

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

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July 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 – July 11, 2016

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday July 11th at 5:30pm. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon. Our book grant winners have been invited and will be present to be recognized and receive their checks. **Remember that our July meeting is a potluck supper.** Bring your favorite dish to share, homemade or picked up from your “go –to” place. Drinks (water, iced tea and lemonade) and table service will be provided. The cost at the door will be \$2.00 to cover the rental of the building. Save the rest of your money for the auction! The money raised from the white elephant auction will go in our treasury for upcoming programming.

Meal Reservations

Although we are doing a potluck at the next meeting we do need to have a count on reservations in order to know how many tables and chairs to set up for members and our guests. 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 July 8**, or contact Anne directly if you cannot reach your caller. Thank you.

Are You Missing Out on Important STRS Updates?

Have you signed up to receive the automatic STRS eUPDATES? If not, you could be missing out on valuable information. To sign up, visit www.strsoh.org and scroll to the bottom of the page. Click on the black box that says “SUBSCRIBE”. This will open an email message to STRS. Give them your email address and tell them you are a retired teachers and want to receive the eUPDATES. Not only do you receive information following each board meeting, but at any time there may be additional information to be disseminated, an additional eUPDATE is sent out.

Subscribe to our eUPDATE emails

SUBSCRIBE



We have lost one of our members,
Mary Lou Mengerink – 4/29/16





**HCRTA
Secretary's
Report**

**Henry County Retired Teachers Association
Secretary's Report - May 9th, 2016**

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for May was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, President Shrider welcomed guest speakers Adam Tracy and Kelly King from Children's Lantern. A moment of silence was observed for members who had passed away since our last meeting: Lu Alexander, Eleanor Engler, Carol Sonnenberg and Mary Lou Mengerink. President Shrider then asked volunteers from each table to hold signs with the names of songs that had flowers in their title. These were arranged in chronological order as to the year they were introduced and the tables were dismissed to the serving line in that order. President Shrider offered the prayer and a delicious lunch of Chicken Alfredo and sides were enjoyed.

Following the meal, speaker Adam Tracy gave a very informative talk on human trafficking and foster care. Human trafficking is a very real problem in our rural area, not a situation that is limited to the big cities. Adam gave brief definitions of trafficking and told us how his agency works to rescue victims from that life. He also talked briefly about the foster care system. He and his wife have personally taken in foster children, some of whom they have later adopted into their family. We all learned a great deal about a very difficult subject. For anyone wishing to know more, handouts were available with more information.

The business meeting was then called to order. The secretary and treasurer's reports were approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy: Marlene Jones reported sending several cards, including to the families of members who passed away.

Legislative: Becky Schindler advised members to be alert to issues with health care. When paying bills to doctors, be sure that you are not being billed double for the same visit. Proposed vouchers for Medicare/Medicaid were discussed.

Membership: Nan Bretz asked members to continue to forward names to her of retired teachers to invite to join.

Community Service: Tom Jenny encouraged members to continue to report the hours they volunteer.

Webmaster/Newsletter: Steve Seagrave encouraged members to sign up for email alerts from STRS, to help keep abreast of the most current issues. Anyone who has not given their email address to Steve for the HCRTA Newsletter is encouraged to do so.

Historian: Faith Hurst thanked Doris and Mary Jane for giving her articles this month.

Educational Foundation New Foundation President Terry Witt read a Thank You note from Drew Garringer for the grant he received. She then asked members who may be interested in being readers for the next round of applications to give her their names. The committee would like to generate a list of members willing to help with this task if needed.

Steve Seagrave then went over the proposed changes in the bylaws of the Foundation. After explaining each of the proposed changes, he moved that they be approved by the membership. Bill Lytle seconded. The motion was passed.

Note: A copy of the bylaws proposals and the changes implemented are filed with the foundation secretary.

Old business: President Shrider reported on her attendance at the ORTA conference. She learned many things. One fact that impressed her was the vast number of retirees being served by STRS in Ohio and the money being spent each year for health care and pensions for those retirees.

It was reported that \$75 was collected at the last meeting for Habitat for Humanity and \$62 for Together We Can Make A Difference. The money for TWCMDAD will be put toward their tutoring service.

New Business:

The next meeting will be on July 11th at 5:30. It will be a potluck dinner, with our book grant winners and their parents invited to attend. There will also be a white elephant auction, a fun way to raise funds for the group and our charities, so be sure to find some interesting items to donate for sale and/or bring your money ready to bid!

