



# IRTA ACTION

Convention 2023

Quarterly Newsletter

## 2023 President's Message Bill Funkhouser

It has been a busy year! Our Convention will be an in-person event at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield on October 16th and 17th. For those of you who have been wanting in-person meetings, this is your opportunity. This will be our first in-person convention since 2019, and I urge every unit to send delegates.

Our keynote speaker will be Tom Morris, one of the most active public philosophers in the world, a former professor at Notre Dame and the author of several books including *Plato's Lemonade Stand* and *If Aristotle Ran General Motors*. I am very pleased that Mr. Morris is going to be our keynote speaker. I hope many of you will be attending and get a chance to hear him.

In looking to the future and ensuring our association remains relevant, we have been reviewing the consultants' recommendations from the organizational review, the strategic plan developed by the Executive Committee, the things we learned from what happened during the pandemic, and the fact that our Constitution was written in the 1950s, almost seven decades ago. With these things in mind, when I appointed a Constitution Committee to propose constitutional changes that would remove roadblocks to efficient operations and continued success,

Continued on page: 2

## CONTENT

President's Message Dues Investment	P2	Constitution Committee Report	P7
2023 IRTA Candidates	P3	Convention Registration	P10
Member Benefits	P5	Memorials IRTAPAC	P11
IRTA Mobile App	P6		

[www.irtaonline.org](http://www.irtaonline.org)  
217.523.8488

**Defending Your Pension and  
Health Insurance Benefits**

# President's Message

## Bill Funkhouser



Continued from page: 1

I asked the members to begin the process with an open mind. I will tell you that they surprised me, coming up with proposed changes that I had not thought of, with good reasons for their proposals. This *ACTION* will list the issues that we will be voting on. Please read them carefully, and if you cannot attend the Convention, please let your unit's delegates know how you feel about each issue.

Thank you for being members of the only organization whose sole purpose is protecting the benefits of retired educators.

I look forward to seeing many of you in October.

### Points to Ponder:

“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.”  
- Benjamin Franklin

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”  
- Mahatma Gandhi

## A Necessary Investment in the Future of Our Organization

by Donnie C. Ostrom, Treasurer

A notice of the "Dues Investment Proposal" was included in the IRTA *Action* newsletter of June 5, 2023. As treasurer, I recommended these increases in the dues structure starting in 2024. The recommendation was proposed, discussed, and passed by the Finance Committee and the Membership Committee. The proposal was then presented to the Executive Board, and they approved it as an item on the Convention docket. The Association's dues have not been changed in ten years and, in some cases, more than ten years. In order to maintain our viability, sustainability, meet the goals set by the IRTA Board of Directors, and be an effective organization for you, this proposal's passage is necessary.

Since the proposal appeared in the *Action* newsletter, several individuals have asked me about the need to increase dues. The costs of operations and lobbying have been impacted by increases in salaries, inflation, mailing, travel, utilities, and technology. If the IRTA is to continue to be successful in securing our pension and insurance benefits, this proposal's passage is imperative. We have scaled back and slowed down on purchasing new technologies and some programs because of maintaining a balanced budget. We must be able to effectively communicate with members, and they with the Association, no matter where they live.

The proposal is as follows:

CURRENT	PROPOSED
Dues Deduct \$2.50/monthly	\$3.50/monthly
Life Membership \$400.00	\$600.00
Annual \$40.00	\$50.00
Annual Recurring \$38.00	\$46.00
Associate \$25.00	\$35.00
Associate Life \$125.00	\$200.00



There will be a discussion and vote at the October Convention to approve this proposal. It should be clear that the organization has always maintained a balanced budget and has been frugal with your dues. But if we are to be successful in the future, increase membership, and communicate with our members, the passage of this proposal is necessary.

