

# The Chalkboard

The Official Newsletter of the ISTA-Retired

Volume 10, Issue 1  
November/December 2021

## 2022 Retired Scholarships

All current ISTA members are eligible to nominate their children, stepchildren, grandchildren and/or step-grandchildren for ISTA Foundation Retired Scholarships. The ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council raises additional funds to increase the ISTA Foundation grant of \$700 and will award two \$2,500 retired scholarships in 2022. Retired scholarship applications are to be completed online at the ISTA website, [ista-in.org/scholarships-awards](http://ista-in.org/scholarships-awards), between Feb. 1 and April 1. The nomination form may be found by following these steps:

- Click “Our Profession” tab at the top of webpage.
- Select “Scholarships and Awards” from the drop-down list.
- Scroll down and select “Apply for ISTA Foundation Retired Scholarship.”

• Fill out the nomination form completely and hit the “Submit” button. Note: All applications for retired scholarships must be submitted online.

To qualify, nominees must have a minimum “C” average and must have graduated December 2021 or will graduate in May/June 2022 from a public high school. Recipients must continue their education during the fall of 2022 in a two or four-year accredited college or university, or participate in a formal accredited training program such as an apprenticeship, trade school, cosmetology, etc. The applicant does not have to reside in the same geographical area as the member in order to qualify, so out-of-state nominees are eligible.

Direct questions regarding the retired scholarship to Terry Tafflinger at [terrytafflinger@gmail.com](mailto:terrytafflinger@gmail.com).



***With renewed enthusiasm and energy, the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council was happy to meet in July both face-to-face and virtually to make plans for the 2021 – 22 membership year.***

In March 2022, **Zone 1** and **Zone 4** coordinator elections will take place. The six ISTA-Retired zone coordinators provide resources and information for the development and growth of retired chapters by Zone throughout the state. See pages 6 - 7 for election procedures and the retired zone coordinator petition for nomination form.

## From the Chair



*Rod Ellcessor, ISTA-Retired State Chair*

We are slowly beginning to have retired chapter meetings again in some of the locals. I have been to chapter meetings in Blue River, Wabash Valley, St. Joseph, Greater Indy, and Zones 1, 3, and 5 meetings in the last few weeks. We have also had Membership, Legislative, Communication, and Newsletter committee meetings. As I have traveled throughout

the state, I see many precautions being used. I know that we are all anxious to get back to normal and hope that it happens soon.

Everyone is asking about the 13th check/cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and how it happened. Legislators removed the 13th check at the end of the session and replaced it with the 1% COLA. This all happened without a chance to ask questions and have hearings held. The bill included language which made the COLA effective on January 1, 2022. This left us with no increase in the 2021 year and substantially less income over the biennium. OF COURSE, WE ARE DISAPPOINTED! Our Retired Legislative Committee has been meeting and planning our approach to the coming session. We will know more about our approach as we get closer to the start of the session.

If you are interested in running as a delegate to the ISTA and/or the NEA Representative Assemblies, make sure you complete the nomination form found in the current ISTA *Advocate*. You can also go online to the ISTA website in the retired section and find a copy. The deadline for submission is Nov. 10. Our Retired State Council will be meeting both live and online on Dec. 3. We will update you with those actions in the next issue of *The Chalkboard*.



Retired

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

Rod Ellcessor, State Chair  
Corey Kern, 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!**



### NEA Auto Buying Program

If you're in the market for a new or used car, the NEA Auto Buying Program through TrueCar is the first place you should look! NEA members and their families enjoy preferred pricing year round, save an average of \$3,125 off MSRP on new cars, plus get other benefits.

Visit the NEA Auto Buying Program today to see how much you can save! Go to [neamb.com/buyacar](http://neamb.com/buyacar).

## 2022 David Hannah Golden Touch Award

The annual David Hanna Golden Touch Award named in memory of David Hanna, a former longtime ISTA board member, NEA delegate and ISTA-Retired local and state activist, recognizes the 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 each year, 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](http://ista-in.org)) and include supportive examples of the nominee's service.

These examples may include flyers, promotional materials, newsletters, news clippings, pictures, 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.

For further information contact the chair of the retired Golden Touch Award Committee, Jon Brice at [bricejon8@gmail.com](mailto:bricejon8@gmail.com).

### Pictured are the 2021 David Hanna Golden Touch Award winners



**Steven Tafflinger**  
(1956-2020)  
1-B Retired

Steve worked diligently for retired members as the president of the 1-B Retired chapter since its inception. He was an elementary teacher for 35 years and served as President of the Association of Porter Township Education. He served on the ISTA

Board of Directors and the local membership committee where he worked relentlessly to create new and innovative ways to build membership. He attended numerous ISTA & NEA Representative Assemblies. Steve often spoke of NEA Member Benefits and how much it does pay to be an ISTA-Retired member.



**Tom Burns**  
Greater Indianapolis  
Retired

Tom is a tireless advocate for public education, educators and retired educator rights. He has spent countless hours preparing candidates for election to various offices. In the last several months Tom volunteered to travel and work in Georgia senatorial races.

He spent eight weeks and his work for public education was essential in helping to elect candidates. Tom has spent years working in Statehouse candidates' campaigns in Indiana and Indianapolis Public Schools school board campaigns. Tom also serves on the ISTA-Retired Legislative Committee.

## Allen County chapter

Twenty-two members and guests attended the Allen County chapter of ISTA-Retired which met at Bandido's Restaurant in Georgetown Square on Thursday, Sept. 9. This was the first in-person meeting in nearly a year and a half. Louise Yahne, president, chaired the meeting and asked those present to tell something which they experienced during the pandemic.

Reports were given by Dorthy Epple, secretary, Jim Clauser, secretary of the state council, and Steve Brace, UniServ Director. The speaker was Roni Embry, Public Education Advocacy Coordinator, who discussed what the legislature had done at the last session, particularly in regard to the COLA and 13th check. She entertained questions from the group. Door prizes were presented at the end of the meeting. The next meeting will be Nov. 11 at Hall's Tavern with speaker Randy Harter, a Fort Wayne historian.

## Blue River chapter



The Blue River Retired Chapter of ISTA met Sept. 13 at Willow Leaves Restaurant in Hope. The program was presented by Roni Embry, ISTA Public Education Advocacy Coordinator.

## Italian meal for 1-F chapter

Eighteen members of the 1-F Retired chapter enjoyed an Italian meal Sept. 22 at Martin's Supermarket in Warsaw. April Howell, a professional chef, prepared a delicious meal with appetizers, pasta carbonara and tiramisu for dessert. While preparing the meal, the chef stated she also prepares food for Notre Dame athletes. As she prepared the meal, tips were given on how to reduce the calories and make substitute ingredients. This is the second time 1-F has had a chef prepare a meal and give nutritional information.



## Gear up for the 2022 Indiana State Legislative Session

The next session of the Indiana State Legislature starts the first week of January. Now is the time to lay the groundwork on issues that matter to ISTA retired and active members. The first year of the biennial budget begins in January and retirees will receive a 1% COLA. This winter will be a perfect time to establish personal and/or local contact with legislators for the next budget cycle via phone, text or email to set up one-on-ones or small group meetings in which you share your own story with your representatives about the impact of falling behind the rate of inflation these last nine years. We need to guarantee that the mechanism called the Supplementary Reserve Account provides no less than a 1% COLA each year.

Remind your legislators that we vote and make phone calls, write editorials and notecards, post on social media, knock on doors and are willing to campaign for candidates. We can be warriors for worthy candidates, so they need to know that they can earn our involvement in their re-election or they can lose our power by failing to work on issues that matter to us.

Need contact information? Reach out to our ISTA-Retired Chairman Rod Ellcessor and the Retired Legislative Committee/Legislative Action Team (LAT) or the staff retired consultant, Roni Embry (contract information below). Please also consult with your retired LAT members to learn how to electrify this pre-session. Your effort can turn the tide in the future, so enlist in the army of advocates now. Once you make the contact with your legislative representative, please take a moment to let your ISTA staff and leadership know the conversations.

We'll have a Retired Legislative Lobby Day in February. Let's do the groundwork now to make that event the culmination of and reward for our success.

As always, thank you for your expertise, and effectiveness in gaining power in the process. You are the key to a future that serves us all!

*Retired LAT Members: Roger Sharp, rsharp2921@aol.com; Kathy Parks, gskpin@gmail.com; Tom Burns, tomburns2001@gmail.com; Rosemary Moore, rosemarymoore1219@gmail.com; Callie Marksbarry, callie167@comcast.net; Steve Wilson, 406wilsonslta@gmail.com; Rod Ellcessor, rellcessor@gmail.com; and Roni Embry, rembry@ista-in.org*

## Membership workshops across the state

The ISTA-Retired Membership Committee has planned several workshops across the state to recruit active ISTA members 55 years or older who will retire this school year or in the near future. Each participant receives a notebook and handouts. Every workshop has an Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) representative, a financial advisor, an attorney and an insurance consultant who is well-versed in Medicare. One

lucky recipient is given a free ISTA-Retired pre-retired life membership. Pass the word to active members 55 years or older to watch for the postcard that details where and when these programs are held.

