

EARTA LUNCHEON AND GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023
ELGIN COUNTRY CLUB

EARTA LUNCHEON AND GENERAL MEETING was held at The Elgin Country Club on Friday, April 21, 2023. Social hour was at 11:30, and the luncheon was at 12:00. Lucy Niemeier, President, welcomed members to the meeting. She introduced Matt Boer, a guest at our meeting. Lucy reminded members to sign up as to whether they would like to receive the JOGGER via mail or e-mail. The sign-up sheet also was for the drawing of 3 gift baskets to be announced at the end of the meeting.

CHAPLAIN – MICK WILLIAMS offered a very meaningful invocation before the meal.

LUNCHEON Members enjoyed visiting and sharing the meal of tossed salad, chicken breast with brie sauce, rice, green beans, and cookies and gelato.

BUSINESS MEETING

PRESIDENT – LUCY NIEMEIER Lucy reported that a new process for directories is being done. Karen Patterson is working on this. The EARTA Website has been updated and the members were invited to check it out. Lucy reported that on each table, members will find copies of the minutes from the February 24, 2023, General Meeting. She asked if there were any corrections. Hearing none, they were accepted as written and will be on file. Lucy made a reminder note for each member concerning the future luncheon dates which are Friday, June 16, Friday September 15, and Friday, November 17.

VICE-PRESIDENT – BARB MCGEE Barb announced that Jerry Turnquist will be our program presenter following the business meeting. His presentation will be about History of Elgin today.

TREASURER – DAVID WEDEMEYER There is \$4,111.18 in the EARTA checking account, and \$5,518.10 in the EARTA savings account.

David shared information about EARTA member, John Duffy. John was a beloved Latin LHS teacher, Elgin Teachers' Association Union activist, and local, state, national, and Community College leader and mentor. John was recognized at a celebration of his retirement from 48 years on the Junior College Board of Trustees in Illinois and the ECC Board. He was the longest serving Trustee of the Board. John was always forward thinking, and put students first.

JOGGER – CHRISTINE MOELLER Christine reminded members to e-mail her with information for the JOGGER.

MEMBER CORRESPONDENCE – DIANE GEARY Diane asked members to contact her with information concerning members who are ill or have passed away.

LEGISLATIVE – MICK WILLIAMS Mick referred to the handouts on the table. There was a Legislative report from 4/21/23. The report covered information about the IBHE Awards of over \$3 Million in Early Childhood Worker Grants. There is also a report about Illinois seeking library pledge against ‘banning’ books. Additional notes reported that 14 counties are at an elevated COVID -19 Level.

Mick had a hand-out from AREA 2 IRTA Zoom Conference held on 4/5/23. It stated that there are 40,118 current memberships in IRTA. He highlighted that IRTAPAC has about 1,150 dues deduct contributors giving \$1.00 a month from their monthly pay. Members need to be encouraged to sign up for this as it contributes to big legislative lobby. Both reports are on file, and Mick stated that he would send you a copy on request.

Mick reported that TRS wants to reorganize in October. We are all encouraged to go on line for up-to-date information.

GIFT BASKETS Drawing for the 3 gift baskets was done. The lucky winners were Lorna, Christine Moeller, and David Wedemeyer.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:31.

PROGRAM

A slide program was presented by EARTA member, Jerry Turnquist. The title was History of Elgin. Jerry presented many facts about Elgin over many years. He shared notable people that have visited Elgin in the past such as Carry Nation, Bill Taft, and Lucille Ball. Liz Taylor received treatment at Sherman Hospital. There was an earthquake in 1909. The Wing Park Pool was once a bath house. Fountain Square was the center of Elgin. Lord’s Park must always be a public park. He highlighted areas that are no longer here such as Knot’s Hill, David’s Glen Trillium Park. He told about events that happened in Elgin such as shipping turtles, horse racing on the river, and he reminded us that Elgin is the home of Gail Borden Library and the History Museum. We all learned more about our hometown and enjoyed the presentation very much.

Respectively submitted,
Kay Lincicome, Recording Secretary