

Henry County Retired Teachers' Association  
Meeting Minutes  
July 14, 2014

President Charlie Meyer opened the July meeting of the HCRTA with a welcome to members and several guests. President Meyer introduced guests Becca Pfister and her father Neil Pfister, Robert McMahon and his parents Daniel and Shannon McMahon and Allison Lamming and her parents Mike and Kathy Lamming. The three students are this year's recipients of HCRTA Book Grants. President Meyer also introduced Bob Hall, guest speaker for the evening. President Meyer then offered the table blessing before the evening meal.

Following the meal, the business meeting was called to order. The secretary's report and treasurer's report were given and approved as presented.

**Committee Reports:**

Courtesy South: Sandy Honemann reported sending Fourth of July cards to members.

Courtesy North: Marlene Jones reported sending cards to Nancy Haldy and Lee Hetrick.

Information Services: Larry Vocke advised the group to be cautious when making travel plans with online travel sites. Hidden charges may be included in packages that seem inexpensive at first glance, but are not, so be sure to check carefully when making travel plans.

Legislative: Becky Schindler reported to the group that a 2% COLA should be received on your anniversary date and that some members reported having received theirs already.

Membership: Janice Rettig reported sending out twelve invitations for membership, with four more planned. One potential new member, Dan Baer, was present this evening.

Retirement Planning: Gregg Merrill reported that information is being gathered to be given to educators who may be on the fence about the retirement decision, so that they may make an informed choice about this important life decision.

Webmaster: Karen Brubaker reminded members to send photos to her as a jpg file and she would be able to post them on the website.

Historian: Faith Hurst reported receiving news clippings from Doris Ruby and encouraged all members to continue to watch for articles to submit for the historical records.

**Old Business:**

HCRT Foundation - A planned fundraiser for the HCRT Foundation is still in the works, with Gene Grime in contact with McDonald's to arrange details. Members would volunteer to bus tables at the restaurant to raise funds. A change in management has delayed the project until possibly September or October.

Together We Can Make A Difference - The Together We Can Make A Difference project continues to be a success. In May, donations totaled \$196.00 for diapers, with total donations for all items thus far this year totaling \$338.00 in cash and items. Razors and/or cash were accepted at today's meeting and in September the featured item will be toilet paper and/or cash donations.

New Business:

Book Grants - Becky Chamberlin introduced each of the Book Grant Recipients, and they told a little about themselves and their plans for the future. Becca Pfister, Sherman Book Grant recipient, will be a junior this coming year, majoring in early childhood inclusive special education and regular education. Robert McMahon will be a senior and received the King Book Grant. He plans on a career as a middle school band instructor. Allison Lamming, Griffith Book Grant recipient, plans on a career in math and science education. All were appreciative of the honor of the awards and the financial support of their education careers.

Nominations - President Meyer announced the Nominations Committee for new officers for 2015. They are Gene Grime, Chair, Gregg Merrill and Bonnie Eddy.

A letter of appreciation for the HCRTA's support of the third grade dictionary project was read. Many students in our area have benefited from this very worthwhile project over the years. President Meyer encouraged members to become personally involved in taking the dictionaries to the classrooms to see firsthand the positive reactions of the students as they receive their books.

Several birthdays were accidentally omitted from the newsletter posting this month. A list of corrected birthdays was available to members if they wanted.

The 50/50 drawing was held, with Larry Vocke as the winner. He generously donated his winnings back to the fund.

The business meeting was then adjourned and Vice President Nancy Hoover introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Bob Hall. He spoke to the group about his involvement with a new business venture, Black Cloister Brewery, to be located in Toledo. Bob has been home brewing beer for about 40 years. He gave an interesting history of brewing and told the group about the business plans for the new company and how he had become interested in being involved with them. Bob has also been in charge of the beer and wine competition at the Henry County Fair and told the group that last year 100 wine and 40 beer entries were judged at the Fair.

The next meeting of the HCRTA will be September 8, 2014, at 5:30 P.M. The program will be First Families of Henry County.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary