

The Desktop

A Newsletter for the Portage County
Retired Teachers Association

Desktop Volume 21 Issue 5 November-December 2011



PCRTA—
A Chapter of Ohio Retired
Teachers Association

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LOOKING AT OUR LAST TWO MEETINGS IN 2011



Our next luncheon meeting on **Thursday, November 17**, will feature **Gene Easter**, who has been a science educator for 40 years. He has been affiliated with Streetsboro Schools, Kent State University, Case Western Reserve University, and has been the instructor for the *Summer Science Workshops* for the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation. Nationally known as one of the “Flying Bernoulli Brothers,” Gene presents entertaining, off-the-wall programs that teach scientific process to the public. Prepare to be amazed as

Gene Easter presents his science concepts as an entertainment extravaganza!

***We will vote for next year's officers—Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. The officers will be installed by ORTA President-Elect **Dave Gynn**.

***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 8 (Note the changed date)** 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.

***Several members have suggested having a small gift exchange. If you are interested in participating, bring a small wrapped gift in the \$5-\$10 range. We will have some fun with the gift exchange, but won't tell you what until the luncheon.



***Following the lunch and meeting, those who want can stay to play **BINGO** for prizes that President Ron is gathering for us. I wonder what goodies he will find.

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



Our last two luncheon meetings will be held at the Ralph Regula Conference Center at NEOMED, not at the United Methodist Church in Kent. See *Prez Sez* on page three for more information.

AARP TAX-AIDE

Looking for a rewarding opportunity to make a difference in your community? AARP Foundation Tax-Aide—the nation's largest free tax preparation and assistance service—is now seeking volunteers for the 2012 tax season. You don't have to be an AARP member to volunteer, and you don't have to have any experience doing taxes. You just have to have a desire to help others.



Call **Gene Berczik**, the district coordinator for AARP Tax-Aide, at 330-562-4320 for more information. There will be a week-long training program in January. AARP Tax-Aides start doing taxes February 1st.

* * * * *



Feel like you are over-paying your taxes? Have trouble working through all the forms? Then look into AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, a free program of qualified tax aides that help senior taxpayers file their taxes.

By close of business on Tax Day – Tax-Aide will have helped over 2.5 million taxpayers navigate complicated tax codes, ensure proper credits and deductions and file their returns to the IRS and state and local tax agencies. And they do it for FREE!

There are Tax-Aide offices in Kent, Ravenna, Mantua, and Streetsboro. You can schedule a time by calling the Portage County United Way at 330-297-4636 or 1-800-961-0191.

Our own PCRTA fellow retired teacher **Mary Evelyn Shabino** has worked as a Tax-Aide. If you would like more information, give her a call at 330-325-7110.

ADOPT-A-SOLDIER

PCRTA member **Pat Mazzer** recently signed up at this website: www.adoptaussoldier.org/



A soldier was assigned to her and they have had a meaningful dialogue over the past weeks.

Pat says it is important to support our troops at this perilous time. She thought other retired teachers might like to do this, too. Check it out!

NEOMED PROCTORS NEEDED

Edith Scott who is in charge of PCRTA's NEOMED Proctoring Program is looking for more members who are willing to proctor tests for the medical and pharmacy students at NEOMED.

Proctors work in groups of two or three along with some full-time NEOMED staff to help monitor the students as they take tests. Most of the tests are taken on computers, but you don't have to be computer savvy to proctor. There are NEOMED tech people on hand to assist.

You will receive a proctor training session before you begin to proctor. Call **Edie Scott** for more information at 330-297-1812 or see her at the luncheon meeting.



FIRST BOOK—PORTAGE COUNTY

First Book—Portage County began distributing books to programs serving low-income children in 2005. Their goal is to distribute 12 books per child each year to children from low-income families. Last year they gave 4038 books, and this year they want to give 8,000. Since they started, they have distributed books to 1,561 children in 20 community programs.



On Saturday, November 5, they will hold their third annual Bookcase Auction at McKay Bricker Gallery at 141 E. Main Street in Kent. The event is open to the public. Refreshments will be served. Bookcases decorated by local artists as well as baskets of books will be auctioned .

