



School's Out Gazette

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

December 2013..... Volume 18.3



From our President, Bob Suhrheinrich

The screensaver I use on my computer is USA Today, and in using it, it gives me all the choices I need with respect to national and international news. But recently there have been several articles on retirement. They range from early retirement, social security, how to be proactive in retirement, and many more that can dazzle one's mind about the subject of retirement.

One article caught my attention for some reason and that was the listing of five cities to which one could retire for various reasons. They were in Florida, Idaho, Maine, South Carolina and Michigan. I am sure each of these cities has a lot to offer, but they could have very well named Evansville, Indiana, and the Tri-State area.

Yes, I said Evansville, Indiana! Our city and surrounding community have everything each of the cities mentioned has, and quite possibly more. Believe it or not, our standard of living is not high, our schools are really good and getting better, we have quality universities/colleges, the arts are of high quality, we have wonderful financial institutions, abundant sporting events/activities, very good medical facilities and a soon-to-be-located Indiana University educational medical center. While the weather is sometimes iffy, it is great to have four distinct seasons. Our Tri-State history is long and rich and only getting better. I certainly could name several more advantages our community has over others, but I will let you use your imagination.

As we approach the Christmas season, I am thankful to be living in the Evansville/Tri-State area. I am also certainly thankful for my family along with having the opportunity to be with friends and colleagues involved in the Evansville Retired Teachers Association. Sometimes it doesn't get any better than this!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!



The second ERTA luncheon was held October 10 with about 160 attendees. This was a good attendance since the Fall Festival was going on at the same time.

The third luncheon will be held at the American Baptist East Church at 6300 Washington Avenue on Thursday, December 12, at 11:30 for socializing and lunch at 12 noon. The cost is \$10.

Please reply to my e-mail **only if you plan to attend, and please include your name/names and the number of reservations.** If you have **not** been contacted by e-mail or phone by Monday, December 2, please call Brenda Beeler at 422-1637, or e-mail me at dianaeluck@gmail.com to give one of us your reservation. We will need this information to take to the board meeting on Thursday, December 5. If you need to cancel a reservation you made, please e-mail Diana Luck.

ERTA will meet two more times during the school year (March 13 and May 8). You will be receiving an invitation about a month before each one.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Thursday, December 12!

Our Menu

- ✿ Turkey & Dressing
- ✿ Sliced Baked Ham
- ✿ Green Beans
- ✿ Shoe Peg Corn
- ✿ Mashed Potatoes
- ✿ Dinner Rolls
- ✿ Salad
- ✿ Desserts

From President-Elect Andy Guarino



I am just beginning my first year of retirement, so when the president-elect position became available due to the resignation of Dick Sprinkle, I did not think of myself as his replacement. As it turns out, Bob Suhrheinrich, our current president, had different ideas. Bob asked me to consider this move, and after much consideration and thought, I accepted the challenge. I will work extremely hard to support Bob in his capacity as president this year, and I hope to introduce speakers to you who are pertinent, educationally oriented, and entertaining. It is an honor to serve ERTA and its members, and I will give this special organization my best effort.



Christmas Program Harrison High School Concert Choir



It is our pleasure to once again have a choral group from the EVSC performing during our December luncheon. This year we welcome the Harrison High School Concert Choir under the direction of Ms. Carrie Aiken on Thursday, December 12. Ms. Aiken has been the choral director at Harrison for two years and is steadily building her choir to be one of the very best in the area.

Since this is the Christmas season, and in keeping with the tradition of having area high school choirs perform during this time of the year for ERTA, Harrison High School's performance will feature songs of the Christmas season.

We look forward to hearing the Harrison High School Concert Choir's performance and also look forward to filling the church sanctuary with our membership after lunch.

Christmas Project of Giving



Each year during the December luncheon of ERTA, a donation is collected from members present to support a worthy cause within our community. In the past, the designation of funds collected have gone to such causes like "Dollars for Diapers" and most recently to "Honor Art Teachers" with a reception at the Evansville Museum. This year the ERTA Board has selected the Dream Center.

The Dream Center is a non-profit organization established to "help children realize their dreams." Children in Grades 1 through 12 attend the Dream Center after school to feed not only their bodies, but also their minds and spirits by participating in nutritional, educational and recreational programs. Statistically, children are most at risk to get into trouble after school when they do not have activities in which to participate. The Dream Center is a place for those students to go for organized activities rather than be on the streets without supervision.

