

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

Volume 22, Issue 1

March 2016

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.

Next Meeting – March 14, 2016

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday March 14th at 11:30am. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon. We will begin with the HCRT Foundation Annual Meeting to report on the past year and handle a bylaws amendment. The regular association meeting program is a presentation by representatives from Habitat for Humanity about their activities. The menu for this meeting is Chicken Cordon Bleu, Red Skin Potatoes w/Butter & Garlic, Vegetable Medley, Tossed Salad, Rolls/Butter, Dessert. 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 March 8th**, or contact Anne directly if you cannot reach your caller. Thank you.

March 14th - Meeting Volunteers

Thank you to the following people who volunteered to help set up the tables and chairs and put them away after the meeting ends. Those setting up tables and chairs are asked to arrive at 10:30.

| Set Up | (Doors unlocked at 10:30am) | Take Down | (After the meeting) |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| 1 | Charlie Meyer | 1 | Charlie Meyer |
| 2 | Becky Chamberlin | 2 | Becky Chamberlin |
| 3 | Gregg Merrill | 3 | Bev Curtis |
| 4 | Marlene Jones | 4 | Rich & Faith Hurst |

May 9th - Meeting Volunteers

We need two more volunteers for setup May 9th. If you can help, please call or email Charlotte.

| Set Up | (Doors unlocked at 10:30am) | Take Down | (After the meeting) |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| 1 | Steve Seagrave | 1 | Carol Agler |
| 2 | Charlie Meyer | 2 | Joe Aschemeier |
| 3 | | 3 | Janet Aschemeier |
| 4 | | 4 | Anne Rausch |



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report December 14, 2015

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for December was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, President Shrider thanked the volunteers who helped to set up for the day, and Bonnie and John Eddy for bringing decorations for the tables. She then asked volunteers from each table to hold signs with the names of best selling toys from past Christmas seasons. With help from the crowd, these were arranged in order and tables were to be dismissed in that order to the serving table. Following the blessing, a delicious meal of prime rib and sides was enjoyed.

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.

President Shrider gave special recognition to four members for their exceptional number of community service hours. Those honored were: Gene Grime, Becky Schindler, Shirley Mires-Fejes and Delores Short.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy: Sandy Honemann and Marlene Jones both reported sending Christmas greetings to various members. It was reported that Becky Schindler has broken her collarbone. Carolyn Plassman may appreciate a ride to meetings. Sue Burson was sent a card of sympathy on the loss of her husband.

Webmaster/Newsletter: Steve Seagrave reported both website and newsletter are updated. He asked if members might like an enlarged print version of the newsletter.

HCRT Foundation: Jerri Osborn reported that the committee will meet on January 5, 2016, to begin the process of selecting scholarship winners for next year. Faith Hurst will be leaving the Foundation Board and Linda Wagner will be joining as of March. Gene

Grime added comments on the finances of the Foundation.

Old business:

President Shrider asked Charlie Meyer to report on what he had learned about Habitat for Humanity. He had inquired in Fulton County, as Henry County does not have a unit. Various donation levels are available, with one level being a contribution of \$50 per square foot toward the construction of the house. After general discussion from the group as to whether to continue with our current charity or move to a new project, Jan Schlade made a motion to have two baskets available at each meeting for donations, one for Together We Can Make A Difference and one for Habitat for Humanity. Bill Lytle seconded the motion and it was passed. It was also added to the motion that donations would be monetary only from now on, instead of bringing items as we have in the past.

President Shrider then asked if we wanted to continue to meet at Oberhaus Park for the new year. Rosemary Pfau made a motion to that effect and it was seconded by Terri Witt. The motion passed.

New Business:

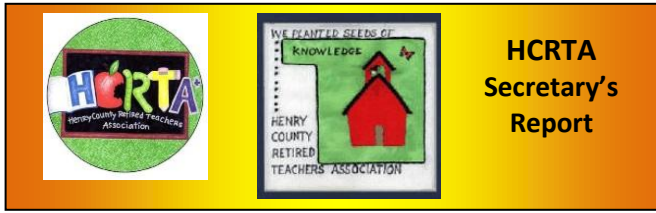
Anyone who has a good idea for a program or speaker for 2016 is encouraged to pass the information on to Nancy Hoover.

The next meeting will be on March 14th, 2016 at 11:30. The program for the meeting is not yet set, so watch the newsletter for information when it becomes available.

