



Bulletin Board

www.retiredteachers.org

Advocating for all Indiana Retired Educators



Happy Holidays to everyone! Great things have been going on in your Association this year to improve and advance the work of the IRTA. Our goal has been to better serve our members and promote our Association throughout the state's educational arena. Your officers and Executive Director have been very busy and I would like to review some of the highlights.

Probably the most visible change this year was the introduction of our new IRTA logo created by the IRTA Website Committee. The red, white, and blue insignia quickly catches one's attention and helps to brand our Association.

Last year the IRTA Strategic Planning Committee began discussing and working on ways to take our Association forward in the 21st century. Discussion and plans on revising present committees and the introduction of new committees are in the process. Also, ways of contacting and growing our membership have started to be implemented.

For our membership, a number of great new benefits have been added that include new travel discounts and senior-needs benefits. If you haven't tried out the Hotel Storm discount while traveling, you are missing out on great savings. Also, the savings on our AT&T and Verizon discount programs have been increased. A description of all of our benefits can be found on our webpage www.retiredteachers.org.

The Rules, Bylaws, and Credential Committee has taken upon itself to revisit and update the IRTA Bylaws. The plan for completion is June 2018. This is something that to our knowledge has not been done since our Association's beginning in 1950. This will greatly help to streamline the operations of the Association.

A new membership database program started years ago is now serving our local chapters, a new financial operational program recommended by the Association's auditor has been initiated, policy manuals have been reviewed and updated.

Another highly visible improvement has been the complete renovation of our website. It is now much more user-friendly to our membership and state committees. IRTA is now on Facebook and Twitter. Many helpful blogs for retired

and active teachers are provided monthly and educational and informative webcasts are periodically presented. New and renewal memberships for both retired teachers and associates can now be submitted on the IRTA website. The recently updated Educator's Guide to Retiring With Purpose is available to active teachers online.

Our membership has been awakened to the influence of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) in our state legislature. If you missed out on the ALEC PowerPoint presentation at the Fall Workshop, be sure to ask your Area Directors for information. To be effective in talking to our local and state legislators, our membership needs to know and understand the influences that direct their decisions.

A final highlight is that the Foundation has given out \$10,000 in teacher grants across the state for the second year in a row. This is in addition to the \$20,000 in scholarships to college junior and seniors enrolled in education courses. Several

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Executive Director's Message



Wow, what a Fall, the Cubs win the World Series, we have one of the warmest and driest Falls on record, a crazy election, and we had our biggest full moon we will see in many years. Hopefully these oddities will continue and our Indiana State Senators will have an epiphany and come to the realization that our retired educators and public employees need support and that they will see fit to

give a fiscally responsible COLA in this year's budget. We can only hope as we enter the "Season of Miracles".

The legislative Pension Management Oversight Committee (PMOC) finished up their summer meetings in October. Bills that will be coming forward from the committee will be an Indexed Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Bill sponsored by Rep. Carbaugh. This bill will give a 3% COLA to those that make the least and have been retired the longest, 2% COLA for those in the middle, and then a 1% COLA to those that have been retired less than 10 years. This bill only had two against it at PMOC, Senator Boots and Rep. Culver.

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IRTF Active Teacher Grant Winners

This year was the second year of the Indiana Retired Teachers Foundation (IRTF) **Active Teacher Grants**. The applicants started submitting their grant proposals in August, following the guidelines set forth by IRTF (visit www.retiredteachers.org under the Foundation link to view the **Indiana Retired Teachers Foundation** Active Teacher Grant Guidelines and Application). There were 181 applications submitted by the September 30 deadline from active teachers across the state of Indiana. Each IRTA area could name up to two winners at \$500.00 each or could divide up the \$1,000.00 funds among several teachers.

The IRTF now announces 21 teachers across Indiana who have won an **Active Teacher Grant**. The winners are listed below by areas. More information can be found by contacting the office at (888) 454-9333 or visiting our website at www.retiredteachers.org.



