

Secretary's Report
Henry County Retired Teachers Association
March 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Charlie Meyer with the ringing of a school bell. Members rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and guests Tonya Gomez and Amy Good from the Fulton County Health Center were greeted.

Following a prayer offered by Larry Siclair, a meal of Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Rolls and Brownie Dessert was enjoyed by all.

Preceding the opening of business, a moment of silence was devoted to members who passed away during the last year. Those honored were Betty Miller, Margaret Austermilller and Jack Slagle.

Jerri Osborn then gave a report from the Henry County Retired Teachers Foundation. The members met on February 27, 2014. Steve Seagrave was welcomed as a new member of the board. A report from the Foundation and an updated history of recipients may be found in the March newsletter. It was reported that audits of the Foundation are to take place every two years, with one scheduled for 2014. Handouts are available for the scholarships and will be sent online to HCRTA members. All members are asked to think of possible candidates for the scholarships and to encourage them to submit applications for the appropriate scholarships by the due dates of April 1 and June 1 respectively.

President Meyer then recognized Bob and Mary Joseph for their years of service to HCRTA, collecting monies for lunches and chairing the phone tree. Thanks for a job well done! Steve Seagrave will assume the duty of collecting monies and Anne Rausch will take over the phone tree. It was also mentioned that Bob has recently had hip surgery and all wish him a speedy recovery.

Members were then recognized for perfect attendance in 2013. Those awarded were: Charlene Freppel, Ruth Johnson, Mary Lou Mengerick, Dick Mengerick, Jerri Osborn, Bev Phillips, Doris Ruby, Nancy Schink, Louisa Strock and Dora Titgemeyer.

The Secretary's Report was in the newsletter. Additions were Larry Vocke, assuming the duties of Information Services and Max Fetterman, leaving the Board of the Henry County Teachers Foundation. The minutes were approved as amended with a motion by Rosemary Pfau, seconded by Becky Shindler.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Duane Ressler. An audit conducted by Bob Joseph found everything in good order. It was noted that monies from the 50-50 drawings help to defray expenses, so all are encouraged to participate. It was also noted that members making reservations for meals who are then unable to attend are sent letters notifying them of the obligation to pay that cost, as the group can not make up those expenses. The 50-50 drawing was then held, with Linda Wagner the lucky winner.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy South: Sandy Honemann reported sending “thinking of you” cards to several members. It was also mentioned at this time that Don Freeman is in the Lutheran Home in Napoleon.

Legislative: Becky Schindler reported that STRS returns are in better condition at last update. Other issues currently in the legislative news include reports on WEP-GPO, talk of mandatory social security, and the issue of double dipping. Becky noted an upcoming conference in Zanesville. Members were also asked to sign a petition concerned with the cost of oral chemo.

Membership: Janice Rettig asked members to let her know the names, addresses and emails of prospective new members. This is the time of year for retirement announcements, so keep an eye out.

Webmaster: Karen Brubaker reminded members that forms for the book grants are on the site as PDF files that may be downloaded. She added that messages to the HCRTA leadership may be sent to the website and she will forward them. She also encouraged members to use the site as a recruitment tool, as the pictures, schedules and program notes on the site may entice new members to join.

Historian: Faith Hurst reported receiving several clipped articles today and encouraged members to continue to submit them to her.

Newsletter: Charlie Griffith reported a bountiful amount of information led to a full ten pages in the latest issue. He thanked all of the contributors and reminded all to continue to submit articles as soon as possible. He is also looking for someone to take over the duties of compiling the HCRTA Directory, so anyone interested should contact him.

Old Business:

Thanks were given for the support of the group for the “Together We Can Make a Difference” project. We will continue to gather supplies for the effort this year. Items for each month are as follows:

- May cash donation for diapers
- July razors or cash donation
- Sept. toilet paper or cash donation
- Nov. tooth paste or cash donation
- Dec. cash donation

The caterer for the year will be Anita and Vince Frodi, Expressions Catering. Meals will be \$10.00. Any suggestions for the caterer should be given to President Meyer. All meals will precede the business meetings this year.

New Business:

President Meyer informed members of a travel opportunity through Northwest State. The experience, **Five Stars and a Galaxy**, will be April 27-May 1, and includes such sights as the Baseball Hall of Fame, the Colonial Capital in Albany, Home of FDR in Springfield, West Point Academy, a restored coal mine in Lackawanna, Pa., and following the Mohawk Trail. Cost is \$999.00, and members wishing further information may contact Louisa Strock.

There will again be a flower sale in May, thanks to Bonnie Eddy. Profits of the sale will benefit Together We Can Make A Difference.

President Meyer announced that the ORTA Conference will be held in Columbus at the Ohio History Center on April 8, 2014. Registration is due March 17 and our Chapter may send up to four persons, so anyone interested should let President Meyer know. Carol Wolfe, District President from Bryan, will serve on a “panel of peers” at the conference.

An article from the newspaper was shared concerning the Black Cloister Brewery. We will be hearing about this new venture from Bob Hall at the July meeting.

President Meyer also cautioned members to be aware of scams continuing to circulate over the phone. He had personally received such a call recently, so continue to be vigilant when answering any such calls.

Following the close of the business meeting, Dietitian Tonya Gomez from the Fulton County Health Center gave a very informative talk on the nutritional needs of mature persons. She discussed problems that we face as the body ages and how the impact of these issues may be lessened with proper diet, exercise and lifestyle changes. Handouts were provided with suggestions for making healthy choices.

Respectfully Submitted
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary