



School's Out Gazette

Publication of the Evansville Retired Teachers Association, an Affiliate of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association
October 2020 Diana Luck, Editor..... Volume 25.2



From our 2020-2021 President, Janet Leistner

As we embark on another seasonal change, we are still in the midst of the pandemic precautions. I hope that everyone is safe and staying healthy while still trying to enjoy life. To help ensure the safety of our membership, we have decided that we will not have an in-person October meeting and luncheon. It is my hope that we will be able to plan some type of Holiday Gathering in December. We will continue to monitor our community statistics and make an informed decision.

In the meantime, what can we do as an association? I have listed a few ideas below.

ERTA members should continue to be cheerleaders for the schools – I had the privilege of attending a conference for a relative at one of the high schools, and I was very pleased to observe how “upbeat” the office staff, the teachers, and the students were as they worked through their day. From my conversations with current teachers, the students are willingly wearing masks and practicing social distancing out of respect for each other and their teachers. We hope that they are practicing that outside of school as well. The students seem happy to be back at school. The teachers are working very hard to use technology in the classroom to ensure safety while providing sound lessons. Please keep our school community in your thoughts. **NOTE:** On behalf of our membership, we sent a letter of support to Dr. Smith and the School Board to let them know that we are proud of their work and devotion. They responded that our well wishes meant a lot.

ERTA members may volunteer at Teacher Locker – Teacher Locker continues to operate and is always in need of additional volunteers to help at the teacher shopping sessions. They have limited each session to two volunteers and two teachers shopping at a time to ensure social distancing. **IF** you are comfortable working at a session or two, please let me know, and I will give Jeffrey Berger your name and email. We donated \$100 to help buy supplies for Teacher Locker as we did not have decoration expenses for our canceled luncheon in August. The EVSC Foundation sent a heartfelt thank you for our support.

ERTA members are strongly encouraged to send dues to Lino Wiseman - We will need to report our chapter membership to the state organization at the end of October, so we encourage everyone to send your ERTA dues as soon as possible. The form is included in the newsletter to print, or you can duplicate the information on paper to send with your check. New retirees may send in their form and mark dues paid for this year. It is our way of saying welcome to our association. Members may also consider joining Indiana Retired Teachers Association (IRTA). The state association works tirelessly to convince our legislators to provide the cost of living stipend to retired teachers each year. Special thanks to Diane Meier for representing our association and keeping us informed.

Again, it is so discouraging that we have not been able to meet at our luncheons, but I hope everyone will help us move forward by joining our ERTA chapter so that we will have a working budget when we do finally get to be together.

Finally, take care and spend time enjoying your family and other activities – We have all learned to enjoy the “little things in life” and have learned to be creative for our recreation and exercise. Listening to great music helps. Many of you attended our March luncheon at which Monte Skelton performed. What a joy to see an EVSC graduate share his talents with the world. Take a few minutes to relax and listen to his latest recording at the link below. Take care everyone!

Click this link to hear [Monte Skelton's "Be Free" track - 2020](#)



Message from President-Elect Jan Craig

I read an unknown quote once that said, “A fallen leaf 🍁 is nothing more than summer’s ☀️ wave goodbye.” Well, if you drive by my Northside yard, you will see that summer has already said, “Bye, Bye.” I simply love the change of seasons in Southern Indiana. But I never knew that an unexpected virus would throw ERTA a curve this year especially on how our meetings would be conducted.

The leadership team values each of you as ERTA members, and our goal is to stay connected through our outstanding published newsletter (thank you, Diana Luck), emails, and possible future Zoom meetings until it is safe to meet face to face. We are crossing our fingers for our December meeting. Notification will come via our newsletter or email once all the details are confirmed for a holiday get-together.

Because things look so different in a COVID world, the board will be meeting on Oct. 1 by Zoom to brainstorm how to proceed for the remainder of the year. We are looking forward to seeing each of you, hopefully in the near future. Please feel free to contact any board member or me with any creative ideas and suggestions on how to actively seek out new examples of how to stay connected during this pandemic.

Continue to stay healthy and safe!

Jan Craig
jlraig7@gmail.com
 (812)459-1356 (c)

Please Keep These Dates Clear!
December 10, 2020, March 11, 2021, and May 13, 2021

ERTA 2020-2021

Oct. Board Meeting..... Zoom on October 1 at 1 p.m.
 October ProgramZoom on October 10 at Noon
 December Gazette Articles to D. Luck November 9
 December Board Meeting..... December 3 - Pending
 December Luncheon December 10 - Pending
 Legislative Brunch Indianapolis Pending
 March Newsletter Articles to Diana Luck February 8
 March Board Meeting March 4 - Pending

March Luncheon/Program March 11 - Pending
 May Newsletter Articles to Diana Luck April 5
 USI Scholarship Banquet April - TBA
 UE Scholarship Banquet April - TBA
 May Board Meeting May 6 - Pending
 May Luncheon/Program May 13 - Pending
 IRTA Rep. Assembly, Primo Center, Indy.....June 17

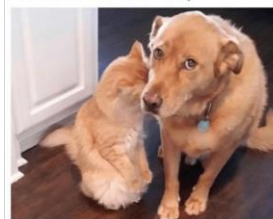


Fight Coronavirus!

Eat five cloves of garlic every day. It does absolutely nothing, but keeps everyone else at a safe distance.



If you come home from work and see your pets like this, just start looking for the destruction immediately



Message from Sandra Schmitt, ERTA Secretary

The August ERTA Executive Board meeting was on Zoom, and the minutes will be in the next newsletter after Board approval. ERTA August luncheon was cancelled.

IN MEMORIAM

“Always in Our Hearts”

Candace Dodson July 22, 2020
<https://obits.courierpress.com/obituaries/courierpress/obituary.aspx?n=candice-dodson-garnett&pid=196545477&fhid=14467>
 Nancy Hitch August 16, 2020
<https://obits.courierpress.com/obituaries/courierpress/obituary.aspx?n=nancy-hitch&pid=196651769&fhid=10662>
 Bob Voegeli August 16, 2020
<https://obits.courierpress.com/obituaries/courierpress/obituary.aspx?n=robert-r-voegeli-bob&pid=196663596&fhid=15841>

RECORD YOUR 2020 VOLUNTEER HOURS	Youth	Other
Month		
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
TOTAL HOURS		
Name		
Email		
Phone		
<i>Turn your hours in at the December meeting or email to: Jane Staton, mymomjane@aol.com.</i>		

Volunteers Are Special!

Many had volunteer hours but did not turn them in at the December meeting. Hours that you serve in any organization or just delivering cookies to a friend can be counted. Hours can be counted if it does not involve a family member or if you are being paid to do the job. You can even count the time it takes you to get there and return home from your volunteering. You may want to use this form to keep track of your volunteer time. Please add them up to turn in at the December meeting.



KEEPING IN TOUCH

ERTA Website www.erta.info
 EVSC Website <http://evscicats.com/evscnewsletter/category/latest-news/evsc-news/>
 IRTA 1-888-454-9333
 IRTA E-mail irta@retiredteachers.org
 ISTRF (Retirement Benefits) 1-888-286-3544
 Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield 1-800-368-9354
 Group Insurance Policies 1-800-258-7041
 IRTA Website www.retiredteachers.org
 ISTRF Website www.in.gov/trf

Facebook by Doris Beard: Search Evansville Retired Teachers Association

EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

2020-2021 Membership Dues

Name _____ Date _____
 Last First Middle Initial

Address _____
 Street City State Zip+4 numbers

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail _____

Cell: (____) _____

Retired Teacher (\$15.00) _____

Associate Member (\$10.00) _____

I wish to make an additional contribution to the ERTA Scholarship Fund _____

Check # _____ TOTAL: _____

Make checks payable to: **EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (ERTA)**

Mail to: Lino Wiseman
 5950 Knight Dr.
 Evansville, IN 47715-3472

		ERTA	
		TREASURER'S REPORT	31-Jul-20
CHECKING ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2020			\$1,819.00
Expenses		191.9	
Interest		0.01	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2020</u>			<u>\$1,627.11</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2020			240.63
Interest		0.01	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2020</u>			<u>240.64</u>
MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2020			3,087.73
Interest		0.52	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2020</u>			<u>3,088.25</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2020			\$15.00
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2020</u>			<u>\$15.00</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2020			13,127.91
Interest		0.56	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2020</u>			<u>13,128.47</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			\$18,099.47

Message from Diane Meier, IRTA Liaison/Legislative

The IRTA Legislative Committee met virtually in August. Steve Beebe, IRTA Lobbyist, began by filling us in on current budget concerns. The Indiana fiscal year ended on June 30 with 1.4 billion dollars less than projected. He feels this coming budget session will be the most difficult he will have seen. There was discussion of preventing raids on the teacher retirement accounts. Our committee feels strongly that we must watch and step in if there is any discussion of taking money from the accounts for anything other than the original designation.

Following are the goals the Legislative Committee presented to the IRTA Board.

1. IRTA should protect all revenue streams that affect retired teachers.
2. IRTA should request that the Legislature budget a "13th check." This money is available from the SARA account which was set up for that purpose.
3. Also, remember that anyone 65 or older is eligible for an absentee ballot. We encourage you to apply early and to mail it early. Regardless of our affiliation, we need to vote.

13th Check – Stipend

On September 1, those of you retired for at least a year received up to \$450 extra in your check. If you have not yet joined both ERTA and IRTA, please plan to do so. ERTA dues are \$15.00 a year, IRTA, \$35. If not for the efforts of these two organizations, you would not see the extra money in your check. This year, more than ever, we need your membership.

**E
R
T
A

E
X
E
C
U
T
I
V
E

B
O
A
R
D

2
0
2
0
-
2
0
2
1**

Position	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Janet Leistner	j.leistner@twc.com
President-Elect	Jan Craig	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Secretary	Sandra Schmidt	pineshore@wowway.com
Treasurer	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
Immediate Past President	Steve Fritz	sustfritz@yahoo.com
Directors	Fred Bullinger Diane Meier Don Mosbey Fred Naab David Pfettscher	bullingerf@yahoo.com demeier@aol.com donmosbey@gmail.com Fredn04@wowway.com dwpfettscher@att.net
Auditing & Budget	Lino Wiseman Darla Olberding	linowise@twc.com olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service	Jane Staton	mymomjane@aol.com
Fellowship/Necrology	Donna Lutz Judy Isaac	done1266@gmail.com jli710@gmail.com
Membership	Darlene Brockriede	brockriede@twc.com
Nominating	Jan Craig	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Programs	Jan Craig	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Publications	Diana Luck/Brenda Beeler (School's Out Gazette) Scott Riley (Web site) Doris Beard (Facebook)	dianaeluck@gmail.com bgbeeler@att.net sdriley44@gmail.com dorisbeard@roadrunner.com
Publicity	Doris Beard	dorisbeard@roadrunner.com
Reservations	Jane Staton Janet Craig Janet Leistner	mymomjane@aol.com jlcraig7@gmail.com j.leistner@twc.com
Special Project	Janet Leistner	j.leistner@twc.com
Hensley Scholarship	Diane Meier Donna Schmidt	demeier@aol.com donna.schmidt1212@icloud.com
Chaplain	Ed Wessel	N/A
IRTA Liaison/Legislative	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
Historian	Darla Olberding	olberdingdj@aol.com
Frog Follies Coordinator	Jim Sharp	katsharp623@aol.com
Luncheon Decorations	Earsie Kelley Frankye Calloway Doris Beard	earsiek@wowway.com w4calloway@gmail.com dorisbeard@roadrunner.com
Lunch Collection	Judy Isaac Donna Lutz	jli710@gmail.com done1266@gmail.com