

South Dakota Retired Teachers Association

# Newsletter

Affiliated with National  
Retired Teachers Association

*“To Serve, Not to be Served”*



**South Dakota  
Retired  
Teachers  
Association**  
[www.sdrta.net](http://www.sdrta.net)

August 2011, Vol. 42 No. I

## *From the Editor*

In this summer issue, get directions for reporting membership, check out the [www.sdrta.net](http://www.sdrta.net) quiz and note the dates for the upcoming leadership workshops. Read about our exciting Spring Convention and get a “jump” on Reminiscent Essay writing.

Take every opportunity you can to share your enthusiasm for SDRTA and invite all retired school personnel to become members . . . don't let them miss out on our fun.

- Diana Glover



Bill Zubke



Cathy Zubke

## *On Being a “Life Long Learner”*

by Bill Zubke, Membership Co-chair

**Sometimes, a subtle reminder works wonders.** Sometimes, we have to be hit over the head with a ton of bricks. In the case of Cathy and I, your membership chairs, it's been the ton of bricks. However, we think we may have finally dug our way out of the building materials and found an easier way to keep track of membership!

**On the web page, [www.sdrta.net](http://www.sdrta.net), and in this newsletter (page 2), you will find a membership document.** Please feel free to make several copies of it, and beginning with your fall kick-off, complete the form with your new, renewing and life members. Send it and your check to Gloria and Ron Riherd, treasurers, by snail mail (Gloria and Ron Riherd, 3945 Corral Dr., Rapid City, SD 57702). We suggest you do this again monthly as you receive other new and renewing members. Do not repeat names of members who were already listed for the 2011-2012 year. You will note the last column of the document is for email addresses, but include them **ONLY** if the member wishes to receive the newsletter by email.

**Always in favor of continuing learning, there is another option!** At the upcoming leadership workshops,

August 22 and August 24, President Pat Johnson will have available for your unit a CD with the membership document on it! You may download it to your computer, fill it out and electronically submit it to Rihersds at [riherglo@netscape.net](mailto:riherglo@netscape.net). If you submit it electronically, you still need to mail a check to Rihersds for the dues collected. Their address is listed above.

**There are three other times Cathy and I need to hear from you.** If you have members who decide they wish the newsletter emailed to them, any address changes and any deaths of state members. (A fourth option would be if you are really bored and simply want to fill us in on your lives).

**Now, about those new members... We WANT them.** To that end, we would issue a revised incentive. If you increase the number of your state members this year, the reward is the same as the scholarship fund incentive - fudge for every member of your local. The delivery system is changed. We'll happily deliver it to the convention! (Maybe we'll see more of you there?!) Look around—there are former teachers just waiting to be asked! It's all up to you. Happy hunting, happy reporting, happy learning, and know that you are loved!



## SDRTA Elected and Appointed Officers 2010-2012

**President Patricia Johnson**  
1226 E. Kemp Ave  
Watertown, SD 57201  
605-886-8756  
sdjohnson@mac.com

**Past President W. Allen Price**  
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apricew@sio.midco.net

**President-Elect Nancy May**  
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**Vice-President Lyle Kemnitz**  
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**Secretary Donna Fischer**  
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**Co-Treasurer Gloria and Ron Riherd**  
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**Co-Membership Bill and Cathy Zubke**  
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**Publicity/Newsletter Diana Glover**  
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**Legislation Henry "Hank" Kosters**  
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**Executive Director Shirley Eisanach**  
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# From the President's Desk

## ~Greetings!~



President Pat Johnson

**Your fellow SDRTA members and I have been concerned for those of you who have been battling the floods this spring and summer.** Our prayers have been going your way and I hope that things are starting to get better for you and your family.

**A special thanks to all our retired educators who have done such a great job in helping out in so many ways during this trying time.** You all are very special people.

**It seems like a long time since our convention, but I need to say Thank You to many that made our convention a success.** First of all thanks to those of you who were able to attend. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. It was wonderful to be able to visit with our friends from across the state. Hope to see you again next year and it would be great if you would bring at least one other person with you.

