

**Henry County Retired Teachers Association
Secretary's Report
July 9, 2018**

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for July was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Charlotte thanked the hostess and set up volunteers for the evening: Marlene Jones, Becky Schindler, Duane Ressler, Dan Baer, Chuck Klamer, Terry Witt and Karen Maassel. She then welcomed Betsy Eggers, Director and Steve Kryder, Library Foundation Board member, our speakers for the evening from the Napoleon Public Library. Also present as guests for the evening were our 2018 Book Grant winners and members of their families. In keeping with the library theme of the night, tables were dismissed to the meal in order of characters from famous books.

Following a delicious meal of summer picnic style foods, the Book Grant winners were introduced. They were: Chloe Seedorf, daughter of Janet and Mark Seedorf and McKenna Koester, daughter of Larry Koester, both winners of the Griffith Family Book Grant; Anna Murcko, daughter of Jim and Shellee Murcko, winner of the Roger King Music Book Grant; and Michaela Jones, winner of the Lucille and Margaret Sherman Book Grant. Olivia Behm, daughter of Ron and Krista Behm, winner of the Karen Brubaker Book Grant, was unable to attend due to work commitments.

Chloe, a 2018 graduate of Patrick Henry and the granddaughter of Lois Griffith, plans to attend BGSU and major in Early Childhood Education. McKenna, a 2018 graduate of Napoleon High School, also plans to attend BGSU, deciding on a major in Early Childhood Education, with a minor in Special Education.

Anna is presently majoring in Music Education at Youngstown State University. Michaela attends BGSU, where she majors in Early Childhood Education with a 4-5 endorsement. Olivia is presently a junior at BGSU, with her major being Adolescent Young Adult-Integrated Language Arts Education.

We congratulate all these young women on being chosen as 2018 Book Grant recipients and wish them well as they continue the path to their future careers in education!

Betsy Eggers then spoke to the group about the many and varied services provided by the Napoleon Public Library. Beginning its service to the community in 1906, the library first moved from home to home, until a grant was received from Andrew Carnegie to build a permanent building, which was dedicated on July 14, 1913. In 1965, St. Paul's Lutheran School building was purchased and renovated and is the current location of the library.

Services available from the library are wide ranging. The library is an excellent resource for those interested in historical documents, including newspapers on microfilm from as far back as the 1800's, old phone books and yearbooks. There are summer reading programs, staff is available for assistance with technology needs and there is public accessibility to computers and Wi-Fi. There is a Book Buddy program for little children and special library cards for senior citizens. The children's department has recently undergone renovation and other changes are hoped for in the future. These are just a few of the highlights of the many resources and services available through the public library system.

Steve Kryder then touched briefly on the opportunity to contribute to the library and its programs through giving to the Napoleon Public Library Foundation. Brochures were available with more information about the Foundation and its fundraising efforts on behalf of the Library.

The business meeting was then called to order. The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were approved as printed.

Committee Reports:

Courtesy: Marlene Jones reported sending a sympathy card to the family of John Miller. Sympathy also to Dan Baer, who recently lost his mother. Thoughts go out to Sue Meyer, who has bladder cancer and Ruth Johnson, who is continuing treatments for leukemia. Charlie Griffith is also having health concerns, so send good thoughts his way. It was good to see Rosemary Pfau back and President Charlotte reported having had a nice visit recently with Jackie Sautter.

Community Service: Tom Jenny had as usual placed volunteer hour tally sheets at each table. Be sure to record all your volunteer hours each meeting, as retired teachers contribute in many ways to our communities.

Legislative: Becky Schindler shared information about ORTA insurance.

Membership: Nan Bretz had packets available for recruiting new members. Anyone who knows of a recent retiree and/or someone who has been retired and might be interested in joining was urged to take a packet and make a personal contact to invite them to come. One name suggested was Pam Hersha.

New Business: President Charlotte asked if anyone might want to take over the school visitation duties at the historical building located on the Henry County Fairground. Faith Hurst and Chuck Klamer expressed possible interest in helping.

Hostesses for the September meeting will be Karen, Nan and Kim. Volunteers are needed for set up. The speakers will be Matthew and Jennifer Terry, missionaries to Liberia.

Chuck Klamer won the 50/50 drawing and donated it back to the group.

Motion to adjourn was made by Rosemary Pfau, seconded by Joe Aschemeier.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bev Wittes, HCRTA Secretary