



Johnson County
Retired Teachers
Association
Sept. 2010 Newsletter
www.jcrtain.net
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Volume 15 Issue 1



Next Meeting: Johnson County Retired Teachers will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010 at 12:00 a.m. at the Tabernacle Christian Church at 198 N. Water St. in Franklin.

Directions From US 31: turn east onto Hwy 44 or Jefferson St. Go east .5 miles to N. Water St., Turn left (or North) onto Water St. The church is 2 blocks on the left at the corner of Water and King Streets.

From Interstate 65: take the Franklin exit (90) toward Franklin. Follow Hwy 44 west which becomes Jefferson St. Continue on Jefferson to Water St. Turn right on Water St. and the church is 2 blocks on the left at the corner of Water and King Streets.

Parking is available on the both sides of Water St. or behind the church. There are also public parking lots nearby.

Cost/Reservations: Lunch is \$10.00. Please RSVP Sue Christiansen at 736-6541 no later than Monday, September 20, 2010 for reservations. Guests are always welcome, but please make reservations for them as well. Even if you choose not to eat, you may attend the meeting. We anticipate the meeting to begin about 12:45 pm. We hope to have our largest turnout ever on the 28th and that **YOU** will be in attendance. **Please make a reservation, even if you are NOT going to eat, so we make sure we have seating for you.**

Lunch Menu: Chicken casserole, salad, vegetable, and a dessert. I was promised it will be good, although they have not decided exactly what they are having yet.

Registration will be from 11:30-12:00.

Program: Both Andy Thomas, the IRTA executive director and Steve Russo, executive director of TRF will speak. Also Barb Johnson, school marm of Simmons one room school in Hope, will give a short presentation.

Special plea to one and all: We (JCRTA executive board) strongly encourage you to attend the September 28th meeting, even if it is the only JCRTA meeting you attend this year. **Why? If you value your teacher's retirement pension and its future, you need to hear what our speakers have to say.**

Our speakers will be Andrew (Andy) Thomas, executive director of the Indiana Retired Teachers ' Association (IRTA) who will update the issues IRTA will be addressing concerning teacher pensions and again working to get us a COLA (Cost Of Living Adjustment) in 2011. Also speaking will be Steve Russo, executive director of the Teachers' Retirement Fund (TRF) and as of May 10, 2010 he is also the executive director of Public Employees' Retirement Fund. What are the ramifications of this merger?

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(The following is part of a press release issued on May 10, 2010)

INDIANAPOLIS (May 10, 2010) - Steve Russo has been selected to lead Indiana's two largest public pension systems with combined assets of more than \$22 billion and membership of more than 380,000. Russo was named Executive Director at the May 10 joint meeting of the boards of trustees of both the Indiana Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) and the Indiana State Teachers' Retirement Fund (TRF).

Formerly executive director of TRF, Russo was hired to lead both funds as a result of House Enrolled Act 1205 (2010) that requires the boards of trustees to appoint a common director.

After being selected, Russo stated, "PERF and TRF have both established outstanding member service, and I look forward to building upon this. The funds will remain two distinct entities, no major policy changes are anticipated, and we will continue to look for opportunities to increase the efficiency and investment returns of both funds."

Also at the May 10 meeting, Kendall W. Cochran was elected president of the TRF board. He currently serves as chairman of the PERF board and will now lead both boards. The Indiana Public Employees' Retirement Fund (PERF) serves the needs of more than 220,000 public employees and retirees representing more than 1,200 employers including public universities, school corporations, municipalities and state agencies. The Indiana State Teachers' Retirement Fund manages and administers the retirement benefits for approximately 160,000 members with careers in public education.

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This is the annual dues renewal /invitation to join not only the JCRTA but also the IRTA. This is the mailing that contains the newsletter and forms for dues.

2010 retirees: There are at least 69 of you. An all time high for Johnson County. You are invited to be guests (JCRTA pays for the meal) and will also receive a JCRTA membership at no cost for your first year (September 2010-August 2011). Please call Sue Christiansen at 736-6541 by September 20th to reserve your meal and/or attendance. We strongly encourage everyone to join IRTA. Membership numbers do influence the members of the legislature as they consider who gets their attention and time.

DUES ARE NOW DUE: With the mailing are the forms you need to JCRTA for the 2010-2011 year. Our dues remain at \$5.00 while most local group retired teacher groups around the state charge \$10 a year. We strongly encourage you to also to join the Indiana Retired Teachers Association (IRTA) as they are representing all the retired teachers in the state in protecting our state pension. The real and potential risk is much greater than many retired teachers realize. Please join both groups.

2010 COLA (Cost of living Adjustment) A lot of effort on our behalf by IRTA to get this passed by the state legislature that provides that TRF shall issue a 13th check for certain members, survivors, and beneficiaries. The amount of the 13th check will be mailed/deposited before October 1st based on years of experience. At least

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| 5 years, but less than 10 years (disability) | \$125 |
| At least 10 years, but less than 20 years | \$235 |
| At least 20 years, but less than 30 years | \$325 |
| At least 30 years | \$400 |

BY THE NUMBERS: There were 410 Johnson County IRTA dues paying members in 2009 – 2010. Forty of these had life memberships, 170 had their IRTA dues deducted, and the remainder paid annually. As of August 6, 2010 there are 524 Johnson County retired teachers who have not paid dues for 2010-2011. There are currently 40 paid associate members from Johnson County and 1736 unpaid associate potential members.

E-mailing of Newsletters: A big THANK YOU to the 150+ of you who receive the newsletters via e-mail and/or use the web site. That saves \$.44 cents x 4 issues for a savings of \$1.76 per person or a total of 150 x \$1.76 = \$264 in postage. When you add in the printing, paper, and envelope cost, it puts the total savings at over \$300.00 per year. If you would like to join this group and did not check “receive newsletters via e-mail” all you need to do is e-mail Goldie Jones at goldiejones@gmail.com and ask to be put on the JCRTA e-mail list for the newsletters. We mail the September issue out to all because it is the mailing that contains the dues information.

WEB SITE UPDATE: Our website has been updated and some new features have been added. There is now a tab for pictures. We plan on putting pictures from each general meeting. If you use the internet, please check out the JCRTA web site at www.jcrtain.net for much more information than can be put in the newsletters.

TREASURER’S REPORT

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| Balance 6-16-10 | \$3,341.57 |
| Income | 368.00 |
| Expenditures | 646.99 |
| Balance 4-21-10 | 3,062.58 |
| Sue Christiansen, treasurer | |

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| Future Meetings |
| Dec. 7, 2010-Lunch at Greenwood Village South Holiday Music Program |
| Mar. 22, 2011-Lunch at Johnson County Museum Humorist-Author Clara Trusty |
| May 24, 2011-place and time to be announced |
| July 26, 2011-place and time to be announced |

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| Volunteer Hours |
| Please continue keeping track of your volunteer hours. The reporting form and forwarding info will be in the next newsletter. |

In Memoriam
Joye Tabeling