One of the many needs of the Dream Center is their education program. In the course of serving approximately 80 students daily and up to 380 different students monthly, educational material to support *reading, writing and mathematic* tutoring ongoing is very costly. Therefore, it is our board's desire to make a monetary donation based on the dollars collected during our December luncheon to the Dream Center.

Please make a contribution to help defray the ongoing costs of *reading, writing and mathematics* material at the Dream Center. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated! Also, your contribution to ERTA constitutes a charitable gift for tax purposes.





EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2013

Call to Order: President Bob Suhrheinrich called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. at the Phipps Center. Those in attendance were the following: Brenda Beeler, Darlene Brockriede, Carol Koehler, Pat Eager, Linda Hape, Bob Kraft, Diana Luck, Mike Madriaga, Diane Meier, LaVonne Miller, Fred Naab, Jerry Noland, Nancy Noland, Darla Olberding, Charlotte Reitz, Ed Rusk, Sandra Schmidt, Betty Schmitt, Richard Sprinkle, Linda Staley, Robert Suhrheinrich, Gene VanStone, and Lino Wiseman.

Meditation: Chaplain Ed Rusk read “The Mighty Oak Was a Little Nut That Stood Its Ground.” He read Proverbs 12:3 and prayed.

Approval of August Minutes: The August 1, 2013 Executive Board Minutes were approved as printed.

Officer Report:

Treasurer: Lino Wiseman distributed a copy of the 2013/2014 Budget. He reported that \$1,664.25 had been received from Frog Follies and deposited into Special Projects.

Committee Reports:

Community Service: IRTA Past President Bob Kraft spoke about the importance of members turning in volunteer hours in December.

Fellowship/Necrology: Linda Hape reported that three members have passed away since the last newsletter. Linda Staley reported that two get well cards have been sent to members.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede reminded the Executive Board that those who have not paid dues by the end of October will be removed from the membership list. The Executive Board agreed that the new list should be mailed to ensure that each member receives a copy.

Publications: Jerry Noland announced that Scott Riley will take over the web page.

Reservations: Diana Luck reported 162 reservations have been received for the October luncheon.

Scholarship: Mike Madriaga said that the process to determine the recipients of the Hensley Scholarships will begin in two months.

IRTA/ Legislative: Diane Meier distributed several copies of a brochure prepared by IRTA that explains why retired teachers need and deserve a COLA. The brochure will be given to members of the Indiana State Legislature. Suzanne Crouch has agreed to author the bill and introduce it in the House. Bob Kraft suggested that members attend the local “Meet Your Legislators.”

Bob Suhrheinrich introduced Bill Schirmer, President and CEO of the ETFCU, who came into the meeting to welcome us.

Historian: Darla Olberding reported that she has been saving newspaper articles that pertain to members.

Frog Follies: Bob said that ERTA volunteers usually work two to three hours at the event. Money that the association earns allows us to do special projects.

Publicity: Nancy Noland reported on the State Public Relations Committee Meeting held on August 15, 2013, in Indianapolis. Also, Nancy showed the Executive Board a bookmark prepared by IRTA Southeast. She suggested that ERTA prepare a similar bookmark for distribution.

Policies and Procedures Update: Carol Koehler went over the current policies and procedures that have been reviewed by a committee. Changes made in the future will require action by the Executive Board, not by the general membership.

Business Items:

1. Dick Sprinkle explained why he is stepping down from the office of president-elect. Bob suggested that Dick complete the term of Director Garland Aramowicz, who had resigned. Darla made a motion to accept Dick Sprinkle as the new director. Diane Meier seconded. The motion passed.

2. Bob suggested that Andy Guarino complete the term of President-Elect Dick Sprinkle. Darla Olberding made a motion to accept Andy Guarino as the new president-elect. Pat Eager seconded. The motion passed.

3. The Executive Board agreed to have the Dream Center as the project for Christmas. Darla made a motion to collect money at the luncheon in December for the Dream Center to use for educational needs. LaVonne Miller seconded. The motion passed.

Announcements:

1. Newly-retired teachers will continue to be notified about future meetings.

2. At the IRTA Fall Leadership Workshop held on September 19, 2013, discussion centered on the Affordable Care Act, a cost of living adjustment (COLA), and the Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA).

