

The Desktop

A Newsletter for the Portage County
Retired Teachers Association

Desktop Volume 20 Issue 5 November – December 2010



PCRTA—
A Chapter of Ohio Retired
Teachers Association

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LOOKING AT OUR NEXT TWO MEETINGS IN 2010



Our next luncheon meeting on Thursday, November 18, will feature **Kris Baughman**, President of the local Tree City Toastmasters, a chapter of Toastmasters International.

The purpose of the Toastmasters club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment where members have the opportunity to develop communications skills which help to increase confidence and develop leadership skills.

Our members will have the opportunity to take part in an interactive activity as well.

***We will vote for next year's officers—President, Corresponding Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer. See page 7 for more information about the slate of officers.

***Our Community Service project for November is to collect some nonperishable items for the Center of Hope in Ravenna. You may also donate money to purchase turkeys. Open your hearts and help another family have something to be thankful for as they celebrate their Thanksgiving dinner together.



Our luncheon on December 16 will be a **Christmas Party**. We will be entertained by a brass trio comprised of three retired band directors: our own **Ken Granville**, retired from Streetsboro playing a baritone; **Sam Mayes** from Wadsworth Schools on the bass trombone; and **Ray Harcar** of Waterloo Schools playing the tenor trombone. They will entertain us with holiday music, and we will sing some favorite Christmas tunes.

*****Patrick Pinney**, the ORTA District 11 Director, will join us to officially install our new officers for 2011.

*****Laura Ecklar**, the STRS Director of Communication Services, will be with us to tell us about the latest news from STRS and what is happening in Ohio about our pensions and health care. Bring your questions about STRS, and...bring a friend.

***Following the lunch and meeting, you can stay to play **BINGO** for marvelous white elephant prizes. Bring a **wrapped white elephant prize** if you have one (something of value, but not needed by you).



***Remember to bring **hats, gloves, or mittens** to be donated to the County Clothing Center to keep the little ones warm this winter.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!!!

- AKRON CITY SCHOOLS— Sandra Silvidi
- BEDFORD CITY SCHOOLS—Kenneth Smith
- BOARDMAN SCHOOLS—Sally Sampson
- CRESTWOOD SCHOOLS—Frank Ted Poole
- EUCLID-LYNDHURST SCHOOLS—Leroy Corpora
- FIELD SCHOOLS— Charles Chylsta
- GARFIELD SCHOOLS— Barbara Keller,
Joan Weber
- KENT CITY SCHOOLS— Keith Benjamin, Georgia Darrah,
Henry T. Hill, Mary Ann Kasper
- KENT STATE UNIVERSITY—Nancy and Richard Bredemeir,
Theodore Harvey, Joanne Swasey, Harold Williams,
H. David Mohan, Robert S. Zais
- KENSTON SCHOOLS—Martha Phillips
- MAPLE HEIGHTS—Jeanne Pavlik
- ORANGE SCHOOLS—Barbara Ottinger
- RAVENNA CITY SCHOOLS— Susan Dyett, Barbara Eaton,
Debbie Kiss, Mary McCauley



Art Fesemyer,
Membership Chair

WELCOME

Wow! PCRTA has had
a new member explosion!

A very hearty welcome to these new
members to PCRTA and ORTA who have
joined us since the last PCRTA newsletter.



- SOUTHEAST SCHOOLS—Cecilia Knispel
- STOW-MUNROE FALLS SCHOOLS—Ronald Dilley
- STREETSBORO SCHOOLS— Lynda and Steven
McGinnis
- WILLOUGHBY-WESTLAKE SCHOOLS—Gloria Brunn
- UNKNOWN—Elaine Aultz

“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy.
You vote in elections once a year,
but when you volunteer, you vote every day
about the kind of community you want to live in.”

Marjorie Moore



Speaking of volunteering...
please send me your community
service volunteer hours for the
year by December 20. Thanks!

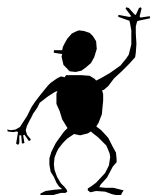
Judy Morgan, 5350 Jade Blvd.,
Streetsboro, OH 44241

IT'S UP TO YOU! IT'S UP TO US!

