

PARTA SOUNDINGS

APRIL 2018

PEORIA AREA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

LUNCHEON MEETING

APRIL 2

Barracks Cater Inn

11:30 A M

Luncheon – \$12.00

(any new guest eats free)

GREETERS

☂ Christine Stevens

☂ Joyce Trompeter

PLEDGE

☂ Ann Christophel

INVOCATION

☂ Ann Christophel

LUNCHEON

Honey Glazed
Baked Ham
Potato
Vegetable
Assorted Salads
Dessert

PROGRAM

IRTA MEMBER BENEFITS

Larry Newman
District Manager, AMBA

Roger Hampton,
President, IRTA

MEETING

Abby Humbles
PARTA President, Chair



Meetings begin
around 12:20 P.M.

Roger Hampton
Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello all,

Spring is here. What a lovely time of year!

Our next meeting is April 2. While many of us may be on Spring Break, there will be many folks in attendance.

THANK YOU once again to our PARTA volunteers.

We currently are looking for someone to take charge of the battery donation table. Please let Ann Winget or me know if you would be able to assist.

Thanks, again!

Abby Humbles, PARTA President



UPCOMING MEETINGS – BRING A FRIEND

MAY 7

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE (OLLI)

A series of educational classes and trips presented by members or special guests that are geared to seniors.



WORLD OF WONDER (WOW)

WOW is a gifted children's program presented for one week in June and July.



JUNE 4

MORTON CIVIC CHORUS Denise Adams, Director



ENCORE 2018 - A MUSICAL REVUE

47th annual benefit for Central Illinois Memorial Kidney Fund
May 22nd – 26th @ 7:30 p.m. and May 27th @ 2:00 p.m.
Tickets available online starting in April: mortoncivicchorus.org/tickets.html

Check website for updates: pa-rta.weebly.com
Sally Weber, Webmaster

POSITIVE THOUGHTS FOR APRIL

✓ No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.
~ Maria Robinson

✓ Live out of your imagination, not your history. ~ Stephen Covey
✓ Don't let what you can't do, stop you from what you can do.
~ John Wooden

SOUNDINGS

PARTA LUNCHEON MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 5, 2018

President Abby Humbles welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked today's greeters, Sonya Durand and Lillie Foreman. She also thanked the callers and the money takers. Susan Bartlow gave the Invocation and Pledge. Seventy-four people were present, including the speaker.

After the luncheon, Ann Winget introduced Kitty Yanko, the Educational Coordinator for the Peoria Humane Society. Kitty gave an overview of who they are and what they do; she told us about their education program, volunteering, community support, pet therapy, animal resource library, kid camps, and breaking the cycle of abuse. She also introduced her dog, as did Irene Pritzker and Ann Winget.

Abby opened the business meeting.

- The minutes were approved as in the *Soundings*.

- Copies of the Treasurer's reports were on the tables. The report was filed for audit.

- Program - Ann Winget said that our speakers at the April meeting would be Larry Newman, District Manager of AMBA, and Roger Hampton, President of IRTA. Denise Adams, the Director of the Morton Civic Chorus, will be at the June meeting.

- Altruistic – Frances Farragher reported on the death of a member this past month.

- Legislative – Roger Hampton gave an update. A state legislator from Decatur sponsored SB 3025, to raise the number of sub days a retired teacher can teach. Teachers can't opt in or out of TRIP insurance, while other state retirees can. Efforts are being made to change this situation. Additional updates are in the *Soundings*.

The meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

KATHY SIMPSON, RECORDING SECRETARY

APRIL '18 TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY

Investment Balance:	\$41,101.37	Post Office Bulk Mail Fund:	\$182.63
Savings Balance:	\$6,954.19	Post Office Returned Mail Fund:	\$57.39
Checking Balance:	\$2,513.80	Grand Total:	\$50,909.38
Working Cash (cash boxes):	\$ 100.00		

Jeff Vallosio, Treasurer



Guaranteed Confidential Shredding
National Association for Information Destruction
(NAID) Certified

FREE SHREDDING EVENT

Saturday, April 7, 2018

9:00 A.M. – Noon

Junction City, Peoria, IL

A large truck will be located in the parking lot.

Bring anything you want shredded and destroyed.

(i.e. checks, important documents)

You do not have to remove staples, tape, or paper clips.



If you miss this event,
another shredding
event will take place on:

Saturday,
September 28, 2018

8:30 A.M. – Noon

9010 N Allen RD, Peoria

My husband and I both work, so our family eats out a lot. Recently, when we were having a rare home-cooked meal, I handed a glass to my three-year-old and told her to drink her milk. She looked at me bewildered and replied, "But I didn't order milk."



