

PARTA

SOUNDINGS

MAY 2018

PEORIA AREA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

LUNCHEON MEETING

MAY 7

Barracks Cater Inn

11:30 A M

Luncheon – \$12.00

(New guests eat free)

GREETERS



Susie Pierce



Frances Farraher

PLEDGE



INVOCATION



LUNCHEON

Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
Kernel Corn
Assorted Salads / Roll
Assorted Desserts

PROGRAM

Check PARTA website for updates:
pa-rta.weebly.com

Sally Weber,
Webmaster

MEETING

Abby Humbles

PARTA President, Chair



Program begins around 12:20 P.M.

Roger Hampton

Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greeting PARTA Members,
Spring is finally here! We look forward to seeing you at the May luncheon. Also coming soon is the Illinois Retired Teachers Association Area IV Conference in Springfield, May 22. If you are interested and would like to attend the morning meeting, please check the newsletter for more details. Enjoy the warmer weather and the blessings of Spring.

Happy Spring to you all!

Abby Humbles, PARTA President



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: mortoncivicchorus.org/tickets.html

SEPTEMBER 10 (NOTE DATE IS 2ND MONDAY)

IMPORTANCE OF IRTA – PROTECTING YOUR PENSION

Jim Bachman, IRTA Executive Director

OCTOBER 1

Know Your Candidates - Candidates' Forum

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR OFFICE

SOUNDINGS

PARTA LUNCHEON MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 2, 2018

In the absence of President Abby Humbles, Ann Winget welcomed everyone. She thanked today's greeters, Christine Stevens and Joyce Trompeter. Ann Christophel gave the Invocation and Pledge. Seventy-two people were present, including the two speakers.



After the luncheon, Ann Winget introduced Roger Hampton, president of IRTA. Roger gave the background of how IRTA started members' benefits. He then introduced Larry Newman, the district manager of AMBA. Larry shared new benefits that members now have. Ann 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. Jeff Vallosio thanked the luncheon money collectors.
- Altruistic – Frances Farraher reported on the death of two members this past month.
- Reservations – If you think you haven't been called for a reservation, please check your

messages. Then, if you haven't been called, call your caller.



- Scholarships – Valda Shipp thanked the members for the \$800 already collected for this year's scholarships. The envelopes for donating are on the table again this month.
- Legislative – Roger Hampton reported that there is information in the *Soundings* about upcoming legislation. There also is an election coming up, so be sure to keep informed.

Announcements:



- Remember to check out the book table and take anything you like.
 - There is a new feature in the *Soundings* called "PARTA Members Read and Recommend." You can help by emailing to Roger at roger.hampton11138@gmail.com the name and author of a book that you have enjoyed.
 - Jo Trompeter volunteered to take the batteries.
- The meeting was adjourned.



RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

KATHY SIMPSON, RECORDING SECRETARY

MAY '18 TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY

Investment Balance:	\$ 40,553.52	Post Office Bulk Mail Fund:	\$ 182.63
Savings Balance:	\$ 6,955.10	Post Office Returned Mail Fund:	\$ 56.80
Checking Balance:	\$ 2,404.05		
Working Cash (cash boxes):	\$ 100.00	Grand Total:	\$ 50,252.10

Jeff Vallosio, Treasurer

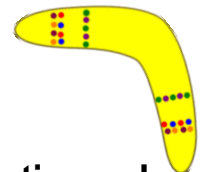
CORNY ONE LINERS YOU PROBABLY WISH YOU NEVER HEARD

I had a dream that I was a muffler. I woke up EXHAUSTED!

I forgot how to throw a boomerang, but it came back to me!

My wedding was so beautiful. The cake was in "TIERS"!

No matter how much you push the envelope, it's still stationery!



If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month.

