



School's Out Gazette

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

October 2014 Volume 19.2



From President Andy Guarino

Greetings Everyone!

I want to thank all of you for attending our first Evansville Retired Teachers Association luncheon on August 14, 2014. Our total attendance for the luncheon was 214 people, including 30 new retirees. I would love to see that number increase for October.

Dr. Glenda Ritz did an excellent job with her presentation, very straight forward and informative. Once again, thank you for your acceptance of Dr. Ritz's scheduling issue.

Brenda Weber and I would like to request your participation in a very brief, five-question survey that we would like for you to fill out at the October luncheon and leave at the registration table before moving to the sanctuary. This survey is being done to evaluate where we are currently and how we might be able to improve in the future.

I also want to thank you for your thoughts and prayers for Bob and Jan Kraft, and I would like to encourage your continued vigilance. Bob and Jan have done so much for retired teachers over the years, and we wish Bob the very best and a smooth recovery.

Remember to wear your former school's colors, shirts with logos, or even hats. Let's show our school spirit for the academic year.

See you on October 9! Until then, be happy and healthy!



Take the scenic route to the second ERTA luncheon of the 2014-15 school year. It will be held **Thursday, October 9**, at the American Baptist East Church at 6300 Washington Avenue at 11:30 for socializing and **lunch** at 12 noon. The cost is \$10. Deidra Conner and Bix Branson will enlighten us concerning Evansville ARC.

Please reply to my e-mail of September 8 only if you plan to attend, and please include your name/names and the number of reservations.

- ✓ If you know someone who has not been contacted by e-mail or phone by Monday, September 29, please call Brenda Beeler at (812) 422-1637 or e-mail me at dianaeluck@gmail.com.
- ✓ If you need to cancel a reservation you made, please call Brenda Beeler or e-mail me to let one of us know, even if it is as late as October 9.

Our October Menu

Roast Beef in Au Jus	Chicken & Dumplings
Mashed Potatoes	Green Beans with Mushrooms
Glazed Carrots	Salad
Rolls	Desserts

It was exciting having so many teachers attend the August luncheon. See you **Thursday, October 9**, in your EVSC spirit colors and clothes!

Message from Brenda Weber, President-Elect

I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve the Evansville Retired Teachers Association (ERTA) as president-elect. The main responsibility of the office is to obtain speakers for the year and plan the luncheons.

Our first luncheon with Glenda Ritz was a great way to start the year. Thanks to President Andy Guarino for scheduling her in advance so our members would have the opportunity to learn from her at our first meeting.

October 9, 2014, Deidra Conner, Executive Director of Evansville ARC, and Bix Branson, ARC board member, will talk with us about this valuable community resource. October 9 is also **SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY** so dig out your school colors and wear them to the luncheon. We will also have a brief survey for our members to fill out at this luncheon. We want to hear your suggestions on ideas for speakers or programs, the number of meetings, as well as your thoughts on the format we use for the luncheons.

The December 11, 2014, luncheon is always one of the highlights of the season for our members. This year is no different. On December 11 the North High School Varsity Singers, under the direction of Mrs. Andrea Drury, will sing Christmas music to put us in the holiday spirit.

Next year, 2015, will be here before we know it, and we will welcome Evansville Police Chief Billy Bolin to talk with our members regarding senior security fraud which, unfortunately, continues to grow both locally and nationally. We will get insight on how to prevent security fraud with the opportunity to ask questions at our **March 12, 2015**, meeting.

Nancy Tolson, Indiana Retired Teachers Association Executive Director, will install new officers and give updates on benefits for retired teachers on **May 14, 2015**.

Speaking of new officers, please consider serving our local retired teachers association as an officer. We have had great leadership in the past and are looking for those who are willing to serve in the future.

AUGUST IRTA (INDIANA RETIRED TEACHERS) FOUNDATION

At our District 9 summer meeting, Andy and Brenda had the opportunity to learn more about the state association and what benefits it provides to the members. Following are items which are certainly worth noting.



PROGRAMS – The following programs are operational or in the process of being developed:

SCHOLARSHIPS – The Scholarship Committee is led by Barb Stroud. It awards one scholarship in each IRTA area. The scholarship is for a junior or senior in college who has been accepted into the School of Education, in the state of Indiana, and is a son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter, legal dependent, or spouse of an active, retired, or deceased member of the Indiana State Teachers' Retirement Fund (TRF). The scholarship is for \$5,000. Two districts in the state of Indiana did not have anyone apply for the scholarship this past year. In our District 9, Dubois County has received the scholarship the past two years. Applications must be received by IRTA on or before January 31, 2015. The applicant must have achieved at least a "C" grade point average over three (3) semesters in an Indiana college or university to be eligible to apply.

