



Reimbursement of expenses for Annual Council

Guidelines of Annual Council

The Annual Council will be held September 8-9 at Days Inn in Flatwoods.

You are responsible for making your reservations at 304-765-5055. Tell them that you are with WVARSE.

County Presidents and Delegates expenses should be paid by each county.

Committee meetings, with prior approval of the WVARSE President, held before Annual Council will have expenses paid until the Annual Council convenes.

WVARSE is:

Working for you
Voicing your needs
Advancing your
benefits
Reporting your
legislative news
Serving your
community
Expressing your
concerns

New life memberships bring rebates

In an age of rebates and refunds, WVARSE is offering this year a new incentive to obtain and retain membership. County units will receive a \$5 reimbursement for each new state life membership sent to Membership Clerk Joann Beer between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005.

For example, if a county unit obtains 10 new

life members, that county will receive \$50 from WVARSE.

This is the only incentive for the current year, according to Membership Chairman Loretta Thompson.

"We believe life memberships will give our organization a stronger base and are a reflection of pride and support in our

organization," Thompson added.

At the present time, almost 2,000 retired school employees hold life memberships.

A one-time fee of only \$100 gives a member life membership status and frees the member of paying yearly state dues of \$7.50. Only county dues are collected from life

members.

"We need to remind and inform retirees of this opportunity to pay state dues only once. Many find it a bargain and are eager to become life members. More than one-half of the Cabell, Hardy, Putnam, Webster and Wyoming County members are life members," Thompson concluded.

Dates to remember

Executive Committee Meeting — Tuesday, Sept. 7, 1 p.m.

Annual Council — Wednesday-Thursday, Sept. 8-9, 1 p.m.

Focus on Youth pizza party

Members of the Braxton County Retired School Employees met with the youth of Rosedale and their adult counselors, Clark and Dani Ramsey, for a pizza party in June, at the Rosedale Community Center, Rosedale, W. Va.

This special time was an intergenerational activity for BCARSE members and community outreach for the Rosedale Center. One of the important purposes

of the Center is tutoring students of all ages after school. To build more interest in relationships with young people in the community who might benefit from tutoring, the Center has sponsored roller-skating, bowling, a super bowl party and swimming as well as the "school's out" pizza party.

In the fall of 2003 the Center received a grant which was co-sponsored

by the West Virginia Association of Retired School Employees and the AARP/WV state office, with the cooperation and endorsement of the Braxton County Unit.

The Ramsey's conducted an informational tour of the Center, now in its fourth year of tutoring. Some students, who were failing in school, have

See Youth, Page 4

The President's Message

A final message
from our two-
year president



Charles Akers
WVARSE president

This is my final message to you as president of the West Virginia Association of Retired School Employees.

I have enjoyed serving as your president for the past two years. However, I must say that I have had some anxious moments

Thank you for the courtesies you have shown to me as I visited each region of the state. I treasure the friendships developed with so many of you.

We have not attained all the goals we set, but we have made progress. I believe that hiring an executive director and establishing an office for our organization are major steps forward. Also, we gained a retired person on the PEIA Finance Board. This appointment will be helpful to our membership.

We must stay the course to obtain a COLA for our retirees.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving as your president.

Nominating Committee Reports

President Akers has activated the Nominating Committee to prepare a slate for Leadership positions. Offices to be filled and the nominees are: President Elect, Betty Daugherty of Barbour County; Recording Secretary, Gail Ratliff of Greenbrier County; Region II Director, Garry Lynne Shearer of Lewis County; Region IV Director, Donareeta Sebolt of Logan County and Region VI Director, John E. Childs Jr. of Hampshire County (D & B). The unexpired 1-year term in Region I nominee is Connie Watson of Monongalia County. The nominating Committee is Tonia Russell, Sherril Shuman and Joann Beer. Nominations will be received from the floor on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2004.

Officers

President Charles Akers
304-465-1550
19261@earthlink.net

President-elect Roscoe Keeney Jr.
304-346-2036
govc@wv-cis.net

Recording Secretary Wanda Simpkins
304-252-5858
csimpkins@wvds1.net

Treasurer Geraldine Hawkinberry
304-782-1575
Hawkinber3@aol.com

Immediate Past President Nancy Trotter
304-346-3161
Ntrot116@aol.com

Executive Director William G. Milam
304-346-6079
bmilam@kcs.kana.k12.wv.us

From the Executive Director

All the regional meetings were expertly conducted by the dependable regional directors. Attendance and participation was very good. I was privileged to be in attendance and to enjoy the fellowship of the members of Region III, IV and V. Thank you for inviting me.

