



School's Out Gazette



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

October 2021 Diana Luck, Editor..... Volume 26.2



Message from our 2021-2022 President, Janet Leistner

I feel very fortunate to be associated with such a great group of educators. Although our world is experiencing difficult times, it is important that we all continue to move forward and be grateful for all that we have. As I prepared the articles and pictures for our newsletter that include our work at Teacher Locker and Hangers, our August candy delivery, our August luncheon, and Frog Follies, I feel so honored to work and socialize with all of you. We have a great association, and our chapter was highly commended by the Executive Director from IRTA when she visited last month. She was amazed at our numbers and the sincere interactions with our members. I saw the following poster posted on the internet and thought it was appropriate for these times! Please take care and please plan to join us in October for another great luncheon and program.



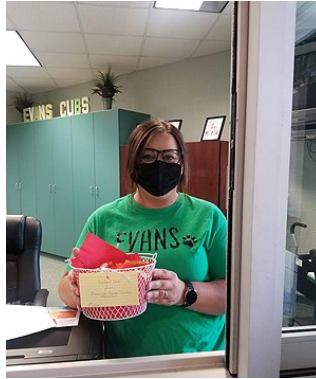
August Luncheon

Our August luncheon was a success with a large crowd, great food, and inspirational guest speaker. Special thanks to Jan Craig for organizing the luncheon and welcoming our speaker, Mike Blake. We were honored to have Laura Penman from IRTA, Jeffrey Berger from Teacher Locker, and Indiana Senator Vaneta Becker as our special guests. Don't forget to mark your calendar for the next luncheon scheduled for October 14.



ERTA Candy Delivery

On August 6, ERTA Board members and volunteers sorted and assembled candy baskets to deliver to each of the EVSC schools and Administration Building. This has been a great project to show our support and appreciation for the current educators. We know how hard they work each day to educate and support students and their families. Needless to say, the schools were very happy to receive the treats and the visits from our volunteers. Special thanks to Sandra Schmidt for organizing this important project.



Frog Follies

We were glad to return to Frog Follies this year on August 27 and 28. It was a lot of fun to work at the registration and gift tables. Thank you to the many ERTA volunteers. Special thanks to Jim Sharp for his great work as the chair of our registration workers. The Frog Follies will provide a check to ERTA to use for our special projects this year.

NOTE: Jim Sharp is ready to turn over his duty as chair to someone. He would like to train someone next year to be the new chair. If you (or a group of members) are willing to help with this important event, please contact Janet Leistner so that we can arrange for training next year.





Message from President-Elect Jan Craig



Autumn Greetings

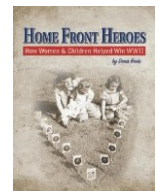
Many of us are already in the “fall state of mind,” thanks to the back-to-school season, falling leaves, and pumpkin spice lattes.

The first official day of fall 2021 lands on September 22; and, if you haven’t started putting out your colorful fall mums, pumpkins, and scarecrow decorations, now’s the time to think about doing it.

We are hoping that you think about adding our October 14, 2021, ERTA meeting to your fall calendar. Since we do not meet in November, the program will be a Veteran-themed one. Our guest speaker will be Dona Bone from the Evansville Wartime Museum. Attending veterans will be honored.



Bio for Dona: 1974 graduate of Mt. Vernon Senior High School
1991 graduate of University of Southern Indiana with a B.S. in Marketing
Retiree of Bristol-Myers Squibb after 41.5 years
Events Chairperson, Evansville Wartime Museum
Evansville Wartime Museum Advisory Board of Directors
Evansville P-47 Foundation Board of Directors
Speaker in the Evansville area on topics ranging from Evansville’s Contribution to WWII,
How Women & Children Helped Win WWII, and WWII posters.
Author of “Home Front Heroes: How Women & Children Helped Win WWII”



Your safety is our number one goal. We plan to provide a safe and healthy environment for our members, so box lunches will be served again. The box lunches will consist of fried chicken white, fried chicken dark, or baked ham with potato salad and cole slaw. We are bringing back the cake and pie table. We hope to see many of you attend. Social hour begins at 11:30 am with lunch and the business meeting starting at noon. Embrace Church at 6300 Washington Ave. will be hosting our event, so we would like to see you there on the 14th.