Bonnie and John Eddy once again brought plants to sell, with profits to benefit the Educational Foundation. Thank You to Bonnie and John for continuing this Spring tradition to benefit our Foundation!

Bev Wittes won a small flat of petunias as winner of the song trivia game prepared by Charlotte Shrider.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

I hope your summer is off to a great start. Have you taken your vacation yet? I spent a week in Pennsylvania the first part of June. We revisited Gettysburg. Of course our tour guide was a retired school teacher! We also stopped at the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville. What a sobering experience. I just finished the book *Among the Heroes* by Jere Longman detailing all the passengers. They were indeed heroes on that fateful day. We also toured the UTZ potato chip factory. As I watched a young man cutting bad spots out of potatoes, I thought thank heavens that wasn't my life's work! I hope you share your summer plans with those at your table during the potluck.



Remember the July meeting is a potluck and we will have the book grant winners as our guests. Plan to attend a meeting this year if you haven't been in a while. We would love to see you!

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

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

We do have a limited number of extra copies that will be available at the May meeting for \$5.00 each.

Foundation Donations Received

Foundation Treasurer Gene Grime reported the following people/groups made donations to the foundation. Those with * were gifts in memory of Mary Lou Mengerink, a member and former officer of HCRTA.

Larry and Bonnie Sasaki*

Faith Hurst*

Kathy Helberg*

Membership Recruitment

Nan Bretz is sending out "new member" packets to the names she was given and retrying some of those who retired in 2015. She asks members to give her any information they have on recent retirees and those they'd like to invite to membership so she can get a packet to them. Call her with the information (419-599-5628) or send her an email.

Nan - nanbretz@hotmail.com

2016 BOOK GRANT WINNERS

Griffith Family Book Grant

Drew Garringer – Napoleon H.S.

Lucille and Margaret Sherman Book Grant

Madelyn Dishop - Liberty Center H.S.

Roger King Book Grant

Michaela Jones - Holgate H.S.

Karen Brubaker Book Grant

Allison Lamming - Napoleon H.S.

Send a Friend a Note of Good Cheer!

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

Charles Hemsoth, Box 36, Malinta, OH 43535

Martha Alsbaugh, 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

If you know of updates needed to this list contact Sandy Honeman or Marlene Jones.



HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Duane Ressler

Treasurer

REPORT FOR July 2016

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Apr. 18	balance brought forward			\$2,475.58
May 1		interest paid	\$0.06	\$2,475.64
May 9	ck. # 1259 City of Napoleon	shelter house rental	(\$85.00)	\$2,390.64
May 9	Ck # 1260 AKA Designs Ltd.	meals for meeting	(\$510.00)	\$1,880.64
May 9	Ck # 1261 C. Shrider	postage	(\$25.85)	\$1,854.79
May 10	Deposit from Meeting	meals paid \$539		
		50/50 \$30		
		Donation: Habitat \$136		
		Donation: TWCMD \$47	\$752.00	\$2,606.79
May 20	Ck # 1262 TWCMD	donations from members	(\$47.00)	\$2,559.79
May 20	Ck # 1263 Habitat for Humanity	donations from members	(\$136.00)	\$2,423.79
May 31		interest paid	\$0.07	\$2,423.86
June 20	Ending Balance Checking			\$2,432.86
June 20	HENRY COUNTY BANK CD	current balance		\$1,258.37
June 20	FIRST FEDERAL BANK CD	current balance		\$1,171.19
	GRAND TOTAL-ALL ACCOUNTS			\$4862.42
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.			

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

I think many of us will relate to those qualities and many have extended themselves to helping within their respective communities. Our members turned in 2408 volunteer hours and 72.5 tutoring hours so far. At our last meeting we had 1399 hours turned in. I think 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.

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

Garden Time

Submitted by Bonnie Eddy

The calendar may not say it's summer, but working outside with the plants that are all up and getting rid of the weeds tell me otherwise. We have pathways between our beds and like to put the free mulch we get at the city dump on the pathways. We also put the mulch around the plants in the beds of flowers and plants. We still have lots to do. I can't believe that some of the hostas have buds already. We are really enjoying the daylilies that have started blooming and can see the many buds that are there. We're been hostaholics for a long time and now I've started using the title of daylilyholic title to my involvement with daylilies. I think it's great that research has produced daylilies that bloom more than once. You may remember that I had lots of plants for sale at our May meeting and our Foundation fund is \$100 richer.



