

The Chalkboard

The Official Newsletter of the ISTA-Retired

Volume 5, Issue 2
November/December 2016

2017 David Hanna Golden Touch Award

The annual David Hanna Golden Touch Award named in memory of David Hanna, a former long-time ISTA board member, NEA delegate and ISTA-Retired local and state activist, recognizes outstanding contributions of ISTA-Retired members who have continued to demonstrate leadership in both the Association and the community as a member of ISTA-Retired.

Nominations, which are due by March 1, 2017, may be made by any ISTA member, local or district council. The criteria include active participation in

ISTA/NEA-Retired, service to local retired chapters, supporting public education and volunteerism in the community. The nominations must be submitted online at the ISTA website (ista-in.org) and include supportive examples of the nominee's service. These examples may include newsletters, photos, or reference letters. All members are encouraged to nominate someone in the ISTA-Retired family who has demonstrated continued support of the Association and public education.

East Central Chapter participates in annual ISTA-Retired donation to student members



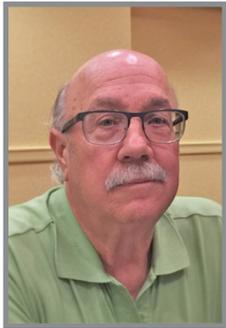
Sue Lopez, Jean Nicholson, and Rosemary Moore help Margaret McClellan shop for supplies for bag donations.

Volunteer members of the ISTA-Retired East Central Chapter, which includes Blackford, Delaware and Madison counties, formed a partnership with the Ball State Chapter of the Indiana Student Education Association four years ago when Rosemary Moore and Marci (Billingsley) Henning first met while staffing a table at Ball State University to distribute materials for candidate Glenda Ritz. A friendship quickly developed while sharing mentoring opportunities.

This partnership between the two groups includes the yearly collection by the ISTA-Retired Statewide Council of school supplies that are often unavailable to college students. Last year Damon and Rosemary Moore delivered 57 jam-packed bags of school supplies to the October ISEA State Conference in Indianapolis. They will return to present bags at this year's conference. The ISTA-Retired East Central Chapter also volunteers the first Saturday of the month at the Back to School Teachers Store in Muncie where Delaware County teachers shop free ten times a year. Chapter members volunteer their "hours" for out-of-county teachers as well as the annual ISEA Bag Giveaway. Members Susie Lopez and Jean Nicholson volunteer on a regular basis. The CHMT (Cass-Howard-Miami-Tipton) Retired Chapter has been the "TOP BAGGERS!" for the past several years. These two activities are a great way to involve young aspiring teachers and retired, experienced teachers in what the East Central Chapter calls, "Retirement Redefined!"

Rosemary Moore, Muncie

From The Chair



Rod Ellcessor, ISTA-Retired State Chair

Fall colors are upon us as we make the transition from the long, hot summer to cooler days. My first few months as the Retired State Chair have been filled with transition as well. Whenever one takes on a new enterprise, he finds each day full of information to be learned and new ideas to be applied. I want to thank the ISTA-Retired Executive Committee for their support and

confidence during this time.

We currently have 26 active chapters throughout the state. You may be a life or annual member of ISTA-Retired but not a member of a local chapter. Our chapters are actively involved in their communities, active ISTA Local Associations and District Councils. Chapters also schedule meetings where members gather to learn new things or to have fun. I would encourage those of you who are not members of a local chapter to consider joining.

Finally, I want to encourage you all to become involved in this important election campaign. For eight years we have not received a Cost-of-Living Allowance (COLA) for our retired pension. We also have had our pension system threatened with the creation of a defined contribution pension. We need to elect legislators who will address the needs of our day-to-day expenses. Because of the small stipend that has been provided us by the state legislature for these past eight years, we have fallen further behind the cost of living. Only with a united front to combat this lack of support for our retirement pensions will we be successful. I encourage you to visit the ISTA website, ista-in.org, and sign up to receive the information regarding which candidates are recommended and to vote for friends of public education. Be a part of that action; be part of the solution. Contact your chapter officers and see what you can do.