3. President and CEO of the YMCA Derrick Stewart will speak at the luncheon on October 10, 2013.

4. The Executive Board will meet on December 5, 2013.

Adjournment: Charlotte Reitz made a motion to adjourn. Darla seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary





EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Luncheon Meeting

October 10, 2013

President Bob Suhrheinrich called the meeting to order at noon at the American Baptist East Church Fellowship Hall and welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the year. He asked members and guests to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplain Ed Rusk read "People Don't Care How Much You Know Until They Know How Much You Care." He read Philemon 2:3 and prayed.

Bob recognized the newly retired teachers who were attending for the first time and introduced those at the head table: Ed and Ruby Rusk, Representatives Suzanne Crouch, Ron Bacon, Gail Reicken, and Wendy McNamara, and Senators Vaneta Becker and Jim Tomes accompanied by his wife Margie. Bob also introduced President-Elect Andy Guarino who was elected by the Executive Board last Thursday to complete Dick Sprinkle's term.

Sara Lilly from AMBA was introduced. She was stationed at the information table to explain benefits available to members.

Fred Naab was at the membership table to collect dues. Members must pay dues by the end of October in order to be included on the membership list.

Bob reminded members that volunteer hours can be turned in at the luncheon in December or sent in by the end of December.

Before dismissing the tables for meal service, Bob introduced Derrick Stewart, our program speaker, who had arrived.

Bob thanked Ella Shelton, Ruby Rusk, and Susan Mosbey for setting the tables and serving the drinks. He also thanked Jane Whitehouse for the table decorations.

Before members moved to the sanctuary for the program, a drawing was held to award a \$25 gift certificate from AMBA to one lucky member.

Program: Terry Yunker introduced Derrick Stewart, the CEO of the YMCA, saying that he is the youngest CEO in the association's 155 year history, and he is one of five in the nation who has been selected to serve a term on the YMCA National Board. When Derrick Stewart began speaking about the YMCA, he said that people know it as a place, but they don't understand its importance. It is important because people who take part in the various programs from educational to prevention learn lessons that can last a lifetime. He also said that the YMCA is future focused on how it can make a greater impact on our community in order to strengthen the community's foundation. The program concluded with a question and answer session. Bob presented Derrick Stewart with a Barnes and Noble gift card.

August 8, 2013 Minutes: The minutes of the luncheon meeting were approved as printed.

Door Prizes: Drawings were held for three \$10 gift cards.

Announcement: The next luncheon meeting is December 12, 2013.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary





EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



Treasurer's Report

September 30, 2013

CHECKING ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance September 1, 2013			\$2,717.13
Interest		0.11	
Income		401.61	
Disbursements		244.40	
<u>Ending Balance September 30, 2013</u>			<u>\$2,874.45</u>
SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance September 1, 2013			\$120.09
Frog Follies		1664.25	
Interest		0.02	
Disbursements		244.40	
<u>Ending Balance September 30, 2013</u>			<u>\$1,539.96</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance September 1, 2013			239.10
Interest		0.02	
<u>Ending Balance September 30, 2013</u>			<u>239.12</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT			
Beginning Balance September 1, 2013			\$15.00
<u>Ending Balance September 30, 2013</u>			<u>\$15.00</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26			
Beginning Balance September 1, 2013			\$3,696.04
Interest		0.33	
<u>Ending Balance September 30, 2013</u>			<u>\$3,696.37</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 3 CD's			
Beginning Balance September 1, 2013			\$ 54,355.98
Interest		93.50	
<u>Ending Balance September 30, 2013</u>			<u>\$54,449.48</u>
			\$54,449.48
TOTAL ASSETS			\$62,814.38





SERVICE/VOLUNTEER HOURS

This is your last chance to list your volunteer hours for the calendar year. Remember, we use the total hours accumulated not only from ERTA, but hours from all retired teachers associations throughout Indiana when lobbying the legislators. Retired Indiana educators contributed over one million hours of volunteer service in 2012. ERTA members contributed approximately 30,000 hours during the same year. The goal for our association in 2013 is 40,000 hours.

