



Coles County Retired Teachers Association

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An Affiliate of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association
620 North Walnut, Springfield, Illinois 62702
Unit 55

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Editor's note: I'm including this information about our website and the newsletter again this month. If you would like to receive your newsletter online instead of on paper, please send your e-mail address to Jo Swick at Jksjs64@aol.com

Our webpage is up and running, thanks to Madeline VanKeuren. She says: "You can visit the site at <http://www.colescountyrta.org/> Its six pages include a Welcome page; a Program page, which lists all the programs for 2006 including time, date and title of each program, the meetings of the CCRTA board, and refreshment chairpersons; an Officers page including names, addresses and phone numbers; a Newsletter page that allows the reader to download the present newsletter and the previous one; a Links page that includes helpful links; and a Constitution page that contains the CCRTA constitution and bylaws.

Please send any suggestions, corrections, or ideas you would like included on the website to mvankeuren@frontiernet.net."

The Prez sez: Our political forum on October 10 can only be described as an outstanding success. Thanks to our legislative chairman John Swick, for doing a superb job securing the candidates and chairing the event. Attendance count was 72 people which included the public. Our forum was definitely a contribution to the political knowledge of the community.

Our next meeting is another interesting presentation, "Marion Medical mission; Shallow wells in Malawi" November 14 at the VFW in Charleston. Let's keep our momentum going. See you there!

To view the CCRTA newsletter online, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer. If you don't, you can install it for free at the following address: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

TREASURER'S

Membership Report.....Mary Kay Smitley

I would like to call your attention to an incentive the IRTA is offering now, both for old and new members. Anyone who signs up as an IRTA dues deduct member, or who switches from annual membership to a dues deduct membership, will be entered into a drawing for a special \$100 prize. This offer includes all those who signed up beginning July 1, 2006, and will run through December 31, 2006.

RTA RTA RTA RTA

Minutes of the October meeting.....by Karen Stone, Secretary

The CCRTA had its candidates' forum meeting Oct. 10, 2006, at the Cross County Mall. It was an open meeting for the public to attend, and there were approximately 75 people in attendance. The candidates for all the Coles County public offices were invited to attend. John Swick, our legislative chair, was in charge of the event. Each of the candidates spoke for up to five minutes about their qualifications and why they were seeking that position.

Those candidates were:

County Clerk: Sue Rennels (R)

Treasurer: George Edwards (R) and Kay Pease (D)

Sheriff: Charles Conner (D) and Darrell Cox (R)

Regional Superintendent of Schools: John McNary (D) and Lindo Smith (R)

State Representative: Chapin Rose (R)

United States Representative: David Gill (D)

Following the forum, refreshments were served to all.

GO VOTE GO VOTE GO VOTE GO VOTE GO VOTE

Some thoughts for our generation:

Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses.

I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.



This is the national flag of Malawi, a Southern African nation, much in the news right now because of the controversy over Madonna's recent adoption of a one-year old boy from there. Our November 14 meeting will not be focused on that, but rather on the Marion Medical Mission; Shallow Wells in Malawi. Jerry Parker, a retired Lake Land instructor will present this program at the VFW in Charleston at 1:30. Do come and join us then. Bring others with you!

I think you all will want to attend our November 14 meeting at the VFW in Charleston when you read the quotation below:

“Most of the health problems throughout the third world are water-related. This is especially true in the rural areas of Malawi, Africa, where the people suffer from dysentery and other water-borne diseases. Most of the villages depend on surface water collected from open ponds and water holes.”

Not only will Jerry Parker's presentation be informative, it should remind us of where the focus of the world's prosperous nations should be now – not on war, but on the needs of people all over the world. So I urge you to attend this program to see what one group is doing to help.

The Cookie Committee for November is: Marge Meenen, Chair
 Pat Randolph Jill Adkins and
 Judy Heckel.

Please bring two dozen cookies to the VFW on November 14. Thanks.

LOOKING AHEAD.....MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE
December 12

Christmas luncheon! Remember, this is for everyone,
spouses, friends of

CCRTA, and your guests! The traditional catered
holiday dinner will be

Followed by seasonal entertainment, installation of
officers, and the

Moving memorial ceremony. This year there will be
door prizes for

Some lucky attendees as well. Don't miss it!

You may be interested in this:

The Woman's Reading Club of Mattoon invites ladies interested in books (sorry, no men) to be our guests at any of the following meetings. Organized in 1877 and meeting every year since makes this the oldest reading club in Illinois. A review of a nonfiction book is presented at each meeting, held in the parlor of the First Presbyterian Church on Charleston Avenue in Mattoon. The agenda for the rest of the 2006-2007 year is as follows:

December 8, 2006 at 1:30. Christmas tea with a special program

No meeting in January.

February 9, 2007 at 1:30. Lives of Our Own: Secrets of Salty Old Women

February 23, 2007 at 1:30. Einstein in Love

March 9, 2007 at 1:30. The Big Oyster

March 23, 2007 at 1:30 A Twist of Lemmon

Interested? Contact Lucille Saunders in Mattoon at 235-4624

*As Caring Concerned Retired Teachers Always, we continue to send our
Since wishes for continued improving health to:*

Winnie Tipsword and Willis "Mac" McKinney

Happy Birthday to:
Karen Stone and Sue Pfeiffer



If you'd like to share your birthdate with us, we'd love to put your name in here, too.

Hope to see you ALL at the VFW in Charleston at 1:30 on November 14 for our next-to-the-last meeting of the year. Bring others too!