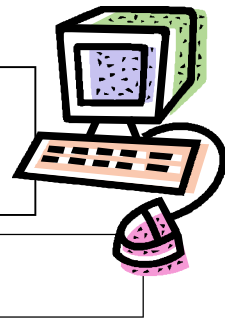


April-May, 2009



The Desk Top



Portage County Retired Teachers

MEMORIAL SERVICE PLANNED

Our Annual Memorial Service honoring those members who passed away during the last year will be held at our May luncheon meeting. Father Richard Pantello of St. Patrick's Church of Kent will lead us in remembering and honoring them.



Volume 19—Issue 2

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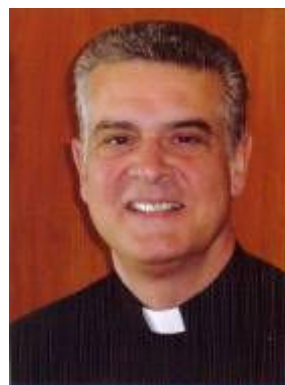
In Memory Of

Mary Osborne , Member since 2001 January 19, 2008	Rita Kilchenman , Member since 1993 January 17, 2009
Norma H. Stewart , Member since 1993 April 27, 2008	Gertrude Crawford , Assoc. Member since 2000 January 31, 2009
Betty Dickerhoof , Member since 1991 May 20, 2008	Grace Manfrass , Member since 1991 Feb 22, 2009
Lucille Stamm , Member since 1993 May 22, 2008	Martha Furey , Member since 1995 Feb 28, 2009
Elizabeth Murray , Member since 2006 May 25, 2008	William Birkner , Member since 2001 March 9, 2009
Mabelle Apley , Member since 1991 November 30, 2008	Emma Louise Savory , Member since 1992 March 23, 2009
	Donald Scherer , Member since 2008 March 25, 2009

Our Memorial Service will be led by **Father Richard J. Pentello**, who has been a priest for 30 years. He is the Dean of Portage County Catholic Church and presently is serving as the pastor of St. Patrick's Church and School.

He came to St. Patrick's from St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Garrettsville in July, 2006. His expertise in Liturgy of the Catholic Church, music, and his communication skills have made him an inspiration to the St. Patrick Community.

Father Pentello resides at St. Patrick's with his faithful companion, a Golden Retriever, named Timbo.



We are pleased to welcome the **Treble Ensemble** from Streetsboro High School under the direction of **Susan Spurlock**, who will provide music for our luncheon.



**2009 PCRTA
LEADERSHIP TEAM**

OFFICERS

President—**Ray Troxtell** 330-562-2158
RaymondTrox@hotmail.com

Vice President--**Terrie Sargi**
330-678-1737 tchrsarg@aol.com

Recording Secretary—**Ruth Weigand**
330-673-4788 RWeigand001@neo.rr.com

Corresponding Secretary--**Carol Kates**

Treasurer—**Darlene Fetterhoff**

Assistant Treasurer—**Les Bennett**
330-673-4115 lesbennett@aol.com

ORTA Trustee—**Dan McCombs**
330-673-0744 KSUDan1@aol.com

Past President—**Dave Gynn**
330-678-8423 PCRTA@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archival—**Norm Park**

Community Services—**Judith Morgan**

Informative & Protective Services —**Kay Wise** 330-297-1110
KayWise@aol.com

Legislative—**Dan McCombs** 330-673-0744 KSUDan1@aol.com

Membership—**Art Fesemyer** 330-296-5749 afesemyer@neo.rr.com

Memorial & Sunshine—**Mary Jane Brannon** 330-673-3138

NEOUCOM Proctor Project— **Edith Scott** 330-297-1812

Newsletter—**Pat Gynn** 330-678-8423 PCRTA@aol.com

Nominations—**Jan Fencil** 330-678-1758

Public Relations—**Evelyn Park** 330-274-2171

Retirement Planning—**Ria Mastromatteo**

Scholarship—**Jim Montaquila** 330-657-2017 tribe123@alltel.net

Telephone & Communications—**Saroj Sutaria** 330-678-9045
sarojsutaria@yahoo.com

Webmaster—**Connie Evans** 330-296-6733 cncevans@gmail.com

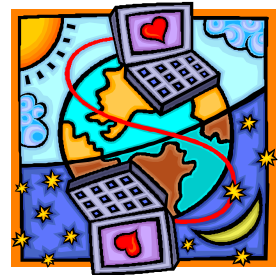
!!! GET TO KNOW OUR WEBSITE CONTEST !!!

