



School's Out Gazette

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

December 2016..... Volume 21.3



From Our 2016-2017 President, Tom Wiggers

As we approach the holiday season, we should take time to recognize and be grateful for our many blessings: life, health, country and security. We are truly blessed! I am very grateful, also, for all of our members and their generosity of time, talents and treasure. We are a force for good in our community.

I hope you will find time in your busy schedule to join us for our traditional Christmas feast on Thursday, December 8. We will be treated to a performance of holiday music by the North High School choir. Remember to get your reservations in early. Also, remember that luncheon cost has gone up to \$12. Please, bring exact change or a check, that helps expedite the check in process. You must have your reservation in or cancelled by Tuesday, December 6.

We will collect monetary contributions for the Albion Fellows Bacon Center at the luncheon. Their need for support is always great, but especially at this time of year as the incidence of domestic abuse does increase over the holidays. I share with you a synopsis of the purpose of the center:

* Albion is a domestic and sexual violence agency with a mission to prevent domestic and sexual violence and empower victims through advocacy, education, support services and collaborative partnerships. Probably best known as a domestic violence shelter, Albion is the only agency in the area known as a Rape Crisis Center. It is also the only agency in the immediate area with a primary prevention program for middle and high school youth. It serves three times as people in their non-residential Outreach program than in their shelter.*

Your support will help to bring support, safety and some amount of joy to lives severely disrupted by abuse. Please be generous!

I look forward to seeing you at the luncheon! Blessings to all of you and yours! Tom



The third ERTA luncheon and Christmas celebration for this school year will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2016, at the American Baptist East Church at 6300 Washington Avenue. We will start at 11:30 for socializing, and lunch will follow at 12 noon. The cost is \$12. North High School Choir will provide the program.

Please reply to this e-mail by Monday, November 28, only if you plan to attend and include your name and number of reservations.

Reminder: If you need to cancel a reservation you made, please call Brenda Beeler (812-422-1637) or e-mail dianaeluck@gmail.com ASAP.

Diana Luck

Our Menu

- Turkey and Dressing
- Ham
- Mashed Potatoes
- Corn
- Green Beans
- Salad
- Dinner Rolls
- Dessert Variety
- Beverages



Graphics are from Google Images. Thanks, Walt Gleim, for the photos.

Message from Our President-Elect, Terry Becker

Well if it isn't that time of year again. Funny how fast the years roll by these days! Yesterday I was complaining about the heat and humidity, and now it's time to carve the turkey and put up the Christmas tree. And I, for one, can't wait to see so many of my friends and colleagues at this year's ERTA Holiday Luncheon. This (along with a recent conversation with one of my former students) takes me back to one of my favorite Holiday memories.



High school choirs, as many of you know, approach the holidays in a slightly different way than many other people. Rather than waiting for Christmas Vacation followed by a gift exchange on Christmas day, their holiday celebration actually starts the week after Thanksgiving with multiple performances for local Holiday parties. Remembering back to my years at Thompkins, North and Signature School, there were Civic groups, church groups, nursing homes and the Retired Teachers Association luncheons, not to mention a final evening concert for parents and friends, and maybe a short assembly at school on the last day before break. (Do they even do that anymore?) There were nights when we would do two and three performances with small groups from the choir. My car's back seat almost always had an electric keyboard stretched from door to door. Sometimes we had 16 singers - other times 5 or 6. As long as we could cover the parts, we were there. Some days we rushed out during our lunch period to cover a particularly lucrative performance for a bank's holiday luncheon or the Downtown Kiwanis Christmas party. We carried candy canes, fake presents, Santa hats and stale fruitcakes. There were young soloists who suddenly "came to life" on the stage of a local retirement home, and others who discovered just how scary it could be to sing in front of an audience. For three weeks we were out in the community sharing the spirit of Christmas. It was exhausting, rewarding and fun!

At our December luncheon we will again be getting into the spirit of the season with a short concert by a group of talented singers from North High School. They will hopefully leave us with a fresh sense of hope and excitement about the upcoming holiday. We, as teachers, will get a small reminder of how that boundless teenage energy can be channeled into a collaborative art! Enjoy the show. Give them some applause and a compliment if you get the chance. I will be the guy over to one side with the goofy grin on my face, because I know how much fun they are having. Already halfway through their holiday season, they are creating rich memories that last a lifetime. It just doesn't get any better!

