

# After School...

## The Newsletter of Minneapolis Retired Teachers Inc.

### Website

[www.mrti.org](http://www.mrti.org)

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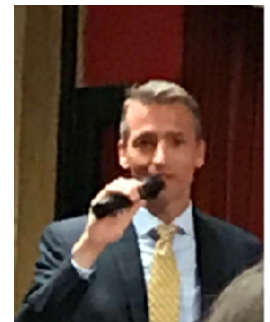
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# Welcome New Retirees!



On Tuesday, September 18, MRTI members welcomed a new group of Minneapolis Public School teachers to the wonderful world of retirement. Offering words of congratulation and thanks for their service, Superintendent Ed Graff headed the list of special guests, including School Board member, Kim Ellison, representatives from TRA and Committee of 13 members Denny Lander and Ed Andersen.

Not only a celebration of our newly retired colleagues, the September luncheon is also the start of MRTI's schedule of programs, luncheons and special events which culminate in our end-of-the-year field trip in June. Be sure to check out both the "Bill of Fare" and "Programs" columns to see what's planned for your entertainment and



# Facing the Looming Deadline

## Medicare Supplement Plan Medicare Select Plan or Medicare Advantage Plan?

On January 1, 2019, most of us will be covered by a health insurance plan that is different from the ones we have enjoyed in the past. For some, we will be using the same insurance company, but with different coverage plans and premiums. For others, everything will change. For a few, only the premiums will change. Helping individual members decide which coverage to choose has been the on-going task of the Retiree Health Care Coalition, comprised of representatives from MRTI, RTC-59 and the Committee of 13.

If you were unable to attend the August information sessions, there will be two additional sessions held at the MFT headquarters October 8 & 12 from 10:00 AM- 12:00 Noon. To reserve a seat at one of these sessions, please call or email Alan Martinucci -651-335-6499 or [alan.martinucci@yahoo.com](mailto:alan.martinucci@yahoo.com)

You can find additional information about the upcoming health insurance changes at both the Minneapolis Committee of 13 website, [comof13.org](http://comof13.org) and the MRTI website, [mrti.org](http://mrti.org) (click on MEDICARE INFO).



## Bill of Fare

**October** - Chef salad bar; cantaloupe slice with rainbow sherbet

**November** - Vegetarian lasagna with garlic bread; apple crisp

**December** - Fried chicken, potato salad, cole slaw; chocolate pudding

**January** - Soup & sandwich bar - beef barley or tomato basil soup

**As always, a vegetarian option is available;** just let your caller know or contact Gayle Marko. No other options are possible. Phone callers record both names and phone numbers for reservations which will be checked off at the ticket table. No-shows will be billed for the cost of the luncheon.

If you have **NOT** been called by **Monday, a week before the luncheon,** and you wish to attend, please call **Gayle Marko** to make a reservation:  
**952-920-1395.**

- Help fund the efforts to preserve our Pensions! Contribute to the Committee of Thirteen!
- Donations may be sent to:
- Committee of Thirteen
- P.O.Box 1414, Lakeville, MN 55044



# Fall & Winter Program Schedule


October 16 - The Banjo Boys  
4 guys play a variety of music  
on 8 instruments



November 20 - "The Story  
of Bullet Joe Rogan," Hall  
of Fame player & manager of  
Kansas City Monarchs Negro  
National League, presented by  
his grandson, Carl Rogan.



December 18 -

 The Cloudberrries (women's  
chorus) & the American  
Swedish Institute Male  
Chorus combine to bring us music  
to celebrate the holidays.



January 15 - "Our Neighbor,  
the Mississippi River," presented  
by Abbie Moore.



February 19 - University  
of Minnesota Saxophone  
Ensemble directed by  
Dr. Preston Duncan

March 19 - Kiya Edwards,  
on staff at KARE 11,  
presents her story, "Career  
Success of an MPS Grad."