EMPOWER PORTAGE

Empower Portage will be holding a Poverty Simulation on November 4, 2011 from 10 am to 12:30 pm at the United Methodist Church of Kent. The simulation will provide a chance to role play a month in the lives of low-income families working to meet their basic needs on a limited budget over a course of four "15-minute weeks." For more information, call 330-297-7027 Ext/ 365.

SALVATION ARMY TUTORS NEEDED

Helena Parry is the Learning Center Director at the Salvation Army Center in Ravenna. She is looking for someone who still has that "teaching bug" to volunteer a few hours a week to help tutor students after school. If you want to know more about this need, call Helena at 330-673-0577 or 330-351-7084 or email her at helena.parry@use.Salvationarmy.org.



PREZ SEZ – A TIME FOR SOME CHANGES

With summer and fall coming to a close, we know that winter is not far behind. As with the changes in weather, also come several changes in PCRTA happenings.

I am pleased to inform you that we will be changing dining venues for the November and the December luncheons. PCRTA has been supported financially by the Northeast Ohio Medical University in return for proctoring services. Now we will be able to enjoy great luncheons at a special price for us served at the Ralph Regula Conference Center at NEOMED.

Linen table cloths and napkins will greet us with a salad and water at the tables. Coffee and tea will be served at the tables. Fast moving buffet tables will be laden with two entrees, side dishes, hot rolls with butter, and a dessert table. All this for only \$12 per luncheon.



Les Bennett is no longer able to take the reservations, since he has moved into Kent Ridge at Golden Pond. **Marleen Strebler** volunteered to take his place accepting the reservations for our luncheons. A HUGE Thank You goes out to Les for all the years he has volunteered taking care of the reservations and making nametags. Les has also served as our music leader. You will be missed very much, Les!

Please note that the reservations for the November luncheon must reach **Marleen's home No Later than November 9**. It would be helpful if you are able to make both the

November and December reservations at the same time...and save yourself a stamp, too.

Please take note that the December meeting time had to be changed to December 8, due to our move. So the reservations for that luncheon need to be in by November 30.

Also, the Board meeting will be November 10. We will meet at the Reed Memorial Library in Ravenna at 9:30.

Invite a newly-retired teacher to a luncheon—each one should have received a letter with a coupon for a free lunch, but they will be more comfortable coming with someone for the first time. Let's make this an over-the-top attendance day.

As the year ends, many many thanks go to **Ken and Nancy Granville** who have served as our dual Vice-Presidents for the past two years. **Georgia Darrah and Jan Snowberger** have volunteered to run as Co Vice-Presidents at our November elections.



Most everyone is aware of Issue 2 on the November election to vote NO to repeal Senate Bill 5, but we must also keep our eyes on the status of HB 136 which would expand education vouchers. This will have a direct affect on school district funding and will take more dollars from the public schools. Send your state representative a message on this important issue. **Ron**

“Most everyone is aware of Issue 2 on the November election to vote NO to repeal SB5, but we must also keep our eyes on the status of HB 136 which would expand education vouchers.”



Ron Snowberger, PCRTA President

IT'S TIME FOR PCRTA MEMBERS TO VOTE ON NEW OFFICERS

The election of 2012 PCRTA officers will be held at our November meeting. The new officers will take office on January 1 and will serve for two years.

Jan FencI, Nominations Chair has presented the following slate of officers for 2012-2014: Co Vice-Presidents, **Georgia Darrah and Jan Snowberger**; Recording Secretary, **Ruth Weigand**; Treasurer, **Darlene Fetterhoff**. According to our bylaws, these offices are to be elected in the odd-numbered years. Nominations may be made from the floor with the prior consent of the nominee. The new officers will be installed during the November luncheon.

At the last Board meeting, **Ron Snowberger** was elected as our new Trustee to ORTA. He will serve for two years and will also be installed at the luncheon.



TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff



Report for October 1, 2011:

Beginning Checking Acct. Balance:	\$ 5,885.45
Expenses:	\$ 1,675.80
Luncheon, United Methodist	1,000.00
Speaker-R. Pfingerster	75.00
Bank Fee	2.00
ORTA dues	570.00
Stamps—D. Fetterhoff	8.80
Safer Futures	20.00
Income:	\$ 1,917.00
Luncheon, dues, donations	
Ending Balance:	\$ 6,126.65
Scholarship Funds in Checking	\$ 702.00
Checking Working Balance	\$ 5,424.65

Dues Update

Recently I received a membership list updated from ORTA. After comparing my records with ORTA's, some adjustments were made.

If you benefited from the adjustment, you were probably were not notified. Some of you did receive individual notices if any explanations were necessary.

Check your newsletter mailing label.

If you have any questions, please call me at 330-673-8164.

Thanks,
Darlene



Welcome to new member **Melinda Benedetti**,
Retired from Kent City Schools in 2002

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

October 27 – Beckwith Orchard Apple Pie Tour 2-3:30 \$4
Call John or Sandy Kerstetter (330-673-0129) to sign up.



November 10—Executive Board Meeting

November 17—Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED
—Elections and Installation of Officers
Program: Speaker, Gene Easter

December 8 – Luncheon and Christmas Party @ NEOMED



LOOKING AHEAD AT 2012 MEETING DATES, SAVE THESE DATES:

March 15

May 17

July 19

September 20

November 15

December 14



The Executive Board meeting will be held on Thursday, November 10 at **Reed Memorial Library** in Ravenna at 9:30 am.

The November and December 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.

LOOKING BACK by Norm Park, PCRTA Archivist



Back about sixty-five years ago, I received for my class an advanced version of *Weekly Reader*, and with it a teacher's edition called *The Scholastic*.

Its last two pages listed the names of teachers and university students from all around the world who wanted to correspond with U.S. teachers.

I'm sure they had a variety of motives: perhaps to get an inside look at our country or perhaps our schools, what we taught, and how we handled our classes. I suspect the main reason was their desire to brush up on their English skills.

Anyway, at the time I was gung-ho into stamp collecting, and I would choose to write to those who mentioned stamp collecting as an interest. So every two weeks, give or take, I'd send another letter or two, heavy on the school, English, America part and light on my true and devious intentions.

I believe the response to my letters was 100% and as a result I have boxes of letters still in their beautifully overly-stamped envelopes. They range from Antigua to the USSR.

One young man I particularly remember was one Ruben Ochauco from the Philippines. I'm looking at his letter now, dated 23 Aug. 1955. All his letters are a joy to read and reread. At the time, he was an advanced student at the University of Manila and we wrote about music, literature, the social scene, and of course education. (Did I mention he was a stamp collector?)

I told him he'd be a great teacher and then he went on to say:

"Yes, I have considered teaching, and I am frowning, not because of lack of regard but because there are many more teachers in the Philippines than students. This is of course an exaggeration, but you get the feel for how many teachers we have."

"Last summer 3,000 went to Hoilo City and applied for teaching positions. There was and is none! And every year, thousands of new teachers go out for jobs—you know what happens most often? If you know a government official or someone who is influential, you'll get a job—if not, sorry!"

"Teaching in the Philippines (based on what I have read in the papers) is a nice job if you are teaching in a private school because the salary is assured. But in government institutions, teachers usually don't get their salary on time. However since Magsaysay's term, teachers get their salaries a little faster and I believe there were certain raises in salaries, but nothing to boast about. 180 pesos a month is not a great amount."

It's been many years. I've lost track of Ben, the Philippines and the current state of their educational system. One thing is fairly certain—There as most everywhere, the government's grip on public education shows no sign of relaxing.

Norm

Editor's note: Norm's column came to me in an envelope with four colorful stamps on it...anyone else collect stamps?

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We are always grateful for new members. Thanks to those of you who invited someone to join, or guided them to our beautiful and informative website for forms or for news and events of the PCRTA. Again, the best way to involve new members is to make that personal invitation.

