

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 23, Issue 1

March 2017

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 13, 2017

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday March 13th at 11:30am. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon.

PROGRAM - **Nancy Helmke**, Orphan Grain Train President, Ohio Division, will explain the mission and describe the needs of so many and how each of us can be involved with little effort..

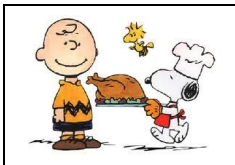


MENU - The menu for this meeting is corned beef and cabbage, steamed red potatoes, roast carrots and onions, tossed salad, Irish soda bread and Irish mint cheesecake. We hope to see you there!

Meal Catering

Meal catering was discussed by the Executive Board when they met on February 10th. Marc Matheny was very understanding about the cancellation of the December meeting. Since he had other engagements where he could use the food he had purchased for the meal, he did not charge HCRTA anything for the cancellation. President Shrider had discussed the new year with him, and he is willing to continue with us. His price will be raised to \$11.00 for the meals. After discussion about charges for the building and other expenses, the board voted to have the cost of each meal for the new year be \$13.00. The extra \$2.00 will be used toward building rental (\$85/meeting), speakers, and other expenses and for support of the group overall.

Meal Reservations



Remember that meal costs are \$13.00 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 \$13.00 or have another member take your reservation. Charlotte Shrider handles reservations through a group of callers who email or phone 10 people each. We need to have your reservation back to your normal caller **by March 6th**, or contact her directly if you cannot reach your caller. Thank you.

March 13th - Meeting Volunteers

Volunteers are needed. If you can help, call Charlotte. 419-599-1356

Set Up (Doors unlocked at 10:30am)		Take Down (After the meeting)	
Steve Seagrave	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed
Duane Ressler	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – Feb. 10th, 2017 Executive Committee

The Executive Board of the HCRTA met at Johnson's Ice Cream Shoppe at 9 AM on Feb 10th, 2017. Following a breakfast meal, the meeting was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider.

The treasurer's report listed a current balance of \$3,494.69. Motion to accept the report was made by Sandy Honemann, seconded by Terry Witt. President Shrider shared that the books had been audited by Marvin Barlow and everything was reported to be in order.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy chairs Sandy Honemann and Marlene Smith continue to send greetings to members. They have donated the funds to buy cards and stamps and do not wish to be reimbursed.

Retirement Planning: Chair Greg Merrill reported that he had sent out a survey to the schools to gauge interest in having a STRS representative present a seminar in Feb/Mar and received only one reply. Discussion then centered on whether to perhaps repurpose this committee to focus on living with retirement, or perhaps how to structure retirement monies, as the teachers seem to be receiving information on retirement planning from other sources. This would require a change in our constitution, to recommend doing away with this committee, or to restructure its purpose. Further discussion considered the possibility of revising some other positions and/or committees as well. A motion was made by Becky Schindler, seconded by Faith Hurst, to ask for volunteers to form a committee to make recommendations about amending the constitution in these areas. Motion passed.

Membership: Nan Bretz reported that we will have a new member, LeAnn Kraft. She found out about HCRTA through the website.

HCRT Foundation: Terry Witt reported that due to changing needs, the Foundation has made revisions in

the meeting schedule for the Board. Revisions in the Foundation by-laws reflect these changes.

Discussion was then held on whether to continue with the Together We Can Make A Difference project for our charitable contributions. A motion was made by Terry Witt, seconded by Karen Maassel to continue with them. Motion passed. Contributions to Habitat for Humanity collected last year will not continue in the new year.

Catering was then discussed. Marc Matheny was very understanding about the cancellation of the December meeting. Since he had other engagements where he could use the food he had purchased for the meal, he did not charge HCRTA anything for the cancellation. President Shrider had discussed the new year with him, and he is willing to continue with us. His price will be raised to \$11.00 for the meals. After discussion about charges for the building and other expenses, a motion was made by Steve Seagrave to have the cost of each meal for the new year be \$13.00. The extra \$2.00 will be used toward building rental, speakers, and other expenses and for support of the group overall. Sandy Honemann seconded the motion, and the motion passed. It was also suggested to try putting "tip jars" on the tables at each meeting to raise revenue for the group. Bev Wittes will make collection jars for this purpose. A brief discussion then followed on whether to change the meal reservation method. It was decided to leave it as is for now. As no one volunteered to take over as chair of the caller list, President Shrider assumed those duties for now. Volunteers are always needed for table decoration committees.

