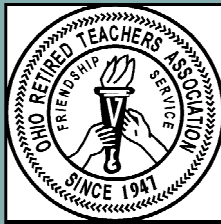


The Desktop

A Newsletter for the Portage County
Retired Teachers Association

Desktop Volume 22 Issue 2

April, May 2012



PCRTA—
A Chapter of Ohio Retired
Teachers Association

Inside This Issue:

Volunteer Hours	2
Pick Me!	
Editor Needs Help	
Prez Sez	3
Dubious Emails?	
Treasurer's Report	4
Membership Dues	
Budgeting Woes	
In Memoriam	5
A Teacher for All Seasons	
Legislative Report	6
Rembrandt in America	
Dave's Diary	
Photos from Canton	7
Area ORTA Meeting	
Minutes	8
Minutes	9
Membership Form	
Membership Gearing Up for 2012 Retirees	10
Welcome Members	
Pre-Retirement Workshop	
Lunch Reservation	11
Bring Diapers	
Mark Your Calendar	
Mailing Information	12
Been to Website?	
Help Needed..HELP!	



BE THE MIRACLE: 50 Lessons for Making the Impossible

Want to live your dreams—or even surpass them? Want the world to change for the better? Want to see a miracle? What are we waiting for? Why not *be* the miracle?

This is the challenge that *New York Times* bestselling author, award-winning Cleveland *Plain Dealer* columnist and radio host **Regina Brett** sets forth to readers in her new book of inspirational essays, *Be The Miracle*.

PCRTA is excited to have **Regina Brett** be our speaker for our May luncheon meeting on May 15 at the Ralph Regula Conference Center at NEOMED.

Regina Brett has been a newspaper columnist for 16 years, 11 of them for Cleveland's *Plain Dealer*, where she was a finalist in 2008 and 2009 for the Pulitzer Prize in Commentary. Her last book, *God Never Blinks*, was a *New York Times* bestseller and has been published in 18 different countries. Regina hosts a call-in radio show, *The Regina Brett Show*, on WKSU, the Cleveland NPR affiliate. She is an honoree in the Ravenna Schools Hall of Fame.



Author: Regina Brett
Photo Credit: James Sullivan



Through inspirational essays from “Do Your Best and Forget the Rest” to “Sometimes It’s Enough to Make One Person Happy,” Regina shares lessons that will help people make a difference in the world around them. These stories come from Regina’s life experience and from the lives of others she has met in her years as a journalist. Each lesson can stand alone, but together they form a handbook for seeing the miracle of change everywhere.

Regina’s books will be on sale at the meeting at a special reduced rate for our members and guests. Call your friends and invite them to come hear this renowned speaker, and who knows...you might learn how to “be the miracle” too.

COUNTY CLOTHING CENTER...OUR MAY COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT



Our May Community Service Project will be to provide the County Clothing Center with **diapers for babies and toddlers** of all sizes. The Center also says they need **adult Depends** as well. These items can be costly, so you could make a donation towards the purchase of these items if you’d prefer. If you cannot attend the luncheon and want to contribute, just send it to the reservation address.

VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS TALLY SHEET

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

Keep this form to report your service hours for January through December, 2012.

Then mail this form to **Judith Morgan, 265 Jade Boulevard, Streetsboro, OH 44241** in December.

Check the areas where you volunteer and write your total volunteer hours below.

<input type="checkbox"/> Animal welfare	<input type="checkbox"/> Historical societies	<input type="checkbox"/> Patriotic organizations	<input type="checkbox"/> Schools
<input type="checkbox"/> Civic Groups	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals	<input type="checkbox"/> Political organizations	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Centers
<input type="checkbox"/> Coaching	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> Proctoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Crusades/Drives	<input type="checkbox"/> Museums	<input type="checkbox"/> Professional organizations	<input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/> Nursing Homes	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious organizations	<input type="checkbox"/> PCRTA
<input type="checkbox"/> Handicap Assist	<input type="checkbox"/> Parks and Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement homes	<input type="checkbox"/> ORTA
<input type="text"/> Other (list) _____			

Your Name _____

Your Volunteer Hours:

January _____ February _____ March _____ April _____ May _____ June _____
 July _____ August _____ September _____ October _____ November _____ December _____



NOW--NEW--NOW--NEW--You can email your hours to me each month, before you forget where and when you volunteered during the month. Make sure you give me your full name and tell how many volunteer hours you had and the types of activities you did when you volunteered. Thanks!

