

Dee Ginsbach, Sisseton, President
Gordon Horgen, Winner, Vice President

Sharon Darrow, Rapid City, Secretary
Sue Nipe, Retired Program Coordinator

John Salladay, Pierre, Treasurer
Betty Erickson, Associate Staff



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Submitted by Dee Ginsbach
SDEA-R President

The calendar indicates we are almost half-way through 2009. Weather-wise we have experienced winter, spring and NOW summer is just around the corner.

Weather played havoc with the attendance at our SDEA-Retired Annual meeting on April 3, as well as the SDEA Representative Assembly.

Remember: Rural schools, SDEA Conventions, Helpmobiles, David Smith.....

The highlight of the Friday evening dinner was the observance of the 125th year of the South Dakota Education Association. Changing times in education, officers and members, programs and special events were woven into a moving power point presentation coordinated by Ken Potter, SDEA Communications Specialist.

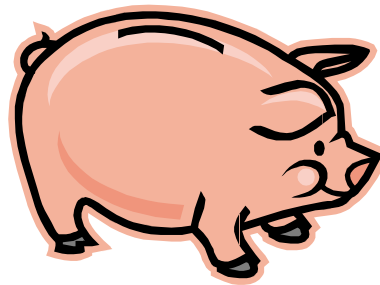
Three past presidents of SDEA were present for this special event. They were Alonzo "Butch" Paige, George Bauder, and Donna DeKraai.

On the national scene we have a new US President who, we are praying, will have success in bringing us out of these terribly difficult economic circumstances in a world filled with war and hatred. We are also optimistic that President Obama will be a friend of education.

Our SDEA-Retired membership is up; and, our horizons are limitless. In response to a suggestion at our annual meeting a committee from SDEA-R and SDRTA will be meeting during the summer to discuss possible ways the two organizations might collaborate.

SOME POINTS TO CONSIDER

Submitted by Butch Paige



As all of you know, the investment returns for the retirement system have not been positive for the last several months. The returns for the year ending

June 30, 2008, were a negative 8.65% according to a report from the Investment Office presented to the SDRS Board on December 3, 2008. For the time between June 30, 2008, and the December meeting the investment return was about negative 20%. While these numbers are not good, the investment returns still average about 7.4% for the past 10 years.

You are going to hear, and maybe already have heard, from some people that SDRS is in big trouble and that benefits need to be reduced immediately. One suggestion that has already surfaced is that the Governor call a special session of the legislature to deal with this problem. Suggestions include reducing benefits and increasing the contribution rates. In my opinion, this suggestion is about three years premature and makes no sense at this time. Some of these things may be necessary at some point in the future but certainly not at this point in time.

South Dakota law (SDCL 3-12-122) states that if certain conditions exist for a "period of three consecutive annual actuarial valuations" that "benefit reductions, contribution changes, or both shall be recommended by the board to the Governor and the Retirement Laws Committee." The conditions include such things as actuarial requirements for funding, market value, and actuarial value of assets.

None of these conditions was present as of

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Enjoy your summer!!!

June 30, 2008, according to Paul Schrader, SDRS consultant and long time actuary for the system. Mr. Schrader also stated that the system is well-funded.

In closing I would argue that SDCL 3-12-122 was not "triggered" by the latest actuarial valuation and that the best course of action would be to wait until SDCL 3-12-122 is triggered (hopefully never) for three consecutive annual actuarial valuations. Then and only then, should benefit reductions and/or contribution changes be considered. Rushing to fix something that is this complicated makes absolutely no sense. The bottom line is that the system is in no immediate trouble. If you would like to review the SDRS minutes of the December 3 meeting, the SDRS annual report or the retirement law, go to www.sdrs.sd.gov or go to your local school business office which should have copies of all these items.

BILLS TO REPEAL SOCIAL SECURITY OFFSETS REINTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

Submitted by Dee Ginsbach

When a "new" Congress begins every two years after state elections are held, any bills that did not pass in the "old" Congress expire and must be reintroduced. In January, the bill (called the Social Security Fairness Act) to repeal the Social Security Offsets was introduced in the US House. It is now H.R. 235 and has more than 180 bipartisan sponsors.

In February, the bill (now S. 484) was re-



introduced in the Senate with a number of bipartisan sponsors.

Please contact our members of Congress to thank them for these bills. Their addresses and telephone numbers were printed in the May 23, 2009, issue of the RAPID CITY JOURNAL, and are listed below.

U.S. Senator Tim Johnson

136 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5842 or 800-537-0025

U.S. Senator John Thune

U.S. Senate SR 493
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2321 or 866-850-3855

U.S. Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin

331 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-2801

KNOW THE SIGNS OF A STROKE

REMEMBER THIS MEANING: The first three steps start with the first three letters of the word "stroke".

S--(Ask the individual to **SMILE**.)

T--(Ask the individual to **TALK**. That means to say a coherent sentence.)

R--(Ask the person to **RAISE BOTH ARMS**.)

Now, cardiologists and neurologists are saying there is a fourth indicator/sign of a stroke. Ask the individual to "**STICK OUT YOUR TONGUE**."

If the person has problems doing any of these, please seek medical help IMMEDIATELY!!!

WHAT'S COOKING?

