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# DUPAGE CONNECTION

Newsletter of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association in DuPage

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## **DIRTA, Immediate Past President**     *Ida Lee*

In January Past President Chuck Hlavaty and I decided to contact the remaining officers and committee chairs to see if DIRTA could continue. We heard from everyone!

We held two February board meetings and decided on the following calendar: April 1, May 6, June 3, September 8 General Meetings. (On September 8 we will join the West Lake Shore Unit for a report from Doug Strand, the retired Trustee for the Teacher Retirement System. Time and place to be announced.)

We decided on a new restaurant for our meetings and to continue our search for new leadership for our unit. Steven's Family Restaurant in Woodridge is the new meeting place.

I hope you will continue your support of DIRTA. I hope new leaders will join us.

## **Membership Report**     *Beverly Gilfillan and Mary Rogers*

There are currently 27 members who have not renewed their DIRTA membership for 2020. Please check the upper right corner of your mailing label for your DIRTA dues expiration date. Our local dues are \$10. annually and \$45. for 5 years. Fill out the local unit membership form on the back page of the newsletter and mail it to Mary Rogers with your check payable to DIRTA.

IRTA depends on YOU as a member to spread the word about the IRTA mission to protect our TRS pensions and our benefits. Reach out to other TRS retirees whenever possible. Encourage them to check us out at [www.irtaonline.org](http://www.irtaonline.org) and share with them why you chose to be a member of the IRTA and our local DIRTA unit. Explain how easy it is to pay IRTA dues with Dues Deduct. After signing up online, \$2.50 will be deducted from your monthly pension check. That makes the cost of membership in this great organization only \$30. per year.

If you have any membership questions or you need to update your member contact information please email [dupageIRTA@gmail.com](mailto:dupageIRTA@gmail.com) or call Mary Rogers at 630-890-7174.

## **Our April Guest Speaker—John Flaherty**

April 1st, 2020 Speaker is Newly Elected President of the IRTA, State President John Flaherty.

# April 1st Lunch Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST—NOON  
RESERVATIONS DUE BY FRI., MARCH 27

## STEVEN'S FAMILY RESTAURANT

2393 63RD ST., WOODRIDGE, IL

SALAD, CHICKEN TUSCAN PASTA, GELATO, COFFEE, TEA, SOFT DRINKS

PRICE \$20 FOR LUNCH, TAX AND TIP

BRING A FRIEND—RSVP TODAY!      REGISTRATION DETAILS BELOW

### HOW TO REGISTER

Find your Zip Code and call your contact person to make a reservation by Friday, March 27th  
To leave a message: SPELL YOUR NAME. **Please reply promptly.**

60181 + 187 + 148	Cheryl Hansen	630-595-7623
60185 + 189 + 190	Jan Reese	630-529-6834
60188 + 193	Suzanne Hennings	630-710-1803
60515 + 516 + 559	Margaret Rossini	630-430-1146
60510 + 540 + 565	Bob Schrader	630-355-1954
60563 + 532 + 555	Bob Schrader	630-355-1954
All other Zip Codes	Suzanne Hennings	630-710-1803

### DIRTA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Ida Lee	ieaida@aol.com	630-653-7724
V.P.	Sandra S. Brennan	sandrabrennan@gmail.com	630-222-2449
Treas.	Sar Huffman	sarilee1949@gmail.com	630-220-5599
Sec.	Jane Munsie	jamunsie@aol.com	630-985-0320
Cor. Sec.	Suzanne Hennings	<a href="mailto:medreading99@comcast.net">medreading99@comcast.net</a>	630-710-1803
Membership	Beverly Gilfillan	beverlygilfillan@sbcglobal.net	630-969-9321
Membership	Mary Rogers	dupageIRTA@gmail.com	630-890-7174
Polit. Affairs	Arnie Grimes	agamg@msn.com	630-527-1672
Website/Tours	Gary Elmen	gwelmen@gmail.com	630-624-3728
Benefits	Chuck Hlavaty	<a href="mailto:cjhjr1@yahoo.com">cjhjr1@yahoo.com</a>	630-969-8595
Newsletter	Diane McManigal	stitchnstr1@gmail.com	630-697-9543

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### **IRTA Member Benefits Highlighter**      *Chuck Hlavaty*

Don't forget that there are MANY benefits that we are entitled to use. Details are listed in your Member Benefits on the IRTA website at: [irtaonline.org](http://irtaonline.org)

### **Ill or Deceased Members**      *Suzanne Hennings*

If you know of any members who are ill or have passed, please notify me by telephone (630-710-1803) or email [medreading99@comcast.net](mailto:medreading99@comcast.net) As always, there will be a sheet provided at the monthly luncheons where you may write down this information.

### **Political Affairs**      *Arnie Grimes*

The governor supports our pensions although he has been getting pressure for "pension reform." We all know what happened last time that was tried.

**New Luncheon Meeting Location**  
Steven's Family Restaurant  
2393 63rd Street  
Woodridge, Il 60517      630-810-9812  
West of Belmont Ave., East of I-355 on 63rd St.

**A letter from the IRTA Region 4 Director**    *Marge Sucansky*

Dear DuPage Members,

You may recall that IRTA and your local DuPage Unit have worked diligently in the past to save your pension, health benefits, and COLA, most notably through the law suit against SB1. (Wasn't it nice to get that pension bump at the beginning of February?)

Thank you for your past support. Now your local needs your help if we are to continue to be an active, informative unit, protecting your earned benefits. We cannot afford to be complacent with regard to these issues. Just recently, as you may know, the governor's budget could short funding to TRIP/TRAIL.

Currently, we have great people serving in most board and committee positions, but as of March 2020, the unit is in need of the following leadership positions: president and co-vice president. If DuPage Unit is to continue, someone needs to step forward to fill these positions.

The titles, president and co-vice president, may sound daunting, but you would be mentored and supported by the current group of elected officers and appointed board members. We would have your back!

If we don't fill these positions, DuPage Unit may collapse. Your voice in Springfield IRTA would be lost.

If you can give your time and talent to assume one of these positions, please contact Ida Lee (630.653.7724) or Chuck Hlavaty (630.969.8595) with any questions or for more information.

Sincerely, Marge Sucansky, IRTA Region 4 Director

## DuPage IRTA

Ida Lee

200 Wyndemere Cir. #E132

Wheaton, IL 60187

**RSVP by Fri., March 27th  
For the April 1st  
Luncheon**

All members, please check your **Newsletter Label** to see if the State & Local Dues are up to date. Please send your dues to the DIRTAs Membership Co-Chair Mary Rogers.

**State Dues:** go to **IRTAonline.org** **Local Dues (DuPage Unit):** \$10 annually, \$45 for 5 years.

## FIRST CLASS

**JOIN US ON: April 1st - Reserve by: March 27th**  
**Guest Speaker: John Flaherty IRTA President**

**Our next newsletter will be mailed and emailed**

**April 21st, 2020**

**Dates of lunch meetings: April 1, May 6, June 3,  
Sept. 8, Oct. 7, Dec. 2**

**DIRTA—Lunch Meeting**  
**Steven's Family Restaurant**  
**2393 63rd St., Woodridge**  
**Wednesday-12:00-Noon**

### Local Unit Membership Form—DuPage IRTA

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one :    One Year-\$10        Five Years-\$45        Make checks payable to DIRTAs

Mail to: Co-Chair Membership Mary Rogers—173 Thunderbird Trail, Carol Stream, IL 60188