



# School's Out Gazette

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

March 2020 ..... Diana Luck, Editor ..... Volume 24.4



## From 2019-2020 President Steve Fritz

As former public-school educators I am certain many, if not most or probably even all of you, can relate to what I am about to reveal to you.

Recently I was with a rather sizeable group of people who were speaking rather negatively about public education and why teachers have no right to expect higher wages for the work they perform. For a while I remained silent and then my pride got the best of me—you know what I mean—the pride we felt for our school corporation, our individual schools, colleagues, our students, and our work with them.

As a result of my pride, instead of considering the lack of knowledge this group had about public education, its importance, its difficulties, its challenges, and the dedication required to meet all of society's needs and demands, I waded in with both feet. I know I made all uncomfortable as many had an astonished look on their faces and seemed to become uncomfortably quiet. I'll have to admit that during my several-minute soliloquy I might have embellished here and there and let my pride get the best of me, and probably was unable to open many closed and unknowing minds, but it made me feel better.

Reflecting on the situation, I was reminded of the industrial arts teacher who met his Russian counterpart at New York's Kennedy Airport as part of a cultural exchange. As they drove past a huge office building, the Russian asked, "How long did it take to put up that building?" "About eight months," answered the American. "In Russia we do it in four months," commented the visitor.

A while later they were driving past a multi-story apartment building when the Russian teacher asked, "And how long that take to go up?" "I think it took six months," the American teacher replied. "In Russia it takes three months!" At that moment they passed the One World Trade Center. "That's odd," remarked the American teacher, "that wasn't there when I drove past this morning."

Sometimes we have to exaggerate a little in order to make a point.



The March 2020 ERTA luncheon for this school year will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020, at the American Baptist East Church at 6300 Washington Avenue. The cost of the luncheon, which is provided by Golden Corral, is \$12. We will start at 11:30 for socializing, and the lunch will follow at 12 noon.

Dues of \$15 will be collected also for those who have not yet paid, \$10 for associate members. Also, the first year's ERTA dues are complimentary for the 2019 retirees.

**Special Program:** The March program will be a presentation by Monte Skelton, jazz musician and music educator. Monte is an Evansville resident and performs for many venues and programs.

Please Click this link [ERTA Reservation Form - March, 2020](#) to submit your reservation by Monday, March 2, only if you plan to attend. If you submit a reservation for two people, please list both names on the form

If you have any issues trying to submit your reservation, please email Jan Craig at [jlrcraig7@gmail.com](mailto:jlrcraig7@gmail.com).

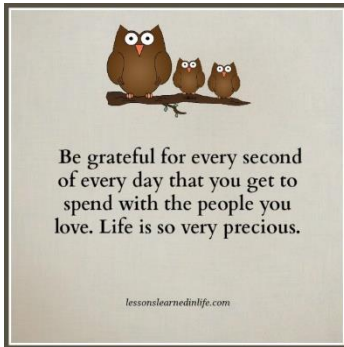
**Reminder:** If you need to cancel a reservation you made, please call Jane Staton at 812-480-5289 or e-mail her at [mymomjane@aol.com](mailto:mymomjane@aol.com). Monday, March 9, is the last day to cancel your reservation without being charged since ERTA will have to pay for any meals after that date.

We are looking forward to celebrating with you in March.

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



## Message from President-Elect Janet Leistner



I hope that everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and that you have had a peaceful winter whether here in chilly Indiana or perhaps in a warmer climate. While the winter weather has been mild, February may still bring snow and cold. Stay safe and warm.

No matter where you spend the winter months, be sure to enjoy each day and spend time with family and friends. Retirement allows for that more, and I am still trying to improve my time and attention to others. Quality time with family and friends is priceless. A lunch with friends, a family dinner, or getting together with neighbors to watch a sporting event may be just the therapy we need. Each

time that we see a tragedy happen for families somewhere in the world, it helps us reflect on the importance of our own families and friends.

I look forward to our ERTA meetings this spring to connect again with each of you. We are fortunate to have such an active organization with caring members. Stay warm and we will see you on March 12 for another great luncheon and program.



ERTA 2019-2020

March Board Meeting .....	March 5
March Luncheon/Program .....	March 12
May Newsletter Articles to Diana Luck.....	April 8
USI Scholarship Banquet.....	April
UE Scholarship Banquet.....	April
May Board Meeting .....	May 7
May Luncheon/Program .....	May 14
IRTA Rep. Assembly, Primo Center, Indy .....	June 17

Evansville Retired Teachers Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
December 5, 2019

Call to Order: President Steve Fritz called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. at American Baptist East and welcomed everyone. In addition to the president, the following were in attendance: Doris Beard, Darlene Brockriede, Fred Bullinger, Janet Craig, Judy Isaac, Earsie Kelley, Janet Leistner, Walt Lewis, Diana Luck, Donna Lutz, Diane Meier, Fred Naab, David Pfettscher, Donna Schmidt, Sandra Schmidt, and Jane Staton.

Approval of October 3, 2019 Minutes: The minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve distributed a report from Treasurer Lino Wiseman. The report will be filed for audit.

### Committee Reports:

Community Service: Steve distributed the forms for board members to record their volunteer hours. He said that the forms will be available at the luncheon for the membership to complete. Then he announced that a volunteer is needed to chair this committee due to the passing of Pat Claybaugh. Jane Staton volunteered to chair the committee.

Fellowship/Necrology: Donna Lutz reported that Gene VanStone has requested the names of all teachers who passed away this year, even those who were not members. Sandra Schmidt said that Gene told her in an e-mail that the secretaries of teacher associations in Indiana are to send those names to IRTA at the end of June in 2020. The list should include those who passed away on July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede reported that there are currently 258 members in ERTA, which include the following: Retired – 198, Associate – 17, New Retirees – 27, Past Presidents – 20, and Honorary – 1. She added that two members who paid their dues for this year have since passed away. Darlene said that 25 December newsletters were mailed.

Program/Luncheon: President-Elect Janet Leistner reported 147 luncheon reservations for next week. The Harrison Choir will provide the entertainment.

Legislation: Diane Meier said that the Indiana Legislative Session will begin in January. She reported that some of the teachers who were in Indianapolis for “Red for Ed” met with Legislators. Diane reminded us that the 13<sup>th</sup> Check is covered for 2020. It has been 12 years since educators received a COLA.

### Information Items:

Nominations: President-Elect Janet Leistner is working on nominations for several board positions. The slate of candidates is to be ready when the ERTA Board meets in March.

President’s Project: Donations for the Teacher Locker will be accepted at the luncheon meeting next week.

Transition to Teaching Program: Steve read information aloud about this program, which has been approved by the Indiana Department of Education. The two-semester program was created by lawmakers to prepare professionals with bachelor degrees to teach middle school or high school classes.

December Table Decorations: Board members will donate funds to help pay for the poinsettia centerpieces for next week’s luncheon.

Next Executive Board Meeting: March 5, 2020

Adjournment: 1:37 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

Evansville Retired Teachers Association  
Luncheon Meeting  
December 12, 2019

Call to Order: President Steve Fritz called the meeting to order at 11:53 a.m. at American Baptist East Church. He announced that the luncheon would begin a little earlier today. The Harrison Choir needed to return to school as quickly as possible due to the bus transportation schedule.

Welcome: Steve welcomed everyone and asked first-time attendees to stand. Then, Steve asked Past President Terry Becker to stand because today was Terry's birthday. Steve led everyone in the singing of "Happy Birthday."

President's Project: A bag was on each table to hold voluntary donations for the Teacher Locker.

Poinsettia Center Pieces: The poinsettia on each table went to a member or guest at the table who had a birthday closest to August 18. Members of the ERTA Executive Board donated money to purchase the plants.

Approval of October 10, 2019 Minutes: The minutes were approved as printed.

Volunteer Hours: Steve called our attention to the forms for recording volunteer hours that were on each table. Completed forms could be given to Jane Staton that day, or the information could be sent to her by e-mail before the end of December. Those without e-mail could phone her. Steve asked Jane to stand.

