



# IOWA RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

## President's Message

**SPECIAL EDITION  
IOWA RETIRED  
SCHOOL PERSONNEL  
ASSOCIATION  
AUGUST 2020**



**President: George Holland**  
16992 Middle Road  
Dubuque, IA 52002  
Cell 563-581-8737  
E-mail:  
[dutchboygwh@gmail.com](mailto:dutchboygwh@gmail.com)

Stay safe. Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Socially distance. Stay strong.

It is difficult to determine where to go with unit gatherings and this pandemic. Some are just not meeting until further notice.

Sue Leslie, DCARSPA Secretary, shared: As we get closer to the time that we usually start holding meetings, we are concerned that people won't join this year since we probably won't have meetings November - February. We are planning on holding Sept.'s meeting in the park with everyone bringing their lawn chairs and practicing social distancing. If the weather holds, we will do the same in October. Who knows about November? Any thoughts?

IRSPA has purchased a Zoom license so District Coordinator can help local unit with meetings to stay connected. This may be beneficial as local leadership changes are being made.

If your bylaws do not have any contingencies for filling offices, your executive board may need to make some tough decisions.

**2020 ANNUAL MEETING AND  
CONFERENCE POSTPONED**  
**The October 2020 Annual Meeting and  
Conference is postponed to October 2021**

**New Dates: October 6 and 7, 2021**  
**Same Location: Honey Creek Resort**  
**More Information in the  
June 2021 Newsletter**

## State and Local Membership

Because the COVID 19 Pandemic has caused many local units to cancel face-to-face meetings, **WE ENCOURAGE YOU** to re-enroll your state membership using our website, <https://irspa.org/index.php/membership>, for brochure or online renewal with credit card.

**State membership renewal is necessary to maintain enrollment in Delta Dental, MASA, VPS Vision, and other benefit plans.**

Using zoom, the IRSPA board will conduct a retreat in late August to create future opportunities for our membership.

The IRSPA Board will meet in early September to conduct business operations. A newsletter will follow thereafter to inform membership.

Please see page 2 for the membership form, categories, description, and local units.

**We encourage  
membership renewal!**

## Newsletter Deadline

**Please e-mail articles & pictures if  
at all possible to avoid retyping.**

**Articles for the *December*  
newsletter are due no later than  
Tuesday, November 3, 2020**



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

# PRINTABLE MEMBERSHIP FORM

## Member Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Delta Dental Information?     Yes     No

NRTA Information:                 Yes     No

Current IRSPA Member?     Yes     No

## Membership Category

- Active Member @ \$15.00
- Associate Member @ \$15.00
- Public Librarian @\$15.00
- Life Member @\$300.00
- Local Dues per chart at right @ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Description

Please underline.

administrator, bus driver, cook, counselors,  
 custodian, department chair, instructional aides,  
 intermediate service agency staff  
 (aides, audiologists, consultants, directors,  
 media personnel, psychologists, social workers,  
 speech/language therapists) maintenance,  
 media personnel, nurse, office staff,  
 paraprofessionals, professor, secretary,  
 security personnel, and teacher.

Send this form to:

**Robert Swanson, IRSPA Treasurer**

**3221 Cheyenne Blvd**

**Sioux City, Iowa 51104**

**Or send to your local unit treasurer or president.**

This information is not sold or shared with any other groups.

## LOCAL UNITS

Underline the unit you would like to join.

The local unit will contact you for their membership.

- Appanoose – Wayne County - \$7.
- Big Four Area (Charles City Area) - \$5.
- Black Hawk County - \$10.
- Boone County - \$10.
- Carroll – Greene County - \$3.
- Cedar Rapids Area -
- Cedar Valley (Osage to Cresco) - \$5.
- Cherokee (County) Unit - \$5.
- Clarke (County) Area - \$15.
- Clinton County - \$5.
- Council Bluffs Area - \$5
- Crawford County - \$5.
- Creston Area - \$3.00
- Dallas County -
- Davenport Area - \$10.
- Davis County - \$8.
- Decatur County - \$3.
- Des Moines Area - \$18.
- Des Moines County - \$15.
- Dubuque Area - \$3.
- Estherville Area - \$5.
- Henry County - \$5.
- Humboldt Area - \$5
- Iowa Great Lakes Area - \$8.
- Jackson County -
- Jasper County - \$10.
- Jefferson County - \$3.
- Johnson County - \$5.
- Keokuk County - \$3.
- Lee County - \$5.
- Lucas County -
- Mahaska County - \$0. No dues
- Marion County Area– \$5.
- Marshall County -
- Mason City Area - \$10.
- Monroe County -
- Muscatine Area - \$5.
- Oelwein Area -
- Poweshiek Area -
- Scenic City Area (Iowa Falls Area) -\$8.
- Sioux City Area - \$5.
- Van Buren County - \$8.
- Wapello County - \$5.
- Webster County - \$8.
- West Union Area - \$10.

