



School's Out Gazette

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

October 2017..... Volume 22.2



From Our 2017-2018 President, Terry Becker

“So, you’re retired! And what are you doing with your time?” said in a tone that implies that I’ve gone from a sixty-hour work week to sitting in my rocker on the porch waiting for the grim reaper! And then I find myself defensively saying, “Oh, I’m just as busy as ever - lots of meetings and work with this board and that - I hardly have time to turn around!” And it’s true - I have never had such a variety of projects on my plate at one time as I do today. Teaching tends to monopolize our time. But “retirement” is different, and what you don’t realize until you actually experience it is that our jobs as teachers often became our identity, our purpose, and our justification for being. Nothing wrong with that - I wouldn’t change a thing, but as I watch my younger working friends, stressed to the max and still behind, knowing they can never do enough, I finally realize that life offers us more - and it’s a shame that most of us have to wait so long to take advantage of it.

Over the past six months, I’ve found myself at the funerals of longtime friends and colleagues whose work touched so many people in the community, and for whom the phrase “they will be missed” was hardly adequate. Even more heart-wrenching is the number of friends and colleagues I keep learning about, who are fighting serious life-threatening maladies with so much dignity that most of us don’t even know they have a problem. And while I sincerely pray for the successful recovery of those who are sick, and I send my deepest condolences to the families and friends of those who have passed, I’d also like to add a small word of thanks. Everything else aside, these brave and wonderful people have made me change the way I answer the question, “So, what are you doing with your time?” From now on my answer is a proud, “Any _____ thing I want!” I hope you do the same!! AND come to the October 12 luncheon! Gina Moore is going to help us celebrate, and “A good time will be had by all!!”



The second ERTA luncheon for this school year will be held on **Thursday, October 12, 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 theme will be patriotic in honor of Veterans Day with Lt. Colonel Walt Lewis speaking and Gina Moore singing special patriotic music. Please wear red, white, and blue to show our patriotism and support.

Please reply to my e-mail invitation by **Monday, October 2**, 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, October 2, is the last day to cancel your reservation without being charged since ERTA will have to pay for any meals after that date.

We are looking forward to an outstanding program, good food, and good company! Diana

Our Menu (Catered by Carousel)

- Fried Chicken
- Ham
- Mashed Potatoes
- Corn
- Green Beans
- Rolls
- Salad
- Pie
- Drinks

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

Message from Our President-Elect, Walt Lewis

As we approach another Veterans Day, a thought comes to mind

Until recently, all of us could recall family members, neighbors, teachers, and other acquaintances who served or were serving in the American armed forces. Seemingly, everyone was connected as young men and women served our country as volunteers or draftees. Their contribution was always appreciated; and, during times of war, we feared for their safety. We were well aware of the significance of a blue or gold star in a neighbor's window.



The tri-state was a hub of military activity with every military branch represented by local reserve units. The Army National Guard units were always present when needed to serve our community, and active duty soldiers from Fort Campbell, Camp Breckenridge, and Fort Knox frequented downtown Evansville on weekend passes. Evansville was home to an active group of military and former military personnel who sponsored parades and celebrations on patriotic holidays. Evansville was the site of the world's largest VFW club and home to numerous American Legion and veterans' clubs and known nationwide as a patriotic and military supportive community.

Circumstances, however, have changed significantly in the last several decades. With the end of the draft and with fewer young men and women serving in our armed forces, many of us do not personally know a member of the active military. We seldom hear or read about the continued contributions made by American service men and women. These men and women serve repeated tours of duty in areas of hostility, resulting in extensive casualty lists and increasing the risk of PTSD. A small blurb in the paper or casual mention on the evening news stirs very little interest or workday discussion. Military personnel in uniform are seldom seen in our stores and restaurants, and service clubs struggle to gain new members and to stay operational.

Have we lost something of value, or is this a positive step away from "militarism"? American service members still serve in hundreds of overseas installations. Parents, spouses, and dependent children still miss family members and fear for their safety. None of us, however, fears a child or relative being drafted and sent to serve in some forsaken jungle or frozen Arctic installation. Someone else's child, spouse, or sibling does that job. It really seems to have little to do with our lives and generally does not create fear for the safety of those we love. Surely, we do not need an international conflict of the magnitude of a world war or a Vietnam war to generate that deep respect and love for America's warriors, past and present.