SOUNDINGS

PARTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MARCH 12, 2018

Present: Kathy Simpson, Sally Weber, Frances Farraher, Nancy Miller, Ann Winget, Jeff Vallosio, Dave Barnwell, and Abby Humbles
Abby welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Dates for future board meetings at 10:15 at Lakeview Library: May 21, August 27, and November 12
- The previous meal reduction plan was too difficult for the money takers to handle. After discussion of different plans, it was decided that all new guests would receive a free meal. A reservation should be made.
- Jeff sends cards and \$10 to the IRTA Foundation for deceased PARTA members. It is difficult to research if they were IRTA members. It was agreed to send the donations for all on the PARTA list.
- The board suggests to the constitution committee to check into changing the rule on sending money to PARTA and to highlight looking at the definition of a quorum. We should all look through the constitution and highlight anything we think should be changed or clarified.
- Eric will get the committee together for the yearly audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Altruistic – Frances Farraher reported a death of a member last week. She distributed a PARTA Necrology for 2017.

- Scholarship – Valda Shipp is collecting for the second scholarship.
- Program – Ann Winget said that September's program would be Roger Hampton from IRTA and someone from TRS. It was suggested that we have a candidates' presentation at the October meeting if there are contested local offices. There will also be memorial recognitions at the October meeting. Ann is trying to get some talent from schools for the November meeting. She is also working on entertainment for the December meeting. It was agreed that starting the speaker about 12:20 P.M. was a good time. The book table seems to be working. Ann needs someone to take charge of the batteries. She will have it put in the *Soundings*. The on-site paper shredding event cannot happen. There is free shredding in April, and we will put it in the *Soundings* when we find out the details. Instead of having a blood mobile come to a meeting, we will encourage people to give blood at the Red Cross.
- Friendship Table – In the fall, Sally will greet newcomers with a sign and take them to the table. For now, Sally will make a sign for "Solo" or "Friendship" table. She will also make a sign to put by the nametags to encourage people to use them. Abby will tell Susan Bartlow to have greeters tell members about the Friendship table.
- The IRTA Area 4 Conference is May 22 at Northfield Center in Springfield. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M.
The meeting was adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

KATHY SIMPSON, RECORDING SECRETARY



Donating Blood Makes a Big Difference in the Lives of Others

RED CROSS
(309) 677-7272

311 W John Gwynn Jr. AVE
Peoria, IL 61605

Nancy Wing has received multiple transfusions.

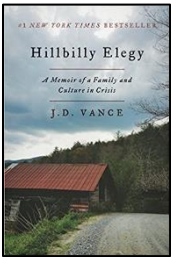
She would appreciate anyone wishing and able to **give blood in her name.**

I was playing with this 85-year-old man recently on a course that I was unfamiliar with. On the third hole, I asked him, "What's the best part of the fairway to be on?" He replied, "The TOP."



SOUNDINGS

PARTA MEMBERS READ AND RECOMMEND



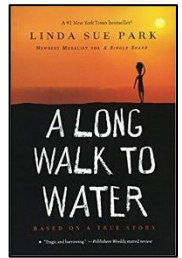
Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

This deeply moving memoir of a family and culture in crisis is a story with its share of humor and vividly colorful figures. *Hillbilly Elegy* is the story of how upward mobility really feels. It is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country.

The New York Times Bestsellers

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

A Long Walk to Water begins as two stories about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.



PARTA Members: **PLEASE** email the name and author of a book that you have enjoyed. **HELP** keep this informational thread alive in future issues of *Soundings*. Send book name and author to: roger.hampton11138@gmail.com



SPRING PUNS

How do you tell someone winter is over?
You *spring* it on them!

Evergreens might not mind winter,
but for all the other trees,
spring is a great re-leaf!

Why was the college student's
mattress uncomfortable?
Because he had a great spring break!

What did the florist say
when it was springtime?
Business is blooming!



Do You Make Purchases Using AMAZON?