## District 2

### Humboldt Area Unit IRSPA

The Humboldt Area Unit of IRSPA executive board met Thursday, August 6, 2020 after many months of inactivity. There were several items that needed attention including:

- Due to the lack of available meeting venues, the board voted to change the dates and place of the September and October meetings. Members will be notified of these changes.
- ReMix Boutique & Simply Coffee has offered to let us meet in the coffee shop in September and October. The business is closed to the public on Mondays, but IRSPA member Deb Peterson is willing to accommodate our local unit. Thank you, Deb.
- The board voted to increase the yearly local dues to offset necessary expenses. State dues (\$15.00) and local dues (\$5.00) are due at the September meeting.
- The slate of officers for the 2020-21 year will be voted on at the September meeting.
- During the September meeting, members will write welcome cards to new Humboldt school personnel.
- We will be collecting school supplies at the September meeting. Items such as masks, hand sanitizer, washable markers, paper towels, and any common school supplies will be donated to local school buildings.
- The October 2020 IRSPA State Meeting has been cancelled.
- There is no speaker scheduled for the September meeting. Members are encouraged to share experiences, projects, or activities that have evolved since our last meeting last fall.

Toni Hood

## District 4

### Council Bluffs Area Chapter IRSPA

The Council Bluffs Area Chapter of the Iowa Retired School Association has decided to cancel the September, October, and November meetings. Our plan is to reconvene for the March meeting the third Wednesday of that month. For the March and April meetings, we will hope to reschedule the Craft Fair to benefit the Scholarship Fund and the musical program, scheduled for earlier meetings.

Our Chapter is saddened by the passing of a number of our members (not necessarily connected to Covid.) Members we have lost since our last meeting include Victoria Holder, Dave Podendorf, Kathryn Castillo, Cheri Nielsen, and Lotus Wohlers.

Officers from the 2019-2020 year will continue to serve.

Sue Griswold, Secretary

## District 6

### DARSPA Area Unit IRSPA

Our District 6 DARSPA Executive Committee and DARSPA Executive Board are doing everything possible to move forward during the pandemic. Our Executive Board met in the park on July 18th AND our Executive Committee will meet in the park on August 11th. We are GREAT at social distancing and wearing masks when we are out in the fresh air!

Our board is determined to keep our members informed about how we are moving forward during this difficult time. Since it is unlikely that we will meet in September (when our directories are distributed), we have decided to mail them to all of our members so that our communication information is up to date.

Our program director, Diane Foley, has scheduled presenters at our monthly meetings for the upcoming year. Of course, some of those may have to be rescheduled due to Covid. One of the presenters will be dancers from the Quad-City Ballet. Now THAT sounds like a fabulous way to spend a Tuesday afternoon: camaraderie, a tasty lunch, AND a ballet performance!

During these unprecedented times, perhaps this quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson will brighten your day:

"What lies behind us and what lies ahead of us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."

HANG IN THERE, DARSPA MEMBERS!

Deb Kelly, Secretary

## District 6

### Lee County Retired Personnel

March 4 was the last date that the Lee County Retired Personnel met for their monthly meeting. Since that time, due to COVID, the entire group has not met. The scholarship committee did meet this summer and awarded three, \$500 scholarships to Lee County students who will major in education. At this time we are uncertain when our monthly meetings will resume as most of our membership is older and their health is a major concern because of COVID.

Best, Jill Cox

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

**Check it out!**

# Newsletter

## Iowa Retired School Personnel Association

3221 Cheyenne Blvd.  
Sioux City, IA 51104

**PRSRT STD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**Rockwell City, Iowa 50579**  
**Permit #145**

### WE REMEMBER

<u>Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Abbot, Joyce	Creston, IA	Creston Area Unit
Akin, Nancy	Oelwein, IA	Oelwein Area Unit
Anderson, Nancy	Iowa City, IA	Johnson County Unit
Bachtell, John	Newton, IA	Jasper County Unit
Britson, Hope	Winona, MN	No Unit
Carter, Jeannette	Rimrock, AZ	No Unit
Gommels, LeDonna	Iowa City, IA	Johnson County Unit
Hoaglin, Irene	Iowa City, IA	No Unit
Hopp, Harold	Mason City, IA	Mason City Area Unit
Johnson, Paul E	Johnston, IA	Davenport Area Unit
Kelly Nancy K	Davenport, IA	Davenport Area Unit
Meyer, Duane	Marshalltown, IA	Marshall County Unit
Milani, Marti	Iowa City, IA	Johnson County Unit
Nagel, Janice	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Oostenink, Garneth	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Rhoads, Lynn	Cherokee, IA	Cherokee County Unit
Schaub, Martha	Lisle, IL	Davenport Area Unit
Schluter, Margaret	Mason City, IA	Mason City Area Unit
Sea, Alice	Sioux City, IA	Sioux City Area Unit
Svoboda, Ruth C	Fort Collins, CO	No Unit
Thompson, Mary Lou	Dubuque, IA	Marshall County Unit
Tooman, Mary Ann	Muscatine, IA	Muscatine Area Unit
Wiig, Gerald	Chariton, IA	Lucas County Unit
Williams, Kathy J	East Moline, IL	Davenport Area Unit
Winter, Rosannah M	San Antonio, TX	Davenport Area Unit

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