

After School...

The Newsletter of Minneapolis Retired Teachers Inc.

Website

www.mrti.org

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Membership Chair -

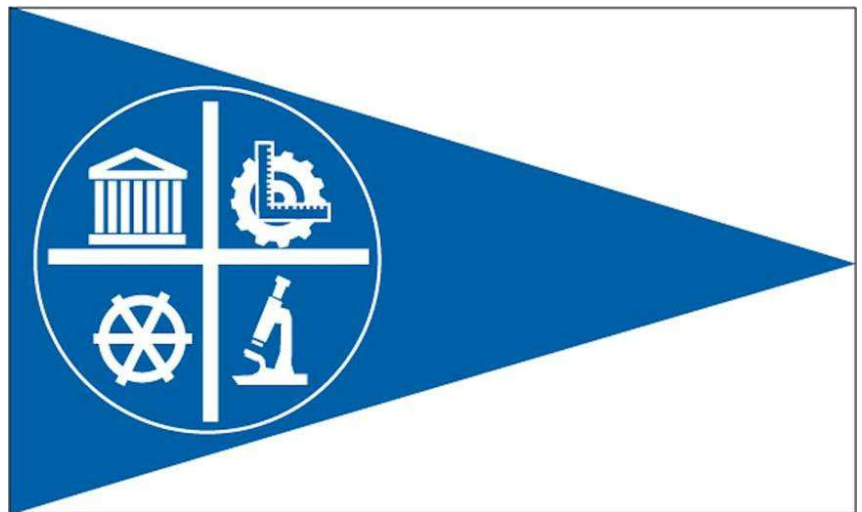
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dlander222@gmail.com

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To start the New Year off Right....

THE TEACHERS' FAVORITE - A POP QUIZ!



1. This is the official flag of:
 - a. Mayo Clinic
 - b. Control Data
 - c. The city of Minneapolis
2. The four symbols stand for:
 - a. US Bank, Lock and dam #1, the Masons, the FBI
 - b. Education and the arts, labor and industry, lake and river navigation, research and progress
 - c. Architecture, road repairs, the Jonathan Paddleford, mosquito control
3. The flag was designed by:
 - a. A committee of legislators
 - b. a high school student
 - c. a hired consultant
4. The flag was adopted on:
 - a. May 27, 1955
 - b. April 12, 1922
 - c. last week

Bonus question: Name the flag's designer

Answers on page 4

Meet our new President

Welcome to 2024!! It's amazing how time flies so quickly. It was fourteen years ago that I was elected President of MRTI the first time, and it's already twenty-two or so years since I joined MRTI as a newly retired teacher!



Becky Grover

Upon joining MRTI, I was pleasantly surprised that some of the MRTI members were teachers from my high school years at Marshall High School in Dinkytown, near the U of M. My second grade teacher was also a member. Full circle!! Indeed, there are five current MRTI Board members who are MPS graduates. We represent South High, Washburn, Edison, North High, and Marshall. Filling out the roster are fifteen others who are a joy to work with as we keep our organization current.

Other things that keep me busy are a part-time job at my church, working with the elementary faith formation program, the daily cryptoquip and crossword puzzle in the newspaper, all things that go with owning a home and cabin and enjoying friends. Most dear to me are my "bonus" family of daughter and son in-law and the dearest of dear two and four-year olds. I am truly blessed!

Please keep me posted with your ideas to help MRTI stay relevant and vibrant. Thank you.

Becky

Visit the MRTI Website

One of the services for MRTI members is our website:

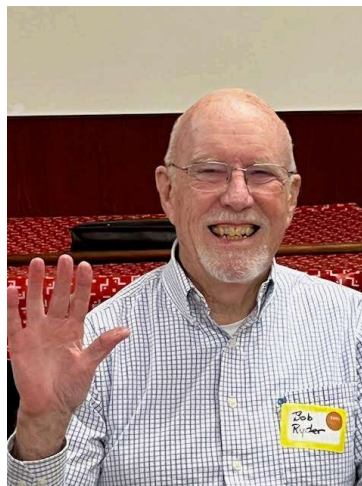
www.mrti.org

Check it out for information on our luncheon programs, the grant and scholarship programs, Committee of 13 updates, lists of Board Members, Limited Medical Assistance Fund, lists of deceased members and more.

Use this resource...it's for you!