IRTF Active Teacher Grant Winners

Area 1:

Laura A Fred-Smith

County: Pulaski

Winamac Community High School

715 School Drive

Winamac, IN 46996

Area 2:

Jennifer Stukey

(pictured below)

County: Steuben

Fremont Elementary School

PO Box 625

Fremont, IN 46737

Area 4:

Anna Virostko

County: Parke

Rosedale Elementary School

613 E Central

Rosedale, IN 47874

Area 1:

Jason Shupryt

County: Jasper

Rensselaer Central High School

1106 East Grace St

Rensselaer, IN 47978

Area 3:

Teresa McCain

(pictured below)

County: Miami

Blair Pointe Upper Elementary

300 Blair Pike

Peru, IN 46970

Area 4:

Erin Yeager

(pictured below)

County: Montgomery

Northridge Middle School

482 West 580 North

Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Area 2:

Julie Becker

(pictured below)

County: Noble

South Side Elementary School

1350 S Sherman St

Kendallville, IN 46755

Area 3:

Julia Touloukian

County: Clinton

Rossville Elementary School

1 Robert Egly Dr

Rossville, IN 46065

Area 5:

Elizabeth Camacho

County: Marion-Wayne

Chapelwood Elementary

1129 Girls School Rd

Indianapolis, IN 46214



Julie Becker
Area 2

Jenny Stukey
Area 2



Joy Boswell (right)
presenting to
Teresa McCain (left)
Area 3



Erin Yeager
Area 4

Area 5:
Brieann Saxhaug-Tost, Barbara Glenesk, and Samantha DeKruiff-
County: Hamilton
Riverside Intermediate School
11014 Eller Road
Fishers, IN 46038

Area 6:
Tamara Blalock
County: Madison
Eastside Elementary School
844 North Scatterfield Road
Anderson, IN 46012

Area 6:
Tiffany Ingles
County: Delaware
West View Elementary
3401 W Gilbert St
Muncie, IN 47304

Area 7:
Heather Comer
County: Decatur
Greensburg Community HS
1000 East Central Avenue
Greensburg, IN 47240

Area 7:
Vickie Heil
County: Franklin
Batesville Primary School
760 State Road 46 W
Batesville, IN 47006

Area 8:
Debra Sumner and Rachel Hardy-
County: Brown
Brown County Jr High School
95 Schoolhouse Lane, PO Box 578
Nashville, IN 47448

Area 8:
Bridget Fellers
County: Daviess
Lena Dunn Elementary
801 NW 11th St
Washington, IN 47501

Area 9:
Cindy Motz
(pictured below)
County: Gibson
Haubstadt Community School
158 E 1025 S
Haubstadt, IN 47639

Area 9:
Kari Schaefer
County: Dubois
Jasper Middle School
3600 Portersville Rd
Jasper, IN 47546

Area 10:
Patricia Boggs
County: Washington
West Washington Elementary
8030 W Batt Rd
Campbellsburg, IN 47108

Area 10:
Debby Jackson
County: Jennings
Jennings County High School
800 West Walnut St
North Vernon, IN 47265

Area 10:
Dee Kramer
County: Clark
Silver Creek High School
557 Renz Avenue
Sellersburg, IN 47172



Cindy Motz
Area 9

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

awards are a result of the continued generous support of our members and local chapters, so please continue to remember the Foundation in your tax-exempt donations.

As your President, I want to express my gratitude and thanks to the IRTA and IRTF Board of Directors, Executive Director, staff, committee chairs, and membership for their hard work and dedication in bringing about these achievements.

Before I close, I would like to dwell on the celebration and blessing of this holiday season. As your President, I have had so many blessings this year to celebrate and so much for which to be thankful. As most of you know, for the past four years I have been battling prostate cancer. Through my experiences of surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, and hyperbaric oxygen

treatments, my IRTA family has stood solidly behind me. My wife and I have been truly humbled by the host of prayers and cards that have come our way. We want all of you to know how truly appreciative we are of your support. I was greatly blessed to learn in October that my bladder bleeding had stopped and more blessed to learn that from all of the tests run on my body, no evidence of cancer can now be found. I attribute this to not just the work of the doctors at Mayo Clinic, but also to the many prayers that were given on my behalf. I truly had a lot to be thankful for this Thanksgiving and even greater reason to celebrate the birth of our Savior this Christmas. Thanks again to everyone. I hope you had a very Blessed Thanksgiving and I wish you a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.

"God bless us, every one!" -Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1...

We also believe that Rep. Karickhoff will bring another COLA bill forward asking for a straight 2% COLA for everyone. We will support both bills and see which comes out of the House committees.