During the meeting, President Shrider had drawn names of winners for Christmas door prizes. Gary Ritchey, Margaret Mueller and Colleen Jamison were the lucky winners. Winner of the 50/50 drawing for this meeting was Barb Walker.

After the meeting was adjourned, everyone enjoyed a Christmas concert presented by the group Nostalgia. The group members included Garry Cline, Mark Schwiebert, Dan Seedorf and Shellee Murcko. Bev Ernst, also a member of the group, was there in spirit, with her recorded vocals contributing to the songs since she was not able to attend. The group presented a wonderful selection of Christmas music that certainly put us all in the spirit of the season!

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary



**Henry County Retired Teachers Association
Executive Committee
Secretary's Report
February 16, 2016**

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association Executive Committee met at Johnson's Ice Cream on Tuesday, Feb. 16th at 9:00 AM. After a delicious breakfast meal, the meeting was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider.

It was reported that Bob Joseph has audited the books and found everything to be in order. Finances in general were discussed by the group, with possible ways to economize suggested. One suggestion was to find a way to encourage members who are not often able to attend meetings to contribute to our charities. It was decided after discussion to first post a notice in the newsletter encouraging those unable to attend meetings to send in contributions, with perhaps a form included for such a purpose. A mailing for this purpose may be considered in the future.

Projects for the year will be Habitat for Humanity and Together We Can Make A Difference. President Shrider will have collection boxes for each of the charities at each meeting. Contributions will be cash only for both groups.

Directories were handed out to the officers by Steve Seagrave. Thanks were given to Steve for all of his work on the books. Marlene Jones moved, seconded by Sandy Honemann, that we continue as last year with officers receiving their directory for free and any member requesting a copy would be asked to pay \$5.00. Motion passed. Steve noted that he was able to get the printing done at a little better price this year, with the total cost coming to \$169.93 for 40 copies.

Meeting topics for the year were announced as follows:

March--- Habitat for Humanity
May --- Adam Tracey from Children's Lantern, human trafficking
July --- hosting the grant winners and white elephant sale, proceeds of which will go into our general fund

September-- Health and fitness for Seniors
November --- James Cain from ORTA
December – musical entertainment

The caterer at each meeting will continue to be Marc Matheny and the menus for the meals are in the directory.

After some discussion, Charlie Meyer made a motion that new tablecloths be purchased for the group, seconded by Steve Seagrave. Bonnie Eddy has faithfully supplied table decorations for many meetings. Becky Schindler volunteered to contact Bonnie to see if she wants to continue with this responsibility, or if she might appreciate help from others. There may be other members who would be glad to take a turn and bring decorations for a meeting or two. President Shrider made note of the fact that she appreciates those members who have volunteered to come early to set up and then take down after the meeting. She suggested that those on this committee may want to come a little earlier, perhaps about 45 minutes before the meeting, so that the tables are ready when most of the group arrives.

A brief discussion was held on the position of chapter chaplain. The primary duty of this person was to say grace before the meals. It was suggested that President Shrider could ask for volunteers to take over this duty at each meeting.

President Shrider will be attending the Spring ORTA conference in Findlay on April 13. Any other member wishing to go may get the reservation form on the back of the ORTA newsletter.

General discussion followed on ways to make our chapter stronger: how to encourage better participation from all of the members, as well as how to attract new members. Nan Bretz, membership chair, contacts potential new members by mail, but a personal contact from a fellow member might make a difference. It was suggested that Nan bring the list of potential new members to a meeting and current members could choose one or two names from the list to make a personal contact. The same goes for current members who have not attended for some time—a personal call to remind about meetings might encourage them to come.

A question was raised about parochial school teachers and if they are eligible to join. President Shrider will contact ORTA to find out what the rules are in this matter.

Steve Seagrave then brought up the need for updates in the by-laws of the Henry County Retired Teachers Foundation. To comply with the rules of the Foundation, the following motion was made by Steve Seagrave (a member of the Foundation Board), seconded by Faith Hurst: "The annual meeting of the Foundation Board will occur during the regular March meeting of the HCRTA, to be held at Oberhaus Park on Monday, March 14 at 11:30 AM. The membership is to be notified by email/regular mail that this meeting will be held." Motion passed

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary

MEETING NOTE: As a follow up to the Executive Committee meeting I called ORTA with our question about parochial school teachers being members. ORTA members must be STRS benefit recipients. Parochial teachers may be associate members but they may not hold any office. – Charlotte

