

# The Jogger

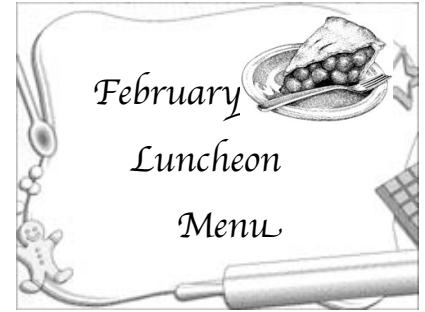
Serving Retired Teachers of Districts 300, 301, 303 and U-46

## EMERGENCY CHANGE - DATE & PLACE

### February 11th General Meeting

### Elgin Country Club -with Valet Parking

Social Hour - Luncheon - Business & Information - Program



February  
Luncheon  
Menu

**News from the Gavel:** A synopsis by Mick Williams



**LOST OUR LEASE!** Well not really, due to circumstances beyond our control, our reservation for the Elgin Holiday Inn was mis-assigned to a different month. The hotel was very sorry that a former employee made the error and has been most cooperative in future scheduling. We hope that the phone notification, posting here and on the website, [earta.org](http://earta.org), reaches all our members. \*\*\*\*\*

**Good News for EARTA:** The State Legislature has finally moved forward. Check the legislative report on page 3. **Great Big Thanks:** To our Vice-President Marilyn Hendry for her quick work at securing a new place for the February luncheon. It was no easy task. **Next:** A very big thanks to Kevin Jocious from Headed North, Inc. who designed and built our website. Kevin is a U-46 grad.. \*\*\*\*\*

**Check it Out!** A new tour opportunity and other social activities on page 3. **Also:** See the volunteer opportunities on page 2.

***“And now for something completely different!”***

You all are aware of the assault on our pensions and public pensions in general. Please take this matter very seriously as other states have or are considering roll backs of current pension benefits. Stay in contact with this situation through IRTA, TRS and EARTA publications and web sites: <http://trs.illinois.gov> -- <http://irtaonline.org> -- <http://earta.org/>.

**February Program:** Come see and hear our “Dynamic Duo” who will be performing “Music from the Heart”. Both Mary Ellen Kanies-Beckmann and Linda O’Connor are EARTA members. Mary Ellen will be doing the vocals and Linda will be accompanying her on the piano. Do plan to attend.

**NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE: 2/11/11**

AND

**CHANGE OF PLACE:**  
**ELGIN COUNTRY CLUB**

Social hour will begin at 11:30 with a cash bar and good company. Luncheon will be served at 12:00.

***Your menu will be:***

Roasted Red Pepper Soup  
Chicken Florentine  
over Orzo Pasta  
Rolls and Butter  
Tea, Coffee or Soda  
And Dessert will be:  
Cherry Pie A-la-mode  
\*\*\*\*\*

Reservations are due by  
**February 7th.**

Send your checks for \$21.00 per person which includes tax and gratuity payable to EARTA to :

Marilyn Hendry,

**Blocked to Preserve  
Member Privacy**

## **MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING**

The EARTA General Meeting was held on November 19, 2010, at the Porter's Pub, at the Bowes Country Club. Social time began at 11:30 A.M. President, Mick Williams, welcomed the group at 11:55 A.M. Mick also welcomed Bob Lyons from the TRS.

Mick reported on our Web site to be launched hopefully before Christmas. The address will be [www.earta.org](http://www.earta.org).

Mick presented the Retired Teacher of the Year to Karen Patterson.

Lunch was served following the Invocation by Duly Dulabaum.

Mick asked for any corrections on the Secretary's minutes. Adrienne Berna moved to accept the minutes as printed in the Jogger and Sue McIntyre seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Mick asked to have the treasurer's report accepted as printed in the Jogger. Coral Reinert moved and Marilyn Foster seconded that the report be accepted as printed. It was approved unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Corresponding Secretary** - Kay Lincicome, read a thank you from Eileen Moeller for the money donated by EARTA members to The Tanzanian Education Project. The total was over \$1,000.

