



IRTA-UNIT 90

Northwest Suburban - Unit 90

<https://www.irta-unit90.org>

Mark Boumstein's President's Notes



Hi Unit 90,

The event that has been 70 years in the making is just around the corner. The 70th biennial Illinois Retired Teachers Association Convention will take place at Crowne Plaza in Springfield on October 27th and October 28th. This special event will not only celebrate the 3.5 score (70 years) of advocating and supporting Illinois' retired teachers, but will be interspersed with entertainment which will include, but not be limited to Howl at the Moon-dueling pianos and the world-renowned Jesse White Tumblers. In the past, the biennial convention was only open to delegates, but this has been changed so now everyone who is a member can attend. Another change is that voting for all officers and proposed constitutional amendments will be done electronically. The window to vote is from August 25 to October 10, 2025. There will be a forum over Zoom on August 28 and September 23 for the contested office of IRTA president. Starting on August 25th you can login to the IRTA web page, then click the tab for members. This will give you access to the election portal. You can see the entire convention agenda and register by clicking on the following link:

<https://members.irtaonline.org/events/2025-irta-convention/register>

Your continued support of the State Association and our local unit, Northwest Suburban Unit 90 is appreciated through your membership and hopefully participation, but our ability to continue to promote the issues which affect retired teachers such as pensions and health care is directly linked to supporting elected representatives who are understanding of our concerns. This is done through donations to the IRTAPAC. At our Convention there will be a raffle drawing where the Grand Prize is a 7-day cruise for 2 and includes a flight to the cruise port. Please use the following link to sign in, select the "members only" tab, and then click "make a donation."

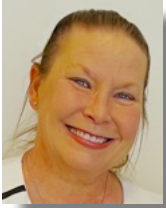
<https://www.irtaonline.org/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

August 7, 2205	Lake Geneva Cruise
September 3, 2025.	Newly Retired Teachers Breakfast (9 am), Arlington Heights. Senior Center
September 17, 2025	Feed My Starving Children (9-11 am), 740 Wiley Farm Court, Schaumburg
December 3, 2025	Holiday Luncheon





Rainy Kaplan and Bob Lyons' TRS Report

The TRS website has recently undergone some updates, including a multi factor authentication system. If you have not visited the TRS website, please do so soon to set up your account properly. There are instructions on the homepage of the TRS website <https://www.trsil.org/myTRSIL>.



At the June Board of Trustees meeting, the board members and senior staff members honored outgoing trustees for their years of dedicated service: Joe Blomquist, Fred Peronto and Larry Pfeiffer. We thank Trustee Pfeiffer for his representation of retirees on the Board for the past eight years.



TRS has approximately \$70 billion of assets under management. The system is about 46% funded. Governor Pritzker allocated the full statutory amount to TRS this year and has committed to fully funding the system by 2048. During the past legislative session, no fixes for Tier 2 were passed.

TRS celebrated its 20th anniversary of the Emerging Managers Program, headed by Jose Gonzalez, senior investment officer. TRS was also recognized as a 2025 NCPERS Champion for the system's commitment to pension governance and leadership development.

As the new school year begins, please be careful to track your days/hours if you return to the classroom to substitute or teach. There are stiff penalties for exceeding the limit of 600 hours/120 days.

President's Report (continued)

The IRTA Foundation provides financial assistance to retired educators who need help with living expenses. The Foundation also gives grants to active educators. In addition, the Foundation offers scholarships to students who are aspiring to become teachers. At the last Northwest Suburban Unit 90 Board meeting a scholarship was presented to a student who lives in the Unit 90 area and attends Illinois State University. Please click on the following link if you would like to donate to the Foundation

<https://www.irtaonline.org/foundation/donatetoday/>



Starting September 30, 2025, the Social Security Administration will discontinue issuing paper checks sent through the mail for benefit payments. If you, or if you know anyone who is receiving benefits through the mail, you must change the manner which you receive a payment. Your choices are to either have a direct deposit into a bank account or receive a prepaid debit card. If you know anyone who is affected by this change, please see the following link which provides several methods to change your method of payment. Please note that you don't have to do anything or make any changes if you currently receive a direct deposit into your bank account. <https://www.ssa.gov/deposit/>

This summer we have endured many days during which the heat index has posed a health hazard. Please check in on your friends, neighbors and relatives. Join us for the Unit 90 Board meetings at the Arlington Heights Senior Center which are held on the first Wednesday of every month except for July and December.

