



BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY RETIRED TEACHER ASSOCIATION THE STORY BEFORE

In 1947, a retired teacher named Ethel Percy Andrus founded the National Retired Teachers Association (NRTA). By the mid 1950s the organization was so successful in its advocacy efforts for retired teachers that other retired persons who had never been teachers wanted to join. So in 1958, Andrus founded a second organization - the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). Andrus went on to lead both organizations, in the unpaid position of president, until her death in 1967 at the age of 83.

Recognizing a need for improving the lives of retired teachers, Andrus founded NRTA to give retired teachers a national forum to advocate pension reform, tax benefits, housing improvements, and health insurance coverage, and to continue their support of education. NRTA was designed to work closely with State Retired Teachers's Associations, providing them with a national voice on legislative and social issues affecting retired teachers. To be a member of NRTA, an individual had to first be a member of a state organization.

IRTA was founded by retired teachers from Allen County in 1950, to promote the interests of retired teachers in Indiana. IRTA brings the classroom teacher, the principal, the superintendent, and the school business manager together in a common cause.

**NRTA & AARP for Fifty Years 1947-1997, the Wisdom & Vision of Ethel Percy Andrus
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Power of Years, The Wisdom of Ethel Percy Andrus. Copyright 1968 by NRTA.