It has been a pleasure working with our president, Charles Akers, during his term in office. He has done a great job as president and will continue serving the membership during the next two years as past-president.

The membership of the county units has worked hard promoting membership and the WVARSE Legislative goals through their responsive contacts with their legislators and on the petition drive.

Due to legislation passed during the last legislative session, county units can no longer obtain names of retirees from the State Retirement System. The WVARSE

office can help you by providing a list of retirees prior to the fall of 2003. You may make a request either by mail or e-mail to the office and a list will be provided as soon as possible. You are advised to work with your county board of education in your efforts to keep a list of current retirees.

The 2005 legislative session will begin February 9, 2005. Plans for establishing February 17, 2005 as WVARSE day are underway. The Legislative Committee will be recommending that WVARSE support the merging of the two retirement systems back into the Defined Benefit System as one of its goals. This merger offers many advantages to retirees.

The benefits for retirees will not be affected by this merger. It will only serve to enhance the Defined Benefit system. The State will save money by the merger.

By placing new hires into the TRS the employer's



William G. 'Bill' Milam
Executive director

contribution will be reduced from the present 7.5 percent in the TDC to 4.34 percent making a 3.16 percent reduction.

Under the current actuarial assumptions the state will save \$1.8 billion over the next 30 years. Under the low inflation rate assumption the savings during the same time period will be \$75 million. This will also be an advantage to present employees who will have the opportunity to transfer from the TDC in which many have experienced unfavorable re-

turns.

Retirees and active employees in the TRS will benefit from this merger. The Segal Company, when they appeared before the Joint Committee on Pensions and Retirement, made a compelling argument that retirees are in a precarious position. They are in a closed retirement system. This means the newly hired employees are not contributing to TRS. Their money is diverted to TDC, and this has a significant impact on the cash flow of the TRS.

A closed system, particularly one that is under 20 percent funded, is living close to the edge. An open system — one that is accepting new participants — is better able to withstand a downturn in the stock market. A reduction of investment returns in a closed system will have major consequences.

However, an open system, which would be created by the merger, could get a reduction in invest-

ment returns and later make up that difference. This will particularly be true in ten years when a majority of the current active employees in TRS have retired. In short, the merger will make TRS more stable, and that will benefit both retirees and active participants.

The law suit concerning the "Pension Liability Redemption Act" will be heard by the State Supreme Court September 1, 2004. WVARSE had joined WVEA as a party to this suit on the side of the defendants.

Dental insurance will soon be available through AMBA-Guardian. The premium, to be paid by the retiree, will be \$28.56 per month for the retiree and \$54.46 per month for the retiree and spouse.

You will be able to use the dentist of your choice and all waiting periods are waived for members who participate in the initial en-

See Milam, Page 7

WVARSE Annual Council set for Sept. 8-9

The WVARSE Annual Council will convene at the Days Inn in Flatwoods on Sept. 8 and 9.

Registration will be from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. September 8. Region VI will register participants.

The first general session will begin at 1:00 p.m. The speaker for the first session will be the Honorable John Pino, Speaker Pro Tempore of the West Virginia House of Delegates. Delegate Pino is from Fayette County.

The banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m. on September 8.

A Memorial Service will be held at 8:30 a.m. on September 9.

The second general session will convene at 10:00 a.m. September 9. A business meeting will be a part of this session. Officers will be elected for the 2004-2006 years.

Region I will be in charge of the hospitality room.

Please note the conference dates are September 8-9, 2004, Wednesday and Thursday.

The greatest financial threat to retirees

News articles titled "Adult children may have to pay," Long-term care may be the next U.S. crisis," and "Rising costs, economy make Medicaid's future bleak" knock loudly at the door of most people's denial about the future.

All of us know that our health will eventually fail. At that point the probability is that more than half of us will go through the nursing home expense before dying.

Even though they would never say it about their homeowner's insurance, so many say, "I may never need this kind of insurance."