Jan Craig - (812)459-1356 (c) - jlrcraig7@gmail.com

ERTA August to December 2021 CALENDAR

August Board Meeting.....	August 5	October Board Meeting.....	October 7
Welcome Back Candy Bags to Teachers	August 6	October Luncheon/Program	<u>October 14</u>
August Luncheon/Program	<u>August 12</u>	December Gazette Articles to D. Luck.....	<u>November 8</u>
Frog Follies.....	August 27-29	December Board Meeting	December 2
October Gazette Articles to D. Luck.....	September 6	December Luncheon	<u>December 9</u>

ERTA January to June 2022 CALENDAR

Legislative Brunch Indianapolis.....	TBA
March Newsletter Articles to Diana Luck.....	February 7
March Board Meeting	March 3
March Luncheon/Program	<u>March 10</u>
May Newsletter Articles to Diana Luck.....	April 4
USI Scholarship Banquet	April - TBA
UE Scholarship Banquet	April - TBA
May Board Meeting	May 5
May Luncheon/Program	<u>May 12</u>
IRTA Representative Assembly, Indy.....	June - TBA

Message from Sandra Schmitt, ERTA Secretary

Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Executive Board Meeting
August 5, 2021

Call to Order: President Janet Leistner called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at Embrace Church and welcomed everyone. In addition to the president, the following were in attendance: Doris Beard, Darlene Brockriede, Fred Bullinger, Jan Craig, Steve Fritz, Judy Isaac, Donna Lutz, Darla Olberding, David Pfetscher, Donna Schmidt, and Sandra Schmidt.

Approval of Minutes from May 6, 2021: The minutes were approved as printed.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: A copy of our financial report as of July 2021 was distributed to board members in attendance. The report submitted by Lynn Arteberry contained the following information: Checking Account: \$1,970.51, Savings Account: \$240.75, and Scholarship: \$15,981.19. Please note the Hensley Scholarship Account. The Regular Account and the Money Market Account balances were transferred to the Hensley Scholarship Account from which payments are made. This was made at the suggestion of ETFCU to provide simplicity.

The report will be filed for audit.

Secretary: Sandra reviewed the list of ERTA Executive Board members and their positions with those in attendance in case there were any changes that needed to be made.

Committees:

Auditing: Darla Olberding reported that she audited the books on July 12, 2021, and found the books to be in order.

Community Service: Janet reminded members to keep track of volunteer hours. Forms will be on the luncheon tables.

Fellowship: Donna Lutz reported a card had been sent to Bruce Hatfield. Janet said that a card needed to be sent to Walt Lewis.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede reported that she has no address for several people on her list and said that membership forms will be on the luncheon tables. She added that she is trying to get membership on Google Form.

Program/Luncheon: Jan Craig reported 132 luncheon reservations at this time. Monday morning of August 9 is the cutoff date. The box lunches will have a sandwich, lettuce and tomato, chips, and dessert and will be distributed by Ruby Rusk and Ella Shelton. Don Mosbey and the caterer will help with drinks.

Our guests will be IRTA Executive Director Laura Penman, Jeffrey Berger of the Teacher Locker, District 9 Representative Gene VanStone, and Indiana State Senator Vaneta Becker. The tables will be decorated with school supplies that will be donated to the Teacher Locker after the luncheon. Mike Blake will speak after the luncheon. His topic will be "Refire."

Publicity: Doris Beard asked Janet to contact Mike Blake.

Special Projects: Janet reported that someone will need to replace Jim Sharp after this year's Frog Follies.

Historian: Darla reported that more binders of our newsletters will need to be taken to Willard Library since they contain ERTA's history. The secretary has been keeping the newsletters.

Information Items: Janet said that volunteers are needed at the Teacher Locker. Darla suggested that volunteers sign up at the luncheon.

Janet added that forms for volunteer hours and donations would also be on the tables.

Old Business: Gene VanStone will install board members at the luncheon.

Announcement: The next ERTA Executive Board Meeting will be October 7, 2021. The next luncheon will be on October 14, 2021.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Luncheon Meeting
August 12, 2021

Call to Order: President Janet Leistner called the meeting to order at noon at Embrace Church and welcomed everyone. She asked those attending for the first time to stand.

