



Johnson County
Retired Teachers
Association
Sept. 2011 Newsletter
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2011 – 2012 Officers

President: **Charles Cragen**
Past President: **Marjorie Crews**
Vice President: **Dr. Mary Margaret Webb**
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Treasurer: **Sue Christiansen**
Membership: **Janet Mitchell**
Community Service: **Dee Costantino
& Carolyn Fulkerson**
Newsletters: **Goldie Jones**
Legislative: **JCRTA Officers**
Troubleshooter/Webmaster: **Ray Jones**

Next Meeting: JCRTA will meet on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 101 East Street in Bargersville.

Directions to the meeting:

Coming from the west on 144 going east into Bargersville: You will want to turn right onto Harriman Street. It is the third street to the right after the railroad track. Travel a short distance and turn left onto East Street. The church is on the left.

Coming from the east on 144 going west into Bargersville: After you cross the stoplight at SR 135, you will turn left onto Harriman Street (The first street you can turn left.) Travel a short distance and turn left onto East Street. The church is on the left.

Cost/Reservations: Lunch \$9.00 **Please RSVP Sue Christiansen at 736-6541 no later than Tuesday September 13, 2011. Please notice this is 2 weeks before the 27th. The cooks need the info to order food.** Guests are always welcome, but please make reservations for them too.

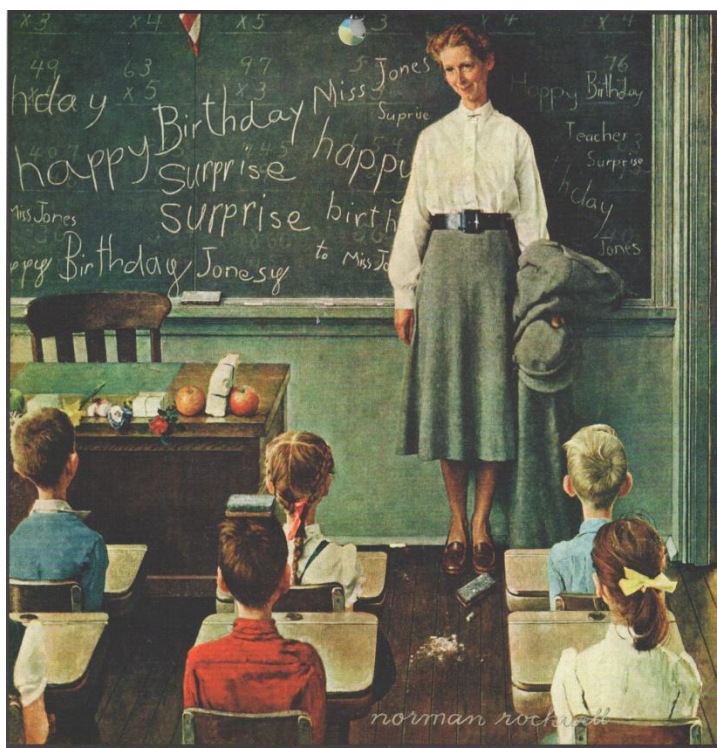
Lunch Menu: Ham, meatloaf, or chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, corn, green beans, salad, rolls, desserts, coffee, tea, lemonade, and water.

Registration will be from 11:30-12:00.

Program: **Steve Russo, the executive director of the newly formed Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS)** will discuss what this means for the Teachers Retirement Fund (TRF). Steve has been the executive director of TRF for several years. TRF is now under the umbrella of INPRS and Steve is now the executive director of INPRS. Johnson County teachers who have retired since January will be invited guests of JCRTA for this meeting.

DOLLENS ONE ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE IS OUR NEWEST PROJECT:

The 1850 era renovated Dollens one room schoolhouse is located between Needham and Webb elementary schools in Franklin. It is not being used up to its potential due to the following reasons: 1) It does not have a nearby restroom and 2) It needs volunteers to act as school marms and masters for present-day students to have 1850 era school experiences based on today's state standards. JCRTA and Franklin Community Schools are working together to address these needs. Thanks to a major financial donation from a JCRTA member, and a fund set up for the school, the two issues are being addressed. The outside shell of the restroom is now finished and the insides will be done by the end of Sept. We are working on getting volunteers and the curriculum established for use during this school year.