# 2023 IRTA Candidates

## President Michael Schmidt



Throughout all of my time on the IRTA Board of Directors, I have firmly believed that association leadership must always prioritize the protection of our state-promised retirement benefits. This should be the primary goal for the association and should never be compromised. At the IRTA state level, I was appointed to serve one two-year term on the Constitution Committee, four two-year terms as chair of the Membership Committee, and am currently serving my eighth year on the state IRTA Board of Directors. In Blackhawk Unit 21, I have served as the public relations chair, membership chair, vice president, and president. At the 2021 State IRTA biennial convention, I was named as the Blackhawk Unit Honoree.

I spent my entire teaching career at United Township High School in East Moline. At UT, I taught classes in World History, American History, Critical Thinking, Futurism, Speech, and Acting, and served as the director of theater. During my time at UT, I was honored with the Special Recognition Award from UTHS and Deere and Company.

During my years at United Township High School, I served the United Township Education Association (IEA) as grievance chair, chief contract negotiator, and president. I served as a five-county bi-state coordinator for the national Close Up Foundation. I have also been involved with the Quad City Music Guild community theater in Moline, where I live with my wife, Jane. I have served for forty-two years as a member of the board of directors and have, at different times, been the organization's producer, secretary, and vice president, as well as the chair of numerous play selection committees.

## Vice President Rainy Kaplan



Although I am a recent retiree, I am familiar with the IRTA, its mission, and activities. As a lifetime member, I am excited to serve this Association and its work for members.

I spent the majority of my teaching career at Westmont High School. I was a Spanish teacher, Athletic Director, AP Coordinator, IHSA Official, Cross Country and Track and Field coach.

I have been very fortunate to serve on the TRS Board of Trustees and the Illinois State Professional Educator Licensure Board. The work on these two Boards was very fulfilling. I learned so much and loved serving Illinois during my tenure on these two boards.

Since 1993, I have served on my local union's Executive Board, spending most of that time as president and chief negotiator. I advocated for members while serving on the National Board of Directors, the State Executive Committee, and the PAC Executive Committee. I lobbied in Springfield and Washington D.C. on behalf of educators and retirees in Illinois.

I am truly blessed to be married to my wonderful husband, Bob. Our three children are all teachers. We have 6 grandchildren who keep us on our toes.

I earned my BA from Bradley University in Spanish and Secondary Education. I also have 2 master's degrees: Teaching and Leadership from St. Xavier University and Administration from Concordia University.

I am honored to be a candidate for Vice President and thank you in advance for your consideration.

**IRTA 2023  
Convention  
October 16-17, 2023  
Crowne Plaza  
Springfield, IL**



# 2023 IRTA Candidates

## Treasurer Donnie Ostrom



I became a life member of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association and my local unit in 2007, the year of my retirement. I have served three terms as President and three terms as Vice-President of the Clinton County Retired Teachers Association. I am currently serving as President of CCRTA, Unit 71. I publish a quarterly newsletter to keep members updated on local and state issues concerning pensions and benefits. I have served as the IRTA Region 16 Director from 2013-2019. I have also served on the IRTA Board of Directors from 2013 to the present. I have served on the Constitution Committee in 2017 and 2019. I was elected as the IRTA Treasurer in 2019 and re-elected in 2021.

My service in community organizations includes President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer in both the Mascoutah Jaycees and Mascoutah Rotary Clubs. I have been the Vice-President of the Mascoutah Improvement Association and also served as Homecoming Chairman and parade marshal. In addition, I managed the bank for the Homecoming for eight years. I was appointed to the Mascoutah Police Board and served as Secretary for 10 years. I served as President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Mascoutah Korey League for six years. I have twice received the honor of "Man of the Year" as a member of the St. Rose Development Club.

I have a Bachelor of Science degree from SIU Carbondale, a Masters and an Educational Specialist Degree from SIU Edwardsville. I taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science, social studies, and reading at St. Rose Elementary School from 1973-1989. I continued my career at St. Rose School as principal from 1989-1991 and Superintendent from 1991-2007. I hold a teaching certification in K-12 and an Administrative Certification with a Superintendent's endorsement.