Sincerely, *Mark Boumstein*

Carolyn White: Volunteers Are Always Needed...



RTA Unit 90 is returning to Feed My Starving Children (FMSC), 740 Wiley Farm Court, Schaumburg on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025 from 9:00 - 11:00. There are a variety of jobs ranging from quite active to seated.



Most of us will be packing food for individual nutritious meals. More active volunteers are in the warehouse, transporting boxes of nutrients to resupply the packing tables. The seated jobs involve placing labels on the bags in preparation for filling. There's a job to suit everyone and great camaraderie.

In the past, some of us have gone out for a late breakfast/early lunch when we finish at 11:00. You can decide on the 17th if you're able to join us since we can't make reservations in any of the nearby restaurants.

To sign up to join us at FMSC on Sept. 17, send an email to Carolyn White at whitecarolyn14@gmail.com. I'll confirm your email and then send you an email closer to the date.



Our Area 2 Scholarship Recipient is Mary Jo Coleman



May 6, 2025 Kids Above All (1801 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL)

UNIT SPOTLIGHT:

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN UNIT 90

KIDS ABOVE ALL
Step Up. Stand Up. Rise Up.



Pictured (on the first one) are Bruce Illingworth, Sue Illingworth, Rainy Kaplan, Carolyn White, Louise Fiston and Joyce Tjarks




UNIT SPOTLIGHT:

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN UNIT 90

Members of the Northwest Suburban Unit 90 recently volunteered their time and talents at Kids Above All, an organization dedicated to supporting children from Pre-K through young adulthood.

The group assembled baby bundles—backpacks filled with essential baby items like diapers, bottles, and onesies—and included handwritten notes of encouragement for new mothers. Their efforts provided much-needed support and care for families in the community.

The volunteer coordinator at Kids Above All was especially excited to welcome a group of retired teachers. Drawing on their professional expertise, several volunteers were asked to sort children's books by reading level, ensuring that each child receives books that match their abilities and foster a love of reading.

Unit 90's participation was coordinated by Carolyn White.

IRTA is proud to showcase local units that are making a positive impact in their communities every day.

Janette Wanner's Membership Report



Unit 90 (Northwest Suburban) is one of the 87 Units of IRTA in Illinois.

We are in Area 2, Region 3.

Currently we have **537 members** in Unit 90,

471 of those are also members of the State IRTA.

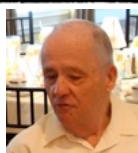
We now also have a Unit 90 Life Membership available for \$100
(or for **free, if you're 90 or older**).

We currently have **254 Life members**.



**Membership forms , for State and Local,
can be found on our webpage: [Click Here](#).**

Unit 90 Members Who Recently Died



Godman, Bill

(May 26, 2025)



Boehm, Barbara

(March. 20, 2025)



Larson, Lois

(May 24, 2025)



Toepke, David

(Feb. 23, 2025)



Hazucha, Winnie

(Apr. 13, 2025)



Phillips, Darryl

(Feb. 9, 2025)



Christmas, Paul

(March. 29, 2025)



Wright, Kevin

(Feb. 1, 2025)

Diane Pfister: Foundation News



The IRTA Foundation's goal is to assist past, present and future teachers. This is accomplished by assisting retired educators with living expenses, providing scholarships to aspiring teachers, working to protect the rights of the elderly, and providing grants to educators.

Our unit supports the activities of the state IRTA Foundation by making a memorial donation when one of our members passes.

