

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 5

November 2020

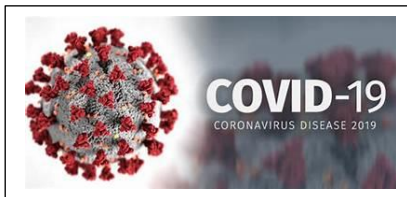
Mission Statement

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.

November & December Meetings – Cancelled



The November and December meetings of HCRTA have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the need to keep everyone safe. President Charlotte surveyed the officers. This was the decision. Charlotte and the officers will assess things again as we see the progress of health measures. Meanwhile, take the precautions necessary to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Project We Care

At our March meeting we heard from *Project We Care*'s administrator, Maggie Westrick. She relayed to us the work they do at Christmas time to help children and families in need. Last year they helped almost 1,000 families. Our treasurer, Duane Ressler, reports "Project WE CARE has been inactive for many months. The last donation we sent was in March 2020 and they did not cash our check, even after I contacted them by mail. I did get in touch recently and they promised to cash the check. When that happens, I will send the donations we have collected since then." Previously, President Charlotte has asked everyone to send donations to Duane Ressler, our treasurer, at 1124 Clairmont Avenue in Napoleon and he will send in one check to Maggie. Thanks so much for contributing to Project we Care! When we hear more, we will send out an email alert.



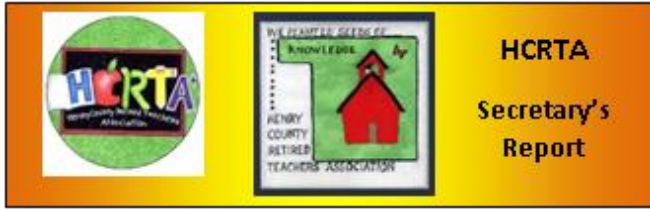
We have lost two of our members:

Don Bright on August 28, 2020

Ken Neuenschwander on October 17, 2020



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.



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report

Since the September 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. If you emailed her after the last newsletter start from that point. 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

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

Well I certainly cannot say it was a fulfilling year as your President! I like to be with you all and learn and laugh together. It seems I was always calling Oberhaus Park to cancel our reservation. We just have to err on the side of caution though and not take any chances with our health.

I spent last week in upper Michigan enjoying the fall colors and the beauty of Lake Michigan. The people in Michigan all wore masks and they are required in all stores and restaurants, no exceptions. Someone stands at the door and you are not admitted without a mask. I felt very safe up there. I notice here in town stores say masks required but no one enforces it.

On plus side to all of this, most of our speakers have agreed to come the same month next year so we have our programs planned. Since this is our last newsletter this year, I wish you all the best during the upcoming holiday season. I know 2021 will be a banner year for the Henry County Retired Teachers!

DICTIONARY PROJECT

Gene Grime has reported that the dictionary project has, in fact, been initiated this year since schools are in session. Our own members usually go into the classrooms for these presentations, however, this year we are just dropping off the dictionaries in conjunction with the Lions and school officials are passing them out in Holgate, Deshler and Napoleon.

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. Nan sent out four invitations recently. She will continue to put forms on the tables at meetings so you can write down names of people to contact.

DONATION RECEIVED – HCRT Foundation treasurer received a donation from Ann Shafer for the foundation. Our thanks to her!

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, 600 E. Joe E. Brown, Holgate, Ohio 43527
 - 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 | Gregg Merrill, Asst. Treas. | October 2020 | |
| <u>Date</u> | <u>Ck #/payee</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
| Aug. 24 | | starting balance | | \$3,884.93 |
| Aug. 31 | Deposit | interest added back | \$0.06 | \$3,884.99 |
| Sept. 16 | Deposit for Project We Care | Wittes/Shrider | \$50.00 | \$3,934.99 |
| Sept. 30 | Deposit | interest added back | \$0.07 | \$3,935.06 |
| Oct. 20 | Deposit for Project We Care | Stevens/Ressler | \$40.00 | \$3,975.06 |
| Oct. 20 | | Current Balance = | | \$3,975.06 |
| | CD Balance as of August 24 | Henry County Bank | | \$1,344.61 |
| | | Interest earned October 2020 | \$3.30 | \$1,347.91 |
| | | Current Balance = | | \$1,347.91 |
| Oct. 20 | | BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS = | | \$5,322.97 |

STRS Ohio News

In case you missed the information in the October STRS Newsletter emailed to retirees, here are a couple of items of note.

