

PARTA

SOUNDINGS

OCTOBER 2018

PEORIA AREA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

ROGER HAMPTON, EDITOR

LUNCHEON MEETING

October 1

11:30 A.M.

Barracks Cater Inn

Buffet: \$12.00

Reservation **MADE**

must become a

Reservation **PAID**

GREETERS



Susan Leighty



Denise Madigan

INVOCATION/PLEDGE



Linda Sedgwick

Luncheon

Pork Loin
Red Sauerkraut
Potatoes
Assorted Salads
Assorted Desserts



If you have not been contacted by Thursday, prior to a meeting, call Nancy Wing: 243.9218 or Abby Humbles: 472.9455

PARTA Website

pa-rta.weebly.com/



Sally Weber
Webmaster

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

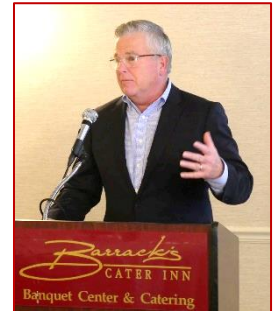
Hello PARTA Members,

It was so nice to see everyone at the September meeting. Thank you to Mr. Jim Bachman, Executive Director of IRTA, for attending our meeting. It was a pleasure to listen to the fine work done by IRTA.

Our October meeting will include the brief memorial service. Lunch will begin ~11:40 AM. Please let your caller know if you have any dietary restrictions. Barracks is always willing to accommodate those needs.

Warmly,

Abby Humbles, PARTA President



PARTA PROGRAMS

OCTOBER 1

In Memoriam:

Celebration of Life

Lead by Frances Farraher
Relatives Invited to Attend

Candidate Updates:

Your Representatives

Roger Hampton &
Dixie Wheeler, Presenters

NOVEMBER 5

Topic: "THE BEEKEEPER" Presenter: Sarah Stevens

DECEMBER 3

Topic: *STORYTELLING*

Presenter:
Chris Mangold

Game: *CHRISTMAS TRIVIA*

Organizer:
Pat Hampton

PLUS a *SING-A-LONG* lead by Denise Adams

GOOD THOUGHTS FOR OCTOBER

Keep your face to the sunshine
and you cannot see a shadow.

— Helen Keller

Attitude is a little thing that
makes a big difference.

— Winston Churchill

Yesterday is not ours to recover,
but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.

— Lyndon B. Johnson

SOUNDINGS

PARTA LUNCHEON MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2018



President Abby Humbles welcomed everyone. She thanked today's greeters, Ann Christophel and Susan Bartlow, as well as those greeting the new retirees, the officers, the callers, and the cashiers. Lee Ann Meinhold gave the Invocation and Pledge. After the luncheon, Abby introduced Beth Derry-Crider, the Regional Superintendent of Schools, who thanked all the retired teachers for their service. Roger Hampton, the President of IRTA, introduced

Jim Bachman, the Executive Director of IRTA, our speaker. He gave us information about membership, VoterVoice, bills passed in Springfield, insurance, and the upcoming elections. Along with Mr. Bachman was Nathan Mihelich, Director of Membership and Marketing Services.

ABBY OPENED THE BUSINESS MEETING.

- The minutes were approved as in the *Soundings*.
- Copies of the Treasurer's reports were on the tables. A summary is in the *Soundings*. The report was filed for audit.
- Attention was called to the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Policies. Voting will be in October.
- Members were reminded to let Frances Farraher know if you need a ride, and let your caller know if you have dietary restrictions.

- Frances reported one more death since the *Soundings* was printed.
- John Rathbun said new membership starts in January. Dues are \$15 annually or \$120 lifetime. If you join in the fall, your membership runs through 2019.
- Abby read the list of new retirees, and they were honored with applause. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Simpson, Recording Secretary

IRS WARNING TO RETIREES: AVOID A SURPRISE TAX BILL

With tax reform bringing major changes, the Internal Revenue Service urges retirees to make sure they are paying enough tax during the year by using the Withholding Calculator available online at:

<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/irs-withholding-calculator>

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, enacted in December 2017, changed the way tax is calculated for most taxpayers including retirees. Among other reforms, the new law changed the tax rates and brackets, increased the standard deduction, removed personal exemptions and limited or discontinued certain deductions. As a result, many taxpayers may need to raise or lower the amount of tax they pay during the year. For retirees who receive a monthly pension or annuity check, this may mean changing the amount of federal income tax they have withheld.