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

December 8, 2016 Christmas Luncheon Meeting
February 6, 2017 Newsletter article due to Diana Luck
March 2, 2017 Board Meeting at American Baptist East
March 9, 2017 Luncheon Meeting
March 2017 Legislative Lobby Day in Indianapolis (Dates TBD)
April 3, 2017 Newsletter article due to Diana Luck
April 2017 UE and USI Scholarship Banquets (Dates TBD)
May 4, 2017 Board Meeting at American Baptist East
May 11, 2017 Luncheon Meeting/Install new officers
June 2017 IRTA Representative Assembly, Indianapolis, IN (Dates TBD)



October ERTA Fellowship

ERTA Trivia No.5

In 1984 during the presidency of Warren Wilhelm, the ERTA received a Certificate of Affiliation from the National Retired Teachers Association.

Dr. Elizabeth Ryan served as president during 1984-1985. ERTA had 502 members.

Note: We currently have 313 members. Darla Olberding

Evansville Retired Teachers Association

Executive Board Meeting

October 6, 2016

Call to Order: President Tom Wiggers called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. at American Baptist East Church and welcomed everyone. In addition to the president, the following were in attendance: Terry Becker, Darlene Brockriede, Judy Issac, Diana Luck, Diane Meier, Don Mosbey, Fred Naab, Darla Olberding, David Pfettscher, Ed Rusk, Brenda Scheidler, Sandra Schmidt, Brenda Weber, and Lino Wiseman.

Meditation: Chaplain Ed Rusk read "A Drowning Man Does Not Complain about the Size of a Life Preserver." He then read Philippians 2:14 and prayed.

Acceptance of Agenda: Tom asked that today's agenda be accepted with flexibility. Diane Meier made a motion to accept today's agenda with flexibility. Don Mosbey seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Approval of August 4, 2016 Executive Board Minutes: The minutes were approved as printed.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lino distributed a financial report dated August 31, 2016. He said that 125 members have paid dues at this time. He also reported that the association has received a check for \$1,634.06 from Frog Follies. Of that total, \$295.20 was used to feed our workers, and the remaining amount of \$1,338.86 was put into the Special Projects account.

(Note: The account balance also includes \$18.32 that was returned after the purchase of candy for the Welcome Back Baskets.)

President-Elect: Terry Becker informed board members that he had received a notice from the Rescue Mission saying that the organization would no longer be able to offer catering. Several members suggested some restaurants as possible options for our remaining luncheons this year.

Indiana State School Superintendent Dr. Glenda Ritz will speak at next week's luncheon. Evansville Mayor Lloyd Winnecke will speak in the spring.

President: Tom explained that ERTA is in need of a logo. He said that Jon Siau will be working on this project.

Committee Reports:

Auditing and Budget: Darla Olberding reported that the books were audited and found to be in good order.

Membership: Since dues are to be paid by the end of October, Darlene Brockriede suggested contacting those who have not paid.

Publications: Diana Luck asked for a decision as to which items would not be included

In the next several issues of the newsletter. The membership form will no be included as well as the list of board members.

Publicity: Judy Isaac reported submitting an article to the local newspaper about ERTA's donation to Hangers. The check was awarded at an EVSC School Board Meeting.

Reservations: Diana Luck announced that there are 135 reservations for next week's luncheon.

Scholarships: Diane Meier said that information about the Hensley scholarships will be sent to EVSC in December. The information must be sent electronically because it cannot be put into teachers' mailboxes. Last year eight scholarships were awarded; only eight applied. Ten are available.

IRTA Liaison/Legislative: Diane reported that this year is our best chance for a COLA. The last COLA was in 2007. The stipend that we have been receiving in September is not automatic. In March there will be a push to contact members of the Indiana Legislature.

Historian: Darla Olberding asked if the board wanted to continue printing "ERTA Trivia" articles in the newsletter. The board wanted to continue.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business: There was none.

Announcement: The next ERTA Executive Board Meeting will be December 1, 2016.

Adjournment: Brenda Weber made a motion to adjourn. Judy Isaac seconded. The motion passed.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

Evansville Retired Teachers Association

Luncheon Meeting

October 13, 2016

Call to Order: President Tom Wiggers called the meeting to order at noon at the American Baptist East Fellowship Hall and welcomed everyone.

Introductions: Tom introduced the following members and guests seated at the head table: Calvin Biddle, IRTA Area 9 Director; Jane Boultinghouse, IRTA President-Elect; and Ruby and Ed Rusk. Upon her arrival, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Glenda Ritz was introduced and seated at the head table.



Words of Appreciation: Tom thanked Ed and Ruby Rusk and Don and Susan Mosbey for getting everything ready for our luncheon.

Acknowledgements: Tom acknowledged EVSC School Superintendent Dr. David Smith, who was seated with the membership. David Pfettscher and his group of volunteers who collected the money for today's luncheon were also acknowledged.

