



# Bulletin Board

www.retiredteachers.org

## Advocating for all Indiana Retired Educators

### A Message from the President-Elect



**H**appy Spring from Wabash. It seems that this winter has lasted forever since we experienced below zero temperatures, above 50 temperatures, deep snow, and flooding rain all in the same week. What a winter!

I attended meetings with Tom in Florida during the severe cold that took place in Indiana during January.

I filled in for our President who was unable to attend. It was a real pleasure meeting with our members that have taken up residence in Florida, as well as seeing some of our "snow birds." Thank you for your great hospitality. We attended a first-time meeting in the Melbourne area. This group was very enthusiastic and interested in what was going on with IRTA. They're already excited about next year's meeting. We then proceeded to Fort Myers and found the group there was very inquisitive and had many questions for us. Sarasota was another very good meeting with many members showing excitement. The last meeting was at Leesburg where we answered many questions and presented what is going on with IRTA. The attendance was down a little from previous years at a couple of the meetings but overall, we had good attendance and a wonderful time bringing information about IRTA to our Florida members.

Our Legislative Brunch is scheduled for the 2nd week of April. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend. It is a time that we can meet at the State House in Indianapolis and talk to our legislators about IRTA issues. This is a time that we can show that we are concerned and express our opinions regarding a COLA and a "13th check" with a \$50 increase. We will be having bus transportation to and from the IRTA office to the State House once again this year. Call the office to get your name on the list for this exciting day. Also, inform your Legislator that you plan to be there and ask that he/she plan to meet with you.

July will be the beginning of some of our changes this year. Instead of having a Fall Workshop this year, we will be having a Leadership Workshop in July. This workshop is for everyone that your local considers to be a local leader. We will be having two speakers from the National Retired Teachers

Association (NRTA) who will present information to help your local thrive. We will also be presenting information specific to IRTA. Watch your mail/email for this exciting news coming out very soon from the office. Check with your local leadership for information about this amazing meeting. We will be having identical workshops in three different locations. You will be able to attend the one that is most convenient for you. Hope to see all you leaders there.

The leadership of IRTA is very busy working for you. We strive to improve your retirement, but we cannot do it alone. There are only 16 of us on the board. We need your help and concern because this is YOUR association. Don't be afraid to step up and volunteer to be a leader in your local or state association.

### Executive Director's Message



**A**s I sit down to write this article we are into March and the basketball tournaments have begun and it is still winterlike. The second half of the legislative session we will be concentrating on getting an increase to HB 1139 (13th Check); otherwise the session has been relatively quiet for us. The legislative brunch will be at a good time as the session will be

nearing the last couple of weeks and financial decisions will need to be finalized.

Our Florida trip was very positive with an additional stop in Melbourne this year. We would like to add an area between Ft. Lauderdale and Miami if anyone would be interested in hosting the event. It is always great to see our Florida members and snowbirds and update them on what is going on in Indiana and the legislature. Our membership numbers continue to grow in Florida. We even add a few new members by guests that our members bring.

The office is getting materials and information together for our State-wide committees and their meetings in April that coincides with our Legislative Brunch on April 9. Their work will culminate at the Representative Assembly (RA) on June 12th. This year we will be back at Banquet Center.

We are very pleased our membership numbers are up this

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## Foundation News



Linda Morris

As an IRTA member, you have a great way to make a difference in the teaching profession and in your communities. As a partner of the IRTA, our Foundation promotes the welfare of retired teachers, supports those who are currently teaching and encourages people to enter the profession.

Your Indiana Retired Teachers Foundation Board is excited about 2019. As you may know, IRTF is working to establish an annuity to become self-funding for the IRTA Educator Scholarships, Active Teacher Grants and the “A Hand UP” initiative. These initiatives grant approximately \$40,000 annually. Through the establishment of an IRTF annuity these funds will be generated annually on the earnings of the annuity. This will allow IRTF to grow the teacher support and initiatives throughout Indiana.