Two workshops have been presented already in Valparaiso and Indianapolis with over 85 members attending. This is one meeting active members will not want to miss. Lunch is provided.



**Insurance consultant  
Craig Blume**



**INPRS representative Jeremy Haggard**



**Cindy Evens of South Putnam CTA was the lucky recipient of the free ISTA-Retired pre-retired life membership given at the workshop held in Indianapolis.**

**November 15-19  
American Education Week**

## Congrats ISTA-Retired! You did it!

During the pandemic with virtual meetings being held, NEA-Retired President Sarah Borgman challenged state retired associations to increase donations to the NEA Fund by 2%. ISTA-Retired increased donation amounts 46% and had a 23% increase in the number of members giving. Thirty-one states met or exceeded the challenge. NEA President Becky Pringle recognized the 31 states in a special virtual meeting on Oct. 14 for a job well done. Online giving is simple and easy at:

[educationvotes.nea.org/donate/](https://educationvotes.nea.org/donate/).

## ISTA-RETIRED ZONE 1 COORDINATOR AND ZONE 4 COORDINATOR ELECTION PROCEDURES

Below are the three-year term election procedures for the Zone 1 Coordinator and Zone 4 Coordinator effective 8/1/2022-7/31/2025. 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 Zone 1 Coordinator and Zone 4 Coordinator (terms stated above and below).
2. Only ISTA-Retired members residing in Zone 1 and Zone 4 who have retired from their education positions and whose membership forms have been processed by ISTA by December 2021 are eligible for nomination of the open positions listed above at their respective March 2022 meetings.
3. The **Retired Petition for Nominations** and the **Election Procedures for 8/2/2022-7/31/2025 term** will be printed in the November/December and February/March issues of the retired newsletter, *The Chalkboard*, and posted on the retired page of the ISTA website.
4. Nomination petition forms printed in the November/December and February/March issues of the retired newsletter, *The Chalkboard*, may be cut out or copied from *The Chalkboard*. 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.
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, February 15, 2022, or hand-delivered no later than February 15, 2022, 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

1. Following the close of the nominations on **February 15, 2022**, the names of all candidates and three listed qualifications will be printed and provided for the elections by eligible chapter representatives at the respective Zone 1 and Zone 4 meetings in March 2022.
2. 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

1. The election for Zone 1 Coordinator and Zone 4 Coordinator **shall be conducted at the respective Zone 1 and Zone 4 meetings in March 2022.** The election rules will also be posted on the ISTA website and included in the November/December and February/March ISTA-Retired newsletter, *The Chalkboard*.
2. Each of the Zone Chapter's four officers or four designated chapter representatives in attendance at the March 2022 Zone 1 meeting and Zone 4 meeting shall be the voting members. In Zone Coordinator elections, the retired chapter officers or designated chapter representatives attending the March Zone meeting are only eligible to vote for candidates in the zone where they reside as retired members.
3. Ballots will be provided by the office of ISTA-Retired for the Zone 1 and Zone 4 Coordinator elections to be conducted at their respective March 2022 meetings.
4. The names will be placed on the ballot in the order determined by drawing from a common receptacle by the designated retired staff with appropriate witnesses.
5. Each ballot shall contain a list of the properly certificated candidates. No other information about candidates may be legally included on the ballot.
6. Each eligible chapter representative may vote for one Zone Coordinator candidate for their respective Zone. Any ballot on which more votes appear than the total allowed shall not be counted.
7. **An officer of the state council or designee will provide all Zone ballots, a written report of the election results and the official registration document with names and addresses of the eligible voting chapter members for each Zone to the office of ISTA-Retired, Attn: ISTA-Retired Zone Coordinator Election, 150 West Market Street, Suite 900, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2875, within five days of the Zone election.**
8. Only those official ballots meeting shall be counted.

**(ELECTION PROCEDURES CONTINUED)**

9. The ballots shall be impounded by ISTA for two (2) years.

**CHALLENGE RULES**

1. Any challenge to these rules or any activity or result governed by them shall be submitted in writing to the chair of the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council, in care of the Indiana State Teachers Association, 150 W. Market St., Suite 900, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2875, by **March 16, 2022**.
2. If necessary, the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council Executive Committee will meet as soon as possible after receiving such challenge to review and act upon any submitted challenges. Any executive committee member who is a candidate for a position involved in a challenge shall be ineligible to participate as an executive committee member in the pertinent deliberations.
3. The chair of the ISTA-Retired Statewide District Council will notify the appropriate party of the action of the executive committee.

**RETIRED PETITION FOR NOMINATION**

**Retired Election for Zone 1 Coordinator and Zone 4 Coordinator Candidates 2022 – 25**

I hereby declare my eligibility and candidacy for (select one):

- ISTA-Retired Zone 1 Coordinator
- ISTA-Retired Zone 4 Coordinator

**NOTE: Only ISTA-Retired members residing in Zone 1 and Zone 4 are eligible to participate.**

**Candidate Information (This information is required.)**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ISTA ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Mailing Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (circle one) home cell \_\_\_\_\_

Home email: \_\_\_\_\_

You may list three Association activities. Each statement must be **six words or fewer**.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: Office of ISTA-Retired  
 ATTN: ISTA-RETIRED ZONE COORDINATOR CANDIDATE NOMINATION  
 150 W. Market St., Suite 900  
 Indianapolis, IN 46204

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Nominee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Must be post-marked on or before midnight February 15, 2022, 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

Retired chapters' meetings are listed below. Due to concern for the health and safety of members all safety precautions, including social distancing and masks, will be practiced at in-person meetings.

**NOTE: 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 2021

- 8 11 a.m., Blue River, Lake Points Apts. Clubhouse, 2301 N. Broadway, Greensburg, Program-The Wonderful World of Quilts, (812) 593-4546.
- 11 12 p.m., Allen County, Hall's Tavern, 5745 Coventry Lane, Fort Wayne, Program-Randy Harter, Fort Wayne Historian, (260) 436-2326.
- 11 11:45 a.m., 1-F Retired, The Barns (formerly known as Amish Acres), Nappanee. Enjoy an Amish meal and the holiday show "A Musical Christmas Carol 2021" and then a leisurely stroll. Matinee show is at 2 p.m. Cost: \$50.00. Ginger Calhoun at (574) 952-6491 / glc74@embarqmail.com or Jan Hayes at (574) 292-6624 / hayesjt2012@gmail.com.
- 17 11:30 a.m., Lake County, Harry O's Restaurant, US 41 (beside Walgreen) at Cedar Lake, Program-TBD, 219-794-4672.
- 18 11:30 a.m., Sullivan-Knox, Acorn Grill, 418 1/2 S Section St., Sullivan, Program-How to Improve Your Mental Health, (812) 243-0609.
- 20 St. Joseph County Chapter, Program-Upcoming Legislative Session – What can we expect? State Representative will preview the 2022 session. Location or Zoom depending on circumstances. Contact Jerry Ervin for details at 574-231-1924 or email jrervin007@gmail.com.

### DECEMBER 2021

- 7 11 a.m., Blue River, Grover Museum & Historical Society, 52 W Broadway, Shelbyville, Christmas Tree Exhibit, (812) 593-4546.
- 7 11 a.m., 1-B Retired, Valparaiso UniServ Office, Program-Angels Wrapped in Love, charitable organization presentation, Lunch meeting to follow, (219) 464-9466.
- 10 11 a.m., Greater Indianapolis, A Christmas Carol at Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre, 9301 Michigan Rd, Indianapolis, Limited seating, Cost-\$36, Reservations required-deadline to reserve seats Nov. 15, Send check for reservations to chapter treasurer Marti Daily, 9291 Golden Leaf way, Indianapolis, 46260, 317-257-4737.
- 14 11 a.m., CHMT, Program-Local school choir (TBD), Christmas Music, (765) 469-2298.

### JANUARY 2022

- 13 12 p.m., Allen County, Sunrise Café, 10230 Coldwater Rd, Fort Wayne, (Pending) Program-Attorney – Legal Issues for the Retired, (260) 436-2326. We will collect books for the elementary children.
- 19 11:30 a.m., Lake County, Harry O's Restaurant, US 41 (beside Walgreen) at Cedar Lake, Program-TBD, 219-794-4672.

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

Pictured are members who attended the Zone 2 meeting Sept. 28 at Fair Oaks Restaurant in Fair Oaks. Not shown is Jan Hayes, Zone 2 Coordinator. All retired chapters in Zone 2 were represented.

Zone 2 retired chapters are 1-B, Dunes, Lake County and Wabash.

