



“To Serve — Not To Be Served”
Affiliated with NRTA and AARP

Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel



NEWSLETTER



August 2010

Published Twice Yearly

Convention Feature

A special feature will appear at the upcoming NARSP Convention. Along with the normal drawings for the monetary prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50 at the conclusion of the convention, there will be five theme baskets or packages for convention attendees to purchase tickets in order to win the basket of their choice. Drawings for the baskets will not preclude you from being in the running for one of the monetary prizes.

LARSP members and interest groups along with NARSP board members will be donating the following theme baskets: Nebraska Products, Wine and Cheese, Quilting, An All-American Treat – Popcorn, and Annie M’s Basket Full of Homemade Goodies and More.

Tickets will be five for \$5.00 with proceeds going toward the NARSP Scholarship. You may place one ticket toward each basket, put all five toward one that you really want, or put together any combination of tickets to your liking. You can double your chances by purchasing ten tickets or even more! It has been suggested that you may wish to bring along some address labels so that you won’t have to write your name on all of those tickets.

First Recipient of NARSP Scholarship



Jena Speck, from Arthur NE, has been selected as the first recipient of the NARSP Active Educator Scholarship. The scholarship in the amount of \$1000 is to be awarded annually to an active educator that is working toward an advanced degree/endorsement in a related field of education. Ms.

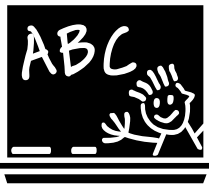
Speck is pursuing a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in reading at Chadron State College. The Ogallala Area Retired School Personnel (OARSP) submitted her application.

Ms. Speck has been a kindergarten teacher for the past two years in the Arthur County Schools. Prior to Arthur, she taught for one year in a multi-grade rural school in Tryon NE. She graduated from Chadron State College in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Upon her

graduation from high school she was a recipient of the OARSP Scholarship.

Within her application, Ms. Speck, noted that “By furthering my education I hope to enhance my teaching abilities, bring fresh ideas into my classroom and school district, stay apprised in the evolving field of education, and acquire the tools to maintain my enthusiasm and dedication to the profession. I chose Curriculum and Instruction because the classes offered through the program cover topics that are directly related to my classroom and can be very useful to me now and throughout my teaching career.”

June Hornung, Arthur County Schools Superintendent, indicated the following in her letter of recommendation. “Jena Speck has that ‘spark’ that brightens our schools and makes fellow educators remember the joy that a career in education can bring. Ms. Speck initiated the proposal to move to a full-time Kindergarten and actively supported it to the board. The change has allowed her to enrich the curriculum and better prepare the children for the rigors of education.”



"Bulletin From Bob"

Robert L. (Bob) Bussmann,
President

Greetings to all NARSP Members!

It is my intent as your state president through this "Bulletin from Bob" to focus on a number of information sharing items or updates, a few reminders, as well as provide you with a few things to possibly just think about...

NRTA – NRTA (National Retired Teachers Association) is AARP's Educator Community. One of the strengths of the connection between the network of state retired education associations, NRTA and AARP is that there are common interests that allow us to collaborate in areas such as membership development, community outreach, and advocacy. Over a six-week period in the months of May and June I participated in a series of webinars/conference calls related to pensions. NRTA and NIRS (National Institute on Retirement Security) collaborated in developing helpful materials for discussing and defending state pension systems in today's economic climate. Topics included: The Current Economic Environment, Unfunded Liabilities, Contribution Requirements, Define Benefits vs. Defined Contributions, Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Pensions, and How to Educate Stakeholders. More information will be shared with units and members in the future.

AARP President – Lee Hammond is the new AARP president through 2012. Mr. Hammond had a thirty-year career in education as a teacher and administrator in Maryland. He was elected to the AARP Board of Directors in 2002 and has chaired various committees on the board. Prior to joining the AARP Board, Mr. Hammond served as AARP Maryland State President as well as president of the Maryland Retired Teachers Association. Hammond will represent AARP/NRTA members at key national and international meetings and events. Hammond quoted Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus: "We learn the secret of happiness when we learn to direct our inner drive, our interest, and our attention to something outside ourselves." Hammond plans to use this wise counsel as his guide in the two years ahead.

NARSP Scholarship – The NARSP Active Educator \$1000 scholarship will be awarded at the upcoming 50th Anniversary State Convention to a teacher working toward an advanced degree. Jena Speck, Arthur kindergarten teacher, has been selected as the first recipient of this scholarship (see additional

article in this Newsletter). A very special thanks is given to the local Units who submitted semi-finalist applications for review. *You are to be "applauded" for your efforts!* There were 11 applications from the following Units: Fremont (2), Grand Island (1), Lincoln (3), Mullen (1), Ogallala (1), Omaha (2), and Wayne (1). The field of applicants ranged from a first year teacher to 11 years of teaching. The NARSP Executive Board reviewed the applications at their July 12 meeting. With the excellent quality of the applications received, the decision process proved challenging.

NRTA Vice President – Megan Hookey, NRTA Vice President, will be attending and speaking at our NARSP Convention on Friday, September 17. We look forward to hearing from Megan about those activities, issues, and other happenings within our national organization.

Southeast Nebraska Local Visit – Billie and I had the pleasure to attend the March 17th meeting of the Southeast Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel held in Falls City at the Richardson County Historical Museum. The meeting included a wonderful luncheon (catered by Ann Meinzer, NARSP VP), conversation and fellowship, piano selections of a number of Irish tunes, and an opportunity to share happenings about NARSP. Viewing the history that surrounded us throughout the museum was also an added feature to our visit. It was a great way to spend St. Patrick's Day, and we both appreciated the hospitality that was extended to us by the Southeast Nebraska members.

Check It Out! – You may be asking yourself "Check What Out?" Are you aware that NARSP has a website? The website is designed and maintained by Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA). We thank AMBA for providing this additional benefit to NARSP. "Check It Out" sometime at: www.narsp.org.

Expressions of Sympathy – We extend our thoughts and sympathy to Janet Hibbs, immediate NARSP Past President, and her family. Janet's husband, Jack, passed away on June 24 in Hastings.

Mark Your Calendars – Hopefully you have! We look forward to seeing many of you at the 50th Anniversary State NARSP Convention on Friday, September 17 at the Holiday Inn-Downtown in Lincoln. The Board of Directors Meeting will be on Thursday, September 16. You will find other related articles and registration information about the convention in this issue of the Newsletter. A number of special things have been planned since this is the 50th annual convention. Plan to be in Lincoln to help NARSP "Celebrate"!!

In conclusion... "What I spent, is gone; what I kept, is lost; but what I gave away will be mine forever." --Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus, Founder of NRTA, 1947

Light travels faster than sound, which is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak

Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened

Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel 50th State Convention

Downtown Holiday Inn - 141 North 9th Street - Lincoln, Nebraska
Friday, September 17, 2010

"Celebrate"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th

6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Board of Directors and Executive Committee Meeting
9:00 p.m. Informal social gathering time.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Registration and Morning Refreshments
9:00 a.m. Group Singing
9:15 a.m. MORNING SESSION - Bob Bussmann, NARSP President presiding
Pledge of Allegiance - Welcomes - Introductions
9:45 a.m. Keynote Presentation: Mike Mennard, Musician and Poet
10:45 a.m. Break
11:00 a.m. Memorial Service - Dick Hawes, Hastings Unit
11:15 a.m. AMBA Membership Benefits - Art Dunham, AMBA Representative
11:30 a.m. General Business Meeting - Bob Bussmann, NARSP President
12:00 Noon Invocation - Luncheon - NARSP Scholarship Presentation
1:10 p.m. AFTERNOON SESSION - Bob Bussmann, NARSP President presiding
AARP Issues - Mark Intermill, Nebraska AARP
1:30 p.m. "Create The Good" - Connie Benjamin, Nebraska AARP
1:50 p.m. Greetings from NRTA - Megan Stevens Hookey, Vice President, NRTA
2:20 p.m. BREAK
2:35 p.m. Installation of Officers - JoAnn Koso, Southeast Nebraska Unit
2:40 p.m. Awards Presentation - NRTA "With Our Youth" Award, NARSP Education
Service Award, NARSP "Big Apple" Award, Unit Community Service and
Day of Service Awards, and NARSP Membership Awards
3:15 p.m. Convention Evaluation - Drawings - Closing Remarks

