

PARTA

SOUNDINGS

JUNE 2019

Peoria Area Retired Teachers Association

LUNCHEON MEETING

Barracks Cater Inn
June 3 @ 11:30 A.M.
Luncheon – \$12.00
First Time Attendees
are Our Guests

GREETERS

 Toni Redlingshafer
 Sherry Perez

INVOCATION

 Like Bonomo

PLEDGE

 Like Bonomo

LUNCHEON

Italian Meat Lasagna
Vegetable
Assorted Salads
Assorted Desserts

PROGRAM

JEOPARDY GAME
ON
"NUNS, NAZIS,
& NOTRE DAME"
ORGANIZED BY
TIM PLETKOVICH

MEETING

Abby Humbles, *Chair*
PARTA President

  
ROGER HAMPTON, EDITOR

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello PARTA Members,

What a wonderful meeting we had in May! The speaker was very engaging. Many thanks to Ann Winget and her committee for securing such interesting speakers. We wrap up our PARTA year with another great program June 3rd. This will be our last meeting before the summer break. Looking forward to seeing those who can attend in June. Happy summer to all!

Most fondly,
Abby Humbles, PARTA President
Retired to Begin Learning Again!



UPCOMING PARTA MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 9 (2nd Monday)

"Legalization of Recreational Marijuana - Problems & Concerns"

DR. RAY BERTINO

- Retired Interventional Radiologist
- Illinois Society for Addiction Medicine Board

OCTOBER 7

NOVEMBER 4

DECEMBER 2



Check webpage for updates, menus, programs, etc.

PA-RTA.WEEBLY.COM

Sally Weber, Webmaster

AT EVERY PARTA

Book Exchange Table

Sally Weber,
Supervisor

Used Battery Recycling Collection

Jo Trompeter
Supervisor



*Summer is when
laziness finds respectability.*

- Sam Keen

SOUNDINGS

General Luncheon Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2018

President Abby Humbles welcomed everyone. Abby thanked today's greeters, Sonya Durand and Lillie Foreman. Abby also thanked the officers and past officers for their work. Susan Bartlow led the Pledge and gave the Invocation. Abby thanked Dixie Wheeler for running the business meeting after the program.

After the luncheon, Abby introduced Ann Winget who introduced the speaker, John Butte. He is the author of *The Bradford Model T Girls*. He gave an interesting talk about the sisterhood of young women who vacationed in a 1926 Model T from 1934 – 1942.



Dixie opened the business meeting.

- The minutes were approved as they appeared in the Soundings.
- Copies of the Treasurer's reports were on the tables. A summary is in the Soundings. The report will be filed for audit.
- June 4 is the Area 4 Conference, "A Leadership Training Session", in Springfield. Let Abby know today if you are going.

- Denise Adams said tickets are on sale for "Encore" concert at Bradley that benefits the Kidney Foundation.

- Sally Weber said she has a list of teachers retiring this year. Let Abby know if you know of any of them.



- Valda reported that there was enough money collected for three scholarships.
- Roger reported on the first contested TRS Board election. Doug Strand, the IRTA endorsed candidate, won. Roger thanked all who voted. IRTA is taking teacher grant applications until June 1. The last two IRTA Area 4 scholarships were awarded to a junior and a senior.

- Peggy Shane said volunteers for greeters and Pledge/Invocation leaders are needed for the fall. Please see her.

- Ann said the June program is a Jeopardy game based on "Nuns, Nazis, and Notre Dame", organized by Tim Pletkovich.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Simpson, Recording Secretary

NOTE FROM SUSAN BARTLOW:

Thank you to all the *PARTA Meeting Greeters* who volunteered and served this year. Your happy smiles helped everyone feel welcome, and especially helped our new attendees feel at ease at their first meeting.



NATIONAL FLAG DAY – JULY 14

The anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 was officially established by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating June 14th of each year as National Flag Day.

SOUNDINGS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING **APRIL 29, 2019**

Present: Kathy Simpson, Dixie Wheeler, LeeAnn Meinhold, Ann Winget, Jeff Vallosio, Susan Leighty, Dave Barnwell, Laveine Birditt, Valda Shipp, Peggy Shane, Eric Johnson, and Abby Humbles.

Abby Humbles called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.



New Business:

- The next Board meeting is August 19.
- The Leadership Training Session is Tuesday, June 4, at Northfield Inn Conference Center in Springfield. There will be three breakout sessions. The registration deadline is May 28.
- Possible honorees for the IRTA Convention were discussed. Jeff made a motion to put a list of former honorees in the directory. Laveine seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- John Rathbun has a list of new retirees with their email addresses, but no phone numbers. He will email them an invitation to a PARTA meeting with an offer of a free lunch.
- Valda reported enough money was collected for three scholarships. She is getting acquainted with the recipients and says that our money was well spent.

