

DUPAGE CONNECTION

Newsletter of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association in DuPage

DIRTA, Immediate Past President *Ida Lee*



It is time for a new beginning for the DuPage Unit of the Illinois Retired Teachers Association (DIRTA)! Now that we have been vaccinated it is time to meet for lunch, renew friendships and continue to protect our pensions. We will have a business meeting on October 6, but no program so we will have time to talk.

The DIRTA Board has continued to meet during the shutdown. We have a candidate for President and Vice President and will have elections during our December meeting. We need helpers to take meeting reservations, a Legislation Chair, and a Corresponding Secretary.

The IRTA Convention will be held virtually on October 19. Members must be registered to attend. Please let me know ASAP if you would like to attend ieaida@aol.com, 630.917.8339

Membership Report *Mary Rogers, Caryn Graham,*

Members that will need to pay dues for DIRTA membership in 2022 are now being notified by mail. If you receive a renewal letter, please take a few minutes to update your contact information and return the letter with your check. Dues **will not** be collected at meetings/luncheons.

If you owe dues to IRTA you will be contacted by the IRTA office in Springfield. Please call that office at 1-800-728-4782 if you have any questions about your IRTA dues. Members that are paying IRTA dues annually are encouraged to sign up for Dues Deduct payment at irtaonline.org. When you sign up for Dues Deduct payment, \$2.50 will be deducted monthly from your pension. That is a total of only \$30. a year to protect your pension and your health insurance benefits. If you are a member of our local DIRTA Unit and are not a member of IRTA please visit irtaonline.org and find out why **your IRTA membership is very important**.

Since our last newsletter two of our members have been reported as deceased. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Donald Adcock and Shirley Orlopp. DIRTA will send a donation to the IRTA Foundation in memory of these recently deceased members.

If you have any membership questions or you need to update your member contact information, please email dupageirta@gmail.com or call Mary Rogers at 630-890-7174.

Volunteer Opportunities Available with Literacy DuPage

Change Someone's Future

Bridge the language gap by tutoring an adult in English! As a volunteer tutor, you will teach an adult to communicate so that they can do what most of us take for granted: make doctor appointments, speak with their children's teachers, and so many other essential everyday tasks. As a Literacy DuPage tutor, you will join a family of over 300 volunteers, who create lesson plans, share ideas, and forge friendships while strengthening our community's ability to reach those who are motivated to enhance their English language skills. You will find yourself in a rewarding place: empowering adults with the life-changing benefits of literacy.

Volunteer Tutors Needed

If you wish to become a part of this critical work, attend a virtual New Tutor Training (upcoming session dates and times below). At training we will explain what it takes to be a tutor (in short, no prior experience - just a genuine desire to help), and provide you with the materials, and techniques needed help adults break through language barriers and experience a whole new world of communication and connection - right here in DuPage County.

- October 4, 11, 18, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2021 | 6:30 PM – 8:45 PM
- October 14, 19, 21, November 2, 4, 9, 11, 2021 | 6:30 PM – 8:45 PM
- November 3, 8, 10, 22, 29, December 1, 6, 2021 | 1:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Before attending New Tutor Training, you must attend a 60-minute Meet & Greet session. Visit our website www.literacydupage.org or call us at (630) 942-5210 to learn more and register for training!

Tour Coordinator

Gary Elmen

Update: DIRTA Amsterdam to Switzerland Tour **Canceled**

Our annual group tour was canceled.

So disappointing! We had planned to travel the Rhine River from Amsterdam to Switzerland and spend extra time in Switzerland.

The European Union placed extra traveler restrictions on a handful of countries experiencing high levels of Covid infection, including the USA. Protecting health and avoiding possible quarantine was behind my decision. Our tour had been postponed from 2020.

I have started planning for our 2022 tour with an eye on a river cruise in Portugal, a place we have not visited before. Please email me if you have any other suggestions for this annual tour (gwelmen@yahoo.com).

Ill or Deceased Members

If you know of any members who are ill or have passed, please inform a board member or write the information down at the meeting on Oct. 6

DuPage IRTA

Ida Lee

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Wheaton, IL 60187

FIRST CLASS

**Our next newsletter will be mailed and emailed
week of Nov. 15**

Dates of lunch meetings:

Oct. 6, and Dec. 8, 2021

**DIRTA—Lunch Meeting
Steven's Family Restaurant
2393 63rd St., Woodridge
Wednesday-12:00-Noon**