The Membership Committee will soon launch a mass mailing to Portage County retired teachers who have retired within the past five year...and have not yet joined our association. We feel this is the second best way of contacting them since we have lost a personal touch with them.

If you can help with this undertaking, please email me at hmparry@att.net or call me at 330-673-0577. Thanks!

Helena



Helena Parry,
Membership Chair



LEGISLATIVE REPORT: WE MUST KEEP OUR DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN



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

Now that all the legwork has been done to assure a vote on the possible repeal of Senate Bill 5, our next important task is to see that our friends and members get out the vote this November. I can't recall in the distant past a more critical reason to get to the polls. If this doesn't energize the electorate, then nothing will.

I have been informed recently that the state legislature will not pass a pension reform bill during this session. It appears that they will delay action until the lame duck session next year.

We cannot lose sight of this major legislation. As retirees we must maintain our Defined Benefits system. There will be a huge effort to change this to a Defined Contribution plan. As we have discussed earlier, this has the potential to change our pensions from a plan that provides lifetime benefits we won't outlive, to a plan that is similar to a 401-K style defined contribution plan.

Ohio's public pensions are not currently in a crisis and have not asked for state or federal bailouts. STRS reports that a 2008 National Institute on Retirement Security (NIRS) report found that a **Defined Benefit Pension can deliver the same retirement income at almost half the cost** as a Defined Contribution plan.

Remember, unlike many states, Ohio's public school pensions are funded by employee contributions and board of education contributions. Seventy-five percent of the retirement costs are paid by interest on investments by the STRS.

We are truly blessed with the current system and should be willing to whatever is required to maintain it. It is not too early to let our representatives know how we feel. We must get involved before it is too late. **Dan**

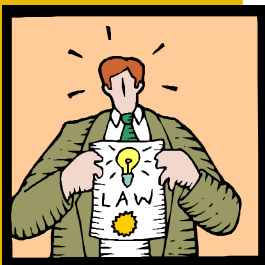


CONTACT YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Representative Kathleen Clyde, District 68 (most of Portage County)
77 High Street, 11th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 466-2004 Fax: (614) 719-3968
Email: district68@ohr.state.oh.us



Representative Todd McKenney, District 43 (SW Portage County)
77 S. High Street, 11th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 466-1790 Fax: (614) 719-6943
Email: district43@ohr.state.oh.us



MAKE YOURSELF BE HEARD

People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote—a very different thing.
-Walter H. Judd

SIMPLE CHOICES MAKE BIG IMPACT ON YOUR CHOLESTEROL



Kay Wise, Chair of Informative and Protective Services

What to eat? Should you have that alcoholic drink? How should you spend your free time? Making a few smart decisions each day can actually help keep your cholesterol in check.

Try these tricks whether you are taking cholesterol lowering medication already or just trying to keep your numbers down:

Select Soy—In one study, people who added four servings of soy protein per day to a low fat diet reduced their LDL or “bad” cholesterol by 11%. One serving is one cup of soy milk or one-quarter block of tofu.

Forgo alcohol—Alcoholic beverages add empty calories that increase your weight. They can also raise your triglyceride levels.

Go nuts—In a research review scientists found perks to eating about two and a half handfuls of nuts, like walnuts and almonds, each day.

Stay in motion—Exercise is important. Aim for 30 minutes on most, if not all, days of the week. But don’t stop there. The more time you move the rest of the day, whether it is folding laundry or chasing grandkids, the lower your cholesterol levels will be.

Read food labels—Each one lists the amount of cholesterol. Keep track and aim for 300 mg or less per day. Also, choose foods that have fats and oils listed lower on the list of ingredients.

If you decide to add soy or nuts to your diet, or more exercise, talk with your doctor first to determine together what changes are right for you.

This information was taken from *Strive for Healthy Living*, Fall 2011, p. 4 “Cholesterol: Simple Choices, Big Impact.”

I’VE BEEN PONDERING...

What is a free gift? Aren’t all gifts free?

