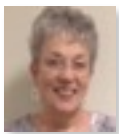




Licking County Retired
Teachers Association

NEWSLETTER

Affiliated with Ohio Retired Teachers Association



*From the Desk of
the President*

Hello everyone,

Wow! This year is flying by quickly. I really missed seeing you at the April meeting. I was asked by ORTA to do a technology breakout session at each of their four Spring Conferences. I enjoyed talking about several aspects of technology, but was disappointed that I wasn't at the LCRTA meeting.

We are already looking forward to next year. Do you have any suggestions for our meetings in 2017? We do appreciate your input. See the last page for a kickstart.

Our members have been generous with their time and money. We won top honors in the state for our total volunteer hours! (see page 6) I send a huge "Thank You" to David for collecting all of our volunteer hours. Our members have donated monies for both the pantry project and our scholarship. Our 2015 donations contributed at meetings - St. Vincent de Paul \$300 Scholarship almost \$700 Animal Pound - \$63 Baby Pantry \$53. In addition, a number of members donated scholarship money when they sent in their dues. We are blessed.

I am working with a wonderful group of dedicated people. With each Executive Board meeting, email conversation or telephone conversation, I get immediate help for the task at hand. That is the main reason that I decided to remain as president of LCRTA for two more years. I love them all. Special thanks to **Janet Simross**, who worked tirelessly to line up our speakers. I regret that Janet has decided to leave the post as Vice-President. **Linda Leffel** has been and will remain a wonderful secretary. Her minutes have been meticulously completed. Debra Shelly, our treasurer kept us well informed about our monies and suggested ways to save LCRTA expenses. She will remain as our treasurer. **David Greene** has been invaluable as Community Services Chair and has volunteered to do many odd jobs. David will remain. **Judy Pflaumer** is our Informative and Protective Services Chair. In addition to providing you with wonderful information, she too, has volunteered to help beyond her committee. She is our "unofficial" driver when we go to conferences. She will remain. **Mary Ellinger** and **Mary Kaschak** are a wonderful duo. They handle the huge, and I mean huge, job related to membership. They will remain. **Mary Ellinger, Sharon Koppert, and Carolyn Myers** worked on the Scholarship Committee. Wow! Such a great job they have done. Unfortunately we will lose Carolyn. A huge spoke in our wheel is the luncheon reservations. **Jean McCallin** works many hours making sure your reservations are correct. **Sandy Turco** helps at the luncheons by checking you in. A great duo and both will remain! I want to recognize **Elizabeth Troyer** who, for years, sent our inspirational cards to those in need. Unfortunately, Elizabeth is no longer able to attend our meetings. She will be missed. Linda Leffel will take over that job. Every December, **Karen Wolford** has led the Memorial Service for our deceased members. It was always a beautiful event. Unfortunately, Karen has decided to step aside. We will miss her.

Thank you, one and all, Eileen

LCRTA LEADERSHIP TEAM

JOIN US! We meet the Monday before each luncheon, 2 pm at the main library in Newark.

President - Eileen McNally

Vice-president - Janet Simross

Secretary - Linda Leffel

Treasurer - Debra Shelly

Ad Hoc Committees

Auditing - Karen Birtcher & Sandy Stoker

In Memorium - Karen Wolford

Luncheon Reservations & Data - Jean McCallin

Luncheon Desk - Sandy Turco & Jean McCallin

Scholarship - Carolyn Myers, Mary Ellinger,
& Carolyn Myers

Web Master & Newsletter Editor - Eileen McNally

Standing Committees Chairs

Community Services - David Green

Informative & Protective - Judy Pflaumer

Legislative -

Membership - Mary Ellinger & Mary Kaschak

Public Relations -

Pre-retirement Planning - Eileen McNally



Contact anyone on the leadership team.

Email them at webmaster2535@twc.com



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Membership & Scholarship - By Mary Ellinger
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Membership

Our membership stands at 197. Thank you everyone! Also a big thank you to all who contributed to our scholarship fund when sending in your 2016 dues. \$535 was added to the Fran Alspach fund in this way!

Scholarship

This year we decided to award the Fran Alspach scholarship to Leyna Varney from Northridge High School. She will be attending Brigham Young University with a major in elementary education.

