



THE RCRTA CLIPBOARD

RIPLEY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Indiana Retired Teachers Association

July 2015

Website: www.retiredteachers.org VOL.10 NO. 2

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Greetings, this beautiful warm day, as you enjoy fun times doing “things” that retirees do.

Special congratulations to the following teachers who are retiring from Ripley County schools: Jac Cen Del – Deidra Montgomery, Arlene Knudson, Andy O’Grady; Milan – Sheri Cunningham, Todd Yates; South Ripley – Mark Collier, Mary Ann Geisler, Debbie Jett, Martha Kessens. Best wishes to all of them as they embark on their many new adventures.

Congratulation to RCRTA’s 2014 volunteer award winners: Louella, Voegle, Donna Harrelson, Betty Bourquein, Patsy Holdsworth and Lois Luken, Public Relations Chairperson. A complete listing of names, their specific awards, plus a summary of happenings at the 2015 Representative Assembly are in an article further in this newsletter.

Marsha Bultman, RCRTA’s treasurer, will be collecting dues for the 2015-2016 membership year (Sept. 1-Aug. 30) at the upcoming get-together since we won’t be together until September 29. (Some of you have already paid.) Regular membership - \$10; associate membership - \$5. If you are unable to attend the get-togethers, please support your local organization (RCRTA) by sending your dues to: Marsha Bultman at 210 North Street Osgood, IN 47037

PLEASE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION to attending the following:

Leadership Workshop at Scottsburg – July 21 Area 10 Fall Workshop at Greensburg- Sept. 23.

These happenings are for any member, not just officers, and give you the opportunity to know what Indiana Retired Teachers Association is all about and what it is doing and can do for you. There will be a continental breakfast, presentations and lovely catered lunch, with dismissal early afternoon. Please put these dates on your calendar and let me know that you can attend.

Come join us on July 28, 11:00 a.m. at the Osgood Town Hall for a delicious luncheon and great fellowship. Invite a fellow retiree, especially a new one, to come with you. Of course we hope your spouse will come too. Also, make plans to be with us at our next outing, planned for Sept. 9 at LaComedia Dinner Theatre. (See more info in the newsletter.)

RCRTA’S MEETING TIMES FOR 2015

July 28, 2015---11:00 a.m. luncheon

Sept. 9 – Outing to LaComedia

September 29, 2015 -- 5 p.m. dinner

All lunch or dinner meetings will be held at Town Hall in Osgood on Ripley Street. (Across from Library)

OUTING TO LaCOMEDIA LaComedia Outing

Those of you, who made a reservation to see the play "Church Ladies Last Pot Luck Supper" on September 9, please pay Lois Luken for your ticket (\$33) at the meeting on July 28.

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. at the theatre. We usually leave around 9 to be there on time. Meal is usually served around 11:30 a.m.

MINUTES FOR THE RIPLEY CO. RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION APRIL 28, 2015

On April 28, 2015, the Ripley County Retired Teachers Association met for its spring meeting at the Osgood Community Center. Retirees were welcomed by President Andrea Westerfeld.

Officers of the RCRTA were wearing their new RCRTA volunteer shirts. Members are encouraged to order a shirt from Janet's A Stitch in Time in Batesville. Cost is \$27.81. The idea is to wear the shirts while serving in the communities so people will see and value the work of the retired teachers.

Honored Guest: Westerfeld recognized Sherman Lemen for his ninety-ninth birthday by providing a birthday cake and balloons and having the group sing "Happy Birthday."

Lemen recalled that when he had started teaching only a two year license had been required. He eventually got his master's degree to become superintendent at Jac-Cen-Del.

Lemen had just returned from the World War II Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. A newspaper clipping showed two young women kissing him on each cheek. When teased about this, he quipped that he wasn't fast enough to get away. He

concluded by reading a poem entitled "Drinking from the Saucer."

Thank You: Westerfeld next introduced Steve and Rita Gookins who served a delicious dinner of chicken marsala with ice cream and birthday cake for dessert. She thanked them for their service to the retired teachers.

President Westerfeld led the retired teachers in the "Pledge Allegiance to the American Flag."