Thank you for your retired membership in ISTA and know that we are here for you.



Retired

150 W. Market St., Suite 900
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2875
844-ASK-ISTA
ista-in.org

Rod Ellcessor, State Chair
Craig L. Blume, Statewide Coordinator
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 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!



AMC Yellow Tickets Now Available



What this means for members:

- Each AMC yellow movie ticket is now \$9.40
- Restrictions have been removed. Tickets can now be used on Disney, Pixar and Marvel
- Valid in 47 states (not valid in CA, NY, NJ)

Explore the NEA Click & Save Program today at neamb.com!

Superintendent Ritz visits Frances Slocum Chapter



Superintendent of Public Instruction Glenda Ritz came to Marion, Ind., Sept. 22 and spoke to a crowd of about 75 teachers, administrators, public school patrons and taxpayers interested in our public schools.

The meeting headlined by Ritz was sponsored by the Frances Slocum Retired Chapter of the Indiana State Teachers Association. Ritz, who is seeking re-election this year, is committed to continuing her work to eliminate the high stakes ISTEP standardized tests. Establishing an assessment process for measuring student growth in our schools through an array of appropriate multiple measures is also on her priority list. Ritz emphasized that Indiana teachers need to be allowed to

focus on teaching students and that education should cover an in-depth, broad curriculum. Cutting instructional programs and stripping Indiana's focus down to teaching to a standardized test is a disservice to our Hoosier children.

Ritz told the audience of her visits to schools around the state. She elaborated on her efforts to help struggling schools, emphasizing that expectations placed upon our local schools are much more complex than the simple A–F grade sanctioned by the current General Assembly. She told of successful school turnarounds that have been fostered by the Indiana Department of Education under her leadership.

Ritz closed her address by taking questions from the audience. Topics included the teacher shortage, STEM teacher shortages, salary inequities, legislative attempts to expand vouchers and the tax circuit breaker law and its devastating budgetary impact on local schools.

Voter registration closed Oct. 11, and Election Day is Nov. 8. Early voting began Oct. 12 and voters are encouraged to skip the lines on Election Day and cast their votes early. The Frances Slocum Retired Chapter of ISTA-Retired urges support for public education and encourages all citizens to verify their voter registration and to vote, on or before Nov. 8, for candidates who will support public schools.



Rick Wright, Gas City

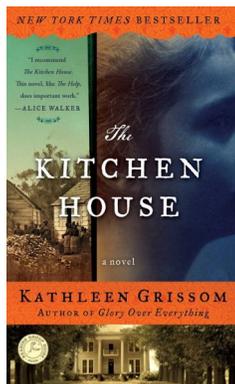
Trip to New Bern, North Carolina

In the summer of 2015, friends of ours asked us to travel with them to a time-share they owned in New Bern, N.C. We could stay free-of-charge, if I would do all the driving. It was hard to say no to such an offer. New Bern is located in southern North Carolina at the convergence of the Neuse and Trent Rivers. The second oldest city in North Carolina, it was settled by a Swiss baron in 1710 who named the town after the capitol of his native country. A historic town with many homes on the National Register, New Bern is a great place to visit. Although the time share was located about six miles from the city, we found ourselves often making the drive into town to take advantage of all there was to do.

One day we took a tour of the downtown and historic districts in a vehicle that was touted as a luxury, air-conditioned van. Well, it was hardly air-conditioned and it certainly was not luxury, but we had a great time listening to our tour guides, a husband-wife team. We saw many Swiss bear statutes placed around the city, each dressed in a thematic fashion, such as Uncle Sam or a patriot; the black bear is a symbol of Switzerland. We traveled down narrow streets to see historic houses, some which had been there for over two hundred years. We drove through a restaurant parking lot where we saw the Bentley owned by Nicholas

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The *KITCHEN HOUSE* - by Kathleen Grissom



Book Review

This *New York Times* best seller is one of those books you don't want to put down, that you cheer for those so in need, and that you feel you know the characters personally.

