

# 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 27, Issue 3

July 2021

## 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 12, 2021

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday July 12th 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. Chief Dave Mack and Officer Rob Lipscomb of the Napoleon Police Department will introduce us to the newest member of the force, canine Luke.

MENU - BBQ beef and pork sandwiches, potato salad, pasta salad, baked beans, veggie tray, jello salad, and pound cake with fruit, 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 5th or contact her directly if you cannot reach your caller. 419-599-1356.

## Hosts/Hostesses

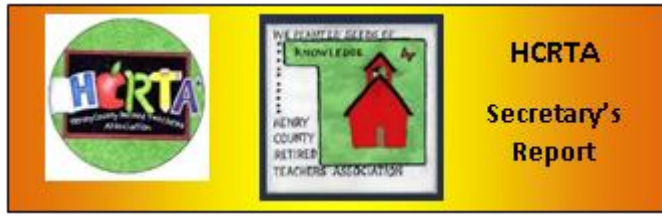
The hosts/hostesses bring a centerpiece for the tables and are responsible for the meal prayer. It can be seasonal or relate to the program topic or it could be a collection or hobby that a member has. Table coverings are provided. Members of the executive board have signed up for most months. We do have a few openings for November and December, so if you would like to help, call Charlotte! If everyone takes a turn it would be great!

## July 12<sup>th</sup> - Meeting Volunteers

Two more setup volunteers are needed for May & July. If you can help, call Charlotte. 419-599-1356

Set Up (Doors unlocked at 4:30pm)		Hostess Committee	
Duane Ressler	Help needed	Charlotte Shrider	Help needed
Help needed	Help needed		

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



## Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – May 10, 2021

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for May 2021 was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Shrider recognized the hostess and setup volunteers for the evening: Bev Wittes, Sandy Honemann, Gregg Merrill and Duane Ressler. She welcomed guest Dave Kleck. Various interesting world records were used to determine table order dismissed to the meal. Sandy Honemann offered the prayer and the meal was enjoyed by all.

Following the meal, Dave Kleck described his lifetime of experiences in the radio industry beginning in 1977 until present. It was fascinating how much has changed and the sport talent that Dave has encountered.

The business meeting resumed.

### Committee Reports:

- Courtesy South and North had concerns for members that had passed.
- Legislative: nothing new was reported.
- Community Service: Thank you to those that reported during last year. Members with highest number of hours were recognized.
- Membership: Nan Bretz reminded members to fill out a slip and inform her of any newly retired teachers.
- Education Foundation: Newly elected Foundation president Chuck Klamer updated members on what had been discussed at the latest meeting. He informed group that several students will receive grants at the July meeting.
- ORTA: Steve Seagrave announced that a forensic audit was presently being conducted of finances at STRS to discover where our money has gone and why COLA has not been reinstated.

### Old Business:

Charlotte reported that officers would remain the same for 2021 and thanked the FIVE members that voted and returned the actual ballot which had been done via newsletter/email since we could not meet.

### New Business:

Gene Grime stated that dictionaries were taken to the school offices for distribution.

Duane Ressler stated that PROJECT WE CARE checks were finally cashed. President Shrider asked

group for a new community giving project. Mary Jane Myrice suggested the Humane Society, President Shrider suggested that for the JULY meeting everyone bring something needed by the society and a community project will be visited again then. Steve Seagrave will include a NEED LIST in the newsletter. Greg Merrill informed members about a new program instituted at Napoleon City Schools. LifeWise Academy is a Bible based Character Building program for K-3. Volunteers of teachers and monitors are needed as well as financial donations.

Prizes for attending were awarded.