New Attendees: Westerfeld introduced Nancy Durham and Jim Pierce as having returned to full-time teaching, and welcoming other attendees, Arlene Gutapfel, Martha Kessens, Sharon Martin, Jim Powell, and Carol Volz.

IRTA Executive Director and President: Indiana Retired Teacher Carol Grieser spoke about her connections with Mary McElfresh, Dala Jones, and Janet O'Neill. As a first grade teacher, she had always wanted to teach Indiana history to fourth graders. She mentioned that she had learned of a Ripley, IN, not to be confused with Ripley County, and then she told stories about her mother's excitement over the 1954 Milan basketball team. She read reminiscings by Ripley County retired teachers Miriam Lamkin and Kathryn Turner which had been published in the IRTA Bicentennial publication. Lamkin had recorded that her salary was \$100/month with \$33/month set aside for her retirement. Besides her teaching responsibilities, she also had been the school janitor. She said she had worked a week without pay once when there were no funds to pay the teachers.

Grieser then introduced Tom Mellish who will begin his duties as the new IRTA Executive Director on May 1. Replacing retiring Nancy Tolson, Mellish has been the Principal at Crawfordsville and also the President of the Principal's Association. Grieser described Mellish as "servant-oriented."

Mellish talked about the difficulties of getting a COLA and thirteenth stipend. He thinks that the

thirteenth stipend is assured for at least this year. Mellish noted that 72,000 retired teachers are receiving less than \$650/month. Legislators Sheila Klintner and Jeff Thompson have worked tirelessly on behalf of the retired teachers, but Senator Kenley, Chairman of the Budget Committee, has refused to bring the bill to a vote to give the retirees a COLA. This is because \$850 million dollars of the budget has to go towards paying off the unfunded liability owed to the retired teachers.

Mellish indicated that a voluntary PAC might be needed in the future. He said that retired teachers need to know who is and who is not supportive of the retired teachers. Retired teachers have 23,000 members and have contributed over a million volunteer hours for the last ten years. Mellish commented that it has been seven years without a COLA with a loss of 13%-16% buying power for the. Mellish mentioned retirees the need for lobbyist Steve Bybee to help with legislation.

Mellish thinks that State Superintendent of Public Instruction's Glenda Ritz chairmanship issue of the governor's appointed education committee has been tabled until after Ritz completes her elected term.

Executive Director Mellish said that the Indiana Retired Teachers will be celebrating its sixty-fifth birthday at the Fiftieth Representative Assembly in June.

Mellish reminded retirees that the IRTA Foundation has a new Hands Up program to help teachers with financial needs. This would be a one-time disbursement of funds for teachers in need.

Mellish also reminded the retirees of the \$2000 scholarships available to college juniors or seniors who are majoring in education and have a family member who has worked as an educator. Deadline for the application is May 31. Westerfeld commented that Ripley County had not had a scholarship winner for several years. Anyone with a relative studying education should be encouraged to apply for the scholarship.

The IRTA Foundation is also working to provide active teacher grants for classroom projects. A Silent Action will be held at the Representative Assembly June 17 to help fund the Foundation. Carlos Luken, husband of Area 10 Director Lois Luken, has made and donated a wooden floor lamp for the auction on behalf of RCRTA.

IRTA President Carol Grieser then led the group in singing "When Our Members Work Together" sung to the tune of "When the Saints Go Marching In." She commented that we were all like the Three Musketeers, "All for one and one for all." Three Musketeers candy was distributed to each member at the conclusion of the meeting.

Old Business: Minutes of the September 30, 2014 minutes have been presented in the newsletter "The Clipboard." They were approved as presented.

Newly-elected Treasurer Marcia Bultman reported a balance of \$1412.44. Fifty dollars has been donated to the retirement of Nancy Tolson. Fifty dollars has been donated for the school nurses. Seven members have renewed their memberships and one associate member had been added. Dues for the new year will be due at the September 29th meeting. Dennis Westerfeld made a motion, seconded by Lois Luken, to accept the report as given.

