

South Dakota Retired Teachers Association

NEWSLETTER

Affiliated with National
Retired Teachers Association

“To Serve, Not to be Served”

www.sdrta.net

Fall 2013, Vol. 45, No.4

Membership and a little note of
reminder about paying dues!
A poem just for our members!

It's that time of year a reminder
seems right
For membership strength gives us
membership might!
Perhaps you have done it, perhaps
you forgot...
It's dues time for certain, we need
you a lot.

We're service by nature: we do
what we can
To make this world better for every
man
And woman we know and some
that we don't;
We never say can't and we never
say won't

It's scholarship giving, retirement
voice
Together in union we vocalize
choice.
We revel together at convention
cool
The newsletter offered is truly a
jewel!

So won't you consider and send us
a check
It's just fifteen bucks, help us give
'em heck!
We'll wait for your action, with hope
from above
We send you our thanks and we
send you our love!

NRTA 2013 Advocacy Conference

Ron and I attend-
ed the NRTA
2013 Advocacy
Conference that
was held Sep-
tember 16-18
in Washington,
D.C. We heard
from many ac-
complished
speakers discuss-
ing pension re-
form, social security, health care,
and financial security.

These presenters prepared us for
visitations with our Senators and
Congresswoman. Representative
Noem and Senator Thune were
unavailable to meet with us so we
visited with their representatives.
Senator Johnson was very atten-
tive and interested in our issues.

Our message was to preserve and/
or enhance our Social Security
System. We felt Social Security
should be treated as a separate
negotiated item. There were two
bills before congress that would
have negative effects to our SDRS
pension plan. We encouraged
our congressional members to
not vote PEPTA and SAFE. It was
great to note that our congressio-
nal representatives are knowledge



Left to right: Ron Riherd, Gloria Riherd, Senator Tim Johnson

able and in general agreement
with the issues we presented.

Our message to state legislators
would be to preserve our SDRS
Pensions as a defined benefit
plan with mandatory lifetime
payouts. We would like to not
only lower the COLA when nec-
essary but also have the option
to raise it when funds are at a
surplus. After hearing of the
many changes that are happen-
ing in various other states, we
are proud of the job our Retirement
Investors are doing for SD.

NRTA, the nation's largest orga-
nization serving the interest and
needs of working and retired ed-
ucators for over 50 years contin-
ues to watch and guide actions
which are essential to retirees.

Ron and Gloria Riherd
SDRTA, Treasurers

Lobby Day - January, 28th Pierre

Convention May 6th & 7th - Sioux Falls

The Benefits of a Smile

By Marrietta Catlin SDRTA Community Service Chair



"Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a most beautiful thing." (Mother Teresa)

The SDRTA bus trip to Kansas City, Missouri and Nebraska City, Nebraska recently reminded me of the above quote by Mother Teresa. Several places that we visited on the trip had people tell us how much they welcomed all our friendly smiles. It was a joy to know that we were not only having a good time but we were sharing our joy and smiles with others. I guess we South Dakota retired teachers feel we are never fully dressed without our friendly smiles on. What a blessing to share with others!

On the way home, I got to thinking about smiles and how a friendly smile can not only bring smiles and happiness to others but can bring health benefits to us, too. Many health researchers claim that health really is inner peace and how important it is to learn to let go of fear, anger, guilt and resentment by having the courage to make

better choices. A winning attitude and a friendly smile can go a long way to improve our health and well being.

Some health benefits of a smile can include:

1. Smiling can make a person more attractive.
2. Smiling can change our mood for the better.
3. Smiling can relieve stress.
4. Smiling can boost one's immune system.
5. Smiling can lower blood pressure.
6. Smiling can be contagious and bring happiness to ourselves as well as others.
7. Smiling can be a natural drug that releases endorphins, serotonin as well as being a natural pain killer.
8. Smiling lifts the face to make a person look younger.
9. Smiling can increase productivity as we use the mentality of the song "Whistle While You Work."
10. Smiling can make a person appear more confident and self-assured.

So, perhaps our SDRTA bus trip this year made us travelers healthier and happier and also affected others in a positive way with our winning attitudes and friendly smiles. It is my hope that as we share our volunteer services with others in our communities this year that we continue to keep the smiles going forward. As your state community service/health chair, I challenge you to keep up the wonderful volunteer service work in your local communities. Remember your smiles and volunteer services do make a difference in the lives of so many others. A quote by Zig Zigler sums up what our community service is all about. "You never know when one kind act or one word of encouragement can change a life forever."

