

# The Desktop

A Newsletter for the Portage County  
Retired Teachers Association

Desktop Volume 22 Issue 1

January - March 2012



PCRTA—  
A Chapter of Ohio Retired  
Teachers Association

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## SAFER FUTURES—OUR CHANCE TO LEARN MORE



Safer Futures is a program of Family and Community Services, Inc. which has been one of the community programs that PCRTA has supported by collecting needed items for the shelter.

**Felicia Johnson** and **Emily Kulow** will be the speakers at our March luncheon meeting to tell us about the services of **Safer Futures**, an organization which provides support, information and advocacy to those affected by domestic violence in Portage County.

The Safer Futures Shelter and Resource Center provides a safe place for women and their children to stay while they take the time to make choices about their futures in a safe environment. They can be with other women who face the same problems. Women's Advocates work with them to create their own personal case plan, to help determine new options, and to provide support services for family needs during their stay at the center.

**WINGGS** (Women in Need Getting and Giving Support) is a support group for women and children with topics including healthy relationships, safety planning, and dealing with stress. A children's group is offered to children 5 and over, and child care is available to children of all ages.

Interested in supporting Safer Futures? Volunteer...donate wish list items...purchase gifts for a family at the holidays...make a financial donation...collect used cell phones.

Do you know someone who may be encountering physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse? Direct them to the Safer Futures 24/7 support lines at 330-673-2500 or 330-296-2100 where domestic violence specialists are ready to answer their calls and provide emergency help through information, referrals and safety planning.

We see such sad stories on TV every day...you could help prevent a bad situation from becoming worse.



## BRING — BRING— BRING— NEEDED ITEMS FOR SAFER FUTURES—PLEASE

Safer Futures is our Community Service Project for March. Felicia Johnson says they are currently in need of body soaps, deodorants for women, and toothpaste for adults and children. They always need towels and wash cloths, standard pillowcases, and twin and full sheet sets. Other things would be sanitary pads or tampons, hair products/combs/ponytail holders, and toiletries. And of course, money donations are always helpful.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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 having to take on a second job or worrying about our pension expiring before we do.

The year 2012 has been named *the ORTA Year of the Volunteer*—let's show Ohio what retired teachers do for their communities and their state!

***Judy***

### JOIN OUR OWN VOLUNTEERS WORKING FOR PCRTA AND ORTA

#### Elected Officers:

**Ron Snowberger** – President/ORTA Trustee  
**Georgia Darrah** – Vice President & PR  
**Ruth Weigand** – Recording Secretary  
**Barb Cribbs** – Corresponding Secretary  
**Darlene Fetterhoff** – Treasurer  
**Ria Mastromatteo** – Assistant Treasurer  
**Dave Gynn** – Past President of PCRTA &  
 Current President of ORTA

#### Committee Chairs:

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



Where do YOU fit in as a volunteer?  
 Contact one of these chairs to help  
 with their committees at  
[www.pcrta.com](http://www.pcrta.com) and be a part of  
 the work and the fun!

## PREZ SEZ – A CHALLENGE FOR VOLUNTEERS IN 2012

We had a very successful 2011 year within PCRTA. How lucky we are to have so many active educators.

**Dave Gynn**, our own ORTA President, has named 2012 "The Year of the Volunteer." I was able to report to ORTA that our PCRTA members produced 6,608 volunteer hours in 2011. That was great, but I know we can do more (and we probably did had everyone remembered to turn in their hours to Judy).

**For 2012, my challenge to our members is to exceed 10,000 volunteer hours!** **Judy Morgan** does a fantastic job with the community services committee, and she will be thrilled to receive updates from you as your volunteer hours increase.

Volunteer hours cover an array of areas: *church participation, PCRTA, school events, nursing and retirement home services, social services, county clothing center, helping the elderly with gardening, meals on wheels, deliveries, rides for medical needs, your good will helping a neighbor, community services, reading to a child, reading for the blind, and many, many more unending acts of kindness.* Let's make the "hours" this year a banner one for Dave's home chapter.

The powerful force behind volunteering is the social change that is made through the

inspiration of people to make a difference to help those in need. Organizations like PCRTA really cannot function without the energy and input of volunteers like you!!



