

**Note:** We are a private nonprofit association. Please do not confuse us with the Minnesota State Retirement System - the state agency which sends us our monthly pension checks.

**Do you have a new address or phone number?**

*Please let us know.*

1-877-487-0402

MRSEA PO BOX 416

Excelsior, MN 55331

[www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org)

*Join our email list, keep informed about legislative issues, pensions issues, healthcare changes and more.*

*Send us an email to register or visit our contact page at [www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org)*

The Minnesota Retired State Employees Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 416  
Excelsior, MN 55331

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# REGISTRATION INSIDE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

## 2019 ANNUAL ST CROIX RIVER BOAT CRUISE

### STILLWATER MINNESOTA



MRSEA



# MRSEA

Minnesota Retired State Employees Association

Fall 2019

Volume 2 Issue 32

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## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Toll Free 1-877-487-0402

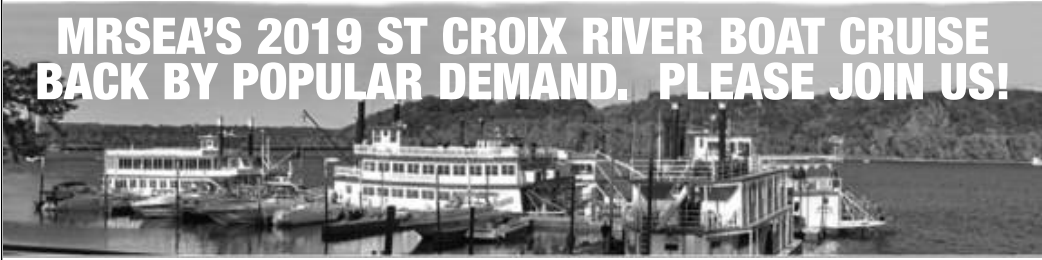
Web: [www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org)

Email: [info@mrsea.org](mailto:info@mrsea.org)

## MAILING ADDRESS:

P.O. BOX 416

Excelsior, MN 55331



**MRSEA'S 2019 ST CROIX RIVER BOAT CRUISE  
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND. PLEASE JOIN US!**

**LOCATION: STILLWATER, MINNESOTA**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2019; DEPARTS 11:30 a.m. RETURNS 1:30 p.m.**

We hope you are able to join us for our MRSEA Fall get together! We will again be cruising the St. Croix on a River Boat. September 25, 2019, rain or shine. Please send in your registration early, as space is limited. We look forward to a great turn out, especially from the recent retirees. It's your chance to become more involved with the association, and enjoy the co-workers you may not have seen in a while. You also will be enjoying a great lunch including burgers and brats.

Due to popular demand, we again will be enjoying the beautiful scenery as we slowly cruise along the St. Croix River. St. Croix Boat & Packet Company proudly operates five historic 1800's era river boats.

**DRESS ATTIRE**

Dress for the current weather conditions during your cruise time. As a general rule, we recommend casual attire, such as casual shorts or pants, and golf shirts.

**HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE**

All St. Croix Boat and Packet vessels are "Handicap Accessible," as required by state law.

**WHERE TO BOARD THE RIVERBOAT**

525 Main Street South Stillwater, MN 55082-5814

From the Twin Cities, follow MN Highway 36 straight east to Stillwater, exit at the Historic Downtown Stillwater Exit off Highway 36. Turn right just before entering downtown Stillwater. See sign on right for St Croix Boat and Packet Co. parking. **Limited** free parking is adjacent to the boarding area. Follow the "Boat Parking" signs.

Boat will start loading at 11:00 a.m. and will depart at 11:30 a.m. Be on time because the boat will be!

**Mission Statement**

**United to advocate for the well  
being of state retirees by:**

**\*monitoring the deliberations of the  
Legislature and the Minnesota State  
Retirement System Board of Directors;  
and responding as appropriate to  
promote, protect and enhance  
retiree interests.**

**\*providing educational information  
on state and national issues  
affecting retirees**

**\*maintaining working relationships  
with other retiree organizations**

**\*promoting social activities  
through local sub chapters and  
statewide meetings**

**\*advocating for the affordability  
of state retiree health and  
long term care benefits**

**Editor's Note:**

*Articles are contributed by MRSEA  
Committees comprised of board  
members, who are assigned to  
specific committees on an  
annual basis.*

**ST CROIX RIVERBOAT REGISTRATION  
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MRSEA. REGISTRATION FEE IS \$27.50  
PER PERSON.**

**MAIL TO: MRSEA, PO BOX 416, EXCELSIOR, MN 55331  
ATTENTION: REGISTRATIONS**

**Registrations must be received by September 22, 2019  
NO REFUNDS AFTER SEPTEMBER 22, 2019**

I/We plan to attend the River Boat Cruise September 25, 2019

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Number \_\_\_\_\_ @\$27.50 \_\_\_\_\_



**MRSEA**



Jake Manahan

**PRESIDENT’S COLUMN**

*Many, many thanks to those individuals who recently retired from the board after giving so much of their time to promote the mission of MRSEA: Beth Arntson, Ed Burek, Jeanne Cornish, John Griebenow, and Ernie Palmsten.*

*Congratulations and welcome to our new board members: Bruce Adams, Dave Hammer, Lois Freiermuth, Rod Koehn, and Michael Landers.*

*Of course, all board members are committed to doing all they can to pursue the mission of MRSEA: advocate for, promote, and protect the interests of public employees. But as we all know, the board is only fifteen people. The real power to advocate for, promote, and protect, comes from the MEMBERS. That is why we intend to escalate our efforts to increase membership. After all, power comes from numbers -- the more members we have, the better able we are to persuade policymakers to honor our legitimate concerns about retirement benefits.*

*As retirees we also have more time to enjoy the fruits of our labors – that is, **HAVE FUN!** Part of that fun is connecting with others who have worked for the public. We have a shared experience that is unique. That is why we support our outstate chapters – they provide a convenient way for retirees to get together and to **HAVE FUN** and stay informed! That is the whole idea.*

**SO PLEASE,** help us and yourselves by doing the following:

- Check out the website [www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org). It is full of current information
- Give us your email address. It’s easy and reduces costs. Go to [www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org) and select contact us tab
- Encourage people to –JOIN! It’s easy. Go to [www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org) and select Join on the home page
- Tells us how we can make MRSEA better – and **MORE FUN**. Call 952-470-6611 or toll free 1-877-487-0402 anytime, or email MRSEA at [info@mrsea.org](mailto:info@mrsea.org)

Meanwhile, the Board will continue what we have been doing:

- Monitoring the legislature
- Work closely with MSRS and the Department of Management and Budget
- Conduct open enrollment insurance meetings – eight sites statewide
- Support our sub-chapters statewide – financially and by attending meetings



**MRSEA BOARD OFFICERS**

**Jake Manahan  
President**

**Nancy Blume  
First Vice President**

**D. William O’Brien  
Second Vice President**

**Peter Obermeyer  
Secretary-Treasurer**

**Dave Hammer  
Assistant Treasurer**

**DIRECTORS**

**BRUCE ADAMS**

**HOWARD BICKER**

**WAYLAND CAMPBELL**

**LOIS FREIERMUTH**

**GERALD KNICKERBOCKER**

**ROD KOHN**

**RICHARD KRUEGER**

**MICHAEL LANDERS**

**RICHARD PERKINS**

**JOHN SHERMAN**

**MRSEA**



## Legislative Update

We need to influence the legislature because they control pensions and can change public pensions in the next legislative session. Our new ability to communicate with our members through email means we can notify our membership of any threats to public pensions and how MRSEA plans to respond.

There are groups seeking to undo defined benefit pension plans such as ours. These groups would prefer the State change to less certain and potentially lower paying defined contribution plans. We must counter misleading information these groups propagate with accurate information about the advantages of defined benefit pension plans.

*We will continue to monitor legislation that may impact retirees.*

## 2020 Insurance Open Enrollment

2020 Insurance Open Enrollment is set for the end of October to mid November 2019. MRSEA will again partner with MMB (Minnesota Management & Budget) and the insurance carriers to bring you "Open Enrollment Insurance Meetings for Retirees" as we have in the past years. Meetings will be held in the Metro Area, as well as Greater Minnesota. The exact locations and times will be posted on the MRSEA, MMB, and MSRS websites at a later date.

## MRSEA'S 2019 ST CROIX RIVER BOAT CRUISE



MRSEA Board members have invited a member of the Governor's Office to join us on the boat cruise but as of the date of the newsletter we have not received a commitment.

## 2019 UPCOMING SUBCHAPTER MEETING DATES

Please visit our website  
[www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org) for further  
details as they are confirmed.

### BRAINERD

Pizza Ranch  
14643 Edgewood Drive-Baxter  
SEPT 19  
DEC 19

### DULUTH

Evergreen Sr. Center  
5830 Grand Ave.  
OCT 23

### MANKATO

Morson-Ario VFW Post #9713  
1900 North Riverfront Dr. Mankato  
SEPT 9  
DEC 9

### NORTHWOODS

Location TBD  
TBD

### ROCHESTER

Centerstone Plaza Hotel, Soldiers Field  
Alpine Room 401 6th Street S.W.  
OCT 25

### FERGUS FALLS

V.F.W. POST 612  
420 East Washington Ave., Fergus Falls  
FIRST TUESDAY EVERY MONTH  
EXCEPT JULY

### MARSHALL

Wooden Nickel  
448 W. Main Street, Marshall  
SEPT 26

Look For More Details on our website  
[www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org)



**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL OR EMAIL:**

[www.mrsea.org](http://www.mrsea.org) • 952-470-6611 • 1-877-487-0402 (toll free)



**MRSEA**