**"I would thank you from the bottom of my heart, but for you my heart has no bottom."
Author Unknown**

SDRTA Elected and Appointed Officers 2013-2014

President Nancy May
4619 Bellewood Dr., Rapid City, SD 57702
605-718-0666
nancymay@rushmore.com

Past President Patricia Johnson
1226 E. Kemp Ave, Watertown, SD 57201
605-886-8756
sdpjohnson@mac.com

President-Elect Betty Beyer
1508 Northview Ln, Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-725-5510 and 605-290-0215
bjb61@nvc.net

Vice-President Kay Ainslie
Box 182, Philip, SD 57567
605-859-2670 or 605-441-2449
kainslie@gwtc.net

Secretary Leni Healy
4206 S. Minnesota Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
605-360-8949
CLHealy@aarp.org

Treasurer(s) Ron and Gloria Riherd
3945 Corral Dr, Rapid City, SD 57702
605-343-3221
riherglo@netscape.net

Membership Bill and Cathy Zubke
417 N Broadway, Watertown, SD 57201
605-886-8637
calz45@hotmail.com, Cathy
bzubke@hotmail.com, Bill

Community/Health Services Marrietta Catlin
321 N Taylor, Pierre, SD 57501
605-224-7815
mcatlin@pie.midco.net

Publicity/Newsletter Merry Bleeker
1012 Woodview Dr. # 18 Pierre, SD 57501
605-224-8423
lbleeker@pie.midco.net

Legislation Henry "Hank" Kosters
326 S. Jackson, Pierre, SD 57501
605-224-1825
hank.g.kosters@gmail.com

Executive Director Diana Glover
4781 Sturgis Rd, Rapid City, SD 57702
605-787-4631
dnglover9@gmail.com

Message From the President



"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Helen Keller

Dear South Dakota Retired Teacher Members,

As I write this West River is still recovering from the worst early October snow storm. Much progress has been made, and we are hearing about many acts of kindness and help.

Raking leaves and preparing for winter are now keeping us busy, and it's time to look forward to the holidays! Where does the time go?

The summer and fall were busy with Summer Leadership meetings in Brookings and Rapid City. The end of September, Ken and I went on Pat and Annette's SDRTA Fall Trip to Kansas City. Our Wanderlust bug was satisfied, and we offer many thanks for a "Positively Awesome" trip to Kansas City. Our State Scholarship coffers benefit from their efforts. Kudos to the best travel organizers ever!

We thought our Wanderlust Bug had been exhausted but we hit the road again to spend time in Pierre at the AARP Volunteer Event October 15 and 16th. The socialization was wonderful, and the Wine and Canvas activity after the banquet was such fun. I had no idea how to put an image on a canvas. Thanks to Sarah Jennings and the AARP Group for a very enjoyable time.

Convention plans are beginning, and Cathy Anderson, and the Sioux Falls Unit have been very helpful. Sioux Falls Members Sharon Dierks and Gretchen Tweet will handle registration. The Downtown

Holiday Inn is the convention site and the dates are May 6th and 7th. The registration fee will be \$45.00 and details will be available in the spring newsletter next March.

Remember socialization is one of our objectives so "Ride with us" to Sioux Falls next May!

Please save the date, January 28th, for Lobby Day, weather permitting. Our legislators need to hear from us and we need to let them know we are aware of what they are doing in regard to senior health and the state pension system.

My wish is for a Happy Holiday Season for all of you!

Nancy

605.718.0666

nancymay@rushmore.com

"One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child."

- Carl Jung -

10/16/13 SDRS DEBT STATUS REPORT TO SDRTA BOARD

BY HANK KOSTERS

As of the SDRS Boards September meeting the unfunded 7% balance so the SDRS is now fully funded. There is no unfunded SDRS pension obligation. Additionally the SDRS Board added 3.6% and is adding contributions made by employees and employers to build SDRS reserves. The bottom line is that there is no unfunded SDRS obligation and the 7/1/14 COLA will be funded at 3.1%

The SDRS staff, at the direction of the board, succeeded in getting a total of \$4 million appropriated, over two years, to bolster the Cement Plant retirement

system. This system is not fully funded, and represents no debt threat to SDRS.