As a former superintendent of schools, I am knowledgeable about budgets and finance. I have worked diligently for the past four years as Treasurer of the IRTA to provide financial oversight of the budget, accounts, and financial statements to ensure that IRTA will have the resources to continue its work to protect our pensions and benefits. I would appreciate your vote for Treasurer of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association.

## Secretary LaVonne Chaney



I was raised in Decatur, Illinois, as one of 8 children. At age nine, I decided I wanted to be a teacher, and I never wavered from that goal. I graduated from Illinois State University in January of 1963 and went to work the following Monday morning. I worked as a junior high science teacher, then as a 4th and 5th grade teacher at the Macon School District, which is now Meridian. While teaching and raising a family, I earned my Master's in Educational Administration from Eastern Illinois University. I became an assistant principal at Macon, then moved to Warrensburg-Latham as an associate principal. I then moved to Shelbyville, where I became principal of a 4-8th grade middle school and finished my career as Assistant Superintendent. Though I thought my career was finished, I missed the interactions with children, so I substitute taught for 15 more years.

While teaching, I was active in the Illinois Education Association and the Illinois Principals Association. I was named to Who's Who of American Teachers after being nominated by a student. I received the Herman Graves award for my work on behalf of principals from the Illinois Principals Association.

My husband, Ron, and I were married for 49 years, and I sadly lost him in 2018. Our son lives in Colorado with his wife and our two grandsons. I continue to love gardening, travel, and reading.

### IRTA SERVICE

I would be honored to become the Secretary for Illinois Retired Teachers. I have been an active member at the local, regional, and state level since I joined. I must be one of those who steps up to do what I can for the one organization that is fighting for me as a retired teacher. I am a member of Shelby County Retired Teachers, where I have been President, Secretary, and am presently Legislation Chair. At the state level, I have served on the Legislative and Information Services Committees and am presently Region 13 Director and a member of the Board of Directors. While serving IRTA, I have attended the meetings of every unit of the eight counties in region thirteen, many of them, several times. This gives me an opportunity to have a good working relationship with the grassroots of the organization. Since I joined IRTA, I have attended most of the Area V Conferences and state conventions. I have been secretary of almost every organization to which I have belonged, so being Secretary is a job I know well. I look forward to being secretary, though I will miss visiting the local units.

Continued on page: 5

# 2023 IRTA Candidates

Continued from page: 4

## CONTRIBUTIONS

Presently, I serve the following:

Shelby County Retired Teachers Association – Legislative Chair  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – International Educational Excellence Committee Chair as the Northeast Regional Representative of the United States, Illinois State Finance Chair and Past President, First Vice President and Recording Secretary, and Beta Pi Chapter - Membership Chair and Past President  
Shelby County 708 Mental Health Board – President  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Post 4829- Secretary  
Veterans of Foreign Wars – District 11 – Secretary

## EDUCATION

Illinois State University - Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and a Minor in K-9 Science  
Eastern Illinois University – Master's in Educational Administration and coursework for Educational Specialist

## EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

6th-7th Grade Science – Macon School District – 9½ years  
4th- 5th Grade – Macon School District – 4 years  
6th -12th Grade Assistant Principal – Macon School District - 6 years  
Pre-K – 8th Grade Associate Principal – Warrensburg-Latham School District- 4 years  
4th-8th Grade Principal – Shelbyville School District – 6 years  
Assistant Superintendent – Shelbyville School District – ½ year

## IRTA Member Benefits

You can find information on all of IRTA's member benefits by visiting [www.irtaonline.org](http://www.irtaonline.org), logging into the Members-Only section, and clicking on the Member Benefits tab. Some of IRTA's benefits include AMBA offerings, Vacations by Rail, Lifeline Screening, and Hear in America. You can also contact the IRTA Office at 1.800.728.4782 for additional information.

\* IRTA benefit codes must be mentioned to receive discounts.

## Area 2 Rep. Wendy Wieggers



Four years ago, when I began my first year as the Area II Representative, I had visited all but two of our eight Units when COVID hit. Since then, I have learned the inner workings of IRTA and have tried to represent the opinions of our Units at IRTA Executive meetings, visiting each Unit as many times as possible, and keeping them updated on pertinent and current issues with an Area II newsletter.

