



THE CLIPBOARD

Ripley County Retired Teachers Association

www.ripleyrta.org

The Indiana Retired Teachers Association

July 2025

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear RCRTA Members:

To “volunteer” is simply to help someone or some organization without financial compensation. We retired teachers are fortunate to have many opportunities to volunteer.

What is your passion? You could help out at a state park, volunteer with activities sponsored by Genesis and the Ripley County Community Foundation, sew Quilts for Kids, teach Sunday School, drive a neighbor to the grocery store, take a child fishing, or do hundreds of other things for non-family individuals or groups.

All that is required of RCRTA members is to track your volunteer hours and turn them in at the end of the year. Associate members can do the same.

You might ask what these hours do for RCRTA? If we have the most in the state, we can win an award from the Indiana Retired Teachers Association. Beyond that, the legislators use the hours accumulated by retired teachers across the state as they consider including the 13th check in their budget.

At the July 22 meeting we will celebrate our volunteers. We will also hear from Daren Engelking, winner of a 2024 Active Teacher Grant, and from AMBA representative Kenneth Ray.

Please join us! Lunch will be provided by the Rolling Pin. In the heat of the summer, the Osgood Town Hall will be a nice, cool place to meet friends and have a good meal.

Yours in education,
Cheryl Corning, RCRTA President



“Summer means happy times and good sunshine.” --Brian Wilson



*Don't sit on the sidelines...
Get involved!*



2025 Social Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, July 22

11 a.m. registration

11:30 lunch served

hot lunch \$20

Tuesday, October 21

2025 Executive Board Schedule

(all officers/committee chairs)

Wednesday, September 10

(please note the change!)

RCRTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers:

President, Cheryl Corning

Vice-President, Sandy Bowlus

Secretary, Nancy Durham

Treasurer, Marsha Bultman

Committee Chairs:

Community Service, Sue Bunselmeier

Membership, Cheryl Parmer

Public Relations, Nancy Durham

Webmaster, Dennis Bourquein

Legislative, Ted Ahaus

Past President, Gene Pitts

Member Concerns/Necrologist/Archivist

Andrea Westerfeld

Foundation, Ellen Mulford/Nancy Durham

State Contact Information

IRTA Officers:

Laura Penman, Executive Director

Sharon Barnes, President

David Lennen, Past President

Mark Guard, President-Elect

Brad Seward, Secretary-Treasurer

Cheryl Corning, Area 10 Director

AMBA Representative

Kenneth Ray

IRTA

Physical address:

1916 Crown Plaza Blvd., Suite 113

Plainfield, IN 46168

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 715, Plainfield, IN 46168

Phone: 317-637-7481

toll-free 888-454-9333

Fax: 317-637-9671

Contact Person: Linnie Harris

Website: www.retiredteachers.org

Take the time to check the IRTA website, click on ADVOCACY, and find out what's happening in the legislature! Don't forget to let your legislators know how much you appreciate the 13th check – and urge them to continue their support for retired public employees. This is especially important right now as the legislature will once again look at the "enhancement." Email is probably their preference for communication with constituents. However, we hear Senator Leising likes to hear from us personally.

**Ripley County Retired Teachers
Social Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2025**

Fifty members were in attendance. After greeting each other, they opened the meeting by singing the Blessing Song with Ellen Mulford leading the group. Members were then served a box lunch of chicken salad on croissant, salad, chips, cookies, and drink catered by the Rolling Pin. President Cheryl Corning introduced the guest speaker, Sgt. Steve Wheelles, of the Indiana State Police Post at Versailles. Sgt. Wheelles currently is the Public Information Officer who informs the public about fraud. His presentation topics included ways one can get scammed, including some phone scams, email and text scams, bit coin and investment fraud, toll booth charges, tech support on computer, gift cards, fake charities, market place on Facebook, and grandchildren needing help and asking for money. He cautioned everyone to be wary of someone asking you to do something in a hurry. He advised any retiree with a concern to call his/her bank, the company who is requesting information, family members, etc. before acting upon the request. If a retiree is receiving annoying calls, contact "Do Not Call. gov" and add your name to the do not call list. He also advised those in attendance not to answer the phone if you don't recognize the name or number and also to avoid clicking on any unknown links on your computer.

After the presentation, the meeting was called to order by President Cheryl Corning and was opened by saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Our secretary, Nancy Durham, was not able to

attend because of an injury. The minutes were presented in the *Clipboard*. Dennis Bourquein moved that the minutes be approved as presented; Marsha Bultman seconded the motion; the motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Marsha Bultman. The balance of the treasury at the last meeting was \$3,659.71. Since bills were presented, the current balance is \$3,475.95. The membership voted to send a \$250 donation for a Golden Apple to the Indiana Retired Teachers Association Foundation. Sunman Food Pantry also thanked us for a donation. A monetary donation was also given to three other food banks. Marsha also stated that additional donations will be given in the next few weeks to the elementary school nurses. The \$10 dues from members may be paid at the July 22 meeting.

President Corning invited and encouraged any members to attend the IRTA Representative Assembly in June. Those who expressed an interest were Sandy Bowlus, Jim Pierce, Mark Guard, Cheryl Corning, Cheryl Parmer, Sherri Zornes, and Marsha Bultman. Others may notify President Cheryl if they would like to go. President Corning asked for a motion that RCRTA pay for the members' expenses to attend the RA. Dennis Bourquein so moved, and Andrea Westerfeld seconded. The motion carried.

President Corning asked for volunteers to help set up tables for each meeting. Marsha Bultman and Sue Bunselmeier have been doing it for years and they each hold an office or committee chair. Hopefully, other members will help take on the responsibility. Volunteers for setting up for the July meeting are Sherri Zornes, Kelly Sparks, Sandy Bowlus,

Nancy Riechers, Carol Holzer, and Susan Underwood. Nancy Durham and Sue Bunselmeier are doing the decorations.

Foundation Chairperson Ellen Mulford thanked Betty Bourquein for recommending her to serve on the IRTA Foundation board. Ellen expressed appreciation for the seven years on the board, having enjoyed meeting many new people who have become friends. She has resigned from the board, but she encourages members to go together to fund a golden apple or make a personal donation of \$250 to support the IRTAF. The foundation is sending information to school corporations to request support of the IRTAF. Currently the IRTA Foundation has raised around \$640,000. The goal is one million dollars.

Member Concerns chairperson Andrea Westerfeld shared that Patrick Holland's cancer had returned. She expressed it would be nice to remember Pat with a card during this time. His address is 14175 Brown Rd., Moores Hill, IN 47032. Andrea honored six teachers who have passed away and were members of RCRTA. She paid tribute with a moment of silence and a prayer to Karen Salvitti, August 9, 2024; Louella Voegele, January 15, 2025; Darrell Hoyer, January 29, 2025; Margaret Anne Schmidt, February 18, 2025; Wanetta Eisert, February 25, 2025; and Deanna Demotte, April 10, 2025.

Membership chairperson Cheryl Parmer reiterated the importance of being a member of our local and of the state organization. The purpose of belonging is to keep our pension fund healthy and to keep in touch with fellow teachers. She had membership applications to distribute to

new retirees. Cheryl expressed that it would be helpful to change yearly dues to dues deduction for building the fund.

Community Service chairperson Sue Bunselmeier encouraged all members to remember to record their volunteer hours so they can report them to her in December. She will need to send them to the state early in January so members should be prepared to let her know the number of youth and/or other hours. This year's community service project is to donate to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. She asked that everyone donate at the July and October meetings because if she delivers it to the Ripley County Foundation on Day of Giving in November, the foundation will match 50% of our donation.

Legislative chairperson Ted Ahaus reported on the activities of the legislature. The House Bill 1221 passed the Senate Appropriation Committee after an amendment was adopted to remove the "13th" check. The appropriations committee wishes to address the possibility of a "13th check" during Senate budget discussions.

Vice President Sandy Bowlus presented a way to earn volunteer hours. She expressed that the Baxter Company representative, Teresa Meyer, is donating material to make quilts for children in hospitals. Sandy is requesting ladies who quilt to participate in this endeavor which will begin in May. The volunteers are Carol Holzer, Colleen Werner, Lynne Davis, Judi Geyman, Mary Daily, Janet Sagester, Karen Davis, Arlene Knudson and Sandy Bowlus.

Teachers' Appreciation Week is the first week of May. President Corning

asked for volunteers to prepare snacks and deliver them to schools in Ripley County.

The next RCRTA meeting is July 22, 2025. The meeting was adjourned by the president. McDonald gift certificate door prizes were awarded to Maureen Grote, Sherry Linville, Cindy Ahlrich, Carol Holzer and Sandra Bowlus.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Luken
Substitution Secretary



Indiana State Police Public Information Officer Sergeant Stephen Wheelles shared information how the retirees can protect themselves from a number of scams and other fraudulent activities.



Check out the RCRTA Facebook page for news about the organization, including meetings, celebrations, and projects.

Local Website

Don't forget to check out the website that Dennis Bourquein continues to update. It is filled with valuable information! We thank Dennis for continuing this important aspect of our organization.

Here's a thought:

"All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today and yesterday."

---Chinese proverb

April Social Meeting

- Tuesday, July 22, 11 a.m. registration
- Come early and visit with friends!
- Osgood Town Hall
- \$20 hot lunch will include turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potato casserole, green beans, California blend vegetables, signature salad, rolls, desserts, and drinks.
- The lunch will be served at 11:30.
- **Dues for the 2025-2026 year will be collected! (\$10 regular member; \$5 associate member).**
- Presentations will be made by CASA, AMBA, and our Area 10 Active Teacher Grant recipient Daren Engelking.
- Representative Assembly award winners will be recognized.
- Donations will be collected for our special 2025 community service project, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and for the food pantries.



The RCRTA Needs YOUR Help!!!

If you signed up to help with set up and tear down for the July meeting, please make sure you are at the Town Hall by 9 a.m. Sue Bunselmeier will call you if we are able to set up the night before. Thank you for volunteering!

RCRTA Treasurer's Report May 1, 2025

Ending Balance March 20, 2025
\$3,475.99

Receipts

Dues (7 @ \$10)	70
Meals (53 @ \$12)	576
Extra Meals (5 @ \$5)	25
"Imagination Library" project	178
Food Pantry donations	103
Meal reimbursement	12

Total Receipts ` \$964.00

Total Available \$4,439.99

Expenses

Rolling Pin	533.08
(includes tax, tip, travel)	
Dennis Westerfeld	
(cards, postage)	98.05
School nurses (4 @ \$50)	100.00
Marsha Bultman (door prizes)	25.00
IRTAF Endowment Fund	250.00
(Giving Tree)	

Total Expenses \$1,106.13

CURRENT BALANCE \$3,333.86

Treasurer's Report June 17, 2025

Ending Balance May 1, 2025 \$3,333.86

Receipts

Meal Reimbursement (2)	24.00
Imagination Library project	2.00
(\$180.00 to date)	

Total Receipts 26.00

Total Available 3,359.86

Expenses

IRTA –Rep. Assembly meals	90
Marsha Bultman	
(2 books of stamps)	29.20

Total Expenses \$119.20

Current Balance \$3,240.66

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Bultman, RCRTA treasurer

RCRTA Volunteers at WRBI Reality Check



*Thank you to Cinda Ahlrich, Cheryl Corning,
Marsha Bultman, Sandra Bowlus, Shirley Bocock,
and Jim Pierce.*

IRTA NEWS

Indiana Retired Teachers Association



RCRTA was well-represented at the Representative Assembly: Cheryl Corning, Sherri Zornes, Ellen Mulford, Cheryl Parmer, Jim Pierce, Sandy Bowlus, Dennis Bourquein, Marsha Bultman, and Gene Pitts.

The biggest item of business conducted at the Representative Assembly was action taken on increasing dues for regular members to \$42 and for associate members to \$20. Life membership will also increase, and there will be a \$3 service fee if dues are paid by credit card. This is the first time dues have increased in a number of years.

If you have not yet joined the Indiana State Retired Teachers Association, please go to retiredteachers.org/membership and join today! The legislature pays attention to numbers. Also, membership in the state organization means Retired Teachers have a VOICE. In addition, membership means you will receive the state newsletter, the *Bulletin Board*.