Send your hours to me at Grams4two@aol.com I'll be looking for them!

Judy

PICK ME! I'D LOVE TO HELP!

Committee Chairs:

- Norm & Evelyn Park – Archival
- Judy Morgan – Community Services
- Dan McCombs – Legislative Committee
- Helena Parry – Membership
- Dee Smith/Pat Mazzer – Memorial & Sunshine
- Edith Scott – NEOMED Schedule
- Pat Gynn – Newsletter
- Jan Fencl – Nominations
- Richard & Mary Ann Brockett – Retirement Planning
- Kay Wise – Protective Services
- Georgia Darrah – Public Relations
- Marleen Strebler – Reservations
- Jim Montaquila – Scholarship
- John & Sandy Kerstetter – Social/Travel
- Saroj Sutaria – Telephone & Communications
- Connie Evans – Webmaster



Want to work on one of these committees? Send a note to pcrta.com and someone will get back to you!

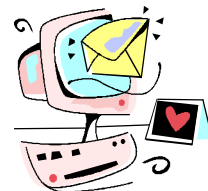
GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE!!!

Printing...paper...mailing costs...are all going up along with everything else. Plus, if you are like me, you feel like you are being buried under a pile of paper.

Sign up to get an email telling you as soon as Connie Evans, our webmaster, has the newsletter online! You can browse our wonderful website while you are there, too.

I could use someone to help maintain this distribution list and send out the notices when the newsletter is ready. If there is someone who knows how to use a computer to keep up the lists, I would LOVE the help!

Email me at patgynn@aol.com or call me at 330-678-8423 if you can help.



Pat

PREZ SEZ: YOU ARE SOMEBODY SPECIAL!

As a volunteer, YOU are somebody special. Thanks to everyone as you continue to add to PCRTA's total volunteer hours for 2012. I know Judy Morgan is very happy to record the hours you are reporting.

Richard and Mary Ann Brockett are to be congratulated for organizing the very successful pre-retirement workshop. There were 38 educators in attendance, plus the PCRTA helpers—Ria Mastromatteo, Georgia Darrah, Saroj Sutaria, Pat Gynn, Barb Cribbs, Edith Scott, and Helena Parry. Thanks to Ria for providing the 45-49 studios for the presentations. PS: The pizza and cookies were great, too.

Ten members of PCRTA were apprised of ORTA and STRS happenings when they attended the recent ORTA Northeastern Area Conference in Canton. The participants heard from an STRS speaker who reminded us to keep informed on pension reform plans. STRS must make several assumptions regarding such factors as inflation, investments, salary growth, and mortality rates.

A group of panelists in the morning spoke about several volunteer opportunities, such as Habitat, Junior Achievement, Hospice, and AARP. During lunch, the keynote speaker spoke about teachers as heroes. His company is looking for teachers to nominate as being heroic. Know anyone to nominate? After lunch, attendees participated in workshops of their choice.

As your trustee, I attended ORTA workshops in Columbus which included legislative and public relations. ORTA President Dave Gynn gave his expectations for this year, which is being called "The Year of the Volunteer."

Our next executive board meeting is May 10, 9:30 at the Kent Free Library. You are also welcome to attend...and you may be inclined to serve on one of the committees. Also say hello to Dee Smith and Pat Mazzer. They have volunteered to co-chair the Memorial/Sunshine Committee. Thanks, Dee and Pat.

Georgia Darrah has arranged to have copies of Regina Brett's two books available at the May 17 luncheon meeting. You may want to consider a copy for yourself as well as for a friend. Please make your reservations with Marleen Strebler as soon as you can—we expect a large attendance. See you in May.

Ron

"As a volunteer, YOU are somebody special."



Ron Snowberger, PCRTA President, ORTA Trustee

CHECK INTO THOSE DUBIOUS EMAILS...TRUE OR NOT?