**Social** - Coral Reinert, reported: (1) the Supper Club met on November 8th and that the next meeting will be on December 13th, at 5:30 P.M., at Hooper's. (2) the next trip will be Christmas in the City. Those going will receive a call with all of the particulars given to them.

**Community Participation/Blood Drive** - Cindy Lange, passed around a sign up sheet to help at the upcoming blood drives. Also, Sheridan School is asking for volunteers to listen to students read. If interested call the school for more information.

**Legislation** - Cliff Olson, distributed his report and highlighted some of this report. The full report is filed in the secretary's book

**Nomination Chair** - Adrienne Berna, reviewed the suggested slate of officers

announced at the September 2010 meeting. They were Recording Secretary - Irene Wedemeyer, and Vice President - Marilyn Hendry. Adrienne then asked for nominations from the floor. Since there were no such nominations, Adrienne moved that the slate of officers be accepted as presented. Coral Reinert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Installation of New officers** - Adrienne Berna. Adrienne installed Marilyn Hendry and Irene Wedemeyer.

### **State Level Reports:**

**Legislation:** Cliff Olson 's report is above.

Bob Lyons from TRS distributed information on the TRS system and read his report. His complete information is filed in the Secretary's book.

### **New Business:**

A. Mick asked us to be alert for Voter Voice in the next week and in the new year. It will have important information in it.

B. EARTA now has a P.O. Box. All correspondence needs to be sent to this new address as follows. Address is: EARTA, P.O. Box 5515, Elgin IL 60121. Then put attn.: to the person you wish to receive this mail.

C. IRTA Foundation Scholarship deadline is March 7, 2011. Forms are available at [irtaonline.org](http://irtaonline.org).

D. Next Luncheon will be February 18, 2011, at the Holiday Inn in Elgin. 2011 Directories should be available for pick up at the meeting.

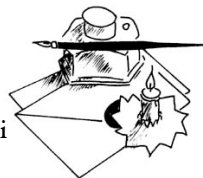
### **Meeting adjourned:**

**Entertainment:** A musical "trio" called the Starlites shared many musical memories with us. Richard Robertson, an EARTA member, played the tenor saxophone; Bruce Tietgen, the drums; and Ed Lescher on the keyboard and vocals.

Respectfully  
Submitted,

Susan Frederitzi

Secretary



## **Updates from the EARTA Board 01/19/11**

Minutes of the October 15th Board meeting were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report from Jean Jederman: The checking account balance as of January 1st was \$2,050.41 and the savings balance was \$11,149.53.

### **EARTA Volunteers:**

Heartland has blood drives at the following high schools:

Larkin - 2/16/11, 5/3/11

St Edward - 2/22/11, 4/26/11

At the Feb. luncheon, Cindy will have a sign-up sheet for the future blood drives.

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Huntington Learning Centers has jobs with pay for tutors. Contact Mr. Bill Callahan by phone 630-251-6001 or email: [bill@huntington-learning.com/](mailto:bill@huntington-learning.com/).

Bonnie Skapyak reported that she had been in contact with Judson University as a possible location for the April Pre - Retirement Program. More later...

Dave Brown reported our current membership is 418.

**If you have procrastinated or forgotten to renew your membership in EARTA, send your check for \$15.00 to Jean Jederman, 865 Wing St., Elgin, IL 60123.**

With the current attacks on our retirement/insurance by the legislators, it is very important to stay informed. EARTA and IRTA membership numbers count heavily when our legislators are informed about our concerns. Numbers are the support for our lobbyists. **RENEW NOW**

IRTA Regional 5 Director, Marilyn Foster and Coral Reinert will attend the IRTA Board of Directors meeting in Springfield April 26 & 27.-- IRTA Area 2 meeting at Randall Oaks March 21 or 28. State convention October 17 & 18.

### Updates from the EARTA Board 01/19/11 (con.)

The 2011 directory is expected to be available for pick up at the February general meeting provided that all of the pieces come together a week earlier than originally planned.

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Please continue to let Kay Lincicome, Corresponding Secretary, know when there's an illness or death among our membership. (see the 2010 Directory Page 31 for Kay's contact information)

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**Books Needed:** First Community Banks are collecting new or gently used books to donate to pre-school and grade school children. the collection will run the whole month of February.

