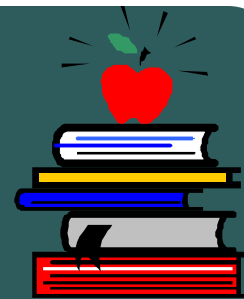


# The Desktop

A Newsletter for the Portage County Retired Teachers Association

Desktop Volume 20 Issue 4 September, October, 2010



PCRTA—  
A Chapter of Ohio Retired  
Teachers Association

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## ROGER DIPAOLO TO SPEAK TO RETIRED TEACHERS

Newly retired teachers will be guests of PCRTA at our September 16 luncheon. The speaker will be **Roger J. DiPaolo**, editor of the *Record Courier*.



DiPaolo says he is proud to be rooted in Portage County, where his Italian immigrant grandparents were welcomed when they settled here as teenaged newlyweds nearly a century ago. A graduate of Theodore Roosevelt High School, he earned his degree in journalism at Kent State University.

He has been employed at the *Record Courier* for 33 years. He began with a KSU internship as a reporter, was named assistant city editor in 1981, promoted to city editor in 1982 and was

named editor of the *Record Courier* in 1991.

Roger has earned writing awards from UPI for feature writing, editorial writing and headlines. In 1997, he was honored by the KSU School of Journalism as one of its 60 outstanding graduates.

He calls himself an amateur historian and is the author of "Portage Pathways," a column in the Sunday *Record Courier* that is the source of stories featured in his new book.

## OUR SEPTEMBER SERVICE PROJECT: BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Back to school time brings back many nostalgic memories of our years of teaching and our annual shopping trek to get supplies for our rooms while they were on sale. You can relive those days by shopping for school supplies for needy children. The school supplies we collect will be donated to Portage County schools to be distributed as needed.

## WHAT DID YOU SAY...FREE HEARING CHECKUPS??

**Rick Conley** from Miracle-Ear will be available at the luncheon meeting to do free hearing screenings. This is made possible through the R.E.A.C.H. (Reach, Educate and Communicate Hearing) program. Screenings will begin at 11:00 and will take five to ten minutes. A pamphlet titled *What is Your Hearing Quotient?* will be available to help you to decide whether or not you may need the screening.



## PCRTA OUTING TO BECKWITH'S ORCHARD

Trolley Ride Through Orchard with Narrated History of the Farm and Orchard  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14 1:30 pm \$2.00 a person**  
Includes a slice of apple pie and coffee/cider and a chance to shop  
To make a reservation, call John and Sandy Kerstetter 330-673-0129  
or email them @ jkerstet@kent.edu before October 12



# Welcome to the Retirement Class of 2010!

**AURORA CITY SCHOOLS**— Mary-Ann Adkins, Carol Denziger, Christopher Flynn

**CRESTWOOD SCHOOLS**—Patricia DiMaso, Susanne Hoiusel, Kristy Jones, Julie Molitoris, Tom Rauber, Irene Ruehr, Theresa Thomas, Lauren Welch, Jan Zimmerman

**FIELD SCHOOLS**— Sally Corbett, Cynthia Knittenbert, Ted Sarsert, Marleen Streber

**GARFIELD SCHOOLS**— Karen Giarko, Sue Grajek

**KENT CITY SCHOOLS**— Ruth Ann Bullock, Cathy Cikra, Georgia Darrah, Pat Farley, Kim Frampton, Rick George, Kristine Jones, Mary Ann Kasper, Roseanne Malivuk, Karen McGirr, James Murphy, Kathy Repinski, Deborah Scharlotte

**MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER**— Maria Cataline

**RAVENNA CITY SCHOOLS**— Renee Ciotti, Gloria Dostal, Sue Dyett, Becky Edwards, Russ Florida, Betty Hrobak, Paula Hluch, Rebecca Jackson, Debbie Kiss, Judy Landon, Mary McCauley, Jackie O'Connor, Kathy Pozsgai

**ROOTSTOWN SCHOOLS**— Kathleen Eldrich

**SOUTHEAST SCHOOLS**— Felix Carmello, Robyn Kelly

**STREETSBORO SCHOOLS**— Gail Danesi, Monica Dolman, Lucinda Huck, Linda Jahn, Lori Jones, Kathy Lawson, Lynda McGinnis, Joyce Maujoks, Ken Stoner, Ruth Trowbridge

**WATERLOO SCHOOLS**— Candy Culbertson, Evelyn Skidmore, Robert Wolf

**WINDHAM SCHOOLS**— Janet Usher



## WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Welcome to the following members who recently joined PCRTA. Your support is certainly appreciated. We hope to see you at our next luncheon.

<b>Julie Piccione Beach</b> Ravenna City Schools	
<b>Jean M. Borland</b> Salem Schools	
<b>Carol J. Myers</b> Akron City Schools	



Art Fesemyer,  
Membership Chair

All new 2010 teacher retirees are invited to attend the September luncheon as our guests! We have sent invitations to those retirees we had addresses for, but they won't get a copy of this newsletter...so how will they know?

Personal contact is the best way to invite new members. If you know one or two of these retirees, give them a call and invite them to come to the luncheon. If they say yes, include them on your reservation form, pick them up and bring them along.

You don't have to be on the membership committee to be on the PCRTA membership team...we're all on the same team!

So...why don't you pick up your phone and give someone a call! Do it now before you forget!



## PREZ SEZ – WATCH OUT FOR “PENSION ENVY”

When you began teaching, did your fellow grads or your friends envy the salary you would be earning as a teacher?

Did your friends and family envy your teaching position as they saw the work load you carried home nights and weekends?

Did your close friends envy your job as you struggled to find an approach to assist that very difficult-to-reach child?

Did anyone envy you as you returned to college for additional education or to participate in workshops and seminars?

We entered the education profession with different goals - money was not a motivating factor in our decisions to teach. We taught and hoped to make a difference in the lives of children and the world.

We accepted a relatively low salary, and we knew there would be adequate retirement benefits. Contributions from our salary and from our employers (an employee benefit) were deposited to the STRS system. Their investment of the funds added to our earned retirement.

When we retired, STRS presented us with several options of how we could receive our defined retirement income. We knew how much we would receive each month and planned our retirement activities with that knowledge. With the confidence of a set

monthly income, we can contribute to the community by volunteering for organizations, supporting school and library levies, and serving on boards and committees. We do not usually need to rely on any additional employment, thus leaving jobs available for younger workers.

Who knew our retirement benefits would become the envy of many people, often with misinformation about the STRS program? People with a defined contribution retirement program (like a 401K) feel the sting of reduced benefits and now envy our system. Legislators trying to balance the State budget forget that the STRS funds are not State funds and envy that potential income source.

Many Ohio newspapers have done a disservice by reporting incorrect information about retired teachers' benefits. STRS is not funded by the State. The benefits have been earned by teachers.

Our legislature will soon be drafting a plan to change the rules governing all five State retirement plans. Please contact your representatives and tell them we must continue the defined benefits retirement plan for all teachers. Give them a personal example of how this program lets you plan your retirement with security.

*Dave*

***“Who knew our retirement benefits would become the envy of many people...”***



Dave Gynn,  
PCRTA  
President

## AND NOW...ON THE LIGHTER SIDE...A QUIZ FOR GREAT THINKERS:

1. Name one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest comes to an end.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backwards?
3. Only three common words in standard English begin with the letters DW. Name two of them.
4. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. How many can you name?
5. Name 6 or more things you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter S.
6. Name a vegetable that is always served fresh...never frozen, canned, cooked, or processed.

(Answers on page 10)





## TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff



### Just a Reminder About Paying for Your Luncheons

Report for July 7-August 3, 2010:

**Beginning Checking Acct. Balance:** \$ 18,515.89

<b>Expenses:</b>	\$ 1,941.64
ORTA dues	1,220.00
Luncheon	690.00
Office Supplies	26.49
Bank Fee	2.00
Membership	3.15

**Income:** \$ 1,538.00

**Ending Balance:** \$ 18,112.25

**Scholarship Funds in Checking** \$ 13,163.24

2011 & 2012 Carol Myers Memorial Scholarships included	1,975.00
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**Checking Working Balance** \$ 4,949.01

If you call Les Bennett to make a luncheon reservation and you do not pay because you did not attend the luncheon, then the association has to pay for your meal. Please send a check to take care of your unpaid meal.

Also, for prepaid reservations, no refunds can be given. A reservation count is given days before our luncheon, and that is the firm number of meals for which we have to pay.

Call me at 330-673-8164 if you have any questions.