Sadly, our Area has lost two of my mentors and former IRTA presidents, Irene Jinks and Steve Polep. I hope to continue in their footsteps.

Previously, I served for six years as the Area II Foundation Member-At-Large Board Member. During my last year of teaching, I received an "Excellence in Education" grant, so I know the significance of this program, which allows the Foundation to carry on its important work.

I continue to serve on the Lake County RTA Executive Board, after serving four years as its president, and currently create the monthly News Sheets and the Evites to our meetings.

I graduated from Millikin University in Decatur with a degree in vocal music education and a minor in piano/organ, taught there for 22 years, and then retired from Waukegan after 12 years, where I continue to be a substitute teacher. I received my MME from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago, where I am an advisor in the summer for students writing their Master's theses.

Locally, I am the Children's Choir director at St. James Lutheran Church in Lake Forest and serve on organizations with an emphasis on women and children's shelters in Lake County.

# 2023 IRTA Candidates

## Area 4 Rep. Deloris Turner



I am a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, majoring in Speech and Drama with a minor in English. I have a master's degree from Bradley University and a C.A.S. in Education Administration from Illinois State University.

I taught Special Education for seven years in Peoria Public Schools and have served as Dean of Students, Middle School Assistant Principal, and Middle School Principal for 20 years. I retired from Peoria Public Schools in 2011.

I am a life member of the Peoria Area Retired Teachers Association and IRTA. I serve as secretary of my Unit and the Teacher Grant Program chair. I am a League of Women Voters member, a member of the Peoria Branch of the NAACP, and the Peoria Alumnae Chapter-Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. I serve on the IRTA Nominating Committee (Area 4) and the IRTA Executive Search Committee. I am a volunteer literacy tutor for the Peoria Regional Office of Education.

I served on the Central Illinois Agency on Aging Board for six years. Other past Board affiliations were Planned Parenthood and Girl Scouts- Kickapoo Council.

I received the Kathryn W. Timmes Award for Outstanding Intergenerational Community Service from the Central Illinois Agency on Aging and the Outstanding Black Community Leadership Award in 2023.

As the Area 4 Representative, I will be available to ensure Units are informed of legislative acts and advocacy efforts provided for members by IRTA. I will assist the organization in recruiting a pool of energetic, qualified volunteers committed to the mission of IRTA.

## Area 6 Rep. Mary May



My name is Mary May. I grew up in Bond County and now live in Maryville.

I graduated from SIUE in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. I began teaching in the Edwardsville School District and taught there for 34 years.

I joined IRTA and Madison County 2 in 2008 and began helping with membership. A year later, I was named Membership Chair, a position I still serve in today. I have been Vice President and President of our unit. I helped with the revision of our By-Laws and continue to serve on the Executive Committee.

In May of 2021, I was asked to complete the term of Fred Bloss as Region 15 Director. I completed his term and am now serving my own term.

As a member of the Edwardsville Education Association, I served as Policy Chair, Vice President, and President. I was a Regional Council member and attended many IEA and NEA conventions as a delegate.

Currently, I am serving as Chairperson for the Madison County Association for Home and Community Education's G.R.O.W. chapter's Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon.

In my spare time, I make doll quilts for Dollabrations and teach sewing classes.

I believe my leadership experiences will serve me well as Area 6 Representative. I believe in IRTA and will work diligently to represent the members in my Area.

## Discover the Ultimate App for IRTA!

Scan the QR code to download the IRTA Mobile App!







# Constitution Committee Report

## IRTA CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE REPORT by Roger Hampton, IRTA Constitution Committee Chair

The Constitution Committee continues to be diligent in its efforts to communicate with all IRTA members the important proposed changes to the IRTA Constitution and the rationale for each proposal. Efforts have been made to be open and transparent, as well as inclusive. Throughout the year, the proposed changes have been distributed utilizing various resources such as the IRTA website, virtual conferences, videos, Constant Contact, Good Dog News, and IRTA *Action*. To help understand the proposals and rationales, opportunities for Q & A were available during conference break-out sessions.

