

The Chalkboard

The Official Newsletter of the ISTA-Retired

Volume 6, Issue 2
November/December 2017

ISTA-Retired Zone 1 holds meeting in Warsaw



ISTA-Retired Zone Coordinators

- Zone 1 Jerry Ervin
- Zone 2 Jan Hayes
- Zone 3 Kathy Parks
- Zone 4 Rosemary Moore
- Zone 5 Roger Sharp
- Zone 6 Karen Warble

The six zone coordinators of ISTA-Retired provide resources/information for the development and growth of retired chapters by Zone throughout the state.

Retired members representing chapters in Zone 1 met Sept. 28 at Bella Vitali Restaurant in Warsaw. Discussion included:

Ways to promote Chapter Membership

- Make multiple contacts to ISTA/NEA members in their region.
- Convey consistent message explaining what we do, and why they should be involved.
- Contact each active ISTA local for names of active retiring members to contact as soon as they retire and work with active locals to encourage pre-retired memberships.

Chapter Program ideas

- Consider joint meetings and carpooling for meetings.
- Attend lobbying and events important to members.

- Visit other chapters – members may attend any chapter meeting, even though they can join only one chapter.

Retired Newsletter - The Chalkboard

- Review at chapter meetings how to access retired newsletter online using the ISTA website – ista-in.org.
- Explain reduction in postage costs with online access.
- Encourage chapter members to submit articles of interest.

L-PACS

- Involve chapter members in political process - all L-PACs should have retired representative.
- Set chapter priority to get a COLA passed – materials available to explain importance.

Projects/Fund Raisers

- Share examples of projects/fund raisers with chapters that have worked well.
- Hold discussion of ways chapters can become active in the community.

Pre-Retired Workshops

- Encourage chapter officers work with UniServ directors to ensure pre-retired workshops conducted in Zone 1 active districts.
- Goal – minimum of one workshop in each zone.

*Jerry Ervin, South Bend
ISTA-Retired Zone 1 Coordinator*

From The Chair



Rod Ellcessor, ISTA-Retired State Chair

As I write this article, the leaves have already begun to fall signifying another busy time. All six of the Zone meetings were held in September, and the State Council will meet on Oct. 27. The communications, legislative and membership committees renewed their challenging work to produce training, membership growth and legislative changes for our chapters and retired members. The grants received from NEA help to defray the costs of the communications and membership committees. I am proud of their accomplishments and the direction their work has moved ISTA-Retired.

The statewide elections for NEA and ISTA delegates, two ISTA standing committees, and three Zone Coordinators will take place in January. A new process, which will help to reduce the costs of a statewide election, will be initiated. All retired members will receive a nomination form in January through the mail. However, members will have the option of either returning the nomination form via U.S. mail as has been the custom or using the ISTA website to complete the process. Members are strongly encouraged to use the website during the nomination process. Over 5,000 nomination forms at an expense of several thousand dollars are distributed. The State Council and Executive Committee will review the process with the goal of conducting the entire election online in the next few years.

Finally, I want to thank you all for your support of ISTA and our retired membership category. We will call on you during the legislative session to help us achieve a major goal, a Cost of Living Allowance (COLA). The last newsletter demonstrated how much we have lost to inflation by receiving only a stipend or so-called 13th check for the eighth year. Retirees need a real increase, one that will help pay for rising expenses.

Thanks for your membership in ISTA and Retired



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!



Don't Make Holiday Buffet Mistakes

Strategies to enjoy parties without sabotaging your health

DON'T: Skip Meals

DO: Plan your indulgences Have small handful of almonds before the party to slow down digestion.

DON'T: Load up on a little bit of everything.

DO: Tour the table first, and choose wisely.

DON'T: Use multiple plates for multiple trips.

DO: Follow the one-plate rule.

DON'T: Blow all your calories on drinks.

DO: Plan your drinks like you plan your food.

One final "Do": Share your own healthy holiday recipe. Ensure you have something good to eat at the part by contributing a healthy dish to the potluck.

Scholarships for Grandchildren

The ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council will be giving two scholarships in conjunction with the Indiana Foundation for the Improvement of Education (IFIE) in the spring of 2018. We are accepting contributions from our chapters throughout the state as well as individual members to increase the base amount (\$700), which is given by ISTA to all district councils.

Applications for the scholarship(s) may only be submitted by members of ISTA-Retired who are grandparents or step-grandparents. If you are not currently an ISTA-Retired member, you can find the ISTA-Retired Membership Application form at the ISTA website, ista-in.org. The scholarship application form will be posted online in February, and the deadline to apply for next year's scholarships will be April 1, 2018.

Additional information will be provided in the February issue of The Chalkboard.

ISTA-Retired raises funds at Rising Educator Conference



Rod Ellcessor shared valuable information with attendees at the ISTA-Retired table.

Rod Ellcessor, chair, and Al Wolting, member-at-large, of the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council represented the ISTA-Retired at the first ISTA Rising Educator Conference held Oct. 20-21.

With over 250 registered attendees funds were raised for the two retired IFIE (Indiana Foundation for the Improvement of Education) scholarships to be awarded in the spring of 2018. As winner, Amanda Russo of the IU-South Bend chapter of ISEA, was very pleased to take home the Keurig Hot series coffee maker.

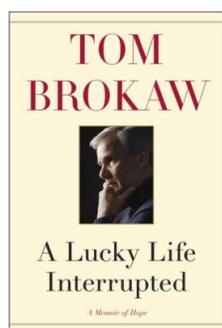


Al Wolting presented Amanda Russo with her new Keurig at the Rising Educator conference.

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**

A Lucky Life Interrupted, A Memoir of Hope by Tom Brokaw



Book Review

Probably no other newsman has been more revered than Tom Brokaw. He is an honest reporter and just as succinct in reporting his bout with multiple myeloma, a rare form of blood cancer. His ailment started out with a bothersome pain in his back. After the usual treatments and a progressive and continuation of severe pain, he went to one of America's best — the Mayo Clinic — and was diagnosed with the disease.

As the title suggests, his good life was more than interrupted. Any illness sidetracks the one affected with pain and time consuming treatments.

and a progressive and continuation of severe pain, he went to one of America's best — the Mayo Clinic — and was diagnosed with the disease.

However, the time to think, reflect and speculate filled many a dark hour for him, and we are allowed to visit these events, too. As the author deals with all that cancer involves, he reflects on great moments in which he was involved either in reporting or with his family and upbringing.

He tried to hide his illness for quite awhile but in sharing with just a few, word of what he was dealing with came out. NBC worked with Brokaw in scheduling events and some of his best experiences came during this time. He credits his wife, Meredith and his physician daughter, Jennifer, with his good care and recovery. I highly recommend this book, a look into the past but more importantly, a hero's battle with the worst.

Sarah Borgman, Wakarusa



Recipe Corner

OATMEAL RAISIN COOKIES Gluten Free

Cream well:	1/4 c. butter (room temp) 1/2 c. sugar	1/2 c. brown sugar
Add and mix well:	2 eggs 1 tsp. vanilla 1 1/4 tsp. baking soda	1/2 tsp. cinnamon 1/2 tsp. salt Pinch nutmeg
Add and mix well:	1 c. peanut butter	
Stir in:	3 c. oats (use 'quick' oats) 1/2 c. raisins	1/2 c. chopped pecans or walnuts

Bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes. Makes about 2 1/2 dozen.

Jerry Ervin, South Bend (Edie Ervin's recipe)

1-F Retired Chapter meeting enjoyed by all

The 1-F Retired Chapter met Sept. 7 at REMC Bldg. in Plymouth for their first meeting of 2017 – 18. Members enjoyed a delicious lunch and made two Christmas wreaths. Some present donated a wreath to the local nursing homes.



Instructor Kathy Zentz



The finished product



(L-R) Debbie Calhoun, Dorothy Nellans, Sarah Borgman, and Nancy Carmichael with Susan Thimlar (back to camera)

Message from the new NEA-Retired President

I consider it a privilege and a great responsibility to be the new NEA-Retired President. My heartfelt gratitude goes to ISTA members who supported me in helping this dream become a reality. Now, the work for all of us lies ahead. I challenged the delegates, as I will you, to join me in speaking up, speaking out and speaking for our retired members and for public education. Retired members are a part of the NEA family and we are all in this together to speak up against the attacks we constantly receive from those who would destroy our benefits, pensions and healthcare, and who continue to price gouge our prescription drugs. We need to speak out against social injustice — to attempt to wipe out the hatred, bigotry, bullying and prejudice that is so prevalent today. We certainly need to speak for our colleagues who remain working in our schools, but most of all we need to speak for those who have no voice: the boys and girls and young men and women who come into our schools, too often abused, hungry, ill clad and seeking refuge. There's an old saying, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together." That's my desire; let's go together and may our strong voices be heard.



*Sarah Borgman, Wakarusa
NEA-Retired President*

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 2017

- 1 11:30 a.m., 1-F Retired, Mose & Etta Miller, Nappanee, holiday luncheon – family style Amish meal. Cost \$20.00 includes tip. Program and meeting following the meal. There will be an I-PACE silent auction. RSVP to Ginger or Jan by Oct. 23. Ginger: 574-952-6491 or glc74@embarqmail.com — Jan: 574-292-6624 or hayesjt2012@gmail.com
- 6 11 a.m., Blue River, Kramer's Restaurant, 1606 Central Ave., Columbus, Program—Revisiting the Past, 812-593-4546
- 8 11:30 a.m., JAWS, Forks of the Wabash Program—Donna Hollopter, The Great Wall, Huntington, 260-692-6726
- 8 11:30 a.m., Sullivan County, Meleah's Café-2100 S. 3rd. St., Merom, "Nature's Classroom," presenter Jack Gettinger, 812-243-0609
- 9 10 a.m., Warrick County, Meet at Mary Ann Young's home, DeGonia to put note pads and ink pens together for our teaching staff during National Education Week, Nov. 13-17, short meeting during lunch with discussion of items from District Council meeting, 812-853-2136
- 9 12 p.m., Allen County, Calhoun St. Soup, Salad and Spirits, 1915 S. Calhoun St., program-The Settlers and Original Pottery, John Platt, 260-602-7174
- 13 10 a.m., 1-B Retired, Scented Seasons, 2109 Roosevelt Rd., Valparaiso, Make and Take Soy Candles, lunch/meeting-noon at DISH, 3907 Calumet Ave., Valparaiso, 219-464-9466
- 14 11:30 a.m., Hamilton County, Escape Room (Downtown), 317-896-9291
- 15 12 p.m., REECI, No. 9 Grill in Cambridge City, Cookie Exchange-Bring Recipe, 765-529-0735
- 21 9 a.m., East Central, Day Trip to Darlington Warehouse, Fort Wayne, "Read Across America" books, etc., leave northwest Plaza at 9 a.m., Lunch/Business Meeting at Olive Garden, 765-748-9801
- 21 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph County, Southfield Village, South Bend, "How Do We Help the Hungry?" presentation by Food Bank of Northern Indiana, Lunch at 12:15 p.m., rsvp Jerry Ervin 574-231-1924 or rervino07@gmail.com by Nov. 13, Lunch-\$10

DECEMBER 2017

- 5 11:30 a.m., Posey County, Tour Reitz Home, Lunch at Hacienda West, 812-401-6423
- 5 11:30 a.m., Vanderburgh County, Holiday Celebration, Carry-In, Bring your favorite dish, Barbeque provided, Entertainment Heather Madriaga, Holiday surprises, ISTA/ETA Building, 701 John St., 812-598-1418
- 12 11 a.m., CHMT, Christmas Program — Local School Choir, Richard's in Kokomo, 765-469-2298
- 13 11 a.m., Dunes Shore, Lunch-Old Style Inn, 5 Lincolnway, Valparaiso, Christmas Program at Memorial Opera House, Ticket \$11, 219-464-4053
- 19 10 a.m., East Central, "Gather at the Gaithers", Fairmont, Music Studio Tour, Lunch and Business Meeting, 765-748-9801
- 19 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph County, Southfield Village, Lunch \$10, "Nice and Easy" Dance Program with Jerry Flint and Wendy Cress, Bring favorite cookie to exchange, rsvp Jerry Ervin 574-231-1924 or jrervino07@gmail.com by 12/11/2017

JANUARY 2018

- 10 11:30 a.m., JAWS, the Gallery, Decatur, David Dew presents Johnny Appleseed, 260-692-6726
 - 18 10 a.m., Warrick County, Tour Warrick County Museum, Boonville, lunch at Commander's Grill, 812-853-2136
 - 18 11:30 a.m., Lake County, Retired Lowell Middle School and current Crown Point High School softball coach, teacher Pete Iussig discusses his publishing of children's books he has authored, 219-794-4672
 - 18 12 p.m., Allen County, Botanical Gardens, 1100 South Calhoun St., Self-Guided Tour-\$4 fee, new exhibit, Legislative Updated from ISTA Staff, Box Lunch provided by Emyrean Café-\$15 (onsite restaurant)
- Jan./Feb. East Central, ISTA-Retired Lobbying Day at ISTA Bldg., Briefing then Indiana Statehouse, Lunch with legislators at ISTA Bldg.

FEBRUARY 2018

- Indianapolis—Lobby Day, check website for date
- 13 11 a.m., CHMT, Dutch Café, Legislative Review-Heidi Miller, UniServ Director, 765-469-2298
 - 15 11:30 a.m., Dunes Shore, Meal-Third Coast Spice, Indiana Boundary Rd., Chesterton, Presentation by National Lakeshore ranger at welcome center – 1:30 p.m. — on Indiana 49 just north of Chesterton, 219-464-4053
 - 17 8 a.m., Elkhart County, Elkhart County, "Discovering Legislators' Agendas and Ways to Impact Their Decision Making", Third House Meeting at Goshen Changer of Commerce, 232 South Main St., Goshen. Hosted by Judy Briganti, members will meet for breakfast following the Third House meeting. (Date subject change per legislators' scheduling.) 574-207-4488
 - 20 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph County, Southfield Village, South Bend, 11:30 Lunch-\$10, Program-History Museum-South Bend, RSVP to Jerry Ervin 574-231-1924 or jervino07@gmail.com by Feb. 12, 2018
 - 27 11:30 a.m., Vanderburgh County, Box lunches provided, ETCFU Financial Advisor Scott Taylor-tips on how to best use retirement funds, 812-598-1418

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