Convention General Business Meeting

Items of consideration during the convention general business meeting include the following:

- approval of the 2010-2011 NARSP Budget;
- a proposal to establish a NARSP Foundation (501c3) to receive funds (tax deductible donations) for the scholarship and other philanthropies; and
- election of officers for a two-year term (2010-2012) – The present NARSP officers will be slated for re-election: President, Robert L. Bussmann (Lincoln/LARSP); Vice President, Ann Meinzer (Falls City/Southeast Nebraska Unit); Secretary, Billie Carole Bussmann, (Lincoln/LARSP); and Treasurer, Don Leighton (Winside/Wayne Unit).

There is always the potential of additional items being added to the agenda between the printing of this Newsletter and the convention meeting date.

NARSP Registration Form for the 50th State Convention on Friday, September 17th, 2010, at the Downtown Holiday Inn in Lincoln. (141 N. 9th Street)

Room reservations at the Holiday Inn can be made by calling 402-475-4011. Up to four people are allowed to stay in one room for \$89.00 plus local sales tax and occupation tax if you are a NARSP member. The room rate is the same for less than four people for NARSP members. Please reserve your room by August 20th, 2010.

Registration will be from 8:00 - 9:00 am. Program begins at 9:00 am. Coffee and rolls will be available before program begins.

Send your meal reservation of \$20.00 by August 20th, 2010 to:

(late fee \$2)

Bob Bussmann

3750 Normal Boulevard, Lincoln, NE 68506

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

NARSP State Officers and Local Association Presidents or their proxies will have their rooms paid for by NARSP. NARSP will pay mileage at the IRS/AARP rate per mile for Executive Officers and Presidents or their proxies of the local associations to attend the State Convention.

(9th Street is one-way going south; hotel located between "O" and "P" Streets.)

Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel Audit Report

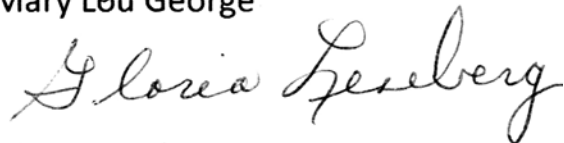
On May 3, 2010 we audited the Association's financial records for the time period of September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009.

We examined the checks, bank statements and ledger book which gave us a cross reference of all financial transactions.

To the best of our knowledge we found everything to be in sound financial standing. We would encourage all financial records be continued as they are at this time.



Mary Lou George



Gloria Leseberg

Foster Care Closet

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel has chosen to support the Foster Care Closet in accordance with AARP's program to Create the Good in Nebraska. Create the Good is an AARP program to encourage people to give back to their communities. The Foster Care Closet is headquartered in Lincoln but provides services throughout the State of Nebraska. The Foster CARE Closet has been serving children in the State of Nebraska since 2006. They serve ANY child that is a ward of the State. This means that they are serving children between birth and age 19. They have continued to see tremendous growth over the past 4 years and this year alone they have more than doubled the number of children they are serving in the State.

Their purpose is to get clothing and baby items to other parts of the state by going to other communities and setting up a temporary closet for a weekend. They do this because they strive to serve families who do not have access to the Foster CARE Closet on a regular basis.

The Foster Care Closet also collects back to school items and to ensure that the back to school items would be distributed across the State, they not only go into various communities but they have established good working relationships with the Department of Health and Human Services and agencies such as Christian Heritage, Boys and Girls Home, Nova, KVC, Cedars and Compass. They are more than willing to make contact with the different agencies that serve the different parts of the State to get items donated to them to distribute accordingly.

Many communities already have programs such as Stuff the Bus and other drives that help children and families afford the basic materials that kids need to be successful in school. This program that NARSP is supporting is a statewide program that will support kids in the foster care system.

Bring A Friend

Plans for our 50th Convention are sounding great. Why not invite a friend(s) to join you? It might be an excellent time to invite non-members so that they can become acquainted with NARSP and all the benefits offered through membership. What can YOU tell them about NARSP in a short period of time when you invite them?

Remember: <http://narsp.org>

Below is the Top Ten school supply list from Foster CARE Closet. They will, of course, take supplies that are not on the list, but these ten will have the highest demand.

Bookbags (all ages)	Colored Markers
Lined Paper	Crayons
Spiral Notebooks	3 Ring Binders
Blue or Black Pens	Pocket Folders
#2 Pencils	Hand Sanitizer

“Money vs. Materials” If people want to *make sure* the cash goes for supplies and nothing else, then buy supplies. If people choose to donate money, she suggests buying Wal-Mart gift cards. FCC's board president manages a Wal-Mart and can usually get them an extra 10% discount, which makes cash go even farther.

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel will be collecting any donated items at the State Convention in Lincoln on Friday, September 17th, 2010. Should you choose to participate in this program, please bring your donations to the meeting room before we start our meeting.

Bob Kuhn

Message from the State Community Service Chair

Congratulations to **Lincoln** and **Hastings Units** for nominating persons for the Community Service awards. **Robert and Elaine Johnson** of Lincoln and **Ray Crowl** of Hastings received service awards this spring for the service to their units and communities. I'm sure other units have persons who have shown much leadership in several projects. The time to make the nominations is in **January**. **Unit Community Service Chairs** will receive an e-mail reminding them at this time.

Congratulations Robert and Elaine Johnson and Ray Crowl for work well done!

Leona Anderson, State Community Service Chair

NARSP Membership Renewal (2010-2011)

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel ends its fiscal year on August 31st, 2010. If you do not belong to a local association in which you will be renewing your NARSP membership, you may renew your membership by filling out the membership enrollment form that follows.

We need you as a member! If NARSP is to be successful in obtaining benefit increases and improvements in our retirement system, it's vital that we have a strong membership base. Every member makes a difference.

Membership in NARSP is an investment in your retirement future! Your membership supports the financial costs of improving retirement benefits and improvements to our retirement system by un-paid volunteers. It also allows you to take advantage of a group of member benefits that have been negotiated and obtained at discounted prices for you.

Discounted benefits by becoming a member are available as follows: Dental Insurance, Eyewear Insurance, Hearing Aid Discount, Cancer Policy, Long Term Care/Home Health Policy, Prescription Drug Discounts, Medical Air Transportation Services, Travel and Resort Programs and Automobile and Homeowners Insurance.

You also receive two newsletters each year to keep you up with the latest information on lobbying efforts with our state legislature to improve your retirement future and to keep you informed of what is happening in your professional organization of retired school personnel.

We look forward to having you as a member of our NARSP team.

Sincerely,
Bob Kuhn, Director

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Membership and Enrollment Form
(Please Print All Information)

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Retirement _____

E-Mail Address _____

Telephone _____

Annual dues are \$15.00 per year (September 1 - August 31). Dues received with this application will pay your membership up through August 31st, 2011. Please make checks payable to (NARSP) Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel.

