



School's Out Gazette



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May 2022.....Diana Luck, Editor..... Volume 26.5



From Our 2021-2022 President, Janet Leistner



My message is simply a heartfelt thank you for all your support during the past two years as we worked through the pandemic and a great recovery year. My time as president has been exciting and eventful as we tried to navigate how to communicate and show our resilience as a group of educators. I want to especially thank our board members who participated in Zoom meetings and responded to my many emails and phone calls with advice and support. Our chapter is a strong representation of excellent educators, and I feel privileged to be a part of it. We will soon celebrate the 60th anniversary of our chapter's

formation, and we honor all those members who came before us, our current members, and new members as teachers join our ranks. I hope to see all of you at our May meeting as we close out another successful year for ERTA.

All my best, Janet

Message From Our 2021-2022 President-Elect, Jan Craig

With the arrival of summer, I hope you take advantage of the warmer weather to get outside to enjoy the green trees, walks in your neighborhood, a picnic, a backyard cook-out, or a baseball game or two. We are fortunate to have Bill Bussing, owner of the Evansville Otters, as a speaker at our last meeting for the year. His resume includes Director of Planned Giving, University of Evansville, 1982-1987; Solo Practitioner Attorney, 1989-present; owner, Evansville Otters, 2001-present.



May Luncheon Menu:

- * Hamburger/Cheeseburger
- * Bratwurst
Cheese, Tomatoes, Lettuce, Onion,
Pickles for Sandwiches
- * Potato Salad
- * Baked Beans
- * Fruit Salad
- * Drink
- * Dessert

ERTA's May 12 meeting will be held at Embrace Church, which is located at 6300 Washington Ave. We will gather at 11:30 am for a social hour followed by a catered luncheon at noon. Golden Corral will provide the meal. Check out the menu to the left. The cost of the meal will be \$12.00. We hope you get out and join us on Thursday, May 12.



At our May luncheon, we will collect donations for the Personal and Essential Opportunity Shoppe, which is located at the Culver Family Learning Center. Members Lino and Pam Wiseman have been instrumental in developing this resource to help meet the needs of the Culver families. Please review the list below and consider bringing an item to donate at our May luncheon. We will have collection boxes at the registration tables.

ITEMS FOR THE PERSONAL & ESSENTIAL OPPORTUNITY SHOPPE				
Personal	Laundry	Baby	Kitchen	Bathroom
Sanitary pads and tampons	Detergent	Diapers (various sizes)	Dish soap	Soap bars
Deodorant	Dryer sheets	Baby shampoo	Dish cloths	Shower gel
Shaving cream	Softener	Wipes	Dish towels	Toilet paper
	Stain remover	Baby food	Paper towels	Toothbrush
	Hangers		Trash bags	Toothpaste
			Ziploc bags	Shampoo
				Conditioner 3 in 1
				Combs/brushes
				Lotion

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

Thought for the day by Warren Buffet:

Surround yourself with people that push you to do better. No drama or negativity. Just higher goals and higher motivation. Good times and positive energy. No jealousy or hate. Simply bringing out the absolute best in each other.

Memories from the March 2022 Luncheon

Our March luncheon attendees enjoyed a great meal and program. Our program featured three EVSC graduates who are now the leaders of non-profit organizations in Evansville--Andrew Backes, Kendall Paul, and Aimee Stachura (daughter of ERTA member Pat Buckingham). Their messages were inspiring, and their leadership is admirable. Congratulations to Lisa Garrett for winning a table prize of a sunflower photo as we honored the brave leaders, soldiers, and citizens of Ukraine.



Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Executive Board Meeting
March 3, 2022

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, Brenda Beeler, Darlene Brockriede, Fred Bullinger, Jan Craig, Steve Fritz, Judy Isaac, Diana Luck, Donna Lutz, Diane Meier, Don Mosbey, Darla Olberding, David Pfetscher, Donna Schmidt, Sandra Schmidt, and Jane Staton.

