

# **MRTA Retirement Education Committee Report**

## **Missouri Association of School Librarians Conference**

April 20, 2015

Dear MRTA Staff & Leaders,

Last Sunday and Monday I spent 14 hours at Tan-Tar-A manning the MRTA Exhibit Booth at the MASL (librarians) annual conference. We were one of 62 Exhibitors and there were approximately 700 people who attended. Unlike nearly all of the conferences we do, PSRS/PEERS did NOT have a booth. Therefore I answered a lot of questions and handed out their phone number. We had a prime location right in the middle of everything.

It may be that it is so late in the school year, but lots of librarians said they were retiring this year. Because of this, the conference proved to be exceptionally valuable to MRTA. I kept very busy preparing and handing out packets of membership information. Of GREAT importance to us was the fact that most librarians said Teacher Retirement Receptions were held in the libraries. Nearly all of them took packets to be put with the retirement gifts at the receptions.

As often is the case, we had visits from people who were already members. Most of our members expressed appreciation for the work MRTA does for them. Lots of people were very well-informed. Again, probably because of the time of the year many of them mentioned the GRANTS. They said they had just received the grant applications from their Principals or Superintendents and they were going to apply. There was a lot of excitement about the MRTA Grants.

This was an exceptionally enthusiastic group and a major conference which should be very productive for MRTA. Next important conference is the MOACTE annual meeting in Springfield in July. Best wishes to all.

Larry Beal, Chairman

RETIREMENT EDUCATION COMMITTEE