

PUTNAM COUNTY RETIRED TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION
September 13, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 by President Alan Zerkel. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a blessing and then everyone enjoyed lunch at the Putnam Inn. There were 16 members present.

Following lunch, Murray Pride, secretary of the Indiana Retired Teacher's Foundation, gave us an informative talk on the IRTAF; what it is, how it is funded, and the purpose of the foundation.

Each year ten scholarships are awarded (one for each geographical area) to help promote the profession and assist college students who have a passion for the classroom. Scholarships are awarded to juniors or seniors in an Indiana college or university who are in a program leading to a degree in education,

The foundation also provides financial assistance for an immediate need of an IRTA member who is undergoing a temporary or emergency hardship. This is intended for a one-time, short-term need and not long term support.

Finally active special projects were presented. Active classroom teachers may apply for grants so that their students will be able to participate in special projects. Applications are due in the fall and a minimum of one grant for each of the ten geographic areas.

Murray told us that he needs our help getting the word out so teachers will apply for the grants and education students apply for scholarships. He handed out flyers and his business card. Information is available on the web site.

Members were asked to check their directory information for accuracy and indicate if they can receive texts. Directory information will be shared once the corrections are made.

Members were asked for program ideas. One idea was inviting one of our state or national representatives to talk about the rationale they use to fund charter and private schools.

President Zerke reminded us that the Putnam County non-food pantry is our project. Non food essential donations are appreciated.

Fran Monds won the 50/50 drawing.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Wieland