



IOWA RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION



President: Chris Campidilli,
1965 230th Street,
Humboldt, IA 50548
(515) 332-2298
E-mail:
ccampidilli@hotmail.com

President's Message

To all those still recovering from the flood waters:

Please stay strong!

As of this writing, our State Officers have attended three of the six IRSPA District Meetings:

- District 6 @ Bettendorf
(hosted by Davenport Unit)
- District 5 @ Ottumwa
(hosted by Wapello Co. Unit)
- District 4 @ Creston
(hosted by Creston Unit).

We were entertained by a chorus of ukuleles, Seton "angel" singers, Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten singers. So fun and delightful. MEETING OUTCOMES: VERY INFORMATIONAL, HOSTED BY GREAT UNITS, GREAT ATTENDANCE...AND GREAT FRIENDS. YOUR HOSPITALITY WAS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED BY ALL OF US. (Look for pictures elsewhere in this Newsletter). Your officers will attend the next three meetings which will be after the newsletter deadline:

- District 1, May 21, @ Sioux City
(hosted by Sioux City Retired Educators),
- District 2, May 22 @ Fort Dodge
(hosted by Webster Co. Unit)
- District 3, May 23 @ Oelwein
(hosted by Oelwein Area Unit).

We look forward to the opportunity to visit these units and members.

RE: IRSPA: Our special organization has done extremely well for over 60 yrs. Let's review IRSPA'S organizational culture: our membership has enjoyed an organization whose leaders along with our members over time have been responsible for articulating a culture built on philosophy, beliefs, trust, expectations and meaningful relationships. This has allowed our organization to have value and a high level of success. As we now continue to address our cultural change we must recognize what guides that change in order for it to be an effective positive change for IRSPA. It truly is all about making an IMPACT, having INFLUENCE, and sharing INSPIRATION.

THANKS AGAIN TO OUR DISTRICT HOSTS FOR GIVING US SIX VERY SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETINGS...AND MANY THANKS FOR OUR MEMBERS FOR THEIR ATTENDANCE. LET'S GET TOGETHER AGAIN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING: October 2 & 3 @ Boulders Conference Center, Denison, IA.

IT'S NEWS TO ME ...

Toni Hood • IRSPA Newsletter Editor

tonihood@q.com

515-332-5819 (Home); 515-269-3823 (Cell)

I was introduced and warmly welcomed as the new IRSPA newsletter editor at the April Executive Board meeting in Des Moines. George Holland and I discussed my responsibilities and that led to an informal brainstorming conversation about the purpose and value of the newsletter. In addition to informing the IRSPA members about benefits and legislative activities, George feels that our organization is about "people and programs." I concur: an organization's greatest assets are its members. With that in mind, I compiled a list of ideas that might help highlight the contributions of our Iowa units. This list is not inclusive, but I'm sure our readers will be inspired by the activities of other units. The diamond industry has standards known as the "5 C's." Our diamond members are: Caring, Curious, Colorful, and Catalysts for Change.

NEWSLETTER IDEAS:

- Profile members who are involved in interesting activities
- Use pictures and text to highlight unit volunteer and charitable activities - *please send pictures as attachments; if pictures are sent in the body of the email they are often too large to be delivered
- Instead of submitting the minutes, choose the important portions of the meeting and focus on those
- Include a brief personal and professional bio of recently deceased members-their educational background and involvement, contributions to their community, personal characteristics, etc.
- Share any initiatives, activities, meeting formats, or discussion topics because the units can all learn and benefit from each other
- Consider sharing your article with local newspapers

IRSPA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AARP OFFICE DES MOINES, IOWA • April 3, 2019

The IRSPA Executive Board Meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by President Chris Campidilli. Connie Eastman, AARP, welcomed us to Des Moines and started our meeting.

President Elect, George Holland, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. President Campidilli appointed Phil Tetzloff to serve as Parliamentarian. She also introduced Toni Hood, new Newsletter Editor, and Jane Beatty, new District 5 Coordinator.

The meeting agenda was reviewed and accepted as printed. Secretary Mary Jo O'Connell completed the Roll Call, and the names of attendees and guests in attendance are listed at the end of the minutes. Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting held October 3, 2018 were presented and available. Approved as printed. Toni Hood suggested that Minutes and important IRSPA documents be put into a digital format. The Historian will be going through the files this summer and determining what needs to be copied.

Bob Swanson, IRSPA Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report covering the period October 1, 2018 to April 1, 2019. Balance on hand as of 10/01/18 was \$42,015.97 and Balance on Hand as of 4/1/19 = \$38,422.75. Investments are as follows:

Money Market Account – Security National Bank, Sioux City = \$24,635.98

Certificate of Deposit – Security National Bank, Sioux City = \$51,676.07 @ .65% interest – matures 9/28/20

Goldman Sach Bank CD – Cetera Investments = \$50,000 @ 5% interest – matures 5/29/20

American Express CD – Cetera Investments = \$50,000 @ 2.05% interest – matures 12/23/19

Total membership at this time is 5,547. That includes 617 life members and 111 new members. The Treasurer's Report was filed for audit. Bob Swanson discussed the idea that the bulk rate we use has a statement to notify IRSPA if any Newsletter is not delivered. This is costing us money as the last Newsletter had 104 returns at \$.61 each. Only 19 of these resulted in a change of address. Toni Hood moved that Bob Swanson change the bulk mailing to delete "change of service requested". Seconded by Marge Swanson. Motion passed.

The President Elect:

George Holland, reported that Linda Miller, Mary Jo O'Connell and George have been working on Job Descriptions for members of the Executive Board. He had copies for everyone, and asked them to review their job description and send him any changes or additions. The final copy will be added to the new website. He also attended three Unit Meetings with President Campidilli – Henry County, West Union, and Davenport.

Past President Report: No report this meeting.

AARP:

Brad Anderson reported that the CARE Act passed this Legislature. This empowers care givers. Facilities need to give care givers information when the individuals they are responsible for leave their care. At this time, prescription drug costs will probably be AARP's next focus. They will be going around the state to determine what Iowan's need. Please watch for the Forums for the upcoming elections.

