



NEWS TO SHARE

Henry County Retired Teachers Association
ORTA Chapter Since 1968

HCRTA Meets on the Second Monday of March, May, July, September,
November, and December at Oberhaus Park, Napoleon, Ohio
Website, hcrtaonline.org



Volume 20 Issue 4

September 8, 2014

Mission Statement

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association continues its mission of encouraging scholarship, fostering volunteerism, providing an informed voice for retired teachers on issues relevant to their well-being, and presenting significant information in a congenial social setting.

Vision Statement

Within five years, HCRTA will move to a position among the top five chapters in Ohio, as it builds upon its legacy of encouraging scholarship, fostering volunteerism, promoting and protecting retiree interests, supporting advancement of public education in Ohio, developing a proactive membership.



2014 HCRT Foundation Book Grant Recipients

Becca Pfister, Sherman Book Grant, Robert McMahon, Roger King Book Grant, and Allison Lamming, Griffith Book Grant

The officers and committee chairs have received directories for about 25 years. Too much information/history is lost in boxes and files, never to be shared again. The directory is a ready reference. The directory is printed for a number of reasons. The directory has become a quick phone/address book, a record of past presidents and deceased members, a copy of our HCRTA constitution, a list of officers and chairs for both the HCRTA and the HCRT Foundation, and much much more.

Is there any interest among the general membership to receive a directory? There will be a charge for the directory. Call or e-mail Charlie Griffith if you are interested in a directory. The cost will be in the neighborhood of \$5.00. If there is enough interest we will create a 2015 directory, available at the March, 2015 meeting.

419-598-8791 or griff@henry-net.com

ANNUAL DUES PAYING MEMBERS:

We will start collecting annual dues, both local and ORTA, at the September meeting. The annual local dues are \$15 and ORTA dues are \$30. We need two separate checks if you are paying both. We appreciate early payments and really hope to have all annual dues paid up by the end of December.



We have lost two dear friends ... Jim Kieffer and Karen Brubaker

H C R T A Meeting Minutes July 14, 2014

President Charlie Meyer opened the July meeting of the HCRTA with a welcome to members and several guests. President Meyer introduced guests Becca Pfister and her father Neil Pfister, Robert McMahon and his parents Daniel and Shannon McMahon and Allison Lamming and her parents Mike and Kathy Lamming. The three students are this year's recipients of HCRTA Book Grants. President Meyer also introduced Bob Hall, guest speaker for the evening. President Meyer then offered the table blessing before the evening meal.

Following the meal, the business meeting was called to order. The secretary's report and treasurer's report were given and approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy South: Sandy Honemann reported sending Fourth of July cards to members.

Courtesy North: Marlene Jones reported sending cards to Nancy Haldy and Lee Hetrick.

Information Services: Larry Vocke advised the group to be cautious when making travel plans with online travel sites. Hidden charges may be included in packages that seem inexpensive at first glance, but are not, so be sure to check carefully when making travel plans.

Legislative: Becky Schindler reported to the group that a 2% COLA should be received on your anniversary date and that some members reported having received theirs already.

Membership: Janice Rettig reported sending out of twelve invitations for membership, with four more planned. One potential new member, Dan Baer, was present this evening.

Retirement Planning: Gregg Merrill reported that information is being gathered to be given to educators who may be on the fence about the retirement decision, so that they may make an informed choice about this important life decision.

Webmaster: Karen Brubaker reminded members to send photos to her as a jpg file and she would be able to post them on the website.

Historian: Faith Hurst reported receiving news clippings from Doris Ruby and encouraged all members to continue to watch for articles to submit for the historical records.

Old Business:

A planned fundraiser for the HCRT Foundation is still in the works, with Gene Grime in contact with McDonald's to arrange details. Members would volunteer to bus tables at the restaurant to raise funds. A change in management has delayed the project until possibly September or October.

The Together We Can Make A Difference project continues to be a success. In May, donations totaled \$196.00 for diapers, with total donations for all items thus far this year totaling \$338.00 in cash and items. Razors and/or cash were accepted at today's meeting and in September the featured item will be toilet paper and/or cash donations.