ERTA October Program

"Where Do We Get Such Men?" --General Omar Bradley, 1944

Our speaker for the Patriotic luncheon is Lt. Colonel Walt Lewis, U.S. Army, retired. Most of us know Walt as a fellow retired educator. He is also a retired officer from the U.S. Army. He spent nine years on active duty, including an assignment to Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. He spent an additional twenty-four years in the U. S. Army Reserve. Walt is a frequent speaker on the topic of American military history and tradition. You will be both informed and inspired by his words.



October 4, 2017.....IRTA Fall Leadership Workshop, Montgomery, IN
October 5, 2017Board Meeting at American Baptist East 1:00 p.m.
October 12, 2017 Luncheon Meeting American Baptist East 11:30 a.m.
November 10, 2017.....Newsletter articles to Diana Luck
December 7, 2017 ...Board Meeting at American Baptist East 1:00 p.m.
December 14..... Luncheon Meeting American Baptist East 11:30 a.m.
February 9, 2018..... Newsletter articles to Diana Luck
March 1, 2018Board 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, 2018Board 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

**Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Executive Board Meeting
August 3, 2017**

Call to Order: President Terry Becker called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. at the American Baptist East Church. In addition to the president, the following were in attendance: Darlene Brockriede, Fred Bullinger, Andy Guarino, Walt Lewis, Diana Luck, Diane Meier, Don Mosbey, Fred Naab, Darla Olberding, Tom Wiggers, and Lino Wiseman.

Acceptance of Agenda: Terry asked that the agenda be accepted with flexibility. Diane Meier made the motion to accept and Tom Wiggers seconded. The motion passed.

Approval of Board Minutes from May 4, 2017: The minutes were accepted as printed.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lino Wiseman distributed the final 2016-2017 financial report. The balance in the general fund is \$980.70. The remaining \$358.69 from the Special Projects line item will be spent on Friday, August 8 to provide breakfast at McDonald's for the AIS staff.

Lino stated that both state and federal tax forms have been submitted.

Lino has been receiving bogus e-mails with the names of board members requesting money to pay bills. Fortunately, he recognized the scam and did not pay!

Dues for the 2017-2018 are starting to arrive. He reminded everyone to pay!

President-Elect: Walt Lewis has checked with six (6) different catering services. The meal in August will be catered by Wolf's Bar-B-Q and the Carousel will cater the October luncheon.

Walt announced that a Signature School graduate Melanie Baker has been invited to the August luncheon. She is the recipient of an IRTA scholarship. She will be attending the University of Evansville.

The program for the August luncheon will be Stan Levco, former Vanderburgh County Prosecutor. Walt will provide the program in October. Pat Shoulders is scheduled for May. The program for March has not been decided. Anyone who has a program suggestion should contact Walt.

Various non-profits have contacted Walt in regards to getting volunteers for their activities. Our rule is that they may come to a meeting, set up a display, and talk to members individually about volunteering. SWIRCA and the Girl Scouts indicated they would be at the August meeting.

Immediate Past President: Tom Wiggers did not have a report but did thank the members for the cards he received after his surgery.

President: Sandra Schmidt is recovering from a fall and is not able to chair the "Welcome Back to School Candy Baskets." President Terry Becker will chair the event with lots of help and advice from Sandra. The baskets will be filled and delivered to the schools on Monday, August 7. Terry asked for volunteers.

Committee Reports:

Audit/Budget: Darla Olberding reported that the financial books were reviewed on July 28 and found to be in good order.

Fellowship/Necrology: Diane Meier reported that Judy Isaac, chair of this committee, is in the hospital. Diane will be sending cards to members until Judy is ready to take over again.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede reported that six (6) newly retired teachers will be our guests at the August luncheon. She also stated that she is still trying to find phone numbers for some of the newly retired teachers.

Publications: It was noted that the website needs some updating.

Reservations: Diana Luck reported that she has received 166 reservations for the August luncheon.

Special Projects: In the treasurer's report it was noted that Brenda Weber would be using any left over money from this account to purchase breakfast for the AIS staff on August 8. After that, if there are remaining funds, those funds will be given to the school to purchase refreshments for a staff meeting.

Tom Wiggers, immediate past president, is still deciding on the activity he will recommend this year.

Legislative: Diane Meier reported that the legislature passed a bill so that retired teachers will receive a "13th check" for the next two years. The IRTA Legislative Committee has to continuously lobby legislators for a COLA or 13th check.

Frog Follies: Jim Sharp is coordinating the volunteers for the August 25-26 event.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none.

Information Items: Andy Guarino is the IRTA Regional Director for District 9. He reported that the fall workshop would be in Montgomery, Indiana at the Gasthof Restaurant on October 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The state will pay mileage for one (1) car and a second one if needed. The state also will provide lunch for the participants. Andy needs the reservations by September 1.

