Aa Blo Co Dd Ee Ff Gg Hhli Jj Klk LIMm Nh Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu W Www Xx Yy Zz

# The Chalkboard

The Official Newsletter of the ISTA-Retired

Volume 14, Issue 4
August/September 2025

# 2025 ISTA Foundation Retired Scholarships

The ISTA-Retired awarded two \$2,500 scholarships at their annual awards luncheon of the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council on July 22 in Indianapolis.



**Carson Gibson**, son of member Deena Gibson of North Gibson Education Association, is a graduate of Evansville Central High School. His experience taking difficult courses, attaining the rank of Eagle Scout, and holding numerous leadership positions in his extracurricular activities have equipped him well to pursue his postsecondary and career goals. According to his former Scoutmaster, between Carson's enthusiasm of and leadership within the scouts, juggled with his participation in high school band and athletics, student council, and other academics, Carson proves to be a well-rounded, well-versed young man. His English teacher shared that Carson does not shy away from a challenge; he is a strong leader with excellent interpersonal communication skills. Carson is seeking a career in Constitutional law, with a specialization in First Amendment defense, at Belmont University. A trip to Washington, D.C. with his Scout troop last

summer helped him determine the direction of his college career. He visited the National Archives and was able to see the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. It was at this moment that Carson knew his career had to be based upon protecting the ideals found in these charters. When finished with his education, Carson hopes to run his own practice, helping people across the nation fight for their First Amendment Rights. Congratulations and the best of luck to you, Carson!



Aurilia Moulton, daughter of member Judd Moulton of Delaware Community CTA, is a graduate of Yorktown High School and will attend Ball State University majoring in Elementary Education with the goal of becoming a reading intervention teacher. She credits incredible teachers during her early elementary years with helping her to learn how to read. She gives special credit to her fourth-grade teacher who made it a priority to help Aurilia. This teacher made sure that Aurilia understood what was going on and did not feel overwhelmed by her lessons. In middle school Aurilia was an honor student specifically in the language arts area. Her high school principal witnessed Aurilia's growth into an exemplary student, leader, and contributor to their school's community. Beyond academics, she shined as a natural leader who was deeply committed to serving her

community. She embodies the qualities of a lifelong learner and compassionate leader, always striving to make a positive impact. Experiencing her teacher's positive effect on her as a reader and learner inspired Aurilia and gave her the overwhelming desire to join the field of education and give back to students. At Ball State she feels she will be able to learn the best practices and methods for teaching students how to read. In her own words, Aurilia stated that she is thrilled with what her future holds - to become a teacher and be a part of the reading journey of students in years to come. Best wishes and much luck to you, Aurilia!

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#### From the Chair



Rod Ellcessor, ISTA-Retired State Chair

As we move further into the year, I am excited to share some updates and events coming our way. The ISTA-Retired Conference will be held on October 8th and 9th, and it promises to be an engaging and enriching experience for all attendees.

This year's conference will feature a diverse array of presenters who are leaders in their respective fields. Among the distinguished speakers are: UniServ Director Veronica Hobbs, with her experience and insight into the program True Colors; Arizona Retired leader Janice Dwosh, known for her Racial and Social Justice knowledge; NEA Members Benefits Representative, Guy Kendal-Freas, with information on member benefits; Attorney Eric Hylton, with legal perspectives pertinent to retired educators; Senator Rod Pol, with legislative updates that affect our community; ISTA staff member Rita Taylor, along with other experts, with contributions to the conference; and a Retired Communications Committee presentation.

This conference is an excellent opportunity for professional development, networking, and staying informed about the latest trends and issues affecting retired educators. I encourage all retired chapter leaders to attend and take part actively. Look for information about the conference and how to register in August.

We faced unbelievable actions in the Legislature this past session. Our pension bill, HB 1221, was changed four times traveling between the House and Senate. It ended up in the Conference Committee with

significant reduction in House Bill 1221 in its introduced form. You can expect a 13th Check in September with a five percent reduction from last year's amount. We are disappointed that House Bill 1221 as introduced did not happen but will work hard next session to set up a permanent solution.

Once again, thank you for your membership and support of ISTA.



150 W. Market St., Suite 900 Indianapolis, IN 46204-2875 844-ASK-ISTA 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, istain.org. If you are not a member of a local retired chapter and would like to be, contact 844-ASK-ISTA or 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!



## Plan Now for Peak Fall Travel

With fall approaching, don't forget to plan time for yourself.