*Darlene*

**SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS:** Special thanks to Shirley Sorriento and Dr. Robert and Judith Clawson for their generous gifts of \$100. And a thanks to all of you who send a little extra when you pay your dues. A little from many adds up.

## VII—VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION—ABOUT ORTA DUES

Pay Annual Memberships and Life Memberships **now** to save money!!! You probably realize that ORTA Annual Dues are increasing from \$20 to \$30. Life Memberships are changing from \$300 to \$500. Read the following details and pay as soon as possible to save some money.



**Life ORTA Membership of \$300** must be in ORTA's office by September 1, 2010. If you plan to join, you must have your check to Darlene no later than **August 15** or you may mail it directly to ORTA so your check is received before **September 1**. Please inform Darlene if you send your check directly so she can keep your records updated.

**Annual 2011 ORTA Membership Dues of \$20** must be sent to PCRTA by **December 1** because ORTA must receive it before **December 15**. Again, if you mail to ORTA please inform Darlene. Any dues received after December 15 will be \$30 for Annual Membership.

In summary, if you pay PCRTA, your due dates are **August 15 (for life)** or **December 1 (for 2011 annual)**. Darlene must receive checks by these dates!!! Mail your check to Darlene Fetterhoff at 2417 Duck Pond Drive, Ravenna, OH 44266.



Save money on your ORTA dues by joining before the fees go up.

## LOOKING BACK by Norm Park, PCRTA Archivist



As we retirees sit back and relax, sometimes our minds wander back to our early years spent in the classroom. The events leading up to that first year can be interesting also.

Ev and I were married in September of 1949 and she, after two years at KSU, was offered a job in Salem teaching third grade at \$1,200 a year. We had a nice brick house on South Lincoln Street. The monthly rent was about \$62 and Ev's salary just covered that. I was afforded \$75 a month on the GI Bill and so we lived quite well.

When spring came I was still a few credits short, so we got a room in Ravenna from an ancient but gracious lady, Mrs. Jenkins. We could use her kitchen at will and invited her to sup with us. (Do not put the catsup bottle of the table, Norm—that shows lack of class.)

Anyway, I graduated and Ev saw an opening for a kindergarten teacher in Mantua. Where? We assumed it was somewhere in Ohio, but who on earth ever heard of it?

She answered the ad, made an appointment and after referring to our road map, we found ourselves sitting before the board at the Village School on Main Street in the village of Mantua.

I sat in on the interview and somewhere along the way I was asked what I did for a living. I replied that

I'd just graduated with a Jr. High degree. Was I looking for a job? Well, I guess... sure.

We were both hired that evening. Ev's kindergarten class met in an old house where the present high school stands. I was to go to Mantua Center in a colonial-style building in continuous use since 1917 (the oldest in the county).

Due to changes along the way, the sixth grade class fell through, but there was an opening at the Village School. Actually, it was two grades. The desks were screwed to the floor in rows and I was to have two rows of 8th graders and three rows of 7th.

Talk about getting introduced to the teaching business in one huge leap. But somehow with my inexperience and the kids' innocence it ended up a truly great year. The youngsters were well behaved and respectful and tolerant of me.

One thing I did teach rather well, at least to the boys. At recess, we'd go to the field out back and they learned to march like real soldiers. My, how times have changed!

If anyone has an interesting "How I got started" story, consider jotting it down and sending it to me. These stories are a bit of history and they belong in the archives.

*Norm*

### In Memory of Robert C. Dunn

We are deeply saddened at the passing of Bob Dunn on June 30. He was an active member of PCRTA since 2003 and he served as chair of our scholarship committee.



Bob had several teaching assignments, served as a coach, and spent many years in Waterloo, Green, Rootstown, and Stow as a school superintendent. He also served on the Rootstown Board of Education.

### VOLUNTEER HOURS REALLY COUNT!

Retired teachers are busy volunteering in many ways in Portage County. Keep track of your hours and turn them in to PCRTA. PCRTA passes them on to ORTA who uses your volunteer hours to show the impact that retired teachers have in their community.

So, stop pushing that wheelchair for a few minutes and call Judy Morgan at 330-653-8174 or send her a note at 265 Jade Boulevard, Streetsboro, OH 44241 to tell her the count of your very valuable volunteer hours.





