**ST. BERNARD RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

**Slidell Seafood House**

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Grethel. The invocation was offered by Les Scharfenstein.

The Business Meeting began after lunch with 40 people present.

The minutes of the June 23, 2017 meeting were read by Secretary Carol Francis and approved.

Treasurer Hugh Craft reported a balance in the account of $10,780.41.

President Grethel said that since the last meeting, a membership recruitment letter was emailed and mailed out to those who had not yet joined or haven’t joined in years. As a result, there were 23 new members. Our membership was currently at 169 members.

President Grethel recognized past SBRTA presidents who were present at the meeting.

Sgt. Eddie Vauthier from SALT Council/St. Tammany Sheriff’s Department discussed safety issues that senior citizens face and demonstrated some techniques to stay safe.

Renee’ Scionne, the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association Assistant Director, spoke about the upcoming LRTA meeting and offered a handout on the meeting and the meal reservation form. She discussed the state’s current fiscal problems, how activism and leadership are important for members to participate in, the National Health Care debate and the ramifications for the elderly, about Social Security Fairness Act of 2017, and about the TRSL Investment Earnings as of June 2017.

President Grethel discussed the handouts that were available for pick up as members arrived. One was asking for volunteers to indicate which committee on which they would like to work. Dr. Craft mentioned that the Spelling B, which is on the committee list, is scheduled for Feb. 22. Another handout was the tentative agenda for the LRTA state meeting to be held on October 23-25 in Metairie at the Landmark Hotel. He invited everyone to it stating that attendance is free, but if a member wanted to attend the Tuesday night banquet dinner, to fill out the form given by Ms. Siconne, pay the dinner charge, and pre-register. The 3rd handout was for members to indicate if they were interested in running for one of the 4 office positions of SBRTA. Elections will be held at the Christmas meeting on
Dec. 3.

President Grethel also thanked members for bringing additional school supplies for a St. Bernard Parish School. Dr. Craft recommended that we bring them to a school in December and give the principal for distribution. It was suggested that a group go to the presentation and take a photo for the newspapers.

Madeline Edwards announced that her son, Derrick Edwards, who is running for State Treasurer, is currently polling in double digits and asked everyone to remember to vote for him

The Half & Half Raffle winner was Sandy Garcia.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 3, 2017 at the Pinewood Country Club from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by

Carol Francis, Recording Secretary