

After School...

The Newsletter of Minneapolis Retired Teachers Inc.

Website

www.mrti.org

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Rockin' Around the Old Log Theater!



"The Million Dollar Quartet," at the Old Log Theater, is our end-of-the-year special event and it promises to be a barn-burner!

On December 4, 1956, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley gathered at Sun Records' studio in Memphis, TN. The only time the four legends-to-be played together, it has become known as one of the greatest rock jam sessions of all time. And you can be there to hear "That's All Right," "Blue Suede Shoes," "Folsom Prison Blues," "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On," and many others. Don't miss it!

Wednesday, June 15th
Bus, Lunch and Show: \$50.00
Seating is limited to 40

Order tickets at the April & May MRTI luncheons.

Classroom Teachers' Grants - Year Two

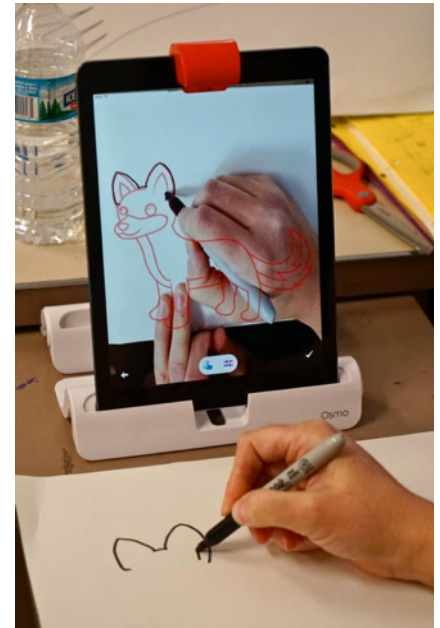
Our program of grants to classroom teachers was so successful last year that the Board unanimously agreed to continue

Teacher Grants cont.

the program. This school year, the Grant Committee awarded grants to 14 classroom teachers and specialists, ranging from \$165.00 - \$1000.00, purchasing items from Somali-language books to Wobbly Chairs and Stability Balls to class trips to Wolf Ridge Environmental Center.



Board member, Larry Risser, had a chance to see our Grant program in action. "I had a great time yesterday visiting Andersen to see the students on the wobbly chairs and at Hale to see a class of first graders on the stability balls, " he reported. "Also while there, I had a nice visit with the art teacher Katy Tharaldson who showed me what the OSMO program with iPads can do with her art students."



Grant applications for 2016-17 went out March 1 and must be submitted by April 25. This year's successful applicants are listed below:

Sarah Frohman	Pratt	\$165.00	Somali Books
Brianna Johnson	Andersen	\$375.00	Wobble Chairs
Judy Lander	Nokomis	\$238.00	Food Shelf Project
Beth Lewis	Hiawatha/Webster	\$1,000.00	Music & Spec Ed
Amanda Lodermeier	Anderson	\$1,000.00	Wolf Ridge
Maureen Mulvaney	Washburn	\$1,000.00	Books for Strglng Rdrs
Brianna Nichols & Dingman	Windom	\$500.00	Math Games
Brianna Nichols & Dingman	Windom	\$350.00	Rekenreks
Kelly Pier	Lk Harriet Lower	\$250.00	Presentation Boards
Heidi Quimby	Anwatin	\$400.00	Books
Mary Rice	Roosevelt	\$1,000.00	Stability Balls
Amanda Sullivan	Windom	\$693.81	Math Games
Katy Tharaldson	Hale	\$750.00	2 iPads, Osmo Games
Mary Beth Wyne	Ramsey	\$585.00	Music for DCD, AS

Total Grants for 2016 : \$8,306.81

Spring Luncheon Menus

April - Taco Bar

May - Fried Chicken picnic

You may request a meatless entree when you are called for a reservation. 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**.

Five Scholarship Winners for 2016

Jalondo Combs: Currently an Associate Educator at Lucy Laney Elementary School and holder of an AAS degree in Education, Jalondo previously studied Urban Mathematics Education at Metro State University and is currently enrolled in Western Governor's University Bachelor of Arts Mathematics 5-12 program, working toward a secondary mathematics education degree / license.