February 8 found **Dave Gynn** and me at the ORTA office in Columbus attending a work session on legislative concerns, along with an executive board meeting in the afternoon. We should have a report for you at the March meeting.

Many thanks to **Georgia Darrah** for arranging the programs for this year. They all sound exciting; especially the May program with **Regina Brett**.

I believe this will be well attended as I have talked with several other RTA's and REA's in the area and some of their members have expressed a desire to attend this luncheon.

**Marleen Strebler** has new "over the neck" name tags for you this year. We will use them at our luncheons.

Thanks for staying involved in your PCRTA organization. Please plan to involve a non-active member or encourage a new member this year? "Yes" is much easier to say than "I don't have time."

And, please remember to keep abreast of the "happenings" in Columbus by using our web site ([www.pcrta.net](http://www.pcrta.net)), as well as ORTA's ([www.orta.org](http://www.orta.org)). See you at the luncheon in March at NEOMED University.

**Ron**

*"For 2012, my challenge to our members is to exceed 10,000 volunteer hours!"*



Ron Snowberger, PCRTA President, ORTA Trustee

### "Explore The Wonder" by Sandy Cavinee

The mystery of God's creation unfolds along our way  
 Never fully revealed to us, just pieces every day  
 The earth, the sky, the oceans hold their secrets but show to man  
 How beautiful and mighty are God's works and plan  
 The greatest gift he gave us - to share as here we dwell  
 Are people just like you who know love so well  
 And as we "explore the wonder" of what VOLUNTEERING means,  
 The WONDER is your service - YOU are the greatest theme!



**TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff**



Report for November 10, 2011 thru January 12, 2012:

<b>Beginning Checking Acct. Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 8,195.10</b>
<b>Income:</b>	<b>\$ 6,276.00</b>
NEOMED, dues, donations	
<b>Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 2,698.62</b>
NEOMED luncheon	2,040.00
Speaker-Gene Easter	75.00
ORTA dues	450.00
Bank Fees for Nov/Dec	6.00
Stamps-D. Fetterhoff	8.56
Center of Hope	20.00
Printing-Ron Snowberger	42.60
TRZ calls	56.46
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$ 11,772.48</b>
<b>Scholarship Funds in Checking</b>	<b>\$ 6,187.00</b>
<b>Checking Working Balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,585.48</b>



**Dues Update**

Please check your newsletter address label to determine your current membership status. Dues need to be paid for 2012 if your label contains a 2011 for state or local dues.

State dues (ORTA) are \$30 per year and local dues (PCRTA) are \$10. If you have paid ORTA directly, call me so records can be updated. If you have any question, please call Darlene at 330-673-8164.

It is our goal to increase our membership each year to strengthen our collective voice. If you know someone who may be interested in joining, please give them a call and direct them to any officer or membership chair for further details.

Just think how much difference we could make if each one could reach one!

Thanks, ***Darlene***

*In Memoriam...*

**Betty M. Theiss**, a life member of ORTA and PCRTA, retired from Ravenna City Schools as an elementary teacher in 1984. She passed on January 3, 2012. Our sincere sympathies to her family and friends.

**Robert M. Stokes**, a member of ORTA and PCRTA since 2011, retired from KSU in 2002 as a professor of biological sciences for 39 years. He passed on December 13, 2011. Our sincere sympathies to his wife, Carole, his family, and friends.

**Douglas W. Bennett**, a life member of ORTA and PCRTA since 2001, retired from Ravenna Schools in 1992. He passed on January 23, 2012. Our sincere sympathies to his family and friends.

The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught,  
as that every child should be given the wish to learn.

John Lubbock



# LOOKING BACK by Norm Park, PCRTA Archivist



\*\*\*\*\*

It's interesting what sticks in the mind of students. As I go in and about town, I inevitably run across former students (don't we all?). The first thing most of them ask is "Do you still go out and hunt Indian stuff in the fields?"

The History, English and other good stuff we labored through seems to have gone by the wayside. "Gosh, I remember those neat arrowheads you brought to class." Even some girls were impressed. I remember one girl telling me how she started walking the fields surrounding her home.