Teach a child to be polite and courteous in the home...and he’ll never be able to merge his car onto the freeway.

Is it me—or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?

How can there be self-help “groups”?

They told me I was gullible, and I believed them.

I went to San Francisco. I found someone’s heart. Now what?

Protons have mass? I didn’t even know they were Catholic.

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can’t make me happy.

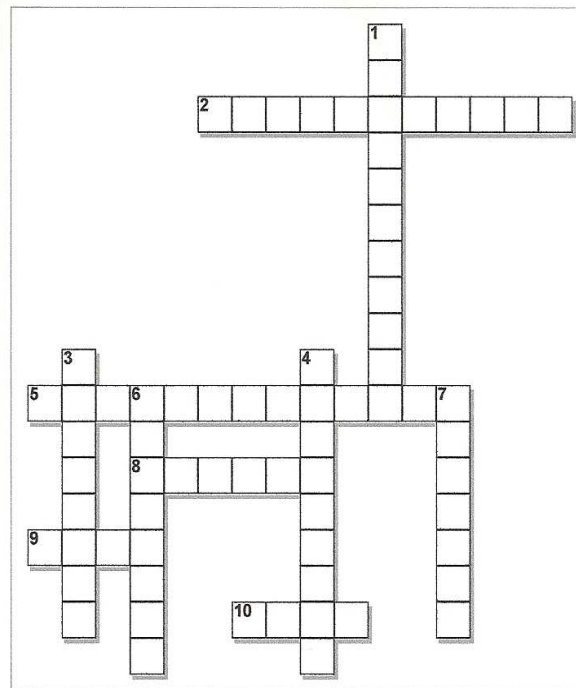
Experience is the thing that you have left when everything else is gone.

I used to be indecisive. Now...I’m not too sure.

One nice thing about egotists...they don’t talk about other people.



Cholesterol Crossword



Editor’s Note:

Whoops! The folks who made this crossword puzzle are a little mixed up!

1,3,4,6, and 7 go Down.

2,5,8,9, and 10 go Across.

Across:

- 1. Fats that increase cholesterol levels
- 3. ____ are clogged due to high fat intakes
- 4. Found in baked goods
- 6. Uncontrollable risk factor
- 7. Drugs that improve cholesterol levels

Down:

- 2. LDL and HDL
- 5. Stored in fat cells
- 8. B vitamin used as a supplement
- 9. Controllable risk factor
- 10. Type of monounsaturated fatty acid

See page 12 for answers. No peeking!

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. 8, 2011

--President **Ron Snowberger** introduced **Brad Cromes**, We Are Ohio field organizer, who asked for canvassers or phone bank volunteers to work encourage people to vote NO on state issue 2 to repeal SB5.

--Secretary **Ruth Weigand** corrected the last minutes as follows: Nathan Dreger was a Rootstown graduate, 10 membership brochures were sent to Ravenna, and there were 782 volunteer hours for the 2010-11 school year at NEOMED.

--Treasurer **Darlene Fetterhoff** reported a checking account balance of \$5,330.45. \$40,000 has been invested with Stifel-Nicolaus mutual funds.

--ORTA Trustee **Dan McCombs** reminded the committee that he is completing his final year as trustee and his replacement should be named by September.

--Past President **Dave Gynn** said there is a need for volunteers to work to repeal SB5. He said 2012 will be the 45th anniversary for PCRTA and the 65th year for ORTA.

--Webmaster **Connie Evans** will attend an ORTA workshop and hopes to get information to set up a members-only page on our website.

--Social/Travel Committee Chairs **John and Sandy Kerstetter** have planned a trip to Beckwith Orchard on October 27. John is planning a trip to the Ravenna Arsenal.

--**Jim Montaquila** was commended for the excellent scholarship program, and **Edie Scott** was thanked for coordinating the proctoring schedule.

--**Georgia Darrah**, the Public Relations Chair, thanked the Record Courier for the excellent coverage for our scholarship program.

--Protective Services Chair, **Kay Wise**, informed us that **Dr. Schneider** will be unable to come to our next luncheon to talk about shingles. PARTA will bring a bus to promote the use of the transportation system.



--**Jan Fencel**, Chair of the Nominations Committee, nominated **Ron Snowberger** as

ORTA Trustee for 2012-2014. It was seconded by Ken Granville and the motion passed. The position of ORTA District IX Director is open.

--**Pat Gynn**, Newsletter Editor, said there were 375 newsletters printed and 359 mailed at a cost of \$312.57. Newsletters were emailed to 62 people.

--**Edith Scott**, Proctor Scheduling Chair, said more volunteers are needed for proctoring.

--Membership Committee Chair, **Helena Parry**, announced that an updated list of new retirees and others receiving STRS benefits should be received soon.

--Legislative Chair, **Dan McCombs**, said that the ORTA leadership states that the news people are very negative about public employees. We need to keep our defined benefits and need to avoid becoming negative ourselves. He spoke about HB194 which restricts voting rights; members suggested we should put all our efforts toward repealing SB5.

--**Judy Morgan**, Community Service Chair, said our September service project will be school supplies which will be donated to Portage County Clothing Center. Maplewood Career Center sent a thank you note for our serving cake and cookies to GED graduates. It was suggested the APL needs volunteers and could use old towels. The November project will be collecting items for the food banks of Portage County. We received a \$20 donation for Safer Futures.

--First Book Portage County has given many new books to kids. They are requesting a artistically decorated book case for a fundraiser.

--After a discussion about our luncheons at the Methodist Church, **Kay Wise** moved that we hold our November and December luncheon meetings at NEOMED; seconded by **Ken Granville**. Motion passed.

PCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING - Sept. 15, 2011

--President **Ron Snowberger** thanked greeters **Ginny Buckley** and **Bob and Kathy Latimer**.

--**Anna Russo**, PARTA Community Coordinator, told about public transportation. Passengers may travel on an existing route or register for door-to-door service.

--**Les Bennett** is in assisted living and PCRTA needs someone to take the job of Reservations Chair.

--First time attendees were introduced: **Pat Yountz**, **Jane Donnell**, **Debbie Stress** from Streetsboro, and **Terry Sheffler**, Cleveland.

--**Ken Granville** led the Pledge of Allegiance; **Ruth McKay** read a poem (see page 12) and gave the invocation.

Announcements:

Give **Mary Jane Brannon** names of members who need cards, give community service hours to **Judy Morgan**, the monthly service project is school supplies, **Dr. Schneider** was unable to come to the meeting to inform members about shingles shots, and remember the Ravenna Library book sale.

Minutes, continued:

--All members are needed to recruit some new members.
 --NEOMED proctors are needed; call **Edith Scott**.
 --**John Kerstetter**, dressed as an apple picker, announced a trolley through Beckwith Orchard on Thursday, October 27 from 2:00 to 3:30. The cost will be \$4 and will include coffee and a piece of pie. Members are requested to bring a lousy joke.
 --**Dave Gynn** asked members to vote NO on Issue 2 in November to repeal SB5 and asked members to visit the WeAreOhio.com website to volunteer to make phone calls or canvas homes.
 --Vice President **Ken Granville** introduced our speaker, **Ralph Pfingsten**, author of *The History of the Ravenna Arsenal*. Ralph is a retired science teacher and has done biological surveys on the site. He said that during WWI there was a dire need for a munitions plant. The Arsenal was started by workers digging by hand in 1940. He described the munitions buildings and storage bunkers that were built as well as the sleeping quarters used every eight hours by a different worker. Today the facility is a major training center for the Army National Guard from the Youngstown Air Reserve Station. There has been a major cleanup which is still ongoing.



OUR NEW LUNCHEON VENUE AT THE NEOMED CONFERENCE CENTER



Our November and December luncheon meetings will be held at the Ralph Regula Conference Center at the south end of the Northeast Ohio Medical University—NEOMED. The address is 4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, OH 44272. Look for Parking Lot B. Make sure you mind the 20 mph speed limit on St. Rt. 44 by the schools.