Beginning with the first committee meeting on July 20, 2022, our focus has been on current realities and what is necessary to keep our Association relevant and growing. Our goal is to remain a premier, vital association for current and future members. The realities we addressed include, but were not limited to local units disbanding, vacant committee positions, changes in transmission of information, attitudes of next generation retirees regarding associations in general, assessment of an unfilled Regional Director position and status of IRTA Regions, percentage of members no longer living in Illinois, and the inequality of all members' right to vote. These observations dictated the committee's need to address imperative changes.

To accomplish this task, each committee member put aside personal reactions to "change," and embraced possibilities and opportunities that would evoke a positive result for IRTA's future. Not only did this exceptional team of committee members attend and participate in committee meetings, but they also spent hours on "homework" in preparation for each meeting. Each member had to discard their personal set of likes and dislikes, and now each IRTA member must do the same. We simply cannot consider just ourselves, or our own local, region, or area – we must focus on what is best for IRTA as a state organization. We must be inclusive by allowing all IRTA members to have the right to vote – including those living in counties that no longer have a local unit and the increasing membership of over 20% who reside outside Illinois.

You can be assured this committee took their task of proposing changes very seriously. Now, you are asked to take time to consider these proposed changes. Please take advantage of opportunities to learn more about the background, intent, development, outcome, and basic idea surrounding each proposal.

### 2023 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

#### **Rationale for Constitution Committee's Amendment Recommendations:**

With the ever-changing world, the Association is in need of change to best serve the IRTA membership. The need to make the Association more efficient and attractive to new members is important. Therefore, the Constitution Committee proposes the following Constitutional Amendments.

#### **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP – DUES**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** *Remove Article III, Section 4., it will be corrected and added to the IRTA Standing Rules at the Spring IRTA Board of Directors meeting.*

~~Section 4. Any proposal to increase the Annual, Dues Deduct, and Life Active membership dues and the Associate membership dues must be reviewed by the Membership Committee before it can be presented to the delegate assembly at the convention. The results of the Membership Committee review shall be presented to the delegate assembly with the proposed increase.~~

#### **RATIONALE**

The Constitution of an organization contains the fundamental operating principles that govern its operation. The Standing Rules establish specific rules by which the group is to function.

#### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by Wendy Wieggers, to support the proposed amendment to Article III – Membership – Dues. The motion passed.



# Constitution Committee Report

## **ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** *Article VI, Section 1.,A.; Prior to the biennial convention, active members shall have the ability to: (1.) Elect Officers.*

### **RATIONALE**

Allowing ALL active state members the ability to vote for Officers provides inclusiveness for both in-state and out-of-state members. All members would have the ability to vote electronically or by paper ballot. Details of the election process would be added to the Standing Rules.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by John Flaherty, to support the proposed amendment to Article VI – Meetings, Section 1.,A. The motion passed.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** *Article VI, Section 1.,A.; Prior to the biennial convention, active members shall have the ability to: (2.) Elect Area Representatives in their respective Areas.*

### **RATIONALE**

Allowing ALL active state members in their respective Area the ability to vote for Area Representatives provides inclusiveness for both in-state and out-of-state members. All members in their respective Areas would have the ability to vote electronically or by paper ballot. Details of the elections process would be added to the Standing Rules.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by Donna Sargent, to support the proposed amendment Article VI, Section 1.,A. The motion passed.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** *Article VI, Section 1.,A.; Prior to the biennial convention, active members shall have the ability to: (3.) Amend the Constitution*

### **RATIONALE**

Allowing ALL active state members the ability to vote for proposed constitutional amendments provides all in-state and out-of-state members the ability to determine how their Association is organized and operated. All members would have the ability to vote electronically or by paper ballot.

