

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 25, Issue 5

November 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.

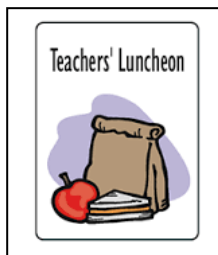
Vision Statement

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 – November 11, 2019

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

MENU— Roast turkey breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, tossed salad, roll and butter and pumpkin pie, coffee/water; PROGRAM - Giving a Helping Hand - Henry County is fortunate not to share some “big city” problems. But, at this meeting you’ll learn that even here there are “invisible people”- People who sleep on the floor every night, who are jobless or who don’t have money to furnish a modest home. People who are trying to start over in life after making bad choices in the past. Jerry and Cecily Rohrs of rural Archbold will tell us about some of these “invisible people” and how they strive to help them begin anew.



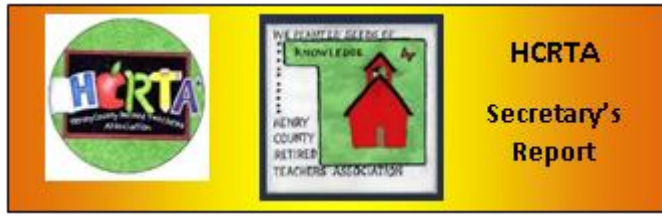
Meal Reservations

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 Shridner 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 November 4th** 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!

November 11th - Meeting Volunteers			
Volunteers are needed for December. If you can help, call Charlotte. 419-599-1356			
Set Up (Doors unlocked at 10:30am)		Hostess Committee	
Chuck Klamer	Bill Lytle	Jan Baker	Becky Schindler
Help Needed	Help Needed		
Volunteers are needed after the meeting to put away tables and chairs.			



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – September 9, 2019

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for September was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer, the tables were dismissed by Great Storyteller birthdates. Following the meal retired teacher, Sue Stamm, told funny stories about her life experiences.

President Shrider opened the meeting. The secretary's minutes and treasurer's report were approved as printed. New members Jill Toepfer, Patty Hill and Becky Conklin were welcomed.

Carole Wolf gave update on ORTA. She stated the Retired Teachers office had moved from downtown to Worthington saving \$15,000 a year. ORTA's new address is 230 East Wilson Bridge Road, Suite 150, Worthington. Ohio 43085.

Committee Reports:

Legislative: Chuck Klamer had nothing to report. President Shrider asked for a volunteer to attend the September 25 ORTA meeting in Findlay.

Membership: Nan Bretz reminded members that new member cards were on the tables. Invite someone!

Community Service: Jan Schlade reminded everyone to get their hours in. Jamie Bostelman had 150 hours, Gene Grime 125 hours, and Steve Seagrave, Delora Short and Phyliss Hesterman following with slightly over 100 hours for this recording period.

Courtesy North - Marlene Jones - It was reported Caroline Plassman was at Genacross Assisted Living and prayers were needed for member Sue Meyer.

Courtesy South - not present

Historian - Faith Hurst had nothing to report.

Education Foundation: Terry Witt described the director position that will become vacant in December on the Foundation Board of Directors. Chuck Klamer volunteered to be elected to fill the vacant term.

Old Business: none

New Business:

The Nominating Committee will meet in December to fill vacant spots. Jan Baker won the 50/50 drawing of \$51.00. President Shrider thanked Bev Wittes and the set-up team. The next meeting will be at 11:30am November 11. Cecily and Jerry Rohrs will be the speakers. Setup - Bill Lytle, Hostesses - Jan Baker and Becky Schindler. Diane Meyer made a motion to adjourn. Terry Witt seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Schwiebert, HCRTA Secretary

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider



My retired life had been going along so smoothly. I was in a nice comfortable rut. A 2 mile walk every morning, a daily card game with my husband, piano lessons in the afternoon, TV at night. AHHH life was good! It's amazing how all that can change in the blink of an eye. My husband had surgery on September 18th and again on October 8th that amounted to 19 days in the hospital, fourteen of those in ICU. We have been to numerous appointments, have had a parade of home health care workers at the house and now have a wound vac to attend to. No morning walks, no card games, no lessons, no naps. Luckily with "ON Demand", some TV. The saying, "You don't have anything if you don't have your health," (or your spouse's health) has really proven to be true. I have a new appreciation for care givers. I'll be glad to get out of the house for our meeting on the 11th. I hope your circumstances allow you to get out of the house for it too!

Charlotte

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.

Rebecca L Sanford Conklin (Becky Conklin)

- 2525 Cedarwood Dr., Adrian, MI 49221
- Home Phone 517-403-2060
- Retired from Evergreen Local in 2019; Total years in education = 43
- Birthdate 12/21
- Email 1972bco@gmail.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 Charlotte Shrider at 419-599-1356 or email her at cshrider1@roadrunner.com.

Send a Friend a Note of Good Cheer!

Martha Alspaugh, 140 W. North St., McClure, Ohio 43534
 Charles Hemsoth, Box 36, Malinta, OH 43535
 Carolyn Plassman, Genacross Lutheran Home, 1036 S. Perry St, Napoleon, Ohio 43545
 Jackie Sautter, Fairlawn Haven, Room 132, East Lutz Road, Archbold, Ohio 43502
 Barbara Schnabele, VanCrest Health Center, 415 N. Oak, Deshler, Ohio 43516
 Dolores Zachrich, 1036 S. Perry Street, Lutheran Home, Napoleon, Ohio 43545
If you know of updates needed to this list, contact Sandy Honemann or Marlene Jones.



HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION				
	Duane Ressler	Treasurer's Report	NOV. 2019	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Ck #/payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
8/9		starting balance		\$3,786.85
9/2	DEPOSIT	Interest	\$0.11	\$3,786.96
9/9	ck. #1345 City of Napoleon	Oberhaus Park rental	(\$90.00)	\$3,696.96
	ck. #1346 AKA Designs Ltd.	Meals for meeting	(\$484.00)	\$3,212.96
	ck. #1347 Gene Grime	Dictionary project	(\$733.70)	\$2,479.26
	ck. #1348 Charlotte Shrider	Postage for newsletters	(\$19.25)	\$2,460.01
9/12	DEPOSIT	\$555 from meals, \$25 speaker, \$56 for Pillars, \$26 from 50/50	\$612.00	\$3,072.01
9/12	DEPOSIT (for the Dictionary Project)	Deshler Lions \$195.20; Napoleon Lions \$414.80	\$610.00	\$3,682.01
9/15	DEPOSIT	Dues: Conklin	\$50.00	\$3,732.01
9/20	ck. #1349 Pillars of Success	Member donations	(\$56.00)	\$3,676.01
9/30	DEPOSIT	Interest	\$0.08	\$3,676.09
10/3	DEPOSIT (for the Dictionary Project)	Holgate Lions	\$125.05	\$3,801.14
10/17		Current Balance =		\$3,801.14
	CD Balance	Henry County Bank		\$1,326.76
10/4		Interest	\$5.33	\$1,332.09
		BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS =		\$5,133.23

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.

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





We have lost two of our members:

Doris Ruby – September 4, 2019

Neil Flick – October 2, 2019



*In Loving
Memory*



We have received two donations recently.

Marlene Jones and Bonnie Sasaki gave donations in memory of Doris Ruby and George Gubernath.

Members wishing to make a donation can use the form in this newsletter or contact Gene Grime who is the treasurer.

Update From ORTA

ORTA sends out its monthly newsletter by email to members. If you do not have email you can also read ORTA news on the ORTA web site at this address: <http://www.orta.org/current-newsletters.html>

Below is some information from Executive Director that was in the last newsletter.

STRS - The meeting of the STRS Board of Trustees was held on October 17, 2019. A large group of retirees from OEA r270 (Cleveland) was present and several of these retirees spoke to the STRS Board and reminded them that the loss of COLA has been devastating to their lifestyle in retirement. As usual, I also offered comments on behalf of the ORTA members. My comments are included in this newsletter.

What I think is an important point to make is that I have noticed a 'change' in the attitude of the Board of Trustees. It seems to me that the messages of retirees are making an impact on the board. Some evidence of this change includes:

- Lowering from 100% to 85% the funding level required for benefit enhancement to retirees. This change in policy at STRS is significant. Consider that the STRS Pension System has NEVER been at a 100% funding level. Under the older policy it is likely that STRS beneficiaries would not see any increase in benefits until 2034 or after! 85% is still a significant hurdle to cross, however, 85% is much more realistic than 100%.
- At the meeting on the 17th there was some discussion of increasing the employer contribution rate. Ohio's employer contribution rate to STRS has been 14% for several decades. By way of comparison, Ohio's employer rate of contribution is one of the lowest in the country. It was reported that other state's contribution rates are much higher than Ohio's. This is the first time I have heard such discussion at STRS.

ORTA Web Site

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

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

**I WAS GOING TO DO
SOMETHING, THEN
I GOT DISTRACTED FOR
5 SECONDS AND FORGOT .**



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

Nov. 10	George, James	Dec. 08	Aschemeier, Joseph
Nov. 13	Long, Larry E	Dec. 09	Fetterman, Patricia
Nov. 14	Kim Spiess	Dec. 13	Seagrave, Stephen
Nov. 15	Ritchey, Gary	Dec. 13	Shrider, Charlotte Anne
Nov. 20	Krugh, Susan *	Dec. 19	Tietje, Lynette Kay
Nov. 22	Hetrick, Lee *	Dec. 20	Sasaki, Bonnie
Nov. 22	Jones, Marlene	Dec. 20	Short, Wayne
Nov. 25	Goertz, Cheri	Dec. 21	Conklin, Becky
Nov. 27	Barlow, Linda	Dec. 24	Rausch, Anne
Dec. 05	Redd, Betsy	Dec. 30	Griffith, Charles E



HCRTA Web Site

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

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



Sue Stamm shares humorous stories with our members;



Carole Wolfe, ORTA regional liaison, shared information about ORTA and the savings generated by the move to different offices.

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 HCRT Foundation.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

My donation preference is:

Lois Griffith Book Grant

Roger King Book Grant

Margaret & Lucille Sherman Book Grant

Karen Brubaker Book Grant

Undesignated

This donation is in ___honor, ___memory of: _____ Amount: _____

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

HCRTA

735 Sheffield

Napoleon OH 43545

postage

Member

Address