*One song can spark a moment; One flower can wake
the dream; One tree can start a forest; One bird can
herald spring.*

*One smile begins a friendship; One handclasp lifts a
soul; One star can guide a ship at sea; One word can
frame the goal.*

*One vote can change a nation; One
sunbeam lights a room; One candle
wipes out darkness; One laugh will
conquer gloom.*



*One step must start each journey; One word must start
each prayer; One hope will raise our spirits; One touch
can show you care.*

*One voice can speak with wisdom; One heart can know
what's true; One life can make the difference; You see
it's up to YOU!*

Each one of us can make a difference. When you join
ranks in ORTA AND PCRTA, you help make a louder voice
to speak for the needs of retired teachers. Thanks to
the new and past members who work to safeguard our
pensions and our health care.

PREZ SEZ — reMEMBERing

The other night I had this wonderful dream. I was reMEMBERing the PCRTA MEMBERS and events of the past several years. I thought of how things have changed in PCRTA and in ORTA and how those changes have positively affected retired teachers.

During my dream I had this thought: What if there were no PCRTA? What if nobody volunteered in September 1966 to form this important chapter of Ohio Retired Teachers Association?

We would have missed many wonderful programs and luncheons. Portage County would not have had collections for food, clothing, or school supplies for social agencies. More than 70 future teachers would not have received financial and emotional support through PCRTA scholarships. Retiring teachers may not have eased into a new retirement lifestyle without the support and the encouragement of earlier retirees. Deceased members may not have been remembered.

My great dream started to become a nightmare as I pondered: What if there were no ORTA? What if nobody volunteered in 1947 to begin the state organization to work exclusively for Ohio’s retired teachers.

Teachers retiring before 1947 would never have received pensions without ORTA. Annual cost of living adjustments, health care benefits, prescription drug options, spouse coverage, and supplemental checks would not have happened without ORTA’s legislative influence. Leadership training and chapter development would not exist.

But it was just a dream. PCRTA and ORTA continue to be strong and vital because of volunteer MEMBERS. We continue to need new MEMBERS. Since ORTA is the voice of retired teachers dedicated to preserving retirement and health care, we need the loud and clear voice of everyone who receives STRS benefits.



We are excited about the recent increase in PCRTA membership. Because of a change in the ORTA bylaws, we will lose our trustee seat if we are not one of the ten largest chapters. We are close, and we need just a few more MEMBERS to continue our influence at ORTA. Every MEMBER should influence one or two retirees to join. Everyone is on the MEMBERSHIP committee.

Retired teachers are looking at difficult times ahead. An unsympathetic legislature will soon consider a revision to our retirement program during a time when Ohio has a huge budget deficit. ORTA will represent all the retirees. All retirees should be MEMBERS.

In a June 1955 letter sent to the ORTA QUARTERLY, Harry Singer said, “I would say to each and every school teacher and educator in and from Ohio, ‘You are going to get what you deserve in the same degree you go after it. Nothing is going to be handed to you’.” He could have been speaking to us today.

Dave

“PCRTA and ORTA continue to be strong and vital because of volunteer MEMBERS.”



Dave Gynn,
PCRTA
President

YOU KNOW YOU ARE TOO OLD FOR TRICK OR TREATING WHEN...

10. You get winded from knocking on the door.
9. You have to have a kid chew the candy for you.
8. You ask for high fiber candy only.
7. When someone drops a candy bar in your bag, you lose your balance and fall over.
6. People say “Great Boris Karloff Mask,” and you’re not wearing a mask.



5. When the door opens, you yell “Trick or...” and can’t remember the rest.
4. By the end of the night, you have a bag full of restraining orders.
3. You pick a costume to disguise your hairpiece.
2. You are the only Power Ranger with a walker.
- And...1. You keep having to go home to pee.



TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff



Report for September 8-September 30, 2010:

Beginning Checking Acct. Balance: \$ 21,011.25

Expenses: \$ 979.76
 Luncheon 880.00
 Speaker-Nancy Granville 50.00
 Bank Fee 2.00
 Membership—D. Gynn 41.79
 Membership—A. Fesemyer 5.97

Income: \$ 1,378.00

Ending Balance: \$ 21,409.49

Scholarship Funds in Checking \$ 15,616.24
 2011 & 2012 Carol Myers Memorial
 Scholarships included

Checking Working Balance \$ 5,793.25

Treasurer's Memo

You can save \$10 by submitting your 2011 ORTA dues before December 1, 2010. Pay \$20 now rather than \$30 later.

The mailing labels have been changed to hopefully clear up some confusion. SL denotes life ORTA membership at the state level.

PL means you have life membership in PCRTA at the county level.

S2011 P2011 means you have annual dues that are paid through the year shown...in this case you would be paid through the year 2011.

Darlene



SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS:

Thanks to **Frank and Virginia Mills** for their generous donations to the scholarship fund. Since they no longer attend our luncheons, they make a donation to our scholarship fund.



In Memoriam

Jane C. Osborne
 August 30, 2010
 Member since 2001

Glenn C. Rutan
 September 6, 2010
 Member since 1997



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

November 11—Executive Board Meeting

November 18—Luncheon Meeting—Elections

December 16—Luncheon—
 Christmas Party and
 Officer Installation



2011 MEETING DATES:

March 17

May 19

July 21

September 15

November 17

December 15

The Executive Board meetings are held on the Thursday before each luncheon meeting at the United Methodist Church, Room 200, at 9:30 am.

The PCRTA luncheon meetings are held at the United Methodist Church of Kent, 1435 East Main Street at 12:00 noon.

LOOKING BACK by Norm Park, PCRTA Archivist



In past Desktops I've mentioned **Ralph Moore** and **Orville Hissom**. I mentioned also that I knew them but not nearly well enough.

Orville died in July of 1991. An obituary appeared in the PCRT Association Newsletter (not yet called The Desktop). No author was given, but I would wager it was written by **Ralph Moore**.

It reads as follows: "**Orville Hissom** left our presence with a smile as he peacefully joined his wife Mary July 3rd at 1:30 PM.

"Orville was so proud and elated with his life membership in PCRTA that he had it on the wall beside the bed, and spoke of it to all who visited. On Friday, he was interviewed by the Record Courier. Monday, I took the newspaper to him. He chuckled, 'That young man didn't forget a thing'."

"Tuesday he was so weak he could no longer carry on a conversation. Pain was now with him but not a

complaint did he utter. And Wednesday he passed on. We shall surely miss his counsel, friendship and smile that followed him everywhere he went. May God bless you for all you've done. Thanks, Orville."

Ralph, being a fine essayist and poet, composed a poem on the death of his friends. It ends with these lines:

"His bright and shining gavel was his mirth;
His hammer kept him human...and us sane."

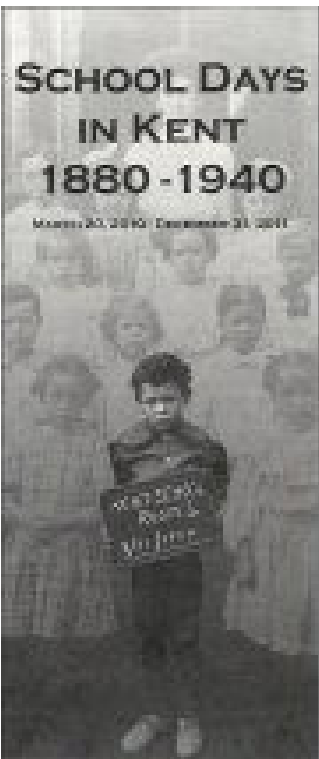
The poem started:

"And now he's gone, and we who love him grieve,
We send a note ahead and say "Beware!"
This pilgrim moves and shakes his fellow souls
And Orville still shall shed his noble grace."

Ralph Moore, July 1991

Norm

KENT HISTORICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO TEACHERS



The Kent Historical Society and Museum is presenting a special display called "School Days in Kent, 1880-1940."

