Jasper County
Retired School Personnel
Association
2026-2027

Officers:

Co-Presidents: Denise Bontrager & Lana Wohlers
Vice-President: Jayne Love
Secretary: Sharon Bergeson
Treasurer: Deb Hansch

Committee Chairpersons:

Legislative: Membership
Health Tips and News: Membership
Scholarship Chair: Marsha Berndt
Membership Chair: Leslie Maach
Outreach: Linda Kirchhoff
Hospitality: Susan Hawk, Mary Newton, JoAnne Price
Social Media/Promotion: Carolyn Cook

Past Presidents

H.A. Lynn	1973-1974	Dorothy Petroff	2000-2002
Eugene Burton	1974-1978	Arlene Byers	2002-2004
Edward Osborn	1978-1980	Hazel Peterson	2004-2006
J.F. Becker	1980-1984	Don Black	2006-2008
Emeron Dettman	1984-1988	Russell Clayton	2008-2010
Eleanor Wheeler	1988-1990	Pam Andrews	2010-2014
Carl Orthner	1990-1992	Gayle Berryhill & Marsha Berndt	2014-2018
Ruth Hill	1992-1994		
Jean Von Seggern	1994-1996	Sandra Prendergast & Victoria Reynolds	2018-2020
Russell Clayton	1996-1998		
Marian Ponder	1998-2000	Denise Bontrager & Lana Wohlers	2020-

Charter Members *all charter members are deceased*

Laura Barnes
B.C. Berg
Maurine Bond
Charity Brom
Sarah Brown
A.E. Burton
Wilda Byal
Irene Colyn
Rowena Derickson
Bernice Eastburn
Olga Hoffman
Cecelia Hopkin
Miriam Huigen
Otha Hulse
Rhea Hulse
Gail Judy
Jennie Lee
H.A. Lynn
Reva Meredith
Jennie Miller
Iva Moles
Mary Moore
Lois Poortinga
Pearl Rader
Alice Reed
Hazel Rice
Daisy Santen
Lulu Snyder
Marian Speake
Verna Stock
Dorothy Talbot
Gertrude Thornton
Ina Umble
Dorothy Wisgerhof

Scholarship Recipients

Marissa Vos of Lynnville-Sully (2016)
Heather Jessen of Baxter (2017)
Troy Hesse III of Baxter (2018)
Mia Burns of Prairie City-Monroe (2019)
Nicholas Duffy of Colfax-Mingo (2020)
[Changed major. Returned money.]
Makayla Smith of Colfax-Mingo (2022)
Oliva Houseman of Lynnville-Sully (2021)
McKenna Pleiman of Colfax-Mingo (2023)
(Baxter had no education majors)
Jocelyn Harder of Baxter (2024)
Kalleigh Berndt of Newton (2025)
Anna VanWyk & Sadie Manatt of Lynnville-Sully (2026) (shared)

Job Descriptions/Duties for Jasper County Retired School Personnel Association

President/Co-President will:

- Preside at all meetings of the Association and the Executive Board.
- Call special meetings when necessary.
- Perform other duties that are the usual obligation of the president.
- Appoint a committee of two members not on the Executive Board to audit the treasurer's books before July 1.
- Keep a notebook containing the newsletters, minutes, a copy of the annual directory, the state newsletters, and anything else of importance in a notebook to be passed on to the next president.

Vice-President will:

- Assist the president and, in the event of the inability of the president to serve, perform the duties of the president.
- Along with the leadership team, plan the programs.
- Contact the presenter a week prior to their program to reconfirm and provide logistics (place, time, door entrance, etc.).
- Send thank you's to all presenters post meetings.

Secretary will:

- Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association.
- Complete all correspondence required by the office.

Treasurer will:

- Receive and keep an accurate record of all monies belonging to the Association.
- Collect state and local dues and forward dues to the state treasurer.
- Pay all bills.
- Keep an accurate account of receipts and expenditures.
- Keep a file of receipts, fills, canceled checks, and bank statements.
- Present to the Association for approval of a budget developed by the executive board.
- Present a financial report at each regular meeting.
- Submit for annual audit the account(s) of the organization of the close of the fiscal year.

Scholarship Chair will:

- Each fall, reach out to the appropriate school's counselor to inquire about potential education majors. This is to give the counselor notice that JCRSPA will be awarding a $500 scholarship to a deserving senior pursuing an educational degree. We ask that by March 1st if no one indicates an interest in education, to make us aware so we may move on to the next school in alphabetical order. We need the recipient's name by March 15th.
- Will have the option to present the award at the school's assembly.

Membership Chair will:

- Check the membership list from the treasurer and remind those that have not paid. This may be done by either phoning or sending a written notice.
- Go to each school district in the county to get names of all retirees. At the very least, ask the number of people retiring and leave the letter written by the co-presidents for each person retiring. If you're able to get a name, address the letter to that person and ask the secretary to put it in that person's box.
- Hang the "Happy Hours for Happy Days" flyer in various locations around town.

Outreach Chair will:

- Send cards to members in case of illness.
- Send a card to the next of kin in the event of the death of a member.
- Pass along any news concerning our members to our group at meetings.

Hospitality Chairs will:

- Unlock and lock door prior to/after meeting.
- Plan November and May luncheons as well as the December and February social.
- Set up room as necessary before meetings. Ensure the room is returned to its original state.
- Organize refreshments, prepare drinks, and with the help of those that brought food, clean up the kitchen. Take the garbage to the dumpster.
- Replenish supplies.

Social Media/Promotion Chair will:

- Maintain Facebook page to promote Association via social media.

Legislative - Contributed by Membership

Health Tips and News - Contributed by Membership

JCRSPA Calendar of Meetings - 2026-2027

Meetings are held at St Luke Methodist Church at 501 E 19th Street N, Newton, Iowa,
on the last Tuesday of the month, unless noted otherwise.

September 29, 2026 ~ 1:30 PM ~ St Luke
Program: “Newton Correctional Facility: Overview”
Presenter: Adam Yetmar, Warden
Refreshments: Board members & committee chairs

October 27, 2026 ~ 1:30 PM ~ St Luke
Program: “Jasper County Historical Museum: Services Provided and Opportunities to Volunteer”
Presenter: Lynne Whelan, Director
Refreshments: Members whose last names that begin with L-Z

November 24, 2026 ~ 12 Noon ~ Fall luncheon ~ St Luke
Program: “Newton Public Library: Overview”
Presenter: Nicole Terry, Library Director
Lunch: Members whose last names that begin with A-H

December 2, 2026 ~ Social ~ 2:00 - 4:00 ~ St Luke
Carols and Cookies for Christmas (social only)
Cookie exchange and Mary Newton playing Christmas music

February 23, 2027 ~ 12:30 ~ PJ’s Deli
No program. Social gathering only.

March 30, 2027 ~ 1:30 ~ St Luke
Program: “Center for Arts and Artists: Ways to Get Involved”
Presenter: Sophie Kruger, Director
Refreshments: Members whose last names that begin with A-C

April 27, 2027 ~ Noon Spring Potluck ~ St Luke
Program: “St Croix Hospice: Who Are We and What Do We Do”
Presenter: Brian Kramer, Care Transition Coordinator
Lunch: Members whose last names that begin with K-Z

May 25, 2027 ~ 1:30 PM ~ St Luke
Program: “Crisis Canines and Police K-9”
Presenter: Deputy Wyatt Dylan and Sergeant Mike Gunsaulus
Refreshments: Members whose last names that begin with D-K