

## HISTORICAL NOTES

BARTA hosted an IRTA all-committee district workshop at the First Christian Church in 1996, the first ever such meeting that BARTA leadership had hosted. Jean McClellan was president. Also during Jean's tenure she led BARTA in promoting and encouraging a YES vote before the Indiana Lawmakers for the amendment which would allow diversity of some of the funds invested in the Retirement Fund so a better return could be made on the investments. This carried the state by over 65%.

Marjorie Foster, president of BARTA during the 1997-<sup>98</sup>~~97~~ term presided over the National Retired Teacher's 50th Anniversary Day Ceremony at City Hall on October 13th, 1997. A facsimile check in the amount of \$211,150 was given by Mayor Fred Armstrong honoring 16,250 hours of volunteer work in community service done by retired teachers.

During Helen Ahlemeyer's tenure as president from 1999-2003, Barta grew in numbers and recognition of community involvement. Volunteer hours by members increased and was recognized both locally and by the state organization. A new constitution featuring minor changes was voted upon and accepted by the members. In 2003, Helen was also elected to serve as Area 5 Director, which covers 12 counties in central Indiana.

William F. McCoy, after serving as president for the 1986-88 term, served as chaplain of BARTA for many, many years until his death in 2004. Each year he remembered deceased members in a brief memorial service. He was a faithful member of BARTA along with his many other contributions to the community in the education and ministerial fields.