Ever get an email and not know if the material contained within is true, half true, or just plain false? For instance, did Newt Gingrich actually say, "Spanish is the language of the ghetto"? Use any of these following sites to look for the true information:

www.snopes.com

www.politifact.com

www.urban-legends.com

www.hoax-slayer.com

www.factcheck.org



TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff



Report for March Executive Meeting: January 13 thru March 6, 2012

Beginning Checking Acct. Balance:	\$ 11,772.48
Income:	\$ 2,425.00
NEOMED, dues, donations	
Expenses:	\$ 436.00
January Bank Fee 3.00	
February Bank Fee 3.00	
Check Order Charge 30.90	
Matt Leedom: 368 Newsletters 318,41	
Matt Leedom: 35 Directories 56.00	
D. Fetterhoff: Address Labels 24.77	
Ending Checking Balance:	\$ 13,761.40
Scholarship Funds in Checking	\$ 8,107.00
Checking Working Balance	\$ 5,654.00

Report for April Newsletter: March 7 thru March 26, 2012

Checking Account Balance	\$13,761.00
Income:	\$ 1,310.00
Dues, donations, luncheon	
Expenses:	\$ 448.60
ORTA 420.00	
D. Fetterhoff: postcard postage 28.60	
Ending Checking Balance	\$14,622.80
Scholarship Funds/Checking	\$ 8,291.00
Checking Working Balance	\$ 6,331.80



Membership Dues

Recently postcard reminders were mailed to those who have not paid 2012 dues. If you paid ORTA directly, please, just send in \$10 for PCRTA with a note that ORTA has been paid. ORTA does not notify me so this needs to be done in order to keep accurate records. Also we are asking that dues be paid by June 1.

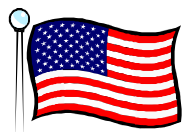
If you have questions, please call Darlene at 330-673-8164 or email me at darfett@yahoo.com.

Thank you.

Darlene

BUDGETING WOES IN AMERICA-- AND BUDGETING WOES AT HOME

Maybe this comparison will help us see the significance of the horrendous financial problems facing the USA.



USA Budget

Tax Revenue:	\$2,170,000,000,000
Federal Budget:	\$3,820,000,000,000
New Debt:	\$1,650,000,000,000
National Debt:	\$14,271,000,000,000
Recent Budget Cuts:	\$38,500,000,000



Family Budget

Annual Family Income:	\$ 21,700
Money the Family Spent:	\$ 38,200
New debt on the Credit Card:	\$ 16,500
Outstanding Credit Card Balance:	\$142,710
Total Budget Cuts:	\$ 385

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT THE MAY LUNCHEON MEETING

From May 2011 through March 2012 the following six teachers left out earthly presence but certainly not our hearts. They will be memorialized during the May 17 luncheon.

In Memoriam...

Margaret Matjunas retired from Ravenna Schools in 1998 as a first grade teacher. She taught at Rausch and Willyard Schools and retired after 32 years of teaching. Margaret passed on May 17, 2011.

Doris Kathleen “Kay” Shutler, a life member since 1991, retired in 1981 from Ravenna Schools. She had also taught at Tallmadge, Mesopotamia, Randolph and Kent Schools with a career of 40 years of teaching. Kay passed away on June 6, 2011.

Robert M. Stokes retired from KSU and the Biological Sciences Department in 2002. Bob ad taught for 39 years. He passed on December 13, 2011.

Betty M. Theiss retired from Ravenna Schools in 1984 after many years as a first grade teacher. She passed away on January 3, 2012.

Douglas W. Bennett was a life member of ORTA and PCRTA since 2001. He taught at Old Trail School and retired from Ravenna Schools in 1992 after a 33 year career in instrumental music. He passed on January 23, 2012.

Marjorie Butler, a longtime life member of ORTA and PCRTA since 1991, passed on March 2, 2012. She had retired from Garfield Schools in Garrettsville in 1982 after 32 years of teaching.

Our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of these fine teachers.



A TEACHER FOR ALL SEASONS by Vince Ill Tamani

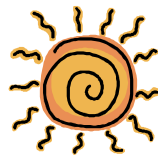
A teacher is like Spring,
Who nurtures new green sprouts,
Encourages and leads them,
Whenever they have doubts.



A teacher is like Winter,
While it's snowing hard outside,
Keeping students comfortable,
As a warm and helpful guide.



A teacher is like Summer,
Whose sunny temperament
Makes studying a pleasure,
Preventing discontent.



