

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November 1, 2006

2006 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON: 'TIS THE SEASON

Make your plans now to attend the Holiday Luncheon on Wednesday, December 6th at the Wellington of Arlington Heights. Take this opportunity to celebrate the upcoming holiday season with your fellow Unit 90 members. Special entertainment will be provided by the Suzuki violinists from Dooley Elementary School in District 54. See the attached flyer for specific details. 'Tis the season to be jolly, so see you there!

UNIT 90 WEBSITE: www.irta-unit90.org

Check out the NEW Unit 90 website, which includes information on the following topics: Executive Board members and meeting minutes, the President's Report, Call to Action, a local membership application, and Legislative News. Thanks to the Webmaster, Reinhard Taylor.

GPO/WEP: IRTA LAWSUIT

The IRTA recently hired a law firm to review the constitutionality of two federal provisions: GPO (Government Pension Offset) and WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision). However, the recently rendered legal opinion was that such a lawsuit would have very little chance of succeeding on a constitutionally-challenged basis. Therefore, the IRTA will now focus its efforts to change the GPO/WEP provisions through congressional action.

GPO/WEP: IRTA CALL to ACTION

"A resolution has been introduced in the House of Representatives (H. Res. 987) to immediately consider the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 147) that repeals the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) penalties. H. Res. 987 is a discharge petition. The introduction of this bill is a procedural maneuver to force a vote on the Social Security Fairness Act. Currently, H. Res. 987 has 120 signatures of the 218 needed. IRTA would like to urge its members to contact your Congressman's office and urge them to sign the discharge petition, H. Res. 987. Your Congressman must sign this petition before NOVEMBER 13, so be sure to act quickly.

The following is an example of what you should say to the person who answers the phone: As Congressman _____'s constituent, I am calling to ask him/her to sign the discharge petition, House Resolution 987, introduced on September 7, to bring the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 147) to a prompt vote on the House floor."

Call the U.S. Capitol toll free at 1-866-327-8670 and ask to be connected to your Congressman's office.

GPO/WEP: UNIT 90

The Unit 90 Executive Board realizes that every one of our members has been affected by the GPO/WEP provisions in varying degrees. We are trying to determine those members who have been seriously affected by the GPO or the WEP. If so, please contact Carol Adamson at: cadamson@wowway.com or 847-577-7727.

TRS REPORT: BOB LYONS

Here's a message from Bob Lyons, the second-elected annuitant to the TRS (Teacher Retirement System) Board of Directors:

Stuart Levine, one-time appointed member to the TRS Board of Directors, is scheduled to stand up in Federal District Court on Friday, October 27, 2006, and to plead guilty on multiple counts of extortion, kick-backs, and corruption concerning his actions while serving on our TRS Board and another state board.

As of this date, Monday, October 23rd, no regular employee of TRS has been named as part of the conspiracy, and there is no evidence that TRS lost any money because of Levine's actions.

"Information provided by TRS was significant in the investigative results achieved to date, and the TRS Board and staff look forward to the day when justice will be served."

Good News: The TRS fund for the first time has passed the \$38 billion mark, due to prudent investment decisions.

UNIT 90 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

The meetings of the Unit 90 Executive Board are open to ALL interested members. Please join us on the FIRST WEDNESDAY of each month (except July and December) at the Arlington Heights Senior Center at 10:00 am.

COMMUNICATION: E-MAIL UPDATES

If you are not currently receiving e-mail updates and want to receive them, please send your name and e-mail address to Bill McCauley at wcm211@comcast.net with subject IRTA. If you do not have e-mail and want to be alerted when we need to contact legislators, call Bill McCauley at 847-895-5279 and leave your name and telephone number.