*Information, both pro and con, would be provided to the membership to be used in each member's decision making. This information would be provided to the members in a like manner that the Secretary of State provides Illinois residents on proposed Illinois State Constitutional Amendments.*

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by John Flaherty, to support the proposed amendment Article VI, Section 1.,A. The motion passed. **(If these proposed amendments pass, Article VI Meetings Section 1., B, C & D would be removed.)**

## **ARTICLE VII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** *Article VII, Section 1.,The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers and Area Representatives. Immediate Past President, Regional Directors, and Chairs of standing committees*

*Remove Section 4. Executive Committee.*

*Remove Executive Committee from Article VII title.*

### **RATIONALE**

The current 33-member Board of Directors structure was reviewed by an outside consultant and was seen as largely titular with most consequential issues being decided at the Executive Committee level. Therefore, we propose a Board of Directors consisting of Officers and Area Representatives. Area Representatives would still provide area representation on the Board of Directors.

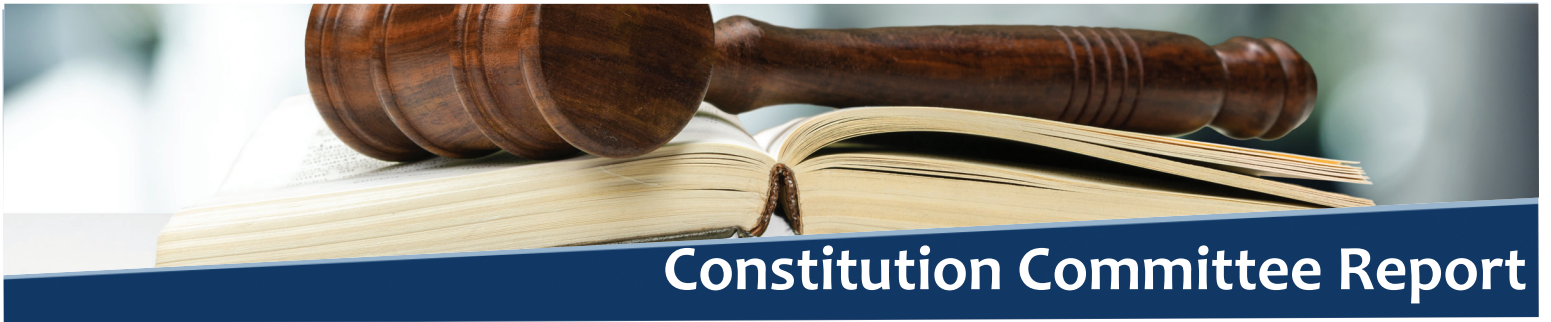
### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by Donna Sargent, to support the proposed amendment Article VII Board of Directors and Executive Committee. The motion passed.

***If this amendment should pass, the following amendment is proposed:***

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** *Article VII, Section 3.,A.;The Board of Directors shall have a minimum of four (4) meetings annually.*





# Constitution Committee Report

## **RATIONALE**

The proposed amendment to have the Board of Directors meet a minimum of four (4) times per year instead of two (2), is to be more informed on a regular basis. Meeting only twice a year was not enough to keep up on what is happening in Springfield.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by John Flaherty, to support the proposed amendment Article VIII – Divisions. The motion passed.

## **ARTICLE VIII – DIVISIONS**

If the proposed amendment to remove Regional Directors from the Board of Directors, the following amendments are proposed:

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** Article VIII, Section 1., The divisions of the Association shall be areas, regions, and units.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by John Flaherty, to support the proposed amendment Article VIII – Divisions. The motion passed.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** Remove Article VIII, Section 3. Regions., parts A, B, and C. Section 3. Regions: **A.** The Board of Directors shall divide the areas into sections of comparable size to be known as regions and shall determine regional boundaries. **B.** A Regional Director shall be selected from each region to serve a term of two (2) years and shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms. The position of Regional Director shall be rotated among the units within the region in alphabetical order. **C.** No region shall consist of a single unit.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by Marjorie Sucansky, to support the proposed amendment Article VIII – Divisions. The motion passed.