~Theodore Roosevelt

SOUNDINGS

OPPORTUNITY FOR PARTA MEMBERS

What: Area 4 IRTA Conference
When: Tuesday, May 22, 2018
Where: Northfield Inn & Conference Center
3280 Northfield DR | Springfield, IL
Cost: \$10 per attendee – PAID BY PARTA



A G E N D A :

- | | |
|---|---|
| 9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION OPENS | 11:20 "IRTAPAC": John Flaherty, IRTA Vice-President |
| 9:00 Expanded Breakfast Buffet Opens | 11:35 "IRTA Foundation (IRTAF)": Roger Hampton, IRTAF Chair |
| 9:30 Regional Directors' & Local Presidents' Meeting | 11:45 "TRS Update": TRS Benefits Consultant |
| 10:00 CONFERENCE BEGINS!
Opening Video – A Mihelich Production
Opening Remarks / Introductions
Donna Sargent, Area IV Representative | 12:05 P.M. "Membership & Marketing": Nathan Mihelich, IRTA Director of Membership & Marketing |
| 10:25 "IRTA Vision 2018-2019": Roger Hampton, IRTA President | 12:20 "New Member Benefits": Larry Newman, AMBA District Manager |
| 10:45 "Legislative Update": Jim Bachman, IRTA Executive Director | 12:35 Conference Closing Activities |
| 11:05 ----- BREAK ----- | |

**Meet members of your IRTA Team
Learn What's New in the IRTA**

PLEASE CONSIDER & CONTACT ABBY BY MAY 7 IF YOU CAN ATTEND



DonorsChoose.org
Support a classroom. Build a future.

Teachers all over the U.S. need your help to bring their classroom dreams to life. Choose a project that inspires you, and give any amount.

Currently there are 53 teachers in Peoria County who have requested your help for their classroom project.

Check out their projects at:
DonorsChoose.org

Contribute as little as \$1.00 to a project.
All donations are tax deductible.



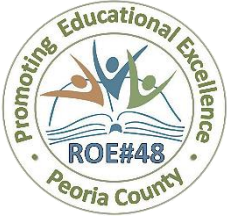
G R A N D P A R E N T S

If your baby is "beautiful and perfect, never cries or fusses, sleeps on schedule and burps on demand, an angel all the time," you're the grandma.

An hour with your grandchildren can make you feel young again. Anything longer than that, and you start to age quickly.



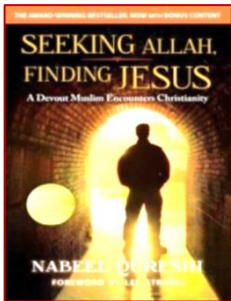
SOUNDINGS



KEEPING YOUR TEACHING LICENSE CURRENT

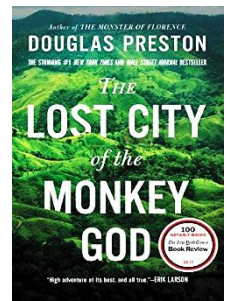
Do you need to renew your teaching license this year? If so, you can renew online anytime between April 1st and June 30th. All renewals are done online through the ELIS licensure program located on ISBE's website. For step-by-step instructions on how to create an ELIS account and how to renew your license, please contact the ROE at 309.672.6906 and they can email you instructions. Or you can visit their website at: www.peoriaroe.org, click on LICENSURE on the left side, and then choose ELIS How To Create An Account.

PARTA MEMBERS READ AND RECOMMEND



**Seeking Allah,
Finding Jesus:
A Devout Muslim
Encounters Christianity**
by Nabeel Qureshi

**The Lost City
of the Monkey God
A True
Eyewitness Account**
by Douglas Preston



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

THIS SECTION OF THE SOUNDINGS ONLY WORKS IF YOU CONTRIBUTE INFORMATION

A mom visited her son, who lives with a girl as a roommate, for dinner. During the meal, his mother couldn't help but notice how pretty his roommate was. She had long been suspicious of a relationship between the two and this occasion had only made her more curious.

Over the course of the evening, while watching the two interact, she started to wonder if there was more between them. Reading his mom's thoughts, her son volunteered, "I know what you must be thinking, but I assure you, we are JUST roommates."

After a week later, his roommate came to him saying, "Ever since your mom came to dinner, I've been unable to find the silver plate. You don't suppose she took it, do you?"

He said, "Well I doubt it, but I'll email her just to be sure!"

He sat down and wrote,

Dear Mom,

After your visit, the silver plate has been missing. I'm not saying that you took it, and I'm not saying that you didn't. But the fact remains that it has been missing ever since you were here for dinner.

Love, Your Son.

Several days later, he received an email from his Mom:

Dear Son,

I'm not saying that you do sleep with your roommate, and I'm not saying that you don't. But the fact remains that if she were sleeping in her OWN bed, she would have found the silver plate by now - under her pillow.

Love, Mom



SOUNDINGS

ILLINOIS INCURRED \$1.03 BILLION IN LATE BILL PAYMENT PENALTIES IN 2017

UNPAID

Illinois ended 2017 with \$9.246 billion in unpaid bills from vendors, service providers and others.

PENALTY!

This also included invoices held by state agencies and bills totaling \$2.3 billion that still lack legislative appropriation. *SOURCE: WWW.REUTERS.COM/*



ABIDING BY THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION?

Illinois Constitution not only mandates legislators pass a balanced budget — something they have not done for nearly 20 years — but state law requires the House and Senate to pass a revenue estimate resolution that relies on forecasts by the nonpartisan Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability.

BUDGET SCENARIO: FLAT SPENDING (0% GROWTH)

Revenues Spending General Funds/ FAE / CHSF - (\$ million)

			<u>DEFICIT</u>	<u>BACKLOG OF BILLS</u>
FY 2017	\$32,877.	\$39,014	(\$6,137.)	(\$14,379.)
FY 2018	\$33,031.	\$39,014	(\$5,983.)	(\$20,362.)
FY 2019	\$33,880.	\$39,014	(\$5,134.)	(\$25,496.)

WHAT AN UNETHICAL MESS!!!

**CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES
KEEP THEM ACCOUNTABLE**

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



IRTA MEMBERSHIP IS A NECESSITY

IRTA is the **ONLY** organization working every day, solely on the behalf of retirees.

IRTA membership is required to keep our association sustainable and solvent. Without your membership, the association will not remain as healthy as it needs to be.

HELP INCREASE MEMBERSHIP – SHARE THIS INFORMATION

I've decided to sell my Hoover ... well, it was just collecting dust.

SOUNDINGS

ILLINOIS' HIDDEN DEFICITS

Imagine if you could balance your household budget by simply not paying your electric bill this month. Sound ridiculous? That's exactly what Illinois' budgeting system allows politicians to do.

The state uses a cash-based system during budget planning, which means revenues are counted when they're received but spending is counted when a bill is actually paid, not when it's incurred.

The true size of Illinois' debt and deficits are hidden by this accounting gimmick. For fiscal year 2017, the cash-based budget deficit was \$7.98 billion while the accruals-based deficit was \$14.6 billion — that's a \$6.6 billion hidden deficit. Unfortunately, this information isn't available until months after the budget year ends.



LAWMAKERS PASS BUDGETS WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THE STATE CAN AFFORD



Revenue estimates allow state governments to base their budget for the coming fiscal year on economic projections. But the Illinois General Assembly has been flying blind since 2013 — spending money without adopting a revenue estimate that says how much there is to spend. And when lawmakers have adopted an estimate, the numbers are often unreliable, according to a standard used by the National Association of State Budget Officers. During the past decade, Illinois state agencies have overestimated revenue more often than not. The problem is not that Illinois is particularly bad at estimating revenue; rather, that revenue estimating is an inherently unreliable way to plan budgets.

