

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 28, Issue 4

September 2022

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 – September 12, 2022

The next meeting of HCRTA will be Monday, September 12th at 5:30pm. As usual the meeting will be held at Oberhaus Park in Napoleon.

PROGRAM – We will have a presentation on LifeWise Academy, a program currently in place in Holgate, Liberty Center and Napoleon schools. Children are released from school for a short time during the day to spend time in classes promoting Christian values.

MENU— Broasted chicken, baked potato, green beans, tossed salad, and dessert. Bottled water will be provided with packets for different flavorings.

CATERING – Just a reminder that our old caterer was unable to continue due to health issues. We do now have a new caterer...Hills Restaurant. Unfortunately, the cost will be \$2 more. It has been a number of years since costs increased so we likely would have had an increase even if our old caterer had continued.

Meal Reservations



Meal costs are \$15.00 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 \$15.00 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 September 5th or contact her directly if you cannot reach your caller. 419-599-1356.

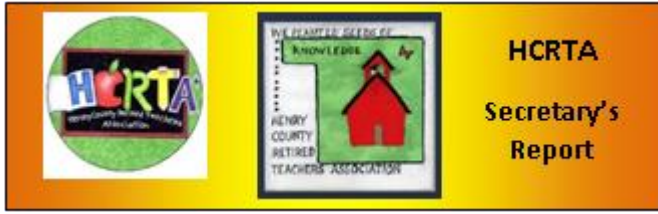
Hosts/Hostesses

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 some of the months. If you would like to volunteer, call Charlotte! If everyone takes a turn it would be great!

September 12th - Meeting Volunteers

More setup volunteers are needed for other meetings. If you can help, call Charlotte. 419-599-1356

Set Up (Doors unlocked at 4:30pm)		Hostess Committee	
Charlie Meyer	Help Needed	Bev Wittes	
Volunteers are needed after the meeting to put away tables and chairs.			



Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – July 11, 2022

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for July 11, 2022, was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Shrider gave a big thank you to the setup volunteers. Amount grain grown in different Agricultural states was used to dismiss the tables for dinner.

Following the POTLUCK meal, Patty Hill introduced the Book Grant Scholarship winners.

Griffith Family Book Grant: Miranda Bachman and Callie Seedorf.

Karen Brubaker Book Grant: Emma Burkey

King Book Grant: Alyssa Jackson

Lucille and Margaret Sherman Book Grant: Max Weaver

Kaelyn Kinnan, Miss Agriculture USA, was the speaker for the evening. She told about her life growing up in 4-H and she shared her experience being Miss Agriculture USA traveling around the states teaching and promoting the life lessons she learned as a business owner raising pigs.

Following the presentation President Shrider called the meeting to order.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

Community Service: Tom Jenny, Bev Wittes, and Phyllis Hesterman were recognized with the most reported volunteer hours.

Membership: Nan Bretz reported that she sent out invitations to eleven retirees.

Old Business:

Lifewise Academy: Greg Merrill reported that Lifewise participants were excited to receive Bibles and more grades will be added this coming school year.

Membership Committee: President Shrider asked for members to consider volunteering to be on the

membership committee, the goal being to have a volunteer from each school community.

Catering: Hills Restaurant has agreed to cater the September meeting.

New Business:

ORTA: Charlotte Shrider and Bev Wittes will attend the ORTA Regional Meeting on October 12, at the Doubletree in Worthington.

September Meeting: Ben Hartford from LIFEWISE will be the speaker.

50/50 drawing: \$33.00 was won.

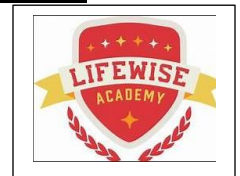
Dick Baldwin made motion to adjourn with Rosemary Pfau seconding the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Schwiebert
Secretary

LIFEWISE ACADEMY

For 2022 this is the project we voted to support. Local communities are working towards spreading God's Word to our youth by starting the LifeWise program. This is a program where school children are released from class during the school day to attend Christian instruction off campus. The local programs began in the fall of 2021.



Below is a link to a video that explains the program and how it works. If you itemize your taxes, this is a 501c3 so a check written to LifeWise would be a way to document this tax deduction.

<https://youtu.be/-xz5IKZtwMA>

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.

From the President's Pen – Charlotte Shrider

Bev Wittes and I attended the regional meeting in Findlay on August 8th. It was enlightening to hear from the other chapters and their concerns and ideas. I will highlight some of the items at our meeting. I will say Bev and I felt good about our chapter after hearing from some of the others!

I will be asking for volunteers to be on the nominating committee as the new slate of officers needs to be brought to the November meeting. Also be thinking of how you could serve our chapter as an officer for this next year. After 7 years, you will be electing a new President. We need to continue to be a vital organization, so it takes people to step up. Will it be you?

I hope to see many of you at our meeting on the 12th!

Charlotte

DIRECTORY UPDATES

If your address, phone, or email changes please be sure to notify our membership chairperson, Nan Bretz, and the newsletter editor, Steve Seagrave so we can be sure the directory gets updated, and you get association meeting and program information.

STRS UPDATE – Steve Seagrave

All three candidates backed by ORTA and the reform groups were elected to the STRS Board and take office September 1st. At that point, the “reform” members of the board will be Rudy Fichtenbaum, Wade Steen, Elizabeth Jones, Steven Foreman and Julie Sellers.



HOWEVER, if you have been following the actions of the STRS Board since the election, it would appear that there is little interest in addressing the issues that caused active and retired teachers to overwhelmingly reject the sitting board members efforts to be re-elected.