Grandparents: The people who think your children are wonderful even though they're sure you're not raising them right.



SOUNDINGS

PARTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 27, 2018

Present: Kathy Simpson, Dixie Wheeler, Eric Johnson, Nancy Miller, Jeff Vallosio, Sally Weber, Frances Farraher, Abby Humbles, Dave Barnwell, Ann Winget, Valda Shipp, and Roger Hampton.

Abby Humbles called the meeting to order.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff presented the proposed 2019 Budget and went over the increases. Abby thanked Jeff for his work on the budget. Frances moved to approve the 2019 Budget, Valda seconded it, and the motion passed. Jeff received a Thank You note from the Kidney Foundation.

Old Business:

- Sally said in the spring she, Mary Nelson, and Jeanne Blane will form a PARTA Awareness group. They will deliver a treat basket to each school building in Peoria County. The baskets will also contain information about PARTA for the current teachers and future retirees.

New Business:

- Ann asked if someone could help Nancy Wing call the new attendees who come once and don't come back. Nancy also asked if the cashiers could get the phone numbers of the new attendees. Sally will call Linda Sedgwick about calling newly-retired people.
- When calling with reservations, if you can't reach Nancy Wing, leave a message and have Nancy respond.
- Future board meeting: November 12 at 10:15 A.M. at Lakeview Library
- Bylaws – Kathy Simpson moved to recommend the changes to the Bylaws and Policies to the general membership at the September meeting and

vote on them in October. Dave seconded the motion. The motion was approved. A printed copy of the changes will be on the tables and will be mentioned at the meeting.

- Memorial – Frances distributed a PARTA Necrology list from September 1, 2017 through July of 2018. A Memorial service will be held at 11:30 A.M. at the October meeting. The luncheon will begin at 11:45, followed by the regular meeting. Frances will contact the families.

Committees:

- Ann presented a list of the following programs she and her committee have secured: September – Jim Bachman, IRTA; October – Memorial Service and Political Candidates; November – The Beekeeper, Sarah Stevens; December – Chris Mangold, Storytelling, Pat Hampton, Christmas Trivia, and a possible sing-a-long; February – Danira Parra, Pastor, Dayspring Native American United Methodist Church; March – Sam Kherat, Driverless Vehicles; April – Sara Dillefeld-Sefried, Center for Prevention of Abuse regarding human trafficking in central Illinois; May – John Butte, The Bradford Girls; and June – Tim Pletkovich, "Jeopardy" type game on Nuns, Nazis, and Notre Dame.
 - The Publications Chair is now Sally Weber and the Legislative Chair is now Dixie Wheeler.
- The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Simpson, Recording Secretary

I hate to admit this, but it's so true:

When people ask for candy, I give them the flavor I don't like!

My head says go to the gym, but my heart says eat more ice cream!

If you want to know everything about me, just check out my *Pinterest*.



SOUNDINGS

REPORT	October 1, 2018 TOTAL PARTA FINANCES: \$ 52,410.16			Jeff Vallosio Treasurer
	Investment Balance	\$ 43,436.31	Working Cash (cash boxes)	\$ 100.00
	Savings Balance	\$ 6,959.46	Post Office Bulk Mail Fund	\$ 359.92
	Checking Balance	\$ 1,508.85	Post Office Returned Mail Fund	\$ 45.62

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT INSURANCE PROGRAM (TRIP)

On August 22, 2018, SB 3046 was signed into law amending legislation to allow former TRIP members and dependents who previously opted-out of their health benefits plan, to be allowed to opt-back-in during an open enrollment period or other qualifying enrollment opportunities.



This bill was an initiative of IRTA. The law became effective immediately.

- For non-MAPD (*Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug*) members, your next Open Enrollment opportunity will be during the month of May 2019. Members who changed insurance providers during May 2018 should have received new insurance cards. **If you have not yet received your insurance cards, please contact your plan administrator.**
- For Medicare-eligible members, the 2019 TRAIL Medicare Advantage Prescription Drug (MAPD) Open Enrollment period will run October 15 - November 15, 2018. Information to be mailed no later than early October.