Local newspapers have repeated a national article that suggested some "Private Lobbyists" were members of several retirement systems including SDRS. In SD the SD County Commission Association, SD Municipal League, Associated School Boards of SD and so on have not been viewed as "private lobbyists". For decades the IRS provided no guidance to pension plans in this regard. Upon completion of the IRs review the SDRS will comply. The number of SDRS members

in these organizations is a very small number in the total SDRS membership.

Legislation under consideration for the 2014 Legislative Session by SDRS:

- Change certain benefits and clarify some outdated language
- Change disability and pre-retirement survivor benefits-cost neutral changes
- Early survivor benefit payable up to 10 yrs. before normal retirement

Norma Bietz, Mitchel Unit, passed away October 31 in Mitchel. More information is available in the "Mitchel Daily Republic" newspaper.

Reminiscent Essays/ Scholarships

Hello Everyone!

Fall is here and the time flies when we're having fun! The Retired teacher's bus trip was fabulous and so on we go.

Just a reminder to everyone. Last year, we had wonderful Reminiscent essays from seven of our great retired educators! We need your memories; I already have one from A CHALLENGE! How about 1 or 2 from each Unit? Your experiences are so unique, Please share them with us.

One more thing. Two scholarships will be awarded to deserving educators striving to get advanced degrees. We need each unit to get in touch with the schools in their area to let them know about this opportunity. Letters will be sent but a personal visit to administrators give added emphasis. Look at the SDRTA website for the information and dates. Your help will be appreciated by the board and me. Pat Johnson started these scholarships and they are so important and appreciated.

I'll see you in Sioux Falls at the convention in May and I hope I will have oodles of reminiscent essays to share with you.

Betty Beyer

Retired Teacher's Bus Trip (in rhyme)

Geezers, coots, and fudge to boot!

Day 1

It comes as no surprise I'm sure
For every boy and girly
This group of teachers now retired
Allows us to leave early!

It's on the road to Kansas C
The trip it takes no guts
But what it truly takes my dear
Is callousness of butts!

Missouri valley is stop one
For senior drinks consumed
Another stop the schedule has
My bladder is well tuned

What's that you say? There is no stop?
We say so what's the dif?
Our coach it is a modern joy
It has it's own small biff!

A treat for supper is arranged
A treat, or so it seems
The ladies come prepared--the norm,
It's beano, tums, and beans!

Then back for rest...rejuvenate
And here the ladies do
A mitzvah for the mem'ry poor...
Hotel? One letter! Q!

Day 2

A late start for this group, I'd say
Of this I am quite sure
Our step-on Karen's made the plan
For us, a three hour tour!

Italian is the luncheon plan
Milano's gives us food
Then wander through the Hallmark
store
For some the shopping's good.

The evening ends with "young" Dyan
A dinner theatre coup!
At 76 she's lookin' good
Shows what "some work" can do!

She shares a story from her past
On Cary she did pee
Probably it wouldn't work
On Cathy's aching knee!

We head back home for beauty rest
For author, pray it works
Tomorrow we are promised plants
And Truman soda jerks!

Day 3

It's on the bus some earlier
The morning should be nifty
If only we could say we've found
Elusive highway 50!

Botanical the gardens be
The chapel quite serene
The lunch is quinoa carrot soup
And thankfully no bean!

Then on to Independence, MO
But not as planned you see
The congress it has failed to work
but still will get their fee!

But ever diligent our guides
They do as change demands
We once again voice fervent thanks
We're in their caring hands!

At supper time we travel far
For Orleans food that's fried
And music that is soft and sweet
The beignets we have tried

Then back to Q and off to bed
At least that's true for some
Pianos beckon just a few
But we, our day was done!

Day 4

The day it starts with baseball league
Along with all that jazz
Then on the road to Leavenworth
To see the things it has

Our timing fine our luck it holds
For on the bus we're dry
The thunder roars, the rain it pours
The storm it passes by!

For lunch the ladies have a plan
A sandwich and a treat
It's truly truth to advertise
That suz's place was sweet

Then tour the town and see the sights
For me 'twill be a thrill
To not end up where I could be
That's Peckerwood the hill!

The Harvey girls do serve us meal
And barbershoppers sing
Then through some neighborhood
we roam
To Lied lodge bus does bring!

Day 5

This morn we take the scenic route
To orchard for a ride
The hay is spread with plastic bags
So we are dry inside!

