

Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz

# The Chalkboard

The Official Newsletter of the ISTA-Retired

Volume 7, Issue 3  
May/June 2019

## ISTA-Retired reduces life dues amount

In January, the ISTA Board changed its policy granting the ISTA-Retired Statewide Council's request presented by ISTA-Retired Chair Rod Ellcessor to lower retired life dues by \$250. The new retired life dues amount is now \$340! This is the lowest price since 1999! ISTA-Retired's life dues had climbed to \$590, the fifth highest amount among all state retired groups in the National Education Association (NEA). The retired leadership believes that this change will greatly increase the number of active member pre-retired life subscriptions. The dues reduction has been granted through the 2021–22 membership year. Retired leadership has attended several events since the board action in January including the Southern and Northern Advocacy Conferences and the Good Teaching Conference. Many active members immediately became ISTA/NEA Pre-Retired Life Subscribers at these events. Retired members offered this opportunity at the ISTA Representative Assembly and will promote it at the Summer Conference. Inform your active member friends of this change, or if you are an annual member, consider converting to a retired life membership.

On Feb. 19, 2019, retired members filled the halls of the Statehouse discussing issues with legislators and speaking for public education.



## Statehouse Days of Action

Active and retired members learn more about current legislation that affects teachers—their work, their students and their retirement at Days of Action scheduled throughout legislative sessions. Attendees also had the opportunity to connect with legislators at the Statehouse and over lunch at ISTA. Represent the voice of public education and make plans to participate locally and at the Statehouse.

## From the Chair



Rod Ellcessor, *ISTA-Retired State Chair*

The membership year is nearing its end and the legislative session has concluded. Retired has grown to 5,069 members and is at the beginning of a new membership program, which includes a reduction in retired life dues. We did not have much success in attaining a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA); however, a 13th check was added to the budget bill,

HB 1001. This is effective over the two-year biennium. ISTA-Retired's Legislative Committee Chair Roger Sharp attends the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) board meetings. Roger is gaining information and connections to assess INPRS direction for a COLA. We also are establishing relationships with specific legislators to help create a guaranteed COLA. What we have discovered is that this will not be an easy process. We encourage you to talk to your local state representatives, telling your story about how much you have lost to inflation and why you need a COLA. Please continue to follow all education and retirement legislation at the ISTA website.

The Retired Membership Committee will visit several areas of the state organizing new chapters and strengthening current chapters throughout this spring and early summer. Those of you who do not have chapters in your counties, where new chapters are being organized, will receive letters notifying you of those meeting places and dates. We are excited about this growth process.

Finally, we have gone through a total restructuring of our election process for the election of retired representatives to the ISTA Board, standing committees, and the zone coordinators. We are also changing how you will receive nomination forms and ballots for the election of the ISTA and NEA delegates to each representative assembly. We will also post on the ISTA website in the retired area the election rules and procedures. I would encourage you to read the related stories about the election process in the next three editions of *The Chalkboard* and the fall *ISTA Advocate*. As always, I want to thank you for your membership and dedication to ISTA.



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!**



## One smart thing to do this summer— Start a few healthy habits

Now's a good time to focus on your well-being, which can include breaking bad habits to create good ones (improving your diet, sleep habits and committing to adopt smart financial habits).

One more good habit to create now — check [neamb.com](http://neamb.com) regularly to see how your membership benefits can help you achieve your goals, from saving money on everyday items to saving up for the big stuff.