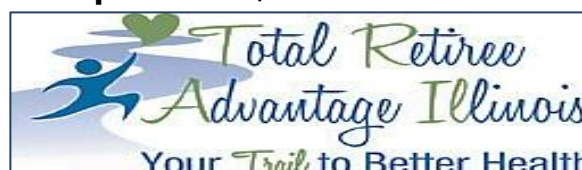
TRIP TRAIL MAPD Plan Monthly Contributions – Effective January 1, 2019

Aetna Coventry's Advantra HMO
 Member \$35.14
 Dependent \$105.42

United Health Care PPO
 Member \$52.87
 Dependent \$158.60

TRIP TRAIL MAPD Seminar

October 22, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 Holiday Inn & Suites Peoria at Grand Prairie
 7601 N Orange Prairie RD Peoria, IL



You will find changes to the program for 2019 in the materials being mailed from CMS or by attending the seminar. Any impacted retiree may attend any meeting. Topics include eligibility criteria and an explanation of the benefits provided through the Program. Reservations are not required.

If unable to attend a live seminar, a video will be available at MyBenefits.illinois.gov.

Questions? MyBenefits.illinois.gov or call 844.251.1777 Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM CT.



WONDER WOMAN: OVERHEARD AT A PARTA MEETING:

You know Sally, I have come to realize what a “Wonder Woman” I am. I *wonder* where I put my keys; I *wonder* where I put my purse; I *wonder* where I parked my car!

SOUNDINGS

TRS EARNs AN 8.45% RATE OF INVESTMENT RETURN IN FY 2018

Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) investments generated a positive 8.45% rate of return, net of fees, during fiscal year 2018 – a return that exceeded the System's custom investment benchmark of 8.19%. TRS ended FY 2018 on June 30 with \$51.5 billion in assets, an increase of 4.2% during the year. Gross of fees, the TRS return for FY 2018 was 9.17%. TRS long-term investment returns continue to exceed the System's goal of 7%. For FY 2018, the 30-year net of fees return was 8.4%; and 9.2% for 40 years.



"TRS continues to earn better-than-expected returns on its investments using a diversified strategy that carries less risk than most of our peer systems' investments," said TRS Executive Director Dick Ingram. "That's good news for our members because the financial challenges TRS faces now and in the future require us to balance two critical mandates: Do everything we can to safeguard our members' money while prudently maximizing investment revenue."



"Because state government has failed to adequately fund TRS for the last 80 years, the system only has 40 cents in the bank for every \$1 we owe each of our members," Ingram added. "Risk management is critical because every dime is important. We know we can't invest our way out of our funding shortfall. Our future sustainability relies on consistent and adequate state funding to pay down this debt."

Ingram stressed that the 30-year and 40-year rate-of-returns are the most important numbers in the FY 2018 investment data. These timeframes not only reflect the long-term relationship that TRS has with its members but indicate a successful investment program that values steady growth and strong risk management over several generations.

TRS FALL MEMBER MEETING

OCTOBER 23, 2018 | 4:30 P.M. | RICHWOODS HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

This TRS meeting is designed to explain the retirement process and to provide you with information about disability, death and insurance benefits.

Source: <https://www.trsil.org/news-and-events/8.45percent-ROI-FY2018>

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 80. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"



When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised "Mine says I'm 4 to 6."

SOUNDINGS

2019 – 2020 SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR PARTA OFFICERS

President:

Abby Humbles

1st Vice President:

Dixie Wheeler

2nd Vice President:

Ann Winget

Recording Secretary:

Kathy Simpson

Treasurer:

Jeff Vallosio

ELECTION

PARTA BYLAWS: ARTICLE VIII - ELECTIONS:

- B. At the **October** meeting the **election** of the officers for the ensuing biennium shall be conducted. Elected officers then can begin the task of filling positions on the Board and for various committees.
- C. At the **December** meeting the incoming officers shall be **installed** and shall assume office on the following January.



PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARTA BYLAWS & POLICIES

The following changes to the PARTA Policies on pages 51 – 52 of the PARTA Directory were voted on at the August Board of Directors meeting and approved for recommendation to the general membership for consideration at the September meeting and for voting at the October meeting.

1. Delete all of # 6, "The Treasurer must have the names of guests and program expenditures prior to the meeting in order that the checks are prepared. (Use voucher.)"
2. Change #11 to read, "The Altruistic Chairperson shall annually submit to the Treasurer a listing of deceased PARTA members so that the Treasurer can forward the listing to the IRTA Foundation along with a \$10 memorial contribution per deceased member. A note should be sent to the family by the Altruistic Chairperson notifying them of the memorial."
3. Delete the first sentence of #16. Change policy to read, " All monies received shall be deposited into the general operating checking and/or savings accounts. All life membership dues shall be added to the Life Membership Fund line on the periodic treasurer reports."
4. Change #17 to read, "The Life Membership Fund monies shall be invested and accounted for separately from the general operating checking and/or savings accounts. Only the dividends and interest earned may be used for PARTA operational and administrative expenses."