The afternoon it's Tammy's turn
The trees she does explain
Enthusiasm reigns supreme
True teaching is her game.

Then back to apples and to trees
Around the grounds we go
The weather we appreciate
For back at home it's snow!

The evening's plans gang aft aglae
As best laid plans will do
The weather truly calls the shots
For us it's nothing new!

Day 6

We're on the bus, we're heading
home
But oops we hit a snag
The numbers with the lodge don't
gibe
So Pat will stay and hag (gle).

But we, we're off to do our deed
The sky is bright, not dark
And we will fauna, flora see
From Lewis and from Clark.

And then toward home the bus does
go
To weather quite unsure
But we? We hearty people be
Dakotans true and pure

And when we lay us down to sleep
We'll know it's not a myth...
It's not the journey nor the end
It's who you travel with!

So thanks to all our traveling mates
We think you're very dear
Let's mark those calendars right now
To go again next year!

--Bill Zubke

Fabulous Fall Trip

We boarded the bus Monday morning with our bus driver Glen and two retired Watertown teachers, Annette Belkonen and Pat Johnson as our planners and guides for four days in Kansas City and two days in Nebraska City. Our hats off to them for a well organized SD Retired Teacher trip!! Our first evening we indulged in Kansas City's best BBQ Ribs at Jack Shack Barbeque. It was delicious and since they found out that I was a Certified Kansas City BBQ Judge they wanted me to rate it! Well, I can tell you it was near the top. #9 Delicious !!!

The next morning we departed for a three hour City tour with a step-on guide. She told us that Kansas City was known as the City of fountains and beautiful parks. We toured Union Station, one of the country's last great train stations and then on to the Crown Center where we had lunch at Milano Italian Dining. We saw artists making cards at the Hallmark Center. That evening we went to a dinner theater at New Theater to see Dyan Cannon in "Fox on the Fairway". Wonderful !!!!!

Day three was great! Off to Powell Gardens. This botanical garden offered experiences to the Midwest and inspired an appreciation for plants in our lives. Lunch was at Café Thyme.

Since the government was shut down Annette had to go to plan "B". We visited a Temple that was dedicated in 1994 to the pursuit of peace. The Sanctuary is 47,849 sq. ft., is 195' from the floor to the top of the spire and seats 1,600. Amazing!!!!

In Independence we had ice cream at Clinton's Soda Fountain, then Crown Drug Store where Harry Truman worked his first job. Then down to see the Arabia Steamboat Museum, where a 171 foot long cargo ship sank in 1856. It laid 45' underground and one half mile from the river edge until 1988 when it was unearthed. Remarkable!!! That evening we ate at the "JAZZ" – a Louisiana Cuisine and then enjoyed music by Billy Ebeling, a one man Dixieland band. Let the Good Times Roll!!!!

Our last day in KC we toured the American Jazz Museum and Negro League Baseball Museum. Lunch was at Sis' Sweets where they bake 44 kinds of cookies daily!!!!Sweet!!!!

Our step-on guide of Leavenworth proved it was the "First City of Kansas"! We saw the C.W. Parker Carousel Museum and everyone got to ride on the restored 1913 wooden carousel. Fun!! At the Riverfront Community Center we were served a delicious meal by the "Harvey

Girls" and entertained by the barbershop quartet "Possum Holler Four." Soothing!!!!

We then traveled to Lied Lodge in Nebraska City, NE for a two night stay. Getting there was half the fun.

The next day we toured Kimmel Orchard and Vineyard, ate fresh pumpkin doughnuts and bought apples. The Lied Lodge showed us around the area where Arbor Day started. We picked an apple, tasted wine and enjoyed a Prime Rib Buffet.

Now we are homewardbound. One quick stop at the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center. A box lunch on the bus made a much quieter trip. Thanks for everyone who came along, to Bill for his fudge and back rubs, all the smiles and jokes and to Annette and Pat for making this a trip full of wonderful memories. You all are #10's.

Shirley Klebsch



SIoux FALLS AREA

The Sioux Falls Area Retired Teachers' Association continues to be active and involved in the community. In May and August, members staffed Pioneer Lane, located at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds for students and the public, respectively. Pioneer Lane gives people the chance to look into the past and see what it might have like "way back then." During the Sioux Empire Fair, thousands of people pass through these four buildings—a log cabin, school, church, and depot.

Our monthly meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of most months at the Royal Fork Buffet Restaurant, 4610 W. Empire Place, located just south of the Empire Mall West. Our meetings begin at 11:00 and end at 1:00. We welcome all visitors; stop in and join us sometime.

We started off the year with a very interesting program about "The History of the Blood Run State Park" with park manager, Eric Vander Stouwe. In September Dan Simon from the Great Plains Zoo and Delbridge Museum spoke on all the programs and updates at the zoo. Members were encouraged to visit the zoo and see all the improvements that have been made. As a group on September 11, we honored all of our fire fighters and police in Sioux Falls by bringing them trays of treats, baked by our members, and baskets of fruit.

Human Trafficking has been in the news recently and so we had Dr. Kimberly Kaveny speak to us at our October meeting on the work of the Be Free Ministries. Her topic "Hidden in Plain Sight: Exposing Sex Trafficking in South Dakota" was a very informative, but tragic story. It is a story that needs to be told.

In November, one of own members, Rich Greeno, will talk to us about his "Lifetime of Sports and Being a Rural Dakota Boy." It will be great to hear his life story as many former students have spoken of his great influence on them over the years through his coaching.

We are also looking forward to our December meeting to begin the holiday season with a spirited sing-a-long with members. A musical group from one of the Sioux Falls high schools will entertain us. It is a fun way to get into the holiday spirit. Our members also volunteer each year to be Salvation Army bell ringers. We are also collecting board games for gifts for the children at Family Connections, a program that helps families of inmates stay connected.

Sioux Falls is a targeted community for the AARP "Create the Good" project. Our association has provided financial support to many organizations. Our members have been very supportive of all of our projects this year, by helping out in person and with donations of goods and money. We will be entering our third year on this project and look forward to helping out with volunteers and contributions to many needy organizations.

I personally want to thank the generous members of our association for stepping up every time that we ask them to volunteer their time or provide things like greeting/Christmas cards for a Meals-on-Wheels Christmas gift bag, or calendars for guests at The Banquet, or gifts for the Children's Christmas at The Banquet where children get to pick out gifts for their parents, or toiletries for our service men and women, and on and on. Our members come through when they are needed. Thank you so much.

By Cathy Anderson

NORTHERN HILLS

Volunteerism hours since July 1 have equaled the hours our unit reported all of last year. We changed the recording process to collecting the hours per month. Volunteers are worth their weight in gold!

Our unit participated in Patriot Day, September 11, by working at our local food pantries. On Make-a-Difference Day, October 26, we helped children with pumpkin carving. The January 20, volunteer day, A-Day-of-Service, will be a time to help serve the community chili supper for MLK Day.

Seven South Dakota Festival of Books authors shared conversations with our members at the September meeting. In October our focus was on helping the Department

of Labor and Regulations to update their community resource book that is used by any person or organization in the Northern Hills area to find local assistance agencies.

We look forward to our November program with Jim Hansen who will discuss the SD Retirement Funds. Many retirees in the area have been invited to attend this important session. Weather permitting we'll have a great turnout for the meeting, and SDRTA will be well represented on Lobby Day, January 28, 2014.

Submitted by Joanna Jones

MADISON AREA

This summer the Madison Area Retired Teachers Association held a quilt raffle to help pay for updates on the library at Prairie Village, which was the first chartered library in South Dakota in 1886. Although new siding had been planned for the building, the work was delayed when it was discovered that the building's foundation needed work. With the help of a grant from the Mary Chilton DAR Foundation and \$1,300 raised through the quilt raffle, the library now has new red siding along with a repaired foundation and new windows.

The quilt, a quilt throw and a quilted wall hanging were made by MARTA members Barb Hoff and Mona Reisig. The drawing was held after the annual Prairie Village Steam Threshing Jamboree, and the winners were Tammy Stockland of Centerville, S.D., Judy Harwig of Sioux Falls, S.D., and Rita Brown of Chester, SD.

Madison Area Retired Teachers met at Nicky's in Madison, S.D. in September. Following lunch, Rob Hansen from the local hospital provided information about sleep apnea and sleep studies. In October, 13 MARTA members including one new member, Nancy McAreavey, met at Thanks-A-Latte in Dell Rapids, S.D. Jeff Schwebach, a financial planner, spoke to the group about Medica plan comparisons, the benefits of contributing to Real Estate Investment Trusts, and a whole life insurance option from GBU Financial Life. Following his presentation, Mr. Schwebach accommodated the group by answering questions and providing additional information regarding financial planning options.