Introductions of the Head Table: Janet introduced President-elect Jan Craig, Indiana Senator Vaneta Becker, IRTA Director Gene VanStone, IRTA Executive Director Laura Penman, and Jeffrey Berger representing the Teacher Locker. He also is President of the EVSC Foundation.

Acceptance of Luncheon Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2020: The minutes were accepted as written.

Recognition: Janet recognized the EVSC 2020 Hall of Fame inductees Walt Lewis, Carol Koehler, and Lana Burton who were among the deserving winners.

Back in Time to May of 2020: Janet awarded a certificate and gift certificate to Past President Steve Fritz and to Lino Wiseman, ERTA Treasurer from 2008-2021. Ella Shelton, Ruby Rusk, Carol Koehler each were awarded a gift certificate for their help in setting up the luncheons.

Installation of Officers: The slate included the following: Directors for two years: Doris Beard and David Pfettscher, Director for one year: Diane Meier, Treasurer: Lynn Arteberry, President for one year: Janet Leistner, and President-elect for one year: Janet Craig. The president and president-elect are serving a "do over" due to the pandemic.

Darla Olberding made a motion to accept the nominations by acclamation. The slate was accepted. Gene VanStone conducted the ceremony to install the officers.

Frog Follies: Janet introduced Jim Sharp, who chairs the committee. Jim told of the shifts to be worked on August 27-29 and said that he needed volunteers for all shifts.

Indiana Retired Teachers Association: Janet introduced the Executive Director of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association Laura Penman, who encouraged members to text or call if anyone needed help.

Indiana State Senator Vaneta Becker: Senator Becker spoke briefly about working to get the 13th Check and about Jim Tomes support of teachers.

Volunteer Opportunities: Janet asked members to donate and/or volunteer to help the Teacher Locker. Last year 525 teachers were able to get supplies for their classrooms.

Pledge of Allegiance: Steve Fritz led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blessing: John Wessel prayed before lunch was served.

Recognitions: Janet welcomed Mike Blake and noted that Jan Craig had planned today's program.

Lunch: Jan called members and guests by tables which were labeled by various school supplies. Members and guests moved to the sanctuary at 1:15 p.m. for the program.

Program: Jan Craig introduced Mike Blake, today's speaker. Mr. Blake spoke about his early life and life after coming to Evansville and WFIE. He served as a weatherman but then became a sports reporter where he remained for 42 years. In 1999 he started Mid-day with Mike. On October 27, 2021, he will be inducted into the Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Mr. Blake thanked us for being teachers and thanked us for the impact we have had. His message to us was to stay involved. He said that the most important things in life are faith, family, and friends.

Mr. Blake was given a gift card and Certificate of Appreciation.

Door Prizes: Mr. Blake drew the names for the three gift cards that were awarded.

October Luncheon: The next luncheon will be October 14, 2021.

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

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

IN MEMORIAM
 "Always in Our Hearts"

Jim Trader July 25, 2021
<https://www.thegleaner.com/obituaries/evc029222>

RECORD YOUR 2021-2022 VOLUNTEER HOURS		
Month	Youth	Other
January		
February		
March		
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
TOTAL HOURS		
Name		
Email		
Phone		
<i>Turn your hours in at the December meeting or email to: Jane Staton, mymomjane@aol.com.</i>		



Just a reminder to keep track of your volunteer hours that you serve in any organization. Just delivering cookies to a friend can be counted. Hours can be counted if they do not involve a family member, or you are being paid to do the job. You can even count the time it takes you to get there and return home from your volunteering. You will be asked to turn them in at the December meeting or email them to Jane Staton (mymomjane@aol.com). Volunteer hours give us clout with the legislature.

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

Facebook by Doris Beard: Search Evansville Retired Teachers Association

EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

2021-22 Membership Dues (Payment is optional for the 2021-22 year – donations will be accepted)

Name _____ Date _____
 Last First MI

Address _____
 Street City State Zip

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Cell (____) _____

Amount Pd.