- Ann said the battery collection and book table are ongoing. Abby will ask at the next general meeting about the Book Review.
- Ann mentioned making grant money available for local teachers to use for their teaching needs. We will discuss this further at the August Board meeting. We're thinking of two \$250 grants. Grant criteria would have to be set. Jeff will write up something.


• We have not heard from Cater Inn about raising prices.



Committees:

- Jeff reported IRTA had confirmed that if PARTA has not filed in the past, we should not get a tax number and start filing.
- The next investment committee meeting is scheduled for June 10 at 12:30 P.M.
- Laveine said the Journal Star prints our meeting information, and the TV websites list them. WCBU no longer announces our information.
- The May speaker is John Butte, author of a book on the Bradford girls. The meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED **KATHY SIMPSON, RECORDING SECRETARY**

 PARTA TREASURER'S REPORT Summary	Total Investment Balance		\$43,779.96
	Savings Balance		6,975.92
	Checking Balance		695.02
	Working Cash (cash boxes)		100.00
	Post Office Bulk Mail Fund		258.58
	Post Office Returned Mail Fund <i>(No change this month)</i>		35.15
Jeff Vallosio, Treasurer		Grand Total	\$51,844.63



ESL (English as a Second Language) Teacher:
 I asked my students to write a sentence about firemen. One student wrote: "The fireman went into the building and came out pregnant." When I asked him to explain, he opened his dictionary and pointed to the word pregnant, which was defined as "carrying a child."

SOUNDINGS

ILLINOIS' LOST PEOPLE PROBLEM SPREADS TO 1,000+ COMMUNITIES

Source: www.illinoispolicy.org/pritzkers-19-different-tax-and-fee-hikes-total-6-9-billion/



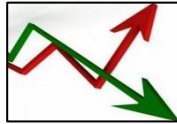
Data released on May 23 by the U.S. Census Bureau shows 1,040

Illinois communities shrank from July 2017 to July 2018. Population decline affected communities of all sizes relatively equally during the year.

This comes after census data in April revealed for the first time that all of Illinois' metropolitan areas experienced population decline, driven almost entirely by Illinoisans moving to other states. The start of the bad news was in late 2018, with data showing that Illinois' population shrank for the fifth consecutive year.

With a declining population and Governor Pritzker lobbying for nearly \$7 billion in new taxes and fees, Illinoisans can expect to see a decline in private demand, fewer investments and fewer work opportunities. Economic growth in Illinois is sure to stall.

This is also bad for the state's finances, because lawmakers are anticipating increased revenues to finance more spending, even though a slowing economy and shrinking population will likely result in lower revenue than projected.



Proponents of a progressive income tax – whose rates have not been passed – are projecting it will bring in more than \$3 billion in new revenue. Those estimates, however, rely on strong economic growth and population remaining at the 2016 level, though the state has continued shrinking since then.

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO YOUR DIRECTORY

Cioni	Denise	denisecioni3@gmail.com					New email
Henz	Richard	richhenz@hotmail.com	253-6426		New phone #, email		
Jones	Caroline	25 Elk CT	Washington	IL	61571-9240	453-3729	New member
		Jones1teach@att.net					
Martin	Helen	Helfmart.gmail.com				New email	
Meisinger	John	6825 N White Fir DR	Edwards	IL	61528-9425		New address
Sherwood	John	241-5635				New phone #	
Stanfel	Elizabeth	2081 N Main ST, RM 310	Canton	IL	61520-1032		New address

DATABASE MAINTAINED BY JOHN RATHBUN

PARTA Altruistic Committee Chair – Frances Farraher

Please contact Frances with any information regarding PARTA members who have passed.

Rest is not idleness! To lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day, listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is hardly a waste of time.

- John Lubbock

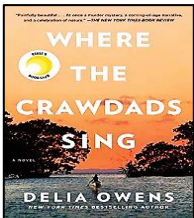


SOUNDINGS

GREAT NEWS!!! Governor Pritzker announced Tuesday that he will not seek to extend the pension payment schedule resulting in underfunding the retirement systems. The Governor's administration said the state collected \$1.5 billion more in income taxes in April than expected. Therefore, the administration has revised its estimates for how much revenue the state will collect next year. The letter to the legislative leaders went on to say due to the increase in revenue projections, the state will be able to meet the current funding commitment to the retirement systems without extending the ramp.

