

# **FALL 2021**



LASALLE COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

# President's Corner

#### LSCRTA is HERE for you!

FALL for ALL General Meeting, October 4, 2021 Hello everyone! I am very excited about our upcoming Fall General Meeting! If you have questions about all the scams that we are bombarded with, let Retired Sheriff Tom Templeton answer your questions. He'll be with us October 4 to enlighten us about those scary scams. We will also hear from the ROE, with information that will make it easier for retirees to keep our certificates up to date. Jo Ellen Fiorentini will also be joining us. She comes to help us with Fall gardening tips and advice for a beautiful garden. All this in about an hours time!!!! The Executive Board has been busy meeting during this time of uncertainty and have decided to use this time to do some revamping. Mary Trovero has taken back the Membership Chair position, until the time we can interest someone to join the Executive Board. We are so glad to welcome Mary back in this position. She is a dedicated member and is always willing to do so much for the organization. I'd like to take this time to thank Mary Jo Farrell for her three years of service as Membership Chair.



## IRTA FOUNDATION

Ever wonder where your donation to the IRTA Foundation goes? The IRTA Foundation provides: \*\*\*Financial Aid to Retired Teachers \*\*\*Excellence in Education Grants for Teachers \*\*\*Scholarships

Hopefully, she'll be stepping into another capacity on the Board. I also thank Alice Joop for all her hard work as Vice President. Alice did a great job planning and coordinating all our meetings. I so enjoyed working closely with her. Thank You, Alice! The most important part of LSCRTA is membership. I know that Mary has been busy sending letters to new retirees and reviewing the membership list. I realize that many of you have not been receiving emails from the organization, and I apologize for that. Please have patience with me as I am reviewing, deleting, changing, and adding email addresses to our mass email list, which is no small task. THE FUTURE OF LSCRTA is in YOUR HANDS!! I feel honored to be a part of LSCRTA and so should all of you. Please consider joining the Executive Board. Every organization needs new people leading them with new ideas. This is so important. Please help the future of LSCRTA. Most of this leadership team have been serving for 10 plus years and are in need of help. Please consider a position with LSCRTA. See you all, October 4! Jackie Sapienza Proud President of LSCRTA



of the goals of LSCRTA is to increase our membership. Our

goal is to reach 500 members in 2022. But we need your help to do so. There are many educators in LaSalle County who do not belong to our organization-many of whom do not even know we exist. If you know a retiree who does not belong, please share information about LSCRTA with them and encourage them to join. Together, we can do this! We now have 446 members.

#### IRTA Virtual Convention for 2021

The 2021 IRTA Convention is now Virtual! Due to the uptick in Covid-19, especially the Delta Variance and in the interest of safety, the 2021 IRTA Convention will no longer be in person. It will go virtual on Tuesday, October 19, 2021 from 8:00am to 11:30am. Any member may register for the virtual convention. Voting will be conducted on line; one per each signed in member. The same operating system as was used for the Area Conferences will be used for the virtual convention. IRTA officers and staff will be in Springfield and live at the convention. All of the business that would have been discussed at the Convention in Springfield will be covered on Tuesday morning. Several constitutional changes have been proposed and are up for discussion. State Officers, Area Representatives, and Regional Directors are also on the agenda to be elected. Our own Area Represetative JoAnne Nelson, is up for reelection and needs our votes!! The Virtual Agenda the candidate for offices, and the proposed constitutional changes can both be found on the IRTA website. (www.irtalonline.org) To find the agenda click on the ASSOCIATION button; then click on the 2021 Convention button, and finally click on the Agenda button. For information on the candidates and proposed constitutional changes, click the IRTA website, log in on the member button, scroll down and click on the Action Quarterly and finally click on the Action (Convention 2021) button.

Registration is due by October 1, 2021 and the fee is \$20. To register contact either Jackie Sapienza at (815) 830-0966/jsapienz@hotmail.com or Judy Ilgen at (815) 579-0661/jilgen46@gmail.com. LSCRTA members register for the IRTA 2021 Virtual Convention as soon as you can so that LSCRTA will have a large representation and voice at the Virtual Convention this year!

### **BUCKS FOR BOOKS**

LSCRTA will award \$100 to seven lucky school librarians at our Fall meeting. Join us on October 4th to see if your alumni school gets chosen.



Willa Dellinger 6/13/21 John Bangert Marilyn Jones 5/31/21 12/2020 Gladys Brantner 4/2021 Roger Rinaldi Winifred Lovren 2/2021 4/2019



JOB OPENING: LSCRTA is in need of a person to take on the role of Membership Chairperson. This job is key in keeping LSCRTA strong. If you are proficient in Excel and have time to help our organization, please contact Mary Trovero at 815-228-0911 or email at ctrovero@comcast.net.

# Centenarian Recogni



Congratulations to Mary Irene Walsh of Ottawa on turning 100 years old on September 9th. The LSCRTA Centenarian Award was presented to her by Jan Hauger, Sunshine Committee member. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARY!!!

# LSCRTA is HERE for You! We have Missed YOU!!

Donuts and Coffee Provided by LSCRTA!!

<u>Mark Your</u> <u>Calendar!</u>



What: Finally.....A FALL for ALL Meeting (In Person)!
When: Monday, October 4, 2021 from 10:00-11:00 am
Where: Danny Carey Memorial Park in Utica, IL (corner of Church and Division St., West of Hwy. 178 & old Utica School) See Map below!