A HAND UP – Sally Klingerman leads this committee as it seeks to provide assistance to IRTA members experiencing a financial hardship. This is a great opportunity for a local RTA to assist a fellow educator in need who may not be aware of the program. If you know of someone in our local association who is in need, talk with Andy Guarino or Brenda Weber regarding this program.

TEACHER GRANTS – This program is in development. Our past president, Bob Suhrheinrich, is leading a committee in drafting a program to provide one-time grants to active teachers. This program should be a great way to support active teachers and for them to become more aware of IRTA and their local RTA.

COMMITTEE GRANTS – This program is just in the discussion stage. Its purpose would be to provide one-time grants to IRTA committees to assist them in fulfilling their missions. ERTA will stay on top of these grants and the possibilities they will provide to our local association.



Evansville Retired Teachers Association

Executive Board Minutes

August 7, 2014



Call to Order: President Andy Guarino called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. at the Phipps Center. In addition to the president, the following were in attendance: Brenda Beeler, Darlene Brockriede, Linda Hape, Diana Luck, Diane Meier, LaVonne Miller, Fred Naab, Jerry Noland, Darla Olberding, Ed Rusk, Sandra Schmidt, Linda Staley, Bob Suhrheinrich, Brenda Weber, Tom Wiggers, and Lino Wiseman.

Vacancies on the Executive Board: Darla Olberding made a motion to accept Brenda Weber as president-elect and Tom Wiggers as director. Diane Meier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meditation: Chaplain Ed Rusk read "You Don't Have to Lie Awake Nights to Succeed – Just Stay Awake Days." Then, he read John 9:4 and prayed.

Approval of May 1, 2014 Executive Board Minutes: Lino Wiseman made a motion to accept the minutes. Diane Meier seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as presented.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Lino distributed the 2013/2014 Year-end Report and the 2014 Proposed Budget. He called our attention to the highlighted items on the year-end report. Some were better than projected; others were worse than expected. The money remaining in Special Projects (\$1,235.00) was transferred to the Hensley Scholarship Fund at the request of then Immediate Past President Gene VanStone. ERTA received \$1,135.00 this past year from ETFCU employees, so the surplus of \$2,038.16 at the end of the year was transferred to the Hensley to keep the checking account under \$2,000.00.

Currently, Special Projects has \$6.16, the checking account has \$1,999.24, and the savings account has \$239.30. The total amount in the Hensley accounts is \$54,253.65. About \$10,000 each year is spent out of the Hensley. The Indiana tax form and the IRS tax form were submitted in July and accepted. Darla Olberding made a motion to accept the 2014 Proposed Budget. Bob Suhrheinrich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

President-Elect: Brenda Weber reported that Indiana State Superintendent of Public Education Dr. Glenda Ritz will be speaking at next week's luncheon while we are eating due to her schedule. Other speakers this year will be Evansville ARC President Deidra Conner in October, Evansville Police Chief Billy Bolin in March, and the current IRTA Executive Director Nancy Tolson in May. A middle school or high school choir will perform at the meeting in December.

Committee Reports:

Auditing and Budget: Darla reported that the books were audited on July 31, 2014. They were found to be in order.

Fellowship/Necrology: Linda Hape announced that six teachers have passed away since the newsletter was sent. Several members of the Executive Board gave Linda Staley names of those who should receive get-well cards.

Membership: Darlene Brockriede said dues are to be paid by October 31, 2014. The membership list will be purged at the end of October.

Nominating: Brenda asked those in attendance to contact her if anyone knew of a member who would like to be an officer.

Publications/Newsletter: Andy informed the Executive Board that the newsletter must be no longer than ten pages to eliminate the need for extra postage.

Website: The website needs to be updated.

Reservations: Diana Luck reported 204 reservations at this time for the luncheon. Thirty-one are for new retirees.

Scholarships: Diane explained that the scholarship at UE and the one at USI are awarded in the spring to students majoring in education. The Hensley scholarships are awarded in the winter to those currently teaching.

IRTA/Legislative: Diane said that those retired for a year will receive a stipend in September. IRTA will continue to lobby for a COLA.

Historian: Darla has been clipping articles about retired teachers from the newspaper.

Frog Follies: Lots of members have signed up to help, but some spaces are still available,

Information:

Directors' Terms: Andy reviewed the terms of the six directors.

Helping Hand Project: Andy informed the Executive Board that he plans to name a committee for this project, which was initiated by IRTA. The intent of the IRTA program called "A Hand Up" is to give one-time help to retired teachers who are struggling financially due to an unexpected hardship.

Welcome Back Baskets: A basket containing candy and ERTA bookmarks was delivered to each EVSC school by five teams of retired teachers this morning.

Employment and Volunteer Opportunities: Information about several employment and volunteer opportunities will be available at the luncheon.

October Luncheon: Those attending the luncheon will be asked to wear school spirit clothing.

Christmas Project: Evansville ARC will be this year's project.

Announcements:

Awards at the IRTA Representative Assembly: Immediate Past President Bob Suhrheinrich reported the following: Outstanding Volunteer - Diane Meier, Outstanding Volunteers (Honorable Mention) – David Pfettscher and Laurel Vaughn, Outstanding Group Project – High School Art Teachers Reception, and Outstanding Media - ERTA newsletter, press releases, and website.

ERTA received a personal check from Sudesh Naraine for \$350 because our association had the most membership growth.

Adjournment: At 2:35 p.m. Brenda Weber made a motion to adjourn. Bob seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary



Evansville Retired Teachers Association

Luncheon Meeting

August 14, 2014



Welcome: President Andy Guarino called the meeting to order at the American Baptist East Church Fellowship Hall and welcomed everyone. He explained we were eating earlier because Dr. Glenda Ritz, today's guest speaker, had to leave by 12:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Jack Schriber led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition: Newly retired teachers were asked to stand.

Introduction of the Head Table: Members and guests seated at the head table were the following: Indiana State Superintendent of Public Education Dr. Glenda Ritz, Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation Superintendent Dr. David Smith, ERTA President-elect Brenda Weber, Indiana State Senator Vaneta Becker, and Ed and Ruby Rusk.

Information Table: Information was available about the following employment and volunteer opportunities: Meals on Wheels - Merle Choate, NAEP- Linda Gilbert, and Mesker Park Zoo – Carol Pettus, Billie Gilmore, and Sharon Turpen.

Special Events:

1. The Liverpool Legends will perform August 30, 2014, at AIS on Stringtown at Diamond.
2. Over 3,000 cars have registered for Frog Follies to be held August 22nd through the 24th.

Luncheon Blessing: Chaplain Ed Rusk prayed before members and guests were dismissed for meal service.

Program: Dr. Smith introduced our guest speaker by saying that she is a proponent of children and public schools. Dr. Ritz spoke about the work that has been done to improve the standards, the assessments, and the system of accountability but added that we still need a measure to show where children are reading. She then briefly discussed the A-F school rating system, which she believes actually labels students. In concluding, she asked members to stay engaged in the conversation about education. Dr. Ritz was given a gift certificate.

Approval of May 8, 2014, Minutes: The minutes were accepted as received.

ISTEP Scores: Dr. Smith spoke about the improvement in ISTEP scores since 2010. The scores in English/Language Arts have risen eight percent and math, twelve percent.

Announcements:

1. Deidra Conner of ARC will be our speaker at the October 9, 2014, meeting.
2. Mentors are needed for the new teachers at the Glenwood Leadership Academy.

Door Prizes: Drawings were held for three gift cards.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned after the drawings.

Submitted by Sandra Schmidt, Secretary

EVANSVILLE RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

July 31, 2014

CHECKING ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2014			\$1,999.24
Interest		0.08	
Income		0.00	
Disbursements		134.49	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2014</u>			<u>\$1,864.83</u>
SPECIAL PROJECTS ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2014			\$6.16
Interest		0.00	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2014</u>			<u>\$6.16</u>
REGULAR SHARE ACCOUNT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2014			\$239.30
Interest		0.02	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2014</u>			<u>\$ 239.32</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP REGULAR ACCT			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2014			\$105.02
Donations		0.00	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2014</u>			<u>\$105.02</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP ACCT 26			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2014			\$5,287.03
Interest		0.49	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2014</u>			<u>\$5,287.52</u>
HENSLEY SCHOLARSHIP 3 CD's			
Beginning Balance July 1, 2014			\$ 40,861.60
Interest		88.74	
<u>Ending Balance July 31, 2014</u>			<u>\$40,950.34</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			<u>\$48,453.19</u>

REMEMBER: October 31 is the deadline for dues.



IN MEMORIAM

Joan Novak	July 02, 2014
Janice E. Humphrey	July 24, 2014
Beverlie A. Tyner	July 24, 2014
Debra Ann Busler	July 28, 2014
Morris E. Riley.....	July 30, 2014
Betty Ann Staser.....	August 2, 2014
Kurt Schuster.....	August 7, 2014
Robert S. Edelman.....	August 9, 2014
Jane Heneisen	August 20, 2014
Betty Sue Roth.....	August 27, 2014

Gone but not forgotten.