We would like our members to become used to visiting our website. The website contains much useful information and news which may come out in between newsletters, such as the Spelling Bee for Seniors this past month.

HOW DO I ENTER THE DRAWING?????



1. Visit our website at **www.pcrta.net**
2. Click on CONTACT US on the left hand side.
3. Email a short note with your name on it. Your name will be entered into the drawing.
4. YOU may win a \$25 Giant Eagle gift certificate if your name is drawn at our May luncheon meeting!



PREZ SAYS: GIVE A STIMULUS TO RESPONSIBILITY By Ray Troxtell



Our meeting in May will be a Memorial Service to remember past members. We will honor their vision and dedicated service to make PCRTA what it is today. We have the obligation and the responsibility to our members and future retirees to continue building our organization. Either we grow or we decline.

We understand that you have worked long, hard hours to achieve a quality life in your retirement. Our local service clubs, churches, new career, and grandchildren are requesting that each of us become more involved. Some of us have said “enough,” because we feel like a bone in a dog pound.

There are always new challenges and unanticipated problems that assault our plans for the future. The issues of affordable health care, our slow economy, and so many people needing to have our assistance and help to rebuild their lives are some of the strong current challenges. Your skills in education, your talents, your experience, and time will make a difference.

We have the obligation and the responsibility to future retirees to continue building our organization.

Take some time during the next few days to prioritize your life goals and think where you will be in 5-20 years from today. Remember how much our lives have changed the past few years and how the pace of change is rapidly accelerating. We need to be organized and committed in order to manage the unexpected economic and political challenges that will impact our future quality of life.

Ray

“All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.”

Aristotle

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SELECTED

The purpose of our scholarship program is to promote the teaching profession and to financially assist Portage County high school graduates who will be majoring in education.



Twelve applications from three boys and nine girls were received by the April 3 deadline. There were four applicants from Kent Roosevelt, three from Streetsboro, and one each from James A. Garfield, Ravenna, Rootstown, Southeast, and Windham.

The Scholarship Committee met April 13 to select the scholarship recipients. The 2009 recipients will be announced in the next issue of The Desktop and will receive their scholarships at the July 16 luncheon meeting.

Applicants were evaluated on their:

- school grades and standardized test scores
- leadership and extracurricular activities
- participation in community service projects;
- essay about their college plans
- written teacher recommendations

Thanks to my committee members for their efforts and serious consideration in choosing the next scholarship recipients. They were **Harry Bowman, Dave Gynn, Jan Fencl, and Norm Park.**

Editor’s Note: **Bob Dunn**, who has led this group the past few years, felt it was time to give up the leadership of this committee due to some health issues. Thanks to **Jim Montaquila** for stepping in to lead this committee.



Jim Montaquila,
Scholarship Chair

GUIDELINES TO IMPROVE LIFE RELATIONSHIPS

1. Give people more than they expect; do it cheerfully.
2. Marry a man or woman you love to talk to. As you get older, their conversational skills will be as important as any other.
3. Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have, or sleep all you want.
4. When you say, "I love you," mean it.
5. When you say, "I'm sorry," look the person in the eye.
6. Be engaged at least six months before you get married.
7. Believe in love at first sight.
8. Never laugh at anyone's dreams. People who don't have dreams don't have much.
9. Love deeply and passionately. You might get hurt, but it's the only way to live life completely.
10. In disagreements, fight fairly. No name calling.
11. Don't judge people by their relatives.
12. Talk slowly but think quickly.
13. When someone asks you a question you don't want to answer, smile and ask, "Why do you want to know?"
14. Remember that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
15. Say "bless you" when you hear someone sneeze.
16. When you lose, don't lose the lesson.
17. Remember the three R's: Respect for self; Respect for others; and Responsibility for all your actions.
18. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.
19. When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
20. Smile when picking up the phone. The caller will hear it in your voice.
21. Spend some time alone.