The luncheon price will be \$12. We will enjoy a buffet table with two entrée choices, an assortment of potato, pasta, or vegetable sides, and two dessert choices.

Salads will be served at our tables, as will coffee and other beverages. The conference offers handicapped access from the parking lot, a good microphone and media system, and many other amenities for our use.

Already an ORTA and PCRTA 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 _____

2012 DUES PAYMENT	
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

REPORT YOUR VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

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

Use this form to report your service hours for January through December, 2011.

Clip or copy and mail this form to **Judith Morgan, 265 Jade Boulevard, Streetsboro, OH 44241**



Check the areas where you volunteer and give an estimate of 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="checkbox"/> Other (list) _____ | | | |

Your Name _____

Actual or estimated hours:

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

ORTA collects this data to let the state and communities realize the economic impact and value that our members bring through their volunteer efforts. Our Defined Benefit pension lets us be free to volunteer our time rather than have to take on a second job or worry about our pension expiring before we do.

Please look back through your calendars and fill out this form. You may surprise yourself with how much time you actually volunteer!

Judy



PCRTA LEADERS ATTEND ORTA CONFERENCE

Strong leaders equal a strong organization. National Retired Teachers Association representative, **Sharon Smith**, conducted a leadership development workshop recently for ORTA at their office in Columbus.

Ron Snowberger, Georgia Darrah, and Dave Gynn participated in small group, activity-oriented projects to strengthen leadership skills.

Connie Evans participated in a website workshop session. All felt the day in Columbus was worthwhile and would be a benefit to PCRTA.

Standing: **Ron Snowberger, Dave Gynn, Georgia Darrah.** Seated left: **Sharon Smith,** NRTA representative Seated right: **Connie Evans**

Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, November 17 12 noon

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



Buffet Menu: Rosemary Chicken, Vegetable Lasagna, Red Potatoes, Steamed Vegetables, Salad, Hot Rolls with Butter, Pumpkin Pie and Assorted Cheesecakes
Note: Vegetarian Selections will be included in every buffet.

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 MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY NOVEMBER 9. 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: Non-Perishable Foods or \$ to buy turkeys for the Center of Hope in Ravenna.

Remember: You can call PARTA to schedule bus transportation to and from the luncheon.



Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, December 8 12 noon

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



Buffet Menu: Carved Ham, Beef Stroganoff, Noodles, Sweet Potatoes, Winter Vegetable Blend, Salad, Hot Rolls with Butter, Assorted Seasonal Desserts
Note: Noodles and Winter Blend Vegetables go together to make Vegetarian Pasta Primavera

Please note the date has been changed to a week earlier than usual.

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 MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY NOVEMBER 30. 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: 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

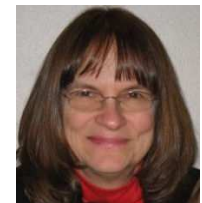
Please notify PCRTA of any address changes.

ADDRESS CODES

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

Now I Sit Me Down to Study...

Ruth McKay shared this poem at the September luncheon meeting. Many asked to have the poem, so here it is:

*Now I sit me down to study,
I pray the Lord I don't go nutty
And if I should fail to learn this junk,
I pray the Lord that I don't flunk.*

*And when I die, don't pity me at all
Just lay my bones in study hall.
And tell my teacher I did my best
Then pile my books upon my chest.*

*So now I lay me down to rest,
And pray I'll pass tomorrow's test.
If I should die before I wake,
That's one less test I'll have to take!*

Bet our NEOMED students have probably felt this way at times, too.



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 patgynn@aol.com and let me know.
Pat Gynn, Editor



CHOLESTEROL CROSSWORD ANSWERS...SSSHHH

Across: 2. cholesterol 5. triglycerides 8. niacin 9. diet
10. nuts

Down: 1. unsaturated 3. arteries 4. transfats 6. genetics
7. statins

THANKS FOR YOUR SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATIONS!

Nearly 300 items of school supplies collected at our last luncheon meeting were delivered to the County Clothing Center to be distributed to needy children this school year.

