



School's Out Gazette

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

March 2014 Volume 18.4



From our President, Bob Suhrheinrich

As I sit down to jot a few thoughts for our March newsletter, the first thing that comes to mind is what I wrote in the December newsletter, particularly the part about the four distinct seasons. What I meant at the time was the rather "comfortable" seasons we have ongoing.

Well, shortly following our December meeting, and continuing through the time I am jotting my "few" thoughts down, the weather has been plain old miserable! As you know very well, it has been cold and snowy for not only our entire tri-state area but throughout the mid-west. Heck, it makes one want to travel. But where would you go? The south is also cold. Hey, an idea is to travel to Arizona! We should ask Jim Sharp. He goes there every winter.

I remember the first year I taught, 1969. It was a year very similar to this one, cold and snowy! I believe we were off from school well in excess of the student school days missed this year because of the weather. And guess what? We didn't have to make up one of the school days missed that year.

Missing school days reminds me of my conversation with Frankie Calloway a couple of weeks ago when I asked her thoughts for my note to you. She replied by just saying, "We don't have to make up any snow days!" And she is exactly right! We are retired and should enjoy the "fruits of our labor." I am doing my very best to do just that. Are you?

I hope you have stayed warm, been safe and have had a good/healthy few months since we last met. I look forward to seeing you at our next luncheon on March 13 as we open up the "spring" season.

The fourth ERTA luncheon will be held **Thursday, March 13, 2014**, at the American Baptist East Church at 6300 Washington Avenue at 11:30 for socializing and lunch at 12 noon. The cost is \$10.



- ✓ Please reply to my e-mail of February 14 only if you plan to attend, and please include your name/names and the number of reservations.
- ✓ If you know someone who has not been contacted by e-mail or phone by Monday, March 3, please call Brenda Beeler at 422-1637 or e-mail me at dianaeluck@gmail.com to give one of us the reservation by March 6.
- ✓ If you need to cancel a reservation you made, please e-mail me at dianaeluck@gmail.com to let me know. If you do not have e-mail, please call Brenda at 422-1637.

Our Menu

- ☘ Ham/Pineapple Sauce
- ☘ Roasted Potatoes
- ☘ Green Beans
- ☘ Corn
- ☘ Salad
- ☘ Dinner Rolls
- ☘ Desserts

We are looking forward to seeing you on **Thursday, March 13**, hopefully without any ice and snow. ERTA will meet one more time this school year on May 8.

March Program/Speaker:

Another One of Our Own, Jon Siau

Jon Siau, a veteran EVSC teacher of forty-two years, will present "The Lighter Side of Education--One Flew over the Teachers' Lounge...Oops, I Mean the Staff Preparation Room!" This humorous look at teachers, students and parents is guaranteed to bring a smile to the faces of all our retired teachers. Over his career as an art teacher and coach, Jon has created cartoon characters to which we all can relate.



After partaking in great food and fellowship, join Jon for some really great fun in the church sanctuary.

March Luncheon Guests:

Our guests for this meeting will be the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation School Board members. Each of the board members will be introduced but will not be making any remarks. If you have any questions for these folks, please do so before the luncheon starts. Mr. Calvin Biddle, Area 7 IRTA Director, and his wife Bobbi will also be our guests.

Cell Phone Users Beware!

If you use a cell phone, a scam has recently been in the news. The news reports are saying, "If you see a missed cell phone call from an unknown number and call back, hold on to your wallet because you will be taken by this new scam!" In fact, one can lose at least \$20.

What is happening? The phone will ring one time and then stop. This is to lure you into returning the call. When the call is returned, the computers receiving the call will automatically charge because it will be to an international number. When you receive your cell phone statement, you will have been charged \$19.95. Plus, if you stay on the line, you can have another \$9 per minute charged for each minute you hold the line.

What is the solution? Just don't answer a number you don't recognize! For sure don't answer one that rings only one time and then hangs up. If one wants to make contact with you bad enough, he will call back more than once. If nothing else, let the phone ring. They will leave a message if it is important.

Source: USA Today Online <http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/columnist/tompor/2014/02/09/susan-tompor-did-your-cell-phone-ring-just-once-do-not-call-back/5280047/>

IRTA Legislative Update:

At the time this article is being written, our IRTA representatives are working hard to ensure the passage of a yearly COLA being given to retired teachers through the legislative process in both the Indiana House of Representatives and Senate. This has been a lengthy process that will go down to the wire at the state, but it is a process that will be well worth the effort once accomplished.