RED APPLES AND SOUR GRAPES



RED APPLES to PCRTA member, **Linda Solnick**, and also to **Kent Paramedics** for their efficient actions to an emergency at the March Luncheon Meeting.



RED APPLES to the **Twin Lakes Country Club Staff** for furnishing a great meeting location and a delicious luncheon for our meetings.



RED APPLES to PCRTA member, **Milly Keller**, who volunteered to sell 50/50 tickets at the March luncheon meeting, and when she later won the raffle, she turned the \$67.50 back in to the scholarship fund.



RED APPLES to **NEOUCOM/P Test Proctor Volunteers** and to **Edie Scott** for coordinating the proctor schedule. Funds from this program support our Scholarship Program.



SOUR GRAPES to our **Washington Legislators** for failing to repeal the GEO/WEP laws which discriminate against PCRTA members' Social Security benefits.



SOUR GRAPES to Retired Teachers who do not join PCRTA and ORTA—the only organization working to protect and improve retirement and health care benefits for us.

Send your recommendations for Red Apples and Sour Grapes to PCRTA@aol.com or call 330-678-8423.

RAMBLINGS OF A RETIRED MIND

I was thinking about how a status symbol of today is those cell phones that everyone has clipped onto their belt or purse, but I can't afford one. So, I'm wearing my garage door opener. I also made a cover for my hearing aid and now I have what they call "blue teeth," I think.



I was thinking that women should put pictures of their missing husbands on beer cans.

I have gotten that dreaded furniture disease. That's when your chest is falling into your drawers. I thought about making a fitness movie for folks my age, and call it "Pumping Rust."



I know, when people see a cat's litter box, they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" Just once I want to say, "No, it's for company!"

Employment applications blanks always ask who is to be notified in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "A Good Doctor!"



Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office?

What are we supposed to do? Write to these men? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the mailmen could look for them while they deliver the mail.

Or better yet...arrest them while they are taking their picture!

I was thinking about old age, and decided that old age is "When you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it."



You know, I spent a fortune on deodorant before I realized that people didn't like me anyway.



I was thinking about how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older. Then it dawned on me, they were cramming for the final.

MASTERING MONEY MANAGEMENT WITH YOUTH and JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

The NRTA and JA Worldwide have decided to bring together some of the participants in the *Mastering Money Management with YOUTH* program to discuss some of the successes and ways to build upon those successes in the coming year.

Dave Gynn, who helped get retired teacher volunteers, and Denice Schafer of Junior Achievement who worked with him to organize our recent JA in a DAY program have been invited to attend the meeting in Chicago on June 3. They will be able to meet other retired educators and JA representatives and share their stories.

If you participated in JA in a DAY and have any suggestions or comments that you would like Dave to share at this meeting, please contact him at 330-678-8423 or email him at PCRTA@aol.com.



2009 PCRTA and ORTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
 Retirement School/Year _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 E-mail Address _____
 Phone _____
 Last 4 digits of Social Security Number _____
 Associate Member's Name if joining (non-teacher spouse or friend)

 Gift Membership from _____

2009 DUES PAYMENT	
PCRTA & ORTA ANNUAL DUES:	
(PCRTA \$10 +ORTA \$20) = \$30	_____
PCRTA Life Membership	\$150 _____
ORTA Life Membership	\$300 _____
PCRTA Associate Member	\$5 _____
Scholarship Fund Donation	_____
TOTAL	_____



Make one check payable to PCRTA. Mail completed form and check to
 Darlene J. Fetterhoff, Treasurer, 2417 Duck Pond Dr., Ravenna, OH 44266

LATE DUES REMINDER:

A number of PCRTA members were sent postcards as a reminder that the 2009 dues are now due. Many of you have responded promptly and this was greatly appreciated. All dues need to be submitted by June 1st so that ORTA receives them before July. Thanks in advance for taking care of your dues soon. If you have any questions, please call Darlene Fetterhoff at 330-673-8164.