This was the first year for us to award the Sherry Staugh scholarship. The following people were recipients of this award: Ryne Byers from Lakewood who will attend Ohio University and major in music education; Jessie Hicks from Licking Heights who will attend Miami University and plans to be a high school English teacher; Jayden Johnson from Watkins Memorial who will attend Ohio University and study secondary Language Arts education; and McKenna Smith from Granville who is heading for Furman University to prepare for early Childhood education.

We interviewed many outstanding high school seniors and were very impressed with the talent and character of these young people. We wish them well!

• • • • •
 • REMINDER: If you make a luncheon reservation, and find that you cannot attend, •
 • you must cancel at least two (2) days prior to the event. If you do not cancel, you •
 • will be charged for the lunch. •
 • • • • •

LCRTA Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 9th, 2015, Central
Christian Church



Welcome/Call to Order:

President Eileen McNally welcomed all and shared from an article reflecting this time of year, not getting stressed and realizing what this season is all about!

Invocation: Led by Eileen also.

Lunch served by the church volunteers.

Program Introduction: Following lunch, the talented Swing Choir from Utica High School entertained us, under the direction of Carolyn Clippinger.

Business Meeting

President's Remarks:

*Eileen opened today's meeting reminding us to be sure to inform someone if we know of any member who has passed away, or who is ill and in need of cards from courtesy, or is now eligible for our "over 85" honorary members! Etc.

*We welcomed 3 new LCRTA members today!

*Reminded everyone dues need to be paid by January 31st. Those who have paid by then will be entered into to a drawing for a gift card to area restaurant!

*When making your lunch meeting reservation, BE SURE that you receive a response, otherwise your spot has NOT been reserved. You can also call in your reservation.

*We received a thank you note for our contributions earlier this year from those working with the Baby Pantry. We are pleased to be donating necessary toiletry and cleaning items not included through Food Pantries to those in need.

*Eileen was pleased to give out our grants to the 3 new Licking County teachers.

*We are also thinking about grants for area student teachers, and can have many school expenses during this time.

In Memoriam: Our annual Remembrance ceremony was led by Karen Wolford, honored the 8 members who had died during the past year.

Secretary's Report: Members were instructed review minutes from our October Meeting at the tables, and make corrections if necessary. None were suggested.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Debra Shelly reports as of Dec. Mtg. 2015:

Checking: \$1,637.97 Savings: \$1,644.29,
 Scholarship: \$11,015 (which included the \$10,000 Stauch scholarship money); CD: \$4,695.20 (no new information).
 Also note: at today's meeting we collected...

St. Vincent de Paul, \$72.30

Scholarship fund: \$122.00.

Respectfully submitted.
 Linda A. Leffel
 Secretary, LCRTA



LCRTA Minutes for February 3, 2016 - Stacey's Buffet

President, Eileen McNally called the meeting to order by introducing her theme for the meeting - Spiritual Fitness. After a brief story from *Daily Guideposts*, Eileen gave the invocation.

Janet Simross, vice president, introduced the speaker Dr. Amy Coble. Dr. Amy spoke about the various aspects of stress and how to deal with it.

Dr. Amy was asked to pick a name (all paid members) from the box so that we could award a \$25 gift certificate. Ken Bagent's name was chosen. Ken wanted his gift certificate for Texas Roadhouse. Our treasurer, Debby Shelly will get the certificate and mail it to Ken. Congratulations, Ken!

The December minutes and current treasurer's report (see below) were available to those in attendance. No corrections or questions were floored. Both will be officially filed.

Treasurer's Report by Debra Shelly

Checking-\$1837.97
Savings-\$1644.33
Scholarship-\$11,197.66
(\$10,000 Stauch fund + \$1,197.66)
CD-\$4,731.95 and our interest was \$56.01

We gave St. Vincent \$72.30
We collected \$182.00 for scholarship through dues (\$60.00) and the collection (\$122.00) at the December meeting. Debra filed the 990N form.

Mary Ellinger reported that we still have almost 60 members who have not paid their 2016 dues. Efforts are underway to reach out to these individuals.

Eileen reported that a Pre-Retirement Seminar for active teachers is scheduled for April 7 at First United Methodist Church. Members were asked to bring snacks of any sort by 4 pm that day.

Attention was drawn to another way to volunteer. Carson Elementary is partnering with Bowling Green University to offer Project MORE, a volunteer reading mentoring project. Sign up packets were available to members who expressed an interest.