## WHO WILL REPRESENT US IN THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES?



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

It is that time of year again. We need to talk to our potential representatives before this crucial election vote takes place in November. We have scheduled a **Meet the Candidates Luncheon** for the Ohio House of Representatives candidates from Portage County on October 7th.

I will be asking you to sign up to attend at our next general meeting in September. I hope we can get at least 30 volunteers to attend and listen to what these candidates have to say.

I want you to come prepared to ask questions about their positions on the upcoming 8 billion dollar state budget deficit and what it might mean to our pension system. This will be a great opportunity for us to get to know the candidates on a very personable level.

Remember, no one is going to protect our pensions but ourselves!!! If we don't take time to ask tough questions to these potential representatives, we only have ourselves to blame for their actions.

The cost for the meal including an excellent salad bar and a personal pizza is only \$5 plus tax and tip. Hope to see many of you volunteer to come.

The reason we are meeting so early, is because of the large number of absentee voters in our organization. We want you to hear the candidates before you cast your ballot.

### MEET THE CANDIDATES LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 7

12:00 Noon

Belleria's Restaurant

1879 State Rt. 59, Kent

Salad Bar and Pizza for \$5

Let our needs be known!  
See who will represent our needs.

Mark Your Calendars Now!

*Dan*

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One hundred years ago. What a difference a century makes. Here are some facts from 1910:

\*\*\*The average life expectancy was 47 years.

\*\*\*One of every five adults could not read or write.

\*\*\*Only 6% of adults had graduated from high school.

\*\*\*The average wage in 1910 was 22 cents per hour.

\*\*\*The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 a year.

\*\*\*Ninety per cent of all doctors had NO college education.

\*\*\*Only 14% of homes had a bathtub.

\*\*\*Only 8% of homes had a telephone.

\*\*\*More than 95% of births took place AT HOME.

\*\*\*There were only 8,000 cars and only 144 miles of paved roads.

\*\*\*The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.

\*\*\*Sugar cost 4 cents a pound, eggs were 14 cents a dozen, and coffee was 15 cents a pound.

\*\*\*The American flag had 45 stars.

\*\*\*Ninety-five % of all the taxes we have today did not exist in 1910.

\*\*\*There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.

Lots of changes in 100 years!!





Art Fesemyer,  
Membership Chairman

How to Get a  
New Member:

1. Look over the list on page 2.
2. Call someone you know.
3. Invite them to come to our next luncheon.

## HELP WELCOME THE NEW RETIREES TO PCRTA

The Membership Committee is planning to invite the 62 Portage County educators who retired this year to the September meeting. We decided to send personal invitations using their home addresses. All the names are listed in this newsletter. Members who know these retirees should phone them and extend personal invitations. The new retirees will need members to greet them and make them feel welcome at our September meeting.

The very attractive color brochure that the committee is using for membership was designed by **Jeff Kirby**, the son of a PCRTA active member, **Becky Kirby**. When Jeff was in Portage County this past summer for a visit, he agreed to revise the brochure to include the increase in ORTA dues. Even though there was some question about including the Associate Member payment of \$5, we decided to retain it. Now it looks as though the organization may vote to eliminate this.

The **Ravenna Community Guide** for 2010-11 arrived with the Record Courier. Listed on the cover is the price (\$2.00) and the web address. Our guide was free since it was included along with the newspaper.

Just about every active organization in the city is described in the booklet. It disappointed me

that PCRTA was not listed. We thought that possibly this was because PCRTA is a county organization, but there are other county organizations that are listed.

Next year, the Membership Committee would like to have a PCRTA descriptive paragraph in the Community Guide. Can you picture what we could include for PCRTA?

We could stress that we have nearly 400 members and that meetings are held six times a year. The members are actively involved with community activities, award scholarships, enjoy fellowship, proctor tests at NEOUCOM, provide volunteer services, influence legislation, and so much more.

Would this help to maintain or increase the number of members we have? It may or may not, but at least the readers would know that PCRTA exists and is very active.

Philip Dusenberry wrote, "I have always believed that writing advertisements is the second most profitable form of writing. The first, of course, is ransom notes..." When we set PCRTA goals for 2011, I think we should seriously consider advertising PCRTA by being included in the Community Guides.

*Art*

### A NOTE FROM A 2009 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT—Brandon Broadwater

Hello. I finally have some time to let you know how I have been. I will be going into my second year at Wright State University. I am still majoring in French and Spanish and planning on going to grad school to become certified in teaching at the High School level.

I had a great first year and I think I made a wise decision in choosing modern language education as a profession. I have a 4.0 and am staying very focused on my classes. For two weeks after Thanksgiving, I am taking a trip to Paris, France with a group from WSU. We'll be learning in depth about the history of the city and touring much of it. It should be a prime opportunity to enhance my language skills and get hands on knowledge of the culture that I can use to help me better teach future students.

I appreciate the help that the PCRTA has given me through the scholarship and I plan to use all resources possible to become a great educator.



**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](mailto:PCRTA@aol.com), or locate the minutes on our website ([www.pcrta.net](http://www.pcrta.net))

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING July 8, 2010**

**Barb Cribbs** took minutes in **Ruth Weigand's** absence.

**Mildred Price's** family has been thanked for her remembrance to PCRTA. Thank you notes are sent to family and friends who contribute to memorial scholarships.

**Darlene Fetterhoff** reported income of \$4,255.00, expenses of \$5,925.54 (ORTA - \$580, Bank fee - \$3.73, Matt Leedom - newsletters \$341.81, Five Scholarships - \$5000) and a checking account balance \$18,515.89. The scholarship fund has \$13,038.24. The working amount in the checking account is \$5,477.65.

The Form 990 penalty of \$1,200 has been removed. It was decided not to pursue application for a 501(c)3 status.

**Ken & Nancy Granville** reported on plans for the July and September luncheons. New retirees will be invited to be our guests (no cost) at the September meeting where **Roger DiPaola** will be the speaker.

**Dan McCombs** said that there has been discussion of borrowing from the STRS pension fund to decrease the state's \$8 billion deficit. "Double dipping" is also a major issue that is being looked at.

The AdHoc Bylaws committee is proposing revising the PCRTA bylaws to align with the new ORTA bylaws. The executive board will propose revisions to be published in the November Desktop and then voted on at the November luncheon meeting.



**Norm Park** has arranged for shelf space at the Portage County Historical Society and will move some of the archives so that they will be available for reference purposes.

**Judy Morgan** reported that our September collection of school supplies will be part of NRTA's National Day of Service. She said we may designate our individual contributions for specific schools or we may allow our contribution to be used as needed.

**Kay Wise** sent word that hearing checks will be done at the September meeting. Testing will start at 11:00 am.

**Dan McCombs** will make arrangements for a forum with the Ohio House candidates. This will be held at Belleria's on the first Thursday in October at noon.

**Art Fesemyer** is continuing to send notices to the retiring teachers.

The memorial service held at the May luncheon was discussed. The flowers and displays were nice, and it was felt that we should make the formal presentation more personal by adding a few sentences about each person and recognize the family members who are present. If you have recommendations for a minister, priest or rabbi for next year's service, see **Mary Jane Brannon**.

**Edith Scott** has scheduled proctor orientation for August 12 at NEOUCOM.



**Evelyn Park** has requested a photographer to be at the luncheon next week

**Jan Fencl** said the nominating committee is still searching for someone to serve as President next year.

**Helena Parry** has arranged for a MetLife representative, an STRS representative, and attorney John Flynn to speak at the October 19 Pre-Retirement meeting. It was suggested that we might consider inviting another county to join us and share the food costs.

**Jim Montaquila** reported that one of the scholarship winners has changed her mind and will not be going into education. We will hold the money for her in case she changes her mind again. The other five winners will be introduced and participate in a round robin discussion at the luncheon.

**John and Sandy Kerstetter** reported the details of the fall trip will be in the next newsletter.

**Connie Evans** said as of July 8, our website has had 2,224 visitors. The outside world is contacting our organization though our web site.



## PCRTA Luncheon Meeting July 15, 2010

The PCRTA luncheon meeting was held at the United Methodist Church in Kent.

The greeters were **Jan FencI** and **Kathy Lilley**; **Adele Fussner** played the piano as members sang some patriotic songs; **Ken Granville** led the pledge of allegiance to the flag; and **Ruth McKay** read a meditation.

There was a display table with scholarship recipient write-ups and notes from past recipients. There was also a table for a book exchange.

Dave welcomed everyone and recognized **Barb Habowski**, NEOUCOM Administrative Coordinator. He thanked NEOUCOM for the decorated thank you cake. He also welcomed first-time attendee, **Deborah Scharlotte**.

