us know your feelings about this.

NLSRTA OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

2022

Co-Presidents Irene Jinks 847-698-3113 Chaya Rubenstein 847-877-6678	Vice President	Legislation Conrad Floeter 847-338-9764
Secretary Jeanne Parker 847-570-3318	Treasurer Leonard Palicki 847-692-6292	Membership Irene Jinks 847-698-3113
		Comm. Participation Sam Sibley 847-869-5072
		Public Relations Sheila Fitzsimmons 847-256-3519
		Foundation Services Mickey Gaza 847-967-7349
		Member Benefits

IRTA past-president Stephen Polep (2009-2020) died on August 10, 2022 after having been seriously ill for only a short time. Steve, who was now serving as president of the McHenry County Unit and as Director of Region 2, was a dedicated worker for retired educators. After his term as state president, he served as chair of the IRTA Benefits Committee and added several benefits to the list available to members. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Jan, and his family. Steve will be missed.

IRTAPAC

The PAC has announced its endorsements of Illinois legislators for the November election. All of our senators and representatives were endorsed, except for a couple who chose not to return their questionnaires. Thanks to the members of the committee who read the responses and determined those who would be endorsed by us. If you wish to attend a fundraising event for any of these candidates, contact the IRTA office; PAC funds may be used to send members to such events, as well as for direct support of those endorsed.

Becoming a PAC supporter is very easy, especially if you become a dollar-a-month contributor. You can do this on the IRTA website. You won't miss the dollar from your pension, and the PAC will benefit – a win/win!

WELCOME, NEW RETIREES!

If you are a new, or fairly new, retiree, welcome to the ranks of the happily retired! We wish we could greet you personally, and we hope that we will be able to do that before too long. In the meantime, though, we hope that you will join us at our virtual meetings and get acquainted and, if you have not already joined, we hope that you will become a member of both the Illinois Retired Teachers Association and the North Lake Shore Retired Teachers Association. Unfortunately, we do not have a unified membership, but it is easy to join both. Use the form below for NLS membership and to receive information about IRTA.

North Lake Shore Retired Teachers Association Unit 18, Illinois Retired Teachers Association	
Name (Last) _____	(First) _____
Address _____	
Phone _____	E-mail _____
School District Retired From _____	Retirement Year _____
Unit Dues: Annual, \$12.00 _____	_____ I am a member of IRTA
Two Year, \$20.00 _____	_____ I am not a member of IRTA;
Life, \$150.00 _____	please send information.
Send newsletter by email _____	
(You must join each organization separately)	
Send this form with your check (payable to NLSRTA) to: Irene Jinks, 834 Carolyn Lane, Park Ridge IL 60068	



This newsletter is being distributed electronically to all members for whom we have email addresses. Please help us by sharing the information with those who do not have email.