Terry Johnson, a representative of the Indiana Philanthropy Alliance, met with the IRTF Board and Tom Mellish on November 26, 2018. Terry provided the Board a set of guidelines to utilize in planning and establishing an IRTF annuity. We will be providing the details of the proposed plan for establishment of the annuity at the June 12 IRTA Representative Assembly.

If you receive funds from an IRA, you to donate to charitable donation being counted as withdrawn. The Indiana is a 501 c(3) organization, contributions as we work to

We want to remind members IRTF Scholarship program! awards up to ten \$2,000 juniors and seniors studying Indiana college or university. past the applicant had to be nephew, legal dependent or or regular) or deceased member Association and also a TRF member.”

“sponsored by an IRTA member.” As the will supply his/her personal info and IRTA application’s page one. So now if you would like to sponsor a former student, neighbor, friend’s child, friend or anyone you feel would make an outstanding teacher, you can! The Foundation Board’s goal is to award more than seven scholarships state-wide, as we did this year. The current scholarship application can be found at [www.retiredteachers.org](http://www.retiredteachers.org). Click the “Foundation” tab at the top of the opening page, and then the Scholarship tab at the left in the red block. Applications are due April 26, 2019.

the IRA Charitable Rollover allows organizations without the taxable income when it is Retired Teachers Foundation and will gladly accept your fulfill our goals.

of a major change to our Our current program scholarships to college to become teachers in an That doesn’t change. In the “a child, grandchild, niece/ spouse of a member (associate of the Indiana Retired Teachers

Now the applicant need only be applicant’s sponsor, the IRTA member membership number on the bottom of the application. The Foundation Board’s goal is to award more than seven scholarships state-wide, as we did this year. The current scholarship application can be found at [www.retiredteachers.org](http://www.retiredteachers.org). Click the “Foundation” tab at the top of the opening page, and then the Scholarship tab at the left in the red block. Applications are due April 26, 2019.

REMINDER: Providing IRTF donations and memorials is a great way for members to support the IRTF initiatives.



## Vigo County RTA 65th Anniversary

Vigo County celebrates their 65th Anniversary in style this past February at the MCL in Terre Haute. The mayor of Terre Haute proclaimed it Vigo County Retired Teachers Day in front of TV cameras. Pictured are the past-presidents of Vigo County RTA and the beautiful cake and decorations that were on display.

Decorated and logo mementos were available for members to take home to remember the event.



current living and past presidents.

Back row (L-R): Dr. Millie Vaughn, John Gettinger, Jackie Lower, Guy Dillard.

Front row (L-R) Donald Hansel, Nina Couch-Corenflos, and Trannie Grainger.



Continued from page 1

year for both regular and associate members. At the end of February both membership groups were above last year's totals. Thank you for your efforts to draw in new members and hope this trend continues.

We need nominations for Area Directors/Board members in Area 3 and 5 this year. We have received at least one nomination for the other odd-numbered areas. Please seriously consider being an Area Director if you are from these areas. We are going to try to have quarterly board meetings this year instead of bi-monthly meetings.

We will be hosting Summer Leadership Conferences in July this year for all local leaders. Our southern workshop will be at Spring Mill State Park on July 22. Our central workshop will be at Fort Harrison on July 23 and the northern workshop will be at Grace College at Winona Lake on July 24. More information will be sent out later this spring. There will not be Fall Workshops this year as we look to alternate each year between Leadership Conferences and Fall Workshops.

It is beginning to feel a little warmer so hopefully that means spring is near. I look forward to seeing you at the Legislative Brunch and Representative Assembly this year.

## Retired Teachers Logging Volunteer Hours

Retired Teachers are volunteering their time to a variety of projects and programs in schools throughout the state. These volunteer hours benefit students, teachers, administrators, and even serve to influence lawmakers towards recognizing the value of retired teachers and protect pensions. Below are just a few of the individuals recognized recently for their efforts.



