



School's Out Gazette



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

March 2026.....Diana Luck, Editor..... Volume 31.4



Message from Janet Leistner, 2025-2026 President

I hope that all of you are staying safe and warm during these cold days. When we meet for our next luncheon on March 5, we can surely welcome better weather and the hope of spring flowers.



We are working to establish our luncheon dates for next year and to assemble our nominations for our leadership team. I encourage you to consider working with us as a Board member or officer. If you would like to be considered for a nomination, please let Jan Craig know as soon as possible as we will present the ballot for next year at our March meeting for a membership vote. We have a thriving association and want to continue that with a good leadership team.

We hope to see everyone on March 5, 2026, for another fun luncheon and enjoyable program presented by Kristen Tucker from Evansville Living Magazine.

Reservations for March Luncheon and Program

The ERTA luncheon will be March 5, 2026, at the Southern Indiana Career and Technical Center at 1901 Lynch Road. Our program will feature Kristen Tucker, editor of Evansville Living Magazine.

The cost of the luncheon, which is provided by Golden Corral, is \$15.00. Payment will be collected at the luncheon. We will start at 11:30 for socializing, and we will begin the luncheon at 12:00 noon followed by the program.

Please Click the link below to submit your reservation if you plan to attend and include your name(s) and number of reservations.

Click this link [ERTA Luncheon Reservation Form](#) to submit your reservation by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 2, 2026. **If you submit a form for two people, please list both names on the form.**

MENU

- * Meatloaf
- * Roasted Herb Chicken with gravy
- * Baked Beans
- * Carrots
- * Mashed Potatoes with gravy
- * Salad/Dressings
- * Rolls/Butter
- * Dessert
- * Beverages

If you have any issues trying to submit your reservation, please email Janet Leistner at j.leistner@twc.com or call 812-455-0384.

Reminder: If you need to make changes or cancel a reservation you made, please contact Janet Leistner at j.leistner@twc.com or call 812-455-0384. Monday, March 2 at 10:00 a.m. is the deadline to cancel your reservation without being charged since ERTA will have to pay for any meals after that date.

Message from Janet Craig, President-Elect

Back Home in Indiana...

After residing away for 18 1/2 years in Illinois, I returned to Evansville and stumbled upon a new magazine called Evansville Living in the grocery store. Having been absent for nearly two decades, I felt compelled to reconnect with our community and catch up on its developments. It was my first time purchasing a copy of Evansville Living magazine in 2000.

While planning speakers for this year's luncheon, I noticed another copy of Evansville Living in a grocery store. It announced its 25th anniversary in 2025, which prompted me to reach out to Kristen Tucker. We hope you'll reserve a seat at our upcoming luncheon to hear Kristen share insights about her magazine and enjoy a delicious meal provided by Golden Corral.

We are delighted to invite Kristen Tucker, the Editor and Publisher of Evansville Living magazine, as our esteemed guest speaker for our March 5, 2026, ERTA luncheon.

Here's a brief overview of her remarkable background:

Kristen K. Tucker co-founded Tucker Publishing Group, Inc., alongside her husband, Todd, in September 1999. Their vision led to the publication of the inaugural issue of Evansville Living in March 2000. Kristen possesses a bachelor's degree in public relations and English from Western Kentucky University and a master's degree in liberal studies from the University of Southern Indiana.

In recent years, Kristen has been actively involved in various community organizations. She has served on the Board of Directors of The Catholic Foundation of Evansville, the Board of Advisors for the IU Medical School Evansville, and Indiana Landmarks. Notably, in 2007, she played a pivotal role in founding the Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County.

Sent from my iPhone

**Facebook by Doris
Beard:
Search Evansville
Retired Teachers
Association**

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

ERTA DATES 2025-2026

March Luncheon	March 5
May Newsletter to Diana Luck	April 10
May Board Meeting	April 30
May Luncheon	May 7
IRTA Representative Workshops	June TBA

Memories from the December 2025 Meeting

The Evansville Retired Teachers Association celebrated the holiday at our December luncheon. Dr. Darla Hoover shared a Welcome message, and we inducted her as an honorary member of ERTA. We also recognized Senator Vaneta Becker for a Legacy Award she received from the School Board Association for her continued work for K-12 education in Indiana. Our Area 9 district director, Jo Ann Beauchamp shared news from the state. The McCutchanville Elementary School choir provided a great Holiday program and concluded with a beautiful song about their hope for our world. Special thanks to teacher Amanda Batts and her principal, Lisa Shanks, for sharing their talent. Amanda was happy to see some of her former teachers. Great day!





Photos by Walt Gleim and Janet Leistner

Evansville Retired Teachers Association (ERTA)

Board Minutes

December 4, 2025

Members present: Lynn Arteberry, Brenda Beeler, Fred Bullinger, Janet Craig, Rhonda Carter, Debra Forrest, Linda Henderson, Janet Leistner, Diane Meier, Dave Pfettscher, and Donna Schmidt. The meeting was called to order at 1:02 by President Janet Leistner

Officer reports:

Secretary: Debra Forrest - Minutes for prior meeting approved as written. President elect, Jan Craig - Working on nominations for next year.

Past president: Janet Leistner reported for Vic Doty. Victor's wife will suggest a community group to receive a donation from the stipend we received from Frog Follies for Board approval.

Treasurer: Lynn Arteberry - Finance report submitted - Checking account shows \$4,356.22, Savings/Account/General Fund shows \$661.92, Scholarship Account shows \$4,463.70. She is checking on the USI endowment total with the USI foundation.

