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The Chalkboard

The Official Newsletter of the ISTA-Retired

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2020 ISTA Foundation Retired Scholarship Recipients

The ISTA-Retired Scholarship Committee selected two recipients for the 2020 ISTA Foundation Retired Scholarships – Emily Dow and Petra Hemphill. Each recipient has received a scholarship for \$1,500.55 as a result of the three fundraising opportunities this year and donations from ISTA-Retired chapters and individual ISTA members. The ISTA-Retired Statewide Council was pleased to meet and congratulate the recipients at the first virtual meeting of the statewide council on July 22.



Emily Dow, nominated by her grandfather Frank Horvath of Valparaiso, is a graduate of York High School in Elmhurst, Illinois, and is pursuing an economics education at the University of Chicago. Excelling in school, she took part in school and community activities. A member of speech and math teams and leader in the Economics Club, Emily participated in a national competition at the New York Federal Reserve and interned at a non-profit community law firm with a focus on local government accountability. She also served as a volunteer member of the Elmhurst Peer Jury sponsored by local police to help juvenile non-violent offenders. Playing cello for eight years, Emily was principal cellist of her high school orchestra, the Illinois Music Education Association All State Orchestra and the District 1 Honors Orchestra. She teaches private lessons to elementary and middle school cellists and aspires to continue playing at the University of Chicago with the Symphony Orchestra and participate in the Chamber Music Program.



Petra Hemphill, nominated by her mother Wendi Hemphill, is a graduate of New Prairie High School in La Porte, Indiana. Active in her school and community, she served as a dedicated library aid and book club member as well as a youth mentor helping young students cope with school and home issues. Petra was a founding member of the STAND Club that focuses on issues related to discrimination. She also worked at an elementary school after school program and was a community preschool teacher. Through involvement with future health care professionals, Petra shadowed a licensed clinical social worker and a pediatric speech-language pathologist in home visitations and witnessed how much environment affects a child. She believes creating a positive change in the community and equal education for all students can reduce the school-to-prison pipeline. Petra plans to attend Drake University to major in psychology and then on to graduate school to focus on clinical psychology.

Diana Singleton, Scholarship Committee Chair, ISTA-Retired



From the Chair



Rod Ellcessor, ISTA-Retired State Chair

Speaking for myself, these last 20 years have been the most shocking and clearly unpredictable in my seven decades of life. The 21st century began with a failure of our electoral system, an attack on our country and an unprovoked foreign war begun by our country. We are currently enduring a presidency, a pandemic virus, recognizing that Black Lives Matter and an economy that will frame the values and future of generations. Those actions and changes will be the test of our human spirit. Charles Darwin said, "It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change."

Our association has been responding to these changes in the best possible way. During the last several months, we have had all meetings virtually, including our state and national Representative Assemblies (RA). Were these meetings different and challenging? Yes, of course. We all are severely missing human contact and eagerly anticipate the time when we can break bread together.

We are headed toward an election on Nov. 3 that will clearly help end negativity, place positive actions first and vanquish despotic rudeness. We are encouraging our seniors to request absentee ballots early and to send those ballots back right away (see page six). The NEA delegates voted to endorse Joe Biden for President by mail-in, secret ballot following the virtual NEA RA. You were represented by Sarah Borgman, Ginger Calhoun, Rod Ellcessor, Damon Moore, Kathy Parks and Roger Sharp. Each delegate provided the Retired State Council with a report of the Assembly at the July 22nd meeting. We have been very responsive to change, and our survival as an association will continue as it has since 1854. Thank you so much for your membership, and I look forward to seeing you soon.



Retired

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ista-in.org

Rod Ellcessor, State Chair
Jan Hayes, The Chalkboard Editor

Information on ISTA-Retired chapters, officers, meeting locations and activities can be found on the ISTA website, ista-in.org. If you are not a member of a local retired chapter and would like to be, contact 844-ASK-ISTA or ISTA-Retired Chair Rod Ellcessor at (317) 501-9508 for specifics of the chapter nearest you.

Membership

If you know someone who worked in education and has now retired, be sure to invite them to join ISTA-Retired.

Memberships are payable via check, electronic transfer, credit card or plain old hard cash!