At the June board meeting they voted raises for staff, increases in bonuses, and a 27th paycheck for employees. At the August meeting they voted huge raises and bonuses for the investment staff in spite of a loss of \$3 BILLION in the last 11 months.

When the new board members take their seats in September, the reformers will still be in the minority. We will need to stay active with ORTA and the main reform groups (STRS Members Only FB group and STRS Ohio Watchdogs FB group). It may be

necessary for us to organize for NEXT May's election to push for more reform candidates.

FINALLY, if you are not yet an ORTA member, please join. That is the best way to keep informed.

GET INVOLVED!

- WRITE TO STRS
- CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATOR
- CONTACT YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

50/50 RAFFLE

Remember to bring some extra cash for our usual 50/50 raffle. The profit all goes to our general fund which is used to cover the rental of our meeting place.



Since the last newsletter, the Henry County Retired Teachers Foundation received a donation in memory of Dolores Zachrich from Carol Agler.

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

REPORT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS

If you were NOT at the July meeting and have not already done so, please add up your volunteer hours since May 1st 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 to 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)

HENRY COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION				
	Gregg Merrill, Treasurer	Duane Ressler, Asst. Treas.	July 30, 2022	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Ck #/payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
June 1		starting balance		\$3,862.19
July 11	CK# 1392 City of Napoleon	Oberhaus Rental	(\$90.00)	\$3,772.19
July 15	Deposit	50/50 Drawing	\$55.00	\$3,827.19
July 15	Deposit	Foundation Paid Rental Fee	\$90.00	\$3,917.19
July 15	Deposit	Lifewise Donations	\$105.00	\$4,022.19
July 30	Deposit	Interest	\$0.19	\$4,022.38
		Balance =		\$4,022.38
	CD Balance as of July 30	Henry County Bank (Interest)	\$3.31	\$1,371.71
July 30		BALANCE ALL ACCOUNTS =		\$5,394.09

FOUNDATION MEETING – The next meeting will be September 13th at 10:00am at Patty Hill’s home. The grants chairperson is a nonvoting member appointed by the president for one-year terms. The bylaws do allow the Foundation Board to appoint officers, as needed, who are not elected members of the board. Gene and Steve are serving in that capacity. Gregg will be going off the board so we will need to elect a new member in December.

Name	Position	Year Term Ends
Becky Chamberlin	Agent	N/A
Gene Grime	Treasurer	N/A
Steve Seagrave	Secretary	N/A
Terry Witt	Grants Chairperson	2022
Gregg Merrill	Member	2022
Jamie Bostelman	Member	2023
Patty Hill	President	2024
Janet Aschemeier	Member	2024
Karen Maassel	Vice President	2025
Kirk Fruth	Member	2026
Larry Zachrich	Member	2026



Foundation President Patty Hill with (L-R) Max Weaver, Alyssa Jackson, Callie Seedorf, and Miranda Bachman.



Foundation President Patty Hill with Emma Burkey.

Send a Friend a Note of Good Cheer!

Margaret Mueller, 225 S Damascus St, Liberty Center OH 43532
 Robert C. Baker c/o West Chester Assisted Living & Memory Care Center, 6267 Glen Hollow
 Township, OH 45011
If you know of updates needed to this list, contact Sandy Honemann or Marlene Jones.



DONATION OPPORTUNITY

We would like to give those of you that can't attend meetings the chance to contribute to our chapter's causes. At the December meeting we decided to support the **LifeWise Academy**. 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 this worthwhile project!

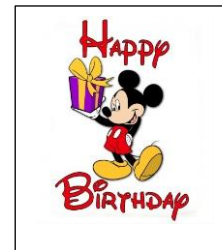
Enclosed is a check for my donation to support this cause.

\$ _____ to be donated to _____

Gregg Merrill
 HCRTA Treasurer
 1500 Thershan Drive
 Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Birthday List – Here is the list for those who like to send birthday wishes.

Sep. 04	Schroeder, Jack	Oct. 23	Phillips, Bev
Sep. 06	Wade, Mary Ann Wade	Oct. 24	Roby, Susan D
Sep. 08	Weaver, Sally J	Oct. 24	Short, Delores
Sep. 10	Wittes, Beverly Ann	Oct. 27	Aschemeier, Janet
Sep. 15	Helberg, Kathryn J	Nov. 05	Bostelman, Jamie
Sep. 20	Hibbard, Jane	Nov. 05	Krauskopf, Linda *
Sep. 20	Merrill, Gregg	Nov. 07	Jameson, Colleen A
Sep. 24	Meyer, Konnie *	Nov. 09	Shinn, Delbert P *
Sep. 24	Pfau, Rosemary G	Nov. 10	George, James
Sep. 25	Church, Fred *	Nov. 13	Long, Larry E
Oct. 02	Gill, Linda L	Nov. 14	Kim Spiess
Oct. 06	Gramling, Vicki	Nov. 15	Ritchey, Gary
Oct. 07	Rettig Janice J	Nov. 20	Krugh, Susan *
Oct. 16	Mengerink, Richard	Nov. 22	Hetrick, Lee *
Oct. 18	Burson, Susan L	Nov. 22	Jones, Marlene
Oct. 20	Jenny, Tom R	Nov. 25	Goertz, Cheri
Oct. 22	Schlosser, Bruce E	Nov. 27	Barlow, Linda



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/>

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, 192 Old Creek Drive, Napoleon, OH 43545.

Make checks payable to “**Henry Co. Retired Teachers Foundation**”.

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