Nandi Solorzano O'Brien: Serving more than 6 years as an education assistant, mostly at Emerson Spanish Immersion Learning Center, Nandi received a BA in Social Science from Metro State University and is now pursuing an MA in English as a Second Language at St. Mary's University Graduate School of Education.

Branagan Price: An associate educator/resource interventionist at Green Central School for 3 years, Branagan earned a BS in Special Education from Jackson State University and has applied for the Residency program through Minneapolis Public Schools to obtain an Elementary teaching license through the University of Minnesota.

Vanessa Smith: An associate educator at Anishinabe Academy's all day Kindergarten, she holds an AA degree from MCTC and is currently enrolled at Metro State University, working toward a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education through the Urban Teacher program. She hopes to student teach in the Spring of 2018.

Vang Mong Xiong: A Special Education paraprofessional in the DCD program at Hmong International Academy, Vang earned a BA in Anthropology from St. Cloud State University and is currently a student at Hamline University, pursuing a Master of Arts in Teaching K-6 Elementary Education. Vang will student teach in the Fall of 2016 and hopes to graduate by the Fall of 2017.

Each winner will receive \$2000 toward educational expenses. All have been invited to join us at the April luncheon, so we can congratulate them in person.

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Thanks, Nan!

The mystery is solved: the clever MRTI member who submitted the winning name for our newsletter, "After School..." is none other than



**** Nan Fraser ****

Nan taught in the District for 22 years, working with Dave Rolek, Denny Lander, Art Froehle and with Char Rogers, as a TOSA in the Language Arts Dept. Retiring in 1992, Nan served on the MRTI Board for several years as Membership Chair and Yearbook Chair and is a regular at MRTI luncheons.

Thanks for coming up with such a jazzy name for our newsletter, Nan!

Teachers Support Teachers through MRTI Scholarship Contributions

The MRTI Board and Scholarship Committee would like to thank the 179 members who contributed over \$7,000 to our scholarship fund this past year. Along with support from the MRTI budget, this enabled us to award five \$2000.00 scholarships to recipients who are working to further their careers in Minneapolis Public Schools. Because of your generosity, we are able to support these people in their quest to teach in our urban setting.

Our goal is to receive enough contributions to support these scholars without taking funds from the MRTI budget. In order to do this, we encourage our members to continue donating to the scholarship fund, or to consider making a gift in the future. We appreciate your support in enhancing the quality of instruction in Minneapolis Public Schools!

*The MRTI Scholarship Committee: Sylvia Farrells & JoAnne Wilson, Co-Chairs, Joanne Lambrecht,
Roma Lee Rasmussen, Stella Jones, Pam Evangelist, Marlene Locascio*

Jean Albrightson, Audrey Allen, David Andell, Jeanette Andersen, Allen Anderson, Christine Anderson, Ed Andersen, Karen Anderson

Anne Bartel, Aroti Bayman, Nancy Bell, George and Janice Beske, Marcia Birney, Marvin Bjorlin, Louise Botko, Delora Brewer, William Brody, Eleanor Brown, Joanne Buggey, Susan Bunnell, Josephine Bunton, Jessie Busse

Kathleen Cahill, Greg Cain, Janelle Camp, Alphonsa Cannon, Andrea Canter, Darryl Carter, Don Cieminski, Kathleen Cooper, Karen Coppicus, Barbara Covart, Carole Cranbrook, Jacquelyn Cronin, LuEllen Curran

Judy Dabruzzi, Judith Davidson, Anne DeMuth, Mary Kay Dorniden, Claire Dryke, Lewis Duckett, Michelle Dunn

Karen Erickson, Barbara Evenson

Lee and Mary Ann Fabel, James and Sylvia Farrells, Nancy Fowler, Nan Fraser, Carol Freeman, Richard Friedrichsen, Rosemary Fruehling

Mary Ellen Gallick, James Gersich, Mary Ann Gilbertson, Kathe Gouette, Bruce Graff, Carole Gupton, Marlyce Gustafson