**A special Thank You to your Board of Directors, they went out of their way to make the convention a success.** They kept their eyes out for things that needed to be done and just did it. My thanks, board members.

**Also Thanks to all the units that prepared the many cultural displays around the meeting room.** Those displays were outstanding and really added to the convention. Thanks for all the time you folks spent in getting the displays ready and setting them up for all to enjoy. What a rich cultural heritage we have in South Dakota!

**Continuing our convention theme "Celebrating our Cultural Harmony" a group of 30 will be traveling to Winnipeg, Canada for Folklorama on August 8 – 12.** We will be celebrating over a dozen different cultures. Then in October the SDRTA trip will again be experiencing several cultures – Norwegian, Amish, rural Wisconsin and the twin cities.

**Looking forward to seeing many of you unit leaders and state board members at the Leadership Workshops (dates and places below).** Let's explore ways to encourage other retired teachers to become active in your units.

Cordially, Your President

**Pat Johnson**

### **Leadership Workshops – both at 1:00 p.m., Central Time**

Brookings – Monday, Aug. 22  
First Lutheran Church  
Mission Coffee House

Pierre – Wed., Aug. 24  
SDHSAA Conference Room  
804 N. Euclid Ave.

# SDRTA Website Quiz

*From Executive Director Shirley Eisnach*

Do you have any idea how much information one can find on the SDRTA website? Here is your chance to be a super sleuth and earn a chance to win a year's membership in SDRTA. Go to [www.sdrta.net](http://www.sdrta.net) to find the answers to the following questions.

Send your answers numbered 1 – 16 via email to Shirley Eisnach ([deisnach@pie.midco.net](mailto:deisnach@pie.midco.net)) by September 1. THREE names will be drawn for the free memberships. If you are already a lifetime member of SDRTA, the \$15 prize will be sent to your local unit toward your local dues. Mailing address, if you choose to use that method, is Shirley Eisnach, 1907 Brighton Court, Pierre, SD 57501.

1. Which state officer is chairperson of the nominating committee?
2. Who won the Grandparent Essay contest in 2007?
3. Who portrayed Ole Oleson at the 2011 convention?
4. What are the dates of the 2012 convention?
5. What year was SDRTA organized?
6. Where can you find a list of people who have donated money to SDRTA?
7. What are the dates of the Hidden Treasures Bus Trip?
8. Which of the 2011 Reminiscent Teachers began her teaching career 30 miles from Philip?
9. Who is the SDRTA President-elect?
10. When is the school winner's deadline for the Grandparent Essay?
11. When are the scholarship applications due in 2012?
12. Who is the president of the Winner unit this year?
13. Who received the Florence Krieger Award in 1999?
14. When was Florence Krieger SDRTA President?
15. How much are the annual dues?
16. What would someone age 72 pay for a lifetime membership?



## ***Bus Trip – Hunting for Hidden Treasures***

October 2 – 7, 2011

There may be a seat with your name on it. The deadline is close but if interested, check out this next bus trip sponsored by SDRTA. Pat Johnson and Annette Belkonen of Watertown will lead this tour to Minnesota and Wisconsin looking for treasures that reflect our convention theme of “Cultural Harmony”. The bus leaves Sioux Falls at 12:00 noon on Sunday, October 2 and returns on Friday, October 7. Cost is \$715 (double occupancy), \$30 more for non-members. It is open to all retired educators, spouses and friends.

You will stay 2 nights at LaCrosse, WI. Enjoy a ride on the “Mississippi Explorer” and visit the National Eagle Center and an auto and toy museum. The next 3 nights you will be in the Twin Cities enjoying music, theatre, shopping and much more.

Contact Pat at 605-886-8756 or email [sdpjohnson@mac.com](mailto:sdpjohnson@mac.com) or Annette at 605-882-5937 for more information.

# Convention Highlights

by Annette Belkonen

*Hellesvig*



*Johnson, McCurry*

One hundred SDRTA members celebrated cultural harmony and heritage at their annual convention May 3-4 in Pierre. Ethnic presentations included Roger Hellesvig who showed important items included in the family trunks of Norwegian immigrants. Dr. Michael McCurry discussed the growth and history of Hutterite colonies in our area. Myron and Mabel Kusler told about the Germans from Russia and their personal travels to ancestral home regions.