Committee Reports

Insurance/Benefits: Richard Rowland reported that membership remains AMBA's number one goal. Membership in IRSPA is important to help AMBA grow. They have helped change and update our website. They are waiting for information to setup online registration and payments. George Holland and Bob Swanson will continue to work with them on the website and social media posts (Facebook). They would like to start lunch and learn seminars for current teachers so that they are aware of IRSPA and AMBA.

Constitution and Revision:

George Holland distributed proposed changes to the Bylaws.

1) The committee moves that the following policy be approved by the Executive Board:

*Each local unit will recommend local unit members to serve on IRSPA committees at the District Meeting.

(This will be a new item to the District Meeting Agenda.)

*IRSPA Committee members will be determined at each spring District Meeting by attending units through nominations and vote.

*Terms will be for two years with reappointment for two more years.

*Each District will recommend members to serve for three years beginning in 2019-2020 to create an alternating membership for three committees.

*Each District will recommend members to serve for two years beginning in 2019-2020 to create an alternating membership for alternating committees.

*The upcoming President-Elect will recommend appointment of new committee members at the Executive Board meeting in October for announcement of appointments at the Annual Meeting when the President-Elect becomes President. Motion Passed

2) The Committee moves to eliminate the requirement for officer membership in NRTA. Motion Passed

3) The Committee moves to edit IRSP Association to IRSPA. Motion Passed

4) The Committee moves to add AARP and AMBA as additional leaders, programs, and goals to add to this (5.) duty of President. Motion Passed

5) The Committee moves to add Historian to the Office of the Secretary. Motion Passed

6) The Committee moves to change the name of the Insurance Committee to Benefits Committee. Motion Passed

7) The Committee moves to change the name of Public Relations (Publicity) Committee to Public Relations Committee. Motion Passed

8) The Committee moves to place the Committee names in alphabetical order as names change and committees are added or deleted. Motion Passed

9) The Committee moves to add the AMBA Representative to IRSPA to the list of Executive Board Members. Motion Passed
Bylaw changes will be posted in the September Newsletter for consideration at the October Annual Meeting.

Historian: No report this meeting.

Health Advocacy:

Marge Swanson reported that "HIPAA, DPOA, POA, and funeral/legal issues" was the topic chosen for all of the District Meetings in

May, 2019. She is still working on arranging speakers at all six May meetings.

Legislative/AARP:

Phil Tetzloff reported that he has been in contact with John Cacaciore, and at this time there are no changes to subcommittee bills. Remember that Legislators have publicly announced that there are no plans to introduce any bills that would impact IPERS.

Membership:

Gerald and Shirley Barth presented information that will be given to each local membership Chairman and President. This included information about getting new members and what IRSPA does. They also encouraged everyone to attend their District Meeting.

Newsletter:

Toni Hood reported that her first issue of the Newsletter went very smoothly. Please remember that any article can be submitted well in advance of the deadline. Pictures are also welcome. The June Newsletter will be published later than usual to allow for coverage of the District Meetings.

Public Relations (Publicity):

George Holland reported that Pre-Retirement Seminars with IPERS have been held in Mason City, Cedar Falls, Burlington, and Creston. Spencer, Sioux City, and Waterloo will host this summer or fall. A new membership brochure has been created. The form will be accessible on the website. A new format for our State Directory has been created. A copy will be on the website and updated as needed.

Supportive Services:

Contact each of your groups to remind them to keep track of volunteer hours.

District Coordinators' Reports:

- **District 1:** Barbara Songer – 2019 Spring Meeting is **May 21 at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sioux City.**
- **District 2:** Anita Fagen-Miller – 2019 Spring Meeting is **May 22 at Trinity Methodist Church in Fort Dodge.**
- **District 3:** George Holland – 2019 Spring Meeting is **May 23 at the Coliseum Ballroom in Oelwein.**
- **District 4:** Venita Escher – 2019 Spring Meeting is **May 9 at the Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall in Creston.**
- **District 5:** Jane Beatty – 2019 Spring Meeting is **May 8 at Club 888, in Ottumwa.**
- **District 6:** Linda Miller – 2019 Spring Meeting is **May 7 at the Mississippi Bend AEA in Bettendorf.**

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Barbara Songer reported that the 2019 Annual Meeting will be October 2 & 3 at the Boulders Conference Center in Denison. The theme is "It's a Wonderful Life" Experience.

Linda Miller, Chairman Nominating Committee, nominated the following: George Holland to serve as IRSPA President and also as President-Elect for 2019-20 with an automatic move into President for 2020-2021. Jean Hoffman to serve as IRSPA Vice President for 2019-2020 then to move into President-Elect for 2020-2021 and President for 2021-2022. Mary Jo O'Connell to serve as IRSPA Secre-

tary for a two-year term beginning 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

There being no nominations from the floor, President Campidilli closed nominations and asked for a unanimous vote.

Motion Passed.

Anita Fagen-Miller moved to approve payment for \$300/quarter to Toni Hood to serve as Newsletter Editor. Seconded by Phil Tetzloff. Motion Passed.

Linda Miller moved to approve payment of \$1,200 to George Holland for Public Relations Chairman to handle and update the IRSPA Directory and handle and update the IRSPA website. Seconded by Barbara Songer. Motion Passed.

George Holland moved to have the Secretary buy a new big hole-paper punch. Seconded by Linda Miller. Motion Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55.

Mary Jo O'Connell, IRSPA Secretary

Members in Attendance

Chris Campidilli	George Holland	Mary Jo O'Connell
Robert Swanson	Marge Swanson	Phil Tetzloff
Shirley Barth	Gerald Barth	Toni Hood
Barbara Songer	Anita Fagen-Miller	Venita Escher
Jane Beatty	Linda Miller	Connie Eastman
Brad Anderson		

Guest

Richard Rowland

Attendance Of Executive Board Meeting



Front Row:

left to right-Richard Rowland ,AMBA representative;
Marge Swanson, Health Advocacy Chair;
Shirley Barth, Membership Co-chair;
Jerry Barth, Membership Co-chair

Middle Row: Barb Songer, District 1 Coordinator;
Linda Miller, District 6 Coordinator;

Toni Hood, Newsletter Editor;
Chris Campidilli, President;
Venita Escher, District 4 Coordinator;
Connie Eastman, AARP representative

Back Row: George Holland, President Elect;
Jane Beatty, District 5 Coordinator;
Anita Fagen-Miller District 2 Coordinator;
Phil Tetzloff, Legislative Chair;

Mary Jo O'Connell, Secretary/Historian;
Bob Swanson Treasurer/Budget and Finance Chair
Not pictured:

Jay and Sandy Thede, Supportive Services Co-chairs



The Crawford County Unit Invites You to Denison for “It’s A Wonderful Life” Experience

October 2-3, 2019 to be held at the Boulders Conference Center,
2511 Boulders Drive, Denison, Iowa.

