

Secretary's Minutes
Henry County Retired Teachers' Association
September 8, 2014

The September meeting of the Henry County Retired Teachers' Association was called to order by President Charlie Meyer with the ringing of a school bell. Members rose to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Welcomes were extended to visitor Jane Helberg and the speaker for the evening, Jim Rebar. New members Dan Baer and Kevin Milius were recognized.

The group then honored with a moment of silence three members who passed away since the last meeting: Jim Keefer, Karen Brubaker and Bob Snyder. These members will be greatly missed.

Larry Siclair then offered the blessing and a meal of turkey, dressing, mixed vegetables, and brownie dessert was enjoyed.

After dinner, the business meeting was called to order by President Meyer. The Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report were posted in the newsletter and both were approved as printed, with no additions or corrections noted. Treasurer Duane Ressler asked members to check with him concerning payment of annual dues.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy North: Marlene Jones reported sending a get well card to Shirley Williams, a sympathy card to the family of Karen Brubaker and a congratulations card to Cheri Atkinson Goertz upon her recent marriage.

Legislative: Becky Schindler reminded members to register to vote. She also reported that regional meetings were to take place soon in the area.

Membership: Janice Rettig welcomed the new members present this evening. An address clarification was given for potential new member Larry Rohrs.

Community Services: Tom Jenny reminded members to sign the slips on the tables for service hours. The number of members recording hours has been low of late and all are encouraged to report if they have volunteered, as there certainly have been more hours given than were reported.

Historian: Faith Hurst brought several volumes of Historical Records for members to view. She has done a superb job in collecting and assembling articles and pictures for the records. We need more time to look at the books and appreciate all of the work that goes into them!

HCRT Foundation: Jerri Osborn thanked the group for their hospitality to the Scholarship winners and their parents in attendance at the last meeting. She reported that the Foundation members will be meeting soon and requested that they contact her with available dates to meet.

Old Business:

The Together We Can Make a Difference project continues to be a success. Tonight's collection was toilet paper and/or cash. At the next meeting it will be toothpaste/cash donations. Total contributions to date are \$473.50.

Gene Grime reported on the possible fundraiser project with McDonald's. He contacted the new manager and was told that an internet form needed to be filled out. He has completed that form, but has not received word back, so the project continues to be on hold for the present time.

Gene Grime also asked for volunteers for the dictionary project for this year, and passed around a sheet for members to sign up to present the dictionaries to third grade classes at each school.

New Business:

The Nominations Committee, with Gene Grime as Chair, Bonnie Eddy and Gregg Merrill, members, worked to secure names for a slate of officers for 2015. Gene submitted the following list of names for each office:

Anne Rausch, Ass't Secretary	Bev Wittes, Secretary
Larry Vocke, Ass't Treasurer	Duane Ressler, Treasurer
Nancy Hoover, Vice President	Charlotte Shrider, President

Gene then asked for nominations from the floor for each office. Hearing none, a motion was made by Becky Schindler, seconded by Mary Jane Myrice to close nominations. A motion was then made by Terri Witt, seconded by Ruth Johnson, that the slate of officers be elected. Motion passed. Congratulations to the new officers. They will begin their term of office Jan 1, 2015 and continue until Dec. 31, 2015.

With the passing of Karen Brubaker, the position of Webmaster will need to be filled. President Meyer asked that anyone having the technical skills needed and interest in the position please contact him.

President Meyer then asked for opinions on the catering service for the meetings. A questionnaire will be presented at the next meeting as to whether to continue with the current service or to find another caterer for the new year.

President Meyer also informed the group that applications are available for positions as officers of ORTA. Anyone interested should see him for more information.

A few announcements were then made: Doris Ruby has had back surgery and may appreciate cards. Larry Sasaki will be inducted into the Napoleon Athletic Hall of Fame and received the congratulations of the group. Drawing was then held for the 50/50, with Ruth Johnson the lucky winner.

After the conclusion of the business meeting, Nancy Hoover introduced the speaker for the evening, Jim Rebar, of the Henry County Genealogical Society. Jim informed us that the Henry County group, consisting of approximately 72 members, is a chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. The Society houses its collection of research data at the Deshler Library, as the group had its beginnings in Bartlow Township many years ago. Jim shared information about how to research your family tree and told us about the kinds of data that the Henry County chapter has collected and logged in their files. He talked about what kinds of documents are used in family research and which are the most reliable. He touched briefly on the First Families of Henry County program and how your family could qualify for Gold or Silver status in the program. Persons wanting more details on family research or on the First Families of Henry County program may contact members of the Henry County Genealogical Society or go to their website: www.henrycountyohiogenealogy.org .

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, Secretary HCRTA