Signature _____ Date _____

District Retired From _____

Please mail completed form and dues to Don Leighton, NARSP Treasurer, PO Box 54, Winfield, NE 68790 Telephone 402-286-4569

**Registration Form for NARSP
50th State Convention Board of
Directors Meeting
on Thursday, September 16, 2010
at the Downtown Holiday Inn
in Lincoln, NE 141 N. 9th Street**

Please use this form to register for the Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, September 16th at the
Downtown Holiday Inn in Lincoln.

6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Name _____

Unit _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

Total number of attendees from your unit _____
(Spouse, proxy, other)

Please send your meal reservations of \$17.50 per meal by August 20th, 2010 to:
Bob Bussmann
3750 Normal Boulevard
Lincoln, NE 68506

Make checks payable to NARSP and add a \$2.00 late fee if sent after August 20th.

Rooms at the Holiday Inn are \$89.00 per night plus local sales tax and occupation tax for NARSP members. Four people are allowed to stay in the room. Call 402-475-4011. Please make your reservations for the hotel room by August 20th, 2010. NARSP State Officers and Local Association Presidents or their proxies make up the board of directors and will have their rooms paid for by NARSP. (9th Street is one-way going south; hotel located between "O" and "P" Streets). Complimentary Shuttle Available from the Lincoln Airport

Hotel Parking (Adjacent to the hotel near 9th and "O" Streets): Sleeping Room Guests \$7/day
Hourly Parking: First Four Hours \$3; Each Additional Hour \$1; Maximum per day \$7.

Additional Public Parking Available in the area within walking distance for day guests:

Haymarket Garage - 848 "Q" Street (approx. 1.5 blocks from hotel) Rate \$1 for first hour; \$1 per additional hour; Maximum per day \$6.

Market Place Garage - 925 "Q" Street (approx. 1.5 blocks from hotel) Rate \$1 for first hour; \$1 per additional hour; Maximum per day \$6.

NARSP will pay mileage at the IRS/AARP rate per mile for Executive Officers and Presidents or their proxies of the local associations to attend the Board of Directors meeting.

Community Service Awards

LINCOLN — Robert and Elaine Johnson were honored, April 20, 2010 for the AARP/LARSP 15th Annual Community Service Award luncheon at The Knolls. The Theme was “Volunteerism in Bloom”. The room was decorated in pastel flowers.

LARSP Chaplain, Loretta Sterns shared some “Words of Inspiration” with us. Pastor Kerr gave the Invocation and Blessing. “The Garden Plan” was completed and everyone had a filling lunch and good conversation at their table.

“The Garden Cultivated” A few individuals shared information about our honorees, they are: Pastor Scott Kerr from First Evangelical Free Church told stories about Robert and Elaine, the Hospice Coordinator at Tabitha Health Care Services, Gayle Gengenbach spoke about the services Robert provided for patients and families, Tami Barrett, Ombudsman Coordinator with Aging Partners informed us of the many years Robert had performed his duties with them.

This was a special day as it was Robert’s 84th birthday. We sang Happy Birthday and presented him with a birthday cake.

“The Garden Growing”, Eunice Landon, Robert’s sister from Waverly, past Consultant for Physical Education and Health in the Lincoln Public Schools roasted Robert and Elaine with stories from the past. Julie Bergman, the oldest and first born, told of life as a family as they were growing up. Then President, Wauneta Peterson shared some of the highlights from our honoree’s lives. Robert was the first person to ask her to work at the book sale when she walked into the first meeting of LARSP.

Robert and Elaine Johnson are the proud parents of three children and nine grandchildren. Julie is married to Rick Bergman and lives near Holdrege, NE. They have four children, Ericka, Krista, Andrew and Kara and husband Ted Rupnow. Daughter Nancy and her husband Pastor Brian Fugleberg are from Goodland, KS and have three children: Caleb, Timothy and Kaitlin. Son Brian Johnson and his wife, Robyn, are from Lincoln, NE and have two sons, Carter and Keaton.

Robert and Elaine’s roots can be traced to Northeast Nebraska. Robert was born on a farm near Wakefield, NE. He attended eight years of rural school and graduated from Wakefield High School.

Similarly, Elaine was born on a farm near Wausa, NE. She also attended rural school for eight years and then graduated from Wausa High School.

Robert served in the US Army for two years. On April 24, 2008, he was privileged to go to Washington, D.C. on Honor Flight #7.

Robert graduated from Bethany College in Lindsborg, KS with a major in mathematics. During the summer he attended Wayne State Teachers College in Wayne and worked on an endorsement for teaching business education. After having taught for a few years, Robert went to Colorado State at Greeley, CO and after three summers received his Master of Arts degree. Robert taught in Lincoln for 30 years at Dawes Junior High. The first fifteen years he taught math and typing and the next fifteen years math.

Elaine attended Wayne State Teachers College for two years and started teaching 1st grade in Wisner, NE. Elaine was just 18 and had 27 first graders who had not been in kindergarten. She also taught primary grades at Prescott, Norwood Park and Dawes Elementary. Elaine stayed home to raise their three children. She was active in Pershing School Mothers’ Club during that time and also served as President of Mothers’ Club. Elaine returned to teaching by way of substitute teaching for several years and then taught in the Chapter I Program at McPhee School before retiring.

When it comes to volunteering, Robert and Elaine exemplify the words of Ethel Percy Andrus, “to serve - not to be served.” Both have been active in the First Evangelical Free Church for the last 40 years. Both have been Sunday School teachers. Robert served as financial secretary for a number of years. During the last 10 years, he has assisted with special monthly mailings during the church building campaign. Also, word has it that Elaine has put her culinary skills to use for church functions.

Elaine serves on the LARSP Notification Committee making monthly reminder calls to members about upcoming meetings and special events. She has also assisted with the LARSP Annual Used Book Sale. Elaine shared that because of some serious health issues after retiring, she could not do the volunteering that she had hoped to do.

Robert has been a certified ombudsman for 20 years volunteering for one-half day every week at Tabitha Nursing and Rehabilitation Center serving as an advocate for the residents on the 2nd and 4th floors. He also serves as a member of the Hospice Board for the Lincoln Area.

Each year Robert assists with the “Earth Wellness Festival” held at Southeast Community College for fifth grade students.

Robert has enjoyed working with the LARSP Annual Used Book Sale for 20 years. He is a member of the Book Sale Committee. Robert indicated “that for some reason I started with the magazine section and have been there ever since.” Thus, the name “Magazine Bob” has been associated with him over the years. Since 1996, Robert has been the chair of the LARSP Scholarship Committee that selects our annual high school scholarship recipients.

Some additional interests and activities that Robert and Elaine enjoy include: flower gardening, reading, attending their grandchildren’s activities, international students, genealogy, attending summer Lincoln Municipal Band concerts in Antelope



Robert & Elaine Johnson

Park and traveling. Elaine enjoys cooking and sewing. Robert indicated he enjoys doing crossword puzzles and sleeping.

“Congratulations and Thanks” to Robert and Elaine for their many hours of diligent community service and volunteerism over the years. It is our pleasure to have both of you as the recipients of the 2010 Community Service Award.

HASTINGS — At the May meeting, Ray Crowl received the Leadership Service Award which is given by the NRTA and this Unit. Peggy Rezac presented the award to Ray. Peggy read the nomination that was submitted to the national office.

Following Ray Crowl’s retirement from Hastings Public School in 1999, Ray joined Hastings Area Retired Teachers and he became a member active in leadership in the group volunteering. Ray has a knack of motivating individuals and providing leadership opportunities. He does much volunteering both in group and individual. Ray is a very competent individual and his quality of work is incredible. The group’s volunteering projects include ones at the Public Library, Day of service, remembering the elderly and the youth. Several groups have grown by Ray’s music leadership. Hastings Area Retired Teachers is definitely one of them as is the Nebraska state group. Ray’s schedule is always filled with volunteering. He is very good at what he does. Without exception, Ray’s positive and pleasant personality, lasting perseverance and dedication to excellence makes him an outstanding applicant for this award. Ray is a leader in the community and HARTA.