SPOTLIGHT ON BOB RYDER



When Bob Ryder agreed to serve as MRTI Treasurer, in 2010, he brought with him a life-time of knowledge about Minneapolis and Minneapolis Public Schools. Born in Minneapolis and educated at Lyndale, Jefferson (now Ella Baker Global Studies and Humanities School)

and West High School, after earning degrees in Elementary Ed (U of M) and a Masters from Mankato, Bob's teaching career began at Burroughs. He stayed there for 17 years, teaching 6th grade beside another MRTI luminary, Denny Lander. Together, after retirement, they carried out a testing program for Minneapolis 8th graders, by which students could "test out" of 9th grade Science and go straight into Biology.

Bob met his wife, Karen, another proud MPS graduate who was currently working for the StarTribune, at the Palm



Ballroom in *Bob and Karen* 1962. They married in 1964 and added twins Chris and Carrie to their family in 1966. Upon hearing of a colleague's vacation with Mopeds, Bob immediately went home to pitch the idea to Karen. Much to his surprise, she enthusiastically agreed that Bob should get one, too. Thus began a love affair with the open road that lasted for 40 years. With a group of 4-6 fellow teachers, Bob and his motorcycle traveled from one end of the US to the other – frequently joined en route by their wives, who had flown out to share the adventure. When the other "bikers" in Bob's group

Bill of Fare

January 16 - Chili in a bread bowl, Frito scoop chips, cole slaw; marble cake for dessert

February 20 - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, corn, cherry cheese - cake for dessert

March 19 - Corned beef & cabbage, boiled potatoes, carrots, mint frosted brownies for dessert

April 16 - Taco bar with "fixings," mixed fruit bowl for dessert

May 21 - Sloppy joes, chips, potato salad, strawberry shortcake for dessert

The dining room opens at 11:30

A vegetarian option is available; include the request when making your reservation. No other options are possible.

The lunch price is \$22.00, which includes the lunch, tax, tip and the program. We happily accept cash or checks.

Phone callers record both names and phone numbers for reservations, which will be checked off at the ticket table. Should you need to cancel your reservation, call **Gayle Marko** by the Sunday prior to the meeting or be billed for your non-attendance.

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.

If you make your reservations by email with JanWahl, please do not make one with a caller.

Any questions or concerns, please call Gayle at 952-920-1395.

See you for lunch!

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
- People Serving People
- Minneapolis Recreation Development

This month's MRTI Luncheon email reservations will come to you from the following address:

Janwahl @comcast.net

If you requested an email contact for lunch but did not receive one, please do the following BEFORE January 8:

1. Check your spam folder
2. Send an email to the above address
3. Call Gayle Marco at 952-920-1395 to reserve a spot at the upcoming luncheon.

Interested in political activity?

**Retired Teachers Council 59
(RTC 59)**

"Gathering, Learning and Action"
**Jan. 23,* Feb. 27*, Mar. 26*, Apr. 23,
May 28 or 29**

**Meetings will be at the Local 59 office
67 8th Avenue NE. 10 AM
Watch for notices in your email**

*** Zoom meeting**

Winter - Spring Program Schedule



January 16, 2024
Estate Planning:
Trusts & Wills -
Matt Guttman, presenter



February 20, 2024
Music by Debbie
Bigelow



March 19, 2024
Green Fire Dancers
Lively Irish St. Patrick's
Day Celebration



April 16, 2024
Bango!
Play games &
win cash prizes



May 21, 2024
South High guitar
ensemble
Jonatan Edington,
director

June Field Trip -TBA

ELECTION RESULTS

Elected to a 2 year term
President - Becky Grover
President-Elect - Janet Kujat

Elected for a first term
Asst. Corresponding Secretary
Deb Smith

Re-elected for 3rd term
Asst. Recording Secretary
Joanne Lambrecht
Corresponding Secretary
Dave Rolek

Directors at Large
Mitch Trockman
Lorraine Spies
Diane Penn

Flag quiz answers:

1. C- the city of Minneapolis
2. B - education and the arts, labor and industry, our lakes and rivers and all activities connected with them, A microscope symbolizing research, skilled craftsmanship and progress.
3. B - a high school student
4. A - May 27, 1955



Here she is in 1955. Do you recognize her? Turn to page 7 for a more recent picture of her.

MEMBERS' DONATIONS SUPPORT OUR ACTIVE COLLEAGUES

As of November, 2023, the following 146 contributors gave \$9257.00 to the MRTI Scholarship and Grant fund in support of active classroom teachers and staff.

If you made a donation but your name does not appear on this list, please contact Sylvia Farrells at angelseyf@gmail.com

A

Edwin Andersen,
Jeanette Andersen, Karen M.
Anderson, Patricia Arnold
Linda Balko, Anne Bartel

B

Aroti Bayman, Scott Bean,
Grace Belsaas, Janet Blume,
Annamary Boler, Margaret
Bostelmann, Cynthia Brown,
Eleanor Brown, Sharon
Buckner, Susan Bunnell

C

Kathy Cahill, Rosemary
Calvin, Kathleen Cameron,
Andrea Canter, Darryl
Carter, Karen Coppicus,
Barbara Covart, Carole
Cranbrook, Cheryl Creecy
Awobamise, Donna Lee
Crewe, Jackie Cronin

D

Carol Johnson Dean, Dennis
and Ellen Debe, Anne
DeMuth, Vicki Devoss,
Joan Dillon, Larry Disher,
Claire Dryke, David Dudycha

E

Karen Erickson, Kristi
Erickson, Pamela Evangelist

F

James and Sylvia Farrells,
Carol Freeman, Geri Fridgen,
Richard Friedrichsen

G

Mary Ellen Gallick,

Warren Gerecke, Barbara Glas,
Renata Goepfrich,
Carole Gupton

H

Bruce Hansen, Janet
Heidinger, Leslie Held,
Barbara Hendrickson, Dale
and Lynne Hendrickson, Judy
Hoel, William Holden,
Sandra Hoverson, Maxine
Hughes, Ron Hustvedt

J

James Jacobsen, Grace Jaggers,
James Johnson, Jean Johnstad

K

Susan Kalin, Ruth Katz, Shirley
Keating, Cynthia Kelly, Elmer
Koch, Camille Kohner, Jean
Krause, Barbara Kuenne,
Janet Kujat

L

Joanne Lambrecht, Javan
Larson, Carol Lauder, Darwin
Lee, Mary Leoni, Dan and
Marsha Loewenson,
Larry Lorenz, Margaret
Lubozynski, Corinne Lundgren

M

Arthur Maillet, Gayle Marko,
Virginia May, Patricia McCauley,
Michael McClure, Kay McLean,
Carole Mitchell, Addy Murtaugh

N - O

Paula Nelson, Richard Nohel,
Jon Nordstrom, Sally Novotny

Elaine Olson, John O'Reilly,
Joanne Ortendahl-Lucas

P

Beverly Paterson, De Nise
Pellinen, Diane Penn, Marjorie
Penner, Judith Peters, Roberta
Peterson, Pixie Pixler,
Barbara Pogoler, Judy Popham,
Christine Poppe, Shirley Purvis

R

Roma Lee Rasmussen,
Thue(Uttara) Rasmussen,
Margaret Reed, Arnie Rehmann,
Karl Reinhard, Karen Reisch,
Corinne Retzlaff, Larry Risser,
Barbara Roach, Rosalind
Robbins, Katherine Roberts,
Ilene Rohner-Guttenfelder,
David Rolek, Bonnie Rowell,
Kathleen Runchey, Robert Ryder

S

M.J. (Maria) Saviano, Anne
Scheible, George Schell,
Stephen Schmid, Pam Schreurs,
Diane Stephens,
Rebecca Strandlund

T - U - V - W

Joan Threet, Lori Tierney,
Bruce Turnbaugh, Janet Ulvin,
David Vos, Jan Wahl,
Sandra Westby, Jo Anne Wilson,
Roger Wold, Donise Wright

Y - Z

Joan Yesner
Doris Zachary, Patricia Zajac,
Deb Zwickey

were no longer riding, his son, Chris, acquired a motorcycle and the two of them took several trips together. (Readers may remember Bob's reports of their visits to "Lost towns" in Minnesota and their visit to the Spam Museum in Austin, Minnesota!)



Chris, Bob & Carrie

In addition to his teaching career, which took him from Boroughs to Lyndale and then to Dowling, Bob's love of sports kept him busy playing softball, golf, tennis, volleyball and skiing (downhill and cross country) and umpiring adult softball games for 30 years. After he retired from MPS, he drove a bus for Edina Public Schools part-time for 21 years, taking students on field trips and to athletic competitions.

Inheriting his parents' love of music (his father played violin in the Washburn High School orchestra and his mother sang with the *Debutants* and the *Lyndale Mothersingers*), Bob took up the guitar, even playing in a rock band. Chris followed his father down that path, playing bass guitar in a rock band which still plays occasional gigs around town.

When Bob took on the Treasurer's position for MRTI, it was combined with the Membership position, but recognizing that neither job could be done effectively when combined, he and Denny convinced the other Board members to split the position, Denny taking the Membership chair.

For 13 years, Bob handled the day-to-day money issues of MRTI – paying bills for lunch service, program costs, charitable contributions, paying salaries and working with our CPA firm to handle tax issues, while serving on both the Grants and Budget committees.

If you're concerned that such an active guy might find himself bored without all of the responsibilities of Board membership, don't worry. Bob & Karen's son, Chris, has produced two daughters, Ella and Anna, and their daughter, Carrie, has continued the family twinning tradition with twin boys, Jonah and Josh. All of the (now adult) children and grandchildren live in the Twin Cities, so keeping up with them, and keeping his library of 47 photo albums up to date should keep Bob and Karen busy for a long time to come. And, of course, Bob will be a frequent attendee at our monthly MRTI luncheons.

Thanks for everything, Bob!



Happy Holidays from the Ryder Family!

(Left to right) Gary, Carrie, Bob, Karen Josh, Jonah, Ella, Chris, Anna

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612-718-7218
janwahl@comcast.net

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Past President - Roma Lee
Rasmussen- 612-861-6654
rl.rasmussen@comcast.net

Barbara Kuenne
763-542-9890
BGKWOW1@gmail.com

Lunch Coordinator- Gayle Marko
952-920-1395

Newsletter - Chris Poppe
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chpop001@gmail.com

Program Chair - Elmer Koch
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EandJKoch@comcast.net

Advisor to the Board -
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952-888-7321
EandJKoch@comcast.net

Directors at Large:

Diane Penn - 651-332-4675
penndiane@hotmail.com

Mitchell Trockman - 763-545-7500
mitch.trockman@comcast.net

Lorraine Spies - 812-345-4997
lcspies323@yahoo.com



Grant Committee News

Contributions to the Scholarship and Grant committees are playing an important part in the \$10,780.00 that the Grant Committee awarded Minneapolis classroom teachers this fall. In response to applications from teachers across the city, the committee was able to support a broad range of teacher requests.

Among the awards made were a washing machine for the culinary arts program at Roosevelt, costumes for performing arts, books, yoga flash cards, scholarship funds for an Eagle Bluff overnight field trip, planter boxes, art materials, bug identification and capture tools, welding equipment, music scores and much more.

MRTI's goal with teacher grants is to enrich student learning through materials and experiences that the school district does not fund. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Larry Risser
Grant Committee Chair

651-296-2409

Limited Medical Assistance Fund (LMAF)

(administered by the Teachers Retirement Association)



Overview

The Limited Medical Assistance Fund (LMAF) was established in the 1930s through a bequest of a retired Minneapolis teacher.

A trust was established to reimburse certain medical costs of retired Minneapolis teachers, and is administered by the Teachers Retirement Association.

To qualify for reimbursement, a retiree must have been a Minneapolis Special School District #1 teacher.

Reimbursements

Eligible retirees may request reimbursement for:

- Allowable medical expenses
- Health insurance premiums (when funds permit)

Medical Expenses

Allowable medical expenses, if these expenses are not covered by Medicare or any other form of insurance, include:

- inpatient or outpatient procedures performed at hospitals, clinics or surgery centers; and
- licensed nursing care or prosthetic devices.

Expenses that are not eligible include: dental care, nursing home care, medication, therapy, glasses, out-patient services, non-medical items.

Reimbursements are reviewed and

How To Apply

Call TRA to request information. If expenses are determined to be eligible, an application will be mailed to you. Complete and return the application to TRA, along with expense receipts.

Health Insurance Premium Expenses

(when funds permit)

To be eligible for health insurance premium reimbursement, a retiree must meet all of the following criteria:

- be age 65 or older;
- have retired after May 1, 1974, but before July 1, 1999; and
- not be eligible for free Medicare Part A coverage.

Reimbursements are reviewed and disbursements made twice a year.

Contact Us

Teachers Retirement Association 60
Empire Drive, Suite 400
St. Paul, MN 55103-4000

651.296.2409 or 800.657.3669
651.297.5999 (FAX)



Here she is! The designer of the Minneapolis city flag is our very own Louise Sundin.

MRTI Newsletter January 2024
Chris Poppe, editor

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

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

Chris Poppe

3851 Queen Ave. N
Minneapolis, MN 55412
chpop001@gmail.com



Plenty of Free parking

Minneapolis Retired Teachers, Inc.
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Minneapolis, MN 55424-0034