If I showed my collection to third, fourth or fifth graders, I could expect, without fail, pockets full of "possible artifacts" arriving the next day.

What brought this on was the thought of what to do with all of these "precious items" we have accumulated down through the years? Several of our offspring started questioning me about certain artifacts in my collection. What culture made them? What was *this* one used for? Where were these found?

It occurred to me that I'm the only one who can answer the "where were they found" part and in archaeology, that's very important!

Ah! A dab of white-out, a fine, black felt tip and a number was at least a start. On a separate piece of paper I wrote the number and where each numbered piece was found: farm, township and county.

Isn't this what education is all about? Passing on our knowledge and usable truths on to the next generation? A simple thing like identifying a pre-historic spear and it's location helps the new owner to better understand where he stands in time and space.

Do not most grandparents feel the necessity and joy of passing on the heritage of their precious heirlooms? This is called education.

I've read several articles lately about revising school menus and offering healthier choices. What we now consider junk food has pretty much dominated the vending machines and school cafeterias around the country.

Not only are we revising the menus and restocking the vending machines, but I've heard of one system that was carefully monitoring classroom parties. Are those cupcakes loaded with empty calories? Worse than that, there is one school that frowns on bringing packed lunches from home! Who knows what evil lurks in those inconspicuous brown bags?



We here in the hinterlands are slow to pick up on all the latest innovations that are aimed at restoring and then maintaining our well-being.

The reason I bring this up is, that it reminds me of a Halloween party my sixth grade wanted to have. Was it really 45 years ago? Couldn't be, but probably was. Anyway, all the kids agreed (I'll admit I suggested it) to have a party consisting of all the good stuff mentioned in the health book. I remember we had bananas, apples, grapes, pretzels, lemonade and probably some other stuff.

It was fun and no one grumbled! In fact, we felt a bit sanctimonious. To top it off, we all garnered some bragging points that we could humbly flaunt before neighboring classrooms.

Man! Were we ahead of the times, or what?

**Norm**

## FIVE OHIO LAWS YOU MAY (OR MAY NOT) NEED TO KNOW ABOUT by CJ Andrews in Hubpages

1. In Ohio, it is illegal to fish for whales on Sunday. Do we even have whales???
2. In the city of Lima, it is illegal to sell any map that does not have Lima clearly marked on it.
3. In the city of Canton, if a person loses a pet tiger...they must report it to authorities within an hour.
4. In the great state of Ohio, it is illegal to lean against a public building—you may be fined if you do.
5. In Ohio, it is illegal for more than 5 females to live in the same house.

Please make sure to follow these important Ohio laws...or else.



Dan McCombs,  
PCRTA  
Legislative  
Chair

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT: WAITING AND WATCHING

Well here we go again, the start of a new legislative year. Although this is a Presidential Election Year, we don't expect to see a great deal of legislation coming from Columbus until after the Fall election.

The Republican House Caucus recently laid out its top priorities for the coming months, including workforce development programs; Jobs Ohio II legislation; Bureau of Workers' Compensation reforms; and another review process for K-12 education reform. Rep. Ron Amstutz (R-Wooster) said he plans to launch a new round of conversations on education reform, including public hearings on how to fund and reform K-12 education in Ohio.

This should prove to be very interesting and we will follow this very closely. Pension reform is also going to be looked at by the caucus, however

they are waiting on the Ohio Retirement Study Council's advice on the reform recommendations laid out by the five pension systems prior to taking any legislative action.

The legislature is currently looking at prohibiting school districts from opening prior to Labor Day (Sub. HB191). Also Sub.HB 191 seeks to convert the minimum number of school days required in the school calendar to a minimum number of hours instead. The number of days per week would not change, but the number of hours per day could.

Don't forget to stay ready to react when you are needed. Have a great year!!