Should at-the-last-minute efforts be derailed for the COLA, a back-up plan is to continue with the "13th check." While this is not the desired course of action, it would be better than nothing.

Our hats off to IRTA for its more than one year effort to reward retired teachers with what is fair! Our hats off to our area legislators for their support and representation! Our hats off to retired teachers for wanting what is right!

Christmas Project of Giving Update:

During our Christmas luncheon, retired teachers, through reaching down into purses and billfolds, donated \$1,038 to the Dream Center for their education program.

Retired teachers throughout the year generously donate both money and time to worthwhile causes. This is well documented. So your last-minute donation to the Dream Center just before Christmas is greatly appreciated! Thank you!



Evansville Retired Teachers Association

Executive Board Meeting

December 5, 2013

Call to Order: President Bob Suhrheinrich called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Phipps Center. The following were in attendance: Darlene Brockriede, Pat Eager, Andy Guarino, Linda Hape, Mike Madriaga, Diane Meier, Fred Naab, Jerry Noland, Nancy Noland, Ed Rusk, Sandra Schmidt, Richard Sprinkle, Bob Suhrheinrich, and Lino Wiseman.

Meditation: Chaplain Ed Rusk read a meditation illustrating the big difference between giving advice and lending a hand. He then read 1John 3:18 and prayed.

Approval of October 3, 2013, Executive Board Minutes: The minutes were approved as presented.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lino Wiseman distributed the financial report. He said that the income from the luncheon in October is not listed because he was on vacation. It will appear on the next statement.

Secretary: Sandra Schmidt said that a small basket will be placed on each table at the luncheon for donations to the Dream Center, our Christmas project.

Bob added that the money collected will be used by the Dream Center to purchase educational materials. He said Dream Center Founder Gary Jossa will attend the luncheon.

Committee Reports:

Community Service: Volunteer hours are due by the end of the calendar year to Jan Kraft.

Fellowship/Necrology: Linda Hape reported that there have been several deaths since the newsletter was sent. She also reported that Linda Staley has been sending cards. Linda Staley was not in attendance at today's meeting due to the passing of her mother. We send our sympathy to Linda and her family.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede said 389 membership lists were mailed near the end of November.

Bob announced the addition of 227 associate members--the employees of the Evansville Teachers Federal Credit Union. ERTA received \$1,135 for those memberships. Bob asked how the association should use the money, but no decision was made. Thirty-eight ETFCU employees became associate members of IRTA.

Nominating: President-Elect Andy Guarino plans to meet with his committee in early January to prepare a slate of officers. Committee members include Directors Linda Hape, LaVonne Miller, and Linda Staley.

Publications: Bob thanked Phyllis Fitzgerald and Diana Luck for putting the newsletter together and Jerry Noland for his work with the ERTA Web Site. Scott Riley now manages the Web site.

Reservations: The number of reservations for next week's luncheon is in the neighborhood of 225.

Scholarship: Mike Madriaga reported an upgrade on the Hensley Scholarship; everything is now on e-mail. Those interested in applying can complete the application on line. The scholarship was publicized on E-EVSC News.

Special Project: Bob said that Past President Gene Van Stone will recommend a project.

IRTA/Legislative: Diane Meier announced that IRTA members are invited to a luncheon on February 4, 2014, at the Statehouse in Indianapolis. Members attending will be able to speak with legislators.

Publicity: Nancy Noland reported that Jean Bernhardt will no longer be able to serve on this committee.

Bob acknowledged Mike Madriaga and Andy Guarino for being two of the six final candidates for the EVSC School Board vacancy created by the resignation of Board President Sally Becker.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business:

Bob announced that the ERTA Bylaws Committee that reviewed policies and procedures will continue its work and review the bylaws. The time frame is to be established by the committee. The committee's report is to be presented to the Executive Board in March of 2015.

The second item concerned what should be put on an ERTA bookmark that was suggested by the Publicity Committee at the last Executive Board meeting. Bob asked for those with ideas/thoughts to stay after today's meeting.

The last item concerned bulk mail. Only 80-85 newsletters are now being mailed. Bob told the Board that bulk mail cannot be used for less than 200 copies. Also, there is a \$200 yearly fee for bulk mailing. Diane made a motion to do away with bulk mailing. Mike seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements:

* Members of the Executive Board will donate door prizes for the December luncheon.

* The cancellation policy for the Executive Board meetings is the same as it is for the luncheons, so the Board will not meet if school has been canceled.

* The next Executive Board meeting is March 6, 2014.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned just after 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary





Evansville Retired Teachers Association

Luncheon Meeting

December 12, 2013

Welcome: President Bob Suhrheinrich called the meeting to order at noon at American Baptist East Church. He welcomed everyone and reported the number in attendance to be about 225. Bob asked members and guests to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meditation/Prayer: Chaplain Ed Rusk read "One Solitary Life" and prayed.

Introductions of the Head Table: Bob introduced the following seated at the head table: Ed and Ruby Rusk; Gary Jossa, the Founder and President of the Dream Center; and Andy Guarino, the newly appointed member of the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation Board of School Trustees and the current President-Elect of the Evansville Retired Teachers Association.

Member Introductions: Evansville Vanderburgh School Superintendant Dr. David Smith and Evansville Teachers Federal Credit Union President Bill Schirmer were introduced.

Recognitions: Bob recognized Susan Mosbey whose son Bryant ran 26.2 miles on a treadmill to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He also acknowledged Mike Madriaga for being one of the six final candidates for the EVSC School Board position.

ERTA Christmas Project of Giving: The Dream Center was selected for our Christmas project this year. Bob explained that the basket on each table was for donations that the Dream Center would use to purchase educational materials for tutoring in reading, writing, and mathematics.

Christmas Program: Before dismissing members and guests for meal service, Bob reminded everyone that today's program would be Christmas music provided by the Harrison High School Choir under the direction of Ms. Carrie Akin.

Announcements:

*Members were reminded to turn in their volunteer hours to Jan Kraft by the end of December.

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

*Members and guests were asked to move to the sanctuary after they finished eating.

Program: Andy introduced Ms. Carrie Akin and the Harrison High School Choir who performed songs of the season. Terry Becker accompanied the choir. ERTA donated \$100 to the choir program as a token of our appreciation.

Approval of October 10, 2013 Luncheon Minutes: The minutes were approved as printed.

Door Prizes: Drawings were held for gifts donated by the Executive Board and three gift certificates.

Donations for the Dream Center: Bob announced that members and guests had donated a total of \$1,038.00.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

2014 E. Allen Hensley Scholarship Winners

The Evansville Retired Teachers' Association has awarded twelve (12) scholarships totaling \$10,000.00 to EVSC teachers for professional development. These awards were made possible by an endowment from E. Allen Hensley, a long time Central High School English teacher. **The 2014 winners are:** Carolyn Bennett, Ben Boyer, Debra Forrest, Brian Hartman, Jordan Kelsey, Andrea Kneubler, Zac Mattingly, Becky Rawlings, Teri Sanders, Jeffrey Tron, Cathy Voelker, and Tim Wilhelmus.



Carolyn Bennett has 22 years experience and currently teaches third grade at **Oak Hill School**. She will use the scholarship this summer to attend a two-day summer literacy retreat presented by Smecken's Education at French Lick Springs Hotel.

Ben Boyer has 39 years experience in the EVSC. He currently teaches at **Scott Elementary School**. He will be using the scholarship to attend the *Kentucky Music Educators Association Conference* in Louisville.

Debra Forrest has 26 years experience and currently teaches English in the Medical Professions Academy at **Central High School**. The scholarship will be used for two teachers from the Medical Professions Academy to travel to Orlando, Florida, to attend the 22nd *Annual Model School Conference*.

Brian Hartman has 17 years experience in the EVSC and currently teaches physics, chemistry and engineering at **F. J. Reitz High School**. In order to give his students additional hands-on experiences, he has started an after-school group which focuses on designing, creating, problem solving, Robotics, etc. He will travel to Kansas City, MO, this summer to attend the *Kansas City Maker Faire* in order to gather ideas to use for his after-school group and information for hosting a local Maker Faire in the future.

Jordan Kelsey has three years experience in the EVSC and currently teaches biology at **Benjamin Bosse High School**. He will use the scholarship to pay for registration to attend the Google Summit. He feels that the information he gains from attendance will help collaborative efforts between students in and outside the classroom.

Andrea Kneubler has 14 years experience and currently teaches math at **Plaza Park International Prep Academy**. She will attend the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference (NCTM) in Indianapolis this fall.