Although many of the items displayed are about Kent, it represents the growth of education during that time period which occurred all throughout Portage County.

Old report cards, photos of classes, types of teaching materials, teachers' lesson plans, old sports memorabilia, pictures of schoolrooms and much more help to take you back in time.

Mildred Bumphrey, who was honored at our 40th year anniversary of PCRTA and who lived to be over a hundred years is featured on a DVD taped by **Pat Gynn** and **Darlene Fetterhoff** in an interview with Mildred. There is also a knitted afghan she made to celebrate Kent's bicentennial.

The museum is located at 234 S. Water Street in Kent. Their hours are 11-3 Thursday and Friday, and 11-2 on Saturday.



Bruce Dzeda, noted Kent historian, will present a program based on his new book, *Railroad Town: Kent and the Erie Railroad*, on Monday, November 1 at 7:00 PM at the Kent Stage.

The program, part of Kent Historical Society's "All About Kent" series, will include some familiar and some rarely-seen photographs of historic Kent. Mr. Dzeda is a former Ohio History Teacher of the Year and Kent Roosevelt faculty member.

The program is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30. Signed copies of his new book, published by Kent Historical Society Press will be on sale.

HOW WILL ELECTION CHANGES AFFECT RETIRED TEACHERS?



Dan McCombs, ORTA Trustee for PCRTA, ORTA Legislative Chair, PCRTA Legislative Chair

By the time of our next luncheon meeting, the election results will be in. I don't possess a crystal ball, but I suspect it wasn't a very good election for the Democrats.

What will a change in state government mean to retired teachers and their pensions?

Our biggest worry will be how the lame duck legislature and the new legislature after the first of the year decide to handle the looming 8 billion dollar expected state deficit.

We need to remain on our toes and ready to act if they decide to tap into our hard-earned pension reserves. Even if the government says it will pay back any borrowed monies, we must vigorously oppose that potential action.

Based on what STRS is telling us, it appears that

any action will wait until the next session to start in January of 2011.

I want to thank all of the members who took the time to meet with the candidates for the House of Representatives at Bellaria's on October 7th. It is always good to let our representatives know how we feel about issues that affect us.

I hope that we can continue this type of endeavor in the future. It is a win for both the candidates and us.

Your president Dave and I will be attending the ORTA Fall Conference in October. I hope to share a more updated response to our medical insurance position at the November meeting.

Dan



Over 30 PCRTA members attended the Candidates' Luncheon at noon on October 7 at Bellaria's. The group had many questions and concerns for the candidates for Ohio State Representative.



43rd District Candidates **Todd McKenney** and Incumbent **Stephen Dyer** stand with **Dan McCombs**, center, who acted as moderator for the program.



Dan McCombs, second from left, talks with the 68th District Candidates **Kathleen Clyde**, **W. Roak Zeller**, and **Richard Duncan** following the meeting.



Art Fesemyer,
Membership Chairman

“Membership falls into three main areas:

1. RECRUITING new members.
2. RETAINING current members; and
3. RECLAIMING former members.”

RECRUITING, RETAINING, AND RECLAIMING MEMBERS

A big thank-you is extended to the people who served on the Membership Committee this year. The last count I received from Darlene is that we have had 50 retirees join us this year, and that we now have 469 members in PCRTA.

The members of this years committee are **Tom Campana, Adele Fussner, Kay Wise, Saroj Sutaria, Carol Rudlosky, Merrilu Ritz, Jane Bridge, Pat Eichler, and Earl Kilchenmann.** We also received powerful assistance from **David Gynn.** The person who helped us the most and without whom we could not have had such a good recruiting year is our Treasurer **Darlene Fetterhoff.** All of **Darlene's** efforts and the help of the committee members are truly appreciated.

Membership falls into three main areas:

- ***Recruiting** new members;
- ***Retaining** current members; and
- ***Reclaiming** former members.

We learned this year that **recruiting** will be increasingly difficult as it depends so much on getting the names and addresses of those teachers who are planning to retire. School secretaries are very much aware of the privacy laws and cannot cooperate fully with our organization no matter how much they might want to help.

