



## THE CLIPBOARD

Ripley County Retired Teachers Association

[www.ripleyrta.org](http://www.ripleyrta.org)

The Indiana Retired Teachers Association

July 2026

### GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Hello!

The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Representative Assembly was well attended by delegates and other members of the RCRTA. Several of our members received recognition and will be awarded their certificates at the July meeting.

One of the big announcements that affects the RCRTA is that there will be several Fall Workshops around the state. Registration will open July 1, and each location is limited to 30 participants. Each workshop will include a morning informational session followed by lunch and an afternoon of community engagement. If you would like to attend, please go online to [retiredteachers.org](http://retiredteachers.org) and register for the ONE workshop of your choice:

September 15 Corydon Zimmerman Art  
Glass

September 16 Vincennes Red Skelton  
Museum of American Comedy

September 17 Spencer Tivoli Theater

September 22 Fair Oaks Fair Oaks Farm

September 23 Albion Black Pine Animal  
Sanctuary

September 24 Muncie Bob Ross  
Experience

The next RCRTA meeting is July 28 at  
the Osgood Baptist Church with

registration at 11 and lunch to be served at 11:30. This will be the last meeting with me as president. It has been an honor and a great learning experience to serve as your president. Sandy Bowlus, incoming president, will welcome you with the next newsletter.

**\*\*Please encourage current teachers to apply for an Active Teacher Grant. The awards are \$500 and are meant to encourage creativity and imagination and to increase the recipient's awareness of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association. Applications can be found at [retiredteachers.org](http://retiredteachers.org) under the Foundation section and can be submitted from August 15 to September 30. Lindsay Hafft and Laura Beck will present information about their project at South Ripley Junior High School that was awarded an ATG in 2025.**

**\*\*Also, make sure you get to know your legislators and their agendas: Jean Leising and Alex Zimmerman. You can contact them through the IRTA website.**

**\*\*Finally, our April guest speaker, Ron Nicholson, makes regular visits to Cincinnati Children's Hospital and has asked for donations of books, especially board books, crayons, coloring books, and games for the children and their siblings.**

Yours in education,  
Cheryl Corning



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

### **2026 Social Meeting Schedule:**

**Tuesday, July 28**

**Tuesday, October 27**

### **RCRTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### *Officers:*

President, Cheryl Corning

Vice-President, Sandy Bowlus

Secretary, Nancy Durham

Treasurer, Marsha Bultman

#### *Committee Chairs:*

Community Service, Phyllis Hull

Membership, Jane Rogers

Public Relations, Nancy Durham

Webmaster, Dennis Bourquein

Legislative, Cheryl Corning

Past President, Gene Pitts

Member Concerns/Necrologist/Archivist

Andrea Westerfeld

Foundation, Nancy Durham

**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.



### **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](http://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 13<sup>th</sup> check – and urge them to continue their support for retired public employees. We need to remember that we have to keep fighting! Email is probably their preference for communication with constituents. However, we hear Senator Leising likes to hear from us personally.***

**Ripley County Retired Teachers Association**  
**April 14, 2025**  
**Osgood Baptist Church**

Prior to a buffet lunch catered by the Rolling Pin which began at 11:30 a.m., Nancy Durham led the group in singing "The Blessing." Following the lunch, local author Ron Nicholson presented an entertaining program, which included readings from his novel *Justice House Shadows*. Mr. Nicholson is a former South Dearborn and Ivy Tech educator. Many RCRTA members lined up to purchase his book after the presentation for the sale price of \$15.

President Cheryl Corning called the business meeting to order at 12:50 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. The minutes from the October meeting were printed in the recent *Clipboard*. In correspondence, Nancy Durham, secretary, read a thank you from the South Ripley Junior High School 8<sup>th</sup> grade team, recognizing the help of several South Ripley retired teachers at the Real World reality check held in March. Marsha Bultman, treasurer, stated after expenses to facilitate the web page production and the disbursement of school nurse gifts, the balance was \$3,747.35. Marsha brought attention to the change in venue for the meetings and the ease of hosting meetings at Osgood Baptist Church. After consulting with Sue Bunselmeier, a member of the church, Nancy Durham moved that the RCRTA donate \$150 to the church to cover the use of their building for our 2026 meetings. Lois Luken seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The Representative Assembly will be held Wednesday, June 10, in Indianapolis and RCRTA has been allotted 4 delegates. Due to their state obligations, Cheryl Corning, Mark Guard, and Nancy Durham will already be in attendance. Lois Luken moved that RCRTA send 4 delegates to be named by the May 15 deadline and that the RCRTA cover the \$30 cost for breakfast and lunch. Sandy Bowlus seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Cheryl asked that anyone who would like to go should contact her ASAP.

