

DUPAGE CONNECTION

Newsletter of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association in DuPage



DIRTA, Immediate Past President *Ida Lee*

The DIRTA letter of October 2020 promised:

Our unit is not planning to meet again in person until June 2021. We will contact you with the details of that meeting next spring. **HOWEVER:**

The DIRTA Board met on April 27 and decided that because the status of COVID-19 is still so uncertain **we will postpone our next general meeting until the fall of 2021.** By that time we hope that you will feel comfortable meeting again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chuck Hlavaty has agreed to accept the responsibility of IRTA Region 4 Director.
- Sandra Brennan has agreed to be nominated for DIRTA president during our October meeting
- Ida Lee has agreed to be nominated for DIRTA vice president during our October meeting.

Membership Report *Mary Rogers, Caryn Graham, Bev Gilfillan*

Currently our DIRTA local unit has 344 members. Since our last newsletter we have been informed about the death of three of our members. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the families and friends of Annabelle Bilek, Patricia Haidle and Kenneth Ritzert.

DIRTA dues will be collected in October, November, and December of 2021. The 110 members who will owe dues for 2022 will be notified by mail and email. No local dues will be collected before October. Dues will not be collected at meetings/luncheons.

We are pleased to report that membership in IRTA is now over 39,000. Membership at the state level needs to continue to grow because IRTA is the only organization whose sole purpose is to protect our TRS pensions and our pension benefits. Our unit contacted 170 June 2021 retirees in DuPage County and invited them to join IRTA as well as our local DIRTA unit. Please talk with other TRS annuitants and let them know why you joined IRTA. New members can sign up online at <https://www.irtaonline.org>

If you have any membership questions or you need to update your member contact information, please email dupageirta@gmail.com or call Mary Rogers 630-890-7174

Co. Vice President

Sandra S. Brennan

West Lake Shore Unit is inviting DIRTA members to participate in the Frida Kahlo Art Exhibition at COD on June 22. Tickets are limited. To reserve and purchase a ticket call Kate Singleterry (508-737-1336) Tickets are \$21.00 each.

West Lake Shore Unit is also excited to invite our members to a presentation of “Antiques Roadshow” on Sept. 14. This event will be at the Community House in Hinsdale from 10-12.

Tentative Luncheon Meeting Dates 2021

Steven’s Family Restaurant, Woodridge, IL

Oct. 6th (nomination for open positions)

Dec. 1st—voting to take place

NO NEED TO RESISTER UNTIL OUR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

HOW TO REGISTER

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 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 Henning’s | 630-710-1803 |

DIRTA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|--------------|
| Immed. Past Pres. | 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 | medreading99@comcast.net | 630-710-1803 |
| Membership | Beverly Gilfillan | beverlygilfillan@sbcglobal.net | 630-969-9321 |
| Membership | Mary Rogers | dupageIRTA@gmail.com | 630-890-7174 |
| Membership | Caryn Graham | crackers1010@comcast.net | 630-391-3236 |
| Polit. Affairs | VOLUNTEER NEEDED | | |
| Website/Tours | Gary Elmen | gwelmen@gmail.com | 630-624-3728 |
| Benefits | Chuck Hlavaty | cjhjr1@yahoo.com | 630-969-8595 |
| Newsletter | Diane McManigal | stitchnstir1@gmail.com | 630-697-9543 |

Volunteer Needed...This Could Be YOU!

We are on the look out for a person interested in political affairs in Illinois that deal mostly with teacher retirement issues like pensions and benefits. The State has a committee that monitors legislative actions and sends out notifications of what is happening. You can consult with them about issues of concern to our members. Occasionally, we seek legislators to speak at our meetings.

Invitations to fundraisers are occasionally received and if you decide to go this would be paid by IRTA. You would NOT be in this alone, the collective back up of the DIRTA board is there to help!

IRTA Member Benefits Highlighter

Chuck Hlavaty

Illinois Retired Teachers Association knows retirees like you. Its partner Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) knows insurance. Together we can provide you with one of two new dental plans you need to help keep your teeth healthy in your retirement years.

Both plans offer you choice of your own dentist, a wide range of procedures, high calendar year maximums and Guaranteed rates through February of 2023.

Platinum Plan offers you type 1 services at 100% coverage, type 2 services at 80% coverage, type 3 services at 50% coverage with only a \$100 deductible. Annual Platinum maximum is \$1500 per person.

Gold Plan is offered at a lower cost with these benefits: type1 at 100% coverage, type 2 at from 70% to 90% coverage, type 3 at 50% coverage with only a \$50 deductible per person. Maximum Gold plan is \$1000 per person. For more specific details on these Dental plans contact AMBA or go to your membership login at IRTA.

More Highlights next time in your next newsletter. You \$ave more money by using of your Member Benefits.

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

Tour Coordinator

Gary Elmen

As of May 11, here is the news about our planned October tour to Switzerland and a Rhine river cruise northward from Basel to Amsterdam. After our cruise was postponed due to the pandemic, passengers who desired were rebooked for Fall 2021. The cruise is now sold out and has been sold out for some time. Other river cruise departures for the fall are close to full as well.

All signs are pointing to a good travel season due to pent up demand. Our tour company representative has been monitoring travel and restrictions in Europe since the pandemic closed things down worldwide. Apparently river cruises have been operating on the Rhine and in France for some time with success due to stringent precautions on the cruise boats. Just as re-openings are occurring in the United States, they are also happening across Europe. The airlines and cruise boats are figuring out any restrictions and how to handle vaccination documentation.

We are looking forward to a successful European tour in October. Contact Gary Elmen at 630-624-3728 with any questions.

Listed below is an article in the New York Times describing the opening of travel in Europe.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/25/world/europe/american-travel-to-europe.html?referringSource=articleShare>

DuPage IRTA

Ida Lee

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Wheaton, IL 60187

FIRST CLASS

Our next newsletter will be mailed and emailed

Sept. 15, 2021

Tentative Dates of lunch meetings:

Oct. 6, Dec. 1, 2021

DIRTA—Lunch Meeting

Steven's Family Restaurant

2393 63rd St., Woodridge

Wednesday-12:00-Noon