## 2019 ISTA-Retired Election Results

**ISTA-Retired Board Member** — August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2022

➤ Nathan Schnellenberger — elected by acclamation

**ISTA-Retired Governance Committee Member** — August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2021

➤ Sarah Borgman — elected by acclamation

**ISTA-Retired Minority Affairs Committee Member** — August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2021

➤ Juan José Rodríguez — elected by acclamation

**ISTA-Retired Zone 1 Coordinator** — August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2022

➤ Gerald “Jerry” Ervin — elected by acclamation

**ISTA-Retired Zone 4 Coordinator** — August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2022

➤ Rosemary Hipskind Moore — elected by acclamation

**ISTA-Retired Alternate ISTA RA Delegates** — 2019 ISTA RA

➤ Mary Putney

➤ Juan Jose Rodriguez

➤ Callie Marksberry

➤ Francis (Fran) Riley

## Retired well represented at NEA-Retired Conference

The NEA Summit Conference was held March 15 – 18, 2019 in Denver, Colorado. Retired members who attended the conference were NEA Retired National President Sarah Borgman, Peggy Boyd, Ginger Calhoun, Jan Hayes, Roger Sharp, Steve Tafflinger and Terry Tafflinger. Retired learned about the four priorities of NEA:

- Early Career Education – Ensuring students have access to highly qualified and empowered educators;
- Racial Justice in Education – Ensuring systematic fair treatment of people of all races in equitable opportunities and outcomes for everyone;
- My School, My Voice – Ensuring that public education is student-centered and educator-led; and
- Supporting Professional Excellence – Ensuring a system of Association convened, educator-led professional learning and supports for educators to nurture student success.

The conference’s sessions were based on the leadership competencies of advocacy, communication, governance and leadership, leading our professions, organizing and strategic fiscal health. NEA’s Leadership Competency Guide is available online at [nea.org/leadershipdevelopment](http://nea.org/leadershipdevelopment).

Retired members attended a variety of sessions to gain knowledge of implementation of the four priorities and leadership competencies. Various meetings also provided opportunities to share valuable information with all attendees. Reports were also given by the conference participants at the ISTA-Retired Statewide Council meeting in April.



## Recipe Corner

### BABKA

3	cups all-purpose flour	1/4	cup sugar	3	Tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder
1	pkg dry active yeast	1	tsp salt	2	Tbsp butter, melted
3/4	cup milk	2	eggs	3/4	cup miniature semi-sweet chocolate pieces
1/2	cup butter, cut up	1/3	cup sugar	1	Tbsp heavy cream

In large bowl stir together 2 cups of flour and the yeast; set aside in small saucepan, heat and stir in 1/2 cup butter, 1/4 cup sugar, and salt until warm (120-130°) and butter is almost melted. Add to flour mixture along with one egg. Stir until combined. Stir in as much of the remaining flour as you can.

Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface. Knead in remaining flour to make a soft dough that is smooth and elastic (about 3 minutes). Shape dough into ball. Place in lightly greased bowl; turn once to grease surface of dough. Cover, let rise in warm place until nearly double in size (1 1/2-2 hours).

Punch dough down. Turn out onto lightly floured surface. Cover and let rest 10 minutes. In small bowl combine 1/3 cup sugar and the cocoa powder. Roll dough into 16 x 12 inch rectangle. Brush with melted butter, sprinkle with cocoa mixture and chocolate pieces. Roll up rectangle, starting from the long side. Cut roll in half crosswise. Cut each piece lengthwise into thirds (some filling will fall out). For each loaf, braid three pieces together. Sprinkle with any filling that has fallen out. Place each braid on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Cover and let rise in a warm place until nearly double (45-60 minutes).

Preheat oven to 325°. Whisk together remaining egg and the cream. Brush over loaf. Bake 70-75 minutes or until golden and bread sounds hollow when gently tapped (internal 180-190°), covering with foil the last 20-25 minutes to prevent overbrowning. Loosen loaf from pan and transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

Servings: 12

Prep: 40 minutes

Rise: 2 hrs. 15 mins.

Bake: 1 hr. 10 min.

*Better Homes & Gardens, 2018*

## Allen County chapter meeting filled with fellowship and contributions to FWEA

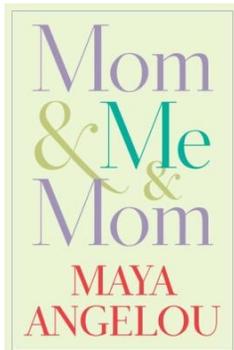
Nineteen individuals braved the rainy weather on Thursday, March 13, for the Allen County retired chapter meeting at Salvatori's West Restaurant. Chapter President Nancy Mack presided, Secretary Dorothy Epple presented January's minutes for approval, and the State Retired Council Representative Jim Clauser gave a brief report about what has been happening at the state level. Those present contributed 55 children's books which will be given to the Fort Wayne Education Association (FWEA) to distribute to school children throughout the year.

After a delicious Italian lunch, Jerry Ervin, Zone 1 coordinator, gave an informative talk about his

hobby - wood carving. Ervin discussed the kinds of woods used in this art form as well as the tools he has collected over the years. He also displayed a variety of pieces he has created. These included smoothly carved objects, whimsical Christmas ornaments, Gothic-style buildings from wood with the bark still intact and three-dimensional pieces. Everyone was impressed with the artistic ability and patience that he demonstrates in creating these beautiful works.

At the end of the meeting, door prizes were given. Fortunately, everyone in attendance received something.

## Mom & Me & Mom by Maya Angelou



### Book Review

Maya Angelou tells her life story focusing on her grandmother who became her mom for several years, her birth mom as she reclaimed Angelou and her brother, and finally, herself as a mother. Because her parents were not able to quit the constant fighting, they decided it was best to send their children from California to live with their paternal grandmother in Arkansas. This was devastating to both Angelou and her brother. Obviously, they became quite close as they struggled with the separation from their mother. However, the grandmother was a most welcoming and gave them a firm foundation. When Angelou's mother decided to take back her responsibility, it caused another trauma in their lives. Her brother Bailey adjusted the best on his return as he had bonded with his mother. Angelou was close to her grandmother and even called her mom.

Angelou's mother was a beautiful, petite lady and that is the name Angelou called her--"Lady" instead of mother. In this revealing autobiography, Angelou tells of her personal life with various lovers and of an escape from one man who went crazy. Although Lady appeared demure, she could be one woman to be feared as she owned several gambling houses and could call in favors from some of the unseemly characters she did business with.

When Angelou became a mother herself, she could view motherhood in a new light. She had one son who also suffered separation from his mother, Angelou, when she spent some time overseas doing musicals. It was only when she realized she was repeating history that she found out what motherhood was all about.

This revealing story is worth the time to read. Angelou wrote, "My mother's gifts of courage to me were both large and small. The latter are woven so subtly into the fabric of my psyche that I can hardly distinguish where she stops and I begin."

*Sarah Borgman, Wakarusa, Indiana*

## ISTA-Retired Across the State



**Talent abounds within ISTA-Retired. Accomplished woodcarver and retired member Jerry Ervin presented woodcarving demonstration at 1-F Retired Chapter meeting on March 21, 2019, in Plymouth.**

**Retired members, Roger and Kathy Sharp, along with Indiana NEA Board member, Hilda Kendrick-Appiah, at the Red for Ed Rally at the Statehouse on March 9, 2019.**



Committed to fundraising for retired scholarships, members are busy across the state at ISTA events:

- \$415—Southern Advocacy Conference
- \$345—Northern Advocacy Conference
- \$465—Good Teaching Conference

*(At one event, Anne Reverman of Concord TA was the lucky winner of a raffle basket containing bread boards, a wine holder and bread.)*