- STRS Ohio staff analysis showed plan year 2020 health care utilization has been less than projected. As a result, the board approved staff's recommendation to provide a premium rebate of \$250 for each enrollee covered by the STRS Ohio retiree health care medical program. The premium rebate will be paid to STRS Ohio retiree health care program members in the December 2020 pension payment.
- There was a negative cash flow into the retirement fund during the fiscal year ending June 30th. Benefit payments of about \$7 billion during last fiscal year far exceeded contributions of about \$3.4 billion. Overall the retirement fund balance improved slightly due to investments, however, due to uncertainty in future funding the accountants recommended against any change in benefits. (So, HCRTA members should assume there will be no restoration of the COLA for 2021.)

2021 MEETINGS

In consultation with the Executive Board, President Charlotte has renewed our agreement with the caterer to continue for 2021 and will reserve the meeting dates for Oberhaus Park when they start scheduling on December 1st.

FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER NEEDED

If you would be interested in serving on the Foundation board for a 5-year term starting January 1st please contact our Foundation President, Linda Wagner at 419-279-0438.

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!

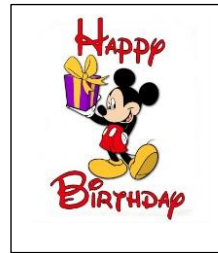
Enclosed is a check for my donation made out to this organization.

_____ Project We Care: \$ _____

Duane Ressler
 HCRTA Treasurer
 1124 Clairmont Avenue
 Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Birthday List – Since we will not be doing a December newsletter I am including the January and February member birthdays for those who like to send birthday wishes.

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| Nov. 05 | Bostelman, Jamie | Jan. 11 | Fetterman, Max |
| Nov. 05 | Krauskopf, Linda * | Jan. 15 | Frederick, Janet E * |
| Nov. 07 | Jameson, Colleen A | Jan. 15 | Meyer, Charles H |
| Nov. 09 | Shinn, Delbert P * | Jan. 18 | Follett, David |
| Nov. 10 | George, James | Jan. 19 | Walker, Barb |
| Nov. 13 | Long, Larry E | Jan. 23 | Schindler, Becky |
| Nov. 14 | Kim Spiess | Jan. 24 | Neuenschwander, Charlene * |
| Nov. 15 | Ritchey, Gary | Jan. 24 | Schwiebert, Pamela |
| Nov. 20 | Krugh, Susan * | Jan. 26 | Behnfeldt, Peg * |
| Nov. 22 | Hetrick, Lee * | Jan. 31 | Hesterman, Phyllis |
| Nov. 22 | Jones, Marlene | Feb. 06 | Hill, Patricia |
| Nov. 25 | Goertz, Cheri | Feb. 09 | Hoover, Nancy |
| Nov. 27 | Barlow, Linda | Feb. 12 | Hockman, Jan * |
| Dec. 05 | Redd, Betsy | Feb. 12 | Rohrs, Teresa L |
| Dec. 08 | Aschemeier, Joseph | Feb. 15 | Curtis, Beverly |
| Dec. 09 | Fetterman, Patricia | Feb. 15 | Feehan, Deb |
| Dec. 13 | Seagrave, Stephen | Feb. 15 | Honemann, Sandra R |
| Dec. 13 | Shrider, Charlotte Anne | Feb. 15 | Mohr, Sue A * |
| Dec. 19 | Tietje, Lynette Kay | Feb. 17 | Buehrer, Donna L |
| Dec. 20 | Sasaki, Bonnie | Feb. 18 | Hall, LeAnn |
| Dec. 21 | Conklin, Becky | Feb. 18 | Northcutt, Heather S * |
| Dec. 24 | Rausch, Anne | Feb. 23 | Anderson, Morten * |
| Dec. 30 | Griffith, Charles E | Feb. 23 | Benedict, Joyce E * |
| Jan. 06 | Snider, Jim * | Feb. 23 | Hurst, Faith |
| Jan. 09 | Vocke, Lawrence | Feb. 23 | Kern, Thomas |
| Jan. 10 | Stein, Karen | Feb. 28 | Zachrich Dolores * |
| Jan. 10 | Titgemeyer, Dora W | | |



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/>

HCRTA Web Site

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

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Since we are not doing a physical meeting, we will need to do the election of officers for 2021 by mail and email. The current officers have all agreed to continue one more year due to the pandemic and meetings situation. Below is the slate of officers.

PRESIDENT – Charlotte Shrider, VICE PRESIDENT – Bev Wittes, SECRETARY – Pam Schwiebert, ASST. SECRETARY – Diane Meyer, TREASURER – Duane Ressler, ASST. TREASURER – Gregg Merrill

TO VOTE BY MAIL OR EMAIL – Send an email to Charlotte OR cut out and send this boxed text to her via regular mail.

____ I vote “yes” to re-elect the entire slate of officers.

____ I vote “yes” to re-elect the slate of officers except for _____.

____ I vote “no” to re-elect the slate of officers.

Charlotte Shrider: cshrider1@roadrunner.com

Or mail it to her home at 735 Sheffield, Napoleon, Ohio 43545

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