Community Service Report: Jean Deamron, Committee Chair, had reported 18,345 volunteer hours for Ripley County. Outstanding local volunteers will be honored at the June 17 Representative Assembly.

Volunteers are needed to help cut, sew, or decorate with the Dearborn County Retired Teachers' pillowcase dress project. The group meets each Thursday 10:00-2:00 at the Dearborn Community Center in Lawrenceburg. One does need to bring a lunch. Dennis Bourquein made a motion, seconded by Larry Sutherlin, that Ripley County donate up to \$300 to purchase flip flops to accompany the pillowcase dresses and shorts sent

to Haiti, Africa, and Brazil. The motion carried. Kara Huff, Jac-Cen-Del school nurse, had sent a thank you note in appreciation of the \$50 given to the school nurses.

President Westerfeld noted that the vision screening done in conjunction with the Lions' Club needed more volunteers. Training will be held at a later date.

A jar was sent around to collect funds for the RCRTA food pantries.

Group Outing: Area 10 Director Lois Luken passed around a sign-up sheet for members to see "Church Basement Ladies' Last Pot Luck Supper" at La Comedia on July 28. Money needs to be turned in to Luken by July 28.

Legislative Committee Report: Chair Larry Sutherlin spoke of the need to contact legislators. He said that retired teachers have power in their organization. President Westerfeld said to always be polite and to thank the legislators for their work on behalf of the retired teachers.

Members Concerns: Nancy Cory has been hospitalized with COPD. Nancy Lever has had trouble walking. Ann Schmidt reports it is difficult for her to be in a group. Sarah Jane Wilson's chemo and radiation treatments have been completed. Patsy Holdsworth thanked the retired teachers for their cards and prayers during her recent heart surgery.

Necrology: Recent passings have included Bob Brokamp; Richard Chaffee; Abell Hooten; Don Myers; Linda Oelker; Sara Hughes' mother Anna Lois Richie, and Bill Schein. A short obituary, followed by comments from the audience, and a bell was rung in memorandum for each of the deceased.

Dates to Remember:

July 21—Leadership Workshop in Scottsburg
July 28 — Ripley County meeting at Osgood Community Center, 11:00 Luncheon

Sept. 9 – LaComedia Outing
Sept. 23 – Fall Workshop at Greensburg

Birthdays and Anniversaries: Birthdays from October through June were honored. Anniversaries included Andy and Carol Volz (39); Dr. Bob and Ellen Mulford (42); Larry and Sue Sutherlin (48); Gary and Patsy Holdsworth (49); Gene and Anita Pitts (50); Carlos and Lois Luken (53); John and Janet Ward (55).

Door Prizes: Winning the \$5.00 gift certificates to McDonald's were Marsha Bultman, Lynne Davis, Barb Dunker, Jo Jones, Ellen Mulford, and Dennis Westerfeld.

Adjournment: Nancy Durham made a motion, seconded by Larry Sutherlin, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty G. Bourquein,
Recording Secretary

STATE CONTACT INFORMATION

IRTA

2629 Waterfront Pkwy., E. Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46214
Phone: 1-317-637-7481
Toll Free 1-888-454-9333
Website: www.retiredteachers.org

IRTA Officers:

Executive Officer: Tom Mellish
Assistant Director: Julie Green
Receptionist: Linnie Harris
President: Carol Grieser
President Elect: Dennis Bourquein
Secretary-Treas.: Jane Boultinghouse
Area 10 Director: Lois Luken

RCRTA CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR OUR RCRTA'S PRESIDENT:

NEW ADDRESS: Dennis & Andrea Westerfeld
323 Charles Place, Batesville, IN 47006

\$

RCRTA TREASURER'S REPORT

Ending Balance April 2015 \$1,412.44

Receipts:

Meals	\$523.00
Dues (14@\$10, 1@\$5)	145.00
Food Pantry	113.00
April meal reim.(2)	26.00
R.A. reimbursement	25.00
Total Receipts	<u>\$832.00</u>

TOTAL AVAILABLE \$2,244.44

Expenses:

Rita Gookins (Meals)	\$564.00
Dennis Westerfeld:	
Parking at Leg. Brunch	14.00
Batesville Food Pantry	28.25
Milan Food Pantry	28.25
Sunman Food Pantry	28.25
Fishes & Loaves	28.25
IRTA Rep. Assembly Luncheon	200.00
Batesville Primary Nurse	50.00
JCD Elem. Nurse	50.00
Milan Elem. Nurse	50.00
So. Ripley Elem. Nurse	50.00
Marsha Bultman-2 mos.	54.77
Door prizes ((\$50) and postage (4.77))	
*Flip Flops donation	300.00
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,445.77</u>
Bal. as of May 28, 2015	\$ 798.67

Submitted by,
Marsha Bultman, RCRTA Treasurer

\$

*A monetary donation to purchase flip flops was given by the Ripley County Retired Teachers Association. The flip flops will be

sent with the Dearborn Co. Retired Teachers' pillow slip dresses to countries of Africa, Brazil and Haiti.

RCRTA DONATES MONEY TO THE PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSES

We honored the primary school nurses at Milan, Jac-Cen-Del, Batesville and South Ripley with a monetary donation.

Since the nurses expressed gratitude for the donation the first semester, we felt that perhaps they could use an additional amount the second semester for incidental expenses that occur with young students.



School nurse, Kara Huff of Jac-Cen- Del, received a RCRTA's donation from Dennis Westerfeld.



Batesville Community School Corp. head health services director, Gayla Vonderheide and Principal Heather Haurert received a RCRTA's donation

from Lois Luken. South Ripley and Milan Primary Schools also received monetary donations.

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FOR 2014 WAS LOU VOEGELE



L-R: Jean Deamron presents Lou Voegele the Outstanding Volunteer Award.

Louella Voegele has been a dedicated volunteer for many years. Each Tuesday she volunteers at the Margaret Mary Hospital. Her duties consist of sorting and delivering mail to all departments of the hospital.

The church she attends has an Adoration Chapel which has volunteers continuously praying each hour of the day. Lou participates every Wednesday for an hour.

She works with the youth at a Reality Check program for eighth graders at six different schools. The students choose a career, learn ways to budget their money, and save for needs and wants, as well as saving for their retirement.

The Batesville Historical Society has a rummage sale and has made \$15,267.63 over a period of six years. Lou and other members set up the room, arrange the donated items, clean and repair some items to be sold, arrange

for larger items to be picked up. She also works during the two-day sale. The money from the rummage sale is used to maintain the Historical Society's house.

The Historical Society also sponsors a luncheon in December. Her contribution is attending four committee meetings, collecting silent auction gifts, selling tickets, and decorating the dining room for 140 people.

The Knights of St. John's ladies sponsor a "Sweetheart Breakfast." Lou does the shopping for the breakfast items and collects the donated items from the various businesses. She also helps prepare and serve the food the day of the breakfast.

In addition to the breakfast for the Knights, she prepares and serves food to the golfers who participate in the Knights' Jerry Becker Men's Golf tournament in the spring.

Lou participates in the ecumenical choir which has 15 rehearsals and two performances.

Each July, she continuously works for Relay for Life by working the day of the relay and once again collecting silent auction gifts. She attends many committee meetings throughout the months in preparation for this event. She is the chairperson for all corporate sponsors.

In October and November, she and her sorority sisters prepare for a Holiday Bazaar. She contacts all craft vendors, sells raffle tickets at three business places, and works the full day at the bazaar.

She supports "Think Pink" (breast cancer support group) by participating in the sponsorship of the big event. Her contributions consists of making numerous Christmas decorations during four committee meetings; collecting door prizes, and preparing food and collecting money for tickets sold at

the door. She attends two support meetings per month for this organization.

She serves as a mentor to several cancer patients at the Hansen Center two times a week and visits them during their treatments. She also visits patients at St. Andrew's Health Campus two times a week. In addition to the visits, she remembers patients with prayer cards and a blessed medal to wear.

The Ripley County Retired Teachers Association believes Louella Voegle is an outstanding volunteer. (1060 hours).