Greg Merrill suggested that at the December meeting, a display be made of the group's donations and accomplishments for the year. This could include scholarships awarded, volunteer hours, charitable donations, etc. This would be a way to celebrate all that the group contributes to the community each year. The committee thought that this was a good idea and Greg volunteered to put the information together and make the display when the time comes.

Terry Witt has volunteered to become the assistant to the editor of the newsletter.

A motion was made by Steve Seagrave, seconded by Becky Schindler, to authorize the President to approve compensation of speakers. Motion passed.

Meeting programs for the year were presented. They are:

March 13, 11:30 AM: Nancy Helmke speaking on the Grain Train project

May 8, 5:30 PM: Megan Spengler will speak on her career as an author of young adult novels

July 10, 5:30 PM: Penny Miller, trainer of service dogs

September 11, 5:30 PM: Sandy Zekurish portrays Betsy Ross

November 13, 11:30 AM: Black Swamp Medicine Girls Jeanne Caryer and Susan Wiesehan will share antique medical devices and treatments

December 11, 2:00 PM (note the new time) the musical group Nostalgia will entertain

As there was nothing further to bring to the attention of the committee, the meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

I am looking forward to another great year of meetings ! I think you will find Karen Maassel and her committee have some interesting and informative meetings lined up for this year. I am sure we will have some time for fun along the way too! In addition to the planning committee, the executive board also met and made some decisions and discussed ways to make the chapter stronger. We will explain the changes and our reasoning behind them at the meeting in March. I am grateful for such strong committees that make my job easier. I hope to see some new faces in March. Of course I will look forward to seeing all you "old" faces too!

Charlotte



2017 DIRECTORY

The new directory has been emailed to those members with an email address.



A small number of paper copies will be available for \$5 each at the next meeting. 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.

FOUNDATION DONATIONS

We have received donations from Larry Gerken, Dora Titgemeyer and Larry Siclair. We also received two contributions in memory of Bonnie Eddy from the Ohio School Board Association and Encore.

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE!

Our treasurer, Duane Ressler, would like to remind you that annual dues for 2017 can be paid at this time at the November or December meeting. The list of those who pay on an annual basis was in the last newsletter. If you believe there is an error, give him a call and he will research records.

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 Charlotte Shrider at 419-599-1356 or email her at cshrid1@roadrunner.com.

VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR 2016

The volunteer hours for 2016 (without the month of December) are as follows: total

HCRTA Community
Service Hours

volunteer house submitted is 5,401.5 hours. Of those hours, 126 of them are for tutoring students. Fifty-seven members submitted volunteer hours. Becky Schindler had the highest total (523 hours) submitted followed by Tom Jenny (498.5).



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

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

Barabara Schnabele, 415 N. Oak, Deshler, Ohio 43516

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 MARCH 2017			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Ck #/payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Dec. 22	balance brought forward			\$3,676.74
Dec. 31		interest earned	\$0.09	\$3,676.83
Jan. 31		interest earned	\$0.10	\$3,676.93
Feb. 22		Ending Balance Checking		\$3,676.93
Oct. 4		CD Henry County Bank		\$1,277.65
Jan. 4		interest earned	\$3.41	\$1,281.06
Feb. 22		GRAND TOTAL all accounts		\$4,957.99

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's books were subject to our annual audit in January. The audit was performed by Mr. Marv Barlow of the Henry County Bank. He found the books to be accurate and up to date. The audit is available to any interested member upon request.

Any 2017 dues still not paid may be paid at the meeting or sent to the treasurer.

Members who have ordered a meal and then do not attend the meeting or arrange for a replacement to take their place, will be sent an invoice for the cost of the meal. This is a continuation of past practice.



Constitution Committee

Over time with changes at ORTA as well as changes in communication and activities we have gradually developed the need to update our constitution. We have committees and positions we no longer need and duties of others have shifted. We are looking for 2-3 other volunteers to work with Greg Merrill and Steve Seagrave on this committee.