# 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.

## MAY 2019

- 8 11:30 a.m., JAWS, Milli's Bluffton Program and Visit to Beekeeper, 260-692-6726
- 9 12 p.m., Allen County, Hall's Guest House, 1313 W. Washington Center Road, David Drew – Historical Figure Presentation, 260-602-7174
- 14 11:30 a.m., ISTA/NEA Chapter of Northeast IN, "Elder Fraud: How to Avoid", Parkview LaGrange Hospital dining room, 260-367-1069
- 14 12 p.m., Hamilton County, Connor Prairie Program, Fishers, 317-490-4991
- 15 11:30 a.m., St. Joseph County, "Services Available through Real Services" presented by Megan Rogers of Real Services, soup and salad lunch, cost-\$10, also local elections, Southfield Village, RSVP Jerry Ervin (574-231-1924 or email jrevino07@gmail.com) by May 7 for meal count.
- 16 11 a.m., 1-F Retired, "Healthy Choices – Healthy You", Chef from Martin's Cooking School will demonstrate and prepare lunch. For this program pull back long hair and wear closed toed shoes. Cost—\$20. Contact Ginger (574-952-6491) or Jan (574-292-6624) to RSVP by May 1. Martin's Supper Market, 1150 Husky Trail, Warsaw.
- 16 11:30 a.m., Sullivan County, Chicago Pizza, 529 Main Street, Vincennes (former New Moon Theater), Program "Gallery Walk – Art Space" after lunch walk through the gallery to view remarkable work of talented artists. Business meeting will include 2019-2020 election of officers and reorganization of Sullivan County for next year. 812-243-0609
- 21 11:30 a.m., East Central Retired, Membership Campaign and 2019-2020, Program Planning, Kennedy Public Library, McGalliard Avenue, Muncie, 765-748-9801
- 22 11 a.m., 1-B Retired, Gabis (Taltree) Arboretum & Gardens, 450 West 100 North, Valparaiso; 12:30 pm lunch/meeting at Round the Clock, 217 East Lincolnway, Valparaiso, 219-464-9466

## JUNE 2019

- 3 11 a.m., Blue River Chapter, Storie's Restaurant, 109 East Main Street, west side of Square across from courthouse, Greensburg, Program – Decatur Historical Museum, 812-593-4546
- 3 12 p.m., Posey County, "Big Sister, Big Brother" program, Red Wagon, 812-401-6423
- 5 11:30 a.m., Greater Indianapolis, , Mayberry Café, 78 W. Main Street, Danville. Fraud Prevention Program, order off menu, 317-257-4737
- 7 Time-TBA, Vanderburgh County, "Summer Sizzle!" 812-598-1418
- 10 10:30 a.m., Jackson-Scott-Washington Retired, ISTA SE Office, Planning for 2019-2020, 812-521-0088
- 11 11 a.m., CHMT, Mike Still – Pottery Demonstration, Gabriel's, 765-469-2298
- 11 11:30 a.m., Elkhart County, "Discovering Joy through Summer Activities", members will share summertime in Elkhart County and ISTA activities available for individual or group participation, Bent Oak Country Club, 3610 Bent Oak Trail, Elkhart, 574-862-1575
- 11 11:30 a.m., ISTA/NEA Chapter of Northeast IN, "Understanding Medicare Procedures", Parkview LaGrange Hospital dining room, 260-367-1069
- 11 12 p.m., Falls of the Ohio Chapter, General meeting to meet with Zone Coordinator Karen Warble, Aladdin's Café, 37 Bank St. #2, New Albany, 502-636-3257
- 13 10:30 a.m., Wabash Valley Chapter, Guided tour of Long Center for Performing Arts, 111 N. 6th St., Lafayette (Eric Van Cleve, Executive Director, will give us a brief history and tour of the building from the former Mars Theater to its present usage of the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra, the Mighty Wurlitzer theater organ, other arts organizations, and special events.), Lunch/meeting at Lafayette Brewing, 622 Main St., Lafayette, 765-447-4390
- 19 12 p.m., REECI Chapter, Home Town Dining Company, 718 E. Main Street, Richmond, afterwards visit to Joseph Moore Museum at Earlham (adjacent to Dennis Hall) in Richmond, 765-529-0735
- Frances Slocum Chapter of Retired Educators, Barbee Lakes, North Manchester, "A Day at Irish Lake" hosted by the Brice's, date and time TBA, 765-664-7795

## JULY 2019

No chapter meetings scheduled in July.

**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, Editor, *The Chalkboard*, 8240 N 700 E, Hamlet, IN, 46532, hayesjt2012@gmail.com**