

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 26, Issue 3

July 2020

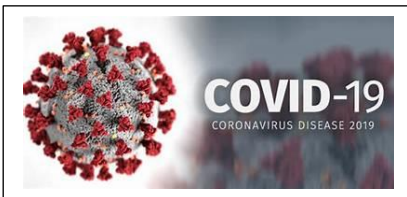
Mission Statement

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.

July Meeting – Cancelled



The July meeting of HCRTA has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to keep everyone safe. President Charlotte shared the information from the Health Department and surveyed the officers. This was the decision. Our next meeting is in September. Charlotte and the officers will assess things again at that time. Meanwhile, take the precautions necessary to keep you and your loved ones safe.

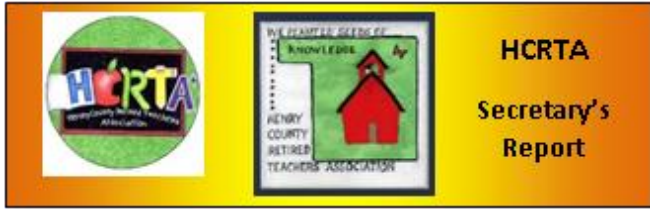
Health Department Guidelines

Charlotte obtained these guidelines from the Henry County Health Department for us to use when we do meet.

- No gathering and talking in the entrance on the way in or out.
- Face coverings are recommended but not required. (Except for eating of course.)
- No more than 10 at a table, which I told him we have 6 or 7.
- No standing in a buffet line or self- serving at a buffet. I have been in contact with Marc and he has agreed to plate the food if we serve it to the tables. I am hoping that some of you will help serve. He can't provide servers without adding quite a fee for the added workers.
- Guests should stay seated at their table as much as possible.
- Remember the 6 feet distancing rules if you do move about.



Charles Hemsoth celebrated his 100th birthday on May 23rd. Congratulations Charles!



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report

Since the March meeting was cancelled there are no minutes to publish.

REPORT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

If you have not already done so, please add up your volunteer hours since the December meeting and email these to Jan. 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



Gene received a donation for Foundation from Dolores Short in memory of her late husband Wayne, a member of our association. She noted that Wayne enjoyed being a member of the HCRT Association and attending our meetings.

Keep the Foundation in mind when giving donations in memory of friends and relatives.

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

When have you ever known me to be at a loss for words? I thought for sure by now we would be good to go. I'm not even going to predict what September will bring! I asked the executive board to vote on whether we should hold our meeting and the vote was 7-2 to wait until September. Will the song by

the Happenings prove true? "See you in September" Time will tell.

I have binge watched shows on Netflix, read countless books, colored in coloring books and played the piano. I have exhausted my entertainment possibilities. I should have learned a new language or learned to do woodworking or even made murals out of buttons but alas I'm too lazy for that. I hope you are all doing well. I miss you!



2020 Book Grant Winners

The Griffith Family Book Grant Winner

Audrey Wade is a 2020 graduate of Napoleon High School. She is the daughter of Brian and Jennifer Wade, and Nicole Cochran. She is also, the granddaughter of HCRTA member Mary Ann Wade. She will be attending Bowling Green State University in the Fall and majoring Education and Human Development. Audrey has always been confident that educating children was what she wanted to do. She hopes to be a positive influence on her students and make a positive impact upon their lives.

The Karen Brubaker Book Grant

Maxwell Weaver is a 2019 graduate of Liberty Center High School. He has completed his freshman year at Bowling Green State University, majoring in Middle School / High School Math/ Science Education. He is the son of John and Gwen Weaver. Maxwell wants his students to get excited about learning in the interesting interactive environment which he will provide.

The Lucille and Margaret Sherman Book Grant Winner

Chase Gruenhagen is a 2017 graduate of Napoleon High School, and he is presently a Life and Earth Science Education major at The Ohio State University. He is the son of John and Karen Gruenhagen. Chase was the recipient of the Sherman Book Grant in 2019 as well. Chase has always planned a career in education. He hopes to return to teach in a Henry County School, where there is a real sense of community.

THANKS – A special thanks to members who served as grant readers in 2020: Joe & Janet Aschemeier, Dan Baer, Karen Maassel, Sue Burson, and Jan Schlade.

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.



