



School's Out Gazette

Publication of the Evansville Retired Teachers Association, an Affiliate of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association

December 2017..... Volume 22.3



From Our 2017-2018 President, Terry Becker

OK - I admit it! This is the time of year when I miss my days as a teacher. Don't get me wrong - I still remember having my secret countdown clock until vacation, and there was this constant mantra of "if I can just make it until next Tuesday" running in my head! But the things I remember now - now that I'm not counting down the days - are the "shows" for Nursing Homes, Grade Schools, Kiwanis, Rotary Clubs AND the Retired Teacher Luncheons. It was a combination of watching my students put into practice what I had been trying to teach in class and seeing them proudly sharing those lessons with their community. I can't speak for your discipline, but there is a frustration with teaching music. I can certainly "teach" them the mechanics of singing - where Middle C is on the staff, how to breathe correctly, but when it came to the application of these skills - of really making music - I was never sure whether they succeeded because of my brilliant curriculum or if they just came by it naturally! I wanted to take the credit, but I really couldn't tell if they would remember anything we talked about past the final exam, and heaven knows they weren't going to tell me. (Maybe twenty years later, but never when I was teaching the material!) But when we went out to perform I got to see all of them put my curriculum into action. The notes - right or wrong, the production of the sound, - sometimes beautiful - sometimes not so much, and the way they interacted with their audience, sometimes lively - sometimes scared to death. All the things I could say in class, but couldn't really "teach" them about "making music" coming together in those short twenty-minute shows. And because we did so many mini-concerts around Christmas, they got to practice and hone the craft of performing - a craft, by the way, like it or not, we all do every single day. So, at the luncheon, on the 14th (make your reservation now!) we will watch the Washington Middle School Choir under the direction of Mr. Patrick Ritsch. And while they are there to entertain us, it will also be a "life lesson" for them in how to communicate, how to physically manipulate their talents, and how to put into practice all the things Mr. Ritsch told them about in class. Ah - now that's something I miss!!

Merry Christmas and Happy 2018!



The third ERTA luncheon for this school year will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2017, at the American Baptist East Church at 6300 Washington Avenue. We will start at 11:30 for socializing, and lunch will follow at 12 noon. The cost is \$12. The program will be a holiday concert by Washington Middle School.

Please reply to this e-mail invitation by Monday, December 7, only if you plan to attend, and include your name and number of reservations.

Reminder: If you need to cancel a reservation you made, please call Brenda Beeler (812-422-1637) or e-mail me at dianaeluck@gmail.com ASAP. Monday, December 11, is the last day to cancel your reservation without being charged since ERTA will have to pay for any meals after that date. If school is cancelled, the luncheon will be cancelled. If school is delayed, the luncheon will still be held.

Let's gather for a festive time and ring in the holidays!



The photos are from Walt Gleim. ERTA logo is by Jon Siau. Other graphics from Google Images with permission.

Message from Our President-Elect, Walt Lewis

Have you ever considered giving a holiday gift of cash to a respected, tax-exempt agency, person, or institution? Maybe even make it a combined donation from you and your family, group, or club? Such a gift may even replace the presents that you traditionally exchange with each other. You, and everyone in your group, can experience that great feeling that comes with doing something special for those in need.

A donation not only helps the needy but also solves some of the usual difficulties associated with holiday shopping. Just imagine: No stress of fighting crowds; no need for return gift receipts; no problems with sizes, colors, or styles; no fear of your gift costing too much or too little to be appropriate.

Most of all, some needy person or group is made better by your generosity.



December 14... Luncheon Meeting American Baptist East 11:30 a.m.
February 9, 2018... Newsletter articles to Diana Luck
March 1, 2018... Board Meeting at American Baptist East 1:00 p.m.
March 8, 2018... Luncheon Meeting American Baptist East 11:30 a.m.
April 13, 2018... Newsletter articles to Diana Luck
May 3, 2018... Board Meeting at American Baptist East 1:00 p.m.
May 10, 2018... Luncheon Meeting American Baptist East 11:30 a.m.
TBD Legislative Lobby Day
TBD UE and USI Scholarship Banquets
TBD IRTA Representative Assembly, Indianapolis, IN



ERTA Members,

Please don't forget that volunteer hours need to be turned in by December 31. I will have extra forms for you to fill out at the December meeting. If you are unable to be at that meeting, you may email them to me at lclaybaugh@aol.com or call my home phone at 812-428-0586. If you use snail mail, please send them to the following address: Patricia Claybaugh, 5901 Hogue Rd., Evansville, IN 47712.