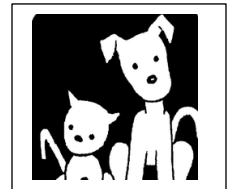
Pam Schwiebert won the 50/50 drawing of \$70.00 Faith Hurst made motion to adjourn. Marlene Jones seconded the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Schwiebert, HCRTA Secretary

### HUMANE SOCIETY ITEMS TO BRING

Reminder – We decided to bring donations for the Henry County Humane Society to the July meeting. Here are the things that they need.



paper towels	bleach	Mr. Clean cleanser
collars, leashes	hand towels	Dawn dish soap
wash cloths	baby food: beef, chicken, or turkey	
32- or 39-gallon trash bags	disposable gloves	
Arm & Hammer laundry detergent		
newspaper (without adds)		

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

I hope your summer is going well. I just back from a week in Branson and you would never know we have had a pandemic. No masks, and shows were full capacity. A highlight of the week was the show Jesus at the Sight and Sound Theater. It was unbelievable. You felt like you were right there on the Sea of Galilee. I highly recommend it! Things seem different at the Shrider house now. Our grandson who has lived with us for 19 months has joined the Navy and is now at boot camp. We are very proud of him but we miss his humor and his knowledge on all things technical! Plus now I am the sole caregiver for a bearded dragon and another lizard that I don't even know what breed he is! Keeps life interesting. I hope your life is interesting in other ways!

**ORTA – COLA AND YOU**

You may recall that ORTA hired a company to do a Forensic Audit of the finances and management at STRS.

The Forensic Audit of STRS has been published and is dynamite. We could have had our COLA for years except for (1) the incompetence of the elected board members or their lack of interest in doing their oversight job, (2) the lack of transparency of the STRS management team in providing information required by state and federal law, (3) the failure to implement the 2006 state mandated audit changes, and (4) sweetheart relationships between STRS staff and the actual fund management companies. BILLIONS have been squandered and lost over the years.

Go to the ORTA web site and download and read the audit. Watch the web site for more information.

<https://www.orta.org/>

**ORTA - ADVOCACY**

Are you on Facebook? If you're looking for an additional place to get the latest on the fight for COLA, pension advocacy and more, please join us in getting involved with the Facebook group page [Ohio STRS Members Only Forum](#). In this special group, retirees have a great way to share comments, news and posts about our current retirement system and how to best advocate for our COLA and more. With over 9,000 educators, it's a constantly

growing group. ORTA is active within this page, sharing all relevant information that promotes our advocacy mission.

**NOTE OF CHEER**

If anyone knows of a member who needs a “note of cheer” due to illness, struggles, or loss please contact our cheer coordinators. Sandy Honemann (419-274-7194) handles members south of the river and Marlene Jones (419-533-4788) handles those north of the river.

**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](mailto:cshrider1@roadrunner.com).

**2021 DIRECTORY**

In March we emailed the directory to everyone who has given us an email address. We had asked everyone to check their contact information and notify us of any changes in address, phone, email, etc. The final version has been printed and will be available at the July meeting since I forgot the stack at home for the May meeting...go figure.

<b>HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION</b>				
	<b>Duane Ressler, Treasurer</b>	<b>Gregg Merrill, Asst. Treas.</b>	<b>June 2021</b>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Ck #/payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Apr. 13		<b>starting balance</b>		<b>\$3,801.95</b>
May 2	Deposit	interest @ 0.02%	\$0.07	\$3,802.02
May10	CK# 1368 AKA Designs	Meals	(\$517.00)	\$3,285.02
	CK# 1369 C. Shrider	Postage/newsletters	(\$33.00)	\$3,252.02
	CK# 1370 City of Napoleon	Rental of Oberhaus Park	(90.00)	\$3,162.02
May 11	Deposit	Meals \$571; 50/50 \$75	\$646.00	\$3,808.02
	Deposit	Interest @0.02%	\$0.07	\$3,808.09
		<b>Balance =</b>		<b>\$3,808.09</b>
	CD Balance as of Jan. 4, 2021	Henry County Bank		\$1,351.22
Apr. 4		Interest earned	\$3.24	\$1,354.46
		<b>New Balance =</b>		<b>\$1,354.46</b>
June 18		<b>BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS =</b>		<b>\$5,162.55</b>