**Mary Lou Knipe**, a long-time MRTI member, is a role model for an active life in retirement. She taught in Minneapolis Public Schools for 34 years, retiring from Wenonah in 2000.

At age 73, Mary Lou suffers from a number of serious health problems including a degenerative spine and scoliosis, which require her to walk with a cane. But that doesn't even slow her down. She practices yoga and has attended daily exercise classes at the YMCA since 2012.



Her smiling face can almost always be seen at our MRTI luncheons, since that is part of Mary Lou's deliberate effort to maintain her engagement with the communities she is part of. Active in her church, Redeemer Lutheran, she helps plan adult programs and she often speaks to other church and community groups about ending domestic violence.



She has received a WCCO Good Neighbor Award and this September she was the Thrive Award winner at the St. Paul Midway YMCA for "demonstrating how to Thrive at every stage of life." Mary Lou is such an inspiration to others that the Y even made a YouTube video about her which you can watch at "MaryLou's Story."

Mary Lou says, "I feel better when I can see others thrive and succeed." With a mentor and role model like Mary Lou, success is all but guaranteed!



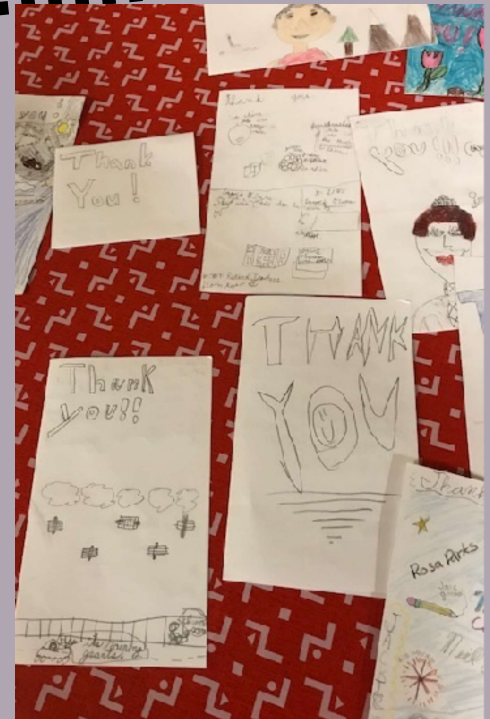
# MRTI Teacher Grants Popular With Teachers & Students

From the beginning, the MRTI program making direct grants to classroom teachers has been extremely popular. Expressions of gratitude have come from both teachers and students. Below are some of the thank you notes made by students in Kelly Piers' class as well as notes received from other teacher - recipients.



The grant was so helpful in funding a classroom workshop from the Minnesota Center for Book Arts (MCBA) in which students learned how to create their own books using a special technique. Students were very excited about the opportunity —it was by far one of my favorite days as a teacher :)  
 I don't have any suggestions, but I am sorry that we were not able to provide photo documentation (for media release reasons) Thank You Again!  
 Laura Henry, Olson Middle

The Osmos have been a huge success at Lake Harriet. Initially, there was a learning curve for me and the students. I originally wanted them for coding but quickly learned that you could do so much more with them. They are in the media center and are used as a choice for when students have completed their assignment. There are often many students crowded around them working together. I use this with all grade levels so about 530 students have an opportunity to use them. They are out on a table with 2 sets of coding, 2 sets of tangrams, 2 sets of word, and 1 set of numbers. As with most technology, the students have guided me as well as me guiding them. I do use the coding for all K-3 students, and it is a very popular choice. The tangram and number programs are usually chosen by our younger students in K-1. Word has really taken off. You can control or create the words the students are trying to make. An example is that during the Olympics, I made a list of Olympic words and events for the students to make. As the year went on, I discovered that if I mark the iPads with different grade levels, I can control the difficulty of the activity. Kindergarteners may be identifying beginning sounds and 1-3 may be word patterns. They can also compete against each other, and this has been popular with the third graders. As you can see, while I was looking for some beginning coding experiences, we received so much more with the Osmos. This would not have been possible without your generosity. Thank you from all your friends at Lake Harriet.  
 - Nancie Delebo, Lake Harriet Lower School



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enjoyment this school year.

This month's luncheon was a delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings - even pumpkin pie for dessert! Then, Elmer Koch, MRTI Program Committee chair, came to the podium to announce that Elvis had been sighted in the building!



Sure enough, a few moments later, The King strode into the room, singing one of his signature songs and bestowing scarves and kisses on the

ladies as he made his way to the stage.

In a very entertaining hour, Elvis (otherwise known as Tony Redmond) shared many of his hits, *Blue Suede Shoes*, *Fools Rush In*, *I Can't Help Falling in Love*, *In the*



*Ghetto*, and *Kentucky Backroads*, to name just a few. In addition, with his wife providing the instrumentation, he covered some famous Neil Diamond songs such as *Cracklin' Rose* and *Sweet Caroline*. What a

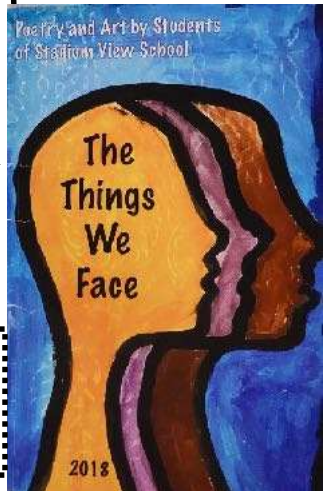
star-studded beginning for the MRTI year!

This grant was great! We got many English learners' dictionaries for our classroom. The students use them every week to do their vocabulary words. Thank you for this gift!  
- Aaron Blum, South




Thank you so much for the grant for the equipment for the portable classroom/learning station. I have been able to group students more mindfully and even have used it to provide PD to teachers. Being able to set up a second learning station has allowed me to play videos for English Language Learners when we are in class and a topic presented is very challenging. My students and I are very grateful!  
Laura Byard, Roosevelt

MRTI grant paid for the publication of this book of student art & poetry.



I really can't thank you enough! The grant has enabled me to purchase stability balls for children to sit on at their desks. I have also been lucky enough to purchase stability discs for when they are on the carpet for lessons. Both of these items help children keep their bodies and minds engaged. They have better focus and great body control. It has benefitted my whole class and I have let other use an extra for challenging student learners.  
- Mary Rice, Hale

**Interested in political activity?**  
**Retired Teachers Council 59 (RTC 59)**  
**Soup, Salad & Substance Luncheons**  
**October 23, November 28, 2018**  
**11:30 am**



# Congratulations, New Retirees !

## A

Mohamed Alabari  
Cheryl Anderson  
Debra Anderson

## B

Heidi Begin  
Patrick Biegert  
Lindsay Blattner  
John Boler  
Elizabeth Bourassa  
Terrance Brezny  
Bettye Brown  
Wendy Brown Kappes

## C

Patricia Campbell  
Joy Chasensky  
Diane Colonga  
Kathryn Cook  
Linda Cummings

## D

Sandra Daly  
Melissa Davis  
Tyrone Dombeck  
Susan Donkers  
Mark Downing  
Jacqueline Drolet

## E

Jill Emanuel  
Mary Eme Austin  
Lorie Enblom

## F

Paul Flaming  
Rebecca Foster  
Debra Francisco Ferrell  
Charles Fullerton Jr

## G

Sharon Gabriel  
William Garner  
Roderick Gordon  
Jane Grangaard

## H

Marcie Haigh  
Kristine Halverson  
Diane Hanson  
Leeanna Hanson  
Laurie Hanzal

Cathy Hardy Lemon  
Karen Hayden  
Mary Hill  
Sandra Hillyer  
Nancy Hinz  
Feta Holder  
Steven Holm  
Lori Holmgren  
Kim Hotchkiss

## J

Marilyn Jacobson  
Sandra Jernberg  
Diane Jorde  
Tamra Jurgens

## K

Christine Kocinski  
Lynn Korngable  
Patricia Kremer  
Rebecca Kristofitz  
Andrea Kuenning

## L

Julia Larson  
Marion Louck  
Patricia Lovgren  
Lorelei Lussier

## M

Gino Marchetti  
Monica McCormick  
Mary McDowall  
Jay McGowan  
Michael Meyers  
Sandra Miles  
Sandra Moir

## N

Jill Nelson  
Rise Nybakke

## P

Martha Pederson  
Nick Pederson  
Deborah Peterson  
Kathryn Peterson  
Richard Peterson  
Anne Plante  
Kristina Priessler  
David Prunty

Marcine Purinton

## R

Rhonda Rademacher  
Michael Ramlet  
Jacqueline Raye  
Janet Reichert  
Linda Reiner  
Debra Reinholdz  
Jeffrey Ricks  
Mary Roffers  
Andrea Roth  
John Rozeboom

## S

Jane Schwab  
Leonard Sedlock  
Susan Shuff  
Bradley Sidle  
Maria Singh  
Katharine Skibbe  
Dianne Skoy  
Linda Smith Kiewel  
Roberta Smith  
Barbara Stevens  
Carman Stoner

## T

Charlene Thomasson  
Rebecca Till  
Joan Toohey  
Carolyn Townsend  
Susan Tuck  
Julie Tyler

## U - V - W

Mark Usem Ellen  
Valleroy  
Xiong Vang  
Rhonda Vopava Geyette  
Jayne Waller  
Karen Ward  
Elizabeth Wariboko  
Barbara Wasmoen  
Linda Weinmeyer

## Y

Debrann Young  
Lyle Young

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# The MRTI Board



**Front row, left to right:** Denny Lander, Elmer Koch, Gregory McDaniels, Gayle Marko, Barbara Kuenne, Ed Andersen, Sylvia Farrells

**Second row:** Roma Lee Rasmussen, Patience Gall, Chris Poppe, Bob Ryder, Mitch Trockman, Joanne Lambrecht, Mary Poulson, Jan Wahl, Becky Grover, Grace Jagers

**Back row:** Larry Risser, Dave Rolek

\$

**Have you renewed your MRTI membership for 2019?  
It's not too late!**

Your \$25 dues will provide you with:

- the 2019 Yearbook
- the MRTI Newsletter - 3 times each year
- the opportunity to share our monthly luncheons, excellent programs and special events
- access to our MRTI website
- the chance to stay connected to our wonderful profession, reconnect with colleagues and make new friends.

Mail your check to:

MRTI

P.O. Box 24034 Minneapolis, MN

55424-0034

\$

## Did You Know...

MRTI contributes to many programs that support Minneapolis children? Your dues support annual contributions to:

- The Assistance League
- Mary's Place
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Minneapolis
- Jeremiah Program
- Harriet Tubman Center
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Twin Cities
- St. Joseph's Home for Children
- People Serving People
- Minneapolis Recreation Development

###

**If you have moved within the past year, you should probably contact TRA ([info@MinnesotaTRA.org](mailto:info@MinnesotaTRA.org) or 800-657-3669) to give them your new address, insuring that you get your MRTI membership materials in a timely manner.**



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MRTI Newsletter October 2018  
Chris Poppe, editor

Articles, opinion essays and  
comments are welcome and  
should be directed to:

Chris Poppe

3851 Queen Ave. N  
Minneapolis, MN 55412  
[chpop001@gmail.com](mailto:chpop001@gmail.com)

### **Our meeting location**

Eagles Club #34 American Legion  
(On the corner of E. 25th St. & 25th Ave. S)  
2507 E. 25th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55406

