

# News to Share

## Henry County Retired Teachers Association O.R.T.A. Chapter Since 1968

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

Website: [henrycountyrta.weebly.com](http://henrycountyrta.weebly.com)

Volume 21, Issue 5

November 2015



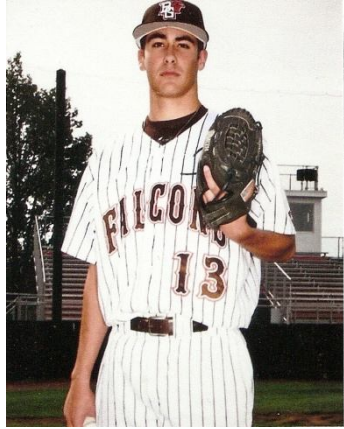
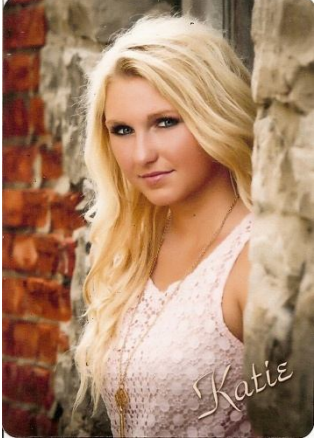
### Mission Statement

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.

### 2015 HCRTA Foundation – Book Grant Recipients

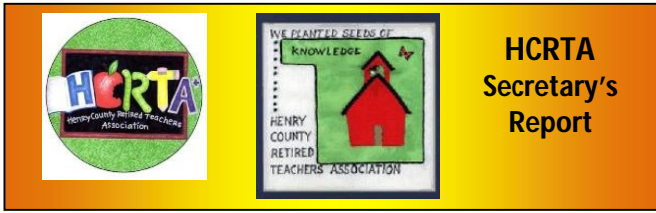
			
Chandler Ashbaugh <i>Lucille and Margaret Sherman Book Grant</i>	Timothy Peltier <i>Roger King Music Book Grant</i>	Wesley Rickenberg <i>Karen Brubaker Book Grant</i>	Katie Stover <i>Lois Griffith Book Grant</i>

### Next Meeting – November 9, 2015

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday November 9th at 11:30am. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon. The program for this meeting is a presentation of his family's Civil War letters by Steven Kryder. It promises to be an interesting program. The menu for this meeting is roasted turkey and stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, roasted Brussels sprouts, sweet corn, cranberry salad, rolls/butter and pumpkin pie. We hope to see you there!

### Meal Reservations and Costs

Just a reminder that meal costs are \$11.00 per person. We do have to guarantee the count to the caterer so if you make a reservation and then do not attend we still must pay for the meal that was ordered and delivered. That means that you need to either send the \$11.00 or have another member take your reservation. Anne Rausch handles reservations through a group of callers who email or phone 10 people each. We need to have your reservation confirmation back to your normal caller by November 3rd, or contact Anne directly if you cannot reach your caller. Thank you.



## Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report - September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for September was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, new members Janis Miller and Pat Fetterman were welcomed to the meeting. It was reported that Dave Follett has also joined as a new member. President Shrider introduced a football theme to determine the order of dismissing to the serving table. Blessing was offered and a delicious meal of meatloaf and trimmings was enjoyed by all.

Following the meal, the business meeting was called to order. The Secretary's report was accepted as written and the Treasurer's report was also accepted and filed for audit.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Dictionary Committee:** Gene Grime passed around a signup sheet for members to volunteer to present the dictionaries to third grade classes in the county. He will let the volunteers know when the books are in, so they may schedule visits with the classroom teachers.

**Courtesy:** Marlene Jones was present and reported sending a cheer message to Martha Potter.

**Legislative:** Becky Schindler reported on concerns with charter schools and vouchers for increased funding. As always, health care remains an active concern. Another issue mentioned from the group was the takeover of the Youngstown schools by the state—will we see more of this kind of action in the future and how will it affect our schools overall? Becky also reminded members that a position is available for ORTA Executive Director, and anyone interested may seek an application.

