

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 2

May 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.

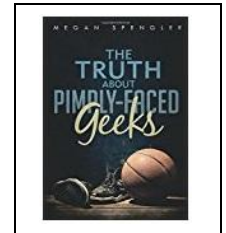
Vision Statement

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.

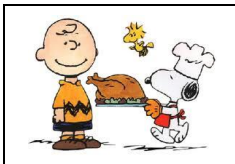
Next Meeting – May 8, 2017

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday May 8th at 5:30pm. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon.

PROGRAM - **Megan Spengler**, local young author, will explain how she became an author, the writing process and how she got her first book published. Megan graduated from Ohio Northern University with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary education. She loves to read, watch movies, shop, travel, and hang out with family and friends. Megan also enjoys meeting and chatting with her readers. She lives in Ohio with her husband and two children. In addition to The Truth About Pimply-Faced Geeks, Megan has written two other novels, Operation Wrinklesteen and Revenge at Camp Tepeki.



MENU – The menu for the meeting is baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes and chicken gravy, green bean casserole, broccoli slaw, rolls and butter, angel food cake with strawberries and blueberries. We hope to see you there!



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 May 1st**, or contact her directly (419-599-1356) if you cannot reach your caller. Thank you.

New Member

We have a new member who has joined. Please introduce yourself and welcome her at the next meeting! Add her information into your copy of the HCRTA member directory.

Leigh Anne Kraft
312 W. Maple St., Liberty Center 43532

Home-419-533-4515 Cell-419-260-8547
Retired from Liberty Center Schools 2014

May 8th - Meeting Volunteers

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

Set Up (Doors unlocked at 4:30pm)		Take Down (After the meeting)	
Rich Hurst	Max Fetterman	Help Needed	Help Needed
Faith Hurst	Pat Fetterman	Help Needed	Help Needed



We have lost one of our members, Paul Behnfeldt – March 15, 2017



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – March 13, 2017

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for March was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, new member LeAnn Kraft and guest/prospective new member Diane Meyer were recognized.

With March Madness in mind, names of basketball teams from the Big Ten were found on the tables and helped determine the order for dismissal to the buffet table. Prior to the meal prayer, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Bonnie Eddy, who passed away since our last meeting. Following an Irish prayer given by Nan Bretz, all enjoyed a meal fit for a leprechaun, consisting of corn beef and cabbage, various sides and appropriately green decorated cupcakes.

Nancy Helmke then spoke to us about Orphan Grain Train. The organization was started by a minister from Nebraska after a trip to Latvia and Russia. They have helped people in more than 40 countries. Volunteers gather clothing, household goods, furniture, cleaning supplies, books and many other donated items to be given to victims of natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes or tornadoes. They also supply these items and more to poverty stricken populations in several locations, many not that far away from Northwest Ohio. They work in tandem with the Red Cross and other agencies to determine need and to help with the distribution of the items. Donations are welcome, as Nancy indicated that they are collecting 365 days a year. Donations are tax deductible. Anyone with time to donate was encouraged to contact Nancy and she will gladly put you to work!

The business meeting was then called to order. The secretary's report was approved as amended (name correction) and the treasurer's report was approved as presented. President Charlotte reported that the books had been audited by Marv Barlow and all was found to be in good order.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy: Marlene Jones and Sandy Honemann were both present to catch us up with concern for members. Cards were sent to Bonnie Eddy when she was ill and sympathy was subsequently extended to her family upon her passing. Jackie Sautter has a new room at Fairlawn in Wauseon and would love visitors. Cards were sent to Doris Ruby to celebrate her recent 95th birthday. A Thinking of You card was sent to Rosemary Pfau and she responded with a phone call to say she appreciated the thoughtfulness.

Legislative: Becky Schindler relayed information provided by Dennis Leone concerning COLA. Members were urged to pick up copies of the information and to study the impact of past changes and proposed changes to the COLA benefit.