New Business:

Becky Chamberlin introduced each of the Book Grant recipients, and they told a little about themselves and their plans for the future. Becca Pfister, Sherman Book Grant recipient, will be a junior this coming year, majoring in early childhood inclusive special education and regular education. Robert McMahon will be a senior and received the King Book Grant. He plans on a career as a middle school band instructor. Allison Lamming, Griffith Book Grant recipient, plans on a career in math and science education. All were appreciative of the honor of the awards and the financial support of their education careers.

President Meyer announced the Nominations Committee for new officers for 2015. They are chair Gene Grime, Gregg Merrill and Bonnie Eddy.

A letter of appreciation for the HCRTA's support of the third grade dictionary project was read. Many students in our area have benefited from this very worthwhile project over the years. President Meyer encouraged members to become personally involved in taking the dictionaries to the classrooms to see firsthand the positive reactions of the students as they receive their books.

Several birthdays were accidentally omitted from the newsletter posting this month. A list of corrected birthdays was available to members if they wanted.

The 50/50 drawing was held, with Larry Vocke as the winner. He generously donated his winnings back to the fund.

The business meeting was then adjourned and Vice President Nancy Hoover introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Bob Hall. He spoke to the group about his involvement with a new business venture, Black Cloister Brewery, to be located in Toledo. Bob has been home brewing beer for about 40 years. He gave an interesting history of brewing and told the group about the business plans for the new company and how he had become interested in being involved with them. Bob has also been in charge of the beer and wine competition at the Henry County Fair and told the group that last year 100 wine and 40 beer entries were judged at the Fair.

The next meeting of the HCRTA will be September 8, 2014, at 5:30 P.M. The program will be First Families of Henry County.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary



The Henry County Retired Teachers Association

Financial Report for September 2014 Duane Ressler, Treasurer

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
6/29		Starting balance		\$2,306.77
7/1	Deposit	Dues payment	\$ 15.00	\$ 2,321.77
7/1	Deposit	Interest	\$ 0.05	\$ 2,321.82
7/14	Ck #1217 City of Napoleon	Shelter rental	\$ (85.00)	\$ 2,236.82
7/14	Ck # 1218 Expressions	Meals	\$ (392.00)	\$ 1,844.82
7/14	Ck #1219 TWCMD	Member Donations	\$ (105.00)	\$ 1,739.82
7/15	Deposit	50/50 (\$43)		
		Member Meals (\$480)		
		Donations(\$105)	\$ 628.00	\$ 2,367.82
7/31	Deposit	Interest	\$ 0.06	\$ 2,367.88
8/19	Deposit	Dues Payment (Baer)	\$ 15.00	\$ 2,382.88
8/27	Ending Balance			\$ 2,382.88
	Balance CD	Henry County Bank		\$ 1,249.22
		Interest Earned July 3	\$3.02	
	Balance CD	First Federal Bank		\$ 1,171.19
	BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS			\$ 4,803.29

Where are they today?

Kelly Dietrich Sonnenberg graduated from Napoleon High School in 2002. She received the Sherman Book Grant in 2006 and graduated from Bowling Green State University in 2007, specializing in language arts and social studies education. She uses her middle school education degree to teach 6th and 7th grade language arts

at Grove Port Madison Local Schools since she graduated.

She is a mother with two daughters, a Premier Jewelry consultant, a Buckeye fan, and a graduate student at Ashland. Kelly is working on her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Our Sherman 2006 Book Grant winner is a busy gal.

HCRT FOUNDATION Fund Raising

The Foundation solicits, receives, and invests gifts of money and property of every kind. Members are encouraged to promote memorial and honorary gifts to the Foundation. Gifts to the HCRT Foundation are tax deductible.