Retired Teacher--\$15 – Free or donation	
Associate Member--\$10 – Free or donation	
Additional Scholarship Fund Donation	
TOTAL	\$ _____ CHECK # _____

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

Mail to: Lynn Arteberry, 3399 Westhampton Dr., Newburgh, IN 47630

If you wish to submit your membership online, please click this link

[ERTA Membership Form](#)

**ERTA FINANCIAL REPORT
as of 9/1/2021**

Checking Acct. Balance	\$ 2,354.51
Savings Acct. Balance	240.76
Scholarship Acct. Balance	16,407.47
TOTALS	\$ 19,002.74
Submitted by Lynn Arteberry, Treasurer	

Message from Jim Sharp, Frog Follies Coordinator



Due to the hard work of 79 of our members, ERTA received over \$1,500. Thanks to all, and more details will follow later.



Message from Diane Meier, IRTA Liaison/Legislative Legislative News



The State Legislative Committee met on August 17, 2021, in Indianapolis.

Steve Beebe, our lobbyist, discussed the 2021 Legislative Session and how it had closed with a 1% COLA for retired educators. Beebe began by reviewing the history of what we had lobbied for over the nine years he has represented the Indiana Retired Teachers Association. He reported about the many meetings he had with legislators during 2021, including the contacts with Representative Karikhoff who sponsored HB 1227, which included the “13th check” plus a \$50 increase. This bill passed the House with a vote of 92 to 1. However, the bill was not heard in the Senate, and the final budget included a 1% COLA instead.

For many years the IRTA has asked the legislators for a COLA. It may be that many did not understand our goals had changed. A document was given the governor’s staff in August 2020. It shows how a “13th check” benefits more of our oldest membership rather than the COLA. What we will have to do in the future is make the case for the “13th check” early before the legislative session begins.

As the Legislative Session draws near, we will again be asking members to contact their Legislators, stressing to them the importance of the “13th check.” Before asking for the “13th check,” members should thank the Legislators for the things that the legislature did for retired educators:

- a.) 1% COLA
 - b.) Nearly 1 billion dollars into the Pension Stabilization Fund
 - c.) \$600 to buy down the debt of the pre’96 fund
- Doing this has helped protect our pension funds!

As the 2022 Legislative Session nears, look for emails requesting members to contact their Legislators.

Position	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Janet Leistner	j.leistner@twc.com
President-Elect	Jan Craig	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Secretary	Sandra Schmidt	pineshore@wowway.com
Treasurer	Lynn Arteberry	arteberrylynn@gmail.com
Immediate Past President	Steve Fritz	sustfritz@yahoo.com
Directors	Doris Beard Fred Bullinger Diane Meier Don Mosbey Fred Naab David Pfettscher	dorisbeard@roadrunner.com bullingerf@yahoo.com demeier@aol.com donmosbey@gmail.com Fredno4@wowway.com dwpfettscher@att.net
Auditing & Budget	Lynn Arteberry Darla Olberding	arteberrylynn@gmail.com olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service	Jane Staton	mymomjane@aol.com
Fellowship/Necrology	Donna Lutz Judy Isaac	done1266@gmail.com jli710@gmail.com
Membership	Darlene Brockriede	brockriede@twc.com
Nominating	Jan Craig	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Programs	Jan Craig	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Publications	Diana Luck/Brenda Beeler (School's Out Gazette) Scott Riley (Web site) Doris Beard (Ffacebook)	dianaeluck@gmail.com bgbeeler@att.net sdriley44@gmail.com dorisbeard@roadrunner.com
Publicity	Doris Beard	dorisbeard@roadrunner.com
Reservations	Jane Staton Janet Craig Janet Leistner	mymomjane@aol.com jlcraig7@gmail.com j.leistner@twc.com
Special Project	Janet Leistner	j.leistner@twc.com
Hensley Scholarship	Diane Meier Donna Schmidt	demeier@aol.com donna.schmidt1212@icloud.com
Chaplain	John Wessel	coachandladydi@wowway.com
IRTA Liaison/Legislative	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
Historian	Darla Olberding	olberdingdj@aol.com
Frog Follies Coordinator	Jim Sharp	katsharp623@aol.com
Luncheon Decorations	Need new volunteers	jlcraig7@gmail.com
Lunch Collection	Judy Isaac Donna Lutz	jli710@gmail.com done1266@gmail.com



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