Nancy Durham reported the Indiana State Retired Teachers Foundation has a current balance in the endowment fund of \$734,498.84. She noted this is a significant decrease in the last month due to the current economic climate. She explained the Foundation's desire to reach one million dollars in the fund for the sustainability of the Active Teacher Grants (20 awarded each fall), the college scholarships (10 awarded each spring), and the Hand Up assistance program for retirees in need. Nancy reported that one of the Active Grant Awards was presented to South Ripley Junior High School for their STEM Showcase this spring. She also thanked members who had contributed to the fund with the purchase of red and gold apples over the last few years and announced the IRTAF is tentatively planning to hold a silent auction at the RA and would welcome donations. Mr. Nicholson generously donated one of his novels for the auction.

With Andrea Westerfeld's absence, there were no member concerns. In public relations, Nancy Durham asked everyone who is a Facebook user to follow the RCRTA page. She also noted she will work on an article highlighting the many ways members of the RCRTA give back to the community, particularly through the group project. Last year's support of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library was \$600 with a 50% match by the RCCF so the actual total was \$900.

Jane Rogers is the new chair of membership and is planning a pre-retirement workshop this fall for Ripley County active teachers. Phyllis Hull is the new community service chair and will keep a record of all our volunteer hours. Sandy Bowlus introduced the new group project for 2026—Quilts for Kids. Eleven quilts have already been completed by RCRTA members. She noted that there are lots of jobs besides sewing and also welcomed monetary donations. After the volunteers are polled, Sandy will set up a time and place for meeting and working on the quilts.

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4-8, and members were asked to volunteer to cover the area schools and treat the teachers in each building. Cheryl shared some information about setting up a

login on the INPRS website and obtaining the 1099R forms. The July meeting program will include a walk through of this website.

Sandy led the group in playing “Boomer Trivia” with winners Tim Mauzy, Sally Raver, and Sherry Linville. McDonald’s gift cards were awarded to Sherri Zornes, Tim Mauzy, Marsha Bultman, Jenny Schwipps, and Wilma Flory.

Final announcements included a plea for someone to step up to shadow Treasurer Marsha Bultman this year as she wishes to retire. Cheryl also announced the Westerfelds would like for someone to follow them and learn the work they do in maintaining lines of communication throughout the membership.

Lois Luken voiced appreciation for Cheryl Parmer and Sue Bunselmeier for the work they’ve done for 10 years with the membership and community service committees. She also applauded Marsha Bultman for her 10-year service and the Westerfelds for all their work in the RCRTA.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Durham  
RCRTA secretary



**Ron Nicholson reads from his novel  
*Justice House Rules.***

### July Social Meeting

- Tuesday, July 28, 11 a.m. registration
- Come early and visit with friends!
- Osgood Baptist Church
- \$20 hot lunch will include fried chicken, signature salad, California blend, green beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls, and a variety of desserts.
- The lunch will be served at 11:30.
- **Dues for the 2026-2027 year will be collected at the July meeting (\$10 regular member; \$5 associate member). Our new year begins July 1.**
- A presentation will be made by South Ripley teachers Lindsay Hafft and Laura Beck about their Active Teacher Grant project.

### The RCRTA Always Needs YOUR Help!!!

We appreciate Phyllis Hull and Jane Rogers stepping up to head the Community Service and Membership committees. We are still looking for someone to mentor with Marsha Bultman for a future role as treasurer. Remember: if there is any area you would like to volunteer, speak up! We want you to be involved!

