

# 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](http://henrycountyrta.weebly.com)

Volume 25, Issue 2

May 2019

## 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 13, 2019

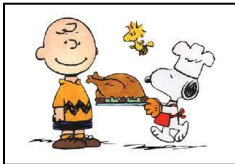
The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday May 13th at 5:30pm. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon.

PROGRAM - Pillars of Success - Pillars of Success is the chosen charity of HCRTA for this year. Barb Hoffman and Linda Krauskopf will tell us more about the agency and how it serves the needs of many Henry County residents.

MENU - The menu for this meeting is chicken breast with lemon sauce, rice pilaf, parmesan broccoli, corn, broccoli slaw, roll and butter, strawberry short cake, and 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 May 6th** or contact her directly if you cannot reach your caller. 419-599-1356.

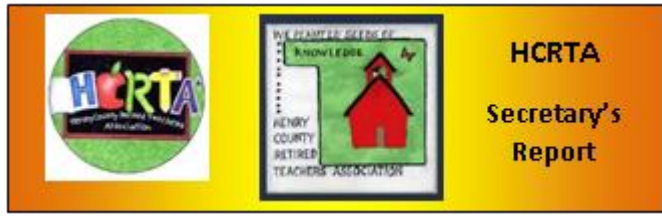
## Hosts/Hostesses

The hosts/hostesses bring a centerpiece for the tables and are 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. Table coverings are provided. Members of the executive board have signed up for most months. We do have a few openings so if you would like to help, call Charlotte! If everyone takes a turn it would be great!

## May 13<sup>th</sup> - Meeting Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for September & November. If you can help, call Charlotte. 419-599-1356

|  |            |                   |             |
|--|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Set Up (Doors unlocked at 4:30pm)                                      |            | Hostess Committee |             |
| Chuck Klamer   | Bill Lytle | Faith Hurst       | Jan Schlade |
| Faith Hurst  | Rich Hurst | Jamie Bostelman   |             |
| Volunteers are needed after the meeting to put away tables and chairs. |            |                   |             |



## Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – March 11, 2019

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for March was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer, the tables were dismissed by college team mascots.

Following the meal Jeff Mires gave an interesting talk about his time in the Secret Service. President Shrider opened the meeting. The treasurer's report was approved as printed in the newsletter. The secretary's report was approved after a date change.

### Committee Reports:

**Legislative:** Chuck Klamer reported the state was considering an increase tax on gallon of gas.

**Membership:** Nan Bretz (ab.) reported to President Shrider that the membership letters had been sent to contact potential new members. At present four new members have been recorded.

**Education Foundation:** Linda Wagner presented an Annual report for 2018. Five grants were awarded in the amount of \$1,500.00 She stated that personal contact was the best way to get qualified applicants. Terry Witt reminded the group that the personal essay was important.

### Old Business:

President Shrider reported that the audit of the 2018 books was successful and the executive board meeting was well attended and productive.

### New Business:

Chuck Klamer volunteered to be an additional calling captain.

The HCRTA members were invited by Williams County RTA to hear representative from ORTA.

President Shrider asked for interest in a group bus trip. President Shrider volunteered to get more information and details for the group.

Becky Schindler won \$27.00 in the 50/50 drawing.

President Shrider gave a thank you to March set up and hostesses

The next meeting will be at 5:30pm on May 13, 2019. The program is **Pillars of Success**.

Duane Ressler made a motion to adjourn. Diane Buchhop seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pam Schwiebert, HCRTA Secretary

### From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

It was wonderful to see such good attendance at our March meeting! Jeff Mires certainly had an interesting career in the Secret Service. I am looking forward to our speaker explaining the work of Pillars for Success, the community project we chose to support this year. I think we all need to hear of their good works and what our money will be supporting. I'm getting on my soap box here and saying I am disappointed in our support at the last meeting. We only collected \$22.00, less than 50 cents a member in attendance, for this cause. To me, if we voted to give to this cause it should be a more worthy donation. This month we will pass a collection basket after our speaker and see how that works out. Maybe people are not noticing the collection jar on the table as you walk in. Now I'm off my soap box! Here's hoping we start getting some consistently nice spring weather. I hope to see you at our May meeting!