But who wants to think about that and even plan

for it.

Yet, we who have invested our careers in the schools preparing others for their futures have the opportunity to do just that — prepare. Fortunately, we have the UTA long-term care insurance plans endorsed by the Board of WVARSE.

The rates for healthy folks at standard rates are about 20 percent less than most of the other plans available from insurance companies.

Interested in dental insurance? We now have two new choices, one through PEIA (Delta) and one through the WVARSE Board (Guardian).

Details: maximum

annual benefit: Delta \$1000, Guardian \$1500.

Annual deductible: Delta \$50, Guardian \$75.

Preventive services (cleanings, x-rays, etc.) coverage: Delta 100 percent of Maximum Plan, Guardian 100 percent. Basic restorations (fillings, oral surgery): Delta 80 percent of Max. Plan Allowance,

Guardian 80 percent. Periodontist, endodontist, Delta 80 percent of MPA, Guardian 50 percent.

Inlays, crowns, prosthodontic: Delta 50 percent of MPA, Guardian 50 percent. Costs: Delta \$30.25 a month per retiree, Guardian \$28.56 a month per retiree; Delta \$70.25 a

month for retiree and spouse, Guardian \$54.46 a month for retiree and spouse. Save even more (20-30 percent) by using Guardian network. Delta has 470 in-network dentists in West Virginia. Guardian waives the waiting period for periodontist, endodontist, crowns, etc. when a person signs up for the initial enrollment. Enrollment in the Guardian Plan is anticipated to begin sometime in July.

Each of us will receive a notice in the mail when it is available. Additional information is available at AMBA, 1-800-258-7041, ext. 2224.