REPORT VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Retired teachers are a rich source of talent for volunteer and community service activities.

Use this form to report your service hours for January through May.

Clip or copy and mail this form to **Judith Morgan**, 265 Jade Boulevard, Streetsboro, OH 44240
 or call her to give her your hours—330-653-8174.



Check the areas where you volunteer and estimate your total volunteer hours for each month.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Animal welfare | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical societies | <input type="checkbox"/> Patriotic organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Centers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civic groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals | <input type="checkbox"/> Political organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Service organizations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Social services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crusades and Drives | <input type="checkbox"/> Museums | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Tutorial services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental projects | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Homes | <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Homes | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (list) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicapped assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools | _____ |

Name _____ January-March Hours _____ April Hours _____ May Hours _____

TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff

Report for March 9, 2009 to April 8, 2009

Beginning Balance: \$13,336.79

Expenses:

ORTA dues \$ 500.00

Twin Lakes CC 820.00

Post Card Postage 21.87

Printing of Directories 57.00

Bank fee 1.00

Total Expenses \$ 1,399.87

Income: \$ 1,980.00

Ending Balance: \$13,916.92

Ending Checking Account Balance: \$13,916.92

Scholarship Funds in Checking \$8,199.44

Checking Working Balance \$5,816.48



Say Hello to Our Newest Member:

Charles Morgan -- Associate Member

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

Once again this year, the Membership Committee will be looking for volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please contact Art Fesemyer at afesmyer@neo.rr.com or by phone at 330-296-5749.

We started 2008 with 345 dual members and ended the year with 418 dual members. When we add the associate members, our membership total is 460. Members of last year's committee certainly worked hard, and their efforts are truly appreciated.

We have set some priorities for 2009:

First: We shall continue working hard to retain the members we already have. Darlene, our treasurer, conscientiously sends reminders to members to pay their 2009 dues. After a time, if she does not get replies, she will forward the names to the Committee, and we will contact these people by phone or letter to do our best to keep the members we now have.

Second: It is important to get membership information to the retirees in Portage County

who are receiving STRS pensions, but who do not belong to ORTA or PCRTA. We will get a master list from STRS with the names of retirees who are receiving pensions. We have a current directory of our PCRTA members. We will cross-check and remove their names from the master list. Last year we had about 130 letters returned because the addresses we were given by STRS were incorrect. Hopefully this has been corrected:

Third: We need to find out as soon as possible which educators are planning to retire this year and get membership materials to them **before** they leave for summer vacations. It seems the best way to do this could be to prepare packets of information and deliver them to the Educational Resource Center in Ravenna to be distributed to Portage County schools.

At the time of this writing, the Federal Economic Stimulus Program is planning to send stimulus checks to retirees who are receiving Social Security payments, but not to retirees who receive checks from the public retirement programs. What groups are trying to correct this blatant injustice? This is just another good reason to have our colleagues join PCRTA and ORTA.



Art Fesemyer,
Membership
Chair

LEGISLATIVE REPORT by Dan McCombs

Please take the time to contact US House Representative Tim Ryan and ask him to support the **Social Security Fairness Act of 2009** (House Bill #235). Senator Sherrod Brown is a co-sponsor of the US Senate companion bill #484. This legislation asks for the repeal of GPO and WEP.

GPO reduces or eliminates Social Security spousal and survivor's benefits for retirees who collect pensions that were not covered by the STRS program.

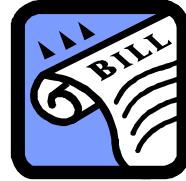
WEP slashes social Security retirement benefits for individuals who are eligible for them in addition to pensions from non-STRS-covered jobs.

The latest ORTA quarterly (Spring, 2009) contains a sample letter that can be sent to House Speaker **Nancy Pelosi** and to Senate Majority Leader **Harry Reid**.

We are still waiting for word on the new version of H.B.315 and will hopefully be able to address its status in the next newsletter.

Remember, the Health Care Advocates are still working with STRS toward long-term fiduciary planning.