Membership: Nan Bretz again welcomed new member LeAnn Kraft and guest today, Diane Meyer.

Retirement Planning: At the February Executive meeting, a discussion was held concerning whether there is further need for this committee, since active teachers seem to have more information about retirement planning already and are not showing interest in attending meetings on the subject. As discussion continued, it was decided that perhaps a study be made of all committees, to perhaps make changes. Greg Merrill and Steve Seagrave had volunteered already to take on this task, to study the changes that would be necessary in the constitution if committees are to change or be dropped. President Charlotte asked for other volunteers and Jan Schlade was added to this group.

Community Service: Tom Jenny again had slips on each table for members to fill out volunteer hours.

Education Foundation: Terry Witt presented the annual report of the HCRT Foundation. Sandy Honemann was proposed as a new member of the

board. A motion to accept her appointment was made by Rosalie Ashenfelter, seconded by Greg Merrill. Motion passed. Terry outlined the business of the Foundation during the past year and had handouts available with details on the meetings held, as well as information sheets describing the grants available. She reported that she had made personal contact with school guidance counselors and hopes that this will increase the interest in grant applications. Gene Grime went over the finances of the Foundation, with handouts also available for members with the information.

Old business: President Charlotte reported that due to not having a meeting in December, she had to make some decisions for the group concerning the caterer and the location of meetings. The executive board discussed these items as well. We will continue with Marc Matheny as caterer. The price for the meals was raised to \$11, so at the Executive meeting, it was decided to raise the fee for each meeting to \$13, with the extra two dollars going toward rent of the building and other group expenses. We will continue to meet at Oberhaus Park. We will also continue with Together We Can Make A Difference as our charity. Habitat for Humanity was a one year project and contributions will not be continued this year.

At the Executive meeting, it was also decided to try “tip jars” on each meal table as an additional way to raise funds for the group. It is hoped to establish a speaker’s fund.

President Charlotte reminded all members that once a meal reservation has been made, it must be paid, even if you are subsequently unable to attend. The group must pay the caterer for meals ordered, so unless you have a cancellation before the number is turned in to the caterer, you are obligated for that cost. If you arrange for someone to take your place ahead of time, that will be accepted, but in fairness to all we will no longer accept substitutions on the day of the meeting.

A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers for set-up and host/hostess committees.

New Business: Steve Seagrave had a few extra directories available for sale. The price is to cover the cost of printing and binding. Steve was thanked for his work on the directories and the newsletter.

Throughout the meeting, President Charlotte drew names for door prizes of lottery tickets. The winners were Becky Chamberlin, Larry Vocke, Greg Merrill, Gene Grime and Diane Meyer. Hope they all hit it big!

Nancy Hoover was the winner of the 50/50 drawing.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary

From the President’s Pen – Charlotte Shrider

I hope you all had a Blessed Easter. It is so nice when your children host the big dinner and all you have to do is bring a salad! I was upset though. My daughter had an egg hunt for all those 23 and under and there were some good prizes involved! Bob Evans gift cards, cash, pre-paid Master Cards; next year I am demanding a Senior Citizens division! I am looking forward to hearing Megan Spengler address our group about her experiences as a published author. My Granddaughter has read two of her books and loved them.



It is always fun to go back to “your school” and help with a project or volunteer your time. I was asked to be a judge at Tinora for their Amazing Shake Challenge. Also this month I will again be the “school marm” for the first graders of Napoleon Schools. This is my third year to do this and I would love for someone to do this next year. Think about it! I hope your spring is off to a good start and I hope to see many of you on the 8th!
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.



ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE!

Our treasurer, Duane Ressler, would like to remind you that annual dues for 2017 can be paid at this time. The list of those who pay on an annual basis was in the November 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 cshrider1@roadrunner.com.

