

# EARTA

## Elgin Area Retired Teachers Association / IRTA

March/April 2020

[www.earata.org](http://www.earata.org)



# The Jogger

**PLEASE NOTE**

To keep all our members healthy and safe, **ALL** EARTA programs, social events and meetings are cancelled through April. Our next General Meeting will be June 19, 2020 at Elgin Country Club.



## **MINUTES OF THE EARTA GENERAL MEETING November 16, 2018**

### **EARTA LUNCHEON AND GENERAL MEETING**

**ELGIN LUNCHEON AND GENERAL MEETING** was held at the Elgin Country Club on February 21, 2020. Social Hour was at 11:30 and the luncheon at 12:00. Christine introduced IRTA AREA II, Northeast Representative, Wendy Wiegers. Wendy shared the goals of AREA II with a handout highlighting the names of IRTA Board Members and their contact information. Wendy encouraged members to contact her or other Board Members with any questions or concerns we might have. She shared there are 8 units in our AREA II. She recognized EARTA officers and thanked them for the work they do. She encouraged members to go to Voter Voice to give opinions on decisions concerning us. She also shared there is a scholarship for AREA II future teachers that members can recommend to prospective teachers. To contact Wendy for information about IRTA:

[wowwiegers@comcast.net](mailto:wowwiegers@comcast.net)

Luncheon was served following the invocation by Chaplain, Mick Williams.

### **OFFICERS' AND COMMITTEES' REPORTS**

**President - Christine Moeller** introduced herself as the 2020-2022 EARTA president. She stated she was happy to

serve and welcomed hearing from members about questions and concerns. She introduced three guests; Lowell Koester, Jonathan Bast, and Donna Beichel. All were U-46 teachers. Christine shared that members can apply for 2020 Census job opportunities. For more information call 1-800-562-2020. She also shared the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) is seeking retired teachers to proctor digitally based assessments on tablets with 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in school for the 2021 school year. For more information, please contact

<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard>. Christine announced there is an opportunity to join the EARTA Board, as three Board members are retiring from their positions. The openings are: Membership, Editor of the JOGGER, and Social/Charity. Please contact Christine if you are interested in one of these positions. She also announced that EARTA is looking for ideas to attract new members. Please email her at [deckmoe@aol.com](mailto:deckmoe@aol.com) with your suggestions. Christine recognized Jean Jederman and thanked her for her 20 years of service as EARTA's Treasurer. Jean received a standing ovation and a gift for her service to our organization. Many thanks, Jean!

**Recording Secretary – Kay Lincicome** Christine asked for any correction to the minutes of the November 15, 2019, General Meeting/Luncheon as printed in the JOGGER. Corrections were made and accepted (Legislative should read that there are 53, not 93, locals in IRTA, and the tour in

Social/Charity report should read “The Panama Canal Cruise” ). The minutes will be on file.

**Corresponding Secretary – Joyce Causey** reported that she sent out cards to members who were ill or had surgery. She had hand-made cards for sale after the meeting. Proceeds benefit EARTA.

Treasurer’s Report – Diane Arnhold reported that as of January 31, 2020, there was \$1556.33 in the checking account, and \$8501.07 in the savings account. She reported IRTA sent a thank-you for the \$150 donated at the IRTA Convention for the IRTA Action Committee. Diane reminded some members to pay their dues.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Social/Charity Coral Reinert** reported that the Supper Club met at Hooper’s Bar and Grill on February 10, and enjoyed a meal while labeling directories. The next Supper Club will meet on March 9. The next Epicurean Adventure will be at Biaggi’s in Algonquin on February 26. On March 23, Epicurean Adventure will be at Shaw’s Crab House in Schaumburg.

**Legislation – David Wedemeyer** gave a report of “What’s on the Horizon Legislatively and Politically?” He reported there will be an Illinois Primary Election on March 17, and a general election on November 3. There will be a Fair Tax Constitutional Amendment on the November 3 ballot. It is written narrowly to only open the tax section of the Illinois Constitution. This affects only 3% of Illinoisans, higher income earners paying their fair share. It is expected to bring in an extra \$3 billion a year. It is recommended to vote YES. Governor Pritzker’s budget for 2020-2021 praises the TRIP/TRAIL model paid for by retirees, active teachers, school districts and the state. The budget diverts \$51 million away from TRIP/TRAIL but fully funds Chicago Teachers and Community College healthcare. The governor’s budget is a starting point and will be negotiated. GOOD NEWS: The budget fully funded the state’s TRS contribution. David reported on “Opportunities to help promote your IRTA interests”:

IRTA Political Action Committee  
IRTA Legal Defense Fund  
Checks payable to: IRTAPAC  
Checks payable to: IRTA

Memo line: Legal Defense Fund

Mail to: IRTA  
828 S. Second St. 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62704

**ADJOURNMENT** Christine adjourned the meeting at 1:26.

**PROGRAM** Christine introduced the program. Peggy Ognacevic Engels is a professional pianist, organist, cellist,

and classical music performer. She holds a bachelor’s degree in piano and a master’s degree in piano performance from NIU. She is a church musician and teaches music lessons. She began her program with two classical pieces and then played “Love Songs Through the Ages” to celebrate Valentine’s Month. Some of her songs were “We’ve Only Just Begun”, “Wind Beneath My Wings”, songs from The Phantom of the Opera, and Lion King. She ended her piano concert with a medley of three popular Beatles songs. Her program was enjoyed by members.

Respectfully submitted by  
Kay Lincicome, Recording Secretary



Stay safe and healthy!

### **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

Thank you to those who attended the December luncheon and participated in the Pajama Collection for the Salvation Army. EARTA members brought 25 sets of pajamas and also donated \$365 for more pjs to be purchased. Thank you Murna Hansemann, for contacting me about this project. If you are involved in a group or know of a particular need for a certain organization, please email me at [clang50@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clang50@sbcglobal.net) or call me at 847-695-1822 to provide me with contact information.  
Cindy Lange

### **June Features the Crisis Center in Elgin**

Please consider bringing items of need for the Crisis Center when you attend the February luncheon.

For babies, the greatest need is baby diapers - sizes 4, 5 or 6; baby wipes too.

**TOILETRIES** Please donate new unopened items.

Dental Floss, Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

Deodorant/Anti-perspirant (non-aerosol)

Disposable Razors & Shaving Cream

Hair Care Items, Shampoos & Conditioners

Plastic soap & toothbrush holders

Shower gel

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



### **ELECTRONIC JOGGER**

Would you love to get the Jogger sooner? Don't want your copy lost in the mail? Are you interested in helping EARTA "go green"? If you would like to receive your Jogger by email, please contact Christine Moeller, [deckmoe@aol.com](mailto:deckmoe@aol.com) , with your information.

### **SOCIAL EVENTS:**

Supper Club: We met on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at Hooper's Bar and Grill at 5:30 p.m. Our next Supper Club was scheduled for Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, but will be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. We will now plan to meet on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at the same place and same time. Everyone is invited to attend and bring guests. The more, the merrier!

Epicurean Adventure: Our plans to go to Shaw's Crab House in Schaumburg on March 23<sup>rd</sup> had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Future get-togethers will be planned as soon as quarantines are lifted. If you'd like to join the group, please contact Karen Patterson or Irene Wedemeyer.

Tour Information: At this time, no new tours have been planned. If you, or someone you know, would like to participate on the Board and plan social events for the members, please call Christine Moeller.