Directions to the Boulders Conference Center are... Take Highway 30 East and then turn South on Donna Reed Road. Turn right on Boulders Drive. The Conference Center and Boulders Inn are along this drive. Also the Denison Golf Course is located here.

Please use a separate registration form for each person.

Please fill out and Mail in Registration on the Next Page

Wednesday, October 2, Executive Board Members Only

Executive Board Meeting is at 9:30 A.M. with lunch following at 11:15 A.M. No Fee.

Wednesday, October 2, Meeting Registration 11:30 A.M.

Lunch is served at Majestic Hills Diner below the Conference Center.

Begin Loading Buses for the Two Tours at 12:30 P.M.

Tour A

Tour the Donna Reed Theatre and Museum. Focus on the life of Donna Reed and how the movie of “It’s A Wonderful Life” came to be. Episodes for the Donna Reed Show will be shown. Popcorn and pop will be provided.

Tour B

Tour of the YellowSmoke Park and Lake. The Park Ranger will share the history and the makeup of the park. A stop at the Nature Center will show the animals and environment of the park. Will return to the Donna Reed Theatre for popcorn and pop.

Wednesday Evening Buffet Dinner served at 6:00 P.M. at the Boulders Conference Center. There will be a cash bar in the dining room at 5:30 P.M.

Hotel Reservations must be made by September 15

Boulders Inn, 2511 Boulders Drive. Phone number is 712-263-2200

Boulders Inn, 161 Oakridge Drive. Phone number is 712-263-2833

Park Motel, 803 W. Highway 30. Phone number is 712-263-4144

Presenters on Thursday, October 3

Orphan Train: Lori Vickers

Human Trafficking: Sr. Shirley Fineran

Donna Reed and It’s a Wonderful Life: Pat Fleshner and Roy Voggesser

Story of Honey Bees: Angie Carlyle

Dual language Program: Heather Langenfeld, Megan Schroeder and Myrna Velazquez

Sally, Dick and Jane: George Holland

AMBA: Paul Strid

IPERS: Phil Tetzloff

Scams: Connie Eastman

Law and Drug Dog: Sheriff James Steinkuehler and Bayou

"It's A Wonderful Life" Registration Form 2019

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Emergency Contact with Phone #: _____

Unit Name: _____ (example) Crawford County

X HERE	REGISTRATION TYPE	FEE
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday, October 2, Executive Board Members Only, No Cost..... Board Members Name _____	NC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wednesday, October 2, Meeting Registration 11:30 AM	NC
<input type="checkbox"/>	TOUR A - Tour Donna Reed Theatre and Museum This tour will cost \$5.00	\$_____.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	TOUR B - Tour Yellowstone Park and Lake This tour will cost \$5.00	\$_____.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Wednesday Evening Buffet</u> served at 6:00 pm at the Boulders Conference Center There will be a cash bar in the dining room at 5:30 pm. Choice of two entrees, Staley's chicken and roast sirloin in au jus, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, toasted lettuce/ 4 dressings, cherry fluff, fruit pies ala mode, coffee, lemonade, iced tea. After dinner entertainment will be the Denison High School Mariachi Ensemble Cost of dinner will be \$25.00 each	\$_____.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Thursday morning October 3, 8:00-9:00 AM</u> registration; coffee, juice and assorted pastries. Thursday morning registration and breakfast sessions 9:30-noon. Sessions will be explained in the September Newsletter as they are being planned at this time. Vendors are also invited. NO COST	NC
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Thursday 12:15 pm lunch:</u> French dip sandwiches or chicken breast sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, relish tray, cookie, beverages. Cost is \$20.00	\$_____.00
TOTAL		\$_____.00

ALL FUNCTIONS WITH EXCEPTION OF THE BUS TOURS WILL BE HELD AT THE BOULDERS CONFERENCE CENTER.

Copy your registration form and check for your records. Hotel reservations are due no later than September 4.

PLEASE HAVE THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MADE TO IRSPA.

Mail to: BARB WUESTERWALD, P.O. BOX 152, MANILLA, IOWA, 51454

NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 15

District 1 • HOSTED BY SIOUX CITY RETIRED SCHOOL EDUCATORS UNIT

The District 1 Spring Meeting of IRSPA was held on May 21st at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sioux City hosted by Sioux City Retired Educators (SCRE). There were 88 in attendance.

The meeting was opened by a reminder of our founder, Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, a principal, who saw the need to help teacher retirees after she found an elderly retired teacher living in a former chicken coop. She started the NRTA, National Retired Teachers Association, in 1947 and AARP in 1958. Iowa formed its first state organization in 1951 (IRSPA).

The officers of the units in District 1 met in a separate group and had a discussion of helpful ideas for the units. The rest of those attending heard Marcia Poole, the director of the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, give a wonderful power-point presentation about the center.

We learned a lot about what to be aware of in a talk about "Fraud Watch" by Dr. David Chobar.

After a break Dorrie Wilson, a privacy officer at Unity Point Health St. Lukes, gave us information on HIPAA and DPOA.

After lunch was served by the Redeemer Lutheran Mission Group Dr. LuAnn Haase from Morningside College, talked about "What's New in the Education Department."

Paul Strid, the district manager of AMBA (Association Member Benefits Advisors) reviewed the benefits available to members and told us of new benefits that have been added. Phil Tetzloff of Marshalltown told us about legislative issues. He represents us as IRSPA Legislative Chair, IPERS BAC member and AARP Executive Board Member.



Dr. David Chobar spoke to the members about the growing need to be aware of fraudulent scams.

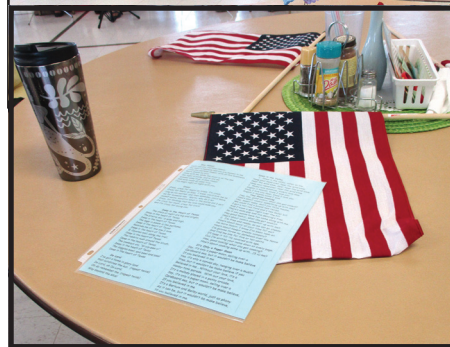
Dorrie Wilson spoke about HIPPA, DPOA, and end of life planning. (Dorrie in print shirt)

Dr. LuAnn Haase spoke about the new innovations Morningside College is implementing.

By Marge Swanson

District 1 • SPIRIT LAKE UNIT

District 1 IRSPA met May 16, 2019 at Spirit Lake Senior Center. After a short meeting we were entertained by the Okoboji Strummers. We sang along with some oldies and goodies.



Next meeting in June we will be eating with the Seniors at the Senior Center.

Enjoy the pictures.

by Marjorie Roelofsen

District 2 HUMBOLDT COUNTY IRSPA

Humboldt County April Meeting

The Humboldt Area Unit of IRSPA met at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at the Congregational UCC in Humboldt. There were 12 members and one guest speaker present. Anita introduced the guest speaker,

Demi Johnson, Humboldt Library Director.

Demi led us in a demonstration of "Libby" an electronic method of borrowing library eBooks for iPad, Android tablets, and phones. It was very informative and interesting. Several members were able to set it up and download books. She discussed



**Demi Johnson (Left),
Humboldt Carnegie Library Director
and Toni Hood (Right)
IRSPA Newsletter Editor**

RB digital for online magazines, Freegal which has downloadable music and other electronic services. Members asked her several questions concerning the electronic borrowing method.

She also discussed other library services such as the Children's library, Teen Area, and the strong Iowa section and genealogy records maintained by the Hum-

boldt Genealogical Society. Also discussed was the Humboldt Reads meeting the third Thursday of each month now at Pasquale's. Each month a new book is selected, read, and discussed.

Following the program, President Anita Fagen Miller called the meeting to order. The secretary's minutes from last meeting and the treasurer's report were given. Both were approved as presented.

Candy Carlson, legislative chair, reported that our legislators, Tim Kraayenbrink and Mike Sexton, reported in an article that the legislature will not be making changes to IPERS for the next two years. IPERS is solid even though it has some unfunded liability.

In unfinished business, Kay Muller, reported on the completion of our book project which donates books to the Humboldt Elementary libraries.

All members were encouraged to fill out their Volunteer Hours sheets and turn in at May meeting or shortly thereafter.

Everyone needs to recruit new members. Toni Hood has talked to several of the new retirees about the benefits of joining IRSPA while subbing at the high school recently. We need to all be recruiting new members; they do not even need to be retirees, just interested in education. Members were encouraged to invite one new potential member to a meeting.

Our District 2 meeting will be at 9 a.m. on May 22 at the Trinity Methodist Church in Fort Dodge. Anita or Deb need to know by April 22 if you plan on attending. There is no cost to attend.

Anita presented the slate of officers for next year after Pat Worthington and Mary Lou Perry agreed to be on the ballot as co-vice presidents. The nominees are: Anita Fagen Miller, President; Pat Worthington and Mary Lou Perry, Co-Vice Presidents; Darlene Stirling, Secretary; and Chris Campidilli, Treasurer. Members will vote for officers at the May meeting.

Kathryn Spencer moved that we pay \$30 (\$10 a month) to the Congregational UCC for the use of their facilities this past year. Mary Lou Perry seconded the motion; it carried.

The new IRSPA website will be up and working shortly. It has all the newsletters plus other pertinent information.

The next meeting will be held on May 14, 2019. Toni Hood and Martha Schmidt are on the committee. Sheryl Tegtmeyer will give a program about the Humboldt County Humane Society. We will not be able to meet at the Congregational UCC Church. Therefore, we will meet at Miller's Landing and evaluate its suitability for future meetings.

by Darlene Stirling, Secretary

Humboldt County May Meeting

We met May 14th at Miller's Landing in Humboldt. Our previous meetings were held in churches and the members decided that the new venue will no longer require two members to host and provide refreshments. When possible, we will invite speakers or we will have members share responses to thoughtful prompts.

Our local dues are not enough to cover expenses, so we will have a "Change Makes It Happen" jar; members will contribute loose change and other monies which will supplement our expense fund.

Volunteer hours were collected. It was suggested that our unit explore providing Meals On Wheels support and taking treats to the schools' teacher lounges.

Recruiting new members was discussed. Kathy Yoa-kum is our newest member and our members were encouraged to contact other prospects.

The slate of officers was presented and approved. The officers are: Anita Fagen- Miller, President; Pat Worthington and Mary Lou Perry, Co-vice presidents; Darlene Stirling, Secretary; Chris Campidilli, Treasurer; and Candyce Carlson, Legislative.

Martha Schmidt's (pictured left) interesting program described her recent Rhine River Cruise. Her 14 day trip began in Amsterdam and included stops in Germany, France, and Switzerland. Martha's commentary included pictures of the local attractions, the cuisine, and the local customs of various European areas. She commented that sharing her experiences was an opportunity to re-experience her trip; her audience welcomed the chance to share her memories.

by Toni Hood from Darlene Stirling's notes



Newsletter Deadline
Please e-mail articles & pictures if at all possible to avoid retyping. 😊

Articles for the **SEPTEMBER** newsletter are due no later than **FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2019**



Get info to Toni Hood, at
 E-mail: tonihood@q.com
 Home Telephone: 515-332-5819
 Cell Phone: 515-269-3823

District 2 WEBSTER COUNTY IRSPA

The Webster County IRSPA met March 4th at Friendship Haven. Deb Peterson, President, gave the prayer and announced there were cards for honorary members that we could sign.

Judge Brown gave a report on the AARP meeting he attended.

Door prizes went to Merle Kearney and Larry Lee.

Ashley Vaala gave a presentation on the new homeless shelter for women and children. It is called Lotus Community Project. Two quilts were donated to the shelter. We passed the hat and took up a collection for the shelter. Ashley also told her life story and it was inspiring to see how she has turned her life around and is now doing for others.