Volunteer Opportunities:

1. Tutors for K-12 students are needed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the old Stanley Hall School.
2. More volunteers are needed at the Teacher Locker since there is now additional space for donations.
3. The Indiana Department of Education's Transition to Teachers program is in need of field agents to serve as supervisors.

Introduction of the Head Table: Steve introduced President-Elect Janet Leistner and welcomed back Chaplain Ed Wessel.

Pledge of Allegiance: Veteran John Wessel led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blessing: Ed Wessel prayed before the meal.

A Word of Thanks: Janet Leistner thanked Earsie Kelley, Frankie Calloway, and Doris Beard for the table decorations. In addition, Janet recognized Golden Corral who catered today's meal.

Lunch: Those seated at the head table went through the buffet line first. Janet then called members and guests by tables.

Program: Members and guests moved to the church sanctuary for the program to be presented by the Harrison High School Choir. Today the choir was under the direction of Mrs. Andrea Drury who

was standing in for Director Anne Pritchett. The choir sang songs of the season and asked the membership to sing one song with them. Heather McCormick accompanied the choir on the piano. At the program's conclusion, Janet awarded a certificate to the choir and a gift card to Mrs. Drury. There were also treats for the choir members.

(Note: ERTA had budgeted a \$100 to award to the school choir that would be performing at our Christmas program and also \$75 for bus transportation costs.)

Door Prizes: Steve drew for three gift cards.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m. Steve thanked everyone for attending.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

### ERTA TRIVIA #17 (Reprint of Trivia #1, October 2015)

On October 23, 1952, a group of retired teachers met in Room 115 at Central High School. W. V. Mangrum presided and Lillian Sauer led a discussion which concluded that an organization of retired teachers was felt to be necessary. The objective of the group that year was to contact as many retired teachers in southern Indiana as possible and get them to affiliate with both the state and national retired teachers' associations. They felt that many things could be accomplished with a united group.

Written by Pat Eager

Submitted by Darla Olberding

### IN MEMORIAM

"Always in Our Hearts"

Tom Sisk.....	October 31, 2019
June Gibson.....	December 1, 2019
Mike Owen.....	December 16, 2019
Jerry Canterbury .....	January 9, 2020
Robert Hauselmire .....	January 30, 2020
Jim Fay .....	January 31, 2020
Arlin McRae .....	February 10, 2020

#### KEEPING IN TOUCH

ERTA Website.....	<a href="http://www.erta.info">www.erta.info</a>
EVSC Website...	<a href="http://evscicats.com/evscnewsletter/category/latest-news/evsc-news/">http://evscicats.com/evscnewsletter/category/latest-news/evsc-news/</a>
IRTA.....	1-888-454-9333
IRTA E-mail .....	<a href="mailto:irta@retiredteachers.org">irta@retiredteachers.org</a>
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.....	<a href="http://www.retiredteachers.org">www.retiredteachers.org</a>
ISTRF Website.....	<a href="http://www.in.gov/trf">www.in.gov/trf</a>





# EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

## Treasurer's Report by Lino Wiseman

December 31, 2019



CHECKING ACCOUNT				
Beginning Balance September 1, 2019				\$3,080.46
Income		1934.31		
Interest		0.18		
Expenses			0	
Ending Balance September 30, 2019				<u>\$5,014.95</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT				
Beginning Balance September 1, 2019				240.53
Interest		0.01		
Ending Balance September 30, 2019				<u>240.54</u>
MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT				
Beginning Balance September 1, 2019				1,008.92
Interest		0.17		
Ending Balance September 30, 2019				<u>1,009.09</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT				
Beginning Balance September 1, 2019				\$15.00
Ending Balance September 30, 2019				<u>\$15.00</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26				
Beginning Balance September 1, 2019				5,560.94
Interest		0.27		
Income		0.00		
Ending Balance September 30, 2019				<u>5,561.21</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 1 CD				
Beginning Balance September 1, 2019				14,014.92
Interest		22.81		
Ending Balance September 30, 2019				<u>14,037.73</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>				<b>\$25,878.52</b>



## Facebook Funnies

I Thought The Dryer Made My Clothes Shrink.  
Turns Out It Was The Refrigerator.







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