## **ARTICLE IX – COMMITTEES**

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** Article IX, Section 1. Standing committees shall be: Finance, Legislative, Member Benefits, Membership, and Leadership Development.

### **RATIONALE**

Changing the Nominations committee to the Leadership Development committee is more descriptive of the committee's purpose.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by Jo Anne Nelson, to support the proposed amendment Article IX – Committees. The motion passed.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT:** Article IX, Section 3. **A.** The Finance Committee and the Leadership Development Committee shall consist of a chair and one (1) voting member from each area. The Legislative, Member Benefits, and Membership Committees shall consist of a chair, the corresponding local unit chair, and any active member who wishes to serve.

### **RATIONALE**

By having a unit representative(s) on the Legislative, Member Benefits, and Membership committees, each unit will have representation on the committee. Communication to the unit will be immediate.

Using Zoom meeting technology, we can broaden involvement in the Legislative, Member Benefits, and Membership committees by including local unit chairpersons and other active members with an interest in the committee's work. This would promote more membership involvement, which is one of the overriding needs that have been identified by members of the Constitution Committee.

### **SUPPORTED BY IRTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Motion by Roger Hampton, seconded by Jo Anne Nelson, to support the proposed amendment Article IX – Committees. The motion passed.

*Editorial edits would be necessary if the proposed Constitutional changes are passed.*

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL IRTA MEMBERS TO BE INFORMED**

**The following are the remaining opportunities to learn more about the proposed amendments:**

- 1) Attend one of the remaining IRTA Area Conferences and listen to an overview of the proposed constitutional amendments. The remaining conferences are hosted by Area 5 and Area 6. The conferences are NOT just for members living in these areas. Any IRTA member may register and attend any conference.



# Constitution Committee Report

9:30 A.M. WEDNESDAYS	AUGUST 9TH	HOSTED BY AREA 5
	SEPTEMBER 6TH	HOSTED BY AREA 6

2) Participate in the Q & A breakout session with your constitution committee members following the virtual conference presentations.

**IRTA Constitution Committee Members**      **Chair: Roger Hampton**  
 Area 1: Gayle Haab                      Area 2: Norbert Wolter                      Area 3: Keith Bailey  
 Area 4: Donna Sargent                      Area 5: Ann Chandler                      Area 6: Fred Bloss

3) Review the IRTA Constitution Report in the Spring 2023 issue of the IRTA *Action* for background information regarding the proposed amendments. Available online at: <https://members.irtaonline.org/news/action-spring-2023>

## OPPORTUNITY FOR IRTA BIENNIAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

Virtual Open Forum Regarding the Proposed Constitutional Amendments  
**SEPTEMBER 26th at 9:30 a.m. Via Zoom for All Registered Delegates**

The constitution committee chair and committee members will be available to answer any questions and help educate delegates on why the proposed amendments are being brought forth.

# Reimagine

### 2023 IRTA CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM FOR NON-DELEGATES ONLY

Mail this non-delegate Registration Form and your check to IRTA no later than **September 15, 2023** or register online at [irtaonline.org](http://irtaonline.org).  
**(All Delegates Must Register with their local RTA.)**

#### CONVENTION FEES (MARK YOUR CHOICES)

- NON-DELEGATE, NON-REGISTRATION FEE: \$10
- NON-DELEGATE, REGISTRATION FEE/MATERIALS: \$45
- LUNCH (MONDAY): \$30
- BANQUET (MONDAY NIGHT): \$38
- BREAKFAST (TUESDAY MORNING): \$23
- LUNCHEON (TUESDAY): \$33
- TOTAL ENCLOSED

Name:  
 Address:  
 City, State Zip:  
 Phone:  
 E-mail:  
 Unit:

### IRTA HOTEL RESERVATIONS - CROWNE PLAZA

**EACH ATTENDING CONVENTION MEMBER NEEDS TO MAKE HIS/HER OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS. PLEASE CALL THE CROWNE PLAZA TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS; THE PHONE NUMBER IS 1.800.589.2769. DON'T FORGET TO MENTION YOU ARE WITH THE IRTA CONVENTION WHEN MAKING RESERVATIONS (GROUP CODE R9I). THE HOTEL RESERVATION LINK CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT [HTTPS://WWW.IRTAONLINE.ORG/ASSOCIATION/CONVENTION-2023/](https://www.irtaonline.org/association/convention-2023/).**

**ROOM PRICE IS \$112 PLUS TAX (DEADLINE DATE FOR OUR BLOCK OF HOTEL ROOMS IS SEPTEMBER 22ND)**



# Memorials

## In Memory Of

Below, you will find a list of names of those remembered by memorial gifts for the months of May - June. For a complete list of donations to the Foundation, please visit the IRTA website and look under the Foundation section.

### May

Adams County RTA in memory of:

- John Englemeyer
- Nona Long
- Robert Moore
- T. Steven Shiraki

Champaign County RTA in memory of:

- Marlene Book

DuPage County RTA in memory of:

- Arnold Grimes
- James Smith

Joliet Area RTA in memory of:

- Arlene Ulrich

Madison County III RTA in memory of:

- Jerry Davis

Ogle & Lee Counties RTA in memory of:

- Mary Louise Floski
- Myrna Hart
- Russ Hoernecke
- Ruth Loomis
- Nellie Winters

Randolph County RTA in memory of:

- Mary Ann Stumpe

Warren County RTA in memory of:

- Phyllis Kettering

Other Memorials:

Bruce & Linda Hall in memory of:

- Donald Lee Clute

Bill Bailey in memory of:

- Bill McCauley

Velma Dysart in memory of:

- Peggy Quick

Nancy Hysen in memory of:

- Peggy Quick

The Mouhelis Family in memory of:

- Peggy Quick

Susan K. Zimmerman in memory of:

- Peggy Quick

Ellen R. Stern in memory of:

- Malcolm E. Stern

### June

Aurora Area RTA in memory of:

- Velda Fisher
- Elizabeth "Betty" Forte

Hamilton County RTA in memory of:

- Charlene Vaughan

Moultrie County RTA in memory of:

- Ruth McCorvie
- Alfreda "Freddie" Murphy

South Suburban RTA in memory of:

- Unit members who have passed away

Tazewell County RTA in memory of:

- Barbara Spring

Warren County RTA in memory of:

- Patty Schwass

West Lake Shore RTA in memory of:

- David Byre
- William Dawson
- Jim Gowlett
- Deborah Neuman
- Donatta Yates

White County RTA in memory of:

- Eddie Spence

Other Memorials:

Judith M. Quiram in memory of:

- Jo & Ernie Crow

Patricia Drucker in memory of:

- Karen Gershman

Spencer & Betsy Knotts in memory of:

- Karen Gershman

Mary Ann Marabella in memory of:

- Karen Gershman

Lori Sickels in memory of:

- Karen Gershman

Bill Bailey in memory of:

- Bill McCauley

## IRTAPAC

The IRTAPAC Fund continues to grow, but we need your help. Donate to our Political Action Committee and protect the status of retired educators by donating just \$1.00 per month through pension deduction. IRTA will continue to fight for retired educators' benefits as we have for over 65 years. Help Us in Our Fight! The IRTAPAC donation form can be found on the IRTA website at [www.irtaonline.org](http://www.irtaonline.org). *Member dues money is never used for PAC purposes.*

## Thank You!

Please remember that you can ask your local funeral home to add the IRTA Foundation as a memorial choice at your loved one's funeral.





# IRTA Foundation Donation Form

**828 S. Second St., 4th Floor Springfield, IL 62704**

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to the Foundation for:

Donation \$

Name

Street

City

State

Zip

E-mail

**Latest News!  
Convention Issue**

**Illinois Retired Teachers Association Foundation  
828 S. Second St., 4th Floor  
Springfield, IL 62704**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Oak Brook, IL  
Permit No. 100