1970 MRTA Membership Committee created; developed retirement handbook; 5,313 members, 25 life memberships.

1971 MRTA implemented pilot program for “Voluntary Unified Membership Drive” with 9 chapters participating; RCC requested donations from local chapters; MRTA Constitution amended to include Affiliate, Associate, and Honorary memberships, and unified membership in MRTA, local chapters and NRTA; State Aid Bill passed to increase retired teachers’ minimum pension from $1,800 to $2,400 (after 6 years of trying); MRTA reimbursed directors’ mileage expense at 10/mile; 55 chapters; 6,561 members.

1972 Voluntary Unified Membership Drive is official; MRTA implemented Gift Certificate Membership program; School Aid Bill passed to allow retirees with less than $2,500 income to earn additional $1,500 without loss of benefits; minimum pension increased to $3,000 and teachers retired after 1956 to receive increase of 1% per year up to a maximum or 15%; 57 chapters; 40 life members; 29,000 annuitants.

1973 Supported property tax relief for retirees; president initiates “telephone chain” for legislative issues; first MARSP XTRA published and mailed to “all” retirees; 7,500 members.

1974 New constitution; name changed to Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP); ten (10) areas formed; annual dues increased to $5.00, life $50.00; Teacher Retirement Bill passed and included cost of living adjustment, 9,365 members.

1975 MARSP started reimbursing Annual Convention voting delegates mileage expense @ .06/mile; new MARSP logo/official seal; State of Michigan appropriated $70,000,000 of amount required to match pension fund; MARSP pushed for and got deletion of part of bill that would have forced state income tax on pensions; first Nominating Committee; MARSP members contributed articles to the Michigan edition of the “Pride in America” book; approximately 10,000 members, 40,000 annuitants.

1976 25th Anniversary; MARSP supported the RCC suit against the State of Michigan and the MPS-ERB for violating the State Constitution regarding the $70,000,000 appropriated from the Retirement Fund; publishing of VANGUARD moved to Lansing; published 1,000 copies of the “Michigan Pride in America” book; SB 122 passed to provide supplemental retirement allowance; 11,337 members, 1,503 life memberships, 39,000 annuitants.