Dale and Lynne Hendrickson, Mary Hewitt, Judy Hoel, Sandra Hoverson

Art Indelicato, Sandra Irwin

Bette Jacobs, James Jacobsen, Grace Jagers, Suzanne Jebe, Renee Jesness, Robert Jibben, Stella Jones

Marilyn Karasov, Ruth Katz, Cynthia Kelly, Elmer Koch, Barbara Kuenne, Kathryn Kuhns

Margaret LaFleur, Joanne Lambrecht, Denny and Sharon

Lander, Javan Larson, Carol Lauder, Judith Leino, Harriet Lerdal, Jo Livgard, Marlene Locascio, Janet Lodholz, Nick Lovjoeff

Art Maillet, Gayle Marko, Barbara Mattill, Katherine May, Virginia May, Wanda McCaa, Kay McLean, Janet Meyer, Norman and Patricia Moen, Robert Monson, Nancy Morin, Michael Myers

Helen Nelson, Karen Nelson, Marybeth Nelson

Elaine Olson, C. Jack Oman, Eileen Oslund, Joyce Owick Fuhrman,

Thomas Patterson, Marjorie Penner, Judith Peters, Mary Peterson, Roberta Peterson, Joan Petroff, Pixie Pixlar, Christine Poppe, Mary Poulsen

Lynne Raphael, Roma Lee Rasmussen, Margaret Reed, Karl Reinhard, Connie Retzlaff, Barbara Risken, Marilyn Risnes, Larry Risser, Barbara Roach, Rosalind Robbins, Sara Roberson, Cynthia Rogers, David Rolek, Bonnie Rowell, Kathy Runchey, Don Ryberg, Robert Ryder

James Salwasser, Marlys Sanford, Jane Sasaki, Maria M.J. Savaiano, Catherine Scanlon, Karen Scheib, Anne Scheible, Pam Schreurs, Judith Shapiro, Robert Shelton, Anna Shortall, Margaret Shryer, Beverly Shupe, Diane Simmons, Jerome Simondet, Donald Sovell, Britt Stratton, Louise Sundin, Alan Sweet

Hazel Tanner, Joan Threet, Margaret Tuma, Bruce Turnbaugh, Helen Turnbull

David Vos

Sonja Walker, Velma Warder, Robert Wedl, Florence Wertz, Dan Willette, JoAnne Wilson, Patricia Winkie, Mary Wise, Roger Wold, Sheila Woodbeck

Doris Zachary, Patricia Zajac, Joseph Zatah, Deb Zwickey

As of March 31, 2016, there were 179 contributors who contributed \$7069. Thank you all. Please let Sylvia Farrells know if there are any corrections or additions to be made to this list.

Committee of 13 – Your Pension Watchdog in St. Paul

The Minnesota Legislature is in session and TRA and other public employee pensions are hot topics. As outlined in Ed Andersen's "Pension Primer" article in the last issue of "After School," the changes proposed by TRA include a reduction in the 2% COLA and an increase in state contribution rates for active teachers.

"The Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR) chair Rep. Tim O'Driscoll (R-Sartell) asked TRA to address the commission about the TRA sustainability proposal and answer questions about the bill. Laurie Hacking, executive director of TRA, testified about the necessity of passing sustainability measures this session rather than wait a year, as has been suggested. The cost of a one-year delay in passing sustainability legislation would be a loss of \$106.5 million for TRA in foregone revenue from employer contribution increases and foregone savings from COLA changes. Members of several stakeholder groups testified in support of the TRA proposal, including Louise Sundin, Committee of 13 Lobbyist."

(Excerpted from TRA's March 23 Pension Commission Recap.)

Make sure that the Committee of Thirteen will be able to keep working for your retirement security! With public employee pensions under attack by well-funded opponents, the Committee of 13 works to make sure the legislature knows the facts about MPS / TRA retiree pensions.

Donation Made Easy

During our active teaching years, many of us made regular contributions to the Committee of 13 through a payroll deduction. Now that we're retired, our contributions to the Committee of 13 are even more important – and now they're also easy to do!