Rep. Burton is sponsoring a "13th Check Bill" that will have an increase of \$50 for those making less than \$500 in their monthly pension check and a \$25 increase for those making more than \$500 per month in their pension. This is the first increase since the inception of the "13th check" concept in 1993.

We were hoping that the \$50 increase would be for anyone making less than a \$1,000 per month and \$25 more for anyone making more than \$1,000 per month. We will see if any work can be done on it as it starts through the committee process.

Rep. Carbaugh is expected to bring a Defined Contribution (DC) bill forward that is improved over last year's DC bill, but we still cannot support it as a retirement vehicle for our future teachers. We also expect the Rep. Culver will bring a bill forward calling for Public Employees to default into a DC plan if they do not choose an option. We will oppose this bill if it is brought forward. Our belief is if they get this in the Public Employee Pensions, the next target will be the Retired Teacher's Pension plan for future educators.

There were a few changes in the legislature after the election and the committees and leadership for the committees have seen a little change. The Labor Committee in the House has new leadership. Representative VanNatter from Kokomo area will now be chairman. Representative Gutwein had been the previous chairman. This year's long budget session kicks-off on January 3rd/4th and will go through April 29th. The COLA and "13th Check" will no doubt hang in the balance until the last couple of days of session since they are both tied to the budget.

We met with Rep. Brown, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, in the early Fall. We felt we had his support and that he will look for ways to fund the COLA and "13th Check" bills. This is critical if the bills are to receive a hearing in the Senate. We will be informing you through letters, email, Facebook, Twitter and our podcast on legislative information throughout this session. Your voice will once again be very critical in any chances we have to receive a COLA and/or "13th Check".

The Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) should have notified you if you have money in your Annuity Savings Account (ASA) and some of your money is in the Guaranteed Fund. It will be switched to the Stable Value Fund on December 31st. The Guaranteed Fund is being closed out and the Stable Value Fund is the replacement fund. You may choose

other funds prior to December 31st to place your money in that INPRS offers. You may contact INPRS at (888)-286-3544 if you have further questions.

Dennis's article highlights many projects and activities that the IRTA Board and office staff are working on as we continue to move forward and meet the needs of our members. Please continue to use our website (www.retiredteachers.org) as a resource for information and friend, like, and share information off our Facebook page.

A new initiative that we will be starting in January is a weekly podcast called Indiana EdCAST that you may download at www.retiredteachers.org/podcast. For those that are not familiar with podcasts, they are very similar to a radio talk show segment. The first few months our podcasts will highlight Statehouse activities and legislation with myself and our lobbyist Steve Beebe providing updates. We will also inform you with what is new at IRTA along with having other guests on the podcasts to discuss educational issues, programs, information and other topics that we believe our members and listeners around the state of Indiana will find interesting.

We hope you will be able to tune in to our weekly podcasts. The podcasts will be a mix of live shows and taped shows depending on schedules of our guests. Our first episode of Indiana EdCAST will air at 11:00 AM on Friday, January 6th and then every Friday thereafter at 11:00.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

LEGISLATIVE BRUNCH

WHEN

**April 4, 2017
9:30am - 11:30am**

WHERE

State House

WWW.RETIREDTEACHERS.ORG

Bus Transportation will be provided from the IRTA Offices.

Buses will leave IRTA at 8:45

Buses will leave the State House at 11:45

There is no cost for the brunch or bus transportation.

More information will be sent out early in the new year.





Florida Snow Birds

Join the food, fun, and fellowship of the Florida residents and snow-birds who are Indiana retired educators. Find out the latest news from Indiana's legislative session and visit with friends from your home state. Reservations should be turned in by January 6, 2017

January 13, 2017 is the date for the Fort Myers luncheon.
The host is Phyllis Wayco and the luncheon will take place at :

The Legends Golf and Country Club
8600 Legends Boulevard
Ft. Myers, FL 33912
11:30 A.M.—2:00 P.M.
phylwayco@aol.com
239-561-4619

January 16, 2017 is the date for the Leesburg luncheon.
The host is Guy Konkle and the luncheon will take place at :

