

MRTF President's Message

By Jane Fullerton



As we enter the Holiday season, it is time for us to reflect on our past accomplishments, while giving thanks for the present and planning for the future.

First, we must be grateful for all of those educators who have gone before us and laid ground work for our soon to be 50 year celebration. MRTA was organized in 1960 and will be 50 in 2010!

When I came on to the MRTA Board of Directors more than 15 years ago, one of the first things I learned was that the retirees had established a building fund. They decided that all dues paid for life memberships would be placed in that fund. How excited they would be today to know they had a part in the MRTA/MRTF office building.

It seems only yesterday that President Ron Marsch appointed a building committee. That committee, along with the Board of Directors of both the Association and the Foundation moved forward with the plans for building. Groundbreaking was

so exciting, but nothing to compare with the ribbon cutting for our new facility on September 21, 2009.

For the very first time, the Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation has its own office and classroom and the Missouri Retired Teachers Association has its own permanent home near our State Capital. As we approach our 50th birthday, how appropriate President Cochran's theme is "MRTA is Here to Stay!"

I wish to remind everyone that every donation to the Foundation whether for the Building Fund or Scholarship/Grant Fund is 100% tax deductible. The MRT Foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax deductible charitable corporation and a full partner with MRTA.

This fall the Foundation published a new brochure. In the first paragraph it states the Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation devoted to raising funds to carry our certain charitable, educational, scientific and literary purposes of the Missouri Retired Teachers Association. With this in mind, we listed the four fund choices that our donors may choose; building fund, scholarship program, general fund and the endowment fund.

For our donors there are many ways you may contribute to your choice of funds. Two of our most popular choices continue to be the designation of your PSRS death benefit to the MRTF and (TOTS) to tithing on your MRTA supported Missouri State income tax exemption.

As we enter the season of giving thanks, and for planning Christmas gifts for family and friends, please include a tax deductible gift for the MRT Foundation.

During this holiday season when we reflect on the Mission and Vision of both MRTA and MRTF, I cannot help but think of the Bible verse in Luke: Chapter 12, Verse 48 which states: "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

With this verse in mind I am asking you to consider a generous pledge this holiday season to the Foundation and consider it as an annual gift.

All tax deductible contributions to MRTF of \$200 and larger will be recognized on the MRTF Donor Wall in our new permanent office facility.

"By giving, you leave a legacy; you create a memory that will not fade."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MRTF ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

Gift Categories

Legacy—\$5000 plus (Legacy contributors to the Building Fund will be recognized on the Donor Wall of Fame).

Founder—\$2,500-\$4,999 • Benefactor—\$1,000-\$2,499 • Shareholder—\$500-\$999 • Partner—\$200-\$499 • Friend—\$1-\$199

Yes, I want to contribute to the MRTF. (ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE)

Enclosed please find my tax-deductible gift of \$_____.

I wish to earmark my contribution to the _____ MRTF Building Fund _____ MRTF Scholarship/Grant Fund.

_____ Pledge—I wish to pledge an annual amount of \$_____. Please bill me annually on _____ (list date).

_____ Beneficiary—I wish to name the MRTF Building Fund as the beneficiary of my PSRS \$5,000 death benefit. Forms will be provided to you.

_____ I would like to discuss including the MRTF in my will or create an endowment. The Foundation Treasurer will contact you.

Name _____ Business Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

Your contribution is greatly appreciated and will promptly be acknowledged. Recognition of your support will be announced on the World Wide Web. Please enclose this form along with your check payable to the MRT Foundation in an envelope and mail to:

Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation • 3030 Dupont Circle • Jefferson City, Missouri 65109