Zachary Mattingly has 15 years experience in the EVSC and currently teaches K-4 science at **Lodge Community School**. He will use the scholarship toward mileage to visit the Wright Brothers Museum and National Park in Kitty Hawk, NC, this June. He will use information gained from this visit as he teaches an Air and Weather unit in second grade science next year.

Becky Rawlings has six years experience at **Bosse High School**. She is also certified to teach CPR and First Aid. She will use the scholarship to purchase mannequins and other supplies in order to teach CPR.

Teri Sanders has 20 years experience and currently teaches science at **F. J. Reitz High School**. She will use the scholarship to pay for registration to attend the Google Pre-Summit and Google Summit in February.

Jeffrey Tron has 21 years experience in the EVSC and currently serves the **Reitz** Attendance District as an eLearning Coach. He will use the scholarship to attend the *Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning* (MACUL) Conference in March.

Cathy Voelker has 14 years experience in the EVSC. She currently teaches English at **Plaza Park International Prep Academy**. She will use the scholarship to attend the weekend *Google Summit*. She feels that the experiences gained through this summit will assist her with creating engaging lessons and activities for her students.

Tim Wilhelmus has 19 years experience in the EVSC. He currently is an ICAT (Innovation, Curriculum and Technology Specialist) through the **Technology and Innovation Center**. He will use the scholarship to attend the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) Conference in Grand Rapids, MI, in March. Among other benefits, he hopes to gain ideas for enhancing the local eRevolution, which he coordinates.





EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

December 31, 2013

CHECKING ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance December 1, 2013			\$4,836.07
Interest		0.23	
Income		2,210.00	
Disbursements		2,079.94	
<u>Ending Balance December 31, 2013</u>			<u>\$4,966.36</u>
SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance December 1, 2013			\$1,514.24
Interest		0.14	
Disbursements			
<u>Ending Balance December 31, 2013</u>			<u>\$1,514.38</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance December 1, 2013			239.16
Interest		0.02	
<u>Ending Balance December 31, 2013</u>			<u>239.18</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT			
Beginning Balance December 1, 2013			\$15.00
<u>Ending Balance December 31, 2013</u>			<u>\$15.00</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26			
Beginning Balance December 1, 2013			\$3,727.06
Interest		0.35	
<u>Ending Balance December 31, 2013</u>			<u>\$3,727.41</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 3 CD's			
Beginning Balance December 1, 2013			\$ 54,640.09
Interest		97.12	
<u>Ending Balance December 31, 2013</u>			<u>\$54,737.21</u>
			<u>\$54,737.21</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			\$65,199.54



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

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

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	lindadho8@sbcglobal.net
	LaVonne Miller	lkmlle@wowway.com
	Richard Sprinkle	bds@twc.com
	Fred Naab (E, 1-2)	N/A
	Charlotte Reitz	charlotte.reitz@gmail.com
Auditing & Budget Committee	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
	Darla Olberding	olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service Committee	Jan Kraft	kraft@aftinc.net
	Charlotte Reitz	charlotte.reitz@gmail.com
Fellowship/Necrology Committee	Linda Hape	lindadho8@sbcglobal.net
	Linda Staley	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	sdriley44@gmail.com
	Jerry Noland	jbnoland@yahoo.com
Reservations Committee	Diana Luck	dianaeluck@gmail.com
	Brenda Beeler	N/A
Special Project	Gene Van Stone	genevanstone@gmail.com
Scholarship Committee (Hensley-USI/UE)	Mike Madriaga	memadriaga@yahoo.com
	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
	Marion Reisinger	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	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
Committee	Charlotte Reitz	charlotte.reitz@gmail.com
Publicity	Nancy Noland	jbnoland@yahoo.com



IN MEMORIAM

Gary A. Orth..... November 1, 2013
Collete Nolcox..... November 1, 2013
Frances Schnute..... November 11, 2013
Lois Ciepley..... November 26, 2013
Ora Goad, Jr. November 29, 2013
Bernice Brill..... November 30, 2013
Paul Farmer December 13, 2013
Noel McDonald December 22, 2013
Larry Orth..... January 1, 2014
Steven Luhring..... January 10, 2014
Francine Quinn..... January 17, 2014
Daniel Sparrow..... January 28, 2014

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

KEEPING IN TOUCH

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

ERTA Web site www.erta.info
IRTA Web site www.retiredteachers.org
ISTRF Web site www.in.gov/trf

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

Return Service Requested



Life is like a camera,
Focus on what's important,
Capture the good times,
Develop from the negatives,
And if things don't work out,
Take another shot.