Go to: <http://committeeofthirteen.org> and use the Donate button to make either a one-time or monthly contribution, using a PayPal account or a valid credit card.

Doing something so important is so easy!

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Spring Program Schedule



April: "Musical Trio"
featuring Thomasina Petrus,
Tom Wells and Bob Ekstrand



May: Steven Marking, a
nature & wildlife
photographer and Opera
singer will present a
slide show with music

Did You Know...

MRTI contributes to many programs that support Minneapolis children?

Your dues support annual contributions to:

- Achieve! Minneapolis
- The Assistance League
- Mary's Place
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Minneapolis
- Jeremiah Program
- Harriet Tubman Center
- Groveland Food Shelf
- St. Joseph's Home for Children
- People Serving People
- Minneapolis Recreation Development

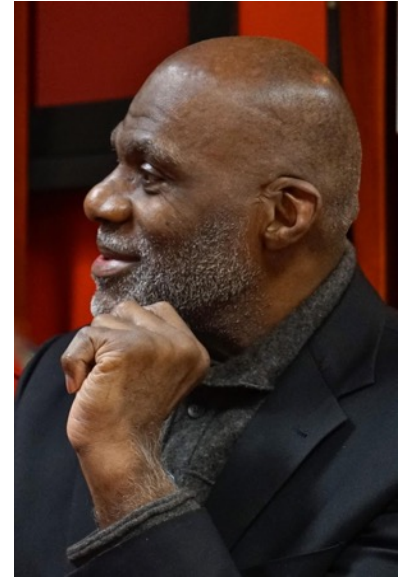
A President, A Supreme Court Justice



Theodore Roosevelt, our 26th President, visited us in January. His stories of exploring the Old West, establishing our first National Park and tales of his Rough Rider exploits were peppered with humorous asides. When asked about his tempestuous daughter, Alice, he replied, "I can be President of the United States or I can control Alice. I cannot do both!"



Recently retired Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, the **Hon. Alan Page** spoke to MRTI in February. One of the Vikings' famous Purple People Eaters, Justice Page acknowledged retired MPS Principal and MRTI member, Willarene Beasley, whom he had asked to introduce him at his recent NFL Hall of Fame induction.



house, he credited his success to both the work ethic instilled by his parents and the teachers who inspired and guided him. He brought copies of a children's book, cowritten with his daughter, Kamie. Profits from the book go to the Page Scholarship program which has enabled many MPS students to pursue post-secondary education.



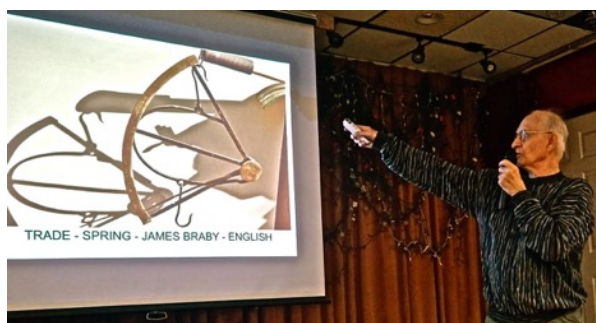
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As a boy, Justice Page wanted to be a lawyer, entering Law School during the football off-season. Speaking to a packed



... and An Avid Collector



MRTI member, **Bob Jibben**, is a member of the **International Society of Antique Scale Collectors**. He has amassed thousands of antique scales, weights and measuring devices from all over the world, some of which are the only known examples of their kind and each of which is neatly cataloged and

displayed in his home. In use for thousands of years, scales symbolize equality, justice and fair trade. With the photographic assistance of Larry Risser, Bob brought the history of scales and some of his most interesting and valuable pieces to our March meeting. He brought analytical balances, grain scales, gold scales and sets of certified weights (right) for us to peruse. Thanks, Bob for an interesting and informative talk!



cont. from page 1

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rl.rasmussen@comcast.net

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

Help Wanted!

Employment Opportunity for Retirees
Your skills are needed!