It's the perfect time to book fall travel and take advantage of savings. NEAMB members can save up to 60% on hotels, car rentals, cruises and more with your Travel Dollars.

Visit neamb.com for member-exclusive deals.

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# **NEA-Retired Annual Meeting**

The 2025 NEA-Retired Annual Meeting was held June 29 and 30 in Portland, Oregon. President Anita Gibson shared NEA-Retired's new logo and colors - blue and orange. Over 300 NEA-Retired members and guests attended. Indiana delegates were (L-R) Roger Sharp, Jan Hayes, Terry Tafflinger, Ginger Calhoun, Sarah Borgman, and Rod Ellcessor. This year's theme was "Serving Public Education and Our Democracy".



The signing of the Social Security Fairness Act was celebrated by the delegates and became law on January 5, 2025. The new law allows public servants in 26 states - including educators in 15 states - to finally get the Social Security benefits they earned. A number of retired delegates who have begun getting checks stood. The impact of this law was shown by one member who received survivor benefits from her husband of \$44,000.

Indiana was runner-up for the Tom Wellman Spirit of Membership Award. Indiana's Membership Committee



had no idea that the Pre-Retired Seminar programs presented throughout our state would be selected as runner-up to the national winner. It was stated that only eight points separated the top three entries.

Pictured receiving the Spirit of Membership award are Terry Tafflinger, Jan Hayes, Rod Ellcessor, and Ginger Calhoun from NEA-Retired's Anita Gibson, Jean Dobash and Marilyn Warner.

In conclusion there were eight Bylaw Amendments proposed with all being withdrawn or ruled out of order. Twelve New Business Items were proposed

with three withdrawn, six adopted and three defeated. Only one Standing Rule Amendment was proposed. NEA Retired increased the number of Jack Kinnaman Scholarships from five to six. The silent auction raised \$6,950 and the live auction raised \$12,615 for PAC.

# **ISTA Summer Conference**

The ISTA Summer Conference was held July 15-16 this year at Embassy Suites, Noblesville. Keynote speakers were Gladys Fatima Marquez and Vince Loenz. Gladys is a high school bilingual English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher with over 20 years of classroom experience. She has served on the NEA Executive Committee and was past chair of the NEA Hispanic Caucus. She organized nationwide events to raise awareness about the plight of immigrants in America. Since 2012 Vince has taught at Kokomo High School and earned numerous accolades, including the 2025 Clyde Motts Memorial Award for Outstanding High School Science Teaching, Honorable Mentions in the 2023 Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Education and recognition as the 2024 Kokomo High School Teacher of the Year.

The conference had breakout sessions throughout the two days. ISTA-Retired presented the program "Creating the Retirement You Would Like to Enjoy Later" both days. Presenting were Rod Ellcessor, ISTA-Retired Council Chair, Roger Sharp, ISTA-Retired member and Roni Embry, ISTA Public Education Advocacy Coordinator. Also included was a brief introduction to the statewide pre-retirement seminars available to members upon request. Ginger Calhoun, ISTA-Retired Council Vice Chair, Jan Hayes and Terry Tafflinger Retired Membership Committee members shared pre-retirement seminar information. The seminar presenters address real estate planning, elder law, Social Security, Medicare, and INPRS.

The conference ended with lunch and the presentation of the ISTA Hoosier Educator of the Year award to Vince Lorenz. Members and their guests later attended the Awards and Scholarships Recognition Dinner that evening where three ISTA-Retired members were among those honored.

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# BROKEN COUNTRY by Clare Leslie Hall



Young Beth and Gabriel bond in their early lives and develop a romance that binds them together forever...or so they planned. Then a grave misunderstanding separates them in their college days, each seeking a goal or leaving a goal behind.

**Book Review** On the rebound Beth marries a quiet, supportive farmer and together they raise a son on a sheep farm. All moves smoothly until Gabriel suddenly appears with his son whose dog attacks the sheep. This triggers an entire flow of mixing love with a drunken brother-in-law and

rekindled love. Beth is forced to choose between the woman she was and the woman she has become. Dangerous secrets and latent love do not make a good mix. She is torn between her husband, who loves her unconditionally, and her old flame who has never stopped loving her. When asked to be a nanny to Gabriel's son, Beth is well aware of a multitude of reasons why she should not and what this action might lead to. One action will snowball into another.

If you liked Where the Crawdads Sing, then this is a book for you. It has the same mystique and keeps the reader guessing until the very end.