A Zooming Success - Virtual ISTA RA

The 2020 ISTA RA was held June 3, 2020, via Zoom. ISTA President Keith Gambill called the assembly to order with a final count of 275 delegates. Prior to the RA, ISTA-Retired met virtually to present the budget and proposed by-laws. The budget was approved and all by-laws were passed. By-laws dealt with date changes to better align with the school year and NEA language. ISTA-Retired elected by acclamation the following representatives to the ISTA Standing Committees and Board of Directors:

- Kathy Parks – Issues & Concerns Committee (8/1/2020-7/31/2022)
- Terry Tafflinger – PPS Committee (8/1/2020 -7/31/2022)
- ISTA Board of Directors – Ginger Calhoun (unexpired term 4/25/2020 – 7/31/2022)



2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and NEA RA

Innovation, Dedication, and Celebration Remotely Achieved!

The summer of COVID-19 RA will go down in history as a challenge met by NEA leaders, staff and members. Beginning with ISTA caucus meetings, the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting, and right through the post-NEA RA information sessions, delegates proved that they would not be deterred from doing the business we hold as vital to our history and future — all virtually. Thank goodness for technology!

ISTA-Retired delegates learned protocols for the virtual proceedings online June 15 at the ISTA caucus. As retired delegates, we are proud of our state association leaders and staff for making an awkward process as efficient and fun as possible. Kudos to ISTA President Keith Gambill, the leadership team, and staff for previewing the following:

- Strategic Plan & Budget
- RA Items of Business
- and NEA Legislative Program

First time NEA RA delegates and veterans were provided all the information and spirit needed to prepare for the virtual experience.

June 29 was a busy, productive day with the ISTA delegation's caucus and NEA-Retired Annual Meeting's first session. In the afternoon, our own Sarah Borgman as NEA-Retired president gaveled delegates into session and guided a full agenda of celebrations for outgoing NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia, recipients of NEA-Retired awards and scholarships and streamlined business items. The Distinguished Service Award was presented posthumously to NEA-Retired President Tom Curran and his brothers thanked delegates for honoring their sibling.

June 30 was filled with greetings from NEA officers Becky Pringle and Princess Moss as well as important information about the 2020 presidential campaign and our role in the success of our endorsed candidate. Delegates heard from all candidates on the ballots for NEA-Retired elected

offices, including our Sarah Borgman running for re-election as NEA-Retired President. Due to being separated by miles, delegates voted by paper ballot via USPS with the following results: Sarah Borgman was re-elected NEA-Retired President (Congratulations, Sarah!); Becky Pringle, Princess Moss and Noel Candelaria were elected NEA president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer, respectively. Delegates also donated to the NEA Fund via an online auction of donated objects, services and gift cards.

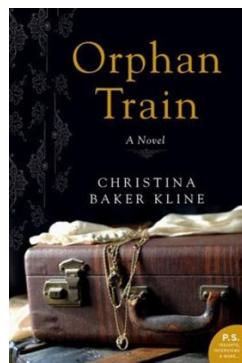
On July 2-3, the NEA RA included many of the cherished activities and important business functions delegates experience when meeting in-person with 8,000 fellow professional educators and friends of our great public schools. An RA without hugs and fond hellos was hard, but delegates stayed on task representing, considering and acting on vital issues. NEA Executive Director Kim Anderson inspired and challenged those present to continue our advocacy for our students, colleagues and fellow Americans who have suffered from poverty, sexism and racism. Departing NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia filled everyone with love, pride and confidence in our shared power to lead our communities and country to greater heights in these troubled times for our students, colleagues and association. Delegates also heard from Vice President Biden, Stacey Abrams, Greta Thunberg and winners of the NEA Teacher of the Year, ESP of the Year and Higher Educator of the Year.

Start to finish, the 2020 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and NEA RA were productive, uplifting and affirming of members' love for our profession and Association.

2020 ISTA-Retired Delegates
Sarah Borgman, Ginger Calhoun,
Rod Ellcessor, Damon Moore,
Kathy Parks and Roger Sharp



Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline



Book Review

This is a novel based on actual history of immigrant children who were left alone when parents died or simply could not take care of their children.

Society's way of helping was to put them on a train and at various stops in the Midwest, and they were paraded about for families to choose. Some were well treated and others simply became child labor.

This story is a tale of two different orphans whose paths cross — one from an orphan train in years past, Vivian, and a modern-day orphan, Molly. Both have experienced the same traumas. Molly is a young rebellious teen who is on probation for

stealing a library book. Her penalty of community service takes her to the home of Vivian who is now in her sunset years. Vivian needs someone to help her sort through many boxes of paraphernalia. It is during this time that she eventually tells her story as they unpack one item after another from Vivian's past.