La Hacienda Restaurant at Mission Inn
10400 County Road 48
Howey-In-The-Hills, FL 34737
11:30 A.M.—1:30 P.M.
g.konkle@sbcglobal.net
(h) 352.360.0847 (c) 317.366.2326

IRTA Specialty License Plate

We are looking at the possibility to have our own IRTA Specialty License Plate. The cost would be \$40.00 with \$25.00 dollars of each sale going to the Indiana Retired Teachers Foundation (IRTF). If you believe you would want a license plate in the future, please sign a petition at your local meeting. Your local foundation representative or president should have the petition available to sign. We need 500 signatures by March 2017. Please only sign up if you plan to purchase this license plate if it would become available. We will submit our application in April to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and wait to see if they accept our proposal.



WARM UP YOUR WINTER



Cold weather is the perfect time to plan a vacation! Your IRTA membership gives you access to multiple travel benefits, such as:

Cruise And Vacation Benefits

Earn a 4% Vacation Reward on all cruise, resort and tour vacations! We work with all the major cruise lines, over 600 resort properties in the Caribbean, Hawaii, Florida, Mexico and the Bahamas as well as the industry's best in guided vacations and river cruises! Plus, you'll have access to special bonus offers that can be combined with your program reward. Check our site frequently for the latest deals!

Visit : www.cruiseandvacationbenefits.com/amba or call 855.577.9497

Travel Protection

Safeguard your travel with Medical Air Services Association (MASA). MASA is dedicated to providing life-saving emergency assistance. Even if you aren't traveling, MASA works for you at home. This coverage protects members against catastrophic financial loss when emergencies arise. The MASA Platinum Membership for members includes: no initiation fee, no health questions, no deductibles, no dollar limits, no exceptions due to pre-existing health conditions, and worldwide coverage is included.

Call our benefits provider, Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) at 800.258.7041 or visit myambabenefits.info/inrta to find out more about these and other travel benefits!

Benefits provided by:



VARIANCE REPORT

AS OF 10/31/15

INDIANA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
VARIANCE REPORT
TWO MONTH--PERIOD ENDED 10/31/2016

	Year-to-date Amount	Budget-year-to-date Amount	Var-amt	Var-%
INCOME:				
REGULAR MEMBER DUES	572,249	665,000	(92,751)	-13.9%
ASSOCIATE MEMBER DUES	7,996	21,500	(13,504)	-62.8%
GAIN(LOSS) ON SALE-SECURITIES				
TCU INTEREST-ASSOCIATION	50			
INVESTMENT INCOME-TOTAL	(22,001)	55,000	(77,001)	-140.0%
FLORIDA MEETINGS INCOME		5,000		
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY INCOME	26	6,000		
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	400	14,000		
ROYALTY ENDORSEMENT FEE	9,167	57,500	(48,333)	-84.1%
TOTAL INCOME	567,886	824,000	(256,114)	-31.1%
OFFICE OPERATIONS:				
OCCUPANCY-RENT	2,277	59,000	(56,723)	-96.1%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & MAINT.	2,695	36,000	(33,305)	-92.5%
STAFF TRAVEL, PARKING & MEALS	1,218	5,000	(3,782)	-75.6%
SALARIES-OFFICE STAFF	40,820	250,000	(209,180)	-83.7%
PAYROLL TAXES & RETIREMENT EXPENSE	5,400	37,500	(32,100)	-85.6%
GROUP INSURANCE	15,341	83,000	(67,659)	-81.5%
OTHER INSURANCE	691	3,650	(2,959)	-81.1%
PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS	0	3,000	(3,000)	-100.0%
DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	2,446	10,500	(8,054)	-76.7%
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	845	750	95	12.7%
OFFICE, PAYROLL SERVICES, & OTHER EXP	710	4,000	(3,290)	-82.3%
UNFORSEEABLE EXPENSES	0	25,000	(25,000)	-100.0%
HUMAN RESOURCES EXPENSE	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100.0%
LEGAL & ACCOUNTING	8,576	18,000	(9,424)	-52.4%
DISCOUNT ON RETIREMENT LIABILITY	0			
POSTAGE EXPENSE	10,155	35,000	(24,845)	-71.0%
PRINTING & SUPPLIES	10,607	30,000	(19,393)	-64.6%
TOTAL OFFICE OPERATIONS EXPENSE	101,780	602,400	(500,620)	-83.1%
PROGRAM EXPENSES:				
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES-TOTAL	2,896	17,500	(14,604)	-83.5%
GRANTS TO FOUNDATION	0			
LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE	690	12,000	(11,310)	-94.3%
LOBBYING SERVICES	6,500	40,000	(33,500)	-83.8%
MARKETING EXPENSE	13,308	25,000	(11,692)	-46.8%
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY	(200)	14,500	(14,700)	-101.4%
FALL AREA WORKSHOPS	9,485	15,000	(5,515)	-36.8%
SPRING COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS	0	5,000	(5,000)	-100.0%
SUMMER LOC OFFICERS WS/OTHER COM.	258	5,000	(4,742)	-94.8%
FLORIDA MEETINGS	250	5,000	(4,750)	-95.0%
PRESIDENT'S EXPENSES	509	8,000	(7,491)	-92.5%
BOARD OFFICERS REIMBURSEMENTS	7,438	30,000	(22,562)	-75.2%
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS	6,495	32,000	(25,505)	-79.7%
LOCAL CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100.0%
TOTAL OTHER	47,719	211,000	(163,281)	-77.4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	149,499	813,400	(663,901)	-81.6%
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES	418,387	10,600	407,787	