**Membership:** Nan Bretz reported sending packets of information to 28 potential new members. Anyone with other names to suggest should see Nan.

**Community Service:** Tom Jenny stressed to us the value of recording our volunteer hours on the sheets each month. Adding up all of those hours is a tangible way to remind our members and the community as a whole of the value of teachers and of the continued

contributions that retired teachers make to our communities every day.

**Webmaster/Newsletter:** Steve Seagrave was thanked by President Shrider for volunteering to take on the task of producing the newsletter. He will continue to maintain the website as well and encouraged members to send items to be posted. Steve acknowledged Charlie Griffith for allowing him to take over his files. Steve is working to make appropriate updates.

**HCRT Foundation:** Jerri Osborn reported that the committee is working on rubrics for the grants to be used in the coming year.

### **Old business:**

President Shrider reported that our Trivia Night in July raised \$170 for the Together We Can Make A Difference group. Lots of fun and profit for a good cause too!

### **New Business:**

President Shrider announced that the program for the November meeting will be presented by Steve Kryder. He will talk about a project he is involved with at Northwest State to share letters from the Civil War era written by ancestors of his family.

Bonnie Sasaki was the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing of \$22.00.

After the meeting was adjourned, a very interesting program was presented by Julia Gehring from Nature's Nursery, which is located near Whitehouse, Ohio. They help to rehabilitate injured animals and return them to their habitats, as well as promoting animal welfare through educational programs. Julia brought three species with her: an opossum, three bats and a rat snake. She was a very knowledgeable speaker, telling the group many interesting facts about the animals she had brought along, as well as answering questions from the audience.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary



### **From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider**

I hope everyone has been enjoying this beautiful fall weather. The leaves are beginning to turn and the sunsets have been outstanding. I have no clue how the sunrises look! I could tell we all enjoyed our September speaker from Nature's Nursery. I haven't heard you all



so quiet and attentive! Except for those bats, I even liked seeing the animals she brought.

I am looking forward to hearing from Steve Kryder about his ancestors Civil War letters. Should be fascinating; and the menu for the meeting sounds wonderful. As Grandpa Jones would say on Hee Haw, "Yum, yum!"

If there are no objections, the same officers and committee chairpersons will be in place for 2016. I will ask at the November meeting for a vote on this. I just discovered that the officers were to be announced in September. Sorry about that. I am still learning! I hope to see many of you at the next meeting!

If you haven't attended a meeting in a while, why not make it a point to join us at the November meeting? We would love to see you!  
Charlotte

### Medicare Alert from ORTA

Becky Shindler, our HCRTA legislative liaison, asked us to forward this information to all HCRTA members. It comes from the Ohio Retired Teachers Association.



On October 15, the Social Security Administration officially announced for only the third time in the 40 year history of Social Security (2010, 2011, and 2016) there will be no COLA increase for SS benefit recipients in 2016. The COLA is tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which has been flat due to lower gasoline prices. The lack of a raise triggers other bad news for some retirees---higher medical costs. Most Americans have their Medicare B premium deducted directly from their Social Security checks and the COLA increase usually covers any increase to premiums. When it doesn't (like in 2016), a "hold harmless" law protects those roughly 70 % of seniors from any increase which would decrease their SS benefit check amount.

That leaves about 30% of Medicare B participants who do **not** receive Social Security benefits and are billed for their Medicare Premium to cover the increase which would otherwise be spread among everyone. New enrollees and Medicare beneficiaries who aren't on Social Security (**THAT IS THE MAJORITY OF STRS BENEFIT RECIPIENTS-----US!**) — and who do not have high incomes — would thus pay not the

current \$104.90 a month in 2016 but a 52 % increase which would be \$159.30. People in the higher-income premium groups would have similar percentage hikes, from a range of \$146.90 to \$335.70 a month in 2015 to a range of \$223 to \$509.80 in 2016. Additionally the current Medicare B deductible would increase from \$147 to \$233. Public employees in non Social Security states such as Ohio, Texas, California, and New Jersey just to name a few would all be impacted by these increases.

