

The Jogger

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

November 19th General Meeting Porter's Pub at Bowes Golf & Country Club

Social Hour - Luncheon - Business & Information - Program
(See directions on Page 3)

News from the Gavel: A synopsis by Mick Williams

I wish I had the skill of prophecy. I could tell you in the middle of October what the election outcome in November would mean to all of us. I have no such skill and by the time you receive your copy of this Jogger, I may be very glad I did not know. For those who still have the opportunity to vote after you have read this, I urge you to strongly consider every candidate's stand on pensions and education funding. Hopefully, by the November luncheon, we will have benefit of IRTA and TRS analysis of the effects the actual election results will have on our future as retirees and the future of all teachers in Illinois.



"And now for something completely different!"

Good News for EARTA: At the October Board meeting, the Board of Directors voted to fund the creation and maintenance of a local web site for EARTA. If all goes as planned, the site could be up before the December holidays. Once up, those of you who have an email address in our directory will receive a notice directing you to the site. Others may find the site through IRTA. While this step forward has meant a significant start-up cost, the yearly minimal costs will provide a substantial increase in our ability to keep our members informed. In the years to come, we will be able to realize great financial benefits from reduced costs in postage and other printings.

November Program: A musical "trio" called The Starlites will be sharing many musical memories with us. Richard Robertson, an EARTA member, plays the tenor saxophone; Bruce Tietgen, the drums; and Ed Lescher on the keyboard and vocals. It's a great group, so do plan to attend.



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:
Roast Turkey & Stuffing
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Individual House Salad
Green Beans Almandine
Cranberry Sauce
Tea, Coffee or Soda
And Dessert will be:
Apple Pie
with
Whipped Cream

Reservations are due by
November 11th.

Send your checks for
\$21.50 per person which
includes tax and gratuity
payable to EARTA to :
Marilyn Hendry,

Blocked to preserve
member privacy

MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The EARTA General Meeting was held on September 17, 2010, at the Elgin Country Club. Social time began at 11:30 A.M. President, Mick Williams, welcomed everyone at 11:55 A.M.

Lunch was served following the Invocation by Mick Williams.

Mick asked for any corrections to the Secretary's minutes. They were approved as written.

The treasurer, Jean Jederman stated the report will be printed in the next Jogger.

Corresponding Secretary, Kay Lincicome, asked that people inform her when there are members that should be receiving cards.

Committee Reports:

Community Service: Cindy Lange passed around a sign up sheet to help at the upcoming blood drives.

Social Committee - Coral Reinert - Coral reported that the next Supper Club meeting will be on October 11th at Hoopers.

Coral reported that several people will be going on the first overnight trip to the Amish Acres Historic Farm and Heritage Resort in Nappanee, Indiana. Coral will be in contact with the people going for last minute updates.

A Chicago Christmas in the City Tour is planned for Friday, December 3rd. Many people have already signed up for this tour.

Charity - Coral Reinert - reported that a donation of \$200 has been made to the Elgin Children's Chorus, to help keep the Chorus affordable to all who wish to participate. Coral pointed out that our support will be recognized in their programs, on their web site and in their chorister newsletter.

Legislation: Cliff Olson distributed his report and highlighted some of the important items. The full report is filed in the secretary's book.

Nominations Interim - Adrienne Berna - reported that the nominating committee's suggested slate of officers are: Vice President - Marilyn Hendry; and Secretary - Irene Wedemeyer. These offices will be voted on at our November 19th meeting, with nominations being open at time of election.

New Business:

October 27th : TRS will sponsor a meeting for educators close to retiring at 4:30 P.M. at The Elgin High School Auditorium.

Next Luncheon meeting is November 19th at Porter's Pub in the Bowes Creek Country Club.

Program: Coral introduced Eileen Moeller, Adrienne Berna's granddaughter, who spoke about her trip to Tanzania, East Africa. She recounted some of her work and experiences while there. Eileen is helping her friend start a nonprofit group, The Tanzanian Education Project, which includes three partner schools, to aid the people of this impoverished African nation and help these schools become self sustainable. Eileen distributed a brochure describing the project and details of each of the three partner schools. This brochure is filed in the secretary's book. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M..

Respectfully
Submitted,

Susan Frederitzi
Secretary



Updates from the EARTA Board 10/15

Minutes of the August 20th Board meeting were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report from Jean Jederman: The checking account balance as of October 1st was \$2,331.95 and the savings balance was \$10,916.18.

EARTA helped at the Larkin Blood Drive on Sept 29. There was a good turnout of students.

Heartland has blood drives at the following high schools:

Larkin - 12/3/10, 2/16/11, 5/3/11

St Edward - 12/16/10, 2/22/11, 4/26/11

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

We have not heard if and when South Elgin High School will be having blood drives.

