

MCHENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

IRTA AREA 2, REGION 2, UNIT 13



www.irtaonline.org | www.mcirta.org

2024 Meetings

December 13—MCC

April 17—Johnsburg Moose

May 15, June 19, Sept 18, Oct 16,
Nov 20, Dec 18

Upcoming Programs:

Dec: Woodstock Carolers

Jan: Martina Mathisen

**Suggestions for future venues
or speakers are welcome.**

Please contact Beth Miller
millerfam80@sbcglobal.net

Programs subject to change
Doors open at 11:15
Meeting begins at 11:45 am
Lunch begins at Noon

December Menu—\$20

**Traditional Holiday
Roast Pork Buffet**

President's Message

Joann Jazak

Our last meeting of the year will be held on December 13 at the McHenry County College. Come to our delicious lunch and be entertained by the Dickens Carolers. They will definitely put everyone in the holiday spirit. Let us plan on lighting MCC with our presence.

You still have time to claim your reward from Aetna. This needs to be done from the Aetna Medicare Advantage Page. Rewards need to be redeemed by December 31.

After our December meeting we will not be getting together as an organization until April. If you have any questions or concerns during that time and do not have any board members information you can always email us or reach us through our web page. mchenryrta@gmail.com or mchenryrta.org

If for any reason you are not able to be with us in December we wish each of you the best in the coming year. Please keep us informed of any member who needs a card or a note of cheer so we may help brighten their mailbox.

December Program

Beth Miller

Dickens Carolers—Woodstock

This talented quartet will be singing a cappella carols and seasonal music, while dressed in period costumes from 1:00-2:00 PM

This is an extra special treat to get you into the holiday spirit!

Google: "Dicken's Carollers" to get a sample of what's to come!
Hope to see you there to get you into the holiday spirit!



Membership News

Marlene Griffith and Linda Young

'Tis the season to pay your 2024 MCRTA dues! We still have 139 members who have not done so. Take a look at the list at the end of this newsletter. If you no longer wish to be a member, PLEASE email me at marlenegriffith@icloud.com and tell me to remove you from our membership roster. You will also be taken off the email list and will miss getting our newsletter each month. Please contact a friend if you see them on the list. To choose to remain a member, **PLEASE** send your dues (payable to MCRTA) to this address:

MCRTA
PO BOX 1776
CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60039

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

Margot Gillin of Richmond

Jeriel McGinness of Lakewood in CL

DEATH:

Bob Vadnais of Woodstock

BOARD MEMBERS

Elected Members

President: Joann Jazak
Vice President: Linda Young
Board Secretary: April Shouse
Unit Secretary: Cathy Schiller
Treasurer: Dick Seaborn

Appointed Members

Membership: Marlene Griffith
Programs/Venues: Beth Miller
Scholarship: Mary Noe
Member Benefits: Rose Turk
Information: Kathy Speaker
Legislative: Norb Wolter
Public Relations: Peggy Hart
Nominations: Olivia Santarelli
Constitution: Lois Shartiag
Finance: Olivia Santarelli
History: Robert Frenz
Budget: Judy Poynter

Need to Cancel?

Need to Cancel?

If you cannot show the day of the meeting, call Linda Young at 847-209-8047 We do need you to pay for your meal if you do not cancel with one weeks notice.

Reach us at:
PO Box 1776
Crystal Lake, IL 60039

Why Pay MCRTA Dues for more years ?

The **McHenry County Retired Teachers Association (MCRTA)** is your local connection to IRTA. We create a monthly newsletter with important state and local news. We are fortunate to have Norm Wolter whose newsletter articles always have important legislative news that affect us directly. Rose Turk reminds us of the many benefits IRTA and AMBA offer members. Grants and Scholarships are announced here. Important health insurance information is often included. Our board, including president Joann Jazak are always looking to find information important to you—retired IL teachers living in IL or outside of IL to include in our newsletter. Renew with Marlene today to keep getting our newsletter.



LOOKING AHEAD

Beth Miller

We'll be at the Johnsborg Moose Lodge on Wednesday, April 17th. We will be hosting the popular **Martina Mathisen**. She is a highly popular entertainer in the Chicago area that reenacts historical figures from across the ages. In April, she will bring our stage to life with a living history performance; **"Chicago True Stories of the 1920's!"** Should be fun!