Eileen summarized our donations for 2015. In addition to actual items, LCRTA members contributed over \$300 to St. Vincent de Paul, over \$700 to our scholarship fund, \$63 for the animal rescue and \$53 for the baby pantry. LCRTA membership deserves a HUGE pat on the back for their wonderful generosity!

Under New Business, Eileen briefly told of ORTA's interest for local chapters to participate in Habitat for Humanity projects. LCRTA had been searching for ways to participate in this endeavor when we heard about the horrible fire in Newark that completely destroyed two adjacent Habitat homes. Families were in the process of moving in when this occurred.

The executive board recommended that LCRTA donate \$1000 to the newly established Phoenix Fund that was set up to assist these two families. Paul Collier made a motion that \$1000 be donated to the Phoenix Fund, second by Ken Bagent. After discussion, a friendly amendment was made to the original motion that required that we know how our donation would be used. Motion passed.

ASIDE: Eileen followed up and found that we could indeed stipulate how the funds were to be used. Eileen wrote a letter with the needed information and stipulations (use money for household items i.e. beds, etc.). The letter along with a check will be sent to Habitat for Humanity. Eileen also sent a press release to The

Advocate regarding our donation. It is hoped that the paper may want to follow up with us about our contribution.

Today, we collected \$47 for the pantry and \$104 for our scholarship.

Eileen concluded the meeting with remarks relating to Spiritual Fitness.



LCRTA Meeting Minutes April 13, 2016 **2nd Presbyterian Church, Newark**

Welcome/Call to Order:

Vice President Janet Simross welcomed everyone today, as Eileen was absent. She reminded all in attendance: this is Autism Awareness Month, and to please look over the Feb. Minutes and other information on tax deals and disaster preparedness that we will find at our seats. Janet also led the group in singing "You are My Sunshine"! Janet led the invocation also, after which a delicious lunch served by the church.

Program Introduction: After lunch, Janet led us in reciting the pledge as she called the meeting to order. We were then invited to hear a very interesting presentation by our own member Susan Reid about Women of Aviation, which also included her famous sister, Jerrie Mock.

Business Meeting

Secretary's Report: Members were instructed to look over the minutes from our February Meeting, making corrections if necessary. None found, the Minutes were accepted with a motion by Ken Bagent, seconded by Paul Collier.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Debra Shelly reports as of end of March 2016:
 Checking: \$13,022.97 Savings: \$1,144.36,
 Scholarship: \$11,350.95 (which included the \$10,000 Stauch scholarship money);
 GREAT-- at this April meeting we collected \$109.00 for the Licking County Animal Shelter, and \$108.00 towards our scholarships--thanks so much to all who contributed this month!

Committees

Community Affairs: David Greene is in the hospital and thus, no updates.

Information / Protective Services: Judy Pflaumer shared about the Disaster preparedness tips we received.

Legislative: Look for continuing updates emailed from Eileen.

Membership: Mary Ellinger shared that they are still about 12 people we have not been able to reach about paying their dues.

Pre-Retirement: Although the group was small, the attendees enjoyed receiving the valuable information at our April 7th seminar.

Public Relations: Look for notes from today and info about our next meeting in the Newark Advocate. Also, look for this meeting's minutes on our website.

Scholarship: Mary Ellinger reported that in June we will invite our scholarship recipients to attend our meeting as we present the Fran Alspach Award, and The S. Stauch Award will hand out 2-\$1,000 Scholarships a year for 5 years, beginning this year. She too thanked all who contributed the extra funds to our scholarships today.

Courtesy: Linda Leffel will be taking over this Courtesy Care & Concern job for Elizabeth Troyer, as Elizabeth is now living in Mt. Vernon. Please add names of any members needing a sympathy, get-well card, or "thinking of you", to uplift our members in any way. Between meetings, feel free to contact Linda Leffel at 740-973-8556 or / freequeenlinda@yahoo.com with any names.

Old Business: We are pleased to announce that we have received thank you's for our involvement and the \$1,000.00 donation to our local Habitat for Humanity.

New Business: Nothing else.

Other Announcements: Eileen wanted to share that our LCRTA Chapter had the most accumulated volunteer hours in the state! Congratulations! Thanks to David Greene for collecting the hours from members.