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

Report for MAY 2017		Duane Ressler, Treasurer		
Date	Transaction	Description	Amount	Balance
Jan. 31	Balance brought forward			\$3,676.93
Feb. 10	ck. # 1279 Charlotte Shrider		(\$47.00)	\$3,629.93
	ck. # 1280 Stephen Seagrave	directory printing	(\$135.14)	\$3,494.79
Feb. 15	ck. # 1281 TWCMD	members donation	(\$28.00)	\$3,466.79
	ck. # 1282 Habit for Humanity	members donation	(\$25.00)	\$3,441.79
	Deposit	donations from members	\$53.00	\$3,494.79
Feb. 28	Deposit	interest from HCB	\$0.08	\$3,494.87
Mar. 13	ck. # 1283 City of Napoleon	rental of shelter house	(\$80.00)	\$3,414.87
	ck. # 1284 Charlotte Shrider	postage	(\$24.50)	\$3,390.37
	ch. # 1285 AKA Designs LTD	meals for meeting	(\$440.00)	\$2,950.37
	Deposit	meeting collections	\$592.00	\$3,542.37
Mar. 21	Deposit	dues - Goertz	\$15.00	\$3,557.37
Apr. 2	Deposit	interest from HCB	\$0.10	\$3,557.47
Apr. 12	Deposit	dues - L. Kraft	\$15.00	\$3,572.47
Apr. 14	Ending Balance			\$3,572.47
Jan. 5	HENRY COUNTY BANK CD	balance		\$1,281.06
Apr. 4		interest earned	\$3.58	\$1,284.64
	GRAND TOTAL-ALL ACCOUNTS			\$4,857.11

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.

HCRT Foundation Annual Report 2016

Presented at the HCRTA Meeting, March 13, 2017

The HCRT Foundation has met three times since the general meeting last March. Our most recent meeting was held on Monday March 6, 2017. This was our organizational meeting, and we selected officers for the 2017-2018 year.

The board members for 2016 were: Becky Chamberlin-agent; Gene Grime-treasurer; Terry Witt-president; Jan Schlade - vice-president; Steve Seagrave - secretary; Linda Wagner-member. Jerri Osborn concluded her term on the board and as president of the board. Sandra Honemann will join us as the 2021 member.

Treasurer Gene Grime will provide copies of the financial report, and it will be in the next newsletter.

The history of the Foundation has been updated, adding the names of the Book Grant recipients for 2016: Drew Garringer - Griffith recipient; Allison Lamming- Brubaker recipient; Madlyn Dishop - Sherman recipient; Michaela Jones - King recipient. We had an increase in the number of well qualified applicants for all four Henry County schools.

All four grants are in the amount of \$1000. Information about the Griffith Grant, which is due April 1st, has been delivered to the guidance departments of all 4 high schools. There will also be information in the newspapers of the county, WNDH, and the Defiance Crescent, which gives us contact with the families of students, who are no longer in high school. The deadline for the other 3 grants is June 1st, and that information will go out at the beginning of April. I will be sending letters to all the recipients and applicants from last year, inviting to apply again if they are still eligible. There are handouts available today if you would like to post them at your church or other location, or if you know any students pursuing education as a career. We have awarded 41 book grants, totaling nearly \$22,500, since 1998. Remember, you may contribute to the Foundation at any time by sending donations to Gene Grime.

Please continue your efforts to get the information out that these grants are available. Personal contact has been a very effective tool to increase the number of well-qualified applicants who have participated in recent years.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Witt, President

HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS FOUNDATION						
2016 yearend report on fund totals						
Gene Grime Treasurer	Checking	CD's (approximate values)	Oppenheimer Annuity Funds (aprox) (guaranteed principal)			Totals
SHERMAN FUNDS						
December 31,2016	\$504.60	\$13,418.29	\$0.00	\$13,127.00	\$27,049.89	
GRIFFITH FUNDS						
December 31,2016	\$351.61	\$13,648.67	\$0.00	\$13,127.00	\$27,127.28	
KING FUNDS						
December 31,2016	\$442.59	\$1,575.90	\$9,030.22	\$9,223.00	\$20,271.71	
BRUBAKER FUNDS						
December 31,2016	\$333.60	\$2,849.04	\$0.00	\$82,415.00	\$85,597.64	
Totals	\$1,632.40	\$31,491.90	\$9,030.22	\$117,892.00	\$160,046.52	