GUEST ARTICLE

This guest article was written by **William I Winegarner**, Executive Director of **Protect Ohio Pensions, Inc.**

Below are excerpts from the 2020 2nd Quarter POP-5 Newsletter. The full content can be found online at www.pop5.org.

The disappointment of losing some or all of our COLAs and health care benefits has caused some retirees to convince a couple of legislators that the only reason for their loss has been pension system mismanagement.

Shortly before the state shut down for the COVID-19 panic, multiple bills were introduced that would bring operational harm and unnecessary expense to our pension systems. HB 514: To require pension board meetings to be broadcast; HB 515: To require pension boards to disclose certain financial information regarding alternative investments; HB 516: To impose a lifetime ban prohibiting any state retirement system from doing business with a former employee, officer, or board member; HB 530: Change the fiduciary duties of all pension system boards from the members to the state, and to create a new government committee to establish employee pay, salaries, and investment management fees.

Legislators need to educate themselves on: The wisdom of their predecessors in how the pension systems were set up, the statutory requirements, the operations, functions, and financial-industry challenges faced by an Ohio pension board.

Legislators in particular need to check on every government managed pension system in the US, and note they are failing.

It is important for retirees and legislators alike to remember that the employees, staffs, and board members of our pension systems are also members of an Ohio pension, and when extra benefits are reduced or eliminated for current and future retirees, they are being reduced for them and their families as well.

Since emotion is not a replacement for facts, we should begin with considering some basic truths about our pension systems. Simply put, our pension systems are not our employers, but our investment houses. They owe us nothing other than our base pensions, even though they, upon their own initiative, have been providing us with extra benefits since the mid-70s.

If we want our pension systems to survive, what are the lessons to be learned?

Ohio retirees should be abundantly blessed by the way the legislature set up our pension systems, and for the way pension boards have been providing us with extremely generous additional benefits when their investment earnings exceeded those required to fund our base pensions. Now that investment earnings are not exceeding the funds required to support base pensions, we need to be mature enough to accept that reality; even though we don't like it.

We do not want, or need, legislative interference in the operation of our pension systems. In every state where the legislature has become involved in the business operations, the pension system has failed, and in many cases the pensions themselves have been reduced. We need to be prepared to contact our legislators, and speak out against these Bills, should any of them gain momentum.

Our retirees associations will notify us, if and when, calls need to be made

HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION				
	Duane Ressler, Treasurer	Gregg Merrill, Asst. Treas.	July 2020	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Ck #/payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Feb. 20		starting balance		\$3,937.54
Mar. 1	Deposit	interest added back	\$0.09	\$3,937.63
Mar. 9	ck. #1360 City of Napoleon	Oberhaus Pk. Rental	(\$80.00)	\$3,857.63
	ck. #1361 Steve Seagrave	directories expenses	(\$140.50)	\$3,717.13
	ck. #1362 Charlotte Shrider	postage	(16.50)	\$3,700.63
	ck. #1362 AKA Designs	meals for meeting	(451.00)	\$3,249.63
	ck. # 1364 Proj. We Care	members donations	(98.00)	\$3,151.63
	Deposit	proceeds from meeting	\$687.00	\$3,838.63
Mar. 11	Deposit	transfer from Foundation	\$80.00	\$3,918.63
Mar. 31	Deposit	interest added back	\$0.10	\$3,918.73
Apr. 30	Deposit	Interest added back	\$0.09	\$3,918.82
May 31	Deposit	Interest Added Back	\$0.07	\$3,918.89
June 27		Current Balance =		\$3,918.89
	CD Balance	Henry County Bank		\$1,332.09
		Interest earned January 2020	\$4.87	\$1,336.96
		Interest earned April 2020	\$4.39	\$1,341.35
June 27		BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS =		\$5,260.24

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Wes Rickenberg – 2020-03-18

I recently graduated in the winter of 2018 from BGSU with a degree in middle childhood education with specialization in ELA and Social Studies. I was a long-term substitute for the 2018/19 school year before being hired at Montpelier Exempted Village School District as the 7th grade ELA teacher. I am currently a middle school football coach as well as a varsity baseball assistant for the locomotives as well. I was married to my wife, Lauren (Dye) on December 28, 2019 and now live in Montpelier where we look forward to starting a family.