Scholarship Committee will meet after the meeting. The Program Committee will meet after the meeting.

Becky Nelson-Reilly gave a report on the volunteer hours.

April 1, 2019 the Webster County IRSPA met at Prince of Peace Church.

Door prizes went to Rose Claussen and Helen Munter.

Our program today was on Hospice. They offer services such as care at home, care facilities, Hospice House, music and massage therapy, pet therapy, as well as others. They are always in need of volunteers. They have a new video for New Rules for End of Life. New members filled out "My History" sheets.

Our next meeting is at 1st Covenant Church on May 6.

The Webster County IRSPA meet May 6 at the First Covenant Church. Deb Peterson, President, welcomed everyone. Pastor Redenius gave a prayer before the meal. Door prizes went to Joann Lyons and Pauline Ruebel.

We had a presentation of two \$1,000 scholarships to Olyvia Selby and Allie Slinker.

Linda Whiting made an announcement about the Friends of the Library sale running from Tuesday through Saturday.

We held our Memorial Service where we honored the lives of Molly Britton, Joyce Huseman, Shirley Brown and E. Marvin Dick.

If you haven't turned in your volunteer hours, please do so.

May Helvik, Treasurer, is resigning. If anyone is interested, please contact Deb, Janet or May.

by Bonnie Rhodes

District 2 • SPRING MEETING HOSTED BY WEBSTER COUNTY UNIT

District 2 Coordinator, Anita Fagen-Miller, welcomed IRSPA guests to the Fort Dodge meeting, on May 22, 2019. The meeting's theme was "Sweeten Your Life with Chocolate and IRSPA," and the tables were decorated with chocolate candies and pots of geraniums.

The 45 attendees broke into membership, programs, community service, and a just-for-fun group. All of the groups reported that their discussions were so informative that they could have spent more time sharing ideas.



Mike Zahm, a local folk singer, (pictured left) entertained the group with a medley of spirited songs. Mike is a former art teacher, school counselor, and school psychologist who combines Midwestern ex-

periences with local color and relatable humor.

Tom Price, (pictured right) a retired attorney at law, spoke about "Prime Directives Times Three." He explained living wills, power of attorney for health decisions, and organ donations. In addition to describing each practice, he emphasized the need for members to decide which directives fit their needs.



Chris Campidilli, IRSPA State President, complimented the organizers and urged them to attend the IRSPA State Convention Oct 2nd and 3rd in Denison, Iowa,

by Anita Fagen-Miller

**A teacher takes a Hand,
Opens a Mind and touches a Heart!**

www.irspa.org
Website is updated...
Check it out!

District 3 • SPRING MEETING HOSTED BY OELWEIN UNIT



Jennifer Byrne
and
Lora Dinsdale

"Mobile Mama"

Christy Teslow captured the participants at the District 3 meeting with her humor and information about mobile device use and consequences.



of MercyOne, Waterloo, were on spot with information about the 1996 Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA). Think about your privacy, security, notification, omnibus rule, and enforcement of HIPAA at your health center.

by George Holland

District 4 • BIG 4 UNIT

The Big 4 Unit of the Iowa Retired School Personnel Association met April 12th in New Hampton. Members enjoyed an excellent program given by Lori Vicker of Spirit Lake entitled "Remembering The Orphans". Lori

is a retired reading specialist who travels the state sharing her enthusiasm about the Orphan Train Movement 1854-1929. She will be a speaker for the IRSPA State meeting next October 3&4 in Deni-



son, IA. If you would like to schedule Lori Vicker for a Classroom presentation, that few today know about, contact her for details at lkvicker@gmail.com.

by Mary Koenigsfeld

District 4 • DALLAS COUNTY

To cap off our year, psuedo-celebrities, Vanna Stripes and Alexa Trecheck (aka members JoAnn Harmelink and Sue Leslie), welcomed the members of Dallas County Area Retired School Personnel Association to the DCARSPA version of Jeopardy! Four teams vied for points by answering questions about the schools and people that make up our organization. The winning team received the grand prize of "Smarties".

During the meeting, outgoing co-president, Julie Walstrom, installed the new officers for the 2019-2021 term. They are Co-presidents: Karen Einck and Karen Menz; Co-vice presidents: JoAnn Harmelink and Connie Sheehy; Secretary: Sue Leslie and Treasurer: Linda Andorf.



To conclude the year's theme of "Celebrating Our Successes" a Power Point presentation prepared by JoAnn and Sue that highlighted more than 100 Perry students who have gone into some form of education since 1965, was shown.



The May 9 District 4 meeting in Creston was attended by Karen Einck, Karen Menz, Linda Andorf and Sue Leslie to gather ideas for hosting the meeting in Perry on May 19, 2020.

by Sue Leslie

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

August 2019 Budget & Finance Committee
Meeting Executive Committee meets
with Lobbyists Des Moines Area

October 2 & 3, 2019 Annual Meeting &
Conference Denison, Iowa Executive
Board Meeting on October 2, 2019 IRSPA
Business Meeting on October 3, 2019

District 4 • SPRING MEETING HOSTED BY CRESTON AREA UNIT

Creston's Trinity Lutheran 2 & 3 year old preschools welcomed the group to songs including "If You're Happy and You Know It."



The 4 & 5 year-old preschoolers started the afternoon with many familiar songs including "The Alphabet Song."

Linda James and Karen Snodgrass gave an overview of the old community which is supported by the Historical Society. You'll find many items of interest at the community.



Joe Marnin shared his work with PET – Personal Energy Transportation. He and friends build these mobility devices and they are shipped to countries which have been plagued by polio and other diseases which impact the mobility of its victims. It costs about \$300 to build and ship one

device to a third world country. Joe's group have made almost 1,000 PETs.

(<https://mobilityworldwide.org>)

Also pictured, one of many clever table decorations at IRSPA Meetings.
~continued



SMALL WORLD

Jim Tussey, Past District 4 Coordinator, drove school bus for the Orient Consolidated



School District from the middle of his sophomore school year through his graduation. One of his early passengers was Nancy Woods Chapman, who was one of the food servers at the District 4 meeting in Creston.

Jim Tussey was a teacher and coach in St. Louis, Missouri; West Des Moines, Iowa; and ending his career with 22 years in Orient Macksburg Schools. Nancy Chapman's 20+ year career was as a Special Education Teacher in the Creston School District.