Huge shout out and thank you to these ladies! They are a group of retired teachers who volunteer their time throughout the year to help our teachers at BES! Thank you all! Your help is greatly appreciated.



Retired teachers from Whitewater Valley are spending time working in the four elementary schools in Franklin County. Retirees not only help in schools, they spend volunteer time with a variety of activities from working in State Parks to committee work with local organizations. During 2018 retirees logged 7,435 hours of volunteer work. These retired teachers enjoy being retired, but they also enjoy the opportunity to stay involved in the community.

# News and Updates

## Legislative Update

Hopefully each week you are catching up on our legislative journey through our podcast titled Indiana EdCast that is on our website at [www.retiredteachers.org](http://www.retiredteachers.org). Regular updates are given throughout the legislative session. The good news at the halfway point of the General Assembly was that the House has put the “13th Check” appropriation into HB 1001, the Budget Bill. I testified and thanked them for including the “13th Check” into the Budget Bill at the Senate Appropriations Committee at the beginning of the second half. I requested that they raise the “13th Check” amount by \$50 across the board. This will be an additional \$2.6 million cost along with the \$21.7 million (the 13th Check amount) for retired educators. The retired public employees’ group (RIPEA) also requested this amount.

Please talk or write to your state senators to encourage them to support the 13th Check and the \$50 increase. The amount of the stipend has not increased since it’s inception in 1993; we have not had an increase to any pension benefit since 2008. We have lost at least 25% of our purchasing power since 2008. This potential increase will be sustainable when the Pension Supplemental Reserve Accounts funding for any pension benefit increase or “13th Check” begins in 2021.

We are tracking other bills this session that benefit seniors; you can see the updates on our website at [www.retiredteachers.org](http://www.retiredteachers.org). We update this bill tracker every couple of weeks. Here are the bills that are still alive:

**HB 1001 Budget**

**HB 1008 Teacher Career Ladders**

**HB 1059 Survivor Benefits**

**HB 1224 School Intergenerational Safety Pilot Project**

**SB 22 Pension Matters**

**HB 1003 School Expenditure Targets**

**HB 1009 Teacher Residency Grants Pilot Program**

**HB 1139 Pension 13th Check**

**SB 280 Over 65 Property Tax Deduction**

HB 1445, which would have raised the early retirement ages and defaulted all the new educators into the Defined Contribution, was never called for a hearing, so it is dead for the session.

SB 514 was the COLA bill; it was never called for a hearing, so it is dead for this session

Please encourage our members to attend our Legislative Brunch April 9. Buses will be available from the IRTA office parking lot to the State House. The buses will leave at 8:30 from the office return before 12:00. Please call to reserve a seat on a bus and to let us know you are attending so we will have enough food on hand. The toll free number for the office is 1-888-454-9333.

If you cannot attend, contact your legislators to support and increase funding to the “13th Check”.

Steve Beebe and I thank you for all your help and support.





## OUTGROWN YOUR INSURANCE PORTFOLIO?

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## ALERT!

IRTA's Only Endorsed Benefit Group: Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA)  
The Indiana Retired Teachers Association has been made aware that there are insurance agents contacting retired educators in Indiana marketing Medicare supplement plans. In instances, they may say they are with IRTA or AMBA with messages that originate from IRTA. All AMBA representatives wear badges with their picture, name and AMBA logo on them. They usually carry brochures from IRTA and forms that have both the AMBA and IRTA logos.



# this could be YOU!

The Membership Committee is excited to announce the winners in the first round drawing of this year's incentive program. The drawings were held at the end of December. Rita Goss of Putnam County won a \$25.00 gift card for 1-2 members and Bud King of Rush County won a gift card for \$50.00 for 4 new members. But guess what? You still have two chances to be a winner. The incentive program is continuing with future drawings being held at the end of March and June. Sign up any new member, regular or associate, and your name will be entered in the drawing. Just be sure to have your name on the application form. There is a blank entitled, Recommended By on the forms. If your new applicant is signing up online, have them put your name in the Notes portion. Your name will be entered in the drawing for every new member you recruit. So, sign up two new members and double your opportunity to win.

# LEGISLATIVE BRUNCH

WHEN  
**April 9, 2019**

WHERE  
**State House**

**WWW.RETIREDTEACHERS.ORG**

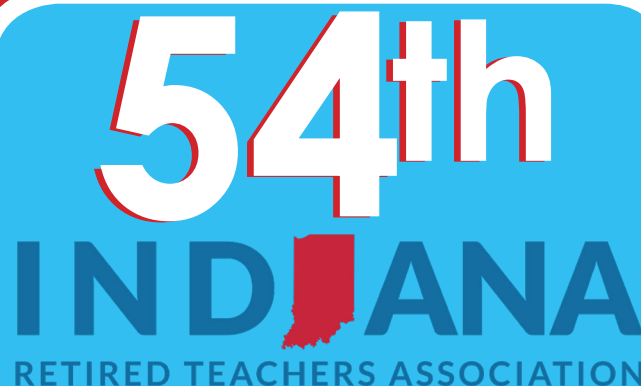
**Bus Transportation  
will be provided from  
the IRTA Offices.**

**Buses will leave IRTA  
at 8:30**

**Buses will leave the  
State House at 11:30**

**There is no cost for  
the brunch or bus  
transportation.**

**1-888-454-9333**



## Representative Assembly

**June 12, 2019  
Primo South  
Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Be a part of the fun, find treasures at the IRTF Silent Auction, vote for officers, be entertained, and celebrate our award winning locals and members while enjoying a great lunch and fellowship.**

**SPONSORED BY INDIANA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

### INDIANA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION VARIANCE REPORT SIX MONTH--PERIOD ENDED 2/28/2019

	Year-to-date Amount	Budget-year-to-date Amount	Var-amt	Var-%
<b>INCOME:</b>				
REGULAR MEMBER DUES * Does not include Life Members	598,235	665,000	(66,765)	-10.0%
ASSOCIATE MEMBER DUES	32,743	40,000	(7,257)	-18.1%
GAIN/(LOSS) ON SALE-SECURITIES				
TCU INTEREST-ASSOCIATION	112			
INVESTMENT INCOME-TOTAL	(74,313)	55,000	(129,313)	-235.1%
FLORIDA MEETINGS INCOME	1,309	1,800		
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY INCOME	0	7,200		
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	0			
OTHER INCOME-CREDIT CARD	741			
SALE OF IRTA MERCHANDISE	0			
ROYALTY ENDORSEMENT FEE	37,160	73,000	(35,840)	-49.1%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>595,987</b>	<b>842,000</b>	<b>(246,013)</b>	<b>-29.2%</b>
<b>OFFICE OPERATIONS:</b>				
OCCUPANCY-RENT	27,738	56,000	(28,262)	-50.5%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & MAINT.	11,955	33,000	(21,045)	-63.8%
STAFF TRAVEL, PARKING & MEALS	1,672	4,000	(2,328)	-58.2%
SALARIES-OFFICE STAFF	132,452	270,000	(137,548)	-50.9%
PAYROLL TAXES & RETIREMENT EXPENSE	14,562	38,000	(23,438)	-61.7%
GROUP INSURANCE	30,140	65,000	(34,860)	-53.6%
OTHER INSURANCE	1,526	3,100	(1,574)	-50.8%
PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS	0	0		#DIV/0!
DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	836	750	86	11.5%
OFFICE, PAYROLL SERVICES, & OTHER EXP	2,026	3,500	(1,474)	-42.1%
UNFORSEEABLE EXPENSES	0	10,000	(10,000)	-100.0%
POSTAGE EXPENSE	10,933	25,000	(14,067)	-56.3%
PRINTING & SUPPLIES	11,509	25,000	(13,491)	-54.0%
LEGAL & ACCOUNTING	11,495	13,000	(1,505)	-11.6%
DEPRECIATION EXPENSE	2,137	15,000	(12,863)	-85.8%
DISCOUNT ON RETIREMENT LIABILITY	0			
<b>TOTAL OFFICE OPERATIONS EXPENSE</b>	<b>258,979</b>	<b>561,350</b>	<b>(302,371)</b>	<b>-53.9%</b>
<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES:</b>				
MARKETING EXPENSE	29,380	60,000	(30,620)	-51.0%
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES-TOTAL	11,966	25,000	(13,034)	-52.1%
REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY	0	20,000	(20,000)	-100.0%
FALL AREA WORKSHOPS	9,705	12,500	(2,795)	-22.4%
SPRING COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS	0	2,000	(2,000)	-100.0%
COMMITTEE MEETING/OTHER	1,526	5,000	(3,474)	-69.5%
FLORIDA MEETINGS	5,645	6,000	(355)	-5.9%
PRESIDENT'S EXPENSES	717	6,000	(5,284)	-88.1%
BOARD OFFICERS REIMBURSEMENTS	13,145	30,000	(16,855)	-56.2%
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS	16,215	31,000	(14,785)	-47.7%
LEGISLATIVE EXPENSE	1,063	16,000	(14,937)	-93.4%
LOBBYING SERVICES	19,500	39,000	(19,500)	-50.0%
MERCHANDISE FOR SALE	0			
UNDESIGNATED PROGRAM EXPENSES	0	20,000	(20,000)	-100.0%
LOCAL CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT	0	500	(500)	-100.0%
<b>TOTAL OTHER</b>	<b>108,862</b>	<b>273,000</b>	<b>(164,138)</b>	<b>-60.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>367,841</b>	<b>834,350</b>	<b>(466,509)</b>	<b>-55.9%</b>
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>228,146</b>	<b>7,650</b>	<b>220,496</b>	