Legislative Report

Norbert Wolter

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, IRTA continues to advocate for the repeal of WEP/GPO to allow members to obtain accrued Social /Security benefits. HR-82 has been introduced in Congress that would repeal Social Security rules known as the Windfall Elimination Provision, or WEP, and the Government Pension Offset, or GPO. This legislation has support from many organizations that represent public workers including teachers, firefighters, and police. HR -82 has gained overwhelming support in the House of Representatives with 300 co-sponsors. However, given recent turmoil and last-minute legislation to keep the government functioning, this bill may not receive the attention it deserves. Session 2 of the 103 rd General Assembly will convene in Springfield on January 16, 2024.

Another important date in the coming months is Tuesday, March 19 when the Primary election will be held.

Member Communications

Kathy Speaker

If you know of anyone not receiving our luncheon announcement and/or newsletter emails please have them email us at mchenryrta@gmail.com. They can also reach us by clicking on the Contact Us tab on our website mcrta.org.

If they have inadvertently unsubscribed or are a new member, they can sign up by using this link: <http://eepurl.com/isjvX6>

Also if you are not able to get the mailing from MailChimp at all, you can still get everything you need on the website. Click the Meeting and Sign Up tab and you will see the meeting details and a form to sign up to attend. The Unit News tab has the Newsletter as well as ones from previous months.

It is important to continue to check the junk/spam folder because some email providers send it there even if it was not going there in the past. If when you respond to the luncheon, you do not get a response back within forty-eight hours please resend your response. We do respond back when you sign up for the meeting. The response may come from "Kathy" and not "MailChimp". We have not found out how to change that so if you think you are not receiving something back from us, it might be coming from "Kathy".

Member Benefits

Rose Turk

Do you need something to do over the holidays and into the winter months? Go see a movie! AMBA has discounts on movie tickets. Go to myAMBAdiscounts.com or passportcorporate.com. At the top, put in the city that you want. Then go down the page where you will see all the discounts you can get from AMBA. At the bottom left side, you will see "Tickets". Click on the tab. Scroll down on this list. You will see websites for different movie theaters and tickets for other places. Click on the movie theater where you want to see a movie. Each theater has its own discount on tickets and/or refreshments, from 25% to 40%. Click the tickets or refreshments you want. One of the things you must do is make a copy of the tickets from the email. Then you take this to the box office or refreshment stand to purchase your ticket or refreshment. You cannot use your phone to show the discount. You must have a paper copy.

Since you are on this site, take a look at some of the other AMBA discounts you can advantage of.

HAVE A VERY GREAT AND MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON!!

IRTA News/Volunteer Opportunity

You may have gotten this email from the IRTA on volunteer opportunities:

We are excited to announce that there are numerous volunteer opportunities available for 2024. Whether you have a few hours to spare or can commit to a more consistent role, your contribution will make a significant impact.

How to Volunteer: To express your interest and explore the various roles, please complete our simple volunteer form at <https://form.jotform.com/93304355444152>. Just enter your details, select your areas of interest, and 'put your name in the hat' for volunteering.

Volunteering with the Illinois Retired Teachers Association is not only a chance to give back but also a wonderful opportunity to stay connected, share your invaluable experience, and perhaps learn something new along the way.

We deeply appreciate your willingness to contribute your time and expertise. Together, we can ensure that our association remains a strong and supportive community for all retired educators in Illinois.

Membership Expiration 2023

2023 Alford Judith	2023 King Camille	2023 Sadowski Jane
2023 Amendt Char	2023 Klos John	2023 Scheel Leonard
2023 Anderson Ginger	2023 Knaack Michelle	2023 Schellhaass Christine
2023 Anderson Martin	2023 Knight Janice	2023 Schert Bernadine
2023 Anderson Shirley	2023 Kohn Larry	2023 Schneider Rosemary
2023 Andrysiak Betty	2023 Korpan Ann	2023 Seeley Donna
2023 Beldin Colleen	2023 Korpan Walter	2023 Shabosky Donna (Dee)
2023 Bennett Joyce	2023 Kowalski Casimir	2023 Simon Sue
2023 Bennett Larry	2023 Kretchmer Sally	2023 Smith Toni
2023 Birmingham Julie	2023 Kreul Linda	2023 Snodgrass Karen
2023 Bowgren Nora	2023 Kriewaldt Cheryl	2023 Sorensen Donna
2023 Brunner Nancy	2023 Kriewaldt Roger	2023 Sotiroff Joanne
2023 Camp-Carbonetti Lorraine	2023 Kronewitter Karen	2023 Spangrud Linda
2023 Cebrzynski Stan	2023 Kruis Ronald	2023 Stephens Ernest
2023 Clements Felice (Lisa)	2023 Kucik Kathleen	2023 Swinney Gina
2023 Connell Lisa	2023 Kyle Earl	2023 Tegtmeier Kathy
2023 Dalton Kathleen	2023 Lahr Beverly	2023 U' Ren Kathleen
2023 Derner Karen Wonder	2023 Lane Wendy	2023 U' Ren William
2023 Differding Barbara	2023 Leckie Susan	2023 Van Meenen Dennis
2023 Dirksen Gayle	2023 Libert Fred	2023 Van Meenen Heather
2023 Donato William	2023 Libert Penny	2023 Van Peurse Jo E.
2023 DuBois Thomas	2023 Lill Florence	2023 Vanthournout Stanley
2023 Ehrensperger Helen	2023 Ludwigsen Robert	2023 Von Bergen Patti
2023 Ellicson Sharon	2023 Martin Nina	2023 Voss Carla
2023 Englebrecht Sheryl	2023 McCauley Harry	2023 Walters Susan
2023 Englund Kathleen	2023 McCauley Sandra	2023 Weber William
2023 Etten A. Diane	2023 McGuire Mary	2023 Weinger Kathryn
2023 Fugleberg Susan	2023 Meyer Linda	2023 Weller William
2023 Gentilli Thomas	2023 Mielnik Georgeann	2023 Wessel Kelly
2023 Goldsmith Stanley	2023 Moeller Teresa	2023 Weyrough Alice J.
2023 Gordon Patrick	2023 Morris Joyce	2023 Wiggs Danny
2023 Gray Sue Ann	2023 Munoz Cindy	2023 Wirch Skip (Harold)
2023 Greenwood Sandra	2023 Murphy William A. (Bill)	2023 Witek Jerome
2023 Haider Mary Jo	2023 Nelson Diana	2023 Wittum Susan
2023 Heaphy Diane	2023 O'Meara Larry	2023 Wollpert Bruce
2023 Heimsath Pam	2023 O'Meara Mary	2023 Woosnam Richard
2023 Hibicke Dwight	2023 Osness Vicki	2023 Wurl Janet L.
2023 Hiller Wayne	2023 Pace Barbara	2023 Zicco Jean
2023 Hilton Richard	2023 Palmer Cynthia	
2023 Hines David	2023 Peck Mary	
2023 Hirschey Karen	2023 Peters Richard W.	
2023 Holian Eleanor (Ellie)	2023 Phelps William Mt.	
2023 Hubbard Dr. Ruth	2023 Politsch Paula	
2023 Jackson Colleen	2023 Poremba Ann	
2023 Jackson Ellen	2023 Prather Joan	
2023 Johnson Mary	2023 Prather Tom	
2023 Johnson Patricia A.	2023 Predmore Pamela	
2023 Kaminski Rita	2023 Reeves Robin	
2023 Kasuboske Janet	2023 Rehmer Marion (Midge)	
2023 Kilhoffer Maureen	2023 Rickard Janet	
	2023 Rigby Kathleen	

Why Should You Renew?

Your board members have established a relationship with the leaders of IRTA by attending the state convention and holding positions at the state level. Your board stays up-to-date on the issues affecting your pension and insurance and works to communicate that to you. It is not necessary to live in IL to take advantage of membership in this organization.

MCRTA Membership Enrollment/Renewal

DO YOU NEED TO RENEW FOR NEXT YEAR?

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND YOU WOULD LIKE TO INVITE TO JOIN?

MCRTA Dues --- You have three choices:

I choose to pay (CIRCLE ONE)

- 1) Annual dues, \$10 for 2024
- 2) 3-year dues, \$25 for 2024-2026
- 3) LIFE membership for \$150

- Annual Dues \$10
- 3-Year Dues. \$25
- LIFE membership. \$150

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Email _____
 Phone _____

**WRITE CHECK PAYABLE TO MCRTA. MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK TO
 MCRTA
 PO BOX 1776
 CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60039**

Ideas Generated for MCRTA Field Trips

At the last meeting, members were asked what field trips should MCRTA organize for our members. Below is the list that was generated. Do you have any additional ideas? Just email us at mchenryrta@gmail.com. Do you like organizing events such as these? We could always use help on this endeavor.

Historic School House Tour	Marriott Theater	Fireside Play	Japanese Gardens
Lake Geneva Boat Tour	San Filippo Mansion	Botanical Gardens	Morton Arboretum
Holocaust Museum	Raue Center	Opera House	Elmhurst Museum
Art Institute Shows	County Underground Railroad Sites	Chicago Historical Museum Show	Lake Geneva Clue Room