## LifeWise Academy

At our May meeting we heard about the LifeWise Academy which is getting started in our area for children attending local schools. LifeWise Academy is a **Released Time Religious Instruction** program. It is a division of Stand for Truth, a nonprofit Christian ministry with the vision to reach unchurched public-school students with the Gospel. Under RTRI laws, students can be released from public school during the school day to attend religious classes, provided the program is: 1) off school property, 2) privately funded, and 3) parent permitted. Studies show 8 in 10 American youth do not attend church. This is an opportunity to reach these children in our community. The curriculum is Bible-based, character-focused and focused on the central messages of the Bible. The finer points of religious doctrine are avoided. The curriculum is focused on the most foundational themes that speak to the issues common to all people. Holgate, Liberty Center, Napoleon, and Defiance are planning on having LifeWise Academy this fall. To view a video on LifeWise Academy go to their web site at <https://www.lifewiseacademy.org/>

All the groups in Henry County need support – volunteers as well as funds. Monetary donations can be one-time gifts for startup expenses and monthly gifts to run the program for the year. To donate...

<https://standfortruth.force.com/donations/s/new-lifewise-donation>

When you get to the donation page, click the “Fund 1” drop down menu and scroll down to Ohio Henry County and select the school. “OH-Henry-Napoleon Area City” or “OH-Henry-Liberty Center Local” or OH-Henry-Holgate”

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

Martha Alsbaugh, 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

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.*



Dave Kleck, the Voice of Sports/News at WNDH Radio shared experiences from over the years.





**DONATION OPPORTUNITY**

We would like to give those of you that can't attend meetings the chance to contribute to our chapter's causes. The last two years we supported *Project We Care*. Before that it was *Pillars of Success*. At the May meeting we started the process of previewing other worthy causes to support. One of our members told us about *LifeWise* and information about it is included in this newsletter. Others will be discussed before a decision is made. Members who do attend regularly might also want to consider writing a check to simplify things and to have a record of your giving. Thanks for considering these worthwhile projects!

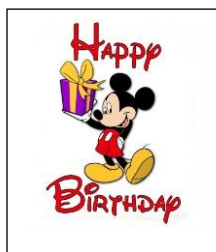
Enclosed is a check for my donation to support this cause.

\$\_\_\_\_\_ to be donated to \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Birthday List** – In the last newsletter I included the May to July 8 member birthdays. So this newsletter will include to September for those who like to send birthday wishes.

July 03	Ressler, Duane M	Aug. 07	Krugh, W. Tennyson *
July 04	Lytle, William D	Aug. 10	Schall, Nancy A *
July 04	Stevens, Treva M	Aug. 11	Shepard, Jan
July 04	Zachrich, Lawrence	Aug. 12	Alsbaugh, Jane *
July 08	Schubert, Dale	Aug. 13	Agler, Carol
July 14	Wesche, Mary Kay *	Aug. 13	Baldwin, Nancy
July 16	Klamer, Linda	Aug. 19	Meyer, Diane
July 17	Gerken, Kae	Aug. 19	Meyer, James
July 19	Schink, Nancy C	Aug. 21	Krueger, Marlyn
July 24	Ashenfelter, Rosalie A	Aug. 21	Rosebrook, Judy
July 25	Buchhop, Diane	Aug. 24	Denny, Gerry L *
July 27	Plassman, Carolyn J	Sep. 04	Schroeder, Jack
July 28	Babcock, Sally *	Sep. 06	Wade, Mary Ann Wade
July 31	Conrad, David L	Sep. 08	Weaver, Sally J
Aug. 01	Osborn, Jerri	Sep. 10	Wittes, Beverly Ann
Aug. 02	Joseph, Mary H	Sep. 15	Helberg, Kathryn J
Aug. 02	Johnson, Lucinda	Sep. 20	Hibbard, Jane
Aug. 06	Myrice, Mary Jane	Sep. 20	Merrill, Gregg



**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/>



**Charlotte awards goodies to members!**

**HCRTA Web Site**

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

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

## 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