IRTA membership is approximately 22,000 including both regular and associate members. Regular membership is under 20,000. Andy stated that the goal is to have 25,000 members by 2020.

Announcements: Lino Wiseman stated that *HANGERS* needs volunteers for the "Back to School Blitz."

Next Executive Board Meeting: Thursday, October 5, 2017

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Submitted by Darla Olberding, Secretary Pro-Tem



**Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Luncheon Meeting
August 10, 2017**

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

Introductions: Terry introduced the following who were seated with him at the head table: Walt Lewis, ERTA President-Elect; Stan Levco, former Vanderburgh County Prosecutor and today's speaker; Jared Hoover, today's soloist; Melanie Baker, recipient of an IRTA Scholarship; Ed Wessel, ERTA Chaplain; and Jerry Hoover, grandfather of Jared.



Recognition of New Retirees: Terry recognized the newly retired teachers in attendance.

Honoring America: Members and guests stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by Jared Hoover singing the National Anthem, accompanied by Jerry Hoover on the piano.



Song of Inspiration: Jared sang a hymn entitled "How Can I Keep from Singing?" He was again accompanied by his grandfather on the piano.

Prayer Blessing: Ed Wessel prayed before the meal.



Lunch: Walt Lewis explained how members and guests would be dismissed for meal service.

Those seated at the head table went first. Then, members and guests were called by tables.

Acceptance of May 11, 2017 Luncheon Meeting Minutes: Since there were no corrections or additions, the minutes were accepted as printed.

President's Report:

ERTA Recognition: Terry announced that ERTA was recognized at the IRTA Representative Assembly as being "Outstanding" in the following areas: Newsletter, Website, and Press Release.

Membership in Local and State Organizations: Terry encouraged those who had not joined ERTA and ISTA to do so. Gene Van Stone spoke of IRTA's lobbying efforts to obtain the extra check that we will receive in September.

AIS Project: In the spring Brenda Weber held a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for the teachers at AIS since neither campus has a PTA. Also, a breakfast was held at the beginning of this school year for those teachers. Any remaining funds will be given to AIS.



Welcome Back for Teachers: On the first official day back for teachers, baskets of candy were delivered to the schools by the following ERTA members: Donna Lutz, Diane Meier, Darla Olberding, Dave Pfetscher, Tom and Jan Wiggers, and Terry Becker.

Frog Follies: Volunteers from ERTA will be registering cars at Frog Follies on August 25 and 26.

Volunteer Hours: Terry reminded members of the importance of keeping track of their volunteer hours. Totals should be given to Jan Kraft in December.

Information Table: Mary Cooper of SWIRCA was in attendance to provide information about the organization.

Lunch Reservations: Terry explained that if a reservation is cancelled after the cut-off date, payment still needs to be made.

President-Elect:

October Luncheon: Walt spoke about the next luncheon as being one to honor our veterans. He asked that we wear something in red, white, or blue. Walt added that there will be patriotic music as part of the program.

Door Prizes: Names were drawn for the three gift cards that were awarded.

Recommendations: Before asking members and guests to move into the sanctuary for the program, Walt encouraged those in attendance to join ERTA and ISTA and become a volunteer for SWIRCA.

Program:



Walt introduced former Vanderburgh County Prosecutor Stan Levco, who spoke for a few minutes about his family before speaking about a number of cases he had prosecuted. Mr. Levco used PowerPoint as part of his presentation.



Announcement: The next luncheon will be October 12, 2017.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



IRTA Scholarship Winner



ERTA was pleased to welcome this year's Area 9 winner of the IRTA Foundation's scholarship to our August luncheon. Melanie Baker is a junior at U of E, majoring in music education and piano performance. She attended Plaza Park and graduated from Signature School. In addition to her course work, she has served as accompanist for the church, the U of E Women's Chorus, and the summer musicals in both Vanderburgh and Warrick counties. Her aspiration is to become a K-12 choir teacher and eventually to go to graduate school. Congratulations, Melanie!

Message from Gene Van Stone, ERTA Past President and IRTA Area 9 Representative on the Members Concerns and Services Committee

I will be collecting Indiana Retired Teacher Association (IRTA) dues at the October ERTA luncheon. If you are not currently a member, PLEASE JOIN!

FYI: IRTA is the lobby that has gone to great lengths just to maintain the issuing of the 13th check we receive each year! There has been increased efforts of late in the legislature to restructure our pension options and to cease the issuing of the 13th check. We have already lost the COLA (Cost of living Adjustment). It is through the Lobby of the STATE organization that we have maintained the 13th check benefit!