Teacher, you do all these things,
With a pleasant attitude;
You're a teacher for all seasons,
And you have my gratitude!

A teacher is like Fall,
With methods crisp and clear,
Lessons of bright colors
And a happy atmosphere.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT: OUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOUR INVOLVEMENT!



Dan McCombs, PCRTA Legislative



The most critical issue facing us in the upcoming political year is what will happen to our pensions. As you probably recall, the STRS pension reform proposal from 2011 no longer meets the 30-year funding period required by the Ohio Legislature.

At its March 22, 2012 meeting, the Retirement Board discussed several revisions aimed at meeting the 30-year amortization goal.

Among these changes being considered will be a potential cap on the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) that is paid in retirement, and/or a one year COLA suspension.

Staff was also asked to consider ways to smooth the transition to new retirement eligibility rules that will include a longer teaching career and an age requirement to qualify for retirement. STRS says that additional considerations will include member contribution phase-in, age and service eligibility and giving the board authority to adjust the plan in the future.

Plan design changes have been presented to the STRS Board in April. The staff is also to meet with the Healthcare and Pension Advocates (ORTA is a member) to provide feedback on their proposals.

I don't know about you, but I am getting increasingly frustrated with the negative direction the Presidential Primaries are taking. With the unleashing of huge amounts of money from the Super PACs, I can only surmise how nasty the fall election will be.

Many people are becoming so discouraged that they will not even vote. Even in Portage County, we had a small turnout in the Primary Election. Can you imagine what will happen in the Fall?

Please get involved in the process regardless of your party affiliation. Our country needs your involvement. Don't let the few determine the future for the many!! **Dan**

REMBRANDT IN AMERICA AT THE CLEVELAND ART MUSEUM

Do you recognize this artist?

Yes, Rembrandt van Rijn (Dutch, 1606-1668)

The Cleveland Museum of Art's major spring exhibition *Rembrandt in America* and its companion show *Rembrandt Prints from the Morgan Library & Museum* are up and running. Attendance at the show is likely to escalate as the weeks roll past; the attendance at the North Carolina Museum of Art approached nearly 150,000 visitors.

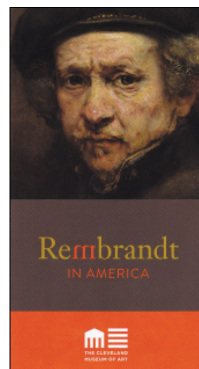
The exhibition offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see more than 30 Rembrandt paintings together with another 20 that are at one time thought to be autographed Rembrandts but are now attributed to his workshop or followers—or the artist himself with a bit of help from his studio.

Dean Yoder has a project that was inspired by the

idea that a sophisticated photographic analysis of a painting, coupled with the experience of expert conservators and curators, could help precisely sort out events in the life history of a work of art.

The Rembrandt exhibition features a study room built around this project, which examines in depth the painting *Portrait of a Woman* using a variety of photographic and digital imaging techniques. Each of three lighting conditions and three energy sources offers different information about the construction and condition of paint layers.

Here through May 28, *Rembrandt in America* is the first major exhibition to explore in depth the collecting history of Rembrandt paintings in America. Call 216-421-7350 or go to www.ClevelandArt.org for more information. **Kay**



Kay Wise, Chair of Informative/Protective Services

Dave's Diary... by Dave Gynn, President of ORTA and member of our own PCRTA chapter

Serving as president of ORTA has been an incredible journey. Pat and I have traveled many miles throughout Ohio and have met hundreds of enthusiastic ORTA members.

One of my first responsibilities was to appoint members to each of the ORTA committees. I am proud that each committee has membership from all areas of the state. The largest and the smallest counties and everything in between are represented on the state committees.

All committees met in Columbus in February. We appreciated the unusually nice February weather. The dedication of the committee chairs and members have planned worthwhile ORTA activities.

Our biannual area meetings were held in four locations in March. There was much planning as the participants in each area were different. The attendees came away with great ideas.

Our 65th birthday cookbook project is going well. County chapters are submitting recipes and ordering the cookbook of easy recipes for busy volunteers. Our "Year of the Volunteer" theme has been embraced as chapters plan to increase volunteerism.