### RCRTA Treasurer’s Report June 2026

|                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Ending Balance November 30, 2025 | \$3,977.35 |
| <u>Receipts</u>                  |            |
| Dues (4 @ \$10)                  | 40         |
| Meals (35 @ \$20)                | 700        |
| Extra Meals (7 @ \$5)            | 35         |
| Food Pantry donations            | 93         |
| “Quilts for Kids” project        | 110        |
| Total Receipts                   | \$978.00   |
| Total Available                  | \$4,955.35 |



## Expenses

|                                                           |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Lance Stallcop<br>("hoosiernet" usage)                    | 30.00  |
| Rolling Pin<br>(37 meals)                                 | 618.98 |
| Dennis Westerfeld<br>(cards, stamps)                      | 67.80  |
| Osgood Baptist Church<br>(use of building for 3 meetings) | 150.00 |
| 4 elementary nurse donations<br>(\$50 each)               | 200.00 |
| Marsha Bultman                                            | 25.00  |
| IRTA<br>(4 RA delegates)                                  | 120.00 |

Total Expenses                      \$1,209.78

CURRENT BALANCE                      \$3,745.57

**Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Bultman, treasurer**

### **IRTA NEWS**

#### *Indiana Retired Teachers Association*

The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Representative Assembly was held June 10 in Indianapolis. Delegates for SRCTA were Cheryl Parmer, Sandy Bowlus, Nancy Durham, Wilma Flory, and Alivia Sun.

RCRTA came away with several awards: Volunteer of the Year, Sharon Martin; Honorable Mention Volunteers, Sandy Bowlus, Trace Tucker, Tom Reale; Outstanding Newsletter, Facebook page, and Press Release (Nancy Durham, public relations chair); Outstanding Website (Dennis Bourquein, webmaster); Outstanding Group Community Service Project—Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (Sue Bunselmeier, community service chair).

Cheryl Corning was installed as Area 10 Director. RCRTA also contributed two silent auction items for the Indiana Retired Teachers Association Foundation.



**Cheryl Parmer enjoys the silent auction offerings at the RA, sponsored by the IRTAFoundation.**

**If you have not yet joined the Indiana State Retired Teachers Association, please go to [retiredteachers.org/membership](http://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**

The Foundation sponsored a silent auction at the RA. Local associations donated 43 items, and total proceeds amounted to \$2,745. Thanks to Marsha Bultman and Sue Bunselmeier for their fall décor donation, and to Ron Nicholson for a signed copy of his novel. Nancy Durham added a few more signed copies to that donation. The endowment fund's value is now \$775,517.83; we're getting closer to the goal of one million dollars.

## RCRTA Group Community Service Project 2026

Sandy Bowlus reported that four quilts are ready for looms, and 18 more dates have been set for RCRTA members to work on cutting, pinning, and ironing quilt pieces: July 10 and 27, August 21, September 7, October 2 and 19, and November 13 and 30. The work sessions will begin at 10 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Napoleon.



And here's something to tickle your funny bone or to entertain your grandchildren!

**Q: What do sea monsters eat?**

***A: Fish and ships!!!***



## Community Service Hours

Chair Phyllis Hull would like members to submit volunteer hours more frequently during the year and has provided a chart for members to use. Ripley County logged 27,840 hours last year, second in the state to Dearborn County. Members are reminded any time spent in a volunteer capacity can be reported, and the hours do matter at the state level as the legislators pay attention to the commitment retired teachers have in their communities. Phyllis also reminds us that active teachers may also record and submit their volunteer hours.

| Name      | Youth Hours | "Other" |
|-----------|-------------|---------|
|           |             |         |
| January   |             |         |
| February  |             |         |
| March     |             |         |
| April     |             |         |
| May       |             |         |
| June      |             |         |
| July      |             |         |
| August    |             |         |
| September |             |         |
| October   |             |         |
| November  |             |         |
| December  |             |         |

Hours should be submitted midyear and then again by the end of the year to [phyllishull1960@gmail.com](mailto:phyllishull1960@gmail.com) or 812-621-8439.

Betty and Dennis Bourquein support both the Ripley County and the Dearborn County retired teachers groups at RA.

**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 Address/ PO Box

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email

\_\_\_\_\_

**This application covers RCRTA  
Membership Year July 1, 2026 to June  
30, 2027.**

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**



Lunch is always a treat at the RCRTA meetings.



Cheryl Corning is installed for a full term as  
Area 10 Director for IRTA.

**Dennis and Andrea Westerfeld**  
**323 Charles Place**  
**Batesville, IN 47006**  
**Return Service Requested**