*Schneiders,  
Kuslers,  
Becks*

Former Watertown teacher Beth Garnos entertained at the banquet with tales of culture shock when arriving as a bride from Chester, England, to Presho, SD, in the 1950's. Two current teachers received \$750 SDRTA scholarships to continue their own education. They are Annie Borns of Hillcrest Elementary in Brookings and Carla Ramlo of Deubrook Elementary in Toronto.



*Johnson, Borns*



*Garnos*



*Yellowhawk  
and his former  
teacher, Mr. Beck*

Stephen Yellowhawk played flute for the Memorial Service and then told of his life and work with Native American youth in Rapid City. He also danced in full traditional regalia which he explained completely (head to foot).

The top award for volunteer service, the Florence Krieger award, was presented to former AARP Andrus award winner Marrietta Catlin of Pierre. Fifth grader Callie Mueller of Waverly won first place in the AARP Grandparent Essay contest. She wrote about her grandmother Avis Schafer DeBerg who is a member of the Watertown Area Retired Teachers Association. Avis taught for forty years, most recently in Florence, and has also been a 4-H leader. The convention was a wonderful time of education and fellowship for South Dakota seniors!



*Johnson,  
Grandma DeBerg,  
Callie Mueller,  
Gross (AARP  
President)*



*Johnson, Catlin*

## *Convention Awards*

### *Florence Krieger Award to Marrietta Catlin*

#### *Teacher Scholarships (\$750 each)*

Annie Borns, Brookings  
Carla Ramlo, Toronto

### *Grandparent Essay – Callie Mueller, Waverly*

#### *Community Service*

Cathy Zubke, Watertown  
Nancy May, Black Hills  
Ardee Hinzman, Black Hills  
Millie Galyen, Black Hills  
Ron Johnson, Aberdeen

#### *Reminiscent Awards*

Kay Ainslie, Philip  
Diana Glover, Black Hills  
Esther Kirton, Huron  
Marilyn Kratz, Yankton  
Lucille Richey, Winner  
Emilie Zacher, Black Hills

#### *President's Awards*

Cliff Vitters, Milbank  
Bill and Cathy Zubke, Watertown  
Shirley Eisnach, Pierre  
Diana Glover, Black Hills  
Milbank Area Retired Teachers  
Watertown Area Retired Teachers

#### *Community Service Awards*

*presented by Chair Marrietta Catlin*

#### *Innovation Awards*

Black Hills  
Watertown Area

#### *Awards Benefiting Adults*

Pierre

#### *Honorable Mention – Adults*

Sioux Falls Area

#### *Awards for With Our Youth*

Aberdeen Area

#### *Honorable Mention – With Our Youth*

Yankton Area

## *In Memory*

Betty Bahnson  
Violet S. Biever  
Viola Burroughs  
Leon F. Bush  
Hazel Compton  
Bruce Crosswait  
Etta Mae Doolittle  
Eliner Drake  
Rosalie Driscoll  
Muriel Ekelund  
Cathrine Engberg  
Donna Fjelstad  
Vera Fouberg  
Merle Gunsalus  
Clarence Hall  
Pearl Herried  
Ann K. Hicks  
Mary Holzwarth  
Richard Johnson  
Leola Kane  
Alice Kane  
Leona Kaufman  
Nelva Kooistra  
Dr. Iva May Larsen  
Leroy Larson  
Alice A. Lee  
Marilyn Lee  
Paul Lobitz  
Mary Frances Lyle

Morris W. Magnuson  
Eva Markve  
Mildred Merriam  
Nadine Mickelson  
Doris Nelson  
Frances M. Nelson  
Flossie Newman  
Jean Nordstrom  
Helen M. Odland  
Eleanor Offerdahl  
Verla Park  
Lolian Rehfeld  
Alma Reinecke  
Don Reshetar  
Marcella Schlicht  
Mildred Thode Sleep  
Lorraine Smith  
Sid Stallinga  
Freda A. Swift  
Joan Tabor  
Mary Tritle  
Dorothy Vagstad  
Ernie Van Gerpen \*  
Sylvia Van Gerpen  
Dorothy Vanneman  
Alice Walters  
Irene Weybright  
Winston Wolpert