Basically this is a story of slavery and Lavinia, a young white Irish girl who experiences the horrors that slaves endured and yet considered herself one of them.

Lavinia was on her way to the United States when her parents died due to a terrible illness during the voyage. She and her brother survived, but upon

landing, Lavinia was purchased by one slave owner and her brother to another. Lavinia's owner gave her to the care of the kitchen house help. While the owner was kind, he was greatly involved with them as he had fathered one of the slaves and felt a responsibility for her. However, he was unable to protect all of them due to his absence for business and turning over responsibilities to his overseer. Lavinia grows up during the story and is faced with love, loyalty and duty. The "kitchen house family" rally time and again, but offensive treatment and abuse are too much for them all to overcome.

Sarah Borgman, Wakarusa

Enjoy the 2016 Beef & Boards Christmas Show!

Invite family, friends, co-workers and neighbors to join you at:

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre | Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016

Doors open @ 11 a.m. | Buffet @ 11:30 a.m. | Curtain @ 1 p.m.

Seat prices (includes small gratuity) — \$36 members/\$41 non-members

Deadline for checks payable to **ISTA-R Indy** is Monday, Nov. 21. Mail to: Sandra Brown, 1946 Harcourt Springs Terrace, Indianapolis, IN 46260-5708

Sponsored by the Greater Indianapolis Retired Chapter



Recipe Corner

PILGRIM HAT COOKIES



- 1 cup vanilla frosting
- 7 drops yellow food coloring
- 32 miniature peanut butter cups
- 1 package (11-1/2 ounces) fudge-striped cookies
- 32 pieces of orange mini Chiclets gum

In a small shallow bowl, combine frosting and food coloring. Remove paper liners from peanut butter cups.

Holding the bottom of a peanut butter cup, dip top of cup in yellow frosting. Position over center hole on the bottom of cookie, forming the hatband and crown. Add a buckle of Chiclets gum. Repeat with remaining cups and cookies. Yield: 32 cookies.

Jim Clauser, Fort Wayne

Continued from Page 3 Trip to New Bern, North Carolina

Sparks, the famous author who calls New Bern his home.

Other places we visited were the reconstructed drug store where Pepsi Cola was invented, Union Point Park where the rivers converge, an old-fashioned hardware store which stocks everything you could ever need, and the 300-year-old Christ Episcopal Church which contains artifacts given it by King George III. Although we did not tour the Tyron Palace, home of the state's first capitol, with its gardens and other adjoining historic homes, we did visit the North Carolina History Center. Built in 2010, the center is connected to the Tyron Palace complex and is filled with a variety of activities for the tourist. Needless to say, we enjoyed a number of local restaurants and their Southern hospitality.



Perhaps the highlight of the trip was the two-hour evening river cruise. Both the Neuse and the Trent rivers are quite wide at their convergence and offered us a great view of the city and the homes that lined the banks. We saw the home where Nicholas Sparks lives as well as many other large "cottages." Finally, as we neared the turnaround point on the trip, we were treated to one of the most beautiful

sunsets one would ever want to see. If you would like a great place to visit, check out New Bern. I don't think you will regret it.

Jim Clauser, Fort Wayne

1-F Retired Chapter writes postcards for local candidate

Members of 1-F Retired Chapter met at chapter president Ginger Calhoun's lake house Sept. 29 to write postcards for local House District 17 candidate Michelle Livinghouse. UniServ Director Sharon Frazer joined the group as well.

Those present included: (L-R, top row) Ginger Calhoun, Sarah Borgman and Debbie Calhoun; (L-R, bottom row) Anita Hull, Sharon Frazer and Jan Hayes.



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.