Please email us when you become aware of a death, so that we may honor that person's memory.

June 13, 2025 June Luncheon (Inverness Golf Club)



July 6, 2025 Boomers Baseball Game (Wintrust Field, Schaumburg, IL)



Carolyn White: Volunteers Are Always Needed...



VOLUNTEER in the Read to Learn program as a one-on-one tutor for adults seeking to improve their ability to communicate in English. Lesson plans are provided by a site supervisor and focus on reading, writing and speaking English. The program is largely funded by the IL State Library and training is required for new tutors. For more information on sites, times and dates and to register for mandatory tutor training go to <https://www.ce.d214.org/readtolearn>

CHiL is an afterschool program serving elementary and middle school students in Wheeling Township's Community Consolidated School District 21. Volunteers serve as mentors - fostering socialization, facilitating social-emotional learning activities, and providing homework help to students in need. The program takes place Monday - Thursday 3:00- 4:45 PM, and volunteer mentors are asked to commit to one day each week through the school year. Programming starts September 29th and runs through the beginning of May. Application: <https://forms.gle/zHAR5GKW5gnKANiZ7>

Lunch Buddies serves students at Jane Addams Elementary School in Palatine where volunteers read and play math games with small groups of elementary students during their lunch hour to bolster numeracy skills and promote a love of reading. The program will take place Monday - Thursday during the lunch hour,

between 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, and volunteers are asked to commit to one hour each week during the school year. Programming starts September 29th and runs through the beginning of May. Application: <https://forms.gle/jn5jEcw2WCwVSQaY7>

PAWS (Positive And Worthwhile Support) serves middle school students at MacArthur Middle School. The program provides an opportunity for students to get one-on-one or small group assistance with their homework, projects, and upcoming tests. It takes place every Wednesday from 3:00-4:00 PM beginning in October and will run through the end of the school year. Application: <https://forms.gle/ybmjkySGjqoVQmMX7>



BUILDING ON LEGACY



Illinois

RETIRED
TEACHERS

Association

BI-ENNIAL CONVENTION 2025^{*}

CROWNE PLAZA
OCTOBER 27TH & 28TH

CREATING A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

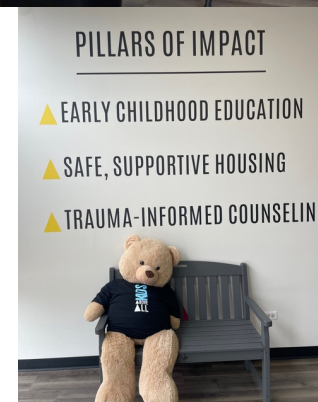
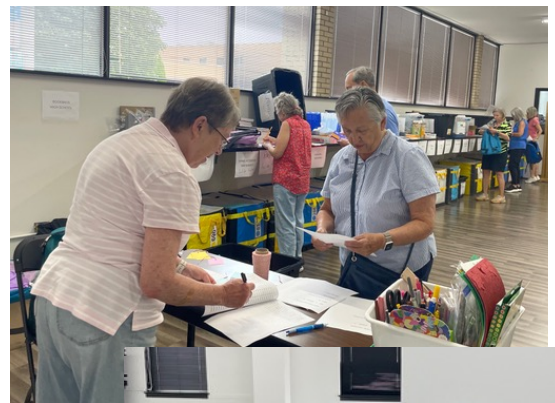
1955 - 2025

Come One, Come All!

Join us for the 2025 IRTA Convention as we celebrate 70 years of advocacy, community, and connection! This milestone event is open to all IRTA members—don't miss this special opportunity to honor our past, enjoy our present, and shape our future together!

For detailed Convention information and registration:
WWW.IRTAONLINE.ORG

July 30, 2025 Kids Above All (1801 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL)





**Northwest Suburban IRTA Unit 90
12 Country Oaks Ln
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-9620**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

<https://www.irta-unit90.org>