### 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 [cshridr1@roadrunner.com](mailto:cshridr1@roadrunner.com).

### REPORT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

One of the things we try to do is to keep track of the number of volunteer hours our members contribute in our community. You can submit your numbers at the meeting, or you can email them to our coordinator, **Jan Schlade**. So, what should you count? Include any unpaid activity to benefit others or your community. If you miss a meeting, just email your numbers to Jan!

[jj Schlade@gmail.com](mailto:jj Schlade@gmail.com)

### 2019 DIRECTORY

The new directory was emailed to those members with an email address. A small number of paper copies are be available for \$5 each at the next meeting.

HCRTA Community  
Service Hours

### Send a Friend a Note of Good Cheer!

Doris Ruby, Genacross Lutheran Home Rm#218, 1036 S. Perry St, Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Charles Hemsoth, Box 36, Malinta, OH 43535

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

Jackie Sautter, Fairlawn Haven, Room 132, East Lutz Road, Archbold, Ohio 43502

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 Honemann or Marlene Jones.*



| <b>HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION</b> |                             |  |                 |                   |
|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>Duane Ressler</b>        | <b>Treasurer's Report</b>  | <b>MAY 2019</b> |                   |
| <u>Date</u>                                      | <u>Ck #/payee</u>           | <u>Description</u>   | <u>Amount</u>   | <u>Balance</u>    |
| Feb. 11  |                             | <b>starting balance</b>  |                 | <b>\$4,010.49</b> |
| Feb. 13  | DEPOSIT                     | dues and donation (Goetz)  | \$60.00         | \$4,070.49        |
| Feb, 19  | DEPOSIT                     | dues (Toepfer, Johnson)  | \$100.00        | \$4,170.49        |
| Feb. 28  | DEPOSIT                     | interest   | \$0.10          | \$4,170.59        |
| Mar. 11  | ck. #1332 Nan Bretz         | membership drive expenses  | (\$389.30)      | \$3,781.29        |
| Mar. 11  | DEPOSIT                     | dues   | \$15.00         | \$3,796.29        |
| Mar. 11  | ck. #1333 City of Napoleon  | shelter rental   | (\$80.00)       | \$3,716.29        |
|  | ck. #1334 AKA Designs       | meals  | (\$605.00)      | \$3,111.29        |
|  | ck. #1335 Charlotte Shrider | postage  | (\$22.00)       | \$3,089.29        |
|  | ck. #1336 Steve Seagrave    | directory expenses   | (\$146.93)      | \$2,942.36        |
|  | DEPOSIT                     | donation Pillars \$22, dues \$15, meals \$687, 50/50 \$27, HCRTA Found. \$80, dir. \$5 | \$836.00        | \$3,778.36        |
| Mar. 31  | DEPOSIT                     | interest   |                 | \$ 0.10           |
| Apr. 15  |                             | <b>Current Balance =</b>   |                 | <b>\$3,778.46</b> |
| Mar. 31  | CD Balance                  | Henry County Bank  |                 | \$1,315.98        |
|  |                             | Interest earned 4/4/2019   | \$5.35          | <b>\$1,321.33</b> |
| Apr. 15  |                             | <b>BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS =</b>  |                 | <b>\$5,099.79</b> |

### HCRT FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Foundation President Linda Wagner delivered this report at the March meeting of the Henry County Retired Teacher's Association.

The HCRT Foundation has met three times since the general meeting. We will be holding the organizational meeting of 2019 on Tuesday, March 12, 2019. We will select officers for the 2019 at this meeting.

The board members for the 2018 year were: Becky Chamberlin-agent, Gene Grime-treasurer, Linda Wagner-President, Terry Witt-Vice-President, Steve Seagrave-secretary, Sandy Honemann, member, and Greg Merrill. Steve Seagrave has completed his term on the board and Jamie Bostelman has joined the board as the 2023 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 2018. Chloe Seedorf, granddaughter of Louis Griffith, and McKenna Koester –Griffith recipients, Anna Murcko-King recipient, Michaela Jones-Sherman-recipient, and Olivia Behm-Brubaker recipient.

All five grants for 2018 were in the amount of \$1500, which was an increase of \$500 from the 2017 grants. The due date for the Griffith Grant is April 1<sup>st</sup>. The information for the Griffith Grant has been delivered to the 4 county high schools' guidance departments by members of the Foundation board. An invitation to apply for the other 3 grants has been sent to all of the 2018 recipients and applicants by email. A note sent will be sent to their homes, as well. Information about the grants will be presented to the media outlets in Henry County. Information about the grants and applications are also available on the HCRT website. There are handouts describing the grants available today should you wish to post them at a church or other location. Please feel free to encourage any qualified individual you may know to apply. The board has established a policy that an additional grant may be awarded to a direct descendent of one of the creator/namesakes of a book grant. The applicants can indicate on the applications whether that circumstance applies to them. However, the person must meet the same standards as the other applicants.