There is nothing more important for our retired teachers organization to keep on top of.



Dan McCombs,
ORTA Trustee

US House Representative—17th District: Tim Ryan

1421 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515 Tel: 202-225-5261

US Senator: Sherrod Brown

455 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20510 Tel: (202) 224-2315

Email: brown.senate.gov/contact/

So...what have we learned in two millennia?

“The budget should be balanced, the Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance to foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt. People must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance.”

Cicero—55 BC

Evidently, nothing!

LOTS OF DIAPERS!

Thanks to everyone who brought disposable diapers and pullups to the March meeting.



There were 31 bundles of diapers delivered to the Portage County Clothing Center. These will be given out in bundles of six diapers per day for each baby.

Thanks to **Charles Morgan** for taking them to the Center.

FREEDOM HOUSE NEEDS...

Our Community Service project for this meeting is items for veterans who are living at Freedom House. See more information and suggestions on page 11.

They will always appreciate having coffee, sugar, and toiletries for men. Hope you can help them out.



NEED A RIDE TO MEETINGS?

If you need a ride to the luncheon meeting, **Saroj Sutaria** would love to pick you up or find someone to give you a ride.

Call Saroj at 330-678-9045

Or email her

sarojsutaria@yahoo.com



LOOKING BACK INTO OUR ARCHIVES

A name that many of you may well remember and one I've been familiar with ever since coming to Portage County is **Orville Hissom**. I'm trying to remember when if ever I met him, but I can't say that I had.

In or about the middle 90's (no date given), this gentleman was honored by the PCRTA for his "long service and effective teaching." He was also one of our first presidents.

He was born in West Virginia in 1905 and became motherless at the age of twenty days. At ten, the family moved to Mahoning County. His first venture into Portage County was to spend two years teaching in a one-room schoolhouse and coaching football in Freedom Township.

We had twelve boys on the team," he said. "They wore old soft leather helmets and a few could afford cleats. Other than that, our equipment was whatever our grandfather had lying around.

He had earned his teaching certificate from the Northeast Ohio County Normal School in Canfield in 1925. Then from 1932 to 1947, Mr. Hissom taught at New Waterford, Ohio. It was there he met his wife-to-be, Mary Taylor, at a community chorus.

He and Mary both loved to sing. They were married for 47 years before her passing in 1988.



Hissom moved to the Brady Lake school system as superintendent. Then, after consolidation with Kent, he became principal at Brady Lake.

"I taught back in the days of discipline, imagining that when my students grew up and would meet me on the street, they'd want to beat me up."

Mr. Hissom had little use for standardized testing, feeling it stratified the students. He believed in having the bright kids in with the slower ones so they could all learn from one another.

He saw many changes between 1925 and 1969. He started off with 52 students in one room and recited lessons from a lectern. As schools grew, he spent more times at the blackboard. He commented that the language and business problems he worked at the board would send today's students reeling.

Partially blind, he retired in 1969, but still kept up with world news...and especially world, national, and local news pertaining to education.



Norm Park,
Archivist

NEW PROCTORS RECEIVE TRAINING



Edith Scott,
NEOUCOM Proctor
Project

On Tuesday, April 7, **Josie Kreiger, Bob and Kathy Latimer, Sue Matuk and JoAnn Stikes** completed the Orientation for Proctors for tests given at the NEOUCOM College of Medicine and Pharmacy. This project helps to fund the scholarship grants which PCRTA awards to selected Portage County graduating seniors who plan to enter the field of education.

Several other persons expressed interest in becoming a proctor but were unable to attend this orientation session. Therefore, another session will be held in the Fall.

During the school year 2008-2009, 21 persons have given about 882 volunteer hours for proctoring 72 tests at NEOUCOM. Next year there will be three years of the Medical School and three years of the Pharmacy School.

More students, more tests, the need for more proctors—wouldn't you like to help? If you are interested, call **Edith Scott** at 330-297-1812 to have your name added to the waiting list.