Pat and I spent several days at the National Retired Teacher Association leadership conference in Savannah, Georgia. Both the conference and the city were exciting. Unfortunately, we had an auto accident on the way home, so our future travel has been put on hold for now.



Dave



Six of the members who attended the Canton area meeting are: L-R, Dave Gynn, Edith Scott, Georgia Darrah, Saroj Sutaria, Ron Snowberger, and Pat Gynn. Not pictured were: Barb Cribbs, Richard Brockett



Putting on a skit about the ORTA cookbook are: Darlene Ruzicka Western Area VP; Linda Beaver, President-Elect; and Dave Gynn, dressed as Mr. Potato Head, making sure there were lots of easy potato recipes.



PCRTA's exhibit for the ORTA meeting in Canton showing the many ways that our PCRTA members volunteer.

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

(Thanks to Barb Cribbs, Corresponding Secretary, who took the minutes during Ruth's surgery and recovery. Hope you are feeling better, Ruth; and thanks to Barb, Editor)



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – March 8, 2012

–The meeting took place at the Kent Library with 11 members in attendance.

–**Barb Cribbs**, Recording Secretary, took the minutes in the absence of Ruth Weigand.

–**Darlene Fetterhoff**, Treasurer, was absent recovering from surgery. She emailed her report to **Ron Snowberger** via email, but he was not able to open the file. Her report will be addressed at the May meeting.

–Vice-President **Georgia Darrah** reported that Safer Futures will make a presentation at the March luncheon. Since they do not charge, she asked if we should make a donation to the group in addition to the items collected. Judy Morgan said there are usually cash donations from members, so it was felt a further donation would not be necessary.

–**Georgia** also reported that **Regina Brett** will be our speaker for the May meeting. Knowing that we cannot afford her usual \$3500 speaker's fee, she has asked that we donate to The Gathering Place in her name.

–**Regina Brett's** book will be on sale at the luncheon. The price is still under consideration. It may be available at a reduced price for our members.

–**Ron Snowberger** said a *Silver Sneakers* instructor will speak at the September luncheon. She doesn't charge, but will be missing a class to meet with us. He asked that we set aside \$50 to compensate her lost earnings.

–Ron said he has been to two ORTA meetings since we last met. They looked through the chapter committee reports to determine the "best practices" from the various chapters. He said when reporting volunteer hours to include travel time in your report.



–Ron reminded everyone of the ORTA Regional meeting on March 20 in Canton.

–Ron reminded everyone to submit recipes for the ORTA Cookbook project, "Easy Recipes for Busy Volunteers."

–Community Services Chair **Judy Morgan** said the charity for May will be the County Clothing Center. We will be collecting children's diapers and adult Depends.

–Legislative Chair **Dan McCombs** asked if we should host a "lunch with the candidates" before the election. The response was affirmative, and based on last year's high turnout, he will look for a larger venue.

–Dan reported that ORTA has asked for a member to be our contact with each legislator. He will put the details in the next newsletter.

–Dan noted that new actuarial assumptions will have a negative effect on pension funding: inflations has been reduced from 3% to 2.75%; retirees are living longer, increasing our liability; investment return has dropped from 8% to 7.75%. He is pretty sure there will be no legislative action until after the election, but they are still looking at increasing the retirement age and reducing the Part B Medicare reimbursement. It will be nearly impossible to retain the COLA at the current level.

–Membership chair **Helena Parry** was absent, but Ron and **Kay Wise** reported that had made phone calls to prospective members. Several cited the \$30 ORTA fee as an obstacle. Ron said we need a new brochure. **Connie Evans** said she would make up a new one.

–We still need someone to serve as Memorial and Sunshine Chair, and also Public Relations. **Georgia** is currently doing the PR in addition to Vice-President.

–**Richard and Mary Ann Brockett** said 38 teachers were registered to attend the Pre-Retirement Workshop on March 13.

–**Jim Montaquila** reported the scholarship applications are due on April 6. The committee will met on the next Monday to review them. Georgia said she would put an article in the paper emphasizing the April 6 deadline.

Marleen Strebler said she will take reservations by phone and will accept payment at the door. She has made some reusable nametags for members to wear.

–**Saroj Sutaria** thanked Georgia for including her name and number in the newspaper article so anyone needed transportation could contact her.