### INDIANA RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION BALANCE SHEET

As of 2/28/2019

<b>ASSETS:</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS:</b>		
CASH	\$	27,077
INVESTMENT INCOME RECEIVABLE		0
PREPAID EXPENSES		8,588
RETURNED CHECKS		
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-LIFE ACCTS		5,221
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-OTHER		525
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>41,412</b>
<b>INVESTMENTS:</b>		
INVESTMENTS-MSSB-PR MED	\$	165,749
INVESTMENTS-MSSB-CD		352,998
INVESTMENTS-MSSB-CORP		1,503,750
INVESTMENTS-MSSB-LIFE MEMBERSHIP		706,602
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,729,098</b>
<b>PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT:</b>		
FIX ASSETS	\$	101,248
LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS		2,292
LESS ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		(78,663)
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>24,877</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$ 2,795,387</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES:</b>		
<b>ACCOUNTS PAYABLE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,147</b>
ACCRUED RENT		14,262
EMPLOYEE WITHHOLDINGS		0
ACCRUED PAYROLL		10,545
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>25,954</b>
DEFERRED REVENUE-MISC		5,833
RETIREMENT INSURANCE LIABILITY		102,000
RETIREMENT INSURANCE DISCOUNT		(29,213)
UNEARNED MEMBER DUES		98,934
UNEARNED LIFE MEMBER DUES		188,301
LIFE MEMBER-INSTALLMENTS DUE		7,786
<b>TOTAL OTHER LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>373,641</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>399,595</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES:</b>		
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,972,387</b>
<b>UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS-BD DESIGNATED</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>195,259</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,167,647</b>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>228,146</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,795,387</b>

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TRF Pension Account Information.....1-844-464-6777

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

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Please direct my contribution to the following program(s):

AMOUNT

PROGRAM

Scholarship Fund

A Hand Up Fund

Active Teacher Grants

Use Where Needed Most

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