Listed below are some of the ways volunteer hours may be accumulated. If you are volunteering for an organization other than listed, or in another manner, please put those hours down. Remember, the total volunteered hours are so very important when it comes to lobbying our State legislators.

Youth Hours:

Church: preparation, teaching, youth groups, VBS

Community Service: Scouts, 4-H, coaching, CASA, Special Olympics

Education: classroom, libraries, speech meets, Read Across America

Church: boards, committees, teaching, mission, calling committees, choir practice, choir, food preparation

Community Service: Kiwanis, VFW, Lions, Rotary, Meals on Wheels, Frog Follies, ERTA, Food Pantry, AARP, ETFCU, Ronald McDonald House, Boards, Civitan, etc.

Health Care: hospital visits, nursing home visits/programs, fundraising for charities, chauffeuring others to appointments, Red Cross

Other Hours:

*Count Your Travel Time for all volunteer efforts:

*Turn in your volunteer hours to Jan Kraft or Charlotte Reitz at our December luncheon. Forms will be available on the dining tables.

Questions: contact Jan Kraft at 812-760-8561, or email at kraft@aftinc.net

FROG FOLLIES UPDATE

Ninety-one members of our association volunteered 317 hours to register 3,826 cars for 2013 Frog Follies. Peggy Mahrenholtz, a member of the Evansville Iron Club, said, "Without the wonderful volunteers that we have, it would be very hard to do what we do." The Evansville Iron Club retains only enough of each year's receipts to fund the next year event. All the rest of the money goes to charities; such as, Rehab Center in Evansville, Wendell Ford Center in Owensboro, Riley Hospital, Brain Injury Adventure Camp in Henderson and the Boys/Girls Club. The money donated to ERTA for the volunteer work by members totaled **\$1,664.25**. The Frog Follies donation will be used to fund our spring project. This project will be selected by our immediate past president, Gene Van Stone.

Please join me in thanking Jim Sharp for his leadership as chairman of this committee and for the countless hours he devotes in making this event successful.

IRTA PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Nancy Noland, ERTA Publicity Chair and a member of the IRTA Public Relations Committee, attended the state meeting on August 15, 2013. The purpose of the state committee is to promote and report the activities and work of both the IRTA and local retired teachers associations through communication with the local chapters, active teachers, legislators, local communities, and the media. At the meeting State Chair Betty Bourquein set forth the following goals:

- Ensure that every retired teacher realizes that he/she is a member of public relations.
- Make certain that each local committee has a public relations chair.
- Encourage each local to have a newsletter and a Web site and to submit press releases to local radio, TV, and newspapers.
- Have each local include the State Public Relations chair on its newsletter mailing list.
- Encourage each local to work more closely with other committees to make him or her aware of our availability.
- Make guidelines more user friendly.
- Have guidelines posted on the IRTA Web site.

While we (ERTA) already adhere to many of the goals listed, we can do better. Our focus for the remainder of the ERTA year will be to meet the remaining goals.

IRTA WEB SITE

As many of you know, Jerry Noland has been overseeing the ERTA Web site for the last 15 years or so. Jerry is stepping aside from those responsibilities and now Scott Riley will manage the site. Scott is newly retired from the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation where one of his many duties was administering the EVSC Web site. Scott's background in technology is extensive. We welcome him, not only to our association, but also to his active participation as the ERTA Web site manager.

A special thanks to Jerry for his super work! He has put in a lot of time and effort throughout the years in keeping the site up to date. When you see Jerry at our December luncheon, please thank him for his service. Don't think Jerry is going away. He is still active in our local association and also with IRTA. Again, thanks Jerry!

STATE LEGISLATORS' VISIT

A great big THANK YOU is in order to our area state legislators for visiting us during our October luncheon. All of them maintain busy schedules, but they took time to stop by and have lunch with our membership. I hope you were able to chat with them during their visit. All were very complimentary and appreciative for being invited to our meeting.

Remember, Rep. Suzanne Crouch will be carrying the COLA bill for Indiana Retired Teachers next year in the State House. She will certainly need our help and support in getting this legislation passed for Indiana Retired Teachers! If you would like to help in this effort, or contact those who visited us for lunch, you may do so using the following contact information.