Sarah Borgman, Wakarusa, Indiana

# 2025 David Hanna Golden Touch Award Recipients







Rod Elicessor

**Deb Marcum** 

This year ISTA honored three ISTA-Retired members at the Awards and Scholarships Recognition Dinner on July 16, 2025. ISTA-Retired Council Vice Chair Ginger Calhoun introduced the 2025 David Hanna Golden Touch recipients – Judy Briganti, Rod Ellcessor, and Deb Marcum – with awards presented by ISTA President Jennifer Smith-Margraf. This award acknowledges outstanding contributions of retired members who have demonstrated

strong leadership. Nominations may be made by any member, retired chapter, local, or District Council for the annual award and must include supportive materials such as new clips, newletters, pictures, etc.

# We're Back!

With the help of a grant from NEA that provided funding to revitalize retired chapters, Jackson-Scott-Washington retired chapter (JSW) is coming back strong under the leadership of Brenda Weddell. They have now held two meetings with the first meeting in Salem and the second in Seymour. Work on the summer mailing to all potential members in the three counties has begun. The plan is to rotate meetings between the three counties with lunch and a program held at a designated place and time. Excitement is brewing to see old friends, discuss public education issues, and advocate for our kids, our schools, and our future.



**Jackson-Scott-Washington meeting** in Seymour, Indiana

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# Know your Officers Vice Chair Ginger Calhoun

Active, involved, kind, and friendly are accurate words to describe our current Vice Chair of the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council. That seems to be her history from the 'get-go." Ginger was inspired to enter the teaching profession by her impressive elementary science teacher. Although Ginger chose teaching at the secondary level, it never hindered her potential choices of Business, Home Economics, and Social Studies. Ginger was involved in Student Council and as a Senior Class sponsor numerous years. Who could forget class trips and helping a senior graduate by passing a class he has taken three times? Ah, memories! Her career lasted 39 years at Argos with one year of subbing.

Ginger went to Evansville to begin her studies, completed her bachelor's degree at Indiana State University, and received her master's degree at Indiana University. Working on her degree in Terre Haute was not the only beginning there. It was here while unloading her car at the dorm that a young Gary Calhoun offered assistance. He remained offering assistance for two years before they began a near 50 years of marriage! The Calhouns not only had education in mind (Gary as a lawyer), but a St. Bernard puppy and later a bond over bulldogs which remains with Ginger even today. They also shared a love of antique cars going to various shows over the years. A '64 convertible was a definite favorite.

Being a member of DAR for many years has also kept Ginger busy, which continues today in a local chapter.

Then came the time when Ginger began her professional life, better known as Association work. And why not get involved? The example was already there: a mom who was a UAW member and a dad who was a Teamster! It was in just her third year of teaching that Ginger became her local president, a position she held for the rest of her career! She recalled an interesting anecdote that while serving as local president, she did informational picketing at a Board member's home; it didn't matter he was her family doctor!

Ginger chaired District Council meetings for many years, also representing I-F on various state committees. Representation at the ISTA Assembly and then at NEA Representative Assemblies followed, including into Retired representative at both. We know her now as the ISTA-Retired Vice Chair and current representative for Retired on the ISTA Board. She also is president of the 1-F Retired Chapter, a fun leader who makes retiring beyond interesting!

To know Ginger is to know she loves to cook, bake, and create ethnic specialties, including egg rolls as well as Italian, Mexican, and Asian dishes. This led to her doubling her kitchen area to accommodate teaching classes there and entertaining twelve at one table. Cake decorating became a favorite leading to her making her inlaws 50th anniversary cake. No one would be surprised to know Ginger has a HUGE cookie cutter collection, as well as apple memorabilia.

When asked about favorite places to visit and/or vacation, Ginger said that she likes to go wherever friends and family are. That tells us about her big heart and kind spirit! Thank you, Ginger, for your leadership and your far-reaching friendship.

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# St. Joseph County celebrates ISTA-Retired

Members of the St. Joseph County Retired Chapter recently sponsored a Wild Birthday party at the Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana, to celebrate the 30th year of ISTA-Retired. Zoo Educator Amanda Brunson discussed the zoo and provided encounters with a pancake tortoise and three-banded armadillo. Each attendee also received lunch and tickets for the zoo attractions.

Amanda Brunson showing armadillo to Nancy Smith and Jerry Ervin.



One of nightly illuminated lanterns at Potawatomi Zoo each spring.



(L-R) Front: Nancy Smith, Zoo Educator Brunson, Beth Grenert, and Zone 1 Coordinator Michelle Blough. Back: Becky Van Huffel, Diane Torok, Mary Ann Dentino, and Jerry Ervin.