PIERRE AREA

PARTA's meeting on September 24th was supposed to be a picnic, but we decided to move it indoors to the United Methodist Church. It was potluck and we had such a wonderful turnout that we had enough good food for an army! We did a few announcements and the officers and some other members performed a skit called "What's in it for Me?" written by Co-president, Judy Rapp. The skit basically told what PARTA is all about, with some humor included.

On October 22nd we met in the SDHSAA conference room, with a box lunch catered by a local restaurant, LaMinestra. We had as our guest speaker Dr. Melody Schopp, SD Secretary of Education, who spoke about the Common Core Standards. It was a very informative presentation that dealt with many of the criticisms that we have all heard and read about. She answered several questions afterward. We all felt that it was a very timely and educational program. Following the program and lunch, we had our business meeting. The officers reported on the AARP Volunteer Appreciation Day workshop that we attended last week.

Co-president, Judy Rapp

WATERTOWN AREA



It's a small world...at least it was for the Watertown Area Retired Teachers' Association at their October meeting. Where else can you have breakfast with a great group of friends at the Watertown Elk's Club at 8:30 in the morning and be in Zambia at 9:15? Donning their pith helmets and girding themselves against tsetse flies, the 55 adventurers reveled in the unusual gait of the giraffe, learned that elephants secrete when stressed, learned more types of antelope than they probably cared to (some were gnu to them!), learned about the symbiosis between the hippo and the ox pecker, found several zebras (pronounced zeh bra--after all, it's spelled like Debra!) and experienced lions up close and personal. Likewise, they were introduced to the privacy factor of the latrine tent while camping (take the spade in with you as you "go"), and how to shower in the dark! An unforgettable experience for the tale tellers, and a fun trip for all!



PHILIP

A Special Thank You to all SDRTA and others who contributed to the Moore, Oklahoma Elementary Teachers. We sent \$1050 which was very much appreciated!!

Our latest Project is the Philip Cemetery Lot Identification Upgrade. Our Goal is \$10,000 and Don Haynes, Modern Woodman Insurance donated \$500. Other donations are being received.



YANKTON AREA

The YARTA members have met the first Thursday of September, October, and November. Several new members have joined and attendance has been excellent. Our programs have been: Dr. Wayne Kindle, the new Superintendent of Schools for the Yankton School District; Stacy Starzl, the Executive Director of the Yankton Area Big Friend/Little Friend organization; and several music students from the Gayville-Volin High School.

Our members continue to provide many hours of community service in a variety of settings and the group did our annual packing for the Snack Pack program. The organization now takes a winter break and will renew their meetings for the first Thursday's of March, April, and May.

**“If you have knowledge, let
others light their candles at it”
- Margaret Fuller -**

BLACK HILLS - RAPID CITY AREA

Black Hills Retired Teachers kicked off the new year in August with our annual picnic at Old Storybook Island with approximately 70 members present. Newly retired teachers and new members were welcomed.

Dixie Serr, Program Chair, has once again planned wonderful programs for the year. In September we heard from Dana Kissier with the Down Country Roads magazine. At our October meeting we were to have Lynn Barber speak on Birds of the World. However, due to the snowstorm this was canceled. November we will hear from Monica Leitheiser speaking on Feeding America Backpacks program. Our Christmas Brunch will again be at Arrowhead Country Club where we will also collect children's books to donate to -----

Emilie Zacher and four members organized a Bunco party to help raise money for the Scholarship fund. A wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by 20 members. In

August we also had several members who helped with the children's activities at the Thursday Night's on Main Street Square. The money raised from this was also donated to the Scholarship fund.

In September we had a school supply drive for Jackie Swanson, who is now working with a school in the Sudan. Our food drive in October collected 155# of food which was donated to Church Response. Fabric/monetary donations will be collected in November for the Quilts of Valor project.

Seven members participated in Volunteer Day on September 11, at the Suzie Cappa Center and the Dear Ones DayCare at the Mission. Cleaning, reading to the children and helping with homework were some of the services performed.

We continue to work on growing membership, and maintaining our website.