This means that our pre-retirement workshops are going to be much more important now than they have been in the past. In other years we received a list of all the school retirees who currently receive retirement checks and who reside in Portage County. We checked off the retirees who were already members of ORTA and PCRTA and then sent letters to the retired educators who had not joined.

We did not get a master list this year; and it is doubtful that will get lists in the future, making it more difficult to recruit new members.

The most important part of **retaining** members is to show them that what we do is relevant and important. It has been written often that "perception is reality" which means to me that we have to let present members know what we are accomplishing, and that they are part of it.

Members can take great pride in our scholarship program, our volunteer efforts, our collecting books and purchasing writing materials for students, the monitoring tests at NEOUCOM and supporting legislative efforts; but it also means having really good meetings where important issues are discussed, with stimulating programs, and where there is time for socializing.

Reclaiming members who have let their memberships expire is important. First, **Darlene** mails postcards to these people as a reminder, and if there is no response, the committee members start phoning. Most people do not mind being called, but with so many phone calls being made requesting funds these days, we sometimes are met with hostility.

We want to give credit to the county school delivery system, as administered by the Educational Service Center in Ravenna. The people there cooperated fully with PCRTA. Information to the local and city schools was delivered without cost in a timely and efficient manner, and their help is gratefully acknowledged. *Art*

IT'S TIME FOR PCRTA MEMBERS TO VOTE...ON OFFICERS AND BYLAWS

The election of 2011 PCRTA officers will be held at our November meeting. New officers will take office on January 1 and will serve for two years.

Jan Fencl, Nominations Chair has presented the following slate of officers for 2011-2013: President, **Ron Snowberger**; Corresponding Secretary, **Barbara Cribbs**; Assistant Treasurer, **Maria Mastromatteo.** According to our bylaws, these offices are to be elected in the even-numbered years. Nominations may be made from the floor with prior consent of the nominee. New officers will be installed at the December luncheon.

See page 10 for the proposed changes to the bylaws which were developed by an ad hoc Bylaws Committee and reviewed, discussed, and approved by the Executive Board. Members in attendance at the November 18 luncheon will vote on the proposed revisions.



MEETING MINUTES - Ruth Weigand, Secretary



Highlights from the last Executive Committee and luncheon meetings are provided below. Many meeting details are included in other reports in this newsletter. A complete set of detailed minutes are available to any PCRTA member. Call **Ruth Weigand** (330-673-4788), email PCRTA@aol.com, or locate the minutes on our website (www.pcrta.net)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING Sept. 9, 2010

--**Darlene Fetterhoff** reported a balance of \$21,011.20 (\$5,597.96 working balance and \$15,413.24 scholarship fund). We have 34 new members this year, lost 5 members to death, and dropped 4 for non-payment.

--**Ken & Nancy Granville** reviewed the luncheon programs for September, November, and December. Tree City Toastmasters will speak in November; Laura Echlar will talk about STRS in December along with a brass trio, officer installation, and Bingo.

--**Dan McCombs** reported the Health Care and Pension Advocates is working with STRS to support an accessible, affordable health care program. The Ohio Retirement Study Council received the five public pension systems board-approved plans to strengthen their solvency. The systems haven't received a draft of a potential bill. The sponsor of the bill is term limited and will not be returning to the legislature in 2011. There are two vacant appointee seats on ORSC, but the Governor has not as yet made these appointments.

--**Norm Park** contacted Portage County Historical Society about storing our archives.

--**Judy Morgan** will collect school supplies for county schools at the luncheon meeting.

--**Kay Wise** reported **Dr. Stacey Schneider** would like NEOUCOM students to conduct Osteoporosis screening and pharmacy students to talk with senior citizens about medications at our November meeting.

--**Dan McCombs** added **Ken Cardinal** and **John Gunyula** to the Legislative Committee. Dan and Dave are going to attend the update on the ORTA Legislative guidelines on Sept. 21 in Columbus. On Oct. 7 at noon at Bellaria's restaurant in Kent, there will be 6 candidates speaking at the candidates' forum.