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

Welcome back to another year of HCRTA! I am looking forward to a great year of meetings. Nancy Hoover and the planning committee have lined up some interesting programs for us this year. We are starting out learning more about one of our causes this year, Habitat for Humanity. Look for the year's programming on the chapter's web site. Begin looking for that unique item to bring for July's white elephant auction! I would like to get more of the membership involved in meetings this year. I am looking for people to volunteer to decorate the tables for July, September, and November. We will have table cloths provided. Perhaps you have a collection of things you would like to share or you have boxes of decorations in your store room that you could share. Also I would like some of you to take over saying the meal prayer. Be thinking if you could help out the chapter in one of these small ways. As always I hope to see many of you at meetings this year! - Charlotte



CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATES

If your address, phone, or email changes please be sure to notify our membership chairperson, Nan Bretz, and the newsletter editor, Steve Seagrave so we can be sure the directory gets updated and you get association meeting and program information.



Nan - nanbretz@hotmail.com
Steve – sseagrave@roadrunner.com

Foundation Bylaws Amendment Proposal

It is proposed to amend Article II, Section A "Annual Meetings" as follows:

- A. Annual Meetings.** The annual meeting of members of this corporation shall be held ~~at 11:00am~~ at 11:30am on the second Monday of March during each calendar year ~~in the conference room of the motel located at 2395 N. Scott St., Napoleon, Ohio 43545.~~ The annual meeting shall be at the regular meeting location of the Association. No notice shall be required for this annual meeting.

It is proposed to amend Article II, Section C "Notice" as follows:

- C. Notice.** Notice of all meetings of members other than the annual meeting shall be given not fewer than five days nor more than thirty days before the date of such meeting by mailing or emailing the same to the usual business or residence address of each member, which notice may be waived by any member. All such notices shall state the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

The purpose of these two amendments would be to avoid the added costs of renting the hotel conference room for annual meetings and mailing annual notices of the meeting where members have functioning email and can receive notice that way. The Foundation Board can then hold its annual meeting in conjunction with our regular HCRTA meeting at the park and notify members via the regular mailed/emailed HCRTA newsletter.

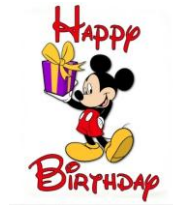
DO NOT CALL LIST - RESERVATIONS

If you are on the "Do Not Call List" but plan to attend the next HCRTA meeting you can phone your reservation to Anne Rausch at 419-996-1159 or email her at tuffanneraus@yahoo.com.

HCRTA 2016 DIRECTORY

Our annual directory has been completed. Copies are being emailed to members along with this newsletter. Due to the cost of printing we provide paper copies only to officers and committee chairpersons. We do have a limited number of extra copies that will be available at the March meeting for \$5.00 each.

Birthday List



| | | | |
|---------|------------------------|---------|---------------------------|
| Mar. 20 | Baker, Bob | Apr. 26 | Sutton Wendell *** |
| Mar. 22 | Sasaki, Laryce M * | Apr. 29 | Chamberlin, Becky |
| Mar. 23 | Utz, Rick L * | Apr. 29 | Schlade, Janice |
| Mar. 23 | Williams, Shirley J | May 01 | Mires-Fejes, Shirlee *** |
| Mar. 30 | Wagner, Linda M | May 04 | Miller, Janis |
| Apr. 01 | Grime, J. Gene | May 06 | Ritchey, Cheryl J |
| Apr. 01 | Rettig, Roland *** | May 06 | Rohrs, Kay * |
| Apr. 04 | Fruith, Kirk | May 15 | George, Barbara |
| Apr. 04 | Funchion, Peg * | May 16 | Lyne, Larry B |
| Apr. 06 | Shafer, Ann * | May 17 | Baer, Dan |
| Apr. 13 | Holzer, Mildred | May 17 | Lammers, Tom * |
| Apr. 13 | Potter, Martha L * | May 18 | Flick, Neil R * |
| Apr. 15 | Fruchey, Jack C * | May 20 | Leonard, Carol |
| Apr. 16 | Dirr, Earlene A*** & * | May 23 | Hemsoth, Charles N |
| Apr. 19 | Freppel, Charlene | May 25 | Cline, Garry |
| Apr. 21 | Behnfeldt, Paul * | May 26 | Neuenschwander, Kenneth * |

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 Thank you for your help!