Committee reports

Auditing and budget: Treasurer report submitted.

Community service/ volunteer hours: Form for members to report volunteer hours will be at the December luncheon. A form will also be in the newsletter.

Fellowship/necrology: Janet sends cards to all members who have lost loved ones. Please keep Janet informed of such information.

Membership: We have 223 members. Members called those who have not committed using a spreadsheet from Janet.

Programs/luncheon planning: Jan Craig commented it is difficult to get materials at SICTC (risers, piano, etc.) McCutchanville Children's choir will sing at the next luncheon. Poinsettias, normally given at luncheon, are becoming difficult to purchase. Jan is looking for something else and will let us know the cost.

Publications: Janet sent out the newsletter.

Reservations: Janet reported that 76 people reserved for the December luncheon. Director of the IRTA Area 9, Mary Jo Beauchamp, will be at the luncheon and will be recognized.

Registration: Judy Isaac

Special projects: (Frog Follies) No report

IRTA Indiana liaison/Indiana Legislature: No report

Historian: Darla Olberding - No report.

Information Items

The nominating committee will discuss changes for next year – president elect and any board positions.

Darla Hoover will receive honorary membership. Debra and Darla to present. Mary Jo Beauchamp, IRTA Area 9 director, will attend the December luncheon.

Janet had a request from Liberty Credit Union/Habitat for Humanity to share information about an indoor indoor volunteer center. Janet will contact Cindy Bell in March or May.

Old business

Decision made to give \$200 to SICTC for their assistance with our luncheons in Assembly Hall Money will be given to K.Williams, Principal of SICTC, to utilize for the needs of students at SICTC. Gift will be in honor of all helpers.

The Bylaws and Policies and Procedures revision for review will be sent to members again. Members will vote in March.

New business

Goodwill offering will be taken at December luncheon - Janet has chosen Young and Established to receive the offering. Janet will contact Courtney Johnson, director of Young and Established to attend a spring luncheon.

Announcements

Next Executive Board Meeting will be Feb. 26 at 1:00. Luncheon will be March 5 at 11:30. Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.



Evansville Retired Teachers Association Luncheon Minutes December 18, 2025

Janet Leistner called the meeting to order at 11:30. First -time attendees were asked to stand. Introduction of the head table included Darla Hoover, Jan Craig, Jo Ann Beauchamp, Amanda Batts, and Lisa Shanks.

Steve Fritz led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Cindy Shoulders gave the blessing and prayer. A buffet lunch by Golden Corral was served. It was noted that the December Goodwill offering will go to Young and Established. There was a bag on the table for change or bills for those who wanted to contribute.

Darla Hoover, EVSC Superintendent, gave a short welcome talk. She was then installed as an honorary member of ERTA. Debra Forrest and Darla Olberding shared a few words about Dr. Hoover before her installation.

Karen Ragland and Diane Meier recognized Senator Vaneta Becker for the Legacy Award she received from IRTA for her dedication to K-12 education.

Minutes from October 2 published in the December 2025 newsletter were presented for approval. They were approved as written.

Members were encouraged to report their volunteer hours. A form to report was provided. It was reported that the hours will be sent to IRTA in January.

Diane Meier encouraged members to join IRTA.

Jan Craig introduced the program - singers from McCutchanville Elementary school led by Amanda Batts.

Jan Craig presented a certificate and check to Amanda Batts for school use. Door prizes were awarded after the program.

The next board meeting will be February 26. The next luncheon will be on March 5.

Message from Diane Meier, IRTA Liaison/Indiana Legislature

House Bill 1145, which would provide a “thirteenth check” for eligible retirees, passed unanimously out of the Senate Pensions and Labor Committee. This bipartisan support is an important step forward.

The bill has now been reassigned to the Senate Committee on Appropriations. This committee reviews the financial impact of legislation and determines whether funding moves forward. In short, this is where the dollars are examined, and where continued support is essential to keep HB 1145 advancing.

Retirees are being asked to contact senators on the Senate Committee on Appropriations. Neither of our senators is on that committee.



ERTA FINANCE REPORT as of 2/15/2026	
Checking Account	\$4,671.48
Scholarship Account	\$4,463.78
General Fund	\$666.94
TOTAL	\$9,802.20
Reported by: Lynn Arteberry, Treasurer	



In Memoriam

“Always in Our Hearts”

Billie Jean Northerner November 7, 2025
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/psbn1163332>

Nancy Roberts December 12, 2025
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/psbn1363668>

Karen Kendall January 1, 2026
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/evansville-in/karen-kendall-12688554>

Judith F. Hodoval January 12, 2026
<https://www.ziemerfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Judith-F-Hodoval?obId=46921505>

Sherry R. DeMuth (Past ETA President) January 17, 2026
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/psbn1389001>

Carol (Schellhase) Koehler (Past ERTA President) January 20, 2026
<https://www.browningfuneral.com/obituaries/Carol-Sue-Schellhase-Koehler?obId=47183298>

Dennis W. Cotton February 13, 2026
<https://www.barkesweaverglick.com/obituaries/Mr-Dennis-W-Cotton?obId=47255010>

Month	Activity	Date
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
TOTAL HOURS		

Message from Jane Staton:

Congratulations!

Hours for 2025: 10,135.50

Hours for 2024: 10,386.50

Hours for 2023: 8,874.75



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