--**Art Fesemyer** announced the recent new members. The membership committee mailed 62 invitations to be guests at our luncheon to this year's retirees. **Jeff Kirby** is revising our membership brochure. **Dave**

presented a request for PCRTA to pay membership dues for one year for two people who have lost their disability with STRS.

--**Mary Jane Brannon** will send a get well card to **Tom Campana** who was in an auto accident. Dave said that he sent information to the ORTA Quarterly about Rootstown Schools naming their stadium after **Robert Dunn** .

--**Pat Gynn** said there were 400 newsletters printed and mailed. The Kent Historical Society is featuring "School Days in Kent 1880-1940" till December 31.

-- **Edith Scott** said there are 6 more proctors as a result of the summer orientation session. She has the new schedules available. She said there will be more computer testing this year.

--**Evelyn Park** stated that the notice was in the paper for next week's luncheon meeting.

--**Jan Fencil** reported that PCRTA is in dire need of a president next year.

--**Helena Parry** showed the flier for the Pre-Retirement Workshop and asked board members to deliver them in person to the local schools where they live.

--**Jim Montaquila** read a thank you letter from **Kyle Dreger**, a 2010 PCRTA scholarship recipient. July's presentation of the scholarship recipients was reviewed. The format was well received and should be repeated.

--**Connie Evans** will make any changes to our website. She reminded members to sign up for the PCRTA outing Thurs. Oct. 14 at 1:30 at Beckwith Orchard.

Unfinished Business The Executive Committee members reviewed the proposed revisions to the PCRTA bylaws, discussed each proposal, and approved the changes to be presented to the membership at the annual meeting in November.

PCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING - Sept. 16, 2010

The PCRTA luncheon was held at the United Methodist Church of Kent. **Ann Wiedeman** and **Ginny Buckley** were the greeters. **Les Bennett** led the music. **Ken Granville** led the pledge of allegiance. **Terrie Sargi** gave the meditation.

Dave Gynn welcomed newly retired teachers. There are 62 new retirees in Portage County.

Georgia Darrah and **Mary Ann Kasper**, Kent; **Linda Jahn**, **Linda McGuines** and **Gail Danesi**, Streetsboro; **Sue Dyett**, Ravenna; **Sally Corbett** and **Marlene Strebler**, Field, were introduced. First time attendees were **Carole Myers** and **John and Eunice Michaels**.

Judy Morgan, provided tubs for school supplies donated

Minutes, continued:

for Kent, Ravenna, Field and Rootstown schools and the County Clothing Center. Retirees were reminder to submit volunteer hours and sign up for Make-A-Difference Day.

Kay Wise announced that free hearing tests were given. **Conn Drugan** won the drawing for a Cracker Barrel gift card from Miracle Ear. NEOUCOM will conduct bone density scans for osteoporosis at the November luncheon.

“Farmer” **John Kerstetter** invited everyone to ride the Trolley Ride through Beckwith’s Orchard and enjoy a slice of apple pie and coffee/cider on October 14 at 1:30 PM for \$2.

Dan McCombs, reported that Ohio has an \$8 billion deficit and may try to borrow from our pension fund. He reminded members to attend the Meet the Candidates Luncheon on October 7.

Jan Fencl said that there is a need for a president to be nominated for the election of officers at the annual meeting. **Dave** announced that meeting will also include the membership to vote on the proposed bylaws changes.

Edith Scott said there is good news because we have five new proctors. She urged everyone to sign up and said many tests are now being given online. **Dave** announced that PCRTA received \$7500 last year for scholarships by proctoring.

Roger DiPaolo, Record Courier Editor, gave a talk entitled “A Teacher Affects Eternity.” He highlighted the careers of **Lucretia Randolph**, a teacher at Garfield; **Phinneas Butler Thompson**, a teacher at Shalersville; **Amy Hariff**, a Kent Central High School teacher; **William Walls**, a teacher and principal at Kent Schools; plus a Portage County sheriff, who was a teacher for a short time. He reviewed the history of the township schools and the school districts and their changes. **Jim Spence**, a PCRTA member, said that he had **Amy Hariff** for a teacher at Kent Normal School. He graduated in 1944. **Roger DiPaolo** said that he has been doing the Yesteryears’ article for the Record Courier for thirty years. He has access information back to 1832. **Sandy Halem** from Kent Historical Society announced an exhibit on School Days in Kent. She said that Roger’s book, *Rooted in Kent*, is being sold at Kent Historical Society.

Dave gave a plea for **Art Fesemyer**, chairman of the Membership Committee, for all members to help gain new members.

Judy McKinney won \$62 for the 50/50 drawing and donated her winnings to PCRTA.



2011 PCRTA and ORTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Retirement Year/School District _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone _____

Last 4 digits of Social Security Number _____

Gift Membership from _____

2011 DUES PAYMENT

Before 12/1/2010	
PCRTA & ORTA ANNUAL DUES:	
(PCRTA \$10 + ORTA \$20) =	\$30 _____
After 12/1/2010	
PCRTA & ORTA ANNUAL DUES:	
(PCRTA \$10 + ORTA \$30) =	\$40 _____
PCRTA Life Membership	\$150 _____
ORTA Life Membership	\$500 _____
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



(Items deleted in parentheses)

Items added in bold



Article I: NAME AND PURPOSE

B. The purposes of the organization shall be:

6. To provide an organization framework through which retired educators can continue a life of service to the community, fellow members, and their active colleagues, (and the community).
- 10. To provide scholarships to Portage County graduates planning careers in education.**

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

A. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP: Membership (shall be) is open to any (active) teacher or administrator (as well as a teacher or administrator) retired from the public schools, state and municipal colleges and universities of Ohio; any teacher or administrator retired (from) in any other state but living in Ohio; any spouse who becomes a benefit recipient of State Teachers Retirement System (STRS); and any person in Ohio interested in education and the issues of retirees.

B. (ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Any person favorably interested in education and the concerns of its retirees may become an associate member of the Association. An associate member shall have membership rights and privileges, except the right to vote, hold office, and represent the Association.)

B. DUAL MEMBERSHIP: Only dual membership in ORTA and PCRTA will be available. Current Associate Memberships will be grandfathered.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

B. Duties of the Officers

2. The Vice President shall:

- b. Plan the programs and **make all luncheon arrangements** for the year in coordination with the Executive (Committee) Board.

4. The Corresponding Secretary shall:

- (a. Send notifications of all regular meetings to members.)

5. The Treasurer shall:

- d. Be responsible for rendering a financial report for each newsletter (at each regular meeting) and at Executive (Committee) Board meetings.
- i. **Make arrangements for the required tax forms to be filed.**
- j. **Arrange for bonding of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.**

6. The Assistant Treasurer shall:

- b. (Collect fees for meal reservations, confirm the total number of reservations with the caterer, and submit the reservation list and money collected to the treasurer.)
- b. Perform other duties as prescribed by the Treasurer.**

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the six (6) elected officers and the immediate Past President. **The Executive Committee and the Committee Chairs** shall be members of the Executive Board.

B. The Executive (Committee) Board shall organize and establish the policies of the Association.

C. The Executive (Committee) Board shall transact business for the Association between stated meetings, subject to review at the following regular meeting.

D. The Executive (Committee) Board shall meet at the call of the President or on request of any three (3) members of the (Committee) Board.

E. A majority of the membership at the Executive(Committee) Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

B. Committees are: **PreRetirement Planning, Reservations, Social/Travel, Proctoring Website**

D. Duties of Committee Chairmen

- 6. Maintain a listing of activities, contacts, duties and responsibilities to assist future committee chairs.**

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

A. Six general meetings shall be held each year. (on the third Thursday of March, May, July, September, November, and December.) Unless otherwise determined by the Executive Board, these meetings shall be luncheon-program meetings held on the third Thursday of March, May, July, September, November and December.

ARTICLE VIII.

A. The (annual) dues shall be **determined by a recommendation of the Executive Board and a majority vote in favor of the change by members present at any general meeting** (ten dollars (\$10); associate dues, five dollars (\$5); and life dues one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) payable to the treasurer.)