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

May 01	Mires-Fejes, Shirlee ***	June 03	Witt, Terry
May 04	Miller, Janis	June 04	Haase, George F *
May 06	Ritchey, Cheryl J	June 08	Gerken, Larry *
May 06	Rohrs, Kay *	June 14	Eis, Audrey *
May 15	George, Barbara	June 15	Weaver, Renee
May 16	Lyne, Larry B	June 21	Mueller, Margaret L
May 17	Baer, Dan	June 23	Lilly, Diana T *
May 17	Lammers, Tom *	July 03	Ressler, Duane M
May 18	Flick, Neil R *	July 04	Lytle, William D
May 20	Leonard, Carol	July 04	Stevens, Treva M
May 23	Hemsoth, Charles N	July 04	Zachrich, Lawrence
May 25	Cline, Garry	July 08	Schubert, Dale
May 26	Neuenschwander, Kenneth *	July 14	Wesche, Mary 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/>

March Program



Nancy Helmke addresses the members on the Orphan Grain Train organization;

March Meeting



Terry and Gene give the HCRT Foundation annual report;

Foundation Officers for 2017

- President - Terry Witt
- Vice-President - Linda Wagner
- Secretary - Steve Seagrave
- Treasurer - Gene Grime

Who Was Haym Solomon?

Submitted by Bonnie Eddy

(Editor's Note: Bonnie had sent this to me last year to use for the newsletter. I was not able to use it till now.)

Read this fascinating history of the \$1 bill – all the way to the bottom to know about Haym Solomon. You may be in for quite a surprise!

On the rear of the One Dollar bill, you will see two circles. Together, they comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved. If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid.

Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the west or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the Capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything.

'IN GOD WE TRUST' is on this currency.

The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, 'God has favored our undertaking.' The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, 'a new order has begun.' At the base of the pyramid is the Roman numeral for 1776. (MDCCLXXVI)



If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most heroes' monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield there is a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, 'E PLURIBUS UNUM' meaning, 'from many - one.' Above the Eagle, we have the thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one.

Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

An (untrue) old-fashioned belief says that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will almost never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this: America, which relies on God (not a number) to direct and lead, boldly chose:

13 original colonies,
13 signers of the Declaration of
Independence ,
13 stripes on our flag,

13 steps on the pyramid,
13 letters in 'Annuit Coeptis',
13 letters in ' E Pluribus Unum,'
13 stars above the eagle,

13 bars on that shield,
13 leaves on the olive branch,
13 fruits, and if you look closely,
13 arrows.

And finally, notice the arrangement of the 13 stars in the right-hand circle. You will see that they are arranged as a Star of David. This was ordered by George Washington who, when he asked Haym Solomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as a personal reward for his services to the Continental Army. Solomon said he wanted nothing for himself, but he would like something for his people. The Star of David was the result. Few people know it was Solomon who saved the Army through his financial contributions...then died a pauper. Haym Solomon gave \$25 million to save the Continental Army, money that was sorely needed to help realize America's – our- freedom and independence from England. Therein lies America's Judeo-Christian beginning.

Most American children do NOT know any of this. They are not taught because their history teachers do NOT know this. They were not taught on America's Freedom.

Too many veterans gave up too much to let the meaning fade. Many veterans came home to an America that did not care. Too many veterans never came home at all. They served, they died for you ... for me.

I hope you will share this page with many-so they can learn about the UNITED STATES DOLLAR BILL, and what it stands for. America is at a critical juncture. Let's do *whatever we can* to save her while never, ever forgetting: It is God in whom we put our trust!

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