See Threat, Page 7

West Virginia Association of Retired School Employees

County Presidents 2004-2005

County	Name	Address	Phone	E-Mail
Barbour	William E. Phillips	Route 2, Box 112, Philippi, WV 26416	304 457-2760	
Berkeley	Norma Jean Sherrard	1083 Henshaw Road, Bunker Hill, WV 25413	304 229-5901	
Boone	Larry Snodgrass	P.O. Box 165, Racine, WV 25165	304 837-3020	lesnod@juno.com
Braxton	Carol Merzouk	423 South Parkway, Sutton, WV 26601	304 765-7829	cmerzouk@citynet.net
Brooke	Ruth C. Lewis	2823 Charles Street, Wellsburg, WV 26070	304 737-2314	
Cabell	Carolyn H. Gillispie	1Glencrest Whitaker Hill, Huntington, WV 25701	304 523-8989	
Calhoun	Willadene Poling	P. O. Box 209, Grantsville, WV 26147	304 354-6301	WDPoling@wirefire.com
Clay				
Doddridge	Richard Beck	Route 1, Box 1, New Milton, WV 26411	304 873-1423	rhbeck@hotmail.com
Fayette	Darlene Allen	Rt. 1, Box 431, Oak Hill, WV 25901	304 469-4859	dmallen@citynet.net
Gilmer	Mary Ann Radabaugh	HC 77, Box 7 D1, Glenville, WV 26351	304 462-5675	
Grant	Sherril E. Shuman	HC 33, Box 270, Petersburg, WV 26847	304 257-4361	shuman@hardynet.com
Greenbrier	Danny Gray	Rt. 2, Box 306B, Lewisburg, WV 24901	304 645-2529	dlgray@charter.net
Hampshire	Ruth N. Whiteman	P.O. Box 873, Romney, WV 26757-0873	304 822-3165	CRWI@mountain.net
Hancock	Judith Andrews	RD # 1 Box 420, New Cumberland, WV 26047	304 564-3434	candrews@weir.net
Hardy	Portia Wilkins	3091 Lower Cave Run Road, Mathias, WV 26812	304 897-5152	portia@hardynet.com
Harrison	Mary Ann Ferris	1020 Matthew's Ave., Shinnson, WV 26541	304 592-2061	maferris@msn.com
Jackson	Mary Pat Glover	511 Fitzhugh St., Ravenswood, WV 26164	304 273-2804	
Jefferson	Robert Starkey	Rt. 3, Box 436, Shepherdstown, WV 25443	304 876-2031	
Kanawha	Mary Snow	1454 Fourth Avenue, Charleston, WV 25312	304 342-7422	
Lewis	Elizabeth "Liz" Bradford	10794 US Highway 33 West, Camdem, WV 26338	304 269-4568	Bradfo546@aol.com
Lincoln	Larry M. Wilkerson	P.O. Box 6 Griffithsville, WV 25521	304 524-2362	Wilkreefarm@aol.com
Logan	Donareeta H. Seabolt	404 Ellis Ave., Box 82, Verdunville, WV 25649	304 752-3408	
Marion	Margaret Pantalone	308 Maryland Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554	304 366-4840	
Marshall	Myrtle E. Garten	1705 Third St., Moundsville, WV 26041	304 845-5099	
Mason				
McDowell	Helen M. Kiser	P.O. Box 369, Welch, WV 24801-0369	304 436-4546	
Mercer	Ellen Bolt	7 Clark. EST., Princeton, WV 24750	304 425-7206	
Mineral	Wayne Arnold	Rt. 4, Box 216-B, Keyser, WV 26726	304 788-2874	Warnold1@mindspring.com
Mingo	Ruby Thompson	P.O. Box 4 Gilbert, WV 25621	304 664-3484	
Monongalia	Susanne Lynch	1316 Hornbeck Rd. Morgantown, WV 26508	304 291-0277	Slynch@westco.net
Monroe	Rosa Lee Keeling	Rt. 2 Box 17, Sinks Grove, WV 24976	304 772-3569	
Morgan	Ann Smith	P.O. Box 545 Berkeley Springs, WV 25411	304 258-2824	
Nicholas	Beulah Summers	Rt. 2, Box 870, Summersville, WV 26651	304 872-4514	
Ohio	DeEtta White	423 N Huron Street, Wheeling, WV 26003	304 232-7070	
Pendleton	Iris S. Nelson	P.O. Box 97, Circleville, WV 26804	304 567-2781	irisnelson@spruceknob.net
Pleasants	Jacqueline Carpenter	315 Barkwill St., St. Marys, WV 26170	304 684-7615	
Pocahontas				
Preston	Hazel Durst	HC 82 Box 21, Aurora, WV 26705	304 735-5775	haz_dur@hotmail.com
Putnam	Mrs. Imogene Leadman	Rt. 4 Box 251 Hurricane, WV 25526	304 562-5013	Alimbees@msn.com
Raleigh	Lee Hart	109 Hart St, Beckley, WV 25801	304 253-1494	
Randolph	Faye Maynard	44 Vine St., Elkins, WV 26241	304 636-3229	
Ritchie	Frances E. Wolfe	P.O. Box 57, Smithville, WV 26178	304 643-4053	fewolfe@zoominternet.net
Roane	Sybil Hickman	1993 Penial Road, Gay, WV 25244	304 927-2940	Sybil1993@yahoo.com
Summers	Joy Stone	918 Greenbrier Dr., Hinton, WV 25951	304 466-5780	jgestone@charter.net
Taylor	Arlene Decker	127 Fifth Street, Bridgeport, WV 26330-1511	304 842-4532	aldeed@aol.com
Tucker	Norva Warner	Rt. 2, Box 171, Parsons, WV 26287	304 478-2344	mnwarner@citynet.net
Tyler	Thelma Layfield	P. O. Box 355, Middlebourne, WV 26149	304 758-4674	
Upshur	Judith A. Staubly	701 Lynn Ave., Weston, WV 26452	304 269-5494	Judith@iolinc.net
Wayne	Herb Muncy	Rt. 2, Box 329, Prichard, WV 25555	304 485-5331	herbMu@peoplepc.com
Webster	Paul Cool	Route 3 Guardian Route, Diana, WV 26217	304 847-2529	
Wetzel	Barbara Brasher	320 Pogue Rd., Burton, WV 26562	304 775-5680	Brasher@rcvideo.com
Wirt	Adith C. Spencer	P.O. Box 339, Elizabeth, WV 26143	304 275-6680	adithcs@yahoo.com
Wood	Jenevieve "Jackie" Purkey	5 Ashwood Dr., Vienna, WV 26105	304 295-5703	
Wyoming	Zenith Harless	Box 299, Clear Fork, WV 24822	304 682-4504	

Regional Directors for 2003-2005

Region	Name	Address	Phone	E-Mail
I	Unexpired term to be filled.			
III	Nancy Nutter	267 Maplewood Hgts Dr., Ripley, WV 25271	304 372-5251	nance@wirefire.com
V	Mary Riner	483 Tank Branch Rd., Glen Morgan, WV 25847	304 252-5689	maryriner@charter.net

News from neighboring states

NRTA units in other states have taken firm stands on issues facing retired educators.

