



# School's Out Gazette



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

March 2024.....Diana Luck, Editor..... Volume 29.4



## Message from Doris Beard, 2023-2024 President

I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have you kept all your New Year's resolutions? I have. My only resolution was to stop making resolutions that I would break as soon as 2024 started.

What beautiful weather we have been having lately! It is hard to believe that we had such spring like weather in February. Doesn't this beautiful weather make you want to get together with your friends and have lunch? ERTA provides a perfect opportunity for you to do just that, and March 14 is the next ERTA luncheon which will be held at Embrace Church. Doors open at 11:30 and lunch begins shortly after noon. Our new President-elect, Vic Doty, has a very useful and informative program planned for us that you do not want to miss! Be sure to read Vic's post regarding our speaker.

Come to the meeting a little early and enjoy meeting someone you've never met before or socialize with those people with whom you used to work. ERTA is a great place to both meet new friends and to see people you have known for a while!

### Reservations for March 14:

The cost of the luncheon, which is provided by Golden Corral, is \$15. Payment will be collected at the luncheon. We will start at 11:30 for socializing, and we will begin the luncheon at 12:00 noon followed by the program.

Please Click the link below to submit your reservation if you plan to attend and include your name(s) and number of reservations.

Click this link [ERTA Luncheon Reservation Form](#) to submit your reservation by 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 11. **If you submit a form for two people, please list both names on the form.**

If you have any issues trying to submit your reservation, please email Janet Leistner at [j.leistner@twc.com](mailto:j.leistner@twc.com) or call 812-455-0384.

**Reminder:** If you need to make changes or cancel a reservation you made, please contact Janet Leistner at [j.leistner@twc.com](mailto:j.leistner@twc.com) or call 812-455-0384. Monday, March 11 at 10:00 a.m. is the deadline to cancel your reservation without being charged since ERTA will have to pay for any meals after that date.



### MENU

-  Meatloaf
-  Roasted Herb Chicken/Gravy
-  Baked Beans
-  Carrots
-  Mashed Potatoes/Gravy
-  Salad/Dressings
-  Rolls/Butter
-  Desserts
-  Beverages

## Message from Vic Doty, 2024-2025 President-Elect

I look forward to serving as president-elect this year. It is my honor to work with great people and a wonderful organization. Collectively, we represent many years of education for many students.

I am an Evansville native and a graduate of North High School and Indiana State University. During my 45 years in education as a teacher, coordinator, Middle School Assistant Principal, Middle School Principal and CTE High School Principal, CTE Director I have enjoyed helping many people. These interactions with students, parents, teachers, administrators, colleagues and members of the community were enjoyable and rewarding.

I look forward to seeing you at the next ERTA luncheon on March 14 at 11:30 a.m. catered by Golden Corral at Embrace Church. The speaker will be Sgt. VanCleave who works at the Evansville Police Department. He will speak on Internet safety and how to protect yourself from various types of scams.

Thanks to each of you for your work in education. We look forward to your continued support for this profession and the current teachers and students of our community. There are many opportunities for you to get directly involved by volunteering with The Teacher Locker, Hangers, Frog Follies and many more. We welcome your help.

We are looking forward to seeing you.

**FYI: If you have specific Internet safety questions or examples to share, you are welcome to send them to Vic Doty at [vrdoty@gmail.com](mailto:vrdoty@gmail.com) or bring your questions to the program.**

## Message from Diane Meier, IRTA Liaison/Indiana Legislature

Even though this is a short legislative session, the bill for a 13th check has unanimously passed the House and is now in the Senate. Even though the Senate appears to be amenable to studying the possibility of a 13th check or COLA every year, there is some opposition to the 13th check this year.

To keep updated on what is happening at the Legislature, log onto <https://www.retiredteachers.org> and click on Legislative News. By checking the web site, you will know the latest information from the legislative session. By the time of our March luncheon, the session will have ended. Thus, it is imperative you check the web site often.

### ERTA 2023-2024



March Board Meeting.....	March 7
March Luncheon.....	March 14
May Newsletter to Diana Luck.....	April 18
May Board Meeting.....	May 2
May Luncheon.....	May 9
IRTA Representative Workshops.....	June (TBA)

## Memories from the ERTA December 2023 Luncheon

The Evansville Retired Teachers Association enjoyed a festive Holiday luncheon in December. We welcomed special guests Superintendent Dr. David Smith, Mrs. Melanie Atwood, Mrs. Amy Walker from the EVSC Foundation, and Mr. David Lennen from Indiana Retired Teachers Association. Mr. Vic Doty was installed as our President-Elect. We enjoyed music from the Evansville Philharmonic Jazz Duo and carols led by our own Kristi Miller. Everyone enjoyed the good food and fellowship.



Evansville Retired Teachers Association  
Executive Board Meeting  
December 7, 2023

Call to Order: President Doris Beard called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. at Embrace Church and welcomed everyone. In addition to the president, the following were in attendance: Brenda Beeler, Fred Bullinger, Frankye Calloway, Jan Craig, Victor Doty, Judy Isaac, Earsie Kelley, Janet Leistner, Donna Lutz, Diane Meier, Davie Pfettscher, and Sandra Schmidt.

Approval of Minutes from October 5, 2023: The minutes were approved as written.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lynn Arteberry submitted the following report as of November 30, 2023:

Checking Account: \$4,748.64    Scholarship Account: \$2,212.01    Savings account: \$240.90  
Total: \$7,201.55

October Income: \$3,441.29    October Expenses: \$1,212.13  
November Income: \$75.04    November Expenses: \$138.19

Committee Reports:

Community Service and Volunteer Hours: Members were reminded to report their volunteer hours for this year to Jane Staton by the end of December. Janet Leistner said that forms will be on the tables at the luncheon.