*\* Ernie Van Gerpen had served as State President and continued service to the association as a past president.*

*~ Thank You for Donations to SDRTA ~*

*In Memory of Betty Marie Sterner*

*Jan. 27, 1928 – May 7, 2011*

*Acknowledging her 39-year teaching career  
in Delmont, Harold, Estelline,  
Clark and Watertown  
From Watertown Fellow Teachers*

## Please Read This List

When newsletters do not reach the addressee, it costs our association over \$1 per newsletter. Following is a list of members whose addresses are invalid, or some of them may have died. Please read the list, and if you can find information on any of them, please contact Cathy Zubke, 417 N Broadway, Watertown, SD 57201 or calz45@hotmail.com, or 605-886-8637. Thank you.

**Berger, Irene**, 1902 Prospect Ave., Aberdeen, 57401  
**Stebbins, Mildred**, unknown, Aberdeen, 57401  
**Alberts, Doris**, unknown Amherst, 57421  
**Hamm-Mann, Ida**, 1101 E University, #85, Apache Jctn, AZ 85220  
**Nelson, Grace V**, unknown Beresford, 57004  
**Quinn, Agnes L**, 110 E Maple St Beresford, 57004  
**Walker, Gordon**, 315 7th Brandon, 57005  
**Marcuson, Lucille**, unknown Britton, 57430  
**Schaefer/Moriarty, LaVonne**, 224 8th St W Brookings, 57006  
**Smith, Alvilda J**, 300 2nd Ave Brookings, 57006  
**Sterling, Kathleen**, unknown Broomfield, CO 80020  
**Kulhavy, Sylvia**, PO Box 444 Chamberlain, 57325  
**Parish, Evelyn**, unknown Chamberlain, 57325  
**Wedell, Ann**, RR 3, Box 81 Colman, 57017  
**Langloss, Ida**, 103 W 5th St Colton, 57018  
**Eaton, Rosalind**, unknown Edmonds, WA 98020  
**Brown, Mary Margaret**, Rt 1, Box 59, Elk Point, SD 57025  
**Schultz, Mary A**, 211 E Washington, Elk Point 57025  
**Fluth, Dorothea**, 26318 431st Ave Emery, 57332  
**Christenson, Irene D**, 611 E Pipestone Ave Flandreau, 57028  
**Halter, Ethyl M**, RR 2, Box 13 Flandreau, 57028  
**Perkins, Hazel**, unknown Ft. Myers, FL 33907  
**Ashley, Dorothy**, 3201 Echeta Rd # 64, Gillette, WY, 82716  
**Jones, Opal**, unknown Gregory, 57533  
**Nelson, Vivian-Eliason**, 822 Church Gregory, 57533  
**Hanna, Gail**, RR 1 Box 399 Harrisburg, 57002  
**Cooper, Verna**, unknown Houston, TX, 77025  
**Corey, Elda**, Huron, 57350  
**Dennison, Marcella**, 104 Main Box 7, Jefferson, 57038  
**McBride, Edith**, Box 94 Lake Andes, 57356  
**Hanrahan, Mary**, unknown Lemmon, 57638  
**Nelson, Doris A**, 1005 NE 4th #5 Madison, 57042  
**Nissen, Margaret**, unknown Mesa, AZ 85205  
**Bertsch, Elizabeth**, 210 E 4th St # 9 Miller, 57362  
**Clark, Bea**, 1115 W Haven Mitchell, 57301  
**Lindsey, Doris**, 816 E 1st Ave Mitchell, 57301  
**Fogelsong, Allene**, 2720 Sunnyside Rd # 18, Montrose, CO 81401  
**Knudsen, Naomi**, RR 1 Box 79, New Effington, 57255  
**Dutt, Thelma**, unknown Omaha, NE  
**Cash, Viola**, 13840 N Desert Harbor Dr, Peoria, AZ, 85381  
**Wildberger, Alice**, unknown Peoria, AZ 85345  
**Peterson, Sadie**, unknown Phoenix, AZ 85018  
**Delire, Fern**, PO Box 105 Platte, 57369  
**Bailey, Grace**, 1321 Columbus St # 36, Rapid City, 57701  
**Carl, Gladys** Rapid City, 57701  
**Borkirchert, Irene**, Box 36 Roscoe, 57471  
**Erickson, Myrtle P**, RR 2 Box 62 Rosholt, 57260  
**Deede, Betty Lou**, unknown San Lorenzo, CA 94580  
**Himrich, Olga W**, RR 1 Box 98 Selby, 57472  
**Daley, Juanita F**, unknown Sioux Falls, 57103  
**Fisher, Eulalia E**, 1901 S Holly Sioux Falls, 57103