WINNER AREA

With the help of volunteers from the Winner Area Correctional Facility we laid patio blocks and set the new steel ramp at the Dorian School at the Tripp County Historical Museum site this last summer. The restoration and repair of this rural school is our main project. Over the recent few years we have put on a new roof, replaced the front door, purchased storm windows to protect the 6 large windows of the main classroom, paint the interior, and purchase new window shades.

We kicked off our year in September with Jake Fisher of the Shwier Law Firm with a thought provoking and informative presentation on estate planning. He discussed the important points of which we needed to be aware and documents we need to have in place to protect our interests and assets.

At our October meeting, we enjoyed an interesting and enlightening presentation by Kim Nordsiden, a massage therapist, who is owner of the "Right Touch". She did some demonstration and provided us with self-help exercises. She also discussed the benefits and some techniques of Reflexology, Tai Chi, and Acupuncture.

Our unit meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 11:00 a.m. at the Senior Citizen Center for our business meeting, program, and lunch.

By Jo Haffield, President



MILBANK

Off and Running – September 19th – Our speakers [Boy & Girl State] were a no show, but rescheduled for October 17th, along with Mr. Jim Gesswein and Mrs. Natalie Gauer speaking on our new hospital project. [Food Drive also]

We celebrated September through Febuary birthdays on October 28th at the Bird Feeder in Twin Brooks, SD with the theme "Re-Living the 60's!" Many members came dressed in 1960's costumes. We had fun, took photos, and of course good food as always

- Costumes Quiz on Members Birthdays/Baby Boomer Quiz
- Noon meal of soup/sandwiches/dessert
- Carol Kilde gave each member a caramel apple.
- Door prizes were given out.

We extend a "warm welcome" to a new member this year – Mrs. Loretta Cantine!

Welcome aboard, Loretta. Welcome to ALL our faithful members.

Thanks to AARP for the wonderful time Oct. 15-16th at the Volunteer Appreciation Event held in Pierre, SD. You are loved [BZ] and appreciated!

SOUTHEAST AREA (VERMILLION)

In September, we started our year with a return visit from the International Gourd Carving Champion, Bill Bruns. He explained his craft and displayed amazing pieces of his art. After the meeting, a gourd flower making class was offered, and many members went home with a unique flower.

For our October meeting, First Dakota Bank gave an informative



Photo: back row L-R: George Smith, Barb Thompson, Mary Scott, Cliff Vitters, Sandy Vitters, Betty Jo White,

Front: L-R: Agnes Grabow, Donna Larson, Carmel Tobin, Mae Saeger, Ken Saeger [Shirley Schmidt present, but missing in photo!]

Looking ahead:

Nov 21 - Mr. Brandon Peery [National Guard] speaking on Military Families & Care Giving

Dec 19- Stephanie Bagaus [ICAP/ Food Pantry] speaking on Families/ People in Need

MARTA meets every 3rd Thursday @ Pizza Ranch 11 am- noon meal-meeting

Cliff Vitters, George Smith

presentation on the hot topic of Identity Theft. We had an interesting discussion with many questions.

Our last meeting of 2013 is November. Ruth Scott, a physical therapist, will discuss arthritis, a topic that is of high interest to most.

We will take time to enjoy the holidays and begin our new year in February.

Mary Ulrich, President

BLACK HILLS



Shown in the picture are some of the Black Hills Retired Teacher volunteers who taught at the Keystone Living History School in May. They were thanked and honored with lunch by the Keystone Historical Society in September. Left to right: Rosella Beaumont, Diana Glover, Rosalie Adams, Jeannette Keck, Becky Fisher, Sandi McLain, Gail Giffin, Patty Smystel and Bonita Ley. Sandy and Patty are members of the historical society. Bonita chairs this community service project for the Black Hills Retired Teachers. Eighteen members volunteered this past year, and 988 visitors attended.



BHRT members enjoying the picnic at Old Storybook Island in August



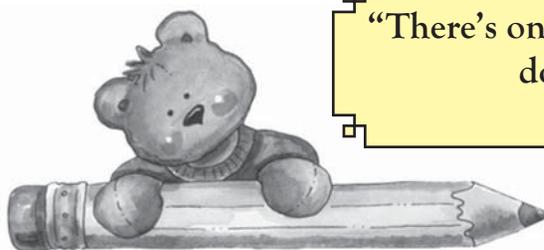
BHRTA members who enjoyed the Bunco party to raise money for scholarship.