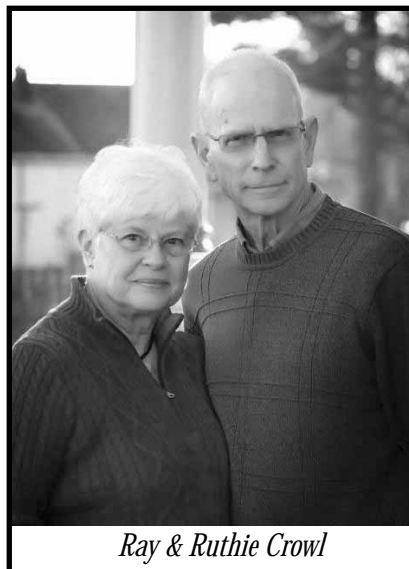
Ray was born in Davenport, Iowa on September 3, 1937. He and his parents moved to Alhambra, California that same year and lived there until 1948. The family which now included a sister, Caroline (Carrie), moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. Ray Attended Lincoln High where he met Ruthie Martin. They both went on to Nebraska Wesleyan. In 1959, Ray graduated and he and Ruthie were married at Trinity Methodist Church in Lincoln.

They moved to Cairo where Ray taught music and Ruthie taught kindergarten. After one year a son, Martin (Marty) was born and Ruthie became a stay at home mom. Two years later son number two David, arrived. After four years in Cairo, the family moved to Hastings. Ray taught instrumental music in the Hastings Public Elementary schools. In 1964 son Randall (Randy) was born. Then in 1970, a daughter, Jodi would complete the Crowl family. When Jodi was 5, Ruthie returned to work as an Elementary Paraprofessional with Hastings Public Schools, and then later with the State of Nebraska’s Educational Service Unit #9.

The family attended the First United Methodist Church where Ray has been a choir member for forty five years and a brass choir member for thirty five years. He and Ruthie also served as high school youth sponsors in the late 70s. They went on several mission trips with the youth and have great memories of those young people. Ray also has been the bell choir director and Transportation coordinator and driver, for members who need a ride to and from Church for nearly twenty five years.

For twenty plus years Ray served as concert manager for the Hastings Community Concert Assoc. He presently serves on the board of the Grand Island Concert Assoc.

In 1999, after forty years of teaching school, Ray and Ruthie both retired. He then had time for other activities. One he enjoys very much is playing French horn in the maverick Band, which



Ray & Ruthie Crowl

plays all over south central Nebraska for nursing homes, town celebrations, and patriotic events. Maverick Band members are mostly retired folks who still love to play and they live from York to North Platte, McCook to Ord, and towns in between. They do a lot of driving to get together. High school and college students, as well as other young players, are invited to join when they can. The director is one of Ray’s

former students! Two other former students play in the Band and will be starting their teaching careers this fall. One of Ray’s joys is to see his former students using their music skills after graduation.

Another one of his loves is Barbershop music. He has been a member of the Chorus of the Plains Barbershop Chorus in Hastings since 1965 and a director for many years. He also sings in a Quartet called Swell Affair.

After retiring he joined HARTA and has served on the Community Service Committee, where Leona Anderson has him involved in several activities such as: Bingo at nursing homes, Day of Service, newsletter folding and mailing for Friends of the Library and helping with the book sale in the summer.

The Crowl family has grown over the years. Ray stays very close to his family and enjoys all of his grandchildren.

Marty lives in Hastings and is the manager and Color Specialist in the Paint Department at Big G Ace Hardware.

David and his wife Teresa live in Lincoln where he is a salesman at Apache Camper Center and Teresa is a Systems Programmer at Brian Hospital. They have two Children. Skyler, who attends South West High School, is a great trumpet player and looking forward to his senior year in High School. Bailey, who will be a Junior at South West High school, sings in the school choir, plays clarinet in band, is on the flag squad, and enjoys writing.

Randy and Melody also live in Lincoln. Randy is a Seed Analyst for the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association, and Melody is a trainer for the Allstate Ins. Co. Kelsey is a 2010 graduate from South West High school, where she played soccer. She loves animals and is currently attending South East Community College.

Jodi and Darren live in Auburn, Nebraska where Darren is an optometrist and Jodi is a stay at home mom of three. Megan is 11 and loves to read, dance, and plays the piano and clarinet. Nathan is 9 and plays baseball, soccer and piano, and loves collecting frogs, toads, and anything else he can find. Brandon is 5 and plays T ball and will start Kindergarten in the fall.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, May 7, 2010

Nebraska AARP Office, Lincoln, NE

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel Executive Board of Directors meeting was held in Lincoln, NE on May 7, 2010 beginning at 1:15 pm. Members present were Bob Kuhn, Executive Director; Bob Bussmann, President; Ann Meinzer, Vice President; Billie Bussmann, Secretary; Don Leighton, Treasurer and Marilyn Leighton, guest.

Bob Bussmann called the meeting to order. The minutes of the January 21, Executive Board meeting were approved as printed.

Don Leighton presented the treasurer's report, which as of April 30 had a balance of \$56,329.45. He reported that he is still collecting dues and there are 1052 state members. Various expenses were discussed such as the publication and mailing of the newsletter. Don has had the treasurer's books audited.

The 50th State Convention information was discussed with NRTA sending hats, rulers, etc. and the Chamber of Commerce providing the name tags. The agenda for the program was somewhat finalized. Bob Kuhn will contact Dick Hawes to perform the memorial service. The Lincoln Area Retired School Personnel will provide four baskets for the drawing along with the monetary prizes. Ann Meinzer also volunteered to put together a basket. Bob Bussmann will be checking on food menu and costs.

The registration information will be in the newsletter with two different forms and two different prices. Don moved and Ann seconded the cost of the Board meeting meal will be \$17.50 on Thursday night and \$20 for the general meeting on Friday which includes the luncheon. Motion passed. There will be a cost for parking. The speaker is Mike Mennard and Megan Hooky will be speaking from NRTA. Connie

Benjamin and Mark Intermill will be asked to represent AARP. Art Dunham will speak from AMBA.

The time line for Friday's meeting will be to perhaps move the business meeting to earlier in the day with Mike Mennard to present first in the morning after welcomes and introductions. Jeff Maul will be speaking from Lincoln's Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Bureau. The scholarship recipient will receive the NARSP scholarship at the luncheon.

The state history is being compiled. The Mullen Unit has not yet responded. The anniversary pins have been ordered.

All information needs to be sent to Copycat for the newsletter to be out in time to know the count of registrations for the convention. The deadline is July 25.

Bob Bussmann indicated that he sent out deadline reminders concerning scholarship applications to the presidents. The Ad Hoc Committee to choose the scholarship recipient will be the Executive Board. Copies of all applications will be sent to the board members to review before meeting in July.

Nominations for the Big Apple Award or Educational Service Award are requested.

The revised Constitution will be printed. Bob B. will check with the LPS District office to see if they have the original copy on a CD. Otherwise Billie Bussmann will prepare the Constitution for printing.

Bob B. and Bob K. will prepare a budget for 2010 – 2011.

The officer slate is finalized and will be presented in the newsletter along with the annual financial report as well as a copy of the audit report.

Creating a foundation for the state organization was discussed. Bob Kuhn noted the 501C4 means the organization can lobby and collect money below \$25,000 in in-

come yearly. In 2004 it was hoped that an office could be established in Lincoln to follow bills in the legislature with an individual hired to lobby. A 501C3 means money can be collected, but the organization cannot lobby. The donated money would be a tax deduction. This latter legal status could be used for donations for scholarship or other special projects. Many states have a staff, which also means higher dues for the members, but improved services. This will be discussed at the state board of directors meeting and then at the general meeting at the state convention.