Approval of Minutes from December 2, 2021: The minutes were accepted as printed.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lynn Arteberry distributed the following financial report showing each account balance as of March 1, 2022:

Checking: \$3,248.62 Savings: \$240.83 Scholarship: \$16,122.24 Total Assets: \$19,611.69

Lynn also reported that \$423 was sent to the Tri-State Food Bank. (Note: Money donated by members who attended the luncheon in December)

President: Janet announced that three EVSC students, who are leaders in our community, will speak at next week's luncheon.

Committee Reports:

Community Service: Jane Staton said that volunteer hours were sent to IRTA. The president added that 5,100 were submitted.

Fellowship/Necrology: Donna Lutz reported sending a sympathy card to Tom Anderson due to the passing of his wife Sandy in January. A get-well card was sent to Sharon Overton.

Membership: Janet noted that membership currently numbers 303, and we are working to get additional members. Janet complimented Darlene Brockriede on the job she has done chairing this committee and announced that Darlene has decided to step down as chair. Allyson Green has been selected to fill this position.

Program/Luncheon/Reservations: Jan Craig announced that there are 91 reservations at this time. The program will be a panel discussion where each member tells what preparation he or she had to take over a leadership role. The panel will consist of Aimee Buckingham Stachura, the CEO of Girl Scouts of SW Indiana; Kendall Paul, the CEO of Vanderburgh Humane Society; and Andrew Backes, the CEO of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of SW Indiana. All three attended schools in the EVSC.

Doris Beard made a motion to award each speaker a \$25 gift card. Steve Fritz seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Jan asked the board how the meal should be served. The decision was that there should be servers. Jan then went over the menu.

Publications: Diana Luck thanked those who had sent pictures for the newsletters.

Scholarship: Diane Meier reported on the Hensley Scholarships that were awarded at the beginning of the pandemic. At this time, two teachers at McCutchanville School have been able to attend a conference. They will be sharing what they learned with other educators. Diane went on to say that some of the conferences have been cancelled, and some were virtual instead of in-person.

Diane would like to carry this project out to January of 2023 and add \$400 to the account for increased costs such as travel. Judy Isaac made a motion to add \$400 to the scholarship account. Donna Lutz seconded. After some discussion, the motion passed.

IRTA Liaison/Legislature: Diane said that the Indiana Legislature did put money into the retirement fund and investigated the COLA and Thirteenth Check.

Nominating: Jan Craig announced the following slate:

Directors: Karen Bippus, Fred Bullinger, and Donna Schmidt 2022-2024

Secretary: Sandra Schmidt 2022-2024

President-elect: Doris Beard 2022-2023

Membership Chair: Allyson Green no term limit

Old Business:

Paid memberships will return next year for current members. There will be free membership for new retirees their first year. Those who retired in December of 2021 have been notified by e-mail and phone. At this time, one has joined.

New Business:

Janet reported that a celebration for ERTA's 60th birthday is being planned by a committee.

Information:

1. Caution concerning scam emails
2. Reconnect Workshop for IRTA Areas 8 and 9 on September 21, 2022, at Gasthoff Restaurant in Montgomery, IN
3. IRTA Public Relations Nominations -- ERTA Newsletter and Website submitted
4. Personal and Essential Opportunity Shoppe at Culver Early Learning Center set up by Lino and Pam Wiseman (A list of items needed was distributed.)

Announcement: Next ERTA Executive Board Meeting on Thursday, May 5, 2022

Adjournment: 2:20 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



Evansville Retired Teachers Association
Luncheon Meeting
March 10, 2022

Call to Order: President Janet Leistner called the meeting to order at noon and welcomed everyone. She acknowledged Jan Craig for the table decorations.

Introductions of the Head Table: Janet introduced President-elect Jan Craig and today's guest speakers who are all EVSC graduates: Aimee Buckingham Stachura, CEO of the Girl Scouts of Southwestern Indiana; Kendall Paul, CEO of the Vanderburgh Humane Society; and Andrew Backes, CEO of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Indiana.