Thank you very much to the members who have already turned in hours to me. Patricia Claybaugh

Community Service Volunteer Hours – 2017

Your Name: _____

Your Telephone Number: _____

Please fill out the form below and return it to Patricia Claybaugh.

Volunteer Youth Hours: _____

Other Hours: _____

Total Hours of Service for 2017: _____

Anything you do, except caring for a family member, counts. Travel time to and from an event counts as well as time spent on the computer or telephone committee.

You may put this information in the basket on the check-in table at the December meeting.

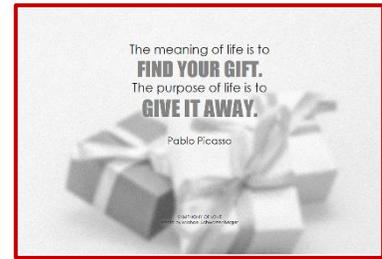
You may send information to me by...

Email: lclaybaugh@aol.com

Phone: (812) 428 – 0586 (Please be sure to leave your name.)

Snail Mail: 5901 Hogue Road, Evansville, IN 47712

I need your hours by December 31, 2017. Thank you for participating in this important activity. Volunteer hours count when talking to legislators.



**Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Executive Board Meeting
October 5, 2017**

Call to Order: President–Elect Walt Lewis called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at American Baptist East Church. In addition to the president-elect, the following were in attendance: Brenda Beeler, Darlene Brockriede, Fred Bullinger, Steven Fritz, Diana Luck, Diane Meier, Don Mosbey, Fred Naab, David Pfetscher, Sandra Schmidt, and Lino Wiseman.

Approval of August 3, 2017 ERTA Executive Board Minutes: The minutes were accepted as printed.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lino Wiseman distributed the financial report as of August 31, 2017. The report was accepted and will be filed for audit.

President-Elect: Walt began by announcing that Steve Fritz will be listed as president-elect on the slate of officers for 2018/2019. In addition, Steve will serve as our chaplain during Ed Wessel's absence.

Walt also informed the board that two association members, who prefer to remain anonymous, donated seven chafing dishes to the church. The chafing dishes can be used at our luncheons.

Committee Reports:

Fellowship/Necrology: Diane Meier said that Donna Lutz will be sending cards during Judy Isaac's absence.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede announced that 181 members have paid dues this year. Last year there were 260 paid members. More are expected to pay before the end of October.

Programs: Walt said that he will speak about veterans and how things have changed in reference to our military. Gina Moore will provide musical entertainment. The Carousel will cater our luncheon.

He also said that President Terry Becker is taking care of our program for December; Dr. MacLeod, a professor at UE, will be speaking in March about Evansville during World War II; and Pat Shoulders will be speaking in May.

Reservations: Diana Luck reported 131 reservations for next week. David Pfetscher informed the board that ten members who had reservations didn't attend and didn't cancel. Three who made reservations cancelled in time.

Scholarships: Diane Meier informed the board that she will disperse the information about the Hensley Scholarships in November or December. No one can receive the scholarship two years in a row. Less than \$10,000 has been awarded each of the last two years. Administrators can also be considered.

Legislative: Diane Meier predicted that more work will be done next year on a COLA.

Frog Follies: Lino reported that ERTA received \$1,644 from Frog Follies. After deducting \$380.95 to feed our volunteers, we cleared \$1,263.05. The amount of \$192.20 was deducted from \$1,263.05 to pay for the candy that filled baskets distributed to welcome back the teachers. The remaining amount of \$1,070.85 was deposited into Special Projects that had a \$5.00 balance. The new balance is \$1,075.85.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none.

Announcement: The next ERTA Executive Board Meeting will be Thursday, December 7, 2017.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



**Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Luncheon Meeting
October 12, 2017**

Call to Order: President Terry Becker called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. at the American Baptist East Church Fellowship Hall and welcomed everyone.

Introductions: Terry introduced the head table: President-Elect Walt Lewis, also serving as our program chair; Steve Fritz, standing in for Ed Wessel; and Gina Moore, providing today's music.

Honoring America: Bob Rogers was asked to lead members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Musical Entertainment: Gina Moore sang "What a Wonderful World" as she walked around the room greeting familiar faces.

Devotional: Steve Fritz sang "Spirit of the Living God" before he prayed.

President's Report:

Frog Follies: Terry asked those in attendance to think about volunteering to work at Frog Follies next year because it is such an enjoyable experience.

Volunteer Hours: Pat Claybaugh will now be collecting and reporting our volunteer hours instead of Jan Kraft.

Membership in ERTA and IRTA: Terry announced that ERTA is currently down on membership numbers. Dues are due by the end of October. Terry also spoke about IRTA and the 13th check. He encouraged those who haven't joined one or both associations to see Lino for ERTA and Gene VanStone for IRTA.

Luncheon Reservations: If you make a reservation and then realize that you can't attend, please let us know by the cut-off date, which is the Monday before the board meeting.

If a reservation is not cancelled or is not cancelled on time, payment needs to be made.

Lunch: Walt explained how members and guests would be dismissed for meal service. Those seated at the head table went first, followed by members and their guests being called by tables.

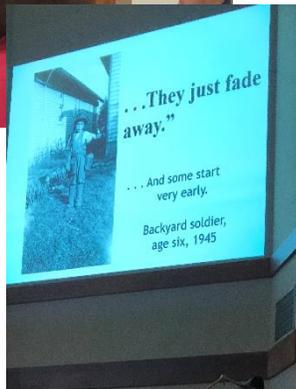
Door Prizes: Tickets were drawn, and three gift cards were awarded. Then, members and guests were asked to move to the sanctuary for the program.

Program: Today's speaker was retired Lieutenant Colonel Walt Lewis of the United States Army Reserve. Walt began by speaking about veterans in general and about the camaraderie that exists among them. Then, he compared the veterans and military forces of the past with the veterans and military forces of today. He spoke of several differences between the two due to the termination of the universal draft and the extent of today's conflicts that require fewer military personnel. He added that women serve in today's military. The role they play is just as critical.

Walt completed his presentation by saying we need to be grateful for our veterans' contributions, and we need to support them. Gina Moore sang "God Bless the USA" to conclude the program.

Closing Announcement: Terry announced that the Washington Middle School Choir will be singing at the December luncheon.

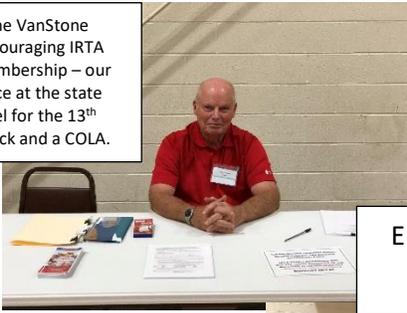
Submitted by
Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



Steve Fritz singing and leading prayer and Gina Moore, Terry Becker, and Walt Lewis expressing Honor, Respect, and Gratitude for our Veterans!



Gene VanStone encouraging IRTA membership – our voice at the state level for the 13th check and a COLA.



ERTA celebrating fall and honoring veterans – lots of red, white, and blue!



IN MEMORIAM

- Delpha Cheek September 23, 2017
- Twila Cheek September 26, 2017
- Jane Whitehouse November 7, 2017
- Alan Woebkenberg November 8, 2017

Always in Our Hearts

KEEPING IN TOUCH

- ERTA Website.....www.erta.info
- EVSC Website... <http://evsciacats.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

Please e-mail any contact changes (including cell number if you dropped your landline) to Darlene Brockriede, brockriede@twc.com.

ERTA TRIVIA NO. 10

During the presidency of Raymond Kendall (1974-1976), the ERTA voted to honor their past presidents by giving them a life membership in the organization. At the state level, the IRTA hired their first full-time executive director. Submitted by Darla Olberding



EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report by Lino Wiseman

September 30, 2017



CHECKING ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2017			<u>\$3,523.18</u>
Income	1774.56		
Interest	0.16		
Expenses	922.64		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2017</u>			<u>\$4,375.26</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2017			240.06
Interest	0.02		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2017</u>			<u>240.08</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT			
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2017			\$15.00
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2017</u>			<u>\$15.00</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26			
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2017			1,195.70
Interest	0.12		
Donations	150.00		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2017</u>			<u>1,345.82</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 2 CD's			
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2017			37,086.59
Interest	67.06		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2017</u>			<u>37,153.65</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			\$43,129.81





**Evansville Retired
Teachers Association
P.O. Box 15064
Evansville, IN 47716-0064**