Community Service chair, **Judy Morgan**, noted the 2010 GED graduate display and requested members turn in their community service hours. Dave announced that **Ken Cardinal** has been inducted into the Kent City Schools Hall of Fame. He said members can read the article honoring him in the recent ORTA Quarterly.

**Jim Montaquila**, Scholarship Chair, reflected that our schools turn out graduates that are active, show initiative, show passion, and a commitment to education. He read an excerpt from each of the scholarship recipients' applications.

**Katelyn Alesci**, Streetsboro, received the Gene Newton Scholarship; She will major in Elementary Education at Ohio University. **Kyle Dreger**, Rootstown, plans to study computers and Spanish and English at University of Mount

Union. **Molly McCleary**, Kent Roosevelt, will major in Music Education at the University of Akron. **Miranda Titko**, Field, will major in Math Education at Kent State University; **Alex Wolfe**, Waterloo, will study math at the University of Mount Union.

Jim led the five graduates in round robin question format; namely, their reason for college choice, most memorable HS experience, most rewarding HS activity, and teacher who had the greatest possible influence. He thanked the recipients and thanked PCRTA members and families of deceased members who helped fund the scholarships.

Memorial scholarships were given in memory of **Doris Wise**, **Teresa Bica** and her brother, **John Dobrilouic**, former presidents **Raymond Troxtell** and **Gene Newton**, and from the **Mildred Price** estate.

**Dr. Clint Snyder**, NEOUCOM Associate Dean for Health Professions Education, thanked the proctors and announced that this past year 170 exams with 240 proctors were given this past year with 750 hours and \$7500 for PCRTA. He said that he likes that the university and the community can work together.

Dave thanked **Edith Scott** for coordinating the proctor scheduling and the many volunteers who proctor tests.

Dave announced that the September 16 luncheon meeting speaker would be Record Courier Editor **Roger DiPaolo**, and that PCRTA members should bring school supplies .



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

September 9—Executive Committee Meeting

September 14—NRTA National Day of Service

September 16—Luncheon Meeting—  
Welcome New Retirees;  
Speaker: Roger DiPaolo

October 7 — Candidates' Forum  
12 noon @ Bellaria's Restaurant,  
1879 St. Rt. 59 in Kent—  
Meet candidates running for Ohio  
representatives to discuss issues and  
positions

October 14—Beckwith Orchard Outing, 1:30

October 19—Pre-Retirement Program  
5-7 pm @ Kent United Methodist,  
Light supper provided  
Speakers: Attorney John Flynn, and  
Representatives from STRS, Met Life

October 23—Make a Difference Day

November 11—Executive Committee Meeting  
November 18—Luncheon Meeting—Elections

December 16—Luncheon—  
Christmas Party and  
Officer Installation



The Executive Committee 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.

**RETIRED TEACHERS MAKE BILLION DOLLAR ECONOMIC IMPACT IN PORTAGE COUNTY**

Portage County retired teachers received earned pensions of \$74.5 million in 2009. Studies show that most of the money that comes into Ohio's counties from STRS pensions is spent in the county. For every dollar received in earned pension benefits from STRS, our local economic activity is enhanced by \$1.33. That means that Portage County retired teachers make a nearly billion dollar impact in our county.

As STRS annuitants, we use our earned pensions to pay taxes, buy goods and services and support our communities. The COLA (cost of living

adjustment) is important, too. It helps retirees contribute to local projects and it provides money to cover the expenses of volunteering within our communities.

Our pensions are **earned** pensions. We paid a portion of our income during our teaching years into our retirement system so that it could be invested on our behalf. Historically, about 75% of retirement income is from the return on investments that STRS has made. Be aware...many of our non-retired teacher friends are convinced that teacher pensions are a line item in the state budget. Tell them the truth...teacher pensions are not a line item in the state budget!

As the fiduciaries of the State of Ohio, our legislators - your legislators- must see the wisdom of our defined benefit pension income as a good investment in the state. To cut that investment invites a long-term recessionary environment.

- KNOW-IT-ALL ANSWERS from Page 3 :
1. Boxing
  2. Niagara Falls. The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water rushing over it every minute.
  3. Dwarf, dwell, and dwindle.
  4. Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation marks, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.
  5. Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts.
  6. Lettuce.