Next Meeting / Donations: Our next meeting is June 8th at Christ United Methodist Church, corner of East Main and Cedar Streets.

Our donations for the day will be any personal care items.

Adjournment: Ken Bagent made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mary Kaschak.

Respectfully submitted.
 Linda A. Leffel
 Secretary, LCRTA

Pre-Retirement Seminar

- LCRTA hosted a Pre-Retirement Seminar for
- active teachers on April 7th. at First United
- Methodist Church in Newark. Although the
- turnout was disappointing, it appeared that those
- who could attend were quite happy with the
- presentation given by STRS. A big thanks to all
- members who brought snacks for the event.

LCRTA Turns in 28,068 Volunteer Hours for 2015

The Licking County Retired Teachers' Association reported 28,068 volunteer hours performed in service to local communities in 2015. This number was higher than any other county in the state and reflects the commitment of this county's retired teachers. This unpaid labor by former teachers may be taking care of the sick and disabled, children or the elderly, providing transportation to medical care, or tutoring, service to local churches or on committees, community leadership, working in community gardens or education programs or other service.

Too often, teachers and others underestimate their contributions to maintaining, building and developing communities. It is important that this contribution be acknowledged as a component of community service and that it be recognized by elected officials and representatives when making decisions about funding, programs and the primary importance of education and our teachers. While we appreciate the recognition of our 28,08 volunteer hours, we in the LCRTA encourage all teachers across the state to assess and report the hours of volunteer service that retired teachers provide.

David Greene Community Service Committee



David will again collect our hours. If you cannot make it to a meeting to turn in your hours, PLEASE call or email David with your total through June 2016. Call David at 740-641-2328. Email him at davidgreene3372@hotmail.com

Thank you!
You are the greatest!!

ORTA Spring Conference

On April 19th, four members of LCRTA attended the ORTA Spring Conference in Cambridge, Ohio. We had a great time and learned a lot.



Judy Pflaumer, Eileen McNally,
Karen Butt & Sandy Holcombe



Sandy Holcombe accepting the award
from Dave Gynn for our outstanding
volunteer hours.

Odds and Ends

- ✱ You are encouraged to bring a retired teacher, who is not yet a member, to our luncheons. If they join that day, they get their lunch free!
- ✱ Remember, if you are 85 or older, let us know and your local dues are FREE!
- ✱ Reservations are needed for all lunches except February (when we are at Stacey's). Whether you get a snail mail notice or an email notice, you have to make a reservation. If necessary, you can call Jean McCallin, who handles our reservations, at (740) 973-7431. Reservations are due the Friday before the luncheon.
- ✱ Occasionally we have members who cannot find a way to our luncheons. Do any members live near you that may need a ride? Could you offer them a ride? That would be great.
- ✱ Ken Bagent was the winner of the \$25 gift certificate. Congratulations, Ken.

Three Grant Recipients will be at our August Meeting

The three Grant Recipients will be at our August meeting. Each will briefly explain how the \$200 grant was used in their classroom. It is uplifting to hear from young active teachers. So, put August 10th on your calendar. In addition to the teachers, a spokesperson from STRS will bring us up to date on what is happening with STRS.





WE NEED YOUR HELP

Janet Simross has done a wonderful job lining up speaker for our meetings. We take our hats off to her hard work. We will soon be looking for interesting programs for 2017. We know that many of you are active in other organizations and have heard outstanding programs. We would appreciate it if you shared some of those with us.

PUT YOUR THINKING CAPS ON

Calendar

August 10, 2016

Lunch at 12 noon \$10.00

Program: STRS Update by Kellie Barone

St. John's United Church of Christ

285 West National Dr. Newark, OH

Pantry Items: Personal hygiene (soap, deodorant, body wash, toothbrush, toothpaste)

October 12, 2016

Lunch at 12 noon \$10.00

Program "Suitcase Theater" by Marilyn Stocker

Utica United Methodist Church

626 North St. Utica, OH

Pantry Items: Baby items (no toys)

December 14, 2016

Lunch at 12 noon \$10.00

Program: Children from John Clem - Holiday Music

Central Christian Church 587 Mt. Vernon Rd.

Pantry Items: Laundry items (detergent, etc.)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Licking County Retired Teachers Association
c/o Eileen McNally
2535 Martinsburg Road
Newark, OH 43055