

SOUTH DAKOTA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
General Session and Business Meeting
Ramkota Convention Center
May 5, 2010

Prior to the business meeting, Lyle Kemnitz, Bill Zubke, Pat Johnson, and Carolyn Paulson conducted a memorial service honoring thirty-nine SDRTA members who passed away in 2009-10. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bill read an original poem entitled "Because You Taught" by Marilyn Kratz of Yankton Area RTA.

President Allen Price called the meeting to order at 9:08. The minutes of the April 29, 2009, general session meeting were presented by Secretary Donna Fischer. Don Kennedy moved to approve the minutes as read. Annette Belkonen seconded. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report for fiscal year 2008-09 was given by Art Shaver. On May 31, 2009, the balance on hand was \$10,362. We also had investments totaling \$34,168. This report has been duly audited.

Next, the 2010-11 Budget was presented by Pat Johnson. Treasurer Art Shaver has proposed a new category, "Scholarship," to be added to the budget. This would be awarded to a person currently teaching for the purpose of helping him/her pursue an advanced degree or national certification. Details on this will be worked out by the Board at its July, 2010, meeting. We currently have a balance of about \$8,000, so we will need to use \$3,550 from the unspent 2009-10 budget to balance the 2010-11 Budget.

Membership co-chair Cathy Zubke reported that our memberships dropped by 46 this past year to a total of 1369. Although we are actually up in the number of new memberships, there is a problem with renewals. Cathy noted that five units did end the year with increased membership: Milbank, Oahe (Mobridge), Sioux Falls, Watertown, and Winner. She encouraged each member to make an effort to invite and encourage new members, especially early retirees. Then Cathy announced that the Board has proposed an incentive for locals to actively seek new members in 2010-11 as follows: every unit showing a membership increase by April 1, 2011, will be eligible to participate in a drawing for two free 2011 Convention registrations. Finally, she stressed the importance for unit officers to send her the names of their deceased members.

Because he was called out of town due to a family emergency, Wyland Borth was unavailable to give the Legislative report. President Price said that Rob Wylie would give us this information later in the day.

Diana Glover, Newsletter chair, reported that she spent \$4167.87 of her \$4500 budget for 2009-10. She is hoping to begin producing three yearly issues, details of which will be worked out at the July Board meeting. News deadlines for 2010-11 are October 15, 2010, and March 10, 2011. Diana suggested that members consider making a donation in honor or memory of someone. Those doing so will be recognized in the

Newsletter. After June 1, 2010, send such donations to treasurers Ron and Gloria Riherd, 3945 Corral Drive, Rapid City, SD57072 (e-mail: rriherd@netscape.net). All address changes should be sent to Bill and Cathy Zubke (calz45@hotmail.com).

Marietta Catlin gave the Community Service report for 2009-10. With all eighteen units reporting, SDRTA members recorded a total of 45,964 volunteer service hours. The weekend backpack project for needy students under With Our Youth services is proving to be very successful. Next Marietta announced the Community Service winners for the past year:

WITH OUR YOUTH

Black Hills—Margaret Andersen, C.S chair; Nancy May, co-president

Pierre Area—Nancy Baker, C.S. chair; Jean Easland, co-president

OTHER SERVICES WITH ADULTS

Watertown Area—Ruth Olson, C.S. chair; Harry and Florence Johnson,
Co-presidents

HONORABLE MENTION

Huron Area—Sue Gose, C. S. chair; Sharon Fuglsang, president

Annette Belkonen reported that the 2009 bus tour to Winnipeg was a great success. In fact, so many people signed on for the trip that two trips had to be scheduled, one right after the other. Unfortunately, there were not enough registrations for the March, 2010, trip to Nebraska, so that one was cancelled. Annette and Pat are now planning an October 3rd –9th trip to eastern Iowa. They urged those interested in going to sign up soon, since a deposit of \$50 per person must be made by May 21, 2010. Annette also pointed out that SDRTA members will receive a \$20 discount on the cost of the trip.

Past President Dr. Charollene Coates presented the nominations for 2010-12 state officers: President-- Pat Johnson; President-elect-- Nancy May; Vice President-- Lyle Kemnitz; Secretary-- Donna Fischer; and Treasurer—Ron and Gloria Riherd. Their term of office officially begins on June 1, 2010.

Dr. Coates next presented the Bylaw changes that have been approved by the Board: Article IV, Duties of Officers, Section 5, Treasurer, and Standing Ruler, Article II, Dues, Section 3.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Price has proposed organizing units' histories into a booklet. He asked that any unit interested in taking on this task contact him.

NEW BUSINESS

A unanimous vote signaled approval of both the proposed 2010-11 budget and the Bylaw changes.

Another unanimous vote was given to the SDRTA Board candidates for 2010 as presented earlier in the meeting. This was followed by the installation of the new officers by Dr. Charollene Coates.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Donna, Fischer, Secretary