MICHIGAN ARSP has issued a RED ALERT to remind members to possible changes in Medicare that could "Eliminate all health care benefits for retiree members who are eligible for Medicare. Members have flooded Congress with letters and petitions. Michigan retirees helped get a governor's veto on a bill that would have eliminated all references to "days of instruction" and substitute "hours of instruction" in public schools.

WISCONSIN WREA sponsored Octoberfest by celebrating with a caravan visiting five cities. Although the meetings were festive, information was exchanged on the goals of the association, pension fund protection, support for education and Medicare. In each location there was drawing for King and Queen.

PENNSYLVANIA Governor Ed Rendell proclaimed a School Retiree Appreciation Day after a poll showed that PASR members gave more than \$151 million in community service to the Commonwealth. This day was a perfect backdrop for National Education Week. The 41st annual state convention, held in Pittsburgh, featured children from the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, presentations of Outstanding Chapter Awards, and addresses from state officials. Pennsylvania ASR sponsors RECREO trips to Bermuda, Alaska and Hawaii.

KANSAS ARSP has strengthened ties with the state Public Employees Coalition assuring the 13th month check (bonus) and support for a permanent COLA, which is threatened by the state's unfunded liability. The combined organizations are pushing for a Cost of Living increase of at least 3% immediately. The state convention was scheduled for June 9-11 in Topeka.

ALABAMA (AREA) members traveled to New Orleans last summer to attend meetings of NEA-R. Alabama retirees are organized in eight regions, with an executive secretary and assistant, and a Membership director.

COLORADO RSEA is proud of its Bernadine Mack Scholarship program, with four scholarships granted on a regional basis and sponsored two scholarship for the Summer Literacy Program CRSEA Legislative committee members met a Lookout Mountain, in Golden, CO, adjourning to enjoy the sights including Buffalo Bill's grave, the buffalo herds, and fun places nearby.

The deadline to submit articles for the fall newsletter is Nov. 15, 2004

Braxton County Unit



Pictured in foreground, from left, are Carma Perrine, Mary Butler, Bayward Butler, and Marjorie and Henry Given, who were pleased to learn of the activities of the Rosedale Center and proud to be associated with their cause.

Youth

From Page 1

gained through tutoring and are now included in their school's honor roll.

The after school program also includes providing food, games and weight training.

The Center has expanded to provide computer education, Internet classes, GED training and lit-

eracy instruction.

In the summer, the Center hosts over 400 people in mission groups who come to work in the community.

They help citizens by splitting firewood, painting houses, fixing windows and doing other repair projects to meet needs the people might have.

The Center also provides space for a food pantry and a State Police substation and has been a positive influence on the community, helping people in so many areas of their lives.

KANAWHA COUNTY UNIT

The Kanawha County Association of Retired School Employees attended their Annual Spring Banquet at the John XXIII Pastoral Center in May.

Ms. Rebecca Cain, President & CEA of the Greater Kanawha Foundation was the speaker.

WVARSE Executive Director, Bill Milam, installed the newly elected officers-President: Mary Snow; Vice President: Darlene Milam; Secretary: Mildred Haley and Treasurer: Erma Pickens. KCARSE was pleased to have Region III Director, Nancy Nutter as a guest.

FAYETTE COUNTY UNIT

The Fayette County Unit was active in community affairs in 2003-2004. Some projects in which they participated were Reverse Boiler Room and cards for "Operation Salute to Service" in cooperation with the AARP/WV.

A driving class was sponsored, members continue to provide tutoring in reading for grades three and four.

WVARSE President, Charles Akers, is also a member of the local service organization, the Plateau Club. The

club, along with the Fayette County Unit collected school supplies, food and personal items to send to our servicemen serving in Iraq.

A reception is being planned for any person who has retired in the last three years. This reception will be held in October.