SMALL WORLD

Sharon Snodgrass (left) was Marge Scott's associate in a summer preschool program. Sharon went on to become a teacher and eventually Marge's principal in Creston.



Marge taught preschool and Kindergarten for 42 years. Sharon now serves on the Creston School Board and the Historical Society team. Sharon was one of the program presenters.
by George Wm. Holland

Look Forward to These Two Article in the September Newsletter!

A summary of noteworthy bills of interest to the Iowa Retired School Personnel Association during the 2019 Legislative Session. Please note that this is the first year of the General Assembly. Legislation not enacted in 2019 will be eligible during the 2020 session. Bills Signed by Governor Reynolds.

and

"DID YOU KNOW"

by Toni Hood • Benefits of attending IRSPA Meetings!

District 5 DAVIS COUNTY IRSPA

Davis County March Meeting

Davis County Retired School Personnel met at Southfork Grill's meeting room on March 5. There were 12 members present.

Lynn Shumate discussed with the group about staying socially active to help us live longer.

The District 5 meeting of Retired School Personnel will be held in Ottumwa on May 22.

DCRSP will be presenting a donation to Dial-a-Story sponsored by The Bloomfield Public Library. Check it out at 664-5001.
~continued to next page



We were entertained by Davis County High School Speech Department State Speech Contest entries. Students David Nash, Clara Blum, Kassidy Stremmer, Kolton Stremmer, Clayton Garmon and Sponsor Tricia Stremmer. Our next meeting will be April 2 in the Board Room at Davis County Community Schools Central Office. We will meet jointly with AARP. The program will be presented by KTVO Storm Chasers. All retired school personnel are invited to join our monthly meetings.

by Becky Shively

Davis County April Meeting

The Davis County Retired School Personnel Association met April 2, 2019 in the Board Room at Davis County Schools Central Office. There were 18 members in attendance. Our meeting was a joint meeting with the local chapter of AARP. The District 5 Meeting to be held in Ottumwa on May 8 was discussed.



Our program was presented by Riley Fannon, Meteorologist at KTVO. He told us how thunderstorms are formed and how it is determined when (continued ~) they issue severe watches and warnings. We learned what to look for in the sky when severe weather might be approaching our area.

Our next meeting will be held on May 7 at 11:30 a.m. in Conference Room D at Davis County Hospital. Our program will be presented by our local Master Gardeners. Any retired school personnel are invited to join us.

by Becky Shively

Davis County May Meeting

Davis County Sheila Westegard and Don Walton, two of our local Master Gardeners presented the program for the May 7th meeting of Davis County Retired School Personnel meeting held in Conference Room D at Davis County Hospital. The program included infor

~continued



Don Walton and Sheila Westegard

different types of gardens for our yards. We do appreciate the plants they brought that were used as door prizes.

Election of officers was held and we will be retaining our same officers for the next year. President Lyle Stirling, Vice President Elaine Von Bon, Secretary Deb Norton, and Treasurer Charlene Nash.

The next meeting will be June 4th, 1:30 p.m. at the Bloomfield United Methodist Church. The program will be the celebration of new retirees from Davis County Schools.

by Becky Shively

District 5 JASPER COUNTY IRSPA

Pictured left is Vice-President Ron Ehresman who introduced our guest speaker, Bruce Wilson (on the right), who works for Iowa Special Olympics. Bruce has worn several hats over the years as the Y director in Cedar Rapids, a teacher at Boone High School, and he spent 25 years at Simpson College. In August of 2015 he began working at Special Olympics. He has been active in the organization since 1990.



The International Organization was started by Eunice Shriver in 1968. Athletes from Iowa competed in the initial competition at Soldier Field that year. So, this is Iowa's 50th Anniversary of involvement with Special Olympics. The oath that the athletes say at competitions is: "Let me win, but if I cannot win let me be brave in my attempt."

~continued to next page

Bruce said that there are athletes who compete in all of Iowa's 99 counties. There are somewhere between 14 and 15,000 people active in Special Olympics. Four million dollars is budgeted for the organization here in Iowa. There are only 18 people on staff who draw a paycheck. As a result, this group depends heavily on volunteer help. There are several ways to become involved with Special Olympics here in our state, those being: volunteer, coach, cheer at events, sign up for fundraising events, individual giving, and corporate partnerships. He said to go to the website if interested in volunteering to sign up. The website is: www.soiowa.org.

by Sharon Bergeson, Secretary

District 5 SPRING MEETING HOSTED BY WAPELLO COUNTY

The District 5 Spring Meeting was hosted by the Wapello County Unit of IRSPA on Wednesday, May 8, at Club 888 in Ottumwa with 35 members in attendance. Thank you to President Nancy Manson and her team of volunteers who did a superb job of preparation which made the day a huge success.

Presentations were informative and very well presented. We heard from the Hospital Chaplain who urged us to "get our ducks in a row" with our medical decisions, end of life wishes, etc., AND get it all in writing. Here is one thing that the crowd (including me) did not know - even if you have everything in place for your funeral, your family can do whatever they want to do after you have passed away. Jeff Blegen gave a very informative presentation on Heart Health. He was a wealth of information about diet, exercise, and life style advice. Information was also presented about AMBA and IPERS.



A very special treat was hearing the Angel Choir perform. The group is comprised of third through fifth grade students of Seton Catholic School in Ottumwa. These students do annual concerts and an annual musical. They were fabulous!

~continued to next column

SMALL WORLD

When Roberta "Rabbitt" Cochrane-Zavitz (right) sat down at her table at the District 5 meeting, the lady across the table said: "You're a Cochrane." Ruth Smith, retired Middle School Teacher, had taught three of Rabbitt's siblings: Paul, Mike, and Eileen.



by Jane Beatty

District 6 • SPRING MEETING HOSTED BY DAVENPORT AREA UNIT

The Davenport Area Unit hosted the May 7th District Six Meeting at Mississippi Bend AEA in Bettendorf. Their hours of planning and work guaranteed a successful day for the 66 IRSPA members who were in attendance.

George Holland explained Parliamentary Procedure with the help of courageous "volunteers" from the units. Everyone was reminded of AMBA benefits by Paul Strid, the District Manager. Phil Tetzloff presented an update on IPERS and AARP.

There were other highlights of the day, too:

- The Quad City Ukulele Club played and sang songs familiar to everyone. (pictured on next page)



- Gena Schantz shared her research of Phebe Sudlow whose innovations in education and support of women's rights during the mid 1800s to early 1900s were impressive.

- Newsletter. Heather Wessel discussed "End of Life Conversation Topics" and how to initiate them.

In 2020, the Johnson County Unit will host the May 21 Meeting in the Iowa City area.

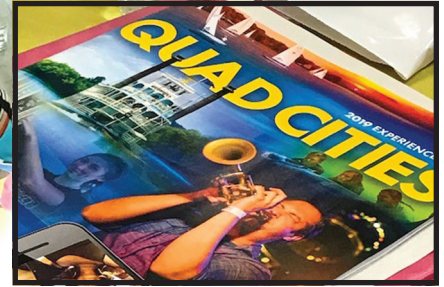
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The Quad City Ukulele Club entertained the IRSPA members with a medley of rousing music at the May 7th District 6 meeting in Bettendorf. The members showed their generational spirit and rocked the room when they played "Let's Go To The Hop."



Opal & Tom Handlen –
Past Presidents of IRSPA
ENJOY THE SHOW!



SMALL WORLD

William Decker, (right) Chief Administrator at Mississippi Bend AEA, welcomed the district's 6 participants to the meeting. After lunch, Mr. Decker came back to acknowledge his high school teacher, student teaching supervisor, and teaching colleague Robert Swanson, (left) IRSPA Treasurer.



Heather Wessel (pictured above) addressed "End of Life Conversation Topics" at the District 6 meeting May 7th in Bettendorf. Visit www.theconversationproject.org to learn more about financial and living wills, health and medical power of attorney, and advance health care directives.



District 6

Davenport Area Unit

After a weather related “delayed start” to 2019, The Davenport Area Unit was able to meet on March 12. Joining us for the afternoon were IRSPA President Chris Campidilli, President-Elect George Holland, Secretary Mary Jo O’Connell, and our District 6 Coordinator Linda Miller. The business meeting included election of officers for 2019 – 2021. Those serving will be President Lynda Kuehn, Vice-President Diane Foley, Secretary Deb Kelly, and Treasurer Joyce Ceurvorst. We are very grateful for their willingness to assume those leadership roles. DARSPA will be in good hands!

We then settled in for an informative presentation by guest speaker Amanda Baumgardner. She introduced us to the “A Book by Me” organization which encourages children to record stories of WWII for other children to read. Through interviews, Amanda had provided facts, letters, and photos to help two young authors capture and preserve the important story of her family. The result was The Footstool, Amanda’s Polish grandparents’ experiences before, during, and after the Holocaust. Amanda told of her times sitting on a footstool listening to her grandfather’s words. We felt Amanda’s passion for keeping Holocaust stories alive for future generations.

On April 9 we gathered again at Davenport’s Best Western Plus. We welcomed Clayton Peterson, member of the Mississippi Valley Quilters Guild, as our guest speaker. He showed several of the 140 quilts he has created. He shared his knowledge of patterns and vintage fabrics along with “quilt lore” surrounding his “Underground Railroad Sampler.” We were able to see firsthand that quilts are works of art as well as another way history is preserved. by Linda Baustian, Secretary

District 6

CLINTON COUNTY IRSPA

The evening mist shrouds the fast moving flow of muddy water down the Wapsipinicon River, on it’s race to the Mississippi.

As darkness falls a group of young campers nestle close to the warmth of a glowing bonfire. On the banks of the river bottoms they share the excitement of what adventures await them.

The older youth begins telling chilling ghost tales, especially the legend of Wapsi Willy. “He’s mad,” they’d say, “He’s wandering around the Wapsi River timber, searching for his family who were swept away by the Spring flooding.” “Let’s go searching for Wapsi Willy,” they all shout! Grabbing their flashlights they head out into the darkness. Let’s stay close and be silent. Listening for the echoing shout of the elusive Wapsi Willy. Hearing the night sounds, crickets, frogs, the howl of a coyote, rustles in the long grass, and the hoot of a lone owl.

After everyone was cold and damp they would return to the campfire recalling their adventure. Is this tale true or just a hoax? Do we really know? But this legend will remain in these young minds forever.

This tale was told to the Clinton County Retired School Personnel by author Sandy Miller, who wrote the book Wapsi Willy in Fairyland.

Sandy also shared parts of the rest of her book. Telling the history of Fairyland Park, a ballroom on the banks of the Wapsi near DeWitt, IA. It opened as a dance hall in 1923, known for the bootleggers, hootch, and big bands of the era.

As years passed it continues serving great food, held weekly dances, wedding receptions, and many other events.

The ballroom has been played by flooding from the nearby Wapsi. This muddy water causing extensive damage time and time again to the ballroom.



In 1993 a dike was built surrounding the historic landmark. Four foot buried un-

derground and a 4.5 retaining wall exposed.

The ballroom recently underwent a remodel, after a devastating flood. Also a name change, WAPSI WILLY! Fond memories, good food, quenching liquid libations, and the sound of bands playing for dancing feet.



May this building filled with history survive by keeping the wild, wide Wapsi away from it’s doors.

Many of our members shared stories of wonderful times spent at Fairyland. We all enjoyed the power point presentation by Sandy.

Our meeting concluded with jokes, and drawings for our door prizes of beautiful springtime crafty creations. Everyone was smiling as we adjourned.

by Sharon Leonard

Nominations Committee Announces Candidates for IRSPA President-Elect, Vice President, and Secretary

Show your support and vote for the President-Elect, Vice President, and Secretary positions on the IRSPA Executive Board. The president positions will run from November 1, 2019, through October 31, 2020, then moving on to the next level. The Secretary is a two-year position running November 1, 2019, through October 31, 2021. These are elected positions and require an election ballot.

Information about each candidate is printed below. Write-in candidates are accepted.