NOVEMBER 2016

- 1 10 a.m., Hamilton County, Kokomo Glass Factory, 317-896-9291
- 3 11:30 a.m., 1-F Retired, Mose & Etta Miler, Nappanee-Family Style Dinner, IN Trivia Game & "Election Countdown 120 Hours", Cost-\$15.00, 574-892-6491
- 10 12 p.m., Allen County, Sunrise Café, 10230 Coldwater Rd., Ft. Wayne, "What's New on the River" Downtown Development, 260-249-8197
- 14 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph County, Southfield Village, 6450 Miami Circle, South Bend, "Nice and Easy" Dance Duo-12:15 p.m. program, Lunch-\$10.00, 574-231-1924
- 15 8:30 a.m., East Central, Day Trip to Darlington Farms, Ft. Wayne-Christmas Shopping and Lunch to follow at Olive Garden, 765-748-9801
- 15 10:30 a.m., Falls of the Ohio, Howard Steam Boat Museum, Jeffersonville, Lunch at noon-The Red Yeti, 502-636-3257
- 15 11 p.m., Blue River, Willow Leaves, Hope-Artist Judy Glore, 812-663-3332
- 16 12 p.m., REECI, Number 9 Grill, Cambridge City, Share Cookies or Dessert with Recipes, 765-529-0735
- 16 4:30 p.m., Frances Slocum, Gabriel's Pancake House, "Magic, Part 2" by Dan Brock, 765-664-7795
- 17 11 a.m., Sullivan County, Sullivan Public Library, 100 S. Crowder St., Donna Adam, Genealogy Historian, Lunch on the Square at noon, 812-243-0609

DECEMBER 2016

- 6 11 a.m., CHMT, Richards in Kokomo, Social Get Together with Western Choir, 765-480-7746
- 6 11 a.m., Posey County, Tour Indiana Military Museums on Vincennes, Lunch to follow at Ponderosa Restaurant & Tour of Red Skelton Museum, 812-401-6423
- 6 11:30 a.m., Vanderburgh County, ISTA/ETA Bldg., 701 John St., Evansville, "Meet While You East" Lunch & Holiday Entertainment provided-bring a friend, 812-673-4732
- 7 11:15 a.m., Greater Indianapolis Chapter, Beef & Boards Christmas Show, 9301 N. Michigan Rd., Indianapolis, Lunch Reservations to Marti Daily by Nov. 29, Cost-\$36.00, 317-873-8257
- 9 11:30 a.m., JAWS, The Gallery, 622 North 13th St., Decatur, "The Hamiltons of Ft. Wayne" presented by David Dew, 260-692-6726
- 14 11 a.m., Dunes Shore, Old Style Inn Lunch, Program at 1 p.m., "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas", Memorial Opera House, Valparaiso, 219-462-3878
- 20 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph County, Southfield Village, 6450 Miami Circle, South Bend, Program by South Bend Schools, Cookie Exchange, Lunch Cost-\$10.00, 574-231-1924
- 21 11:30 a.m., Warrick County, Warrick County Museum, Boonville, Tour of Museum/Everyone Brings a Brown Bag Lunch, 812-853-2136

JANUARY 2017

- 12 12 p.m., Allen County, Wu's Fine Chinese Cuisine, 4411 Coldwater Rd., Ft. Wayne, Fran Faskey, Master Quilter, 260-249-8197
- 18 11:30 a.m., Lake County, Legislative Goals and Tactics, Call 219-794-4672 for more information or Email dkeithle@mccolly.com
- TBA 8:30 a.m., East Central, Carpooling to Lobby, Leave Northwest Plaza by 8:30 a.m.

***Many programs listed are for entertainment.
Each chapter is also involved in various political, community and educational projects.***

You have a story to tell!

Think of all those things that happened in the classroom when you were teaching. Share some unforgettable memories with **everyone**. Send your stories to: **Jan Hayes, The Chalkboard Editor, 8240 N 700 E, Hamlet, IN 46532, hayesjt2012@gmail.com.**