A motion was made by Don and seconded by Ann to reaffirm Bob Kuhn as Executive Director. Motion passed. There needs to be a job description developed for this volunteer position.

There are "Four Days of Service" for 2010. They are Martin Luther King Day in January—an energy theme; April—environment; acts of green during National Volunteer week; 9/11 September collecting school supplies; and Make a Difference Day in October—food drive theme. Collecting school supplies at the state convention to coordinate with AARP was discussed with consensus agreement to ask local units to participate and bring school supply items to the convention. AARP would donate to where they are needed.

The website needs to be updated about the State Convention as well as changing the names of the standing committees, which Bob Kuhn will do. The Web address is: www.narsp.org

The board will meet in mid July.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Carole Bussmann,
NARSP Secretary

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, July 13, 2010

Nebraska AARP Office, Lincoln, NE

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel Executive Board meeting was held in Lincoln, NE on July 13, 2010 beginning at 1:20 pm. Members present were Bob Kuhn, Executive Director; Bob Bussmann, President; Ann Meinzer, Vice President; Billie Bussmann, Secretary; and Don Leighton, Treasurer.

Bob Bussmann called the meeting to order. The minutes of the May 7, Executive Board meeting were approved as printed.

Don Leighton presented the treasurer's report, which as of June 30 had a balance of \$55,542.31. He reported there are 949 dues paying state members and 110 members 88+ years of age for a total of 1059. There are 226 AMBA only members. The financial report and financial review will be published in the NARSP Newsletter.

The 50th State Convention information was updated. The NARSP pin that will be given to each attendee at the 50th state convention was shared along with the draft of the history of the units. Also included in the state history are lists of the past presidents, "With Our Youth Award" recipients, locations of past conventions and workshops, unit membership awards, Community Service and "With Our Youth" volunteerism, and NARSP Awards and Recognition.

Bob Bussmann presented a tentative convention schedule. Billie will send/email a finalized schedule to all individual participants a few days before the convention. Bob Kuhn will update Megan Hookey; Billie will print the memorial service and necrology presentation that will be made by Dick Hawes with Arlene Holly sending the necrology information to Billie. The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce will be providing nametags, brochures, coupons, etc. for convention participants.

There will be a buffet at the evening

board meeting with a cost of \$17.50. The noon luncheon on Friday will be plated and is included in the \$20 registration fee. All registrations and room reservations need to be made by August 20. Names of convention participants need to be to the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce a few weeks before the convention. Registrations will be mailed to Bob Bussmann for this year.

Along with the drawings for the monetary prizes, there will be several theme baskets for convention participants to purchase tickets in order to win the basket of their choice. Proceeds from the basket tickets will be for next year's \$1000 scholarship to an active teacher pursuing an advanced degree. Tickets will be five for \$5.

Bobbie Kierstead, Coordinator of "Create The Good" with AARP, discussed the idea we had of bringing school supplies to the convention. Through her research she discussed the Foster CARE Closet which is a statewide organization giving us a way of giving school supplies to children all across the state. Bob Kuhn moved to collect school supplies at the state convention to give to The Foster CARE Closet. Don Leighton seconded the motion. Motion passed. Bob Kuhn will provide more information in the upcoming NARSP Newsletter including a list of recommended supplies.

The Education Service Award was revisited with an additional presentation to be made at the state convention.

A draft of the NARSP Constitution is completed. A final copy will be printed and available at the state convention for each unit president and standing committee members.

The 2010-2011 budget was presented. It was moved by Don Leighton to present the budget to the convention participants. Bob Kuhn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

A NARSP Foundation (501c3)

was discussed. Bob Bussmann shared information he received on the KARSP (Kansas) Foundation. This will be discussed further at the board meeting on Thursday evening prior to the business meeting during the convention on Friday.

The job description for the Executive Director is still being discussed and researched.

The board meeting continued with a discussion of the scholarship applications. There were 11 applications including: Fremont -2, Grand Island -1, Lincoln - 3, Mullen - 1, Ogallala - 1, Omaha - 2, and Wayne - 1. What a worthy talented group of active teachers. The recipient of the first NARSP \$1000 scholarship is Jena Speck, a kindergarten teacher in Arthur, Nebraska. She is pursuing a Master of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in reading at Chadron State College. The Ogallala Unit submitted Jena's application.

The next state convention will be in Hastings with the state workshop scheduled the day before the convention. We need to be making decisions on what we want to have presented at the workshop.

Bob Kuhn will update the NARSP website.

Don Leighton discussed allowing ads in the NARSP Newsletter. After various views were presented Don moved that no ads be placed in the NARSP Newsletter. Ann Meizner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The next board meeting will be on September 16 at 4:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Lincoln.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Carole Bussmann,
NARSP Secretary

NARSP Member Benefits Program

The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel has endorsed Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) to provide a menu of “Members Only” benefits for NARSP.

For information about any of these benefits, please call AMBA at 800.258.7041 or visit the websites www.amba.info or www.narsp.org.

- **LONG TERM CARE/HOME HEALTH CARE**

AMBA will build a policy to match your own needs. You select the daily benefit amount, elimination period, and benefit period which best suits your needs for care. AMBA endorsed Long Term Care Policy features include: no prior hospital stay; no waiting period for pre-existing conditions; pays in addition to your other insurance, and no premium increases with age.

- **LONG TERM CARE ANNUITY**

The Long Term Care Annuity combines a deferred fixed rate annuity with a built-in long term care rider. This annuity can provide you up to three times the annuity value in long term care benefits if you need them.

- **FIRST DIAGNOSIS CANCER PLAN**

The First Diagnosis Cancer Plan pays money directly to you in cash at one time in one lump sum payment upon first diagnosis of Internal Cancer or Malignant Melanoma you can select the lump sum payment of \$10,000, \$20,000, \$30,000, \$40,000 or \$50,000 that best fits your needs.

- **MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE PLANS**

The Senior Class Medicare Supplement Plan offers Medicare Plans A, B, C, D, F, G and J. Senior Class Plans pay for eligible expenses not paid by Medicare, and gives you the freedom to use your own physician, specialist and medical facility.

- **FINAL EXPENSE WHOLE LIFE POLICY**

You can have peace of mind knowing that your premiums are guaranteed never to increase, and your coverage is guaranteed never to decrease. Death benefits paid to your beneficiary are tax free.

- **TAX-DEFERRED ANNUITY**

AMBA offers a Single Premium Tax-Deferred solution for your retirement featuring tax-deferred accumulation of interest, guaranteed competitive interest rate, multiple payout options, income you won't outlive, and a nursing home waiver.

- **MEDICAL AIR SERVICES ASSOCIATION**

Over the past 30 years Medical Air Services (MASA) has become an international company dedicated to providing life saving emergency assistance. The coverage is designed to protect members against catastrophic financial loss when emergencies arise. The Platinum Membership offered through AMBA offers the following 13 services: Emergency Air Transportation, Helicopter Transportation, Ground Ambulance Transportation, Organ Retrieval, Organ Recipient Transportation, Recuperation/Repatriation, Return Transportation, Escort Transportation, Non-Injury Transportation, Minor Children/Grandchildren Return, Mortal Remains, Vehicle Return, and World Wide Coverage.

- **AMERITAS DENTAL INSURANCE**

Ameritas dental insurance plan offers the freedom to use your own dentist or you may choose one in the Ameritas Dental Network for additional discounts. For information, an application, or rates call AMBA at 800.258.7041.