Your donations will help this project become a reality.

Dee Costantino, was the area 5 Clock Award winner at the 46th IRTA representative assembly in May. This is given to one person in each of the eight IRTA areas for ultimate examples in volunteering. June 2010 Dee accepted total responsibility for two high school boys with family issues who were not related to her. Dee estimated 1300+ hours, which is certainly low for all the time and responsibility involved. IRTA and JCRTA congratulate and thank you for your efforts.

In September, 2011, your Indiana Retired Teacher's monthly deposit will be larger than normal. The increased amount will range from \$150 to \$450 (before taxes). This extra amount is commonly referred to as the 13th check. If you retired after January 1, 2011, you will NOT qualify for this benefit until 2012. Indiana Retired teachers have received a 13th check and/or COLA (cost of living adjustment) yearly for the last 29 years. Due to the state's economy a COLA has not happened for the last few years. **The 13th check and/or COLA do not automatically happen every year.** Your help is needed to keep these continuing for the years ahead.

Yearly, the Indiana legislature must pass and the governor must sign legislation that authorizes the 13th check and/or COLA for YOU and the other retired teachers of Indiana. Annually, legislators must be encouraged and be given reasons why they need to pass this legislation. The **Indiana Retired Teachers Association** is the organization that has the sole purpose of representing all **Indiana Retired Educators**. The executive director, Andy Thomas, and the legislative team of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association do this task for you.

Before retiring in 2008 after 46 years as a teacher, elementary principal, and technology director, I knew nothing about the Indiana Retired Teachers Association. However, I have since become convinced that this organization serves the retired educators of Indiana in a very worthwhile and beneficial manner.

My name is Ray Jones and I am now the director of Area 5 for the Indiana Retired Teachers Association. Area 5 is made up of the 13 central Indiana counties of **Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Hendricks, Marion, Hancock, Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Owen, Monroe, Brown, and Bartholomew**. There are **17 local chapters within the 13 counties**. As Area 5 director, I represent you and all the other 12,000+ retired educators Area 5 on the Indiana Retired Teachers Association board of directors. My duties include visiting Area 5 local meetings, getting to know the president and other members, and providing information and assistance as needed. Please check out www.retiredteachers.org

The purpose of this letter is to strongly encourage you to become an annual member of the Indiana Retired Teachers Association and your local chapter. **Where else can you invest \$30 for state dues and \$5 for local dues and get an annual return of up to \$450 and other benefits?** If you do the state dues deduction offer, the \$30 will be taken out each September. The 13th check will more than pay for the \$30 state dues. There are many reasons to join your local chapter. Programs, meals, and interact with other retired teacher individually and professionally. The locals are the foundation of the state organization. Check out www.jcrtain.net for local Johnson County Retired Teachers Association (JCRTA) information as well as IRTA Area 5 information. **Your membership and support are needed and will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for reading this letter.**

Sincerely,

Ray A. Jones, Area 5 Director, Indiana Retired Teachers Association, E-mail: jonesraya@gmail.com

Charles Cragen, President, JCRTA, Mary Margaret Webb, Vice-President, JCRTA

Sue Christiansen, Treasurer, JCRTA, Barbara Seath, Secretary, JCRTA

Goldie Jones, Newsletter, JCRTA, Marjorie Crews, Past President, JCRTA

Dee Constantino, Community Service, JCRTA, Carol Chappel, Membership, JCRTA
Carolyn Fulkerson

The next executive board meeting for the Johnson County Retired Teachers is October 19, at 3:30 @ the Grace Methodist Church. Anyone is invited to attend. We are looking for new officers for next year. We will need a president, vice president, and treasurer. Come and check out one of our meetings. We would like to have you involved with our organization.

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$3,217.04 **Balance 6-15-11**
\$ 407.00 **Income**
\$1,259.28 **Expenditures**
\$2,364.76 **Balance 8-17-11**
Sue Christiansen, treasurer

Good News: No Memoriam Names to Report

FUTURE MEETINGS for 2011-2012	
December 6, 2011 Lunch @ Greenwood Village South	
March 27, 2012 @ Johnson County Museum of History	
May 22, 2012	TBA
July 24, 2012	TBA
Sept. 25, 2012	TBA
Dec. 4, 2012	TBA