While Molly is quite negative in everything she says and does, Vivian finally gets her to open up. It isn't long until Vivian realizes that Molly is very intelligent, obviously a reader and is quite a techie. This latter skill eventually helps Vivian find answers to her troubled past and Molly finds direction for her future.

Sarah Borgman, Wakarusa, Indiana



Recipe Corner

Healthy Crunch Tuna Salad

1 5-ounce can water packed tuna, drained
2 cups finely chopped green or red cabbage
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup finely chopped chives or green onion
1 tablespoon reduced-sugar dried cranberries, finely chopped

1 tablespoon light mayonnaise
3 tablespoons plain non-fat Greek yogurt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon Dijon mustard
salt and freshly ground pepper

In a medium mixing bowl, break up tuna with a fork and mix thoroughly with cabbage. Stir in chives, cranberries, mayonnaise, yogurt, and mustard. Taste then salt and pepper to taste. Eat immediately or refrigerate up to two days. Prep time - 10 minutes / Servings - 2

If you follow Weight Watchers: Green = 3 pts, Blue = 2 pts, Purple = 2 pts, Old Plan = 4 pts

Nutrition Facts -

Amount per serving (1 cup) Calories 160 Calories from fat 31
Fat 3.4 g Carbohydrates 11 g Fiber 2.2 g Protein 22 g

Martha McKinnon, Simple Nourished Living

Looking Ahead ISTA-RETIRED CALENDAR

Due to concern for the health and safety of members, all in-person ISTA meetings and events have been suspended. Retired chapters' virtual zoom meetings are listed below. When ISTA in-person meetings and events resume, they will again be published in the ISTA-Retired Calendar .

NOTE: To participate in the virtual meetings, members must email the chapter contact listed below a request to participate and they will then receive an email invitation with a link and instructions for joining the Zoom meeting. All times local.

SEPTEMBER 2020

- 8 5 p.m., Hamilton County, Virtual (Zoom) meeting, Email chapter contact Roger Sharp, rsharp2921@aol.com, your request to participate, (317) 877-6000
- 15 10 a.m., St. Joe County, Virtual (Zoom) meeting, Program - Discussion of Goals for 2020 and Political Action, Email chapter contact Jerry Ervin, jervin007@gmail.com, by 9/8/2020 your request to participate, (574) 231-1924
- 17 1 p.m., Lake County, Virtual (Zoom) meeting, Email chapter contact Dennis Keithley, dkiu@aol.com, your request to participate, (219) 794-4672

OCTOBER 2020

- 7 11 a.m., Greater Indianapolis, Virtual (Zoom) chapter meeting, Program - Bob Blaemire, author of *Birch Bayh Making a Difference*, Email chapter contact Al Wolting, alwolting@hotmail.com, your request to participate, (317) 456-4036

NOVEMBER 2020

- 10 5 p.m., Hamilton County, Virtual (Zoom) Meeting, Email chapter contact Roger Sharp, rsharp2921@aol.com, your request to participate, (317) 877-6000
- 17 10 a.m., St. Joe County, Virtual (Zoom) meeting, Program - Election Results and Legislative Preview, Email chapter contact Jerry Ervin, jervin007@gmail.com, by 11/9/2020 your request to participate, (574) 231-1924

DECEMBER 2020

- 2 11 a.m., Greater Indianapolis, Virtual (Zoom) chapter meeting, Program - North Central High School Choir Holiday Presentation, Email chapter contact Al Wolting, alwolting@hotmail.com, your request to participate, (317) 456-4036

How do I apply to vote absentee in the November election?



- As a registered voter complete an application requesting an absentee ballot at indianavoters.in.gov and submit it as directed as soon as possible. The completed application requesting a vote-by-mail ballot must be in the possession of election officials by 11:59 .m., Oct. 22, 2020 (12 days before the election) for the November 2020 election.
- Vote by mailing your completed absentee ballot. County election officials must receive your completed absentee-by-mail ballot by noon (local prevailing time) on Election Day, November 3, 2020. County election officials must have possession of the ballot by this deadline.
- Make sure your vote counts. Go to the above website and apply to request your absentee ballot TODAY.