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

Charles Hemsoth, Box 36, Malinta, OH 43535

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



HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Duane Ressler

Treasurer

REPORT FOR March 2016

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Transaction</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Nov. 15 | Balance brought forward | | | \$2,599.28 |
| Nov. 24 | Deposit | Interests from HCB | \$0.06 | \$2,599.34 |
| Dec. 14 | Deposit | Proceeds from meeting | \$802.00 | \$3,401.34 |
| Dec. 14 | Check #1252 AKA Designs | Meals for meeting | (\$580.00) | \$2,821.34 |
| Dec. 15 | Check #1254 City of Napoleon | Shelterhouse rental | (\$85.00) | \$2,736.34 |
| Dec. 22 | Check #1253 | | (\$50.00) | \$2,686.34 |
| Dec. 24 | Check #1251 | | (\$17.15) | \$2,669.19 |
| Dec. 30 | Deposit | Dues | \$15.00 | \$2,684.19 |
| Dec. 31 | Deposit | Interest from HCB | \$0.07 | \$2,684.26 |
| Jan. 25 | Deposit | Dues | \$15.00 | \$2,699.26 |
| Jan. 31 | Deposit | Interest from HCB | \$0.07 | \$2,699.33 |
| | Ending Balance Checking | | | \$2,699.33 |
| Oct. 15 | HENRY COUNTY BANK CD | balance | | \$1,264.52 |
| Jan. 4 | | Interest from HCB | \$3.13 | \$1,267.75 |
| Oct. 15 | FIRST FEDERAL BANK CD | balance | | \$1,171.19 |
| | GRAND TOTAL-ALL ACCOUNTS | | | \$5,138.27 |

NOTE:

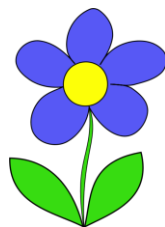
Members who pay annual dues for either HCRTA and/or ORTA may pay at our next meeting or mail their check(s) to the treasurer. HCRTA annual dues is \$15, ORTA is \$30, payable in January. Nan Bretz has updated membership list if you are not sure if you are annual or life members.

Submitted by Bonnie Eddy

FLOWER POWER

Some things come and some things go
 But addictions stay forever,
 Sometimes they shrink, sometimes they grow,
 They are so very clever!

My sordid tale is hard to beat,
 It takes me to my gardens,
 I can't just quit or take retreat,
 The habits set and harden.



I hear myself say loud each spring,
 'This year I will be better,
 'But then I purchase garden things
 And plant them helter skelter.

The labor time just multiplies
 As I play my gardener's role.
 I wonder why as time just flies
 I'm no longer in control.

But then rewards begin to bloom,
 I 'ooh' and 'aah' in glee,
 The flowers dance within their rooms
 A waltz for you and me.

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

We would like to give those of you that can't attend meetings the chance to contribute to our chapter's causes. This year we are helping to support *Together We Can Make a Difference* and *Habitat for Humanity*. Together we can make a difference assists people of all ages in Northwest Ohio with basic needs and resources that are not available with any government assistance programs. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit ecumenical Christian housing organization building simple, decent, affordable housing in partnership with people in need. Habitat for Humanity is an organization that all chapters of Ohio Retired Teachers are asked to contribute to this year. With your help we could really add support to these great organizations. Remember your gifts are tax deductible. Members who do attend regularly might also want to consider writing a check to simplify things and to have a record of your giving. Please send your check to Duane Ressler. Thanks for considering these worthwhile projects!

Enclosed is a check for my donation made out to this organization.

____ Together We Can Make a Difference: \$ _____
____ Habitat for Humanity: \$ _____

Duane Ressler
HCRTA Treasurer
1124 Clairmont Avenue
Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Community Service and Volunteer Hours

What is a volunteer? "A volunteer is a person that has a spirit of service, creativity, sensitivity for human pain, strong moral values, the ability to work in a team, and a social conscience. They practice solidarity, leadership, good interpersonal skills, and care for themselves and for others." (ORTA Quarterly vol. 65-No. 1)

Many of us will relate to those qualities and many have extended themselves to helping within their respective communities. We have a goal of 11,000 hours of community volunteer service each year. This is an impressive goal.

It is important to continually show the public the value of an educator whether active or retired. So, keep reporting those hours.

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. To report your volunteer hours, contact Tom Jenny at **419-592-7588** (leave a message) or email him at cupmute@roadrunner.com.



Musical entertainment at our December meeting.



We have lost one of our members,
Earline Dirr on February 17th.



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

HCRTA
735 Sheffield
Napoleon OH 43545

postage

Member
Address