Books can be dropped off at either bank location: 165 S. Randall or 50 Tyler Creek Plaza.

For further information contact Karen DeBack at 847-622-8824, ext. 1307

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21 Jan 2011

#### IRTA/TRS Legislative Report to EARTA Board

As the New York Times editorial stated ... "Illinois Wakes Up!" On the brink of bankruptcy, threatened with junk bond status and interest rates on borrowing of 15% or more, Illinois passed the income tax increase, cut spending, capped state spending for four (4) years at 2% and passed the bond sale to make our pension payment for 2010. So TRS no longer has to sell assets for cash flow.

Both Representative Keith Farnham and Senator Michael Noland voted for the bond sale for the TRS payment.

Just a reminder: TRS is **NOT** running out of money in 2018, This story is totally false. It is an impossibility because the fund would need to receive no state funding, no active teacher and school board funding and no earnings for eight (8) years ... a situation not likely to happen.

We have a new U.S. Representative Republican Randy Hultgren. In the past, he has been in favor of repeal of WEP/GPO. Congressman Aaron Schock's worksheets and explanation are on the IRTA online website.

TRs has a new Executive Director, Richard W. Ingram, who has 30 years of experience with public pensions. A full resume is displayed on the TRS website.

Your annuity payment for February 1, 2011, will reflect the new federal withholding tax rates for 2011.

The new Tier II retirement plan is effective on or after January 1, 2011 for new hires.

Teachers' pensions, tenure, and the right to strike are still under attack. The Chicago Tribune and the Chambers of Commerce as well as tax groups continue their propaganda. Health insurance also is one of their talking points.

Should you have any questions, please refer to the IRTA online website and feel free to direct questions to Jim Bachman, IRTA Executive Director. Also check out the TRS online website if you need more information..

Respectfully submitted, Cliff Olson---EARTA Legislative Chair  
2009-2010 Member IRTA Legislative Committee (Region 5)  
cjo\_8mpp@yahoo.com

**Information Services:** Maureen DeDobbelaere will provide a detailed sheet of information about the Sherman Health workshops held at the Center in Elgin. The goldenrod sheets will be available at the February luncheon.

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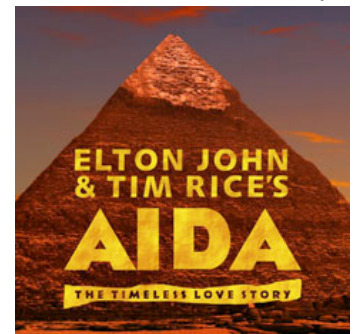
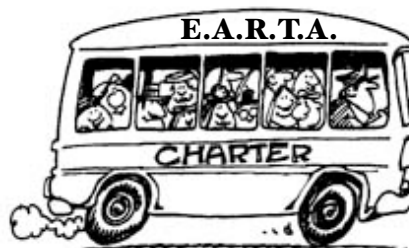
**Supper Club:** Met on Monday, December 12th at Hooper's Bar and Grill with several new attendees joining us! We met again on January 10th, but, sorry to say, we dropped from 16 to 8 members. If you missed last month, try for our next get-together on February 14th. Bring your favorite valentine, if you have one. If not, come on along anyway! We always have a good time!

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**New Tour:** On **April 6th, 2011**, we will go to Drury Lane Oakbrook for Luncheon and Show. We will be seeing Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA. It is not an opera. It's truly a pop musical with spoken dialogue and all kinds of recognizable song types: urban-based rhythm and blues, gospel inspired songs, ballads, and, of course, "Crocodile Rock songs".

We will meet at the Country Inn Suites on Randall Road behind Jimmy's Charhouse at 10:00 A.M. and return about 5:00 P.M. We will have a choice of entre, but it's not available at this time. The total cost will be \$69.00. Please remit your check made out to the EARTA and mail to Coral Reinert, **Blocked to**

**Preserve Privacy**



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THE JOGGER / EARTA  
P.O. Box 5515  
Elgin, Illinois 60121

**Nonprofit Org.**  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Elgin, IL**  
**Permit No. 2009**

**DATED MATERIAL**