- **VISION SERVICE PLAN (VSP)**

VSP is the largest national quality eye care company. VSP can offer you one-stop shopping for eye care. VSP offers discounts for quality eye exams and unlimited eyewear choices. VSP WellVision Plans offers eyewear, contacts, and a Laser VisionCare program. For information, an application, or rates call AMBA at 800.258.7041.

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF
RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL
FINANCIAL REPORT

March 2010 - June 2010

• **ASTRUM HEARING SOLUTIONS**

This is a national network of hearing professionals who have audiologists in all states. Astrum offers you a complete hearing evaluation, warranty on digital technology aids in any style, loss and damage protection, and batteries with a complete benefit package. Your hearing aid benefit package includes four levels of pricing on most major brands. Use benefit number # RTA000053101 when calling 866.988.5403 or check www.astrumhearing.com for more information.

• **GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES (GETO)**

This is a unique "Space-A" vacation condominium and hotel, resort, program exclusively for current and retired government employees and now NARSP association members. Space available condos located worldwide are available for a flat rate of \$329 plus tax per week. Good for short notice vacations. For full details and samples of resort availability, check www.getravelop.com or call the reservation center at 877.867.3639. Use eligibility number 823 when making condo-resort reservations.

GETO Hotel discounts are available for the following hotels by using ID # 60712 when making reservations: Days Inn 800.268.2195; Ramada 800.462.8035; AmeriHost 800.996.2087; Howard Johnson 800.769.0939; and Knights Inn 800.682.1071.

• **VACATIONS TO GO CRUISES**

This online company constantly scours the itineraries of ever cruise line to create an exclusive list of the world's great cruises with every conceivable discount included. NARSP association members can subscribe to the free weekly Vacations to Go newsletter vacations where most cruises are discounted 40-60% off the published catalogue price. Check www.vacationstogo.com for cruise information, www.resortvacationstogo.com for resort information, and www.tourvacationstogo.com for tours or call 800.338.4962.

• **LA QUINTA INN AND SUITES DISCOUNT**

La Quinta Corporation now gives you a 15% discount at their La Quinta Inn and Suites locations nationwide. Please mention the eligibility word "AMBA" to receive your discount. For reservations, please call 800.531.5900 or check www.LQ.com.

• **AVIS, BUDGET AND HERTZ RENT-A-CAR DISCOUNTS**

For Avis reservations, call 800.331.1212 or check www.avis.com and use the AMBA ID #G725000.
For Budget reservations, call 800.455.2848 or visit www.budget.com and use the AMBA ID #X925500.
For Hertz reservations, call 800.654.2210 or visit www.hertz.com and use CDP #1860896.

Balance 3/1/10 \$ 36,690.45

Income:

09-10 Dues \$ 720.00

Total Income \$ 720.00

Expenditures:

Copycat Printing & Signs (Letter) \$ 1597.53

Don Leighton (Meals, Postage, Mileage) \$ 206.20

Bob Kuhn (Meals, Mileage) \$ 615.51

Ann Meinzer \$ 100.00

Postmaster (Stamps) \$ 44.00

Robert Bussmann
(Envelopes, Postage, Label Pins) \$ 441.71

Budget Printing (Envelopes) \$ 293.84

Winside State Bank (CD) \$10,000.00

Total Expenditures \$ 13,298.79

Balance 6/30/10 \$ 24,111.66

CD \$ 10,000.00

CD \$ 12,464.49

Savings Certificate \$ 8,966.16

Bank \$ 24,111.66

Total Available \$ 55,542.31

Don Leighton, Treasurer

Please continue sending names of your deceased to:

Arlene Holly, Membership Chairman
(402) 498-8417
agholly@aol.com
14508 Burdette St.
Omaha, NE 68816



UNIT REPORTS



~ CASS COUNTY AREA ~

In September Cass County Retired Educators met at the Weeping Water Senior Center for lunch followed by museum tours. In November lunch was at the Plattsmouth Senior Center. At the library we viewed the video of a program developed and presented by students during the Chautauqua in June. Each youth researched a prominent Plattsmouth person. They then presented a program in the character of that person.

In March after lunch at Chris's Pantry in Nebraska City we visited the Kimmel Center for the Arts. The Center awards residencies to working artists from across the country and around the world. Residents stay from two to eight weeks with five artists at a time living and working at the Center. These may be writers, composers, visual artists and arts education scholars. At the time of our tour, an exhibit of art by high school students was displayed.

For the May meeting we had lunch at the Lake Ridge Golf Course Clubhouse at Beaver Lake. The speaker was David Martin of Fine Lines which is dedicated to the development of authors of all ages. Fine Lines started as a classroom newsletter in 1992 and now is a national writing network for writings by persons of all ages from around the world. Today the publications are quarterly issues of two hundred or more pages of prose and poetry.

The annual donation was given to Chris Ross to buy school supplies that he distributes to Mayan students in Yucatan. In November members brought donations for the Plattsmouth food pantry.

On May 1, a May basket workshop was held at the Cass County Museum in Plattsmouth. Children could make a May basket which was then filled with "goodies". They were given a paper explaining the history of May Day.

Submitted by Alyce C. Green

~ FREMONT AREA ~

The Fremont Area Association of Retired School Personnel has about 70 active members and ten honorary members. We meet every other month on the second

Wednesday for a noon meal. Our president is Janet Kletke who works with Deanna Freitag - Vice President, Rhoda Holstine - Secretary and Alice Colgan - Treasurer.

The meeting in March was at the First Congregational Church in Fremont. A salad lunch was held with about 40 members in attendance. The cast from the Fremont Senior High Spring musical presented songs from "Beauty and the Beast".



At our July meeting Karen VandeStowe, volunteer hours coordinator, presented a check that represents the worth of our volunteer hours in the past year (3056 total hours) to our treasurer, Alice Colgan.

Sign-up sheets for various opportunities to volunteer were available during the meeting. Members will work at such things as the Friends of the Library sale, Eco Fair and will be providing brunch once each month for workers at the Habitat for Humanity Homes during the next six months. We continue to supply hygiene products for the Crisis Center.

On May 12 we met at the First Congregational Church for a noon meal. Forty five members and four guests were present. Dr. Keith Rohwer, teacher education program coordinator at Midland College spoke to the group about education today. He previously was a teacher and principal in the Fremont Public Schools. From 1993-2008 he was the superintendent of the Nebraska City Schools.

Our FAARSP \$500 Scholarship was presented to Danae Sundermann a recent graduate of Fremont Senior High who

plans to enter the education field in college.

One of the group's community service projects was to honor all of the bus drivers and transportation aides in the area. Cookies in boxes shaped like buses were delivered to Fremont, Arlington, North Bend and Logan View in February.

Our July meeting was held at the First United Methodist Church with a noon luncheon. About 40 members were in attendance. Our guest speaker was Joan Getzfried from Valley. She has a business of selling crocheted items made of jute and sisal. These are such things as baskets, hats, purses, jewelry and ponchos.

It was announced that two of the semi-finalists for the Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel \$1000 Scholarship are from Fremont. They are Paige Brune - Special Education and Alan Horstman - Middle School Mathematics teacher.

Submitted by Jo Mitteis, Public Relations

~ GRAND ISLAND AREA ~



Wanda Duennerman, Jean Chesnut & Linda VanBoskirk working on goodie bags for new retirees.

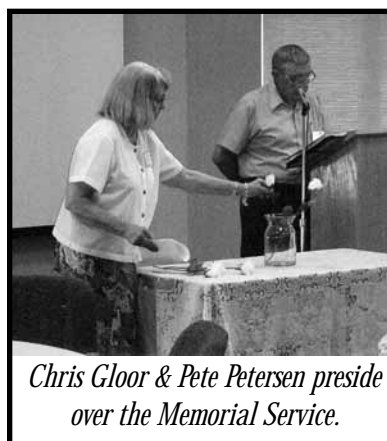
Education and entertainment have filled the meetings of Grand Island Area Retired School Personnel (GIARSP) during this past year. We, also, fulfilled our pledge of "To Serve, Not to Be Served" by contributing funds and/or items to Pine Ridge Reservation School, The Crisis Center, Hope Harbor, and the Food Pantry. And, at our meetings, there was always time for socializing with fellow members.

David Young, a sculptor and fellow member, told of the process he uses in creating his sculptures, and about creating the sculpture for the National Special Olympics held in Lincoln this past summer. We learned of the project

completed by Sudanese Teen Girls in which they made quilt squares depicting their memories and their goals as a means of adapting to their new life in America. Three Cups of Tea was just one of our book reviews. Carolyn LaFrenz and G.I.'s Wednesday Group shared



Claire Aguilar from the St Francis Foundation.



Chris Gloor & Pete Petersen preside over the Memorial Service.

projects the challenged adults were involved in to fulfill their motto of giving rather than receiving. Jan Whitney from Prairie Plains Resource Institute in Aurora, NE, explained how they work toward maintaining and restoring prairie ecosystems. Programs on hospice services

and the St. Francis Hospital Foundation increased our knowledge of health issues. Barr Middle School music students made our Christmas meeting special.

Each year, members provide funds for scholarships to students who are entering teacher college programs, provide many hours of volunteer work to both adults and children, and in other ways are active members of their communities. Because of these volunteering activities, GIARSP received two awards at the state convention of Nebraska State Association of Retired School Personnel last fall.



Nola Oberhelman & Gwynne Kuhn presented a check to Mayor Margaret Hornady.

~ HASTINGS AREA ~



Five HARTA members, Cathy Morgan, LaVila VanBoening, Sig Eigenberg, Leone Sommerfeld, and Dick Hawes volunteered in the spring to work with middle school students. The group and Community Service Chair Leona Anderson, attended the instructional meeting first. Then they helped students plan their writing and encouraged and supported their efforts during the creative writing test at the Hastings Middle School.



Eleven HARTA members volunteered at the Adams County Spelling Bee this spring. Barb Shriver, coordinator, organized this event held at Juniata Elementary. There were 156 spellers, grades two through eight, who competed in the written round. The top five then moved to the oral round. Pictured are Harriet Reinsch, Judy Thorsheim, Barb Shriver, Sig Eigenberg, Glenda Crick, Karlay Hutchins, Gary Aadland, Betty Aadland and Donna Dill. Not pictured - Carol Hansel and Diane Gundlach.

HARTA Community Service Chair Leona Anderson and Cookie Chair Carol Hansel began planning the Day of Service in February. They designed an appreciation card and gathered the names of people working in the schools and offices. Members donated cookies. On the work day at the Church of Christ fellowship hall 66 volunteers put cookies



in bags, tied a ribbon attaching an appreciation card to the bag, and wrote the name of the person to be thanked. In the picture from left to right, Gary

Aadland, Carol Hansel, Dick Kincaid, and President David Scribner are working on the project.

There were 1,957 people from 32 schools and city and county offices in the area that were recognized by HARTA mem-



bers on the Day of Service. They delivered the cookie bags with appreciation cards. Several small groups delivered them to people in the Hastings community and surrounding area. Picture 4 shows Hawthorne Elementary teacher Jan Heady receiving the cookie bags for her school. Leona Anderson, Ray Crowl, President David Scribner, and Donna

Dill are delivering the cookie bags. In picture 5, HARTA member Everett Goebel is shown delivering the cookie bags to Hastings City Hall. Mayor Vern Powers is accepting his cookie bag.



The Community Service Committee met to make plans for their summer activities. Then they filled 22 May baskets for the children staying at Hastings Crossroads Homeless Shelter and 29 more to be delivered to HARTA shut-in members.

President elect Cathy Morgan and Ruth Kroll are working on the May baskets.





Many plans were made to participate in the Adams County American Cancer Relay for Life. The HARTA Fireflies team participated. Leona Anderson served as captain of the team and Luminary Co-Chairman. Other members of the team were David Scribner, Don Goodrich, Ginny Locke, and Donna Dill. The team raised \$4,022.91. Picture 7 Seated David Scribner, Luminary Committee member, Leona Anderson, Luminary Co-chairman; standing Nancy Krueger, Donna Dill, Mary Ann Dobrovolny, and John Dobrovolny. The HARTA team held a raffle for an afghan made by HARTA member Mary Ann McCartney. A total of \$203 was raised.



Picture 8 Mary Ann with afghan. A game activity, the Lollipop tree, raised \$33.66. Picture 9 Dr. Nancy Krueger and Dr. Don Goodrich with Lollipop tree. HARTA members support their team by monetary donations and items for the silent auction, like stained glass and large stuffed animals.



A Memorial Service for Jack Horsham was conducted by Dick Hawes at the March meeting. Ken Wiederspan gave the Tribute and Rose Presentation with several other people sharing memories of Jack, especially the wonderful support he gave his teachers. Jack was a dedicated member of HARTA, very actively supporting the organization.

On Tuesday, May 25, The O'Donnell Square was dedicated. The etching on one of the benches tells the story. The etching reads: O'Donnell Square, In Memory of Ed O'Donnell, Hawthorne School 1963-1990. These were the

years Mr. O'Donnell served as principal. In attendance were HARTA members and Hawthorne retirees, Jon Thorshheim, Carol Hansel, Iona Bump, and Leona Anderson.



Others included students parents, and teachers, PTO officers, and the O'Donnell family members. In the picture seated, Principal Ann Auten, Kathy O'Donnell, widow of Ed O'Donnell, and Hastings Public Schools Superintendent Craig Kautz, and standing are members of the O'Donnell family.



HARTA member and widow of Ed O'Donnell, Kathy O'Donnell, gave the presentation at the dedication of the O'Donnell Square.

Cathy Morgan accepted the gavel as the 2010-2012 HARTA President. She is pictured with past president Nella Kincaid installing her.

Submitted by Dr. Nancy Krueger



~ LINCOLN AREA ~

The Lincoln Area Retired School Personnel meets the first Monday of the Month at the Eastridge Presbyterian Church. Social time is at 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. The meeting starts at 9:30 a.m.

Philanthropy Contributions were given to organizations in March. Those receiving donations were: Food Bank of Lincoln, Bright Lights, Cedars, Child Advocacy Center, Lighthouse, Lincoln Children's Museum, Lincoln Children's Zoo, Lincoln Parks and Recreation, People City Mission, TeamMates Mentoring Program, Harvest of Books, Fund-A-Need Program, Willie's Underwear Project.

In April, fruit and cookie baskets were taken to shut-ins. "The Broad Appeal" presented songs of the hit parade from



Front Row: Jenni Absalon, Lincoln Education Association President; Willie Shafer, Willie's Underwear Project Coordinator; John Chapo, Lincoln Children's Zoo President & CEO; Wauneta, LARSP President; Lorie Safford, Foundation for LPS, Fun-A-Need Administrator; and Josh Hanshaw, Child Advocacy Center Development Coordinator.

Back Row: Alex Shada, Cedars Director of Communications; Lynn Johnson, Director of Lincoln Parks and Recreation; Scott Young, Food Bank of Lincoln Executive Director; Darren Macfee, Lincoln Children's Museum Executive Director; Pastor Tom Barber, People's City Mission Executive Director; and Walter Powell, Lincoln TeamMates Coordinator

Not Pictured: Barbara Hoppe Johnson, Bright Lights Education & Fund Development Director and Bill Michener, Lighthouse Executive Director

the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. The ladies' trio entertained with a variety of music.