A percentage of all your Amazon purchases will go to the IRTA Foundation by using this link:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/37-1183315>

An EASY Way to Help Support 3 Important IRTA Foundation Programs:
Financial Assistance | Scholarships | Excellence in Education Grants for Teachers

April Showers: "A rainy day is like a lovely gift — you can sleep late, and not feel guilty!" ~ Elizabeth Jane Howard, *Mr. Wrong*

SOUNDINGS

REMINDER - KEEP INFORMED

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senate District #

37 – Chuck Weaver (*Term ends 2021*)
 46 – David Koehler (*Term ends 2021*)

House District #

73 – Ryan Spain
 91 – Michael Unes
 92 – Jehan Gordon-Booth

REPRESENTING YOU IN CONGRESS

Senators

Richard Durbin (*Term ends 2021*)
 Tammy Duckworth (*Term ends 2023*)

Representatives

Cheri Bustos, 17th District
 Darin LaHood, 18th District

MONEY SPENT ON ILLINOIS 2018 PRIMARY

Rauner: \$46.4 million Pritzker: \$34.3 million

The reward for spending all that money? An intractable pension problem, and a four-year battle with the immensely powerful speaker of the Illinois House, Mike Madigan. May the best man win.

Josh Voorhees <https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2018/03/>

IDEAS FOR SPRING FUN



Get in the mood for spring. Renew your own “youth” inside yourself with these fun ideas to experience with your grandchildren:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play in the rain • Go to a baseball game • Build a tree house • Sleep outside • Pick flowers • Make flower crafts • Take an evening stroll • Tie-dye T-shirts • Wash the car together • Climb a tree • Dig for worms | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a birdfeeder • Make flower arrangements • Go bird-watching • Visit the zoo • Go to a farmer's market • Make a fruity dessert • Eat outside together • Get dirty in the yard • Dust off the sports gear • Teach them how to play golf • Swing together at the park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow something you can eat • Make a game out of spring cleaning • Make your own stained glass • Take their picture in a bed of flowers • Have a garage sale and give the kids jobs • Hang prisms in windows to make rainbows • Show them how to get the honey from a honeysuckle flower |
|--|--|---|

Source: www.grandparents.com/grandkids/activities-games-and-crafts/spring-fun-activities-list



- ◆ ***Time to Buy a NEW SCALE!***
- ◆ ***Definitely NOT Ready for Spring Clothes!***
- ◆ ***Losing weight doesn't seem to work, so, I'm going to work at getting taller!***

SOUNDINGS

PRIMARY ELECTION COMPETITIVENESS

CANDIDATES FILING

2018: 340
2016: 266
2014: 235

PRIMARIES HELD

2018: Democratic 34	Republican 27
2016: Democratic 18	Republican 15
2014: Democratic 13	Republican 16

INCUMBENTS FACING PRIMARY OPPOSITION

2018: ≈ 20% 2010 to 2016: ≈ 11%

U.S. CONGRESS INCUMBENTS NOT RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION

SENATE MEMBERS (3)

● 0 DEMOCRATS
● 3 REPUBLICANS

HOUSE MEMBERS (51)

● 16 DEMOCRATS
● 35 REPUBLICANS

NOVEMBER 2018 ELECTIONS

BEGIN NOW TO EXPLORE HOW THEY STAND ON ISSUES IMPORTANT TO YOU

Governor:

- Kash Jackson
- J. B. Pritzker
- Bruce Rauner (I)

U.S. Representative 18th District

- Darin LaHood (I)
- Junius Rodriguez

U.S. Representative 17th District

- Cheri Bustos (I)
- Bill Fawell

ILLINOIS SENATE

- Chuck Weaver –Term ends 2021
- David Koehler – Term ends 2021

A total of 39 of 59 Illinois Senate seats are up for election in 2018.

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT 73

- Ryan Spain (I)

DISTRICT 91

- Carolyn Blodgett
- Michael Unes (I)

DISTRICT 92

- Jehan Gordon-Booth (I)

I – Incumbent

Source: <https://ballotpedia.org>

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO YOUR DIRECTORY

Clemmer	Rodger C.	6901 N Galena RD SPC 1316	Peoria	IL	61614-3124	New address
Cornelius	Peggy Baird	2500 Barton Creek BLVD APT 212	Austin	TX	78735-1664	New address
Crusen	Betty	1401 Bluebird DR	Metamora	IL	61548-8358	New address
Henz	Richard	5933 N Tampico DR	Peoria	IL	61614-3861	692-7559 Member renewal
McGhee	Tom	722 W Purtscher DR	Peoria	IL	61614-7009	New address
Trilikis	Betty	3920 W Anchor DR	Peoria	IL	61615-2563	New address
Wozniak	Mary Joann	maryjowoz@yahoo.com		Email correction		

Rolland (Ron) L. Abel, 87

Deceased: March 5, 2018



DATABASE MAINTAINED BY JOHN RATHBUN

I'm SORRY for what I said when I was HUNGRY!