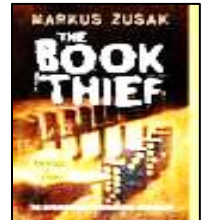


PARTA MEMBERS READ & RECOMMEND



Where the Crawdads Sing
by Delia Owens

This novel describes the life and adventures of a young girl named Kya in the swamps of North Carolina. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.



The Book Thief
by Markus Zusak

This book is about a young girl, Liesel, growing up in Germany amidst World War II. Liesel is living with foster parents, Hans and Rosa. Throughout the story, Liesel steals many books. At first, she doesn't even know how to read, but she knows that the book is important. Hans notices and teaches her how to make sense of the letters.

PARTA MEMBERS: PLEASE email the name and author of a book that you have enjoyed to: roger.hampton11138@gmail.com

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: A MYSTERY TO ALL OF US

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger, neither apple nor pine in pineapple. While no one knows what is in a hotdog, you can be pretty sure it isn't canine. English muffins weren't invented in England, nor french fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies, while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted; but if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and guinea pig is neither from Guinea, nor is it a pig. One goose, 2 geese, so, one moose, 2 meese? Is cheese the plural of choose? One mouse, 2 mice, one louse, 2 lice, one house, 2 hice? If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?



Why do people recite at a play, and play at a recital; have noses that run and feet that smell; park on driveways and drive on parkways? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a

wise man and a wise guy are opposites? How can the weather be hot as heck one day, and cold as heck another? If a house burns up, it burns down. You fill in a form by filling it out and an alarm clock goes off by going on. You get in and out of a car, yet you get on and off a bus. When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it?

English is a silly language – it doesn't know if it is coming or going!!! War never determines who's right. War only determines who's left.

SOUNDINGS



DOUGLAS STRAND ELECTED TO THE TRS BOARD

Douglas Strand, of East Moline, has been elected by members of Teachers' Retirement System to the retirement fund's Board of Trustees, according to preliminary results of the 2019 Trustee election. If certified by the TRS Board of Trustees this spring, Doug Strand will begin his four-year term on July 15, 2019.

Mr. Strand joins the Board as one of two trustees elected by TRS annuitants. He will assume the annuitant seat of Trustee Daniel Winter of Decatur, who decided not to seek re-election after one term.

For the annuitant trustee seat, the official vote totals were:
CINDA KLINKNA: 3,936 | DOUGLAS STRAND: 4,390

Under state law, six members of the 13-member Board are elected by TRS members. Four members are elected solely by the System's 161,000 active members and two members are elected by the 110,000 annuitants. Trustees are elected every two years to staggered four-year terms.



Six members of the TRS Board are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Illinois Senate. The 13th member, by law, is always the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who also is the President of the Board.

SPOTLIGHT ON IRTA MEMBER BENEFITS




HOME HEALTH CARE INSURANCE PROGRAM

This Home Health Care Plan provides up to \$150 per-day and includes twelve different types of care to suit your needs. This is a "very" affordable solution that gives you the flexibility to utilize the type of care that is right for you....in the comfort of your own home. There are NO MEDICAL QUESTIONS to answer. Approvals are for ages 41-85.

For a full list of IRTA member-only benefits and discount codes:
Log on to: www.irtaonline.org Click on: "Member Benefits"

Name Change: "Mom, can I please change my name right now?" asked Ben.
"But why would you want to do that, dear?" said his mom.
"Because Dad said he's going to spank me as sure as my name's Benjamin!"

If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito in the room.  The trouble with learning from experience is that you never graduate.

SOUNDINGS

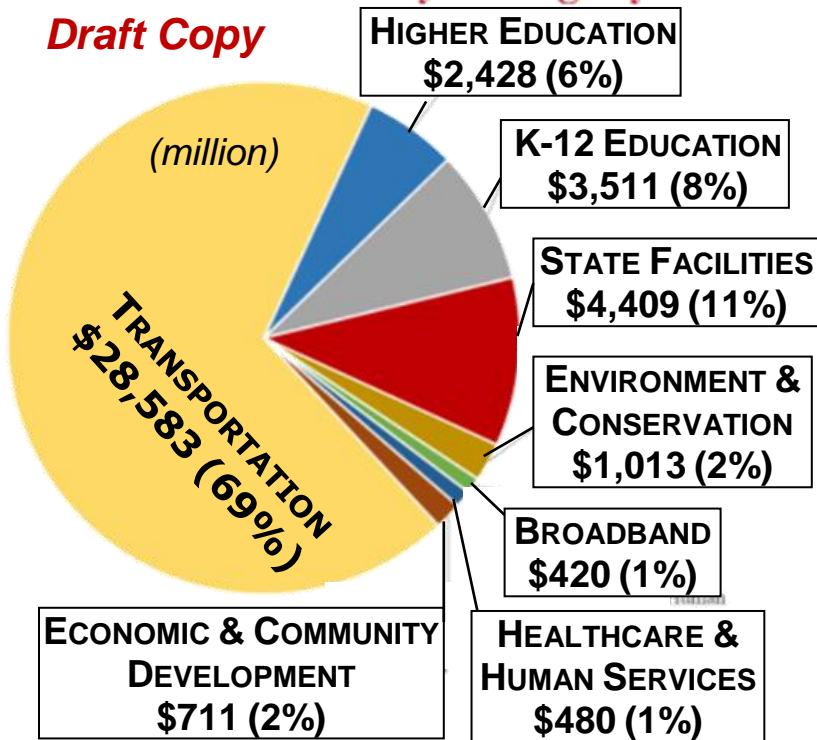
GOVERNOR PRITZKER'S INITIAL "REBUILD ILLINOIS" CAPITAL PLAN

Six-year proposal – according to documents provided to lawmakers at a May 25th briefing

- \$41.5 billion plan to repair Illinois' crumbling roads, bridges, public schools and university buildings
- Nearly \$1.8 billion in new taxes and tax increases

Rebuild Illinois by Category

Draft Copy



The program, which the administration is branding as "Rebuild Illinois," would combine \$17.8 billion in new bonds with \$10 billion in federal funding; \$7 billion in current, ongoing state revenues; and \$6.6 billion in local government revenues and private sources of funding.

Sources:

- www.chicagobusiness.com/
- www.chicagotribune.com/
- www.centralillinoisproud.com/
- www.dailyherald.com



Pritzker's Proposed Tax & Fee Hikes – Estimated Revenue	
"Fair Tax" Hike:	\$3.4 b
BUDGET PROPOSAL	
Tax on Managed Care Organizations:	\$390 m
Tax Sports Gambling:	\$200 m
Recreational Cannabis Tax, Licensing:	\$170 m
Retailer Tax Hike:	\$133 m
Video Gambling Tax Hike:	\$89 m
Cigarette tax Hike:	\$55 m
Plastic Bag Tax:	\$19-\$23 m
E-Cigarette Tax:	\$10 m
CAPITAL BILL	
Gas Tax Hike:	\$1.2 b
Vehicle Registration Fee Hike:	\$400 m
Ridesharing Tax:	\$214 m
Streaming Tax:	\$150 m
Beer, Wine, & Liquor Tax Hike:	\$120 m
Tax Exemption Cap for Traded-In Property:	\$60 m
Parking Garage Tax:	\$60 m
Real Estate Transfer Tax Hike:	\$34 m
Electric Vehicle Registration Fee Hike:	\$4 m
TOTAL	\$6.9 b

Just wondering, does this qualify as trying to "Squeeze Blood Out Of A Turnip?"

SOUNDINGS

AWESOME THINGS ABOUT SUMMER

- SUPER LONG DAYS
- SUMMER THUNDERSTORMS
- OUTDOOR EVERYTHING
- FRESH VEGGIES & FRUIT
- ICE CREAM
- GRILLING
- TRAVEL
- FESTIVALS / FAIRS
- CAMPING & BONFIRES
- NAPPING IN A HAMMOCK
- BEACHES / SWIMMING POOLS
- FROZEN DRINKS WITH UMBRELLAS



CREATE YOUR OWN LIST OF SUMMER EXPERIENCES

FIND HUNDREDS OF EVENTS ONLINE:

- peoriaevents.com/
- enjoyillinois.com/
- eventful.com/

SOME EVENTS ARE FREE:

- 2019 Brown Bag It Series
Peoria Courthouse Plaza
Mondays & Wednesdays
- Municipal Band
Glen Oak Amphitheatre
Sundays @ 7:00 P.M.
Water Street Warehouse
Wednesdays @ 7:00 P.M.



Plan to attend PARTA's Luncheon Meeting on September 9 to share with your tablemates the special memories you were able to create this summer.



- Summer Concerts in the Square
Metamora Square Bandstand
Friday Evenings 7:30-9:30 PM
- 2019 Courtyard Concert Series
Peoria Heights Heritage Square
Saturdays 8:00 – 11:00 PM

HAVING A BEST FRIEND: Two friends were walking through a field. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face.

The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand; "TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SLAPPED ME IN THE FACE."

They kept on walking until they found a pond, where they decided to swim. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone; "TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE."

The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him; "After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone. Why?"

The other friend replied; "When someone hurts us, we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it."



MORAL OF THE STORY:

Don't value the THINGS you have in your life. Value WHO you have in your life.

Be slow to fall into friendship; but when thou art in, continue firm & constant. – Socrates