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

REMINDERS:

- If you have made any changes to your contact information, please be sure to notify Darlene Brockriede at brockriede@twc.com.
- If EVSC closes schools for inclement weather, the luncheon is cancelled. If there is a school delay, the luncheon will still be held.
- Dues are \$10 (waived for newly retired teachers). Make check to Evansville Retired Teachers Assn. and bring to luncheon or mail to Lino Wiseman, 5950 Knight Drive, Evansville, IN 47715-3472.



ERTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

2014-2015

Position	Name	E-Mail Address
President	Andy Guarino	andrew.guarino9402@twc.com
President Elect	Brenda Weber	bpw@twc.com
Secretary	Sandra Schmidt	pineshore@wowway.com
Treasurer	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
Immediate Past President	Bob Suhrheinrich	rasuhrh@gmail.com
Directors	Linda Hape	lindadh08@sbcglobal.net
	LaVonne Miller	lkmlle@wowway.com
	Richard Sprinkle	bds@twc.com
	Linda Staley	lkstaley3@gmail.com
	Fred Naab	N/A
	Tom Wiggers	twiggers@wowway.com
Auditing & Budget Committee	Lino Wiseman	linowise@twc.com
	Darla Olberding	olberdingdj@aol.com
Community Service Committee	Jan Kraft	kraft@aftinc.net
Fellowship/Necrology Committee	Linda Hape	lindadh08@sbcglobal.net
	Linda Staley	lkstaley3@gmail.com
Membership	Darlene Brockriede	brockriede@twc.com
Nominating	Brenda Weber	bpw@twc.com
Publications	Phyllis Fitzgerald	fitz61@wowway.com
Web Site Committee	Scott Riley	sdriley44@gmail.com
	Jerry Noland	jbnoland@yahoo.com
Reservations Committee	Diana Luck	dianaeluck@gmail.com
	Brenda Beeler	N/A
Special Project	Bob Suhrheinrich	rasuhrh@gmail.com
Scholarship Committee (Hensley-USI/UE)	Mike Madriaga	memadriaga@yahoo.com
	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
	Marion Reisinger	N/A
Chaplain	Ed Rusk	N/A
IRTA Liaison/Legislative	Diane Meier	demeier@aol.com
Historian	Darla Olberding	olberdingdj@aol.com
Frog Follies Coordinator	Jim Sharp	katsharp623@aol.com
Decorations	Jane Whitehouse	N/A
Lunch Collection Committee	David Pfettscher	dwpfetscher@att.net
	Caroline Pfettscher	
Publicity	Nancy Noland	jbnoland@yahoo.com



ERTA CALENDAR

2014-2015

October 2, 2014, Board Meeting
October 9, 2014, Luncheon Meeting, Wear Spirit Shirt or Colors from School of Choice
October 2014, USI Scholarship Banquet (Date TBA)
December 4, 2014, Board Meeting
December 11, 2014, Christmas Luncheon Meeting
March 5, 2015, Board Meeting
March 12, 2015, Luncheon Meeting
April 8, 2015, Legislative Lobby Day
April 2015, UE and USI Scholarship Banquets (Date TBA)
May 7, 2015, Board Meeting
May 14, 2015, Luncheon Meeting
June 2015, IRTA Representative Assembly, Indianapolis, IN (Date TBA)



FROG FOLLIES



The 40th annual Frog Follies is now history and again this year our chapter provided 92 volunteers to register a record number 4,050 cars. All proceeds from this event go to local charities. The Rehabilitation Center and the Wendell Foster Center are the two main ones. Also supported are the Brain Injury Camp, Riley Hospital, Big Brother/Big Sister, just to name a few others. Officials of the Frog Follies organization want to thank you so much for all the hard work and time given to make this event a success. Without volunteers from groups like ours, they would not be able to do what they do for the community. My thanks, too, for making my job so easy! Jim Sharp

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Do you remember your first year as a teacher? Did you have that one special person you could talk with and share stories, ideas, and suggestions? Were there teachers in your building you could go to because they had that one thing you did not—EXPERIENCE?

While you have probably mentored several teachers yourself since the first year you taught, your expertise and wisdom are still needed. Glenwood Leadership Academy needs former teachers in grades K-5 to mentor new teachers. In the last four years there has been a 100% turnover rate at the school for teachers. While they work hard, are very dedicated, and want to be master teachers, they need someone with experience to help guide them.

If you could volunteer a couple of hours per week to talk with, listen to, and share ideas that worked for you, please contact the principal, Tamara Skinner, and she will connect you with a teacher who wants to learn from you. Principal Skinner can be contacted at tamara.skinner@evsc.k12.in.us or 435-8242. Brenda Weber

Evansville Retired
Teachers Association
P.O. Box 15064
Evansville, IN 47716-0064