- Senator Vaneta Becker, s50@iga.in.gov 1-317-232-9494
- Senator Jim Tomes, s49@iga.in.gov 1-317-232-9414
- Representative Ron Bacon, h75@iga.in.gov 1-317-232-9674
- Representative Suzanne Crouch, h78@iga.in.gov 1-317-232-9815
- Representative Gail Riecken, h77@iga.in.gov 1-317-233-5248





OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER, DERRICK STEWART

For those of you who were Derrick Stewart's teachers back at Bosse High School, I bet you didn't have any inclination at that time he would become one of our more accomplished community leaders at such an early age. As CEO of the YMCA of Southwestern Indiana, Derrick is impacting so many lives in our community, both youth and adults. The YMCA is truly becoming an extension of our schools by offering not only healthy living choices, but also educational opportunities for our youth beyond the boundaries of the school day.

We are blessed as a community to have someone of such talent to be leading such a great organization. If you see Derrick at the "Y" some day, tell him thanks for presenting information about the YMCA to our association during our October luncheon.

ERTA CALENDAR

2013-2014

June 19, 2013, IRTA Representative Assembly, Indianapolis, IN

August 1, 2013, Board Meeting

August 8, 2013, Luncheon Meeting

August 23, 24, 25, 2013, Frog Follies

September 19, 2013, IRTA Fall Leadership Workshop, Spring Mill State Park

October 3, 2013, Board Meeting

October 10, 2013, Luncheon Meeting

December 5, 2013, Board Meeting

December 12, 2013, Luncheon Meeting

February 4, 2014, Meet Your State Legislators, State House, Indianapolis, IN

March 6, 2014, Board Meeting

March 13, 2014, Luncheon Meeting

May 1, 2014, Board Meeting

May 8, 2014, Luncheon Meeting

June (TBA), 2014, IRTA Representative Assembly, Indianapolis, IN



ERTA Executive Board 2013-2014

Position	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Robert Suhrheinrich	rasuhrh@gmail.com
President Elect	Andy Guarino	andrew.guarino9402@twc.com
Secretary	Sandra Schmidt	pineshore@wowway.com
Treasurer	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
Past President	Gene Van Stone	genevanstone@gmail.com
Directors	Linda Hape LaVonne Miller Richard Sprinkle Fred Naab (E, 1-2) Charlotte Reitz	lindadh08@sbcglobal.net lkmille@wowway.com bds@twc.com N/A charlotte.reitz@gmail.com
Auditing & Budget Committee	Lino Wiseman Darla Olberding	linowise@twc.com olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service Committee	Jan Kraft Charlotte Reitz	kraft@aftinc.net charlotte.reitz@gmail.com
Fellowship/Necrology Committee	Linda Hape Linda Staley	lindadh08@sbcglobal.net lkstaley3@gmail.com
Membership	Darlene Brockriede	brockriede@twc.com
Nominating	Andy Guarino	andrew.guarino9402@twc.com
Publications	Phyllis Fitzgerald	fitz61@wowway.com
Web Site Committee	Scott Riley Jerry Noland	sdriley44@gmail.com jbnoland@yahoo.com
Reservations Committee	Diana Luck Brenda Beeler	dianaeluck@gmail.com N/A
Special Project	Gene Van Stone	genevanstone@gmail.com
Scholarship Committee (Hensley-USI/UE)	Mike Madriaga Diane Meier Marion Reisinger	memadriaga@yahoo.com demeier@aol.com N/A
Chaplain	Ed Rusk	N/A
IRTA Liaison/Legislative	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
Historian	Darla Olberding	olberdingdj@aol.com
Frog Follies Coordinator	Jim Sharp	katsharp623@aol.com
Decorations	Jane Whitehouse	N/A
Lunch Collection Committee	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
Publicity	Charlotte Reitz Nancy Noland	charlotte.reitz@gmail.com jbnoland@yahoo.com

IN MEMORIAM

**Alice Moesner
Jerry Whitsell
Mary Aldridge
June Jones**

**September 23, 2013
September 23, 2013
September 27, 2013
October 3, 2013**

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

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

Reminders:

- **If you have made any changes to your contact information, please be sure to notify Darlene Brockriede at brockriede@twc.com.**
- **If EVSC closes schools for inclement weather, the luncheon is cancelled. If there is a school delay, the luncheon will still be held.**



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

Non-profit Org.
US Postage
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Evansville, IN
Permit 2901

Return Service Requested