### <u>Agenda:</u>

10:00-11:00 \*Short Business Meeting and Introduction of Board \*Bucks for Books Drawing 2021 \*ROE—Krissy Darm==> Retiree Certification \*Retired Sheriff Tom Templeton==> Scams \*Jo Ellen Florentine==> Fall Gardening tips for a beautiful garden

Morning of Fun for Everyone! Door prizes and give-aways throughout the morning. Donuts, coffee, and water provided. Free for All. Please bring a lawn chair, a friend, a new retiree,



grab a neighbor, and come dressed for the weather. We will be outside enjoying the FALL! Please send your reservation to Pauline Cashman==>email her at: **deanc@mtco.com** RSVP: Thursday, September 30 (we want to have plenty of donuts)!!

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD:** The LSCRTA Executive

Board has continued to meet at Centennial Park in Peru amid the COVID-19 pandemic in hopes of keeping our organization going. But we need member support. Most members of the Executive Board have served for many years. As our membership ages, it is time for new members to become more involved. If we cannot get fresh faces to take over, LSCRTA is going to fold—something we would hate to see happen. Please consider taking on an active role to keep LSCRTA going strong for all current and future retirees!



President: Jackie Sapienza jsapienz@hotmail.com Ist Vice-President: Alice Joop-Thomas.Joop@comcast.net 2nd Vice-President: Cathy Erickson cme1222@gmail.com Secretary: Trudy Forkner—tr.parsons@yahoo.com Treasurer: Cheryl Templeton—cltemp@comcast.net Corr. Secretary: Pauline Cashman-deanc@mtco.com Nominations: Con Spirrison—cspirrison@gmail.com Membership: Mary Trovero-ctrovero@comcast.net Legislation: Judy Ilgen—jilgen46@gmail.com Benefits: Linda Dobrydnia—dobrydnia@aol.com Foundation: Deb Torri-debroadway3@aol.com Newsletter: Janie Hoffmannhoffmann-j@sbcglobal.net Special Programs: Mary Troveroctrovero@comcast.net Decorations: Sophia Spirrison—sspirrison@gmail.com Historian: Donna Inman—no email Sunshine Committee: Jan Hauger-sjhauger@gmail.com and Mary Jo Gillman-gillmann@comcast.net Janice Kaufman—jljkaufman@yahoo.com

# **NEWS from the ROE** This is a friendly renewal reminder for your Profes-

This is a friendly renewal reminder for your Professional Educators License (PEL). If you are a recently retired educator, please know that you are required to complete professional development for the years you worked more than 50% in an IL public school within your current 5-year cycle. For every active year in an IL public school, you are required to enter 24 PD hours. For example, if you worked 2 years out of your 5-year cycle that expires on 6/30/2022, you will be required to enter 48 PD hours before you can renew your PEL. You can find these instructions on our website, www.roe35.org, click the circular "Licensure" icon, and scroll down under "Renewal" to find helpful instructions on how to renew along with step-by-step renewal videos. As always, if you have additional questions, feel free to contact Alaina Johnson at the ROF 815-434-7080.

#### Lighting Up Rotary Park by Alice Joop

Everyone enjoys driving through LaSalle Rotary Park and viewing the beautiful Christmas displays. The LSCRTA Executive Committee discussed becoming part of this Christmas tradition. It was decided to investigate the purchase of a display to represent our organization. After talking with the Mayor's secretary, we were told that new displays are not available this year because of COVID. It was suggested that we try again next year; so we will. If you have not seen the Christmas display at LaSalle Rotary Park, plan to visit this Christmas. The experience is well worth it.

**Benefits:** Hello All! Where did the summer go! It is so amazing that the older I get, I say these words for things that I enjoy! I would just like to keep everyone "in the loop" on our benefits and a few new ones that have been added to the list. Most of you are aware of the usual Group dental and vision plans, Term Life Express, Cancer Treatment plan and others. Two new plans that have been introduced are Children's Whole Life Insurance and Fixed Index Annuity. You can find out more about these added plans and others by logging onto www.irtaonline.org or calling 1-800-728-4782. Nancy Cramer, the Benefits Director, or anyone of her able helpers, would be happy to assist you in anyway possible! Stay well, stay safe, and Happy Fall to all! Linda Dobrydnia

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	TIME TO PAY 2022 LOCAL MEMBERSHIP DUES!	
	Local dues are paid separate from state dues.	
	Please update information for our records.	
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	LaSalle County Annual Dues - \$10.00 (Make check payable to LSCRTA)	
	Benevolent Fund Donation (optional)	
	Legal Defense Fund Donation (optional)	
	Name:	
	Address:	
	City,State, Zip	
	PhoneE-Mail	
	Mail this form and your check made out to LSCRTA in the enclosed envelope.	
	Mary Trovero	
	2553 E. 259th Road	
	Peru, IL 61354	
	If you have any questions, please call or text me at (815) 228-0911	
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· · · ·	membership card that is useful in obtaining educator	
	discounts. If you are interested, please contact Susan Goetz	
	at susan@irtaonline.org or call the Springfield office at	
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	Treasurer's Report       Total Membership446         As of 9/2/21, we have \$14, 205.12 in checking account.       Descended Membership436	
X	Deceased Members	

LaSalle County Retired Teachers Janie Hoffmann, newsletter 1019 Ottawa Ave. Ottawa, IL 61350 MARK YOUR CALENDAR MARK YOUR CALENDAR General Meeting Oct. 4 General Meeting Oct. 4 TIME TO PAY DUES