This will be for fellowship and information explaining membership and benefits of being a member of WVARSE.



Bonnar DeBord and Charles Akers

Hancock County Unit

Hancock County Association of Retired School Employees has been busy this year. Carol Cameron, Carl Patsche, Judith Andrews and Forrestine Wiegmann were delegates to the WVARSE annual meeting in September.

Carl Patsche accepted a certificate for having 51 percent of our possible membership and a Gold Certificate for meeting the objectives set by the state.

Enjoyable and informative programs were presented throughout the year.

School supplies were collected and delivered to Tipton House in



Telephone Committee, Hancock County, from left: Dorothy Herkle, Vay Mitchell, Iris Cuppy-Chairperson, Margaret Holman, and Martha Dingess. Not pictured are: Virginia Geibel, Mary Hillyard, Mildred Assison, Norma Rowland, Eldora Conner, Louise Enrietti, Vivian Gory, Jennie Ralston and Lois Rice.

Weirton. Also, twenty-four members and spouses rang the bell for the Salvation Army in December.

Weather conditions

prevented attendance at the "Day at the Legislature". However, Judith Andrews, Betty Buben, Betty Kraina and Lucy McKitrick met with our

legislators on March 2, 2004 and presented them with our petitions for a COLA signed by over 500 Hancock County citizens.

Two \$250 scholarships were presented to future teachers, Jamie Bernardi from Weir High and Lyndsy Halstead from Oak Glen High.

Taylor County holds tea

The TCARSE held its annual Informational Tea to honor and inform the 2003-2004 county retirees. Barbara Frame, Chairman of the Retirement Education Committee, planned the afternoon tea which included refreshments, literature of all kinds, and door prizes for all participants.

Arlene Decker and Harley Donham, both members of the County, Regional and State organizations, were in attendance to answer any questions that might be asked. Dues were collected, and new retirees were urged to consider becoming Life Members of the WVARSE.

New retiree, Evelyn Beavers, volunteered to accept to position of Secretary for a two year term. Recent retiree Jim Smith accepted the vice-presidency. Both attended the Region II Training program at AB College. Musical entertainment was provided by Barbara Smith.

ROANE COUNTY UNIT

Under the leadership of President, Sybil Hickman and Vice-President, Phyllis Counts, the Roane County Unit is having a busy and profitable year.

An auction was featured in March which netted over \$300 to finance our Scholarship Fund.

Phillip Arabia, a local artist spoke at our April meeting. He displayed his artwork and talked of the techniques of drawing.

Our Restored One-Room Schoolhouse in Heritage Park was re-opened in May. Ninety first grade children, along with teachers and parents, from the Primary Center assembled when the big school bell rang. Retired teachers, Phyllis Counts and Juanita Runnion, in costume, explained school life in a one-room school in the 1930's and 1940's.

Mayor of Spencer, Terry Williams, hosted a picnic at his farm on June 17, honoring all school retirees with those recently retired as special guests.

Pleasants County Unit



Pictured at Baton Rouge, Louisiana are five members of the Pleasants County Unit who are volunteers in the 59-member St. Marys Community Concert Band. Volunteers practice two hours weekly and play two dinner concerts and six free public concerts annually. Pictured, from left: Clarence James, Sam Himmeger, Nina Ogdin, Jack Carpenter, and Director Bill Duer.

WVARSE Membership Report

Friday, July 16, 2004

Processed for Year Ending 6/30/2004

	Last Yr	Current	Potential
UTA	0	40	0
TOTAL	0	40	0

REGION I	Last Yr	Current	Potential
BROOKE	201	180	314
FAIRMONT	23	24	168
HANCOCK	198	202	385
MARION	216	201	647
MARSHALL	157	169	403
MONONGALIA	203	183	580
OHIO	190	207	466
PLEASANTS	85	85	115
TYLER	48	43	100
W. LIBERTY		1	68
WETZEL	66	87	227
WVU	36	33	976
TOTAL	1423	1415	4449

REGION II	Last Yr	Current	Potential
BARBOUR	99	97	201
BRAXTON	68	122	228
DODDRIDGE	8	23	112
GILMER	67	63	98
GLENVILLE	21	16	112
HARRISON	335	348	768
LEWIS	114	115	206
PRESTON	161	164	379
RANDOLPH	238	248	319
TAYLOR	115	122	159
TUCKER	11	38	102
UPSHUR	205	223	276
WEBSTER	87	79	164
TOTAL	1529	1658	3124

