

Henry County Retired Teachers Association Secretary's Report – September 12, 2022

The Henry County Retired Teachers Association meeting for September 12, 2022 was called to order by President Charlotte Shrider. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, President Shrider thanked the set up and hostess volunteers. Volunteers to set up for the November meeting and hosts/hostesses are still needed for the December meeting. The order of books from the Bible was used to dismiss the tables for dinner.

Following the meal provided by Hill's Restaurant, Bev Wittes introduced the speakers from Lifewise Academy, teachers Krista Behm and Emily Meyer.

Students from Kindergartener through Fifth grade are granted release time for Bible/Gospel Based Character Education during the school day with parent permission. Students generally do not miss any new studies of their regular classes or their specials. Students go to Lifewise for 45 minutes once a week. Their classes focus on prayer, Bible stories and Bible verses which highlight positive character traits. Teachers have noticed improvements in students' attitudes toward others and willingness to share what they've learned. Currently, they have 53% participation.

Following the presentation President Shrider called the meeting to order.

The Secretary's report was approved as corrected and the Treasurer's report was approved as printed in the newsletter.

Committee Reports:

Community Service: Phyllis Hesterman was recognized as having the most volunteer hours.

Legislative: Steve Seagrave reported that the outgoing STRS representatives voted to gift \$10 million to the investment staff. We will need to continue to be active with the reform groups so we can add another reformer when a STRS board member is voted on in May. Charlotte noted that more information can be found on Facebook under "Ohio STRS Members Only Forum".

Membership: Nan Bretz reported that she sent out many letters of invitation, but only received two new members. Charlotte reported that the ORTA membership list for HCRTA is out of date, and she asked Steve to handle sending ORTA the Excel file of membership.

Webmaster and Newsletter: Steve noted nothing to report on these.

Education Foundation: Patty Hill reported that their next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

Old Business:

Lifewise Academy: Donations were accepted for our monthly project.

Catering: Hill's Restaurant will be our caterer for our next two meetings, November and December.

Regional Meeting: Charlotte Shrider and Bev Witte attended the Regional Meeting in Findlay. Every president in attendance gave a report. It was noted that some associations have a board with no president, and they take turns leading the meetings. Some associations give grants to active teachers for their activities or projects. Some groups are now giving Caldecott and Newberry Award winning books to students instead of dictionaries. Charlotte reported that we have a very active group and admirable membership.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: President Charlotte Shrider appointed the following 3 people to the nominating committee for a new President and Officers: Steve Seagrave, Terri Witte and Kim Spiess.

Charlotte stated that she will continue to do the newsletter, but give up recording reservations and caterer.

ORTA: The 75th Anniversary Celebration will take place on October 12, at the Doubletree in Columbus.

November Meeting: Historical Civil War and Paranormal author and journalist, Don Allison will be the speaker.

50/50 drawing: Kirk Fruth won and donated his winnings to the Lifewise Academy.

Dan Baer made a motion to adjourn with Mary Ann Wade seconding the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Meyer
Asst. Secretary