Four new plants that we got last year are the hibiscus. One of the four is shrub size, and the other three have trunks that are about two foot tall before the branches begin. All four bloom all summer long with single, beautiful, red flowers. These plants are annuals and we pot them in the fall and bring them into the house. They also bloom while inside the house.

When we built our house and the children were home, we had a big veggie garden at the back of the lot. We picked and froze and canned the veggies for winter use. We still had the veggie garden after the kids left until the morning I went out to pick the green beans. The deer had beat me there and eaten both the beans and plants. That was the end of the veggie garden. By then we had started to be interested in hostas so we built lattice covers and now have all that space filled with hostas and other shade plants. We move our couch in the living room during the summer months so we can enjoy looking out to the back yard that includes the hosta beds that are in front of the window. We have lots of hostas in other shade areas. We are active members of the Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society that meets at the Toledo Garden Center each month, plus take a couple of their trips that go to big hosta centers. Hostas also are on each side of the sidewalk that comes up to our front door. Hostas also grow in front of the stone wall at the front of the house.

We had had over a hundred tea roses for many years and never replaced any of them as they died one by one. Almost all of those roses were gone by the time the single Knockout rose was introduced several years ago. Walmart put them on sale at the end of the first season so I bought a couple. Then when they were reduced again, I bought a couple of more. By the time the sale season was finished, I had purchased eight roses. They easily survived the winter and we've had them at the front of the back garden ever since. The next year the double red Knockout was introduced and I bought twenty-two of them with eight planted in the bed in the middle of our U-shaped driveway and fourteen of them planted in front of the tub room windows. The next year pinks were introduced and I bought double pinks and they are planted in the round flower bed in front of our garage. I didn't like the yellow Knockouts that were introduced the next year and, of course, purchased none of them. There was also a pink/white one introduced that I didn't buy. Last year the white Knockout was introduced and I bought four of them that are planted in the center of the U-shaped driveway. I love these beautiful roses that require very little work.

You are all welcome to come visit our gardens. Just call 599.5795 before coming to make sure we're home. I'll also have a gift hosta to send home with you. We love having visitors.

Don't Miss Out On Getting the Latest ORTA News

ORTA is beginning the transition to electronic communication. This would allow ORTA to send out the Quarterly to your email and save about \$20,000. As they prepare, they ask members to make sure your name, address AND email address are current and provided to the ORTA office. Email your most up to date information to: **Helena Zvansky at hzvansky@orta.org**. A PDF version will be available on the web site for those without email.

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

Birthday List

July 03	Ressler, Duane M	Aug. 12	Alspaugh, Jane *
July 04	Lytle, William D	Aug. 13	Agler, Carol
July 04	Stevens, Treva M	Aug. 13	Baldwin, Nancy
July 04	Zachrich, Lawrence	Aug. 19	Meyer, James
July 08	Schubert, Dale	Aug. 21	Krueger, Marlyn
July 14	Wesche, Mary Kay *	Aug. 21	Rosebrook, Judy
July 17	Gerken, Kae	Aug. 24	Denny, Gerry L *
July 19	Schink, Nancy C	Aug. 27	Nagel, Barbara *** & *
July 24	Ashenfelter, Rosalie A	Sep. 04	Schroeder, Jack
July 25	Buchhop, Diane	Sep. 05	Myers, Joan C *
July 27	Plassman, Carolyn J	Sep. 06	Wade, Mary Ann Wade
July 28	Babcock, Sally *	Sep. 08	Weaver, Sally J
July 31	Conrad, David L	Sep. 09	Sutton, Margaret
July 31	Johnson, Ruth R	Sep. 10	Wittes, Beverly Ann
Aug. 01	Osborn, Jerri	Sep. 15	Helberg, Kathryn J
Aug. 02	Joseph, Mary H	Sep. 20	Baldwin, Shirley A
Aug. 06	Myrice, Mary Jane	Sep. 20	Hibbard, Jane
Aug. 07	Krugh, W. Tennyson *	Sep. 20	Merrill, Gregg
Aug. 10	Schall, Nancy A *		



At the May meeting, our speakers from the Children's Lantern in Defiance spoke on Human Trafficking and what they are doing to rescue and support victims. They also shared some of the issues involved in recovery and foster care.

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.

Send donations to Gene Grime, HCRT Foundation Treasurer, 92 Old Creek Drive, Napoleon, OH 43545.)

My donation preference is:

Lois Griffith Book Grant

Roger King Book Grant

Margaret & Lucille Sherman Book Grant

Karen Brubaker Book Grant

Undesignated

HCRTA

735 Sheffield

Napoleon OH 43545

postage

Member

Address