REGION III	Last Yr	Current	Potential
BOONE	149	160	342
CALHOUN	48	40	124
CLAY	53	48	159
JACKSON	111	109	328
KANAWHA	633	616	2758
RITCHIE	55	50	127
ROANE	39	41	191
STATE DEPT	26	24	199
WIRT	37	39	76
WOOD	358	363	951
WVS	9	9	117
TOTAL	1518	1499	5372

REGION IV	Last Yr	Current	Potential
CABELL	161	159	1107
LINCOLN	102	102	309
LOGAN	30	119	674
MASON	55	42	298
MINGO	73	78	535
MU	10	11	137
PUTNAM	38	31	447
UTA	0	1	0
WAYNE	194	165	544
TOTAL	663	708	4051

REGION V	Last Yr	Current	Potential
BLUEFIELD	2	3	34
CONCORD	6	11	85
FAYETTE	231	235	689
GREENBRIER	250	184	426
MCDOWELL	183	202	639
MERCER	291	351	848
MONROE	75	76	164
NICHOLAS	91	102	325
POCAHONTAS	26	44	116
RALEIGH	254	240	966
SUMMERS	132	130	194
WVIT	5	5	91
WYOMING	160	155	486
TOTAL	1706	1738	5063

REGION VI	Last Yr	Current	Potential
BERKELEY	120	131	476
DEAF & BLIND	62	65	132
GRANT	39	58	141
HAMPSHIRE	64	65	159
HARDY	37	30	128
JEFFERSON	104	108	244
MINERAL	136	125	314
MORGAN	79	80	137
PENDLETON	45	40	117
POTOMAC	12	11	34
SHEPHERD	8	10	53
TOTAL	706	723	1935

Total Members	Last Yr	Current	Potential
	7545	7781	23994

Membership Reminders

☐ The lists of names and addresses of persons receiving pension checks is no longer available through Cecil Hill and the Retirement Board.

☐ The most current lists (October 2003) are available from Executive Director Bill Milam, 200 Elizabeth Street, Charleston, WV 25311.

☐ Keep old lists of pension recipients for reference.

☐ Contact your Central Office for the names and addresses of current retirees. Some counties automatically inform units after each board meeting of the new retirees.

☐ Contact each new retiree with an invitation to join WVARSE and your county unit.

☐ Inform retirees of the life membership opportunity.

☐ A large supply of free informative brochures is available by requesting copies from Bill Milam.

☐ Addresses are available on the Internet at Switchboard.com. The narrower you can make the search the better.

☐ Remember to report your change of address to Joann Beer, membership clerk, or to Bill Milam, executive director.

Visit WVARSE on the web at www.wvarse.org.

Have you sent your annual council delegate sheet to the membership clerk? It is past due.

~ In Memoriam ~

BERKELEY
 GEORGE C. TABLER, JR.
BRAXTON
 MARY C. CHENOWETH
CABELL
 CLARAMAY WATSON CECIL
 J. H. MORGAN
 PAUL WASSUM
DEAF & BLIND
 EDITH P. HERRIOTT
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 GOLDA MAHON
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MONONGALIA
 C. PAUL DRAKE
MORGAN
 MYRTLE E. KERNS
OHIO
 IRMA GRACE CLARKE
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PLEASANTS
 LILA LAMM
POCAHONTAS
 VERE BLY TRACY
PRESTON
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WYOMING
 OPAL ADAMS GOODE
 CARRIE L. THRASHER

Tyler County Unit

The Tyler County Association of Retired Employees hosted Wetzel and Pleasants County retirees at the March meeting. Thirty-three members were served a

lunch prepared by the Sistersville Baptist Woman. Region I Director, Evelyn Griffin, was the guest speaker. Wetzel County President, Barbara Brasher, and Pleasants

County President, Jackie Carpenter, also spoke to the group. The Tyler Consolidated Choir under the direction of Clara Negie provided entertainment.