Volunteer Hours: Tom called our attention to the green papers on each table on which members could record their volunteer hours. He said that members could give the papers to Jan Kraft today, send her a text or e-mail, call her, or mail the hours to her. The green papers will be available at the December luncheon as well.

Recognition of Veterans: Veterans were called to the front and asked to introduce themselves. Dr. Jack Humphrey, one of the veterans, led the Pledge of Allegiance.



Meditation: Chaplain Ed Rusk read "The Difference Between Ordinary and Extraordinary Is That Little Extra." He then read Ecclesiastes 9:10 and prayed.

Lunch: Those seated at the head table were dismissed for meal service followed by members.

Program: Tom introduced today's speaker, Dr. Glenda Ritz. She began by reporting that 191 schools with 108,000 students have been turned around at this point. Then, Dr. Ritz discussed her goals: having a fully funded pre-k, utilizing a computer test that adapts to each child's level, ensuring that high school students are prepared for a trade or college, recruiting quality teachers, and revisiting teacher evaluations that are currently linked to students' test scores. The program ended with a question and answer session.



Approval of August 11, 2016 Luncheon Minutes: The minutes were approved as printed.

Announcements:

1. Tom thanked Diana Lynn for the table decorations.
2. He also thanked the Rescue Mission for catering our lunch today and announced that the Mission is no longer in the catering business.
3. The next luncheon will be December 8, 2016.

Door Prizes: Three gift cards were awarded.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



Service/Volunteer Hours

Please, please, please...keep track of your volunteer hours as we use these hours when we lobby the Legislators. Please give those numbers to Jan Kraft at the December luncheon.

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

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

IN MEMORIAM

Lois Ossenburg.....August 4, 2016
Raleigh McGary.....Get update.....September 6, 2016
Patricia Thompson.....September 6, 2016

Darlene Brockriede maintains the ERTA database of members. If any of your personal information has changed, please email her at brockriede@twc.com.



EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



Treasurer's Report by Lino Wiseman

September 30, 2016

Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2016				<u>\$2,502.77</u>
Interest		0.14		
Income		1814.06		
Disbursements			295.20	
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2016</u>				<u>\$4,021.77</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT				
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2016				239.82
Interest		0.02		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2016</u>				<u>239.84</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT				
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2016				\$15.00
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2016</u>				<u>\$15.00</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26				
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2016				4,627.54
Donations		25		
Interest		0.42		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2016</u>				<u>4,652.96</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 2 CD's				
Beginning Balance Sept 1, 2016				39,268.91
Interest		70.81		
<u>Ending Balance Sept 30, 2016</u>				<u>39,339.72</u>
TOTAL ASSETS				
				\$48,269.29



ERTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

2016-17

Position	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Tom Wiggers	twiggers@wowway.com
President Elect	Terry Becker	terrybecker@earthlink.net
Secretary	Sandra Schmidt	pineshore@wowway.com
Treasurer	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
Immediate Past President	Brenda Weber	bpw@twc.com
Directors	Fred Bullinger Diane Meier Don Mosbey Fred Naab David Pfettscher Brenda Scheidler	bullingerf@yahoo.com demeier@aol.com donmosbey@gmail.com Fredno4@wowway.com dwpfetscher@att.net bscheidler@twc.com
Auditing & Budget	Lino Wiseman Darla Olberding	linowise@twc.com olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service	Jan Kraft	kraft@aftinc.net
Fellowship/Necrology	Mary Tremper	mfmt48@wowway.com
Membership	Darlene Brockriede	brockriede@twc.com
Nominating	Terry Becker	terrybecker@earthlink.net
Programs	Terry Becker	terrybecker@earthlink.net
Publications	Diana Luck (Gazette) Scott Riley (Web site)	dianaeluck@gmail.com sdriley44@gmail.com
Publicity	Judy Isaac	jli710@gmail.com
Reservations	Diana Luck Brenda Beeler	dianaeluck@gmail.com bgbeeler@att.net
Special Project	Brenda Weber	bpw@twc.com
Hensley Scholarship	Diane Meier Brenda Scheidler Donna Schmidt	demeier@aol.com bscheidler@twc.com donna.schmidt1212@icloud.com
USI & UE Scholarships	Marion Reisinger	N/A
Chaplain	Ed Rusk	ruskruby@yahoo.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	Jan Wiggers Diana Lynn	twiggers@wowway.com dklynn48@hotmail.com
Lunch Collection	David Pfettscher Caroline Pfettscher	dwpfetscher@att.net

Evansville Retired
Teachers Association
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Happy Holidays!

