

IRTA SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE 1

The 50th Annual Representative Assembly of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association (IRTA), meeting in Indianapolis was attended by over 300 delegates and guests from local retired teacher organizations across the state. The Dearborn County Retired Teachers Association (DCRTA), was represented by the following delegates and guests to this assembly. They were Geraldine Barber, Etta Bostwick, Mary Bradley, Denise Kaffenberger, James Pierce, Judy and Keith Mosier, and Cathy Mund.

President, Carol Grieser, presided over the morning business session, which included committee reports, and the election of officers and members of the board of directors. Dennis Bourquein, past president and member of DCRTA, a member of the Ripley County Retired Teachers Association, and former Area 8 Director, was inducted as the new president of IRTA and will take office on July 1, 2015.

Awards were presented to DCRTA. The first was for Outstanding Group Project. This was the addition of boy's shorts that were added to the girls' pillowcase dresses project which had won previously. These articles along with school supplies from the Teachers Treasure Sale are sent with missionary groups to needy children in other countries. Other awards received were Outstanding Newsletter, Outstanding Press Releases, Outstanding Website, and Regular Membership Increase. Community Service Honorable Mention certificates will be presented to Therese Damon, Londalea Murray, and Mary Bradley at the August DCRTA dinner meeting.

IRTA celebrated the donation of 1.4 million community service volunteer hours by its members during 2014. This marks the 10th year that members have volunteered over 1 million hours to their communities.

IRTA has 23,000 members and is dedicated to protecting the welfare of retired teachers, perpetuating education, and providing community service. The Association is celebrating its 65th birthday.

IRTA SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE 2

Judy Mosier, a Dearborn County Retired Teacher, was recently presented the Heart of Gold award by Perry Taylor and Dave Wisman of the Dearborn Community Foundation.

Mosier, Dearborn County Retired Teachers Association's Community Service Chair, works tirelessly on the Relay for Life Apple Pie Project. Mosier and her Apple Pie Gang composed of members of Mt. Siani Methodist Church, the retired teachers' organization, and friends, many of whom are cancer survivors, have raised over \$60,000 for Relay for Life since 2005 through her apple pie project which gives all of its profits to cancer research.

Mosier began her association with Relay for Life when in 1997 she organized a team to walk at Central Elementary.

A cancer survivor herself, Mosier has worked for the last thirteen years gathering supplies and apples literally from across the United States. Two years ago when apples were scarce in Indiana, she and her husband Keith traveled to North Carolina in search of apples. Other supplies are purchased as they go on sale in the local stores. A minimum of 130 bushels of apples, 700 pounds of sugar, 345 pounds of flour, ten pounds of cinnamon, two pounds of nutmeg, and 3200 pie crusts are needed before the other volunteers even show up.

The apple pie making project began in 2001 with fifteen teens in a youth mission group at Mosier's church. That first year 125 pies were made and delivered. Soon, however, orders for pies kept coming in and in 2007 Mosier turned to the retired teachers for their help. Pies progress through various stations as over a hundred volunteers, including thirty-five retired teachers, forty church members, and other community people work together to make over 1,125 pies and 2,685 turnovers in just five days. Last year \$10,242.38 was donated to Relay for Life. This great work has been featured in *The Dearborn County Register*.

The motto "Funding a Cure, One Pie at a Time" became Mosier's motto. With the efforts of Mosier and her apple pie gang, cancer research is moving forward, hopefully one day to be eradicated. Until then, Mosier will continue her efforts to serve her community.

In 2010 Mosier won the Anthem Clock Award for Area 8 from the Indiana State Retired Teachers Association. This project was then submitted to the National Retired Teachers Association where it then won the national *With Our Youth!* award.

In addition to directing the pie-making activities, Mosier also finds time to be active in her other church activities. An adult Sunday School leader and delegate to the annual conference, she is active in the United Methodist's Women's Club, has given children's sermons and talks from the pulpit, and has helped paint and decorate the church. She also participates and speaks at the Emmaus Walk each year.

If all of this is not enough, Mosier then started the chapter project "Packed for Learning" which provides school supplies to children in need in her local school corporation. Other materials have been collected and sent to Sierra Leone and Liberia. She scoured the countryside for notions and pillowcases to then help sew in the retired teachers' pillowcase dress project in which dresses were sent to Africa, Brazil, and Haiti.

Dearborn County retired teachers work unselfishly in our communities. We are proud of Mosier for how well she represents the mission of the Dearborn County Retired Teachers Association and we congratulate her for her efforts to make a difference.