**The HCRT Foundation
is a 501C3 organization.**

*I would like to help a future teacher by
donating to the Book Grant program of the
Henry County Retired Teachers Foundation.*

My preference is:

- Lois Griffith Book Grant
- Margaret & Lucille Sherman Book Grant
- Roger King Book Grant
- Undesignated

Donation \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Gene Grime, HCRT Foundation Treasurer
192 Old Creek Dr. Napoleon, Ohio 43545
419 - 599 - 2711

September – A Look Back - Faith Hurst

40 years ago:

The Ohio Retired Teacher Association Conference for Districts 1 and 2 was held on September 18, 1974 at the Glandorf Inn. Five Henry County chapter members attended. Topics included the Medical Health Program, House Bill 1476, and New Looks for ORTA. It was also 40 years ago that retired teacher Cora Gisler of Napoleon was a \$100,000 winner in the Ohio Lottery.

30 years ago:

Forty HCRTA members and guests met at the Anthony Wayne Restaurant. The afternoon program was presented by Marjorie Ater, Executive Director of ORTA, and Dr. Warren Goode, ORTA President-elect. HCRTA President Luella Lighthill urged members to attend the retired teacher state meeting to be held in Columbus in October. The slate of officers for 1985 was presented and unanimously elected, with Margaret Sherman as president.

20 years ago:

Recently retired teacher Sally Babcock was introduced at the September, 1994 HCRTA meeting at the Holiday Inn. A scholarship committee was set up that included Lucille Sherman, Elnora Engler, Golda Boyer, Doris Ruby, and Margaret Mueller. After the business meeting and a bountiful buffet, Executive Director of ORTA Joe Andry, Senator M. Ben Gaeth, and State Representatives Lynn Wachtmann and Richard Hodges shared interesting information with those present.

10 years ago:

The Napoleon American Legion Hall was the site of the September 2004 HCRTA meeting and dinner. President Gene Grime welcomed ORTA District Director Edna Hansen and Executive Director Dave Travis. Mr. Travis provided

information about the health of STRS and the current status of our healthcare. It was announced that seven HCRTA members would be attending the State Biennial meeting in Columbus. The retirement planning committee reported on the upcoming retirement workshop.

5 years ago:

President Charlie Griffith called the meeting to order at the Hellar Room of the Henry County Hospital. Seventy-five members and guests were present to hear Laura Ecklar, Director of Communications for STRS. She spoke on the plan to strengthen the financial condition of STRS. Janice Rettig introduced three new HCRTA members: Jane Hibbard, Karen Maassel, and Beverly Warnimont. You might also remember that five years ago HCRTA member Walt Behrman was inducted into the Napoleon High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

1 year ago:

New HCRTA members Charlotte Shrider and Steve Seagrave were welcomed at last year's September meeting. Bob Joseph filled in for David Chilson as speaker for the evening. Bob shared his memories of his trip to Washington D. C. with Honor Flight of Northwest Ohio. Congratulations were in order last year at this time for Ted and Dora Titgemeyer who celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary and to Larry Vocke who was inducted into the Napoleon Athletic Hall of Fame.

Kevin J. Milius

Dan Baer

Welcome to the Henry County
Retired Teachers Association



Note from the President....

Another school year has begun and students, teachers, and school personnel are “back in the saddle.” Whatever became of the three months of summer vacation we as youth experienced? Probably the same as the 12” TV, wringer wash machines, and fender skirts on our cars.

An “old friend” Ralph Roshong, my boss and high school principal at Wauseon during the mid-60’s, recently sent me an interesting article about Ohio school funding and the amount of local levy funds that go to the Ohio charter school industry. I wish to share the article with you.

“In school year 2013-2014, nearly one-half billion dollars in local levy funds went to the Ohio charter school industry.

In the school year 2013-14, Ohio school districts had \$896,440,995 deducted from their budgets for 121,825 charter school students over which elected boards of education had no governance regarding their curriculum, programs, services, academic ratings, graduation rates, etc. The charter school industry is a publicly-funded private school enterprise.

School districts received \$466,918,677 from the state for those 121,825 students and paid

out \$896,440,955; hence the difference of \$429,522,278 came from local tax levies. State officials have, in vain, attempted to convince the public that charter funding is state money only.