Pledge of Allegiance: Gene VanStone led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business:

Acceptance of Luncheon Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2021: The minutes were accepted as received.

Membership: Janet asked that members continue to contact friends who might want to join ERTA.

ERTA Volunteer Hours: The number of hours reported to IRTA for 2021 was 5,100.

United Way's Proposal: Janet reported that United Way wants teachers to serve on a task force to decide how the donations United Way receives should be used. Anyone who serves on this task force cannot be on the board of an organization that could possibly receive funds from United Way.

Acceptance of ERTA Board Nominations: A list of those nominated was on each table.

Those being nominated include the following:

Three Director Positions: Karen Bippus, Donna Schmidt, and Fred Bullinger

Membership Chair: Allyson Green

President-elect: Doris Beard

Secretary: Sandra Schmidt

Darla Olberding asked that the slate be accepted by acclamation. The slate was accepted.

Report from Gene VanStone: The Representative Assembly will meet in Indianapolis on June 8, 2022. It also will be available on Zoom. Gene added that an Areas 8 and 9 Meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2022.

Recognition:

Janet announced that Lino and Pam Wiseman have started a Personal and Essential Shoppe at Culver. Donations will be accepted at the May meeting. A list of items needed was distributed.

Blessing: John Wessel prayed before members and guests were dismissed for meal service.

Program: Andy Guarino served as moderator. He asked each speaker to talk about the organization and the work that goes on there as well as how the work is carried out.

The Humane Society offers many services to animals, but it also serves people by giving them a place where they can adopt animals. The Girl Scouts offers skill-building so girls can thrive and a summer camp that teaches girls about the earth. Big Brothers Big Sisters mostly deals with children who lack stability in their lives and need a caring adult who will mentor them. Some mentors go into schools.

A \$25 gift certificate was given to each speaker.

Door Prizes: A drawing was held for three gift cards.

Next Luncheon: May 12, 2022

Dismissal: 1:45p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

Volunteers Are Special!

Remember to keep track of your volunteer hours for 2022. Questions? Contact Jane Staton at mymomjane@aol.com.

In Memoriam

“Always in Our Hearts”

- Phyllis (Carraway) Brown**February 27, 2022
<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/24146023/phyllis-j-brown>
- Ray Bailey** March 21, 2022
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc034635>
- Larry Eifler** March 2, 2022
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc034329>
- Don Katterhenry**April 14, 2022
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc035100>
- Mattie Miller**.....April 2, 2022
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/evansville-in/mattie-miller-10694641>
- Wilford Wheaton**April 11, 2022
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc035059>

ERTA January to June 2022 CALENDAR

- | | |
|---|---|
| May Board Meeting <u>May 5</u> | IRTA Areas 8 and 9 Workshop, September 21 – |
| May Luncheon/Program <u>May 12</u> | Location: Gasthoff Restaurant in Montgomery, IN |
| IRTA Representative Assembly, Indy June 8 | |



ERTA Finance Report	
as of 4/11/2022	
ASSETS	Actual April 11
Checking Acct. Balance	\$ 2,982.16
Savings Acct. Balance	240.84
Scholarship Acct. Balance	14,722.87
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 17,945.87
Submitted by: Lynn Arteberry, ERTA Treasurer	



Message from Diane Meier, IRTA Liaison/Legislative

The IRTA Legislative Committee met on **August 17, 2022**, in Indianapolis. It was noted by members of the committee and by the legislators that members did not contact legislators during the session but after the session when many were displeased with the one percent COLA rather than the 13th check. What we will have to do in the future is make the case for the “13TH check” early, before the legislative session begins.

Once we know who our legislators will be for 2023, we are encouraging members throughout the state to express thanks 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!

When the office sends out a request for emails to legislators, members need to respond, before and during the session.

The committee will meet again in August to discuss further strategies for the 2023 session.





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Teachers Association
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