

## PUTNAM COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

October 9, 2018

The October meeting of the Putnam County Retired Teachers Association was called to order at 12:05 P.M. by Vice-President Betty Hazlett. President Alan Zerkel is attending the IRTA District 4 & 5 Fall Workshop in Danville. There were 16 members present. Betty led the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced our guest speakers Susan Stewart and Shirley Steward, both retired Putnam County teachers.

Susan and Shirley were present as representatives of the Putnam County Museum and gave a very entertaining program on Emma Rita (Herbert) Stigler who started teaching in Putnam County at the age of 17 in 1882. She was paid \$1.56/day and it was noted that men at that time were paid a higher amount. To be certified as a teacher you had to have 1) A written Certificate of Good Character and 2) To pass tests at the County Superintendent's Office covering, Reading, Writing, Math and Physiology. As a female teacher you could not be married. She taught in Putnam County for 34 years in 5 townships and a total of 15 schools. She was married to Sam Stigler in 1916 and moved to Clay County where she remained until he died in 1930. At that time she relocated to Putnam County, but never returned to public teaching. She died in 1948 and is buried at Forest Hill Cemetery. The Putnam County Teaching Association was established in 1894 and Emma (Herbert) Stigler was a founding member.

Susan Stewart also shared with the group that she and her husband Lee are establishing a Putnamville Museum and that the opening is set for Saturday, October 20, 2018. She invited all present to attend.

Marilyn Lawrence gave the blessing for the meal and everyone enjoyed food and conversation.

The Business Meeting was called to order at 1:25. The minutes of the September 11, 2018 meeting were posted on our website, but printed copies were not available for members to read. It was decided to delay a motion on the minutes until members took the opportunity to read the minutes. Meeting minutes will now be posted on our website and not read at each monthly meeting.

Terri McKee reported that we have \$658.54 in our account, not including today. We had 10 members pay dues last month and an additional 10 paid today.

Recognition Awards from the Indiana Retired Teachers Association were presented to Charlene Logan - Outstanding Volunteer, Charlene shared some of the volunteer activities she did, Mike Gibson - Recognition of Website and our group was presented the Outstanding Group Project award.

Members present were reminded to bring items for the Non-Food Pantry and to turn in volunteer hour report sheet to Eleanor Hauser at our November meeting, or mail to Eleanor in December. The program for our November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is undecided at this time, but Debbie Lambert will contact the Covered Bridge group and share information with Maureen. Charlene Logan won the 50/50 drawing and received \$8.50 and \$8.50 was put into our scholarship fund.

The meeting adjourned at 1:37PM

Mary Zerkel, Acting Secretary for Lucy Wieland