These changes/revisions will bring the written/approved procedures into alignment with actual practices that have been followed for a number of years.

5. Revise Article IV, E to eliminate "Advisory" and "Retirement Education" from the list of standing committees.

This change of Article IV reduces the number of committee chairpersons, which lowers the number of Executive Board members needed for a quorum.



While attending a Marriage Seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace listened to the instructor. "It is essential that husbands and wives know each other's likes and dislikes." He addressed the man, "Can you name your wife's favorite flower?" Tom leaned over, touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, "It's Pillsbury, isn't it?"



SOUNDINGS

PARTA ICC SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR 2018

scholarship

VICTORIA LODGE – Pekin
JULIA PECK - East Peoria
SAVANNA KLOBNAK - Metamora



Thank you for supporting these future teachers.

VALDA SHIPP, PARTA SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

ONE-YEAR RETIREE RETURN TO WORK PROGRAM IN EFFECT

Public Act 100-0743 is a one-year program that expires on June 30, 2019. It allows a TRS retiree to return to work without post-retirement limitations. The regional superintendent must designate the employment to be in a subject shortage area in order for a retiree to be able to return to work without limitation.



NO POST-RETIREMENT LIMITATIONS FOR TRS RETIREES

SPOTLIGHT ON AN IRTA MEMBER BENEFIT

IRTA Members Receive Discounts on Home Health Care Policy

If you had the choice of recovering at home or in a nursing home, which would you choose? If you're like most Americans, you'd probably be more interested in recovering in the comfort of your own home. That's exactly why your association has endorsed the Kemper Senior Solutions Home Health Care insurance plan. This policy is designed as an affordable solution that helps give you the flexibility and freedom to utilize the type of care that's right for you – *in your very own home.*



Some of the outstanding benefits of this policy include skilled and general nursing care, physical therapy, speech pathology, occupational therapy, chemotherapy specialists, enterostomal therapy, respiration therapy, medical social services, a home health care aid benefit, and a prescription drug benefit. And best of all, this policy is guaranteed renewable for life as long as you pay your premiums!

Long-Term Substitute Teacher Request: High School English

Tony Shinall, Brimfield High School Principal

tony.shinall@brimfield309.com | 309.446.3349



The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray, "Take only one. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. One child whispered to another, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."



SOUNDINGS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE MEMORIALS (NECROLOGY SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 - AUGUST 31, 2018)

*There are some who bring a light so great to the world,
That even after they have gone their light remains.*



Ruth Livingston: 6/27/41 - 10/9/17 (76)
Peoria District 150



Gustave "Gus" Bohlman: 10/17/33 - 10/10/17 (83)
Peoria District 150: Webster, Lincoln, & Thomas Jefferson



Sandra Carruthers: 8/10/40 - 10/18/17 (77)
Peoria District 150: Lincoln and Peoria High



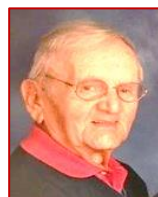
Harry Whitaker: 6/19/27 - 11/5/17 (90)
Peoria District 150: Peoria High, Superintendent



Rose Marie Sunderland: 4/28/28 - 11/15/17 (89)
Newton, IL & Peoria District 150



Oneita F. Volz: 3/8/18 - 1/11/18 (91)
Peoria District 150



Rolland (Ron) L. Abel: 10/3/30 - 3/5/18 (87)
Spartan, IL & Peoria District 150: Sipp, Rolling Acres, and Kellar



Arlene Wise: 4/1/24 - 3/7/18 (93)
Blue Mound, IL & Peoria District 150: Blaine-Sumner and Kellar



Lila Burgess: 2/26/25 - 3/10/18 (93)
Peoria District 150: Trewyn, Peoria High, & Richwoods H.S.



Alan Lurie: 5/31/26 - 4/3/18 (91)
Peoria District 150: Peoria High



Betty J. Gustin: 3/15/23 - 4/28/18 (95)
Dunlap H.S. and Peoria District 150



Catherine Maureen Crews: 8/21/33 - 7/26/18 (84)
Peoria District 150: Webster, Kingman, and Curriculum Dept.



Ruth Martin: 9/12/17 - 8/18/18 (100)
Peoria District 150



Nellie Wineland: 8/28/37 - 8/30/18 (81)
Illinois Valley Central



**A good teacher is like a candle –
it consumes itself to light the way for others.**