Our 15th Community Service Award Honorees were Robert and Elaine Johnson with a luncheon at the Knolls on April 20th, 2010. The theme was "Volunteerism in Bloom". (A separate story is included in the newsletter.)

Several members were recognized this spring with the "Golden Apple Award" for their many hours of work and their exemplary service to LARSP. Honorees included were Pat Etherton, Don Hobbs, Becky Hutchison, Lynn Nickol, Marge Reeves and Willie Shafer.

At the May meeting four \$1,000 scholarships were presented by the Scholarship Committee members Robert Johnson, chair, Robert Hughes, Marilyn Peterson and Jeanie Kissler to high school students who are planning a career in education. The winners were: Alexis Bartek – Southwest High School, majoring in Elementary Education; Sarah Lohmeyer – Lincoln Lutheran High School, majoring in Elementary Education; Taylor Cobb – North Star High

School, majoring in music; Jacob Snyder – Northeast High School, majoring in Spanish and Chinese. Each student shared information about him/herself and future plans.

Wauneta

Peterson, Doris

Wiens, and Gwen Tilley led the Necrology Service. Four members were remembered: Gretchen Heitbrink (1-2-10), Linda Meininger (11-30-09), Leitha Vlcan (9-12-09), and Becky Wild (12-15-09). Two poems were shared and a moment of silence was observed for these members.

Immediate

Past President Robert Bussmann installed Wauneta Peterson as the Vice President for the 2010 – 2012 bienniums. Robert presented Wauneta with a plaque in appreciation for service as President for the past two years.



Front Row: Alexis Bartek, Sarah Lohmeyer, Jacob Snyder and Taylor Cobb

Back Row: Jeanie Kissler, Marilyn Peterson, Robert Hughes and Robert Johnson, chair



Past President, Robert Bussmann presented outgoing President Wauneta Peterson with a Past President's Plaque for 2008-2010

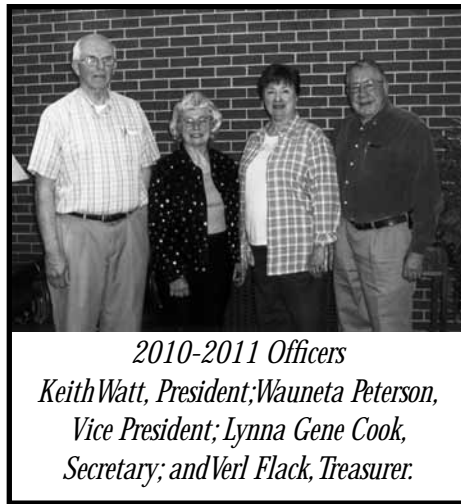


Greg McClure and President Wauneta Peterson presenting a marble book plaque to Greg for his marketing expertise in the book sales.

Greg McClure was recognized for his marketing efforts for the Book Sales. He presented LARSP with a check for \$2,000. President, Wauneta, presented Greg with a marble "book" plaque in appreciation for his work with books.

Robert Bussmann coordinated the 10th year of the "I Love to Write" Workshops. These workshops

were sponsored by LARSP and assisted by the Lincoln City Libraries, which were held in July at the Walt and Eiseley Branch Libraries. Students completing grades 2-5 and middle school students and family teams attended. Approximately 160 participated in the workshops.



*2010-2011 Officers
Keith Watt, President; Wauneta Peterson,
Vice President; Lynna Gene Cook,
Secretary; and Verl Flack, Treasurer.*

Past President
Wauneta Peterson

~ NORTH PLATTE AREA ~

The North Platte Retired School Personnel meets at the Airport Inn's Tiffany Room from September to May. We eat lunch and have a speaker before the business meeting.

We were saddened by the death of our president, Marilyn Hirsch, January 12, 2010.

Present officers are President Jean Allen, Secretary Verna Grabowski, and Treasurer Pat Leiding.

One of the projects of the organization is to raise funds for and provide two scholarships each year for two students. Last year's winners were Kelsey Foote and Jacob Wright who received stipends of \$400 each.

The Goodfellow Shoe Fund is one of the local projects the club supports.

Programs: The President arranges programs for the meetings. 2010 programs were: Mike Davis, Rail Fest Cemetery Tour as Firechief; Carolyn Clark's portrayal of Annie Cook as written about in Nellie Snyder Yost's book, Evil Obsession; Sgt. Allen Abbott - Life in Afghanistan; Harry Spahn - An Antarctic Adventure; Cecella Lawrence - Chautauqua in North Platte; Pat Leiding - A Year in Iran.

Legislative Chairman, Sherman Hirsch, keeps the group informed of current legislation.

School personnel also helps during the summer months on the first Friday's at the Lincoln County Museum.

We received certificates for 1600 hours of helping youth and 1145 hours of community service.

Joan Walter is a special worker as she enjoys preparing and setting up the decorations for the tables. She has done this since October 2006!

Our "Sing-Along-Group" is Mary Deutchman, pianist, Ellabeth Gleason & Lloyd Speicher, vocal. Birthdays and anniversaries are observed with favorite songs.

Verna Grabowski, Secretary

~ SOUTHEAST NE AREA ~

The unit began the meeting year by working with the Richardson Co. Historical Society on a book and bake sale in September. This was the second year for this event.

In November, members from Humboldt hosted the noon luncheon and meeting at the library on the Humboldt town square.

In March, NARSP President Bob Bussmann and his wife Billie, NARSP Secretary, visited our unit. We enjoyed meeting them and having them as our guests.

Our Day of Service project was completed during the May meeting. Funds collected were given to the Southeast NE Community Action Food Bank.

During our June meeting, our scholarship winners were honored. The unit's scholarship, given to a person entering the field of education, was awarded to Jestina Strecker. The Pee Wee Irvin Music Scholarship was awarded to Colton Martin. The Minna Staldu Fine Arts Scholarship was awarded to William Niebour. Parents of the scholarship winners were also present at the meeting.

In September, we will again meet at the Richardson Co. Historical Society Museum for luncheon at noon and a meeting.

Lynne McCullough, Secretary

~ WAYNE AREA ~

Wayne Area Association of Retired School Personnel met this year in the communities of Hartington at St. James Market Place, Laurel at the Bear's Country Pizza and in Wayne at the Oaks and Tacos and More. The year closed with an indoor picnic at the Wayne United Methodist Fellowship Hall.



3450 South Stuhr Road
Grand Island, NE 68801

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UNIT REPORTS (Continued)

Wayne

The ladies at St James Market Place gave us a tour and told the history of the church. It is now a market place for ladies of the community who provide articles for sale. The building gives a place for group meetings and public entertainment.

Outstanding programs were provided by LaRayne and Dale Topp of Wisner; author of stories collected from women throughout the United States on earlier days on the farm.

Low Wiltze provided a program on the new varieties of flowers and plants from Germany. The yellow peony, Gerald Darby Iris, zinnias, petunias, and she showed us pictures of others.

Mr. Patton entertained us with musical selections on the harmonica and guitar. He spoke of the changes in the present day school systems. Modern techniques help to keep down the cost of educating today's young people. Changes include the use of TV, computers, long distance learning, blended classes, and sharing of teachers and equipment between several schools. The key to change is sharing.

A new slate of officers was installed in May by President, Marilyn Leighton, as follows: President, Pat Jenkins Rhode, Vice President, Donavon Leighton; Secretary Ruth Grone Maier; Treasurer, Twyla Lindsay.

During this year Community Service and Youth Awards were presented to members who collectively worked 1509 volunteer hours and 702 hours with youth.

Ruth Grone Maier, Secretary

*Everyone has a photographic memory,
some just do not have film.*

*If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to
buy her friends?*

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

*I used to have an open mind but my brains kept
falling out.*