Milam

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rollment. Please visit the Web site at www.WVARSE.org. You can find the name, address, and phone number of the officers of WVARSE on the Web

site. Many of the officials also have e-mail addresses. Some back issues of the Newsletter can be viewed on this site. An up-to-date calendar is maintained on the Web. If you click on the e-mail address info@warse.org on the Web site, it will connect you to my office e-mail. Your comments are appreciated.

Threat

From Page 2

Have you considered the safety, security, and liquidity of using an annuity to earn better interest on savings? The WVARSE endorsed annuity is now paying 5.5 percent interest the first year with a guaranteed minimum to never go lower than 2 percent. Interest grown tax-deferred gives faster growth than CD's in the bank.

There are other advantages to having savings in annuities, especially for retirees.

WEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ENROLLMENT FORM

DUES FOR FISCAL YEAR: JULY 1, 20____ - JULY 1, 20____

- 1.) ANNUAL STATE DUES \$7.50 PLUS COUNTY DUES \$_____ = TOTAL \$_____
 2.) or ONE-TIME-STATE LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES \$100 + COUNTY DUES \$_____ = TOTAL \$_____
 OR 3.) OR LIFE MEMBER PAYING COUNTY DUES ONLY = TOTAL \$_____

PLEASE PRINT: (Use name as it appears on your retirement check) Renewal () New () Life ()

NAME _____ DATE _____
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

ADDRESS _____ OLD ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

RETIRED FROM _____ TELEPHONE _____
(COUNTY, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OTHER)

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO YOUR COUNTY UNIT - RETURN BOTH COPIES TO:
 Members receive Newsletters, Insurance and Travel Opportunities

Your county treasurer or Joann Beer
 Rt. 1, Box 228
 French Creek, WV 26218

Part-time position of
Grievance Manager available

A statewide educational organization is seeking a person well-versed in school law for a part-time position to advise and represent teachers.

A preferred candidate must have experience in public education at multiple levels and/or experience in grievance procedures. Candidate must be willing to do some travel.

The salary would be commensurate with background and experience. Please send resumes to Ernest Page, Jr, Executive Director, West Virginia Professional Educators, Route 1, Box 25 B, Red House, WV 25168.

MONONGALIA COUNTY UNIT

Monongalia County Association of Retired School Employees held their luncheon meeting in April at Harner Chapel. Evelyn Griffin, VWARSE Director for Region I installed the officers for 2004-2005. A memorial program for retirees who passed away during this year was held under the direction of Ann Bragg, Informative & Protective Services Committee. Pictured below, from left, are: Jeanette Ambrose, Secretary; Joann King, Treasurer; Susanne Lynch, President, and Director Evelyn Griffin.



Audrey Miller, left, and Pat Harvey make a "Blizzard Box" drop at the local Senior Center for distribution.

Jackson County unit distributes 'Blizzard Boxes'

At a prior meeting of the JCARSE, Virginia Rouse, representing AARP, reintroduced the group to the AARP "Blizzard Boxes" project.

With the great encouragement of Clara Belle Denning and committee members Audrey Miller, Pat Harvey, Becky Fox and Mary Pat Glover, and helpers Rose Morris and Judy Wiseman, we invited schools to help us get the necessary funds and materials for the project.

Evans and Cottageville Elementary Schools gave us many of the needed supplies. Added to that was the generous contribution of the faculty of Ravenswood Grade School who contributed \$120.

The end products were the completion and distribution of 225 boxes! From our JCARSE, we urge you to think big and go for it!



Norva Warner authors book

Tucker County unit president, Norva Balsler Warner is the author of "The Strength of Our People", a history of the William Morris, Young, Balsler, Slack, Hudnall, Elswick and Stephen Morris families who settled in the Kanawha Valley and fought in the wars up to and including the Civil War.

The William Morris family was the first permanent settlers in the valley. The history covers the guerilla warfare that took place between the Indians and the early settlers. Norva, daughter of Everett and Hattie (Young) Balsler, was valedictorian of the senior class at Cedar Grove High School in 1959. She is a graduate of Alderson-Broaddus College where she met her husband, Mark Warner.

Fascinated by the West Virginia hills, the couple spent the next 36 years in the rural area of Tucker County, where Norva taught English and Social Studies and served as a counselor at Tucker County High School and Mark became a builder of fine furniture. The 307 page book and detailed index was published by the McClain Printing Company in Parsons.

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