I personally wanted to thank the HCRT Foundation for the scholarship that I received in 2015. BGSU lead me not only to my new career but also my wife. If there is anything I can do on my part, please let me know!

Chad Warnimont – 2020-03-25

Thanks so much for the email. I hope you are staying healthy and safe.

I graduated from Wright State with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree. I also graduated from BGSU with an Educational Specialist and Doctorate in Leadership Studies.

I have been in education for 16 years. My career started at Toth Elementary with Perrysburg Schools. I taught 5th grade math, reading, and science for 7 years. My career then continued in Anthony Wayne when I became the

principal at Waterville Primary. I was the principal there for four years. I then returned to Perrysburg Schools and became the principal at Frank Elementary. I was the principal there for four years.

This year I decided to transition to the secondary level to get some secondary experience. I am currently one of the Assistant Principals at Perrysburg Junior High. I am hoping to transition to a Central Office position at some point in the future.

Michelle (Crawford) Leatherman – 2020-03-24

I graduated from BGSU in 1999 with a BS in Education, majoring in secondary communications education with a minor in Journalism. In 2000, I began my teaching career at Wauseon High School where I taught high school English, theater, speech and journalism for six years. In 2006, I transitioned to teaching middle school English language arts and for the next five years, I was an 8th grade reading and English teacher at Wauseon Middle School. During this time, I went back to school to pursue my master's degree in school counseling and earned that degree from BGSU in 2011. In the fall of 2011, I took a position as the school counselor for Wauseon Middle School, serving students in grades 6-8. In 2013, I made the decision to go back to school once again and began pursuing my Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in Educational Leadership from BGSU. I earned that degree in 2015 and that same year took my current position as Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment with Wauseon Schools. Last year, I completed my gifted endorsement, as I also serve as our district gifted coordinator. This year I will celebrate 20 years in education, all of which have been at Wauseon.

I live in Wauseon with my husband Keith, who is the Wauseon High School principal, and our two children, Jack and Marin. Jack is a freshman at Wauseon High School and Marin is a 6th grader at Wauseon Middle School.

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 helping to support ***Project We Care***. This group helps families with needs during the Christmas season, particularly with presents for children. This past December they served about 1000 families. They are looking to start adding services and respond to needs year-round. **Project We Care** is an official 501c3 nonprofit, so donations to them 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!

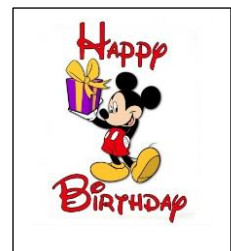
Enclosed is a check for my donation made out to this organization.

_____ Project We Care: \$_____

Duane Ressler
 HCRTA Treasurer
 1124 Clairmont Avenue
 Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Birthday List

July 04	Lytle, William D	July 31	Conrad, David L	Aug. 19	Meyer, James
July 04	Stevens, Treva M	Aug. 01	Osborn, Jerri	Aug. 21	Krueger, Marlyn
July 04	Zachrich, Lawrence	Aug. 02	Joseph, Mary H	Aug. 21	Rosebrook, Judy
July 08	Schubert, Dale	Aug. 02	Johnson, Lucinda	Aug. 24	Denny, Gerry L *
July 14	Wesche, Mary Kay *	Aug. 06	Myrice, Mary Jane	Sep. 04	Schroeder, Jack
July 16	Klamer, Linda	Aug. 07	Krugh, W. Tennyson *	Sep. 06	Wade, Mary Ann Wade
July 17	Gerken, Kae	Aug. 10	Schall, Nancy A *	Sep. 08	Weaver, Sally J
July 19	Schink, Nancy C	Aug. 11	Shepard, Jan	Sep. 09	Sutton, Margaret
July 24	Ashenfelter, Rosalie A	Aug. 12	Alspaugh, Jane *	Sep. 10	Wittes, Beverly Ann
July 25	Buchhop, Diane	Aug. 13	Agler, Carol	Sep. 15	Helberg, Kathryn J
July 27	Plassman, Carolyn J	Aug. 13	Baldwin, Nancy	Sep. 20	Hibbard, Jane
July 28	Babcock, Sally *	Aug. 19	Meyer, Diane	Sep. 20	Merrill, Gregg



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