# 1-B Retired Studebaker Museum/Oliver Mansion Field Trip

1-B Retired members and guests visited the Oliver Mansion, named Capshaholm, in South Bend for a guided tour and then wandered from exhibit to exhibit throughout the History and the Studebaker Museums...all located on one campus within easy walking distance of one another.

Capshaholm, one of three historic homes, was built in 1895-96, and was once owned by the industrialist J.D. Oliver, who built a successful career around receiving a patent in 1857 for "An Improvement in Chilling Plowshares". The 38-room mansion, including 14 bedrooms and 9 bathrooms, is in perfect condition. All furnishings are original and were donated when the last family member moved out in the late 1970s. One of the first homes built in South Bend with electricity, it is made of Indiana fieldstone. The mansion and two-acre Italianate gardens are listed on the National Register

of Historic Places and registered as an American Treasure.

Next, we moved on to The History Museum and the Studebaker Museum where we visited permanent and visiting exhibits. Some hopped into this 1950 Champion Convertible for a photo. Creation of this famous "Bulletnose" was inspired by the World War II Lockheed P38 Lightning airplane. Price when new was \$1,981.

We worked up an appetite and moved our own cars down

the block to the Tippecanoe Place restaurant for lunch and short meeting. The 40-room Tippecanoe Place Mansion, built for Clement Studebaker, was completed in 1888. Studebaker and his brother, Henry, cofounded the H & C Studebaker Company, which became the Studebaker Corporation, and built Pennsylvania-German Conestoga wagons and carriages during his lifetime, and automobiles after his death.

So much to see and history to ponder, some are already planning a return trip to South Bend to take another look.



# **ISTA Staff Retired Coordinator Report**

Our members are impressive. As your ISTA-Retired Coordinator, I have come to appreciate more each month the dedication ISTA-Retired members have promoting public education, supporting other ISTA members, and using problem solving skills. Time and time again the energy demonstrated to advance and support members is striking. My visits around the state to local chapter meetings and assisting with the reorganization of chapters has been quite inspirational as I have personally witnessed retired members working together to not only make a difference but support one another as friends who build up one another. The positivity is contagious.

In addition to visiting local chapters, I have had the pleasure of working with the state officers, local members, and Zone Coordinators in helping local chapters reorganize and expand. St. Joseph County and JSW (Jackson-Scott-Washington Counties) have reactivated their local chapters, and Blue River has expanded their local chapter to include three additional counties. The synergy of everyone working together has been outstanding. The amount of attention to detail always impresses me.

Visiting with our members is my favorite part of my responsibilities. Please feel free to contact me to be a speaker or visit your chapter. My email is rembry@ista-in.org. Thank you for working to make ISTA-Retired a vibrant organization. I look forward to hearing from you.

Roni Embry ISTA Staff Retired Coordinator



#### 1-F Retired

1-F Retired chapter met May 7, 2025, at Tippy Creek Winery in Leesburg, Indiana. Wine and hors d'oeuvres along with cupcakes to celebrate the 30th birthday of ISTA Retired. Retired Staff Coordinator Roni Embry gave a legislative update.

## **Hamilton County**

Hamilton County retired chapter utilized the Chapter Grant for lunch and an excursion to Conner Prairie's newest permanent exhibit entitled "Promised Land as Proving Ground." As stated on Conner Prairie's website the exhibit offers an "immersive journey through Black history from pre-colonial Africa to present day America. This transformative experience highlights the vital role of food, fellowship, family, and faith in shaping the Black experience." Members thoroughly enjoyed the exhibit and



**Entrance to "Promised Land as Proving Ground"** 

many left comments on the completion of the visit. We had one of our best attended meetings thanks to the ISTA-Retired Chapter Grant and the expertise of Conner Prairie.

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#### ISTA-RETIRED ELECTION GUIDELINES

Below are the two-year term election guidelines for the 2026 and 2027 ISTA Representative Assembly (RA) retired delegates and alternates and NEA RA retired delegates and alternates. For 2026, the ISTA RA will be held on April 18, 2026; the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting will be June 28-29, 2026, and the NEA RA on July 1-5, 2026, in Denver, Colorado. Dates for 2027 are to be determined. These procedures have been developed by the ISTA-Retired Executive Committee and approved by the ISTA-Retired District Council.