The Confederation of Somali Community's Newcomer Academy is an innovative and rigorous **after school** and **summer school** program designed to provide critical transitional, educational and support services to some of the neediest students in the Minneapolis Public Schools.

Newcomer Academy is located at Wellstone High School, 3328 Elliot Ave. So. and is aligned with MSP ELL program. The after school program meets Monday - Thursday, 3:30 - 5:30. Teachers are paid \$30.00 per hour for an 8-hour week.

Qualifications:

- Current Minnesota teaching certificate
- Passion for working with newcomer students
- Willingness to supervise volunteers and students both in and out of the classroom.

For more information, **contact Mohammad Noor at mnoor@csc-mn.org.**

After School Classifieds

HelpWanted!

A Job Opportunity for You

Committee of Thirteen is looking for a skilled fundraiser to conduct the Fall 2016 fundraising campaign in the schools with active educators

Put your fundraising skills to work for the Committee of Thirteen. The Committee is looking for someone with great fundraising skills and a comprehensive understanding of MPS to help conduct its fall 2016 campaign. You will earn \$25.00 per hour for the work.

Job description includes:

- Arrange volunteer solicitors to work the new teacher orientations.
- Work with building principals and MFT stewards to identify coordinators at every school site to do the collection at that site.
- Work with C of 13 communications person and MFT staff to have materials developed, printed, and distributed to use in the campaign and online.
- Develop speakers and presentation materials for in-person site presentations.
- Keep records of new, continuing, and increases in contributions to C of 13.
- Attend C of 13 Board meetings to report on progress.

Contact Paul Sisson at paul.sisson@mpls.k12.mn.us to express your interest.

**Services
Offered**

FREE SAFETY CHECK FOR SENIORS



No-cost Home Assessment

The HOME (Household & Outside Maintenance for Elderly) Program

for elders age 60+

To be checked:

- Tripping hazards
- Grab-bars and handrails
- Smoke detectors
- Lighting
- Other safety components

Senior Community Services is a nonprofit organization with five programs, including the HOME Program.

Elders **aged 60+** residing in suburban Hennepin County and Minneapolis are eligible. No sales.

For more Information call 952-746-4046 or email: home@seniorcommunity.org

HOME also provides housekeeping, minor repair, and mowing/snow removal services.

Seniors outside of Hennepin County should contact the Senior Linkage Line at 1-800-333-2433 for information about services in their area.

PHONE: 952-541-1019
SeniorCommunity.org

Senior Community Services
10201 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 335
Minnetonka, MN 55305

Minneapolis Retired Teachers, Inc.
P.O. Box 24034
Minneapolis, MN 55414-0034

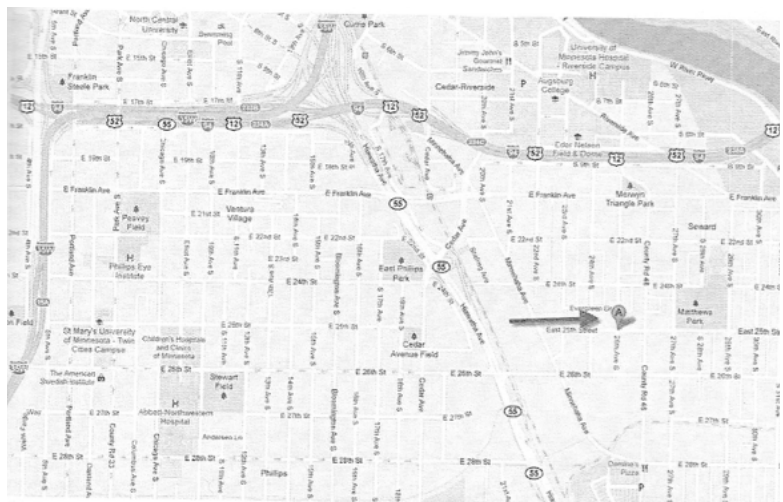
MRTI Newsletter January 2016
Chris Poppe, editor

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

Chris Poppe
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Our meeting location

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



Plenty of free parking!