B. State dues (as determined by the Ohio RTA are also payable to the treasurer) **are determined by Ohio Retired Teachers Association.**

ARTICLE IX: DUES

A. The (annual) dues shall be **determined by a recommendation of the Executive Board and a majority vote in favor of the change by members present at any general meeting** (ten dollars (\$10); associate dues, five dollars (\$5); and life dues one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) payable to the treasurer.)

B. State dues (as determined by the Ohio RTA are also payable to the treasurer) **are determined by Ohio Retired Teachers Association.**

ARTICLE X: SCHOLARSHIPS

F. A (memorial) scholarship may be named for a donor or **deceased member** when the donations equal at least the amount of a full scholarship.

G. A collective memorial scholarship may be named for **deceased members** when the donations are less than the amount of a full scholarship.

ARTICLE XI: AMENDMENTS

B. These bylaws may be amended to accommodate any changes in ORTA bylaws which have a direct affect on these bylaws by a majority vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Board.

Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, November 18 12 noon United Methodist Church of Kent—1435 E. Main Street	
Luncheon Menu: Turkey, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Stuffing, Carrots, Salad, Rolls, Beverage and Pie	Vegetarian Entrée: Pasta Primavera



Number of **buffet** luncheon reservations _____ and names (for name tags). Please print clearly.

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

Your name and phone number _____

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

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY NOVEMBER 11. Mail your reservation and check made out to PCRTA to:
 Les Bennett, 6222 Lakeview drive, Ravenna, OH 44266 330-673-4115



BRING TO THE MEETING: Non-Perishable Foods or \$ to buy turkeys for the Center of Hope in Ravenna.



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Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, December 16 12 noon United Methodist Church of Kent—1435 E. Main Street	
Luncheon Menu: Cranberry Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Beverages, and Cake	Vegetarian Entrée: Vegetable Lasagna



Number of **buffet** luncheon reservations _____ and names (for name tags). Please print clearly.

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

Your name and phone number _____

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

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY DECEMBER 9. Mail your reservation and check made out to PCRTA to:
 Les Bennett, 6222 Lakeview drive, Ravenna, OH 44266 330-673-4115

BRING TO THE MEETING: Hats, gloves, or mittens for the County Clothing Center.





PCRTA—Portage
County Retired
Teachers Association

Address Service Requested

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

Please notify PCRTA of any address changes.

ADDRESS CODES

SL= Life Member of ORTA—Ohio Retired Teachers Association
PL= Life Member of PCRTA—Portage County Retired Teachers Assn.
A= Associate member of PCRTA
S2011 OR P2011 = Annual Member paid through year indicated

Email: pcrta@aol.com



Connie Evans,
Webmaster

HAPPY HEALTHY HOLIDAYS



Thanks to **Richard E. Conley** from Miracle-Ear (330-297-7666) eighteen PCRTA members had their hearing screened at the September 16 meeting at no cost.

Conn Drugan was especially glad he availed himself of the opportunity because he won a \$25 gift certificate to Cracker Barrel and a gift certificate to Flynn's Tires.

Dr. Stacey R. Schneider has agreed to do an Achilles Test for osteoporosis at 11:00 at the November 18 luncheon. It is very simple and as the name implies

all you need is a bare heel. **Nancy Granville** requested that blood pressures also be taken. Dr. Schneider agreed to honor this request.



Kay Wise, Informative & Protective Chair

Kay

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FROM RETIRED TEACHERS

After all those years of buying school supplies for our own rooms, it just doesn't seem like Fall without picking up some bargains. But this time they were to be donations from Portage County retired teachers to four local school systems who responded to our Community Services chair **Judy Morgan's** offer of school supplies for needy children. Thanks for your generosity, retired teachers!



SAVE A TREE—GO PAPERLESS



Our newsletter is online at www.pcrta.net. Join our newsletter email distribution list and I'll send you an email to let you know as soon as the newsletter is ready online. Just send an email to **Pat Gynn** at pcrta@aol.com and let me know.

Pat Gynn, Editor