The guidelines are as follows:

#### **NOMINATION RULES**

- 1. There will be a period of open nominations of candidates for ISTA RA retired delegates and NEA RA retired delegates (terms stated above and below).
- 2. Only ISTA-Retired members who have retired from their education positions are eligible to participate in the nomination and election of the open positions listed above.
- 3. The **Retired Petition for Nominations** and the **Election Procedures for 2026 and 27 terms** will be printed in the fall Advocate and delivered to retired members' mailboxes. The election procedures will also be printed in the retired newsletter, The Chalkboard, and posted on the ISTA website.
- 4. Nomination petition forms printed in the fall Advocate may be cut out or copied from the Advocate. The form must be signed by the nominee. ISTA will verify your membership ID number. Nominees may list three qualifications and any such statements must be six words or fewer.
- 5. The petition of nomination must be returned to the Office of ISTA-Retired, Attn: ISTA-Retired Candidate Nomination, 150 W. Market St., Suite 900, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2875, and must be postmarked on or before midnight, November 7, 2025, or hand-delivered no later than November 7, 2025, 4:30 p.m. ET to the office of ISTA-Retired.
- 6. Persons whose nominations are received by the Office of ISTA-Retired, as stipulated above, shall constitute the properly certified nominees.

#### **CAMPAIGN RULES**

- Following the close of the nominations on **November 7, 2025**, the names of all candidates and three listed qualifications will be printed in the winter Advocate along with the ballot and mailed to all ISTA-Retired members, who have retired.
- 2. The official mailing list of the eligible ISTA-Retired voters shall be made available upon request to any candidate to be used only for campaigning for the open seats for which they are running. The candidate requesting the lists are responsible for all costs in their campaign.
- 3. Campaign materials may contain references to the candidate's own ethnic heritage.
- 4. No dues money local, district, state or national may be used to promote the candidacy of an individual or groups of individuals running for office.

#### **ELECTION RULES**

- The election for ISTA RA retired delegates and alternates, and the NEA RA retired delegates and alternates shall be conducted between January 16, 2026, and February 26, 2026. The election rules will also be posted on the ISTA website and included in the August/September and November/December ISTA-Retired newsletter, The Chalkboard.
- 2. Ballots will be included in the ISTA winter Advocate and mailed in or before February 2026 to all ISTA-Retired members whose membership forms have been processed by ISTA by December 2025.
- 3. The names will be placed on the ballot in the order determined by drawing from a common receptacle by the executive director or designee with appropriate witnesses.
- 4. Each ballot shall contain a list of the properly certificated candidates. No other information about candidates may be legally included on the ballot.
- 5. An eligible member may vote for up to thirty-two (32) ISTA-RA retired delegate candidates and six (6) NEA RA retired delegate candidates. Those candidates, beyond the winning candidates, shall be ranked in order and serve as alternates. Any ballot on which more votes appear than the total allowed shall not be counted.
- 6. Ballots must be returned in the official ballot envelope included in the winter Advocate marked ISTA-Retired Ballot. <u>ISTA-RETIRED MEMBERS ARE REQUIRED TO PLACE THEIR NAME AND RETURN ADDRESS ON THE ENVELOPE TO MAKE MEMBERSHIP VERIFICATION POSSIBLE. IF NO NAME IS PLACED ON THE ENVELOPE CONTAINING THE BALLOT, IT WILL VIOLATE THE RULES AND NOT BE COUNTED.</u>
- Only those official ballots meeting the rules, and which are postmarked on or before midnight <u>February 23</u>, <u>2026</u>, shall be counted.
- 8. After verification of membership, the ballots shall be separated from the mailing envelopes, be tabulated and certified by the designated counting agency.

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#### (ELECTION PROCEDURES CONTINUED)

- 9. The results of the election shall be determined by the above agency in the following manner:
  - All candidates for ISTA RA retired delegate and NEA RA retired delegate will be ranked in order (identified below), with two-year terms as follows:
    - ISTA RA retired delegate for the 2026 and 2027 meetings.
    - NEA RA retired delegate for the 2026 and 2027 meetings.
- 10. The certified ISTA RA retired and NEA RA retired representatives shall be notified of his/her rank order in writing as soon as possible after the results are known.
- 11. The ballots shall be impounded by ISTA for two (2) years.

#### CHALLENGE RULES

- Any challenge to these rules or any activity or result governed by them shall be submitted in writing to the Chairperson of the Elections Committee, in care of the Indiana State Teachers Association, 150 W. Market St., Suite 900, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2875, by March 15, 2026.
- 2. If necessary, the ISTA Elections Committee will meet as soon as possible after receiving such challenge to review and act upon any submitted challenges. Any Elections Committee member who is a candidate for a position involved in a challenge shall be ineligible to participate as an Elections Committee member in the pertinent deliberations.
- 3. The executive director or designee will notify the appropriate party of the action of the Elections Committee.