George Wm. Holland for President-Elect

- Sixth year as IRSPA District 3 Coordinator
- Fourth year as chair of the IRSPA Constitution and Revisions Committee
- Fifth year on the IRSPA Executive Board
- Member of IRSPA since 2008
- Member of the Dubuque Area Retired School Personnel since 2008
- Part-time Academic Coordinator for Morningside College since 2011
- President and puppeteer with the Dubuque Area Kids on the Block Program
- Member of the Keystone AEA Board of Directors since 2015
- Twenty-eight-year resident of Dubuque, Iowa
- Retired from public education as the Director of Curriculum Services at Keystone AEA
- Was an Elementary Principal and Elementary Teacher in the Sergeant Bluff-Luton Schools
- Was an Elementary Teacher in the South Sioux City (NE) Schools
- Was an Elementary Principal at the Dubuque Lutheran School
- Taught graduate courses for Wayne State College (NE), Drake University, Loras College, St. Ambrose University, and Morningside College

The ballot may be duplicated if there is more than one individual receiving the newsletter at the same address. Those casting ballots must be members of IRSPA. If the newsletter is received via e-mail or the website, then the ballot needs to be printed and sent as directed.

Exercise your right and responsibility to vote for those who serve this organization.



Jean Hoffman for Vice President

- Taught in the following school districts in Iowa as a classroom teacher or special needs teacher
- Western Dubuque County from 1971-1973
- Holy Family Elementary in Council Bluffs 1973 – 1975
- Council Bluffs Public Schools from 1975 – 1978
- Ringsted Community School, Ringsted 1978 – 1979
- Lincoln Central Community Schools, Gruver, Iowa 1979 – 1984
- Estherville Lincoln Central, Estherville, Iowa 1984 – 2014
- National History Day coach at Estherville Lincoln Central for 25 years
- Retired after 43 years in education in 2014
- Member of IRSPA since 2014
- Instrumental in the organization of the Estherville Area Retired School Personnel Association (EARSPA) in 2014
- Served as president of EARSPA since 2014
- Have been clerk for Lincoln Township in Emmet County, Iowa, since 2010
- Serve as a scholarship evaluator at the local, district, and state levels for the Elks Most Valuable Scholar, Vocational Scholarship, and State level scholarships as well as local scholarships 2017 – 2019

• Volunteer to help maintain and update the church website since 2016

• Member of PEO Ch AY and serve as treasurer

• 2018 began serving on Emmet County Community Foundation as an evaluator of grant requests

I was originally from Fredericksburg, Iowa, and have lived around the state. The past 41 years have been spent in Estherville, Iowa, on our farm where we raised our family.



Mary Jo O'Connell for Secretary

- Fourth year as secretary for the Iowa Retired School Personnel Association.
- Seventh year as secretary for the Dubuque Area Retired School Personnel Association
- Active member of DARSPA for 13 years
- Was secretary for the Dubuque Education Association for 15 years
- Was secretary for Jackson/Dubuque County (Uniserve Unit for ISEA) for 10 years
- Was a member of Dubuque Education Association and JDC for 30 years
- Retired member of ISEA/NEA
- Foster Care Review Board for Dubuque for 8 years
- Was a committee member for the Fall Festival at the Arboretum for 4 years
- Lived in Dubuque for 43 years
- Was a Business Education teacher at Hempstead High School for 32 years
- Taught adult education business classes (Word, Excel, PhotoShop, and Beginning Computers) at Northeast Iowa Community College in Dubuque for 6 years.
- Kids on the Block Board Member, Secretary, and Puppeteer.

Ballots must be postmarked by July 15, 2019 and mailed to: Linda Miller, Nominations Chair, 205 E. Harlan, Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

BALLOT

PRESIDENT-ELECT

___ **GEORGE HOLLAND**

(WRITE-IN)

VICE PRESIDENT

___ **JEAN HOFFMAN**

(WRITE-IN)

SECRETARY

___ **MARY JO O'CONNELL**

(WRITE-IN)

Newsletter

Iowa Retired School Personnel Association

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Sioux City, IA 51104

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It's June • Enjoy Life!

WE REMEMBER

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Bayles, Richard	LeMars, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Bohlin, Ralph	Sioux City, IA	No Unit
Cadwallader, Phyllis	Des Moines, IA	DMARSPA Unit
Daho, Marilyn	Oelwein, IA	Oelwein Area Unit
Dieterich, Arline	Dubuque, IA	Dubuque Area Unit
Haahr, Shirley	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Jacobson, Robert	Humboldt, IA	Humboldt Area Unit
Jolliffe, Alfred	Wauke, IA	No Unit
Lance, Karla	Mt Pleasant, IA	Henry County Unit
Marquardt, Alice	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Meyer, Gary	Dubuque, IA	Dubuque Area Unit
Nielsen, Clarice	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Perrenoud, Linda	Newton, IA	Jasper County Unit
Steverson, Dorothy	Davenport, IA	Davenport Area Unit
Sylvester, Wilma	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Templin, Susan	Albia, IA	Monroe County Unit
Terry, Donna	Numa, IA	Appanouse-Wayne Unit
Thompson, Beula	Cedar Rapids, IA	Cedar Rapids Area Unit
Tomlin, Richard	Runnells, IA	No Unit
Vande Berg, Margie	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Vogel, Lucille	Grand Island, NE	Creston Area Unit
Westpfahl, Jim	Sgt. Bluff, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Dick, Marv		Webster City Unit
Huseman, Joyce		Webster City Unit
Brown, Shirley		Webster City Unit
Britton, Molly		Webster City Unit
Mitchell, David		Mason City Unit

PLEASE NOTE: Send relevant notices, change of address, and/or subscription cancellations to rswanson@cablone.net

LEGISLATIVE FUND

Contributions to the Iowa Retired School Personnel Association legislative fund for the improvement of retirement benefits are being accepted for the current year (Oct. to Oct.) Please make your contributions as generous as possible.

\$5.00 _____ \$10.00 _____ \$15.00 _____ Other _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

If Member of Local Unit _____

Unit Name _____

County _____

MAIL EITHER FORM TO:

Robert Swanson, IRSPA Treas. • 3221 Cheyenne Blvd.,
Sioux City, IA 51104 • Make Checks payable to IRSPA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Iowa Retired School Personnel Association

Name _____ Last _____ First _____ M.I. _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

If Member of Local Unit _____

Unit Name _____

County _____

Annual Dues: \$15 • LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$300