Please look over our constitution in the directory and contact President Charlotte if you would be willing to assist. Likely this will mean 2-3 meetings between now and November.



Host/Hostess Volunteers Needed

This year we will be having a committee of three or four to serve as hosts or hostesses for the meeting.

The committee will bring a centerpiece for the tables and be responsible for the meal prayer. It can be seasonal or relate to the program topic or it could be a collection or hobby that a member has. The table coverings will be provided. Members of the executive board have graciously taken care of every month except September this year. We are looking for volunteers to take September. Thanks to Nan Bretz, Mary Ann Wade and Sue Meyer for taking care of March. If everyone takes a turn it would be great!

Scam Alert

There is a new phone scam going around. An unknown caller claiming to be from a business you may use asks, "Can you hear me?" to get you to say "yes". They then use your recorded voice to authorize charges. "You say 'yes,' it gets recorded and they say that you have agreed to something," said Susan Grant, director of consumer protection for the Consumer Federation of America. "I know that people think it's impolite to hang up, but it's a good strategy." **JUST HANG UP.**



We have lost one of our members.
Bonnie Eddy – 12-21-2016

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 again helping to support *Together We Can Make a Difference*. 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. With your help we could really add support to this great organization. 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: \$ _____

Duane Ressler
 HCRTA Treasurer
 1124 Clairmont Avenue
 Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Birthday List

Mar. 01	Joseph, Robert **	Apr. 01	Rettig, Roland ***
Mar. 02	Milius, Kevin	Apr. 04	Fruth, Kirk
Mar. 03	Steed, Joan	Apr. 04	Funchion, Peg *
Mar. 03	Warnimont, Bev	Apr. 06	Shafer, Ann *
Mar. 06	Miller, John J *	Apr. 13	Holzer, Mildred
Mar. 10	Baldwin, Richard Neil	Apr. 13	Potter, Martha L *
Mar. 12	Maassel, Karen	Apr. 15	Fruchey, Jack C *
Mar. 13	Behrman, Walter	Apr. 19	Freppel, Charlene
Mar. 13	Guelde, Deb	Apr. 21	Behnfeldt, Paul *
Mar. 14	Eddy, John ***	Apr. 22	Bretz, Nan
Mar. 20	Baker, Bob	Apr. 29	Chamberlin, Becky
Mar. 22	Sasaki, Laryce M *	Apr. 29	Schlade, Janice
Mar. 23	Utz, Rick L *	May 01	Mires-Fejes, Shirlee ***
Mar. 23	Williams, Shirley J	May 04	Miller, Janis
Mar. 30	Wagner, Linda M	May 06	Ritchey, Cheryl J
Apr. 01	Grime, J. Gene	May 06	Rohrs, Kay *



HCRTA Web Site

Below is our HCRTA web site. Check there for information and links.

<http://henrycountyrta.weebly.com/>

ORTA Web Site

Below is the ORTA web site. Check there for information and links.

- Update your membership information.
- Sign up for email alerts.
- Read ORTA newsletters.
- Check member benefits.

<http://www.orta.org/>

ORTA NEWS - In celebration of our 70th anniversary, we are planning a very special "ORTA Day" at the Columbus Zoo during teacher appreciation week on May 5th. You might post a Save the Date for Henry County RTA. Members can observe our Spring Board Meeting or participate in a fun scavenger hunt with volunteers from AARP-Ohio. Registration will soon be available via [Eventbrite](#). Tickets will be \$40 per person, \$70 per couple, and \$150 for families or groups of 5.

Also, all our local chapters will be eligible for the [AARP Andrus Award for Community Service](#) to be given out this fall. So please keep track of your volunteer hours and let us know if you would like to be recognized.

From Dr. John Cavanaugh, ORTA Executive Director;

ANOTHER VOLUNTEER!

Terry Witt has volunteered to be the assistant newsletter editor. Thanks, Terry!

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.

NOTE: Gifts to the Foundation may ONLY be used for our book grants and associated costs such as postage, etc. They may NOT be used for regular HCRTA expenses or programs.

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