MEETING MINUTES - Ruth Weigand, Secretary



The highlights from the Executive Committee and luncheon meetings are provided below. Many of the meeting details are included in other reports in this newsletter. Complete minutes are available to all PCRTA members. Call **Ruth Weigand** (330-673-4788) for a print copy or go to our website, www.pcrta.net.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING –March 12, 2009

Past President **Dave Gynn** called the meeting to order. Everyone introduced themselves, noting that **Jim Montaquila** is replacing **Bob Dunn** on the Scholarship Committee; **Kay Wise** replacing **Hilda Rohlf** on Informative & Protective Services; **Saroj Sutaria** replacing **Barb Bryner** on Telephone & Communications; **Jan Fencel** replacing **Saroj Sutaria** on Nominations.

Bylaws were passed out to go into each person's notebook about that office or committee. There will be year-end reports to be for Community Services, Informative & Protective Services, Legislative, Membership, Public Relations, and Retirement Planning.

Vice-President, **Terrie Sargi**, went over the proposed agenda for the luncheon meetings for the year. It was suggested that school groups, an STRS representative, or a legislator be asked to come to some of our programs.

Darlene Fetterhoff, Treasurer, presented the proposed budget for this year, and the following budget was passed by the Executive Committee:

Income: \$14,881.67

Income carryover from 2008-\$9,686.67; Anticipated income from dues renewal \$1,195; Anticipated donations from NEOUCOM \$4000

Expenses: \$14, 881.67

General Scholarship Funds, \$9,997.94; Five Newsletters, \$1831.85; Printing Directories, \$120; Office Supplies/postage/copying, \$500; Retirement Planning Workshop, \$200; Lunches for 10 Scholarship winners and two parents, \$300; Membership, \$1000; Speakers/Entertainment, \$500; Memorial Service Flowers, \$20; Sunshine Fund, \$100; Auditing Fee, \$50; Miscellaneous, \$881.88: reimbursement for workshop fees/mileage; awards to top volunteers, gifts for outgoing officers; decorations for luncheons/etc

Darlene noted we have a new tax exempt number for non-profit organizations and have to file a 990 report.

Dave Gynn reported about the Junior Achievement project at Brimfield Elementary School in February. **Julie Uritas**, NRTA program director, said this project would be a model for other schools. **Richard Corday**, Ohio State

Treasurer issued a proclamation honoring JA Ohio and ORTA for bringing Mastering Money Management with the YOUth Program. It will be in our archives.

Art Fesemyer, Membership Chairman, introduced a new color brochure to be sent to prospective members.

Edith Scott, NEOUCOM Proctor Scheduler, announced a training session for new proctors at 10AM on April 7, at NEOUCOM.

Webmaster **Connie Evans** announced a contest to have more members use our website. The full text of the minutes will be available on the site.

Ria Mastromatteo plans to design a brochure to advertise the Retirement Planning Seminar.

LUNCHEON MEETING— March 19, 2009

President **Ray Troxtell** welcomed all 82 members and guests. The first time attendees were: **Judy Church**, Field Schools, and her husband, **Thurman**; **Dottie Emerick**, Streetsboro Schools; **Pat and Dick Wilson**, Kent Schools; **John and Sandy Kerstetter**, KSU and Aurora Schools.

Denice Schafer, JA Director, presented awards of appreciation and gifts from NRTA for each of the teacher volunteers for JA in a Day to the following: **Pat Gynn**, **Nancy Paulus**, **Diane McMasters**, **Al Henderson**, **Sandy Kerstetter**, **Diane Bowman**, **Judy Church**, **Dan McCombs**, **Judy Calcei**, **Harry and Diane Bowman**, **Marge Conroy**, **Carol Kates**, **Ellen Arena**, **Gino Calcei**, **Elden Reibold**, **Jeanna Piseгна**, **John Kerstetter**, & **Dave Gynn**.

Don Coffee, a retired KSU professor and President of the Shaker Heights Retired Teachers Association, presented information on a 16-day trip to China leaving October 20. The trip is planned for retired Teachers and would include 3 school visits, historical sights, Beijing, Shanghai, Hang Zhou, and end in Hong Kong.