HONORABLE MENTION VOLUNTEERS

Donna Harrelson contributed 994 volunteer hours. Donna works with first grade students for reading and other projects. She helps first grade teachers with tasks they need done. She also visits a local health care facility, visits with the residents and helps them with a craft or crocheting projects.

Betty Bourquein gave 903 hours toward volunteer service. She volunteers for our state IRTA, Ripley and Dearborn Counties locals, the Dearborn County Retired Teachers Foundation, her church, the Council for Educational Travel USA (foreign exchange students), and the Think Smart/Stay Safe program which stresses ways to stay safe from danger to fourth and fifth grades students.

Patsy Holdsworth volunteered a total of 866 hours. Patsy spends numerous hours for her church, Tri Kappa, and Versailles Lions Club. She also spends many hours playing the piano for various school and community activities.

A TOTAL OF 18,345 VOLUNTEER HOURS WERE EARNED BY RIPLEY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS.

JOB WELL DONE!



SUGGESTIONS, NEEDS, CONCERNS

If you have (1) suggestions for programs, (2) needs to communicate to others, (3) information on members who are sick, injured, or in need of prayer, or (4) have ideas to improve our association, please contact one of your officers or committee chairpersons below:

Andrea Westerfeld, President	812-934-2284
Ellen Mulford, Vice President	812-689-5101
Betty Bourquein, Secretary	812-934-4454
Marsha Bultman, Treasurer	812-689-4747
????? Community Service	
Lois Luken, Public Relations	812-933-1590
Larry Sutherlin, Legislative	812-689-6483
Andrea Westerfeld, Necrology	812-934-2284
Dennis Bourquein, Webmaster	812-934-4454

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VISION SCREENING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

If any of you are willing to help with vision screening this fall, please contact Andrea Westerfeld or Shirley Boccock. We can use people to clean the machines after each screening. Shirley's No. is 812-654-3770.

Also, if anyone would like to help the Dearborn County ladies with sewing the pillowcase dresses, contact Betty Bourquein at

812-934-4454 or Andrea Westerfeld 812-934-2284.

Attended the Legislative Brunch at the State House in Indianapolis .



L-R. in picture are President-Elect, Dennis Bourquein; Executive Director, Tom Mellish; and Area 10 Director, Lois Luken.

Everyone should be concerned about the pensions and increases over the past years. As retired teachers, you may want to thank the members who attended the legislative brunch and met with Senator Jean Leising. We believe that the Senators realized that the number of teachers who attended was very concerned about the increase in our pensions, and that we were being active in acquiring such.

As many of you know, we did not receive a COLA; however, we will be receiving a stipend with our pension check in September.

Nancy Tolson was honored at the brunch for her years of service as the Executive Director.

Several Ripley County Retired Teachers along with Dennis Bourquein and Lois Luken attended the Legislative Brunch held at the State House in Indianapolis on April 8.



Others, who attended and are pictured with Senator Jean Leising, were Andrea Westerfeld, Betty Bourquein, Ellen Mulford Cheryl Parmer, Marsha Bultman, Larry Sutherlin, and Dennis Westerfeld.

HUMOR CORNER

Children say the darrest things:

OPINIONS

On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother.

It read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

KETCHUP

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now, she's hitting the bottle.'

DRESS-UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.'

'And why not, darling ?"You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

UPCOMING IRTA (State) EVENTS & MEETINGS

July 21 Leadership Workshop at Scottsburg, IN

Sept. 23 Fall Workshop at Greensburg, IN

Questions: Call Lois Luken 812-933-1590 or Andrea Westerfeld 812-934-2284

DUES

State dues are \$35 a year. Please make payable to Indiana Retired Teachers Association and mail to 2629 Waterfront Pkwy. E. Drive, Ste. 105, Indianapolis, IN 46214 or go to <http://www.retiredteachers.org> to join and request an automatic deduction from your pension check in September.

State associate dues are \$10. These dues are for teachers who are currently teaching.

Local dues are \$10 for retired teachers. Local associate dues are \$5 for active teachers and for spouses who are not teachers but would like to join. You may Pay your dues to Treasurer, Marsha Bultman.

**D. & A. Westerfeld
323 Charles Place
Batesville, IN 47006**

Return Service Requested