

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 24, Issue 3

July 2018

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

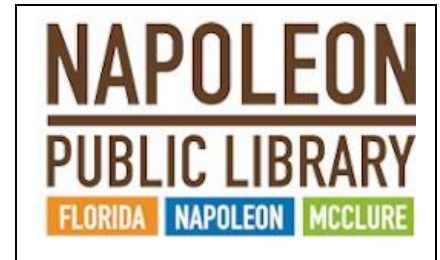
Within five years, HCRTA will move to a position among the top five chapters in Ohio, as it builds upon its legacy of encouraging scholarship, fostering volunteerism, promoting and protecting retiree interests, supporting advancement of public education in Ohio, developing a proactive membership.

Next Meeting – July 9, 2018

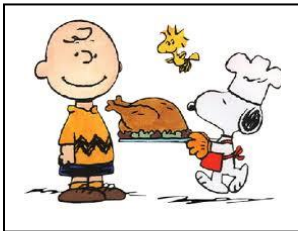
The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday July 9th at 5:30pm. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon.

PROGRAM - Book grant winners and their families will be guests at our dinner. Betsy Eggers, Director of the **Napoleon Public Library** will be our speaker. She will explain why she thinks libraries still have a lot to offer and share information about all the services and materials available.

MENU - BBQ pork or pulled chicken sandwich, potato salad, baked beans, corn on the cob, cole slaw, strawberry shortcake, rolls/butter, coffee/water; 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 July 2nd or contact her directly if you cannot reach your caller. Thank you.

July 9th - Meeting Volunteers

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

Set Up (Doors unlocked at 4:30pm)		Hostess Committee	
Dan Baer	Karen Maassel	Becky Schindler	Marlene Jones
Duane Ressler	Chuck Klamer		

Volunteers are needed after the meeting to put away tables and chairs.

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 teacher and want to receive the eUPDATES.

Subscribe to our eUPDATE emails

SUBSCRIBE



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report May 14, 2018

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for May was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Charlotte thanked the set up and hostess volunteers for the evening and welcomed guests Carol Wolfe, ORTA Regional Liaison and Sandy Blackwood, from the Henry County Senior Center. Tables were dismissed to the meal in order of famous older Americans who accomplished something special later in their lives.

Following the meal, the business meeting was called to order. The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were approved as printed.

Carol Wolfe, ORTA Regional Liaison, then made a few remarks. She outlined many of the current objectives of ORTA, the main goals being to answer member concerns, to provide updates from Columbus and to increase membership in ORTA. In support of the last goal, a drive to increase membership will award a \$100 prize to chapters who increase their membership by ten percent. Other issues currently being addressed include working to return the COLA, devising ways to notify soon to retire teachers of the benefits of membership in ORTA and working to ensure that we keep our defined benefits. Carol had business cards available for members and encouraged all to contact her whenever they have questions or concerns.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy: Reports were given about Ruth Johnson, who is battling leukemia and Rosalie Ashenfelter, whose son has been diagnosed with brain cancer. Thoughts and prayers to these two members. It was mentioned that member Martha Potter would love visitors.

Community Service: Tom Jenny had as usual placed volunteer hour tally sheets at each table. Be sure to

record all of your volunteer hours each meeting, as retired teachers contribute in many ways to our communities.

Historian: Faith Hurst brought a scrapbook of articles for members to see. Please continue sending her things to save.

Education Foundation: Terri Witt reported that two Griffith grants will be awarded this year. Deadlines for the other grants are approaching. All of the grant recipients will be introduced at the July meeting. The committee was especially pleased to note that one candidate for the Griffith grant is a member of the family for whom the grant is named, so they were able to honor that legacy by awarding this exceptional candidate.

Retirement Planning: Gregg Merrill reported that the committee is preparing a flyer to be sent to area schools describing the work and accomplishments of HCRTA, with the goal to recruit potential new members.

Old Business: President Charlotte read a thank you note from Pam Thompson from CASA, who spoke to the group at the last meeting. She thanked the group for the opportunity to spread the word about this important program.

New Business: Hostesses for the July meeting will be Becky Schindler and Marlene Jones. Sign-up sheets for set up committees and volunteers to pay half of speaker meals had been passed during the meeting. It was announced that the speaker for the July meeting will be Betsy Eggers, Napoleon Library Director, who will address the topic of "are libraries a thing of the past?"

Tom Jenny won the 50/50 drawing of \$19.00. Small door prizes of items from the Senior Center donated by President Charlotte were won by Treva Stevens, Bev Phillips, Renee Weaver and Gene Grime. Margaret Mueller won a bag of candy kisses given by hostess committee Rich and Faith Hurst.

The meeting was then adjourned and President Charlotte introduced our main speaker, Sandy Blackwood, Henry County Senior Center Director. She provided an overview of the many activities available at the Senior Center. Just a few of the opportunities mentioned included: exercise classes, art and crafts, grief yoga, pickle ball, quilt club, meal service and many more. With the new building

allowing much more space, many plans are in the works to coordinate with other agencies such as Family Court, Northwest State and others to expand current programs and create new opportunities as well. One possible new opportunity would be to create a “social enterprise”, whereby a product would be produced, with the goal of using profits for a charitable cause. A potential product mentioned was making memorial boxes for pets created with a CNC router available in the new woodworking area. These are just a few of the possibilities for projects in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary

From the President’s Pen – Charlotte Shrider

Do you suppose other retired professions having trouble letting go after they retire? When a retired Doctor hears someone cough do they think bronchitis or pneumonia? When a car mechanic hears a loud car does he wonder what’s wrong under the hood? Well I for one have a hard time shedding my teacher mode! My daughters used to cringe at Chuck E. Cheese when I would make children (not related to me!) wait in line or take turns. Or sometimes I would say ”You have played that game long enough let someone else have a turn.” My teacher mode came out this week when I had workers at my house putting in a new kitchen floor. One of the workers was really talking back to the man that was in charge. I listened for awhile and about the third time it happened I went in the kitchen and said “Young lady, I do not like the way you are talking to your boss.” She said “That’s my husband!” Well I had to let it go at that but I thought geez Charlotte just stay out of it. Do you have times your old persona comes out? I hope you are having a great summer and I hope to see many of you at our July meeting!



2018 DIRECTORY

The new directory was emailed to those members with an email address. A small number of paper copies are available for \$5. Contact Steve Seagrave. 567-225-2933

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.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Remember that when you are doing volunteer activities to write down your hours so when you come to the meeting you can report on the forms how many you gave since the previous meeting.



FROM THE APRIL MEETING

Carol Wolfe, ORTA Regional Liaison, shared ORTA goals and activities.



Sandy Blackwood speaks about the Henry County Senior Center services and activities.



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

Barbara 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 JULY 2018			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Ck #/payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
04/19/18		Balance brought forward		\$3,801.68
04/30/18	deposit	interest earned	\$0.10	\$3,801.78
05/14/18	ck. # 1315 City of Napoleon	Shelterhouse rental	-\$90.00	\$3,311.78
	ck. # 1316 AKA Designs, LTD	meals for meeting	-\$341.00	\$3,370.78
	ck.# 1317 Charlotte Shrider	Postage for newsletters	-\$20.00	\$3,350.78
	ck.# 1318 TWCMD	Member donations	-\$44.00	\$3,306.78
05/15/18	deposit from meeting	speaker fd \$3, Meals \$351, 50/50 \$19, Dues \$50 Baer, TWCMD \$28, meals due \$26	\$477.00	\$3,783.78
05/24/18	deposit	Dues	\$15.00	\$3,798.78
05/31/18	deposit	Interest earned	\$0.09	\$3,798.87
06/15/18		Ending Balance =		\$3,798.87
01/04/18	CD Balance	Henry County Bank		\$1,296.84
04/04/18		Interest earned 4/4/2018	\$4.33	\$1,301.17
06/15/18	BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS			\$5,100.04
NOTES:	2018 annual dues to HCRTA can be paid at the meeting or mailed to the treasurer.			
	When you make a reservation, please try to keep it or arrange for someone else to take your place. Otherwise you must pay for the meal since we are charged by the caterer based on reservations.			

MEMBERSHIP – If you know teachers in Henry County who retired this June please give their name and contact information to our Membership Chairperson, Nan Bretz. Nan will send invitation and welcome packets. You can then help us with follow up calls to personally invite people to our meetings.

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

July 14	Wesche, Mary Kay *	Aug. 13	Agler, Carol
July 17	Gerken, Kae	Aug. 13	Baldwin, Nancy
July 19	Schink, Nancy C	Aug. 19	Meyer, Diane
July 24	Ashenfelter, Rosalie A	Aug. 19	Meyer, James
July 25	Buchhop, Diane	Aug. 21	Krueger, Marlyn
July 27	Plassman, Carolyn J	Aug. 21	Rosebrook, Judy
July 28	Babcock, Sally *	Aug. 24	Denny, Gerry L *
July 31	Conrad, David L	Sep. 04	Schroeder, Jack
July 31	Johnson, Ruth R	Sep. 05	Myers, Joan C *
Aug. 01	Osborn, Jerri	Sep. 06	Wade, Mary Ann Wade
Aug. 02	Joseph, Mary H	Sep. 08	Weaver, Sally J
Aug. 06	Myrice, Mary Jane	Sep. 09	Sutton, Margaret
Aug. 07	Krugh, W. Tennyson *	Sep. 10	Wittes, Beverly Ann
Aug. 10	Schall, Nancy A *	Sep. 15	Helberg, Kathryn J
Aug. 11	Shepard, Jan	Sep. 20	Hibbard, Jane
Aug. 12	Alspaugh, Jane *	Sep. 20	Merrill, Gregg



HCRTA Web Site
 Below is our HCRTA web site.
<http://henrycountyrta.weebly.com/>

ORTA Web Site
 Below is the ORTA web site. Check there for information and links.
<http://www.orta.org/>

ORTA STRS UPDATE – From ORTA Executive Director Rayfield

At the April STRS Board of Trustees meeting in Columbus, Executive Director of ORTA Robin Rayfield addressed the meeting participants during the public participation of the meeting. Dr. Rayfield voiced concern to the Trustees that the loss of COLA has had a significant negative impact on STRS retirees. In addition, Rayfield asked the board members to identify what conditions must be present for benefit enhancement to take place. Rayfield asked that STRS develop a ‘pathway to COLA’ or a ‘road map to benefit enhancement’. ORTA members would like to be able to monitor the progress that is being made toward the return to the ‘promised increases’ that the COLA provided.

Since his comments in April Dr. Rayfield has met with Executive Director of STRS Mike Nehf and his senior staff to discuss what such a pathway or roadmap might look like. Everyone agrees that pension systems are very complex with many moving parts such as: investment income, longevity of retirees, contributions from active members, and employer contributions. ORTA would like to see a simple chart or snapshot that is easy to understand and can be accessed every month or every quarter. Retirees could then ‘see where we stand’ regarding benefit enhancement.

After the first meeting it became apparent that the development of such a roadmap would take some time and require more meetings. ORTA and STRS have committed that we could meet monthly to develop something like the current dashboard that STRS uses to report the financial health of the STRS pension system.

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