SOUNDINGS



CONGRATULATION DIXIE WHEELER

Dixie Wheeler joins the ranks of PARTA members who are volunteering to serve other retirees. She has been selected to be the Region 10 Representative on the IRTA Legislative Committee. Thank You, Dixie, for stepping up to help "Make A Difference!" Other PARTA Members volunteering with IRTA are Sally Weber, IRTA Region 10 Director, Pat Hampton, IRTA Area 4 Information Services Committee Representative, and Roger Hampton, IRTA President.

Investments of TRS Retirement Funds - as of February 28, 2018

Total Assets (thousands) \$51,472,134

Total Monthly Investment Income (thousands) \$114,347

Yield (monthly) 0.2%

Monthly Rate of Return (gross of fees) -1.7%



Source: <http://www.trsil.org/>

TRS COMMITS \$360 MILLION TO INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Teachers' Retirement System has committed more than \$360 million to various investment opportunities; all designed to advance the mission of TRS on behalf of its 412,000 members. During a regularly scheduled meeting of the TRS Board of Trustees, the System's investment staff reported the following actions:

Extended \$100 million from the System's \$10 billion Global Fixed Income portfolio to the Pacific Investment Management Corporation of Newport Beach, California for the firm's Distressed Senior Credit Opportunities Fund II. PIMCO currently administers \$2.9 billion in System assets.

Committed \$100 million from the System's \$6.6 billion Private Equity portfolio to EQT Funds Management of Stockholm, Sweden. EQT currently administers \$155.9 million in TRS assets.

Within the \$10.8 billion International Equity portfolio, terminated the small capitalization strategy of Mondrian Investment Partners, of London, England, which had totaled \$324 million in TRS assets. Mondrian still administers \$782.6 million in System assets in a large capitalization strategy. Following this action, \$260 million in TRS assets were transferred to Strategic Global Advisors, of Newport Beach, California and \$64 million was retained in cash by TRS. SGA currently administers \$683.1 million in TRS assets.

PROFESSORS DEFINE A "KISS"

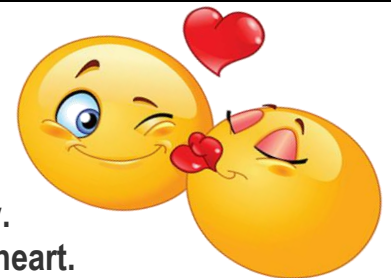
IN MATH: Two divided by nothing.

IN DENTISTRY: It's infectious and antiseptic.

IN ACCOUNTING: It's a credit, because it is profitable when returned.

IN ECONOMICS: A thing for WHICH the demand is higher than the supply.

IN PHYSICS: The contraction of the mouth due to the expansion of the heart.



WIND FARMS: "I have an obsession with wind farms." "Really?" "Yes, I'm a huge fan."

SOUNDINGS



IRTA FUN TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Are you ready to travel with the IRTA and meet some new friends? IRTA members, friends, and family are eligible for group rates on a *Tour of Portugal* this October 2018 or on a *Celebrity Cruise to the Caribbean* in January 2019.



https://issuu.com/irtaonline/docs/irta_portugal_2018_brochure

<https://irtaonline.org/documents/cruise-flyer12019equinox.pdf>

At Every PARTA Meeting

Book Exchange Table: Bring books, calendars, magazines, and other paper goods to share with our members.

Used Battery Recycling Collection

↑ Volunteer needed to oversee the Book Exchange Table

IRS Frauds Top the Senate Committee List of Senior Scams

A new 2017 report by the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging states that the most common scams target older adults. Scams in which fraudsters pretend to be employees of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are the most common complaint seniors reported to the fraud hotline in 2017, according to a report released this week at a hearing.

“In IRS scams, criminals impersonate IRS staff and demand payment for back taxes,” Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine), committee chair, explained at the hearing. “These scammers are absolutely ruthless when it comes to swindling seniors out of their money.”

According to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, between 2013 and 2017, scammers impersonating IRS officials have targeted more than 2.1 million taxpayers, and more than 12,000 victims report losing more than \$60 million from this type of scam alone.

The committee’s studies estimate that senior citizens lose \$3 billion each year in savings. “Our sacred responsibility is to take action so not one more senior loses one more penny.”






If you suspect you’ve been the victim of fraud, you can report it to AARP’s fraud hotline at (800) 222-4444.

Volunteers can refer you to the appropriate agency for filing a complaint.

PAGE FROM A STUDENT’S MATH WORKBOOK:

NAME: JIMMY

Name these shapes:

1	2.	3.	4.	5.
				
<u>BOB</u>	<u>SUE</u>	<u>TOMMY</u>	<u>PAM</u>	<u>TONYA</u>