The object of the South Dakota Retired Teachers Association is:

- * to promote the social, economic and professional welfare of retired teachers of the state

- * to maintain affiliation with the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA) Division of AARP and to cooperate with it by promoting membership, legislation, national programs and projects of NRTA

- * to help retired teachers maintain identity with the teaching profession and to promote improvements in education



“There’s one thing that I’ve always wanted to do before I quit: Retire.”

Groucho Marx



Join Today!

Yes, I want to join the South Dakota Retired Teachers Association

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I would like to receive the online newsletter

Send this form and \$15 (annual state dues) to:
Gloria Riherd
3945 Corral Dr.
Rapid City, SD 57702

Newsletter

South Dakota Retired Teachers Association
Cathy Zubke, Membership Chair
417 North Broadway
Watertown, SD 57201

www.sdrta.net

PRSR-STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PIERRE, SD
PERMIT #35

Check Membership Addresses!

It is important for all unit officers to check with each member for their correct address. Not having correct addresses costs the organization a great deal of money. Send all address changes, as well as names and dates of deaths, to

Bill and Cathy Zubke, 417 North Broadway, Watertown, SD 57201.

Phone: 605-886-8637 • Email address: calz45@hotmail.com

Unit Presidents (or Contact), Addresses, Phone Numbers, Email Addresses

ABERDEEN AREA

Ron Johnson,
Contact Person
1710 Royal Road
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-225-7968
ronjohnson15@abe.midco.net

BLACK HILLS (RAPID CITY AREA)

Gerri Larson
2515 Junction
Rapid City, SD 57702
605-721-4550
rlarmart@hotmail.com

BROOKINGS

Clark Hanson
811 7th Ave.
Brookings, SD 57006-1309
605-692-6698 (H)
605-691-5711 (C)
clhanson@brookings.net

HURON AREA

Sharon Jones
1524 Ohio SW
Huron, SD 57350
605-352-6638
bsjones@hur.midco.net

MADISON

Elaine Brown
101 Spring Meadow Dr. #4
Dell Rapids, SD 57022
605-351-5492
elbro@goldenwest.net

MILBANK AREA

Co-Presidents:
George Smith
707 S. 5th St.
Milbank, SD 57252
605-432-6851
glsmith@midco.net

Cliff Vitters
515 S. 3rd St.
Milbank, SD 57252
605-432-4982
vjmkng@wat.midco.net

MITCHELL AREA

NORTHERN HILLS

Co-Presidents:
Joanna Jones
10559 W Hwy 14
Spearfish, SD 57783
605-450-0121
joanna_jones@yahoo.com

Gwenn Vallery
12293 Vallery Rd.
Nisland, SD 57762
605-257-2264

OAHE (MOBRIDGE)

Lowell Looyenga
1322 Kennedy Drive
Mobridge, SD 57601
605-845-2040
lllooyenga@hotmail.com

PHILIP AREA

Marcia West
Box 430
Philip, SD 57567
605-859-2213
cmmwest@gwtc.net

PIERRE AREA

Co-Presidents:
Judy Rapp
1900 Flag Mt. Dr
Pierre, SD 57501
605-494-0278
rappjudy6@gmail.com

Carol Pickering
1817 Bristol Pl
Pierre, SD 57501
605-224-9135
pickjuly@aol.com

REDFIELD AREA

Co-Presidents:
Arle Rodman
926 E. 2nd St.
Redfield, SD 57469
605-472-0553
arlier@abe.midco.net

Jerold Bender
925 E. 7th Ave.
Redfield, SD 57469
605-472-0225
jbender5@abe.midco.net

SIOUX FALLS

Cathy Anderson
925 S. 4th Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-338-7053
cander451@msn.com

SOUTHEAST AREA (VERMILLION)

Mary Ulrich
922 Crestview Dr.
Vermillion, SD 57069
605-624-8434
rulrich@vyn.midco.net

WATERTOWN

Bill & Cathy Zubke
417 N. Broadway
Watertown, SD 57201
605-886-8637
ezbzspeak@hotmail.com
calz45@hotmail.com

WINNER AREA

Jo Haffield
P.O. Box 133
Winner, SD 57580
605-842-2079
haffield@gwtc.net

YANKTON AREA

Gene Bormann
104 S. Finottie POB 68
Mission Hill, SD 57046
605-660-4594
gbormann@svtv.com