RETIRED PETITION FOR N	NOMINATION—RETIRED ELECTION
FOR CANDIDATES TO THE ISTA	A RA AND NEA RA MEETINGS 2026—2027
I hereby declare my eligibility and candidacy for (s	select one or both):
<ul><li>☐ ISTA Representative Assembly retired deleg</li><li>☐ NEA Representative Assembly retired delegation</li></ul>	
Candidate Information  * These fields are required for this form to be	e processed.
*First Name: Middle Ini	nitial: *Last Name:
ISTA ID#: Local Chap	pter:
*Home Mailing Street Address:	
*City:	*State: *Zip Code:
Phone: (circle one) home cell	
Home email:	
You may list three Association activities. Each state	
1	
2	
3	
SEND TO: Office of ISTA-Retired ATTN: ISTA-RETIRED CANDIDATE NOMINATION 150 W. Market St., Suite 900 Indianapolis, IN 46204	
	Signature of Nominee
Must be post-marked on or before midnight Novem	mber 7, 2025, or hand-delivered by 4:30 p.m. ET on the

same date. Please write "ISTA-RETIRED CANDIDATE NOMINATION" on your envelope.

# Looking Ahead ISTA-RETIRED CALENDAR

It is advisable to call the number listed after each chapter to reserve a spot, particularly if the meeting location is at a restaurant. Some REQUIRE a reservation, especially plays and trips. All times local.

#### **AUGUST 2025**

11 a.m., CHMT Chapter, Tin Plate, 2233S J St., Elwood, IN, Program: Simple Goodness Soaps, 5140 W 1550 N, Elwood, IN 46306, Meet @ 11:00 am, lunch follows tour, (765) 469-2298.

#### **SEPTEMBER 2025**

- 4 p.m., Vanderburgh County, Welcome Back and New Retirees, Rafferty's, 1400 N. Green River Road, Evansville, IN 47715, (812) 598-1418.
- 10 11 a.m., Blue River, meet at Stream Cliff Farms, 8225 S Co Rd 90W, Comisky, IN (south of North Vernon). Lunch in the dining room. Contact person: Harriet Klene (812) 593-4546.
- 11 a.m., Hamilton County, Roberts Settlement, Tour with Lunch and meeting to follow, (317) 809-8476.
- 10:30 a.m., 1-F Retired, meet at Lanes of Blooms, 9227 Union Road, Plymouth, IN. Walk the fields and pick flowers, or point to the desired blooms and have a \$5 mini bouquet or a \$20 "cup" bouquet made to carry in a personal vase. A person may bring their own container for flowers. Lunch to follow at Brass Rail, Plymouth. The cost of the flowers is your expense. Lunch cost: \$20. RSVP by Sept. 10 to Ginger Calhoun at glc74@embarqmail.com or call (574) 952-6491 or Jan Hayes at hayesjt2012@gmail.com or call (574) 292-6624.

#### **OCTOBER 2025**

- TBA, Greater Indianapolis, Songbook Archives, 1 Carter Green, Carmel, IN 46032, Lunch to follow at a nearby restaurant, Reservations to: greaterindyistar@gmail.com by Monday, Sept. 15, 2025. Inquire about time when making reservations.
- 8 11 a.m., Blue River, Maurice Finkel's Studio, 631 Van Ave., Shelbyville, IN, where Dave Finkel will host. Lunch to be determined. Contact person: Peggy Boyd (317) 850-1959.
- 10:30 a.m., Wabash Valley, Visit Wood Haven Rescue Farm, Inc. Meet at the Red Bird Café', 696 Walnut St., Dayton, IN, where we will leave our cars and carpool to the farm. We will explore the facility which provides a safe haven for some 80 injured, orphaned, abandoned animals and specializes in caring for elderly and special needs animals. Lunch and meeting to follow tour, (765) 421-7238.
- 14 11 a.m., CHMT, Los Tres Caminos, 435 US 35, Galveston, IN, Program: Lewis Cass Polytech Academy, 401 S Maple St., Galveston, IN 46932, Lunch to follow program (765) 469-2298.

#### **NOVEMBER 2025**

11:30 a.m., Hamilton County, Lunch and Meeting, 1 p.m. tour of Hamilton County Historical Society, (317) 809-8476.