588 school districts (96%) receive less total state calculated per pupil funding than they pay out per pupil to charter schools. On the average, school districts receive \$3832.70 per pupil in total calculated state funding and pay out \$7358.43 per charter school student.

School district levies must be used in accordance with the stipulation of items indicated in the board-adopted resolution. Since support for charter schools is not one of the stipulated items, local tax funds should be disallowed for charter school students. Only the state money a district receives should be transferred to charterville.

This is an issue that needs to be litigated.”

I’m sure there are very successful charter schools out there that meet the needs of numerous students, especially since public education has all but eliminated areas such as industrial technology, modern homemaking, etc.

But if these schools are receiving tax monies, they should be held accountable just as our public schools must account to the governing bodies.

Community Service and Volunteer Hours

The HCRTA had only 20 members report 1482 hours of volunteer time to the communities of Henry County this past time period. We have a goal of 10,000 hours of service this year and have a total of 4052 hours thus far reported. I know there are more than 20 of you that do volunteer work. Please keep track of your hours and use one of the convenient ways to report them.

Retired teachers make wonderful volunteers. It offers a service to our community, makes this organization look good, and gives you the

satisfaction of helping other residents and community organizations out.

A reminder, the hours we collect are general volunteering hours and tutoring hours. Take advantage of one of those simple ways to add your hours to HCRT’s total accumulation.

Contact Tom Jenny at **419-592-7588** (leave a message) or email at cupmute@roadrunner.com

Fall is on its way. Is fall your favorite season? I often hear people say that it is. My initial reaction is that it's not my favorite because winter will follow. And then I tell myself that I should be positive and think of the good things fall brings. Many people would list football at the top of their list. My list is fall flowers and spring bulbs and flowers to plant.



Fall flowers that are beginning to bloom are the mums. Others that have been blooming are the hosta flowers, cannas, geraniums, helianthus, butterfly bushes, and amaryllis. I did an

article before regarding the mums, so I'm going to challenge you to make something for your front door. It's called a wreath. You can use fresh flowers, dried flowers, or silk flowers. Silk flowers, of course, will last forever.

I'm sure of that because of something I did recently. I had purchased at the HC Senior Center a puzzle of nine kittens side by side that measures 36" wide and 12" tall. It was saved by gluing it to a cardboard back. I then took it to Johnson's Country and Ice Cream Shoppe where Peggy and I selected the frame and mat that Phil would frame around the picture. When I brought it home, the big decision was where to hang it. Decision made meant taking down the first wreath I ever made with both fresh and dried items. Because it hung in the kitchen all those many years, everything became dried. As I took it down, it decorated the floor with most of the dried 'stuff.' It has now been 'put to rest.'

Most wreaths are round, but you can make other choices such as diamond shape or square. There are choices of metal or straw for a backing. You will need thin wire to wrap around the flowers and other additions to the wreath. If it's for the Christmas



season, you may want to add Xmas bulbs and silk poinsettias. If you're aiming for Halloween, think of things that are related to that, such as ghosts and pumpkins. If you're aiming for Thanksgiving, how about pumpkins and other fruits, plus mums. Ribbon bows always add to the finished product. You decide if you

want to add one or more.

Are you thinking that you can't make a wreath? Then call a friend or family member to help. Many times it's said that more than one person working on a project creates an outstanding project. Give it a try.

The other fall project I always find myself doing is planting spring bulbs. When I say 'bulbs,' do you think only of tulips, daffodils, narcissus and hyacinths? I already have those planted throughout the gardens, so now I'm looking at amaryllis in pots for Christmas. I'm considering planting more bulbs and plants such as oriental lilies, Chinese trumpet lilies, more Asiatic lilies, more peonies, and more hardy geraniums. You are welcome to come help plant these. The exercise will be good.



Hello, September.
Surprise me.

2014 HCRТА Meetings

In Search of Art - Bonnie Eddy



Sept. 8 @ 5:30 PM

Oberhaus Park
Sliced Turkey Breast
Stuffing
California Blend Vegetables
Rolls & Butter
Dessert & Lemonade

First Families of Henry Count, Bill Latta.