BALANCE SHEET

AS OF 10/31/15

INDIANA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET

	As of 10/31/2016
ASSETS:	
CURRENT ASSETS:	
CASH	\$ 77,181
INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVABLE	971
PREPAID EXPENSES	17,309
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-LIFE ACCTS	8,723
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-OTHER	2,806
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 106,990
INVESTMENTS:	
INVESTMENTS-SBARNEY-PR MED/CASH	\$ 159,924
INVESTMENTS-SBARNEY-FMA/CASH	751,066
INVESTMENTS-SBARNEY-FMA/OTHER	1,045,493
INVESTMENTS-LIFE MEMBERSHIP	599,086
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	\$ 2,555,549
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:	
FIX ASSETS - FURNITURE & FIXT	\$ 149,945
LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS	2,292
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	(116,951)
TOTAL PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	\$ 35,286
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 2,697,825
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES:	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 10,479
EMPLOYEE WITHHOLDINGS	0
ACCRUED PAYROLL	9,984
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 20,463
DEFERRED REVENUE-MISC	9,167
RETIREMENT INSURANCE LIABILITY	118,222
RETIREMENT INSURANCE DISCOUNT	(31,554)
UNEARNED MEMBER DUES	113,352
UNEARNED LIFE MEMBER DUES	227,711
LIFE MEMBER-INSTALLMENTS DUE	47,580
TOTAL OTHER LIABILITIES	\$ 484,479
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 504,941
FUND BALANCES:	
FUND BALANCE	\$ 1,597,582
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS-BD DESIGNATED	\$ 176,915
GENERAL FUND	\$ 1,774,497
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 418,387
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$ 2,697,825



IRTF Organizational Contributors

Areas 2 & 6 Coins
Areas 7 & 10
Area 8 - Coins for Scholars
Area 9 - Coins for Scholars
Areas 1 & 3 Coins
Areas 4 & 5
Bartholomew County RTA
Board of Directors
Boone County RTA
Brown County RTA
Cass County RTA
Clay County RTA

Dearborn County RTA
Decatur County RTA
DeKalb County RTA
Delaware County RTA
Elkhart County RTA
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Fax: (317) 637-9671
info@retiredteachers.org

Please visit us on the web at
www.retiredteachers.org
or



Find us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/
INretiredteachers

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Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS)

TRF Pension Account Information.....1-317-232-3860

Toll-free (outside of Indianapolis area).....1-888-286-3544

E-mail.....questions@inprs.in.gov

Web site.....www.in.gov/inprs

Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA)

Group Insurance Policies.....1-800-258-7041

Medicare Supplement, Dental, Vision, and More

I am enclosing a contribution to assist the Foundation with its work.
Please direct my contribution to the following program(s):

AMOUNT

PROGRAM

Scholarship Fund

A Hand Up Fund

Active Teacher Grants

Use Where Needed Most

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make check payable to: Indiana Retired Teachers Foundation,
2629 Waterfront Parkway, East Drive, Suite 105
Indianapolis, IN 46214

Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law

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