–**Edie Scott** reported that the interoffice newsletter at NeoMed included an article about PCRTA and the proctoring project. It was titled, "Portage County Retired Teachers—Our Most Valuable 'Employees.'" She stressed the need for more proctors. For the first time, there was a test scheduled on a Saturday that we were unable to cover.

–**Pat Gynn** reported the newsletter costs nearly \$1 and stressed the need for more people to take it online.

PCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING – March 15, 2012

–Greeters **Millie Keller** and **Ruby Nance** wore their St. Patrick’s finery to greet members at the luncheon.

–**Dave Gynn** filled in when President Ron Snowberger was called away. After welcoming new and first-time members, he thanked everyone for their donations to Safer Futures. He announced that **Judy Morgan** was circulating signup sheets so everyone could record their volunteer hours.

–**Edith Scott** made an appeal for more proctors.

–Dave thanked **Richard and Mary Ann Brockett** for their work in organizing the Pre-Retirement Workshop. Over 30 teachers attended.

–Legislative Chair **Dan McCombs** reported that things in Columbus are changing daily, but he doesn’t expect any action until after the election.

–Dave mentioned that 10 PCRTA members will attend the Regional ORTA meeting next Tuesday in Canton.

–He said that as ORTA President he has declared this the Year of the Volunteer” and has asked members to submit “quick and easy recipes for the busy volunteer. To be included in the new ORTA cookbook, recipes are due by April 15.

–**Georgia Darrah** announced that **Regina Brett** will speak at the May meeting. She asked for a count of those who would be interested in purchasing a copy of Regina’s new book.

–**Dottie Emerick** gave the meditation. She spoke on St. Patrick’s life and on the history of St. Patrick’s Day.

–**Ken or Gary Moss** won \$60 in the 50-50 drawing. They were sitting next to one another and weren’t sure who the winning ticket belonged to! They donated their winnings to the scholarship fund.



.....
Already an ORTA and PCRTA member or a Life Member??? Pass this form on to another retired teacher who isn't!
.....



2012 PCRTA and ORTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Retirement District &Year _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone _____

Last 4 digits of Social Security Number _____
(Requested by ORTA for a new member at initial joining.)

Gift Membership from _____

Email address _____

2012 DUES PAYMENT

PCRTA & ORTA ANNUAL DUES:

(PCRTA \$10 + ORTA \$30) = \$40 _____

PCRTA Life Membership \$150 _____

ORTA Life Membership \$500 _____

Scholarship Fund Donation _____

TOTAL _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by email rather than a paper copy in the mail.



Make one check payable to PCRTA.

Mail completed form and check to:

Darlene J. Fetterhoff, Treasurer, 2417 Duck Pond Dr., Ravenna, OH 44266

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE READY TO GEAR UP FOR NEW 2012 RETIREES

In November, we completed our letter campaign inviting teachers who were listed by STRS as having retired from Portage County Schools within the past two years to join the PCRTA.

During the next few months, we made phone calls to those who had received letters in November. Next we gave handouts at the Retired Field Teachers and Rootstown Retired Teachers luncheons.

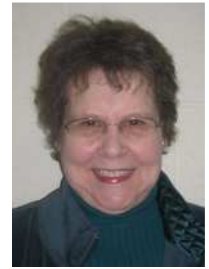
Last we handed out letters of invitation and our membership brochure to the thirty some teachers who attended the recent Pre-Retirement Workshop.

So now, it is time again to get ready to get membership information out to those teachers who will be retiring this year from the Portage County Schools.

If you are from the northern part of the county, I need people from the Crestwood and Garfield areas to help get a list of upcoming retirees. Please contact me at 330-673-0577 or at hmparry@att.net if you know of people who are retiring from any Portage County school.

Our recruiting efforts have brought in a few members in the past few months. This is a good thing, but we still need everyone to continue to think of at least one retired teacher you know who is not yet a member of the PCRTA and give them a call. If there is someone who wants our new brochure, please let me know.

Helena



Helena Parry,
Membership Chair

Welcome to our new members who have joined us since our last newsletter:

Linda Ferlito retired in 2011 from Kent City Schools.

Karen Carmany retired in 2011 from Kent City Schools.

Samuel Ricco retired in 2005 from Ravenna City Schools.



WELCOME

HAPPY FACES AT PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOP...JUST THINKING ABOUT RETIREMENT!



Left to Right: Diane Buller; John Buch of STRS; Ann Kester; Terry Kekic; Cathy Adler; Rose Gee; Richard Brockett, Workshop Planner; Tom Riggie; John Flynn, Attorney; Mary Ann Brockett, Workshop Planner

Not pictured: Chris Perme, Perme Investments

Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, May 17 12 noon

RALPH REGULA CONFERENCE CENTER at NEOMED
4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, OH 44272



Buffet Menu: Meatloaf, BBQ Chicken Breast, Scalloped Potatoes, California Blend Veggies, Salad, Rolls/butter, Beverage, and Assorted Desserts

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

Your name and phone number _____

I have enclosed \$_____ (\$12 for each luncheon reservation). Scholarship donation _____

**Please indicate if any names listed are New Members or Guests.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY MAY 11. Mail your reservation and check made out to PCRTA to:
Marleen Strebler, 3109 St. Rt. 183, Atwater, OH 44201 330-947-2460 marleenstrebler@yahoo.com



BRING TO THE MEETING: NEEDED ITEMS FOR THE COUNTY CLOTHING CENTER—
Children’s Diapers, all sizes; Adult Depends



MARK YOUR CALENDAR — SAVE THE DATE:

April 15 – Deadline for cookbook recipe
May 10 – Executive Board Meeting
May 17 – Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED
Speaker: Regina Brett
and Memorial Service
June 1 – Newsletter Deadline
June – Maplewood GED Graduation – Help needed to bake cookies and serve dessert after graduation
July 12 – Executive Board Meeting
July 19 – Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED
Program: Scholarship Recipients
August 1– Newsletter Deadline
September 13 – Executive Board Meeting

September 20 –Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED
Program: Silver Sneakers Health and Fitness; Welcome New Retirees
October 1– Newsletter Deadline
November 8 – Executive Board Meeting
November 15 – Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED
Program: Deborah Easton; Election and Installation of New Officers
December 13 – Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED
Program: Forever Harmony Chorus; Christmas Party



The Executive Board meetings will be held at the Kent Public Library at 9:30 am.
The luncheon meetings will be held at noon at the **Ralph Regula Conference Center at NEOMED**, Northeast Ohio Medical University, 4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, Ohio 4427 across the street from Rootstown High School.



PCRTA—Portage
County Retired
Teachers Association

Address Service Requested

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

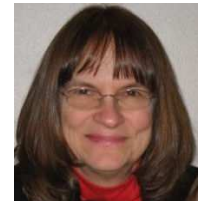
Please notify PCRTA of any address changes.

ADDRESS CODES

Year = Your membership is paid through that year
S = Life Member of ORTA—Ohio Retired Teachers Association
P = Life Member of PCRTA—Portage County Retired Teachers Assn.
A = Associate member of PCRTA

Email us at: pcrta@aol.com

Check out our informative website----->



Connie Evans,
Webmaster

WHAT'S NEW ON OUR WEBSITE??

Have you been to our PCRTA website lately? The Desktop, our newsletter, only comes out every other month, but new things are added to the website as they come in.



On the home page you will find a section called

Volunteer, Employment, and Study Opportunities. When Connie gets new information from groups that would be of interest to our members, she posts the info in this section.

There are some job opportunities there, also, for anyone who is tired of retirement and wants to get back into a job again.

You will also find links to ORTA and our legislators as well as other sites of interest to teachers and retirees. Visit www.pcrta.net and see what a great job Connie does!

NEWSLETTER HELP NEEDED

Help! A couple of years ago, we discovered the need for an assistant treasurer, realizing that only one person knowing how to manage our finances put PCRTA in a precarious position...and so **Ria Mastromatteo** came on board to learn our system and back up our treasurer **Darlene Fetterhoff**.

Now as the newsletter editor who mid-newsletter had a car accident, I can see where I also need some backup. If there is anyone who knows how to use Microsoft Office Publisher, I could *really* use your help.

If not that program, anyone with word processor skills could help out, too. If you can use a computer and would like to help write articles, proofread the newsletter, or help to maintain our email distribution list...please volunteer.

Email me at patgynn@aol.com or call me at **330-678-8423**. If you know of someone who would like to do this, please give him/her a nudge.

Thanks!



Pat