Our members are already paying a Social Security penalty resulting from the Windfall Elimination Provisions (WEP), and/or the Government Pension Offset (GPO) that have been levied upon Ohio's public servants and educators.

Because of the rising cost of health care, our respective retirement systems have had to cut back on what they have historically provided us in the way of benefits. As you may know, many of us accepted lower pay as public servants, because of the promised retirement benefits.

With each passing year, our benefits have been eroded. Any increase to the Medicare Part B premiums would extract an additional financial burden on those of us trying to make do with our modest pension amounts.

NOW is the time to be contacting your Senator or Congressman to urge action to prevent this huge increase.

## New Members

Welcome to three new members who have joined HCRTA!

- Janis Miller - Napoleon - retired in 2007 - 25 years in education
- David Follett - Deshler - retired in 2015 from Patrick Henry - 34 years in education
- Pat Fetterman - Liberty Center - 40+ years in education

## Birthday List

Sep. 08	Weaver, Sally J	Oct. 23	Sickmiller, Shirley Ann
Sep. 09	Sonnenberg, Carol	Oct. 24	Roby, Susan D
Sep. 09	Sutton, Margaret	Oct. 24	Short, Delores
Sep. 10	Wittes, Beverly Ann	Oct. 27	Aschemeier, Janet
Sep. 15	Helberg, Kathryn J	Nov. 05	Bostelman, Jamie
Sep. 17	Flory, Don G	Nov. 05	Krauskopf, Linda
Sep. 20	Baldwin, Shirley A	Nov. 07	Jameson, Colleen A
Sep. 20	Hibbard, Jane	Nov. 07	Meyer, Sue C
Sep. 20	Merrill, Gregg	Nov. 09	Shinn, Delbert P
Sep. 21	Siclair, Lawrence R	Nov. 13	Long, Larry E
Sep. 24	Meyer, Konnie	Nov. 13	Shartzter, Jennie Lee
Sep. 24	Pfau, Rosemary G	Nov. 15	Ritchey, Gary
Sep. 25	Church, Fred	Nov. 20	Krugh, Susan
Sep. 26	Schnabele, Barbara A	Nov. 22	Hetrick, Lee
Oct. 02	Gill, Linda L	Nov. 22	Jones, Marlene
Oct. 07	Rettig Janice J	Nov. 25	Goertz, Cheri
Oct. 07	Sauber, Sue	Nov. 27	Barlow, Linda
Oct. 14	Sautter, Jackie	Dec. 05	Redd, Betsy
Oct. 16	Mengerink, Richard	Dec. 08	Aschemeier, Joseph
Oct. 18	Burson, Susan L	Dec. 09	Fetterman, Patricia
Oct. 20	Jenny, Tom R	Dec. 13	Seagrave, Stephen
Oct. 22	Schlosser, Bruce E	Dec. 13	Shrider, Charlotte Anne
Oct. 23	Phillips, Bev		



These are the members with birthdays since the last list and going on to our December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Best Wishes!

### **Where are they now?**

From Becky Chamberlin

Zachary Westhoven graduated from Napoleon High School in 2008. He also received the Griffith Book Grant in 2008. Capital University was his next stop where he received the Sherman Book Grant in 2011 and a degree in Integrated Language Arts.

He enjoys working on a team of 5 English teachers at Dempsey Middle School in Delaware, Ohio. He's been teaching 8th grade language arts there for four years. He is the school newspaper advisor and Power of the Pen coach at Dempsey.

Zach shared that he has expanded his cooking techniques, enjoys traveling and hiking with a cute elementary music teacher - his wife Elizabeth.

# HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Financial Reports

Duane Ressler, Treasurer

## REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
06/30/2015	Balance brought forward			\$2,450.11
06/30/2015	deposit interest		\$0.06	\$2,450.17
07/13/2015	ck. #1239 City of Napoleon	rental of shelter house	(\$85.00)	\$2,365.17
07/14/2015	deposit	funds collected at meeting	\$340.00	\$2,705.17
07/15/2015	ck. #1240 TWCMD	donation	(\$170.00)	\$2,535.17
08/02/2015	deposit interest		\$0.07	\$2,535.24
08/31/2015	deposit interest		\$0.07	\$2,535.31
09/01/2015	Ending Balance Checking			<b>\$2,535.31</b>
09/01/2015	HENRY COUNTY BANK CD	balance		<b>\$1,261.42</b>
09/01/2015	FIRST FEDERAL BANK CD	balance		<b>\$1,171.19</b>
	GRAND TOTAL-ALL ACCOUNTS			<b>\$4,967.92</b>

## REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
08/31/2015		beginning balance		<b>\$ 2,535.31</b>
09/01/2015	deposit	dues(Miller, Follett)	\$30.00	\$ 2,565.31
09/13/2015	ck. 1241 City of Napoleon	shelterhouse rental	(\$85.00)	\$ 2,480.31
09/14/2015	ck. 1242 AKA Designs	caterer	(\$490.00)	\$ 1,990.31
09/14/2015	ck. 1243 Nature's Nursery	speaker(J. Gehring)	(\$108.61)	\$ 1,881.70
09/15/2015	ck. 1244 TWCMD	members' donations	(\$68.00)	\$ 1,813.70
09/15/2015	ck. 1245 C. Shrider	stamps for newsletters	(\$22.00)	\$ 1,791.70
09/15/2015	deposit	meals \$540, 50/50 \$22		
		donations \$128, dues \$65	\$755.00	\$ 2,546.70
09/29/2015	deposit	dues(Fetterman)	\$50.00	\$ 2,596.70
10/05/2015	ck. 1246 Gene Grime	dictionary project	(\$857.15)	\$ 1,739.55
10/06/2015	deposit	Hol. Lions \$96.90		
		Napoleon Lions \$527.75	\$624.65	\$ 2,364.20
		dictionary project		
09/30/2015	deposit	interest	\$0.06	\$ 2,364.26
10/15/2015	ending balance			<b>\$ 2,364.26</b>
09/30/2015	HENRY COUNTY BANK CD	balance		<b>\$ 1,261.42</b>
10/02/2015		interest added	\$3.10	<b>\$ 1,264.52</b>
10/01/2015	FIRST FEDERAL BANK CD	balance		<b>\$ 1,171.19</b>
10/15/2015	<b>BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS</b>			<b>\$ 4,799.97</b>

## Send a Friend a Note of Good Cheer!

Eleanor Engler, The Worthington, 1201 River Ridge Court, Apt. 310, Gahanna, OH 43230,  
Email - imeleanor@icloud.com

Doris Ruby, 1036 S. Perry Street, Lutheran Home, Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Mary Lou Mengerink, Northcrest Golden Living Home.

Charles Hemsoth, Box 36, Malinta, OH 43535

Earlene Dirr, % Karen Maassel, 14-620 Co. Rd. D, New Bavaria, Ohio 43548

Martha Alspaugh, 140 W. North St., McClure, Ohio 43534

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



### EMAIL ADDRESSES

We would like to update our mailing list for those who receive a copy of the newsletter through the mail. We are hoping that some of you have gotten email since you first filled out your membership form. We want to continue to send the newsletter to those without email, but it would help keep our costs down if you could receive it electronically. If you have received this by U.S. mail and you have an email address, please forward your email to [sseagrave@roadrunner.com](mailto:sseagrave@roadrunner.com) Thank you for your help!



We have lost two of our members,  
Lucille Meyer, in June, and Don Flory  
on October 20th.



### **HCRT FOUNDATION – Donation Form**

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 Association.

My donation preference is:

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

**Gene Grime, HCRT Foundation Treasurer**  
92 Old Creek Dr.  
Napoleon, OH 43545  
419-599-2711