Program/Luncheon: Doris went over next week's menu. She said that EVSC Superintendent Dr. David Smith, Melanie Atwood of the EVSC Foundation, IRTA President David Lennen, and EVSC Foundation Consultant Amy Walker will be in attendance. Poinsettias will decorate the tables, and one will be awarded at each table. Each board member donated \$7.00 for their purchase.

Doris also announced the Eykamp Quartet, that was to be our program, had to cancel because of a major conflict. The Evansville Philharmonic Duo of Anthony Rideout and Kelly Georgeson will provide our entertainment. We will sing Christmas carols under the direction of Kristi Miller following the entertainment.

Reservations: Janet reported 104 reservations at this time.

Special Projects: This year money earned at Frog Follies will be donated to an organization in May.

IRTA Liaison: Diane Meier spoke about the work of the Pension Oversight Committee. She said that we are likely to receive a 13<sup>th</sup> Check in 2024. Diane also spoke about teachers becoming part of a statute so we don't have to ask for a 13<sup>th</sup> Check or a COLA every year.

Diane said that ERTA members can check the IRTA website. Click on Update.

New Business: Doris nominated Victor Doty for President-elect. Diane seconded. All Board members voted in the affirmative.

Officer Installation: David Lennen, the President of IRTA, will install Victor Doty as the President-elect of ERTA.

IRTA Information: IRTA offers a program called A Hand Up that offers one-time short-term assistance.

Scholarships are available for students who are enrolled in teacher education and who are children or grandchildren of an educator.

Teacher Locker Information: Janet reported that Teacher Locker received a grant for \$75,000 for stem items. She also announced that over 600 shopped in the first semester.

Next Executive Board Meeting: Thursday - March 7, 2024

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Minutes by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

Evansville Retired Teachers Association  
Luncheon Meeting  
December 14, 2023

Call to Order: President Doris Beard called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone. She asked those who celebrate a December, January, or February birthday to stand.

Announcements: Doris asked those in attendance to fill out one of the forms for Volunteer Hours. They are on the tables and are due today.

Doris noted that the bags on the tables are for donations to the Vanderburgh Humane Society.

Introduction of the Head Table: The president introduced EVSC Superintendent Dr. David Smith, IRTA President David Lennen, Chief Advancement Officer for EVSC and President of the EVSC Foundation Melanie Atwood, and EVSC Foundation Consultant Amy Walker. Doris also introduced ERTA Past President Janet Craig.

Pledge of Allegiance: Victor Doty led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Blessing: Steve Fritz spoke about an article he had read concerning the history of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" before he prayed.

Table Decorations: The poinsettias decorating the tables were donated by the ERTA Board. One person at each table will be awarded a poinsettia.

Lunch: Those at the Head Table were dismissed first to go through the lunch line. Then Jan Craig dismissed each table by calling the name of a Christmas carol or song that labeled each table.

Business:

Luncheon Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2023: The minutes were accepted as written.

Election of President-elect: Doris noted that ERTA had been without a president-elect this year. She announced that Victor Doty had agreed to serve and had been unanimously accepted at last week's meeting of the ERTA Board.

Darla Olberding made a motion to accept Victor Doty as President-elect of ERTA. Tom Wiggers seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to elect Victor Doty.

Program: The membership moved to the Sanctuary for the program.

Doris introduced Kelsey Georgeson and Anthony Rideout of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra who entertained us with Christmas music. Kelsey Georgeson is the Educational Director and works with the Youth Orchestra. A check was presented for the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra. Kristi Miller then led the membership in the singing of some Christmas carols.

Door Prizes: Three Gift Cards were awarded.

Donations Collected: Lynn Arteberry announced \$343 was collected for the Vanderburgh Humane Society at today's luncheon.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Next ERTA Executive Board Meeting- March 7, 2024

Next ERTA Luncheon Meeting – March 14, 2024

Minutes by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



### Message from Jane Staton, Volunteer Hours

A big shout out to all of us retired teachers for making a tremendous contribution to our community. This year, thanks to Janet Leistner collecting data slips from all at our luncheon, we have surpassed our reported volunteer hours from any year. I do not believe we have actually volunteered more – – I believe, thanks to Janet, we have the most accurate reporting of our volunteer hours to date. Kudos to you all.

2021 reported volunteer hours 5,100

2022 reported volunteer hours (I can't find exact — remember above 2021)

2023 reported volunteer hours 8,874.75

In Memoriam

Always in Our Hearts”

Ellen F. Schermack Vowells..... January 29, 2024  
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/psbn0709380>

Gary Brunson.....January 25, 2024  
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/evansville-in/gary-brunson-11641310>

Merle E. Padgett ..... January 13, 2024  
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc045470>

Patricia Carol Fisher Reisinger.....December 21, 2023  
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc045154>

Peggy Janell Madden Koehler ..... December 18, 2023  
<https://www.browningfuneral.com/obituaries/Peggy-Janell-Madden-Koehler?obid=30145105>

Ruth Elizabeth Harmon.....December 1, 2023  
<https://www.courierpress.com/obituaries/evc045029>

Mary Jane Ropp Steele ..... December 3, 2023  
<https://www.boonefuneralhome.net/obituary/Mary-Steele>

**ERTA FINANCE REPORT as of  
1/31/2024**



<b>ERTA FINANCE REPORT as of 1/31/2024</b>	
Checking Account	\$4,947.45
Scholarship Account	\$2,232.05
Savings Account	\$240.90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,420.40</b>



**KEEPING IN TOUCH**

- ERTA Website ..... [www.erta.info](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.retiredteachers.org)
- ISTRF Website ..... [www.in.gov/trf](http://www.in.gov/trf)

**Facebook by Doris  
Beard:  
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Retired Teachers  
Association**



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