Bonnie Skapyak reported that she had been assured by the phone service that a delay was allowing for answering machines. To get a missed message repeated, call 877-698-3261 from the phone where received and our message to you will be available for a short period of time after the original call.

Dave Brown reported our current membership is up to 448.

If you have chosen annual renewals for IRTA and/or EARTA they are not based on a school year calendar. They are based on the actual year and need to be renewed before January of the coming year. A check made out to EARTA for both the state and local organizations can be sent to Jean Jederman, treasurer. She will forward the state dues to IRTA

IRTA Regional **5** Director, Marilyn Foster and Coral Reinert will attend the IRTA Board of Directors meeting in Springfield October 26 & 27.

New Members / Renewals / Changes

Blocked to preserve member privacy

NOTE: Please continue to let Kay Lincicome (Corresponding Secretary), Directory Page 31, know when there's an illness or death among our membership.

Program Update:

Adrienne Berna gave the Board an update from her granddaughter, Eileen Moeller. Eileen presented our September program detailing her work in the village of Banju A near the east coast of Tanzania. Eileen wishes to thank all of those who gave donations to the project. She collected more than \$1,000.00 at our luncheon.

Directions to Porter's Pub : The pub is located at the Bowes Country Club 1250 Bowes Creek Blvd.. Take Bowes Road west of Randall Road two miles to Bowes Creek Blvd.. Follow the Blvd. south to the parking lot at the country club.

FYI:

At the August 20th, 2010 EARTA Board meeting a motion was passed unanimously by the Board members present setting the following policy:
"EARTA will not endorse political candidates

CHARITY: *A very nice thank you letter was received from Ann E. Kepley, Executive Director of the Elgin Children's Chorus, for our donation of \$200 which will help enrich the lives of area children through their extraordinary music education program.*

Supper Club: *We met on Monday, October 11th, with nine attendees! We will meet again at Hooper's Bar and Grill on Monday, November 8th. If you missed last month, try for this get-together. We always have a good time!*

Tour To Amish Acres: Our First EARTA Overnight tour to Amish Acres was a great success! The weather was beautiful, the scenic ride to Indiana was gorgeous, the food was delicious, the tours were most informative, the entertainment enjoyable, and the fellowship delightful. Sorry more members couldn't join us. Maybe next time.

Christmas in the City Tour - UPDATE: Since we have had an overwhelming response to this tour, I managed to reserve more spaces on the coach. We have 36 passengers at this time and we can try for five or six more. See below for details.

Chicago

Christmas in the City

TOUR!!



Friday, December 3rd, 2010



We are planning a tour into Chicago to view Macy's windows, visit Kris Kringle Market, shop, have dinner in the Walnut Room and enjoy all the holiday decorations and lights. We will leave Elgin at 1:30 p.m. & return about 10:00 p.m. Friday, December 3rd.

The cost will be \$69.00. A check made out to EARTA and sent to Coral Reinert,

Blocked to preserve privacy

will be your reservation. If interested, please reply immediately as there are only 5 or 6 spaces available.

Blocked to preserve privacy

THE JOGGER
1076 South Lancaster Circle
South Elgin, IL 60177

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

DATED MATERIAL

October 15, 2010 update continued:

15 Oct 2010

IRTA/TRS Legislative Report from Cliff Olson for the EARTA Board Meeting

The Chicago Tribune continues to post full page ads attacking the pension debt and promoting a website: IllinoisIsBroke.com. The ads state the “unfunded retirement-related obligations for Illinois public employees are now over \$130 Billion ... about \$25,000 per Illinois household.”

Senator Chris Lauzen believes an actuarial emergency should be declared and active teachers’ future pension benefits should be reduced.

Senator Bill Brady, candidate for governor, believes education funding should be cut by \$1 Billion and the state should borrow \$50 Billion to resolve the budget fiasco. Future generations would pay for the disaster.

Governor Quinn believes in funding public education with an income tax increase and that no more pension cuts can be legally made because of the constitution and present laws.

The battle lines are clearly drawn. The state needs to fund public education and its pension obligations. I believe we have had enough of cuts and debt.

Representative Keith Farnham was endorsed by IRTA and Senator Noland has been supportive of public education.

Remember to VOTE, Early voting continues thru Oct 28th. Local sites include Gail Borden Library, Elgin Township Office on McLean Blvd and City Hall on Dexter Court.

Should you have any questions, please refer to the IRTA online website and feel free to direct questions to Jim Bachman, IRTA Executive Director.

Respectfully submitted,
Cliff Olson EARTA Legislative Chair
2009-2010 Member IRTA Legislative Committee (Region 5)

Blocked to preserve member privacy