Our speaker was **Kathy Baker**, newspaper writer, and author of "Leaving Adversity Plaza." Her talk was "Inspiration for Teachers." She talked about some of her children's teachers and the ways in which those teachers helped her children become real. She read part of a chapter from *The Velveteen Rabbit*, that stressed there is hope for the future and love and peace for our children.

Milly Keller won the 50/50 raffle in the amount of \$67.50 which she donated to the Scholarship Fund.

The meeting was adjourned without having a business meeting due to the sudden illness of our president, **Ray Troxtell**. (Note: He was taken to the hospital, treated, and released. He and his wife, **Emily**, were able to leave for Florida the next day. Thanks to everyone who assisted in tending to Ray.)



PAPER NEWSLETTER...OR ONLINE?

Want to be one of the first people to see our new newsletter? Sign up for notification of when the newsletter is posted on line. Then you can print out your volunteer hours form, or the luncheon reservation form, or the pages you want in beautiful vibrant color.

Our newsletter is posted online at PCRTA's own website (pcrta.net) and at ORTA's website (orta.org) every two months.

PCRTA can save money by having members who prefer to use the Internet to receive their newsletter online.

Send an email to PCRTA@aol.com to say "Take me OFF the mailing list, and put me ON the email notification list" and I will email you a notice to let you know when each new newsletter is posted on line. You can help save some money for PCRTA and maybe save a tree or two!

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!! SEE PAGE 2 FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR WEBSITE CONTEST.
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND SEND A MESSAGE THE ADDRESS AT "CONTACT US" AND YOU MAY BE THE WINNER OF A \$25 GIFT CARD TO GIANT EAGLE! GO TO PCRTA.net TODAY!



BRING TO THE MEETING ***** BRING TO THE MEETING ***** BRING TO THE MEETING ***** BRING TO THE MEETING

FREEDOM HOUSE NEEDS OUR HELP



Freedom House, a transitional shelter in Kent for 14 single adult males who are veterans and homeless is this month's community service project. They are in need of:

Toiletry items for Men, Garbage Bags, Laundry Detergent, Coffee, Sugar, Cleaning Products, Paper Towels and Toilet Paper, Over-the-counter Medication, Light Bulbs, Non-Perishable Food Products and Single Bed Sheet Sets. Please bring what you can to share with these veterans.

Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, May 21 12 noon Twin Lakes Country Club – 1519 Overlook Drive, Kent

Luncheon Menu: Cranberry Chicken, Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert

Vegetarian Entree:
Veggie Lasagna



Number of buffet lunch reservations _____ and names. Please print clearly.

Number of **vegetarian** lunch reservations _____ and names.

Your name and phone number _____

I have enclosed \$_____ (\$10 for each luncheon reservation).

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY MAY 14. Mail your reservation and check made out to PCRTA to:

Les Bennett, 6222 Lakeview Drive, Ravenna, OH 44266 330-673-4115

Address Service Requested

Darlene Fetterhoff, Treasurer
2417 Duck Pond Drive
Ravenna, OH 44266-8221

Please notify PCRTA of
any address changes.



ADDRESS CODES

S=Life Member in ORTA
Retired Teachers Association
P=Life member in Portage County
Teacher Association
A=Associate member in Portage County
Teacher Association
Year=Membership paid through that year

E-mail: PCRTA@aol.com

Website: www.pcrta.net

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May 7—Executive Committee

May 21—Luncheon Meeting and
Memorial Service

June 11— Maplewood Career Center
GED Graduation

July 9 — Executive Committee

July 16 — Luncheon Meeting—
Scholarship Recipients

September 10 — Executive
Committee

September 17 — Luncheon Meeting—
Carol Starre Kmiecik portrays
Dorothy Fuldehm;
New Retirees

October 21—Retirement Planning
Workshop

October 24—Make a Difference Day

November 5—Executive Committee
November 19—Luncheon Meeting
Officer Election

December 17—Luncheon, Christmas
Party, Officer Installation

Executive Committee meetings are
held at the Williamson Alumni
Center at Kent State at 9:30 a.m.

The luncheon meetings will be held
at the Twin Lakes Country Club,
1519 Overlook Drive, Kent, at
12:00 noon.

