



News Sheet “Update” May 10, 2022, #18

Wendy Wiegers, Editor, wowiegers@comcast.net

211 Pheasant Meadow Ct., Gurnee, IL 60031 (847) 855-8391

IN-PERSON @ LAMBS’ FARM—11:30 a.m.

BERNIE’S BOOK BANK



917 N Shore Drive,
Lake Bluff, IL 60044
www.berniesbookbank.org

- Bernie’s Book Bank is named for Dr. Bernard P. Floriani, the father of Founder and Chief Advancement Officer, Brian Floriani.
- Bernie was a self-made man – the son of a coal miner who grew up in a house without running water until he went to college on a basketball scholarship who achieved a BA, MA, and Doctorate’s degree in reading education.
- The sudden death of his father, Bernie, inspired him to do something different with his life. He now understood the importance of what his father knew — that **reading is the single most important skill a child needs** in order to contribute and function competently within our society.
- Brian began working as a reading paraprofessional for Shiloh Park Elementary in Zion, Illinois. He spent every day tutoring struggling readers.
- He now understood the importance of what his father knew — that **reading is the single most important skill a child needs** in order to contribute and function competently within our society.
- Furthermore, he realized that all of these children probably could have been “reading ready” if they had been provided access to books at home before entering Kindergarten.
- In December 2009, Bernie’s Book Bank was founded in Brian’s garage as this was where he began sourcing and redistributing books to under-served children.
- In 2021 they have distributed 20 MILLION books distributed since 2009 to school districts in the Chicagoland area.

They invite you to be a volunteer!

2022 LCRTA MEETINGS

June 9	Wendy Wiegers	IRTA VIRTUAL AREA II CONFERENCE
June 14	Sylvia England	Waukegan African American Underground Railroad Museum / Juneteenth
July	NO MEETING!	
August 9	Doug Strand	TRS Trustee
	Gary Divito	Member Benefits
Sept. 13		Meet the Political Candidates
Oct. 11	Sharon Epps, Poet	One Woman Writing Wrongs with Words
Nov. 8	Renee Baldwin	Upscale Rummage
Dec. 13		TBA

TRS (Teachers Retirement System)

P.O. Bo 19253
Springfield, IL 62702-92!
1 (800) 877-7896
www.trs.state.il.us



IRTA (Illinois Retired Teachers Association)

828 S. Second Street
Springfield, IL 62702
1 (800) 728-4782
www.irtaonline.org



LCRTA (Lake County Retired Teachers Association)

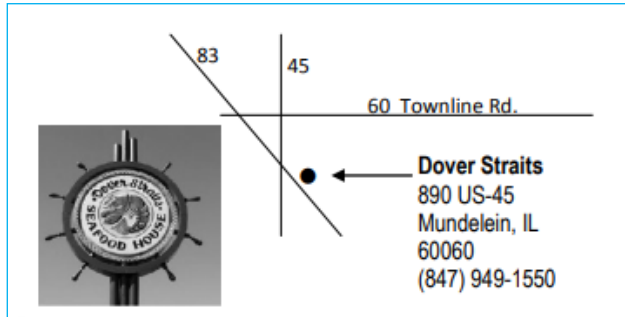
Box 8107, Gurnee, IL 60031
www.lcrt.org





Save the date: June 9th
IRTA Virtual Area II Meeting!

You must be an IRTA MEMBER to attend!
You will be invited through IRTA!



JOIN US FOR THE OCTOBER
11th LCRTA LUNCHEON AT
DOVER STRAITS RESTAURANT!

(See forms on table)

This came courtesy of Sen. Linda Holmes:

Paying Down Debt and Fulfilling Pension Promises

The budget meets our full pension commitment while adding \$200 million to pay down debt, bringing the total pension payment OVER what is required to \$500 million dollars and SAVING taxpayers more than 1.8 billion!

IRTA FOUNDATION - EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION GRANTS - DUE JUNE 1ST

The IRTA Foundation continues to work towards the future by offering \$36,500 in grant money to current educators in all counties in Illinois. This special grant will provide additional funds to public school educators (Pre-K through 12) so that their students will have the means to participate in special projects.

If you know of any teacher who might be interested in up to \$750.00 for a project, please have him/her go to <https://www.irtaonline.org/index.php/foundation/Grants> to fill out an application.