**Hanson, Peggy**, 4308 S Briarwood, Sioux Falls, 57103  
**Terveen, Fern E**, unknown Sioux Falls, 57103  
**Thomas, Celeste Marian**, unknown Sioux Falls, 57105  
**Dugger, Emma**, 1403 Lookout Valley Ct, Spearfish, 57783  
**McGibney, Carolyn**, 1221 W Jackson Blvd, Spearfish, 57783  
**Goins, Hester B**, Box 62 Spencer, 57374  
**Schryvers, Doris E**, 1320 Cedar St Sturgis, 57785  
**Gors, Muriel**, Pioneer Memorial Nursing, Viborg, 57070  
**House, Mildred**, 418 Vermont St, Waterloo, IA 50701  
**Ellsbury, Mary**, 311 SE Flagler Dr #811, Palm Beach FL, 33401  
**Hanson, Joyce E**, unknown White, 57276  
**Meester, Lorraine**, RR 1 Box 71 Willow Lake, 57278  
**Urban, Mary A**, Winner, 57580

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## Counting Church Activity Hours

by Marrietta Catlin, Community Service Chair

At a recent conference call with Rebecca Villarreal (AARP/Chicago office) and other state community service chairs, we decided that units in each state have to do what they can in their individual units as far as community service goes. Each state and their units are unique. Because some of our South Dakota units mainly do church work activities, we can still count those hours of service and turn them in for RTA purposes. We did discuss this issue at the May SDRTA Board Meeting and also agreed that we should continue counting volunteer service church activities.

However, if some of your members belong to the RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) in their area, they cannot be counted for that particular program if done on church property unless it is a community service project, a food drive, making quilts for the less fortunate or working at the community banquets, etc. I record hours on a monthly calendar and just write my church volunteer hours in red and my other volunteer service hours in black. At the end of each month when I list my hours on recording sheets, I know that for RSVP recording hours I cannot count the hours in red but for RTA purposes I record both red and black hours.

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## Reminiscent Teacher Essay

More and more people are encouraged to write their family history, memories and life stories. Nancy May, President-Elect, invites you to share your teaching story by writing a Reminiscent Teacher Essay. Include why you chose education, funny anecdotes and other information about your career. Want to read some essays? . . . find them on the website, [www.sdrta.net](http://www.sdrta.net).

If you don't use a computer for electronic submission, ask a grandchild, neighbor or friend to help with the word processing and emailing your document. The important thing is getting your story told!

Please submit your Reminiscent Teacher Essay to Nancy May at [nancymay@rushmore.com](mailto:nancymay@rushmore.com) by April 1st, 2012. They will be displayed at the spring convention.

## Newsletter

South Dakota Retired Teachers Association  
Cathy Zubke, Membership Chair  
417 North Broadway  
Watertown, SD 57201

[www.sdrta.net](http://www.sdrta.net)

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### Check Membership Addresses!

It is important for all unit officers to check with each member for their correct address. Not having correct addresses costs the organization a great deal of money. Send all address changes, as well as names and dates of deaths, to

**Bill and Cathy Zubke, 417 North Broadway, Watertown, SD 57201.**

**Phone: 605-886-8637 • Email address: calz45@hotmail.com**

### Unit Presidents (or Contact), Addresses, Phone Numbers, Email Addresses

#### Aberdeen Area

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#### Madison

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#### Connie Palmer

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Jerold Bender  
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#### Winner Area

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#### Yankton Area

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