

Ogle-Lee Retired Teachers' Association Meeting – July 9, 2019

The summer luncheon membership meeting of the Ogle-Lee Retired Teachers' Association was held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 beginning with a social hour at 11:00 AM, business meeting at Noon, lunch at 12:40 PM, and the program after the meal at the Amboy Community Building. Co-Vice Presidents Diane Kenney and Carole Sutton provided table decorations and "nuts and bolts" snack mix. Marvel Blomberg coordinated luncheon reservations, Linda Kenney collected the \$15 luncheon fees, and Elke Grennan distributed name tags. Forty-five members and guests attended.

Co-Presidents Becky Cheek and Michele Glen conducted the business meeting and Co-Vice President Diane Kenney introduced the program speakers. Becky Cheek led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation before the meal was served. A buffet luncheon of Chicken George, Au gratin potatoes, tossed salad, cinnamon bread pudding, lemonade, and coffee was catered by The Long Branch Saloon of Amboy.

Donation baskets for the IRTA Political Action Committee and Legal Defense Fund were on the Registration Table. Attendees donated \$17 to IRTA-PAC and \$32 to the Legal Defense Fund at the meeting. Forms for the IRTAPAC \$1 monthly deduction from TRS pension checks were available.

The minutes from the April 9, 2019 Membership Meeting and the June 11, 2019 Board Meeting were accepted by consensus as printed.

The treasurer's report as of June 10, 2019 was accepted by consensus as prepared by Treasurer Linda Kenney. The checking account balance was \$8,598.64, the Memorial Account balance was \$260.81, and the Life Account balance was \$7,735.72. Total assets were \$16,595.17.

There are six new Ogle-Lee RTA members: Brenda Crabel, Nancy Elson, Lori Gipper, Lynette Scanlan, Michael Scanlan, and Martha Schultz.

Legislative Chairperson Kim McKenna updated members on state legislation pertaining to education and the state budget. She also announced her resignation as legislative chair.

The IRTA State Convention will be at the Springfield Crown Plaza on October 14-15, 2019. More information and reservation forms are on the IRTA website. Ogle-Lee RTA will prepare a Silent Auction Basket with donations going to the Political Action Fund. Members were encouraged to donate any locally produced items for the "Made in Ogle-Lee County" basket.

It was announced that Cody Suddeth from Steward, IL (Ogle-Lee Unit area) is a state IRTA scholarship winner and will study Agricultural Education.

Nominations for Ogle-Lee RTA officers were taken at the July 9, 2019 membership meeting and voting will take place at the October 8, 2019 membership meeting. Treasurer Linda Kenney and Secretary Elke Grennan agreed to run again for their respective office. Nominations for president (or co-presidents) and vice-president (or co-vice presidents) will be accepted up to the October 8 election. There are also openings for legislative chairperson, historian/necrology, calling coordinator, webmaster, and assistant webmaster. Interested members for any of these positions should contact the co-presidents.

Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) representative Nancy Cramer provided a handout of benefits available to members and discussed AMBA's role in recruiting members for IRTA.

Gail Tuttle from Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County explained how they build both new houses and also do smaller projects called "Brush with Kindness" to help low income families take pride in owning their home.

Co-Vice President Diane Kenney spoke of the importance of keeping the Ogle-Lee Unit of IRTA strong as IRTA is the only organization solely devoted to protecting Illinois teacher pensions and TRIP/TRAIL insurance.

The remaining 2019 Luncheon Membership Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center near Oregon, IL. The program will feature "The History of Laura Ingalls Wilder" presented by Bea Chaplin.

Remaining 2019 Ogle-Lee Board Meetings will be held at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library beginning at 10:15 AM on Tuesdays, September 10 and November 12, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.

Submitted by Elke Grennan, Ogle-Lee RTA Secretary