



The next general **membership meeting** will be held on
Thursday, March 12th at Noon – Memorial Union, Room 360
Sandwiches and soda will be available.

The PTAA 2007-2010 Contract:

Eureka, finally, after a long waiting period the complete 2007-2010 PTAA contract is online either at www.uri.edu/ptaa or at www.uri.edu/hr/unions.

Trustee Election April 2009:

A **Trustee** (a non-Executive Board position) position is up for election at the **April 09 General Membership Meeting**. Nominations are accepted until closing of nomination during the April General Membership meeting. Nominations may be posted by one self or another member and have to be accepted by the nominee before election begins. In case of several nominees a secret ballot will be conducted. Please contact the Treasurer, Karol Leuzarder for more information about the duties of a Trustee.

Charitable Contributions:

Dan Taylor, a Hall Director in Housing & Residential Life, won the \$100.00 charity drawing. The donation was made to the **Susan G. Komen Breast Center** at the OSF Foundation in Illinois.

Lelah Sciarra, an Animal Technician in Research and Economic Development, won the \$200.00 charity drawing and designated the **Welcome House** in Peace Dale, RI as the recipient.

New Hires:

A Research Assistant IV was hired in College of Human Science and Services, Gerontology at 25.9% through pay grade 7.

A Research Assistant I was hired in CELS-ADM at 7.8% through pay grade 1.

The newsletter will also be posted on the PTAA website at www.uri.edu/ptaa.

Implications & Consequences of Pension changes as posted in the FY09 Revised Budget/H-5109:

Many provisions of the Supplemental Budget, H-5109, as released by Governor Carcieri on Jan 7, 2009, target jobs, pensions, contracts, bargaining rights and health care benefits. Several of our members in the RI Employment Retirement System (ERSRI) would be impacted by proposed changes to this Pension system:

- . The employer will reduce its contribution from 80 to 25%.
- . The mandatory retirement age increases from 58 to 59.
- . The disability pensions will be reduced.
- . The Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) will be eliminated after April 1, 2009.

We need your support to deflect these changes. Please call your State Senator and Representative. Their contact information can be found on the Secretary of State's web site at www.sec.state.ri.us/vic.

Other interesting Bills:

Checkout their details at www.rilin.state.ri.us/genmenu

Bill H-5037 – Abolish the Board of Governors of Higher Education

Bill H-5106 – Authorize State Funds to match Federal Grants

Bill H-5060 – Allow State Employees Health Care Choices

Bill H-5033 – Make State Budgeting a 2 year proposition

\$ 100.00 March drawing for human service, non-profit organization:

Please submit in person during the March General Membership meeting the name of your favorite charity for a \$ 100.00 drawing. You must attend in order to win for your charity.

Shaws receipts benefit the Jonny Cake Center:

Shaws is one of the major food suppliers in town and in RI. Now we can make use of the shopping receipts we receive for a Shaws purchase. **One (1) % of the receipt value is donated by Shaws to the Jonny Cake Center.** We will gather receipts and give them to the Jonny Cake Center who will redeem them at Shaws. Please strike out all confidential info on your receipt(s), and bring them to a membership meeting or turn them over to Deb Bergner, debbergner@uri.edu, or your local steward or deliver them directly to the Johnny Cake Center in Peacedale. Please help PTAA make a difference in our community.

Proposed Amendments to 'PTAA Donation Program':

The PTAA Executive Board asks membership to approve in its March 2009 General Membership meeting the following amendments to the PTAA Donation Program:

Management

The ~~donation committee~~ **PTAA Executive Board** administers all aspects of the PTAA donation plan including but not limited to reporting distribution(s) ~~on Exec Board and~~ at Membership meetings and to handling all drawings as listed above. Membership approves this plan and any alterations thereto with majority vote as an agenda item on a regular membership meeting.

Donation Committee

~~The committee consists of 3 members, of which at least 2 members are on the Exec Board.~~

News from the Sunshine Committee:

Treasurer Karol Leuzarder has recovered from recent surgery.

Member Kevin Cronan is back to work after an operation. Congratulations to member Bob MacDonald and his wife, Corina, who welcomed their new baby Silas Charles on February 3, 2009.

PTAA Officers on the Executive Board:

President: Hilde Gesch, 4-4478

Treasurer: Karol Leuzarder, 4-4965

Corresp. Sec.: Jackie Hughes, 4-5542

Vice President: Kathy Faella, 4-4469

Recording Sec.: Alfred Spederelozzi, 4-2452

Chief Steward: Tom Theisen, 4-7870

Members-at-Large:

Doug Johnson, 4-9222; Deb Bergner, 4-2027; Jane Suvajian, 4-4783

Trustees:

Mark Fester, Paulette Greene, Nam Kim-Meong