November 10 @ 11:30 AM

Oberhaus Park
Glazed Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes
Country Style Green Beans
Rolls & Butter
Dessert & Coffee

Teachers, the Real American Heroes

Dr. Randy Overbeck, ORTA

December 8 @ 11:30 AM

Oberhaus Park
Expressions Catering Signature "Apple Wood"
Rubbed Pork Loin
Oven Roasted & Seasoned Potatoes
Steamed Broccoli
Rolls & Butter
Dessert

Traditions and Customs of Christmas Holidays Abroad, LeeAnn Hall.

Meal Price \$ 10.00

A Tidbit of Humor - Mary Lou Mengerink

Teacher: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?

Harold: A teacher

From Becky's Recipe Book - Becky Schindler

Crab Roll-ups

8 flour tortillas
1 c. sour cream
1 lb. imitation crab meat shredded
1 can cream of chicken soup
2 c. shredded cheddar, divided
1 sm. can chopped green chilies

Place crab meat and 1 cup of cheddar cheese in a bowl and toss. Top tortilla with the mixture and roll-up. Place in a greased casserole dish. Combine sour cream, soup and chilies in a bowl; pour over the crab rolls. Top with remaining cheddar cheese. Bake at 350 until bubbly. (25 minutes)

Laws ... Laws ... Laws ... Laws ...

Law of the Theater & Hockey Arena - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the performance. The aisle people also are very surly folk.

The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Bonnie's Birthday List - Bonnie Eddy

September

4 – John R. Schroeder
5 – Joan Myers
6 – Mary Ann Wade
8 – Sally Weaver
9 – Carol Sonnenberg
9 – Margaret Sutton
10 – Bev Wittes
15 – Kathryn Helberg
17 – Don Flory
20 – Shirley Baldwin
20 – Jane Hibbard
20 – Gregg Merrill
21 – Larry Sicclair
24 – Konnie Meyer
24 – Rosemary Pfau
25 – Fred Church
26 – Barbara Schnabele

October

2 – Linda Gill
7 – Janice Rettig
7 – Sue Sauber
14 – Jacqueline Sautter
16 – Dick Mengerink
18 – Susan Burson
20 – Tom Jenny
22 – Bruce Schlosser
23 - Bev Phillips
23 – Shirley Ann Sickmiller
24 – Sue Roby
24 – Dolores Short
27 – Janet Aschemeier

November

3 – Jennie Shartzter
5 – Jamie Bostleman
5 – Linda Krauskropf
7 – Colleen Jameson
7 – Sue Meyer
9 – Del Shinn
13 – Larry Long
15 – Gary Ritchey
20 – Susan Krugh
22 – Lee Hetrick
22 – Marlene Jones
23 – Nancy Haldy
25 – Cherie Atkinson
27 – Linda Barlow

Send a Friend a Note of Good Cheer

Charles Hemsoth, Box 36, Malinta, OH 43535
Eleanor Engler, Box 36, 690 Fauver St. Ridgeville Corners, OH 43555
Earlene Dirr, % Karen Maassel, 14-620 Co. Rd. D, New Bavaria, Ohio 43548
Barb Hoffman, 15-926 Co. Rd. D-1, Holgate, Ohio 43527
Martha Alspaugh, 140 W. North St., McClure, Ohio 43534
Lucille Meyer, Box 74, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio 43555
Barbara Schnabele, 415 N. Oak Street, Deshler, Ohio 43512
Jackie Sautter, Fairlawn Haven, Room 114, East Lutz Road, Archbold, Ohio 43502
Martha Potter, BG Health Care Center, 850 W Poe Rd, Bowling Green, OH 43402
Dolores Zachrich, 1036 S. Perry Street, Lutheran Home, Napoleon, Ohio 43545



Creative Puns For "Educated Minds" - Bonnie Eddy

- ⊗ The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.
- ⊗ He acquired his size from too much pi.
- ⊗ I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan Island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
- ⊗ She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
- ⊗ A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
- ⊗ The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.