The \$35 yearly dues continue to provide a \$400+ return in the form of the 13th check! A good investment by any standard; PLEASE JOIN!

On a more positive note, AMBA has added several new benefits to your IRTA membership, including significant savings on vacation travel. This is just one of many benefits provided by membership in the IRTA.

EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Membership Dues

Name _____ Date _____
Last First Middle Initial

Address _____
Street City State Zip+4 numbers

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail _____

Retired Teacher (\$10.00) _____

Associate Member (\$5.00) _____

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

TOTAL: _____

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

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



IN MEMORIAM

September 2, 2017Edward L. Rusk

Gone but Not Forgotten

ERTA TRIVIA NO. 9

From 1986 until 2002, the ERTA had a standing committee in their by-laws called "Travel Sharing Committee." The committee arranged programs and secured a meeting place for members who shared a common interest in travel. The "Armchair Travelers" were initiated in 1986 by Ruth T. Hall under President Wilma Shafer, Ph.D. Meetings were scheduled six times a year, three in the fall and three in the spring. ERTA members provided the programs, usually with a slide presentation. All continents were visited. Some were visited many times!

Written by Pat Eager
Submitted by Darla Olberding

Please e-mail any contact changes (including cell number if you dropped your landline) to Darlene Brockriede, brockriede@twc.com. She will be sending out an updated membership roster after October 31, the due date for dues.



EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



Treasurer's Report by Lino Wiseman

July 31, 2017

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance July 1, 2017		<u>\$1,999.15</u>
Interest	0.08	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2017</u>		<u>\$1,999.23</u>

REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance July 1, 2017		240.02
Interest	0.02	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2017</u>		<u>240.04</u>

HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT

Beginning Balance July 1, 2017		\$15.00
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2017</u>		<u>\$15.00</u>

HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26

Beginning Balance July 1, 2017		1,901.45
Interest	0.18	
Donations		
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2017</u>		<u>1,901.63</u>

HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 2 CD's

Beginning Balance July 1, 2017		36,948.39
Interest	69.04	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2017</u>		<u>37,017.43</u>

TOTAL ASSETS

\$41,173.33



August Fun!



ERTA FUNDRAISER: FROG FOLLIES



Thanks to the 91 volunteers who worked this year's Frog Follies. We helped to register over 3,500 Street Rods. This year's event was marked by the best weather in many years allowing for a record spectator crowd. Our chapter will receive \$1,644 for our efforts. Even more importantly, we contributed to an event that could not be done by the Iron Club alone. Frog Follies brings in hundreds of thousands of tourist dollars and the Iron Club contributes thousands of dollars to worthy charities through the Tristate. So feel good about your contribution. Jim



The 44th Annual Frog Follies will be **August 24, 25, and 26, 2018**.
Make your plans to attend the **Real Rod Run!!**

ERTA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2017-18

Position	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Terry Becker	terrybecker@earthlink.net
President-Elect	Walt Lewis	waltjl39@gmail.com
Secretary	Sandra Schmidt	pineshore@wowway.com
Treasurer	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
Immediate Past President	Tom Wiggers	twiggers@wowway.com
Directors	Fred Bullinger Andy Guarino Diane Meier Don Mosbey Fred Naab David Pfettscher	bullingerf@yahoo.com andrew.guarino9402@twc.com demeier@aol.com donmosbey@gmail.com Fredn04@wowway.com dwpfetscher@att.net
Auditing & Budget	Lino Wiseman Darla Olberding	linowise@twc.com olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service	Jan Kraft	kraft@aftinc.net
Fellowship/Necrology	Judy Isaac	jli710@gmail.com
Membership	Darlene Brockriede	brockriede@twc.com
Nominating	Walt Lewis	waltjl39@gmail.com
Programs	Walt Lewis	waltjl39@gmail.com
Publications	Diana Luck (Gazette) Scott Riley (Web site)	dianaeluck@gmail.com sdriley44@gmail.com
Publicity	Kim Johnson	kimsjohnson74@gmail.com
Reservations	Diana Luck Brenda Beeler	dianaeluck@gmail.com bgbeeler@att.net
Special Project	Tom Wiggers	twiggers@wowway.com
Hensley Scholarship	Diane Meier Brenda Scheidler Donna Schmidt	demeier@aol.com bscheidler@twc.com donna.schmidt1212@icloud.com
USI & UE Scholarships	Marion Reisinger	N/A
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	Jan Wiggers	twiggers@wowway.com
Lunch Collection	David Pfettscher Caroline Pfettscher	dwpfetscher@att.net

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



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