Also, please consider paying your IRTA dues with DUES DEDUCTION. That saves the organization time and money. You will then receive a more substantial membership card.

Indiana Retired Teachers Association Foundation Report

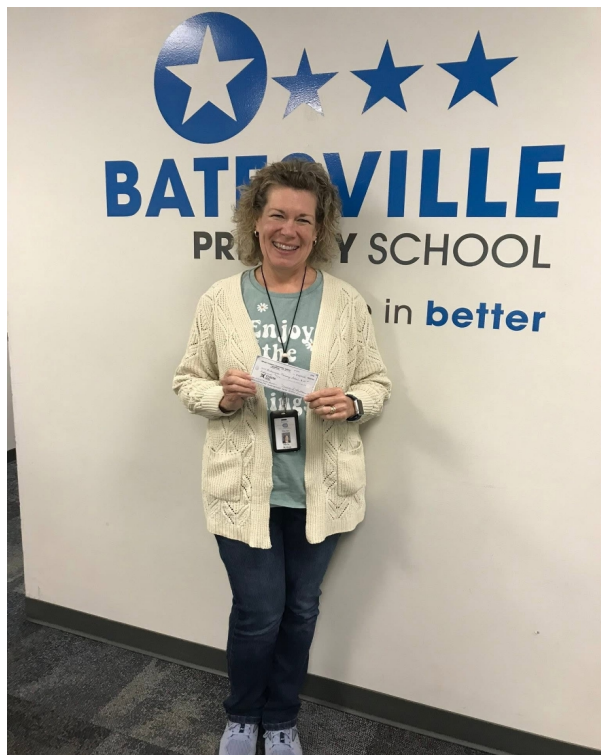
Ellen Mulford reports that the endowment fund has reached \$671,000, but they are still pushing to reach \$1 million. Many area businesses, organizations, and individuals have contributed \$7,000. It's not too late for **YOU** to honor your own "heroes in education." This endowment fund will enable the Foundation to continue to award scholarships to future teachers, grants to active teachers, and support for retired teachers facing financial hardship. For a \$250 contribution, an inscribed "golden apple" will hang on the "giving tree" in the IRTA office in Plainfield. Golden Apples this year celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association.

Congratulations to Rob Moorhead!



Rob has been named the 2025-2026 President of the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents. Rob has led South Ripley Community Schools since 2012 as superintendent. Prior to that Rob spent 25 years at South Dearborn High School as teacher, coach, associate principal, and principal. He is a loyal supporter of RCRTA and associate member.

School Nurses Receive Spring Donations



Marsha Bultman, treasurer of RCRTA, made visits this spring to every elementary school and presented \$50 checks to the school nurses: Batesville, Laurie Krieg; South Ripley, Bridgette Horan; Jac-Cen-Del, Kara Huff; and Milan, Helen Hixson. All the nurses expressed appreciation to the retired teachers group for their financial and professional support.

RCRTA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES
Retired Teacher Membership - \$10.00
Associate Membership - \$5.00

Please PRINT

Retired Teacher

(First) (Initial) (Last)

Spouse

(First) (Initial) (Last)

Street

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

E-mail _____

This application covers RCRTA Membership
Year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Check should be made payable to Ripley County
Retired Teachers Association

Send check to RCRTA treasurer:

Marsha Bultman
P. O Box 134
Osgood, IN 47037

For those of you who would like to make a donation to the Indiana Retired Teachers Association Foundation and honor your “heroes in education,” just complete the form found below. Your donation will help the Foundation reach its goal of \$1,000,000 and continue awarding ten \$2,000 scholarships to future teachers, twenty \$500 active teacher grants, and Hands Up assistance to retired teachers in need. For a \$250 contribution, an inscribed “apple” will hang on the “giving tree” in the IRTA office. The 2025 Golden Apples celebrate 75 years of the IRTA.

I (we) enclose a \$_____ contribution
to assist the Foundation with its work.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

Inscription on the apple if the contribution
is \$250 or above:

Make check payable to IRTAFoundation
and mail to
Indiana Retired Teachers Association
Foundation
P.O. Box 715
Plainfield, 46168

Dennis and Andrea Westerfeld
323 Charles Place
Batesville, IN 47006

Return Service Requested