Source: www.sj-r.com/opinion/20180424/guest-view-illinois-4-pillars-of-bad-budgeting

PLEASE MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO YOUR DIRECTORY

Hull	Elaine	702 N 1 st ST	Monmouth	IL	61462	734-5558	New member
		elainehull@hotmail.com					
Keene	Susan					495-0955	Phone correction

Arlene Wise (93)	Deceased: March 7	
Lila Burgess (93)	Deceased: March 10	
Alan Lurie (91)	Deceased: April 3, 2018	

DATABASE MAINTAINED BY JOHN RATHBUN

The trouble with jogging is that by the time you realize you're not in shape for it, it's too far to walk back!

SOUNDINGS

HOUSE PANEL OKS BILL TO PREVENT HEALTH INSURANCE MODIFICATIONS

HB4146 - Third Reading - Thursday, April 26, 2018

House Bill 4146 would prevent insurance companies from increasing out-of-pocket costs for a covered drug, moving a prescription drug to a more restrictive tier or removing it from a formulary during the length of a locked-in agreement.



OPPONENTS say the bill punishes employers and consumers. They say that it effectively serves as a “giveaway” to the pharmaceutical industry, who they argue is the real problem.

SUPPORTERS argue it is consumer-friendly legislation that will help patients afford medications by avoiding “bait-and-switch” situations that cause drug prices to skyrocket.

INTERESTING FACTS FROM TEACHERS RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF ILLINOIS (TRS)

FY 2017 MEMBERSHIP

- Active Members – 160,488 (23% Tier II)
- Inactive members – 131,812



- Annuitants/Beneficiaries – 120,151
- Oldest Retiree – 106
- Oldest Active (Sub) – 88
- Oldest Active(Teacher) – 80

**FREE GENERAL ADMISSION PASS
PEORIA RIVERFRONT MUSEUM**

Thanks to sponsorship from the Peoria Riverfront Museum’s Visionary Society, Peoria Public Library cardholders can now borrow a pass to the Peoria Riverfront Museum!

Each branch of Peoria Public Library has one pass which is available to be checked out on a first-come, first-served basis to patrons with a valid, and in good standing, Peoria Public Library library card. The pass can be used on the day of checkout or the following day. The pass includes general admission to all exhibits, galleries, and daytime planetarium shows for two adults and their children or grandchildren. Passes cannot be reserved or checked out online or over the phone. Passes must be checked out in person at the library at the Information Desk. Please visit Peoria Public Library to find out current pass availability. Library staff will be able to check if it is available and also check out the pass.



250 pounds here on Earth is 94.5 pounds on Mercury.
No, I'm NOT overweight! I'm just NOT on the right planet!



SOUNDINGS

SPOTLIGHT ON IRTA MEMBER BENEFITS

AMERICAN HEARING BENEFITS



A Starkey Hearing Technologies Program

IRTA members are entitled to:

- A FREE annual hearing screening for you and your immediate family
- Referrals to AHB's network of recommended local hearing healthcare professionals
- Advanced hearing solutions with the latest in hearing aid technology
- Up to 60% off suggested retail prices
- A FREE full two-year extended warranty with every purchase

For a full list of IRTA member-only benefits and discount codes:

Login on to: www.irtaonline.org Click on: "Member Benefits"

At Every PARTA Meeting

Book Exchange Table:

Bring books, calendars, magazines, and other paper goods to share with our members.

Sally Weber, Supervisor

Used Battery Recycling Collection

Jo Trompeter, Supervisor

IRS Frauds Top the Senate Committee List of Senior Scams



A new report by the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging ranks the most common scams that targeted older adults in 2017. Scams in which fraudsters pretend to be employees of the Internal Revenue Service are the most common complaint

seniors reported to the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging's fraud hotline in 2017, according to a report released this week at a hearing.

Robocalls and sweepstakes scams were second and third on the list.

"In IRS scams, criminals impersonate IRS staff and demand payment for back taxes," Senator Susan Collins, 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.

When Dad came home he was astonished to see Alec sitting on a horse, writing something. "What on earth are you doing there?" he asked.

"Well, the teacher told us to write a paragraph on our favorite animal.

That's why I'm here and that's why Charlie's sitting on the goldfish bowl!"