We have awarded 50 book grants, totaling \$32,000, since 1998. Contributions to the Foundation may be made at any time by sending them to Gene Grime. Remember, the most effective tool to get well qualified applicants has been through personal contact.

Linda Wagner-Foundation President

### **MEMBER UPDATE**

Nan Bretz, our Membership Chairperson shared this information on **Doris Ruby**. Doris was HCRTA President for three terms (1993-95) and was the founding President of our Foundation, serving three terms (1997-1999).

For those of you who are friends with Doris, here is the update from Nan.

“Doris Ruby has moved to the care center at the Lutheran Home. Her new address is Genacross Lutheran Home, Room #218, 1036 S. Perry Street, Napoleon, OH 43545. Lucinda Ruby said she is feeling the effects of being 97. Her heart is getting weaker, her eyesight is very poor and she needs more assistance. In the past two months she has been getting confused but her personality is the same and she would love notes and visits.”

If you can stop in or send a card, I am sure it would be appreciated.

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### **ORTA NEWS – by Robin Rayfield, Executive Director**

#### **ORSC Meeting**

The group of legislators that closely monitor all 5 of the public pensions in Ohio, the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC) met on March 14, 2019. Each of the pension's provided an update of each system's valuation and overall health. From what I heard all Ohio's public pension systems face similar challenges. Going back to the previous thought on the investment activity of pension managers, each group offered what that group's assumed rate of return was. Each of the pension groups had lowered their assumed rate of return over the past year. This is important to note as the assumed rate of return has a significant impact on the funding status of any pension system. The greater the assumed rate of return the better the funding status of a pension system. Currently, the assumed rate of return for the STRS system is 7.45%. STRS lowered its assumed rate of return at the last actuarial review, as have the other pension systems.



#### **COLA**

So, where are we at regarding our COLA? Currently, STRS sits at about 75% funding status with a goal of getting to 100%. With an assumed rate of return of 7.45% on our investments our system will not reach 100% funding for another 18 years. ORTA is of the opinion that our system does not have to reach 100% funding before retirees receive a COLA. While ORTA supports a goal of achieving a funding level of 100%, ORTA does not think retirees should have a promised COLA withheld until the system reaches 100% funding. Instead, ORTA supports a Funding Policy that makes progress towards 100% funding, while providing some benefit increase to retirees. ORTA's efforts going forward will be to influence the STRS Board of Trustees towards a Funding Policy that is focused on a balance of providing benefit increases to retirees while making progress towards the goal of reaching a funding level of 100%.

**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 *Pillars of Success*. 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.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pillars of Success: \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Duane Ressler**  
 HCRTA Treasurer  
 1124 Clairmont Avenue  
 Napoleon, Ohio 43545

**Birthday List**

|         |                           |         |                     |
|---------|---------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| May 15  | Klamer, Charles           | June 04 | Haase, George F *   |
| May 15  | George, Barbara           | June 08 | Gerken, Larry *     |
| May 16  | Lyne, Larry B             | June 14 | Eis, Audrey *       |
| May 17  | Baer, Dan                 | June 15 | Weaver, Renee       |
| May 17  | Lammers, Tom *            | June 21 | Mueller, Margaret L |
| May 18  | Flick, Neil R *           | June 23 | Lilly, Diana T *    |
| May 20  | Leonard, Carol            | July 03 | Ressler, Duane M    |
| May 23  | Hemsoth, Charles N        | July 04 | Lytte, William D    |
| May 25  | Cline, Garry              | July 04 | Stevens, Treva M    |
| May 26  | Neuenschwander, Kenneth * | July 04 | Zachrich, Lawrence  |
| June 03 | Witt, Terry               | July 08 | Schubert, Dale      |



**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/>



Jeff Mires speaks about his time with the Secret Service.

**REMINDER** – If you change your phone number, email address, or physical address be sure to notify our membership chair, Nan Bretz, and the newsletter editor, Steve Seagrave.

## 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