Spicy Lemon-Shrimp Linguine

Submitted by Dee Ginsbach

- 4 oz. linguine
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 Tbsp. minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper, optional
- 8 oz. shelled, uncooked large shrimp
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 2 tsp. grated lemon peel

1--Cook linguine in large pot of boiling water according to package directions; drain.

2--Devein shrimp, if necessary. Meanwhile, heat butter and oil in large skillet over medium high heat until hot and butter is melted. Add garlic and crushed pepper; cook about 1 minute or until garlic is fragrant (Do not let garlic brown.) Add shrimp; cook 2 to 3 minutes or until shrimp turn pink. Stir in salt and lemon juice.

3--Add linguine to skillet, along with parsley and lemon peel; toss to combine.
Makes two 1 1/2 cup servings.



In the Grades 3-5 category, the winning essay was submitted by Shale Kramme from Stanley County Elementary School in Ft. Pierre and the teacher he recognized was Barb Sogaard also from Stanley County Elementary. The honorable mention essay was written by Shauna Pauli of Koch Elementary in Milbank and the teacher she recognized was Robin Patnoe, a teacher at Koch Elementary.

In the Grades 6-8 category, the winning essay was submitted by Shannon Duxbury from Wessington Springs Middle School and the teacher recognized was Patricia Schilling from Miller Elementary School. The honorable mention essay in this category was written by Emma Schmidt from Mitchell Middle School. The teacher she recognized was Tressa Wede, a teacher at L.B. Williams Elementary School in Mitchell.

In the category that included Grades 9-12, the winning essay was written by Erica Meyer from Rosholt High School about her teacher, Nancy Hustel, from Rosholt High School. The honorable mention essay in this category was submitted by Emily Luick from Rosholt about her teacher, Judith Carston, also from Rosholt High School.

Dee Ginsbach, SDEA-Retired President and Gordon Horgen, SDEA-retired Vice President presented the awards. Assisting with the luncheon were retired members Joyce Horgen, Winner, and Gaytha Ten Eyck, Pierre.

Sue Nipe, SDEA-Retired Program Coordinator, and Betty Erickson, Associate Staff, made the arrangements for the event. Sue was present to make certain things ran smoothly. We appreciate their help.

TEACHER TO REMEMBER ESSAY AWARDS

Recipients of the "Teacher to Remember" Essay Awards were recognized at a ceremony and luncheon at the South Dakota Education Headquarters in Pierre on May 2, 2009.

The Teacher to Remember Essay Contest was established twenty years ago as a joint effort of the South Dakota Education Association/NEA Communications Department and the South Dakota Education Association-Retired.

The recipients this year were:

BITS OF HUMOR

Submitted by Marlene Montague,
Rapid City

Here are some brief bits of humor that may help you flex your facial muscles.

* * * * *

A husband and wife were involved in a petty argument, both unwilling to admit they might be in error.

"I'll admit I'm wrong," the wife told her husband, "if you'll admit I'm right." He agreed and like a gentleman, insisted she go first.



"I'm wrong," she said.

Without pausing, he responded, "You're right!"

* * * * *

On the first day of school, the kindergarten teacher said, "If anyone has to go to the bathroom, hold up two fingers."

A little voice at the back of the room asked, "How will that help?"

* * * * *

A man entered a florist shop, noticing a sign in the window that read, "Say It With Flowers."

"Wrap up a rose for me," he told the florist.

"Only one?" the florist asked.

"Just one, I'm a man of few words."

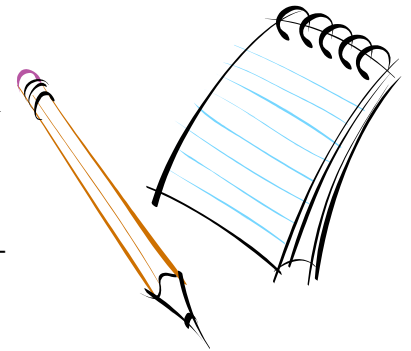
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Today's students send text messages on their cell phones. Your assignment is to interpret the message on the button above! (I hope it's decent.)

EDITOR'S NOTE

We attempt to publish the SDEA-Retired Newsletter three times each year. Usually, the deadlines for submitting things you would like to share are September 10th,



January 10th, and May 10th. This time the editor has a new computer and needed more time to get the "bugs" out of the system. If you have some ideas for articles for the newsletter or activities that members would enjoy, please don't be shy about submitting them or suggesting topics that we might pursue for future newsletters. We always appreciate hearing from you, and will attempt to identify someone who is willing to write about your topic of interest.

We will appreciate your help with the newsletter when you notify us regarding address changes. You may send changes to me, Gordon Horgen, PO Box 582, Winner, SD 57580 or e-mail them to gordon@gwtc.net. I will get them to the people who make our mailing labels.

You can help us increase our membership numbers by encouraging retirees and pre-retirees to become members of SDEA-Retired. According to the bylaws, "this Association shall be dedicated to the promotion of retirement with dignity, happiness, usefulness, and adequate income. . .". Elsewhere in this newsletter, our president indicated that SDEA-Retired and the SDRTA will be meeting this summer to seek ways of collaborating to find additional ways to accomplish our purposes. Also, you found articles that encourage communication with our congressional delegation and provide information about the South Dakota Retirement System.

I wish to thank the SDEA-Retired staff and members for their contributions to and assistance with the publishing of this newsletter.