**SEASON FOR SCREENING**

Last Wednesday when I went shopping at the Ravenna Giant Eagle, I noticed some people doing health screenings. So, on behalf of our members, I made inquiries.



The health screenings are done every Wednesday from 10 am to 12 noon. Everyone must sign a Giant Eagle Screening Consent Form, which says that you understand that the screening procedure is a tool to provide information but does not serve to diagnose any particular health condition.

The screenings are Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar, Blood Cholesterol, and Bone Density. You agree to have a pin prick of your finger to obtain a small blood sample, which will be analyzed by a machine.

You also need to sign that you understand the potential benefits of early screening and it is up to you to do any follow-up testing for confirmation and treatment. And, of course, that you understand the potential risks, such as discomfort at the needle prick site.

You also release Giant Eagle from any and all liability from the procedure or the information you gain from it.

The blood pressure, blood sugar and bone density are free. The cholesterol screening costs \$15.00.

*Kay*



Kay Wise, Chairman, Informative and Protective Services

Editor's Note: Thanks to Kay for arranging for the free hearing tests, too.

Already a member??? Pass this form on to a fellow retired teacher.

### 2010 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member's Name, if joining (non-teacher spouse or friend)

\_\_\_\_\_

Gift Membership from \_\_\_\_\_

2010 DUES PAYMENT	
PCRTA & ORTA ANNUAL DUES:	
(PCRTA \$10 +ORTA \$20) = \$30	_____
PCRTA Life Membership	\$150 _____
ORTA Life Membership	\$300 _____
PCRTA Associate Member (Non-teacher spouse/friend)	\$5 _____
Scholarship Fund Donation	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

Make one check payable to PCRTA. Mail completed form and check to

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

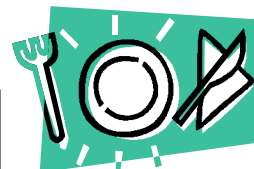


**Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, September 16 12 noon**

**Kent United Methodist Church – 1435 E. Main Street, Kent**

Luncheon Menu: Pork Chop, Little New Potatoes, Green Beans, Salad, Rolls, Beverage, and a Cookie Tray

Vegetarian Entree:  
Vegetable Lasagna



Number of **buffet** lunch reservations \_\_\_\_\_ and names. Please print clearly for name tags.

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of **vegetarian** lunch reservations \_\_\_\_\_ and names.

\_\_\_\_\_

Your name and phone number \_\_\_\_\_

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

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY **September 10**. Mail your reservation and check made to PCRTA to:  
**Les Bennett, 6222 Lakeview Drive, Ravenna, OH 44266 330-673-4115**



BRING TO THE MEETING: School Supplies for the Portage County schools





PCRTA—Portage  
County Retired  
Teachers Association

## Address Service Requested

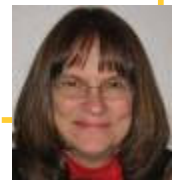
Darlene Fetterhoff, Treasurer  
2417 Duck Pond Drive  
Ravenna, OH 44266-8221

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

E-mail: PCRTA@aol.com



Connie Evans,  
Webmaster

Tell a active teacher about our:

### Pre-Retirement Workshop

For educators who will retire in the next ten years...

Tuesday, October 19, 2010

5:00—7:00 Includes light supper

United Methodist Church of Kent  
1435 E. Main Street, Kent

Free for Portage County Educators  
& Their Spouses

Reservations: PCRTA@aol.com  
Questions: Contact Helena Parry  
330-673-0577

Legal Information  
Financial Services  
STRS Q & A

### EXPLORE THE EXPRESS-SCRIPTS SITE

I discovered the **Drug and Health Guide** on the Express-Scripts website when one of my generic prescriptions was changed. What had always been a small purple pill, arrived as a large pale yellow pill. Looking on this site, I found a picture and description of the pill they had sent me. It was a generic for the pill I was supposed to be taking, only it was made by another drug company.

The website, [www.express-scripts.com](http://www.express-scripts.com), has a lot of information for members. When you log on, you will have four basic choices: **My Prescriptions, My Prescription Plan, Drug and Health Guide, and My Profile and Settings.**

When you go to **Drug and Health Guide**, you will find a section called **Senior Corner**. There is a lot of very interesting info here. Check it out.

And, remember...always count your pills!

Pat Gynn

