

**Henry County Retired Teachers Association  
Secretary's Report  
March 9, 2015**

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for March was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Guest Rob Rettig, speaker for the day, was welcomed. To decide which table would be first for the meal, titles of movies starring Harrison Ford were shown by volunteers from each table. Titles were then arranged into chronological order with help from the group. Tables were then dismissed in the order of the movies. President Shrider gave the blessing and the meal for the day was served.

Following the meal, the business meeting was called to order. The Secretary's report was accepted as written with a motion from Janice Rettig, seconded by Terri Witt. The Treasurer's report was also accepted as presented with a motion from Steve Seagrave, seconded by Becky Schindler. President Shrider did mention two changes that had come about since the minutes were written: The caterer has been changed to Marc Matheny. The Executive Board made this decision due to the fact that Bavarian Catering had instituted a minimum number to be served of 50, with the group required to pay even if reservations did not reach that number. This would have resulted in added expense for the group at many meetings when the reservations did not meet the minimum. The other change is that the July meeting will be a potluck, with funds collected in lieu of meal expenses benefiting the group and a charity.

**Committee Reports:**

President Shrider reported that she had received a letter from Bob Joseph confirming that an audit of the books found everything to be in order.

**Courtesy:** Sandy Honemann reported having cards ready to send to several members for St. Patrick's Day. Marlene Jones reported sending cards to Mary Lou Mengerink, Jackie Sautter and Lucille Meyer. She also sent a card to Don Bright on the occasion of his 85th birthday. They both appreciate help from members to let them know when cards should be sent. President Shrider acknowledged the passing of Jane Apel on Feb. 7, 2015. Condolences will be sent to her family.

**Legislative:** Becky Schindler gave short reports on the Windfall Elimination Act and HB 64, dealing with STEM teachers. She advised the most concern at this time is with health care, with losses in the account a concern for the future. She recommended contacting Rob McColley and Clifford Hite, local representatives, with our concerns for this issue.

**Membership:** Janice Rettig will be turning over the job to Nan Bretz. The chapter thanks Janice for her work in the past few years. Nan will be glad to take names of suggested new members to contact and will continue Janice's practice of watching for names in local board reports.

**Webmaster:** Steve Seagrave reported the site has added more names of past scholarship winners and what they are doing now, all posted on a separate page to make scrolling for the information easier. Anyone having information they wish posted on the site should let him know. It is hoped the directory will soon be on the site as well.

**Historian:** Faith Hurst continues to gather articles about members from local papers and appreciates any and all help from members in saving articles they may see.

**HCRT Foundation:** Jerri Osborn reported the Foundation Board met 6 times since the last general meeting in March. The History of the Foundation was updated to include the Book Grant recipients for 2014: Sherman, Becca Pfister; Griffith, Allison Lamming; King, Robert McMahan. The financial report was submitted by Gene Grime and is in the newsletter. Audits will now be done every other year. Board Members for 2014 were Gene Grime, trea.; Bev Curtis, Faith Hurst, Jerri Osborn, Jan Schlade, Becky Chamberlain (Agent), Doris Ruby, ex-officio, at large, and Steve Seagrave. Terri Witt will join as a 2019 member. Four grants will be available this year with the inclusion of the new Karen Brubaker Book Grant. All four will be for \$1000. The Griffith Grant has a deadline of April 1st, the others on June 1st. Information has been sent to all local media. Handouts were available today for anyone wishing to post them elsewhere or to give to a potential candidate. It was proudly reported that since 1998, 33 book grants have been given totaling nearly \$14,500. Fund-raising efforts will continue to support these book grants. Gene Grime then added some clarification to the spreadsheet information posted in the newsletter.

**Old business:**

President Shrider noted that a discussion on possible changes to the newsletter to save costs would be tabled until the next meeting when Charlie Griffith could be present to lend his expertise to the discussion.

It was announced from the floor that member Barbara Huffman passed away in January.

**New Business:**

President Shrider asked if anyone would be interested in attending the state meeting for ORTA on April 23rd. Charlie Meyer said he would check his schedule to see if he might be able to attend.

President Shrider then mentioned the April 10 Center for Lifelong Learning Seminar on China. Any member interested may seek further information from Northwest State.

She then announced that our next meeting will feature winners of the Henry County Arts Council essay contest. There will also be the annual plant sale, compliments of Bonnie Eddy. The item for Together We Can Make a Difference for that meeting will be toilet paper.

Duane Ressler was the lucky winner of \$19.00 in the fifty/fifty drawing.

The business meeting was then adjourned with a motion from Rosemary Pfau, seconded by Bonnie Eddy.

Kirk Fruth then introduced the speaker for the day, Rob Rettig. Rob is a member of the Napoleon School Board. Before Rob began his remarks, Kirk congratulated him on being named recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Alumni Society of The Ohio State University. Rob began his talk by thanking teachers for what they do every day in the classroom. He stressed that community involvement was his main motivation for being involved with the board. He then fielded questions concerning the building project at Napoleon Schools and other issues concerning the school and his role as a board member.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary