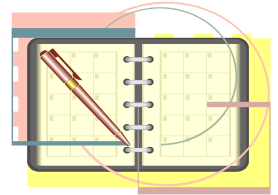
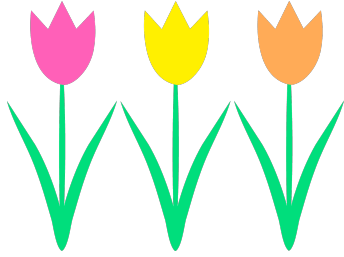


EARTTA

Elgin Area Retired Teachers Association / IRTA

March / April 2019

www.earta.org



The Jogger

Mark Your Calendar

General Meeting, Friday, April 19, 2019

Elgin Country Club, 2575 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL 847-741-1716

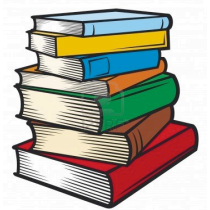
11:30 A.M. - Social Time **12:00 noon** - Luncheon

MENU

Whitehall salad with artichokes and asparagus, rolls, Veronique chicken- chicken breast with white wine sauce and grape halves served on wild rice, and steamed broccoli. Warm truffle cookie with ice cream for dessert. Beverages of Coffee, Hot and/or Iced Tea, and Lemonade will be available.

Reservations due Thursday, April 11, to Christine Moeller 805 Carol Ave. Elgin, IL 60123. Phone 847.741.8520 **Please make checks for \$25 payable to EARTTA.**

APRIL PROGRAM



What's New

Tish Calhamer, Community Engagement Manager, of the Gail Borden Library will share the newest technology available at the library. She will also share the newest and most interesting literature.

MINUTES OF THE EARTA

GENERAL MEETING

February 15, 2019



EARTA LUNCHEON AND

GENERAL MEETING was held at the Elgin Country Club. Social hour was at 11:30, and the luncheon was at 12:00. Barb McGee, President, welcomed everyone. She recognized Lisa Gunter, owner of Sunshine Travel, as a guest. Luncheon was served following the invocation given by Mick Williams, EARTA Chaplain.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President – Barb McGee called the meeting to order.

Recording Secretary – Kay Lincicome Barb asked for additions or corrections to the minutes which were printed in the JOGGER. A correction was made to the incorrect date given for the luncheon. The minutes were approved as corrected and written.

Treasurer – Jean Jederman reported that as of February 1, 2019, there is \$2874.84 in the checking account, and \$8492.58 in the savings account. The report will be filed for audit. Jean reported that a memorial gift of \$25 is given to the IRTA Foundation as a memorial from EARTA for members that have passed.

Corresponding Secretary – Joyce Causey reported that since the last General Meeting/Luncheon, EARTA has lost 4 members. They are Lorraine Jurgensen, Nancy Gray, Sue Mellen, and Dick Sisler. Joyce reminded members to please contact her or David Brown with any information concerning members that are ill, hospitalized, in rehab, or have passed. She will send cards to them or family.

Social/Charity – Coral Reinert reported that she received a Thank-You from the U-46 Foundation for EARTA's donation to the Foundation.

Coral introduced Lisa Gunter, from Sunshine Travel. Lisa presented information about a trip on the Panama Canal that EARTA members and friends are invited to enjoy. The trip will begin on October 7, 2019. A \$100 deposit is required. Coral reported that 12 people have already booked the trip. For more information, please contact Coral. Irene Wedemeyer invited members and guest to the upcoming Epicurean Adventures. On February 27, there will be one at the Niche in Geneva. On March 19, another Adventure will be at the Montarra Grill in Algonquin. For more information, please contact Irene or Karen Patterson. Irene reminded members that all are invited to the Supper Club at Hooper's Bar and Grill on March 11.

Legislation – David Wedemeyer pointed out the yard signs that were placed in the front of the dining hall. They were for the upcoming April 2, 2019, School Board election. The candidates that are endorsed by the Unions of U-46 are: Kate Thommes, John Devereux, Eva Porter, and Sue Kerr. Voters must live in the U-46 boundaries. David suggested things EARTA can do for the election:

Vote, display yard signs concerning the candidates, attend public forums, and volunteer to send out 100 post cards. David had us give ourselves a round of applause as we are members of IRTA, the organization that initially went to court and spear-headed that lawsuit that protected the constitutional mandated 3% annual increase. Governor Pritzker has appointed 2 task forces to give him ideas to deal with the massive pension underfunding problem. He has committed to solve the debt and pension problems: NOT at the expense of social services, NOT at the expense of support for education, and Not on the back of state retirees. David's full report is on file.

Membership – David Brown thanked the committee that helped put the Directory together. He reminded members that all the upcoming General Meetings/Luncheons are on Page 3 and suggested to mark their calendars as a reminder.

New Business The Pre-Retirement Celebration, date, and location are being planned.

Area 2 Leadership Conference Monday, June 3, 2019 at Chandlers in Schaumburg.

Adjournment Barb announced that the next General Meeting/Luncheon will be at the Elgin Country Club on April 19, 2019. She adjourned the business meeting at 1:30.

Program Lucy Niemeier introduced our program. Mikhail Antoshis is a musician who plays the piano, accordion, other instruments, is a singer, and teaches music. His program is interactive. Mikhail was born in Russia and resides in Illinois now. He played familiar tunes while we ate our luncheon. After the business meeting he began with the song "Entertainer" and continued with a wide variety of music. He played some classical songs and explained about the composers. He played jazz and various genres of music. He played songs from Russia, France, and Brazil along with songs from United States. He played his accordion which was the first instrument he learned to play in Russia. He was enjoyed by everyone.

Respectively submitted,

Kay Lincicome – Recording Secretary



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Thank you for your contributions to the Crisis at the February luncheon. They were very appreciative of the donations. If you are involved in a group or know of a particular need for a certain organization, please contact me at clange50@sbcglobal.net or call me at 847-695-1822 to provide me with contact information.

Cindy Lange

We will be looking for donations of:

Plastic Bags: grocery, sandwich, quart and gallon zip lock

Paper Products: toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues

Cleaning Products: toilet bowl cleaner, bleach, He powder laundry detergent

Any of the other items listed in previous Joggers are always appreciated!

The Community Crisis Center is a non-profit social service agency providing services to individuals & families in Kane and NW Suburban Cook Counties who are dealing with economic crisis, domestic violence or sexual assault. Contact 847-742-4088 for more information or visit www.crisiscenter.org

Thank you for supporting the Crisis Center. If you would like to see the "Needs List", log on to www.crisiscenter.org; go to Donate link - needs list.



Treasurer's Report
As of March 1, 2019
Savings: \$8492.58
Checking: \$1637.55

Your 2019 DIRECTORY was mailed on 2/19/19.
If you didn't get it let David Brown know.

YOUR DIRECTORY: What school districts do we serve? Front Cover. What group meets in the month before each luncheon? Check page 1. How did EARTA come to be? Try page 2. Our luncheon dates for your calendar are on page 3. Need to contact IRTA or TRS? Pages 3 & 4. Some legislators are on page 4. EARTA activities are listed on page 5. Membership information: Page 6. Our Constitution begins on page 53.

NEED TO MAKE CORRECTIONS? Contact David B. The directory is as accurate as the information that we have when we have to publish. Disclaimers: Page 6.

CHARITY:

The EARTA Board chose to donate \$100 to the U-46 Educational Foundation to support bright new ideas in teaching and learning. This year the Foundation awarded mini-grants of up to \$500 to eight teachers across the district. These grants provide activities that enhance, enrich, and complement existing opportunities for student learning.



**"Laughter is timeless,
Imagination has no age,
and
Dreams are forever."
Disney**



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Since my comments about the April 2nd **U-46 School Board election** were so well received at the February luncheon, I thought I would reprise some of the information. If you live in U-46, these four candidates are supported by our current colleagues in the classroom. Please, consider voting for them on April 2nd.

John Devereaux

Sue Kerr

Eva Porter

Kate Thommes

Governor Pritzker has said that **Illinois pensions are protected by the state constitution**, and the Democrats control both houses of the state legislature. Hopefully, that means the General Assembly will not waste time in trying to reduce our benefits. Unfortunately, it appears that pension holidays and

“funny funding” of the pension obligations are still on the table.

Governor Pritzker’s budget proposal was certainly not what IRTA had hoped. Another pension holiday...he budgeted \$576 million less to TRS than expected. He proposed that contributions for future years be reduced by moving the 90% funding goal from 2045 to 2052. He is also proposing that the state sell \$2 billion in pension obligation bonds, which helps short term but would cost the state \$6 billion in principal and interest down the road.

The **Governor’s income tax proposal** was just released. He characterized it as a starting point. We will see how that all ends up, specifically whether or not retirees will be taxed and at what rate.

David Wedemeyer

EARTA Legislative Chair

May 1, 2019, TRS Annuitant Trustee Election

IRTA endorses

DOUG STRAND

SOCIAL EVENTS:

Supper Club: We are looking forward to meeting again on Monday, April 8th, at Hooper's Bar and Grill at 5:30 P.M. If you haven't joined us before, please mark your calendar to attend and see what you've been missing!

Epicurean Adventure: We will be meeting on Tuesday, March 19, at Montarra Grill in Algonquin at 6:00 P.M. and on Thursday, April 25th at Chicago Prime Italian (was Rosebud) in Schaumburg. If you plan to attend or have any questions, please call Karen Patterson (847-742-5433) or Irene Wedemeyer (847-697-5434). Hope to see you.

Tour Information: At this time, we have 16 members planning to go on the Panama Canal Cruise aboard the Island Princess. We will be leaving from Ft. Lauderdale on October 7th and returning on October 17th after visiting Amber Cove, Dominican Republic; Cartagena, Columbia; Cristobal, Panama; Limon, Costa Rica; and Falmouth Jamaica. If you'd like to join us, don't hesitate to call Coral Reinert at 847-742-4330 for additional information.

Volunteer Opportunity

A letter from Peggy Hernandez, NBCT, U-46 Planetarium Teacher

I am currently teacher/director of the Elgin U-46 Planetarium. I have been here 10 years and made many changes and updates to the programs. I also have slogged through many years of collections of stuff (for lack of a better word) that has accumulated.

I have done a lot of sorting and organizing files and general ephemera. I am ready to take the next step and digitize and catalog/inventory the materials here. This will be quite a project, but worthwhile to keep records intact and available.

I was wondering if there might be a small group of retired teacher that would be interested in helping me. I am in the planning stages of this project, so don't have any hard deadlines or even a set plan, but I would welcome any ideas or help offered. I picture something like the archivists at Elgin High School that have worked on their old records,

I look forward to hearing from you,

Peggy Hernandez

847-888-5324

peggyhernandez@u-46.org