**Dan**

## PCRTA'S PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOP

For educators who will retire in the next 10 years

**Tuesday, March 13, 2012**

**5:00–7:00 pm – Includes Light Refreshments**

**Channels 45/49 Building**

1750 Campus Drive, off State Rt. 261

Free for Portage County Educators and Spouses

Find out about:

- \* STRS: pension calculation, insurance, benefits, Q & A/ John Buch of STRS
- \* Financial Services: professional advice/planning / Chris Perme, Perme Financial
- \* Legal Information: retirement and aging concerns/ Attorney John Flynn

**Questions & Reservations: Richard or Mary Ann Brockett**

**PCRTA@aol.com or brockettma@hiram.edu**

**Phone: 330-204-3151 or 330-673-0577**





Kay Wise, Chair of Informative and Protective Services

## THE MAZZA MUSEUM: A WONDERFUL PLACE TO VISIT

Looking for a great place to visit? “The Mazza Museum: International Art From Picture Books” is the world’s largest museum devoted to literacy and the art of children’s picture books.

The museum is open Wednesday-Friday from 12 noon to 5 pm and Sunday 1 pm to 4 pm. Its permanent home is the Virginia B. Gardner Fine Arts Pavilion, 1000 N. Main, Findlay, OH.

The museum was dedicated on September 13, 1994. It began with 4 pieces of art valued at \$1,700. Currently it contains nearly 5,000 pieces of art valued at many millions of dollars.

The Mazza Museum is the first and largest teaching gallery in the world specializing in the art from children’s picture books.

It has hosted over 415 artists and authors. It has held 17 Annual Mazza Summer Institutes and 12 weekend institutes hosting book arts and authors from around the world. The Mazza annually provides formal tours through the galleries for over 5,000 children and adults.

In November, my husband and I visited on a Saturday to see Steven Kellogg receive his honorary Ph.D. The conference began at 9 am and the presentation was at 7 pm. Steven Kellogg had given over 200 original pieces of art to the museum.

My ticket number to get an autograph was #373, but luckily someone gave me her #186 ticket because she wasn’t going to get an autograph. I got my books autographed and we were on our way home by 10 pm.



Kay and Steven Kellogg ready to autograph Kay’s book And I Love You.

There is an incredible book store there. Become a Mazza Enthusiast (member) and you receive notifications of programs, a discount at the book store, and a calendar with beautiful illustrations from children’s books.

Check them out at [www.mazzamuseum.org](http://www.mazzamuseum.org)!

**Kay**

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY: PCRTA MEMBERS SAROJ SUTARIA AND RUTH WEIGAND HAVE BOTH ENDORSED THIS TRIP

### 11-Day China Trip for Culture Experience & School Visits

Shaker Heights Retired Educator’s

are launching the China Program for Retired Educators to Experience China

October 22–November 1, 2012

Contact Don or Ying for early bird registration

and more trip details @ 330-671-2717

Or email: [contactus@nuvutraveler.com](mailto:contactus@nuvutraveler.com) Or online: [www.nuvutraveler.com](http://www.nuvutraveler.com)

The trip includes visits to a Chinese elementary school in Hangzhou and a Chinese high school in Shanghai



**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 November 10, 2011**

–The meeting was held at the Ravenna Library. President **Ron Snowberger** reminded members to give their volunteer hours to **Judy Morgan** for her report.

–**Barb Cribbs**, Corresponding Secretary, reported on making the automated calls to remind members of the change of meeting location and luncheon cost for the Nov/Dec meetings.

–Treasurer **Darlene Fetterhoff** reported a checking account balance of \$8,195.10 of which \$2,697.00 is scholarship money, leaving a working balance of \$5,498.10.

–ORTA President **Dave Gynn** said that ORTA has named 2012 the “Year of the Volunteer.” Members need to keep a major focus on the pension reform bill. He also said that the STRS investment returns had shown a 22% increase.

–President **Ron Snowberger** went to his first ORTA meeting as our Trustee. He introduced **Marlene Strebler**, who volunteered to be reservations chair, and **Richard** and **Mary Jane Brockett**, the Pre-Retirement chairs.

–Nominations Chair **Jan Fencel** said that the following have accepted nominations: Vice-President **Georgia Darrah**; Recording Secretary **Ruth Weigand**; and Treasurer, **Darlene Fetterhoff**. Elections and officer installation will take place at the November meeting.

–Newsletter editor **Pat Gynn** said 356 newsletters were mailed at a cost of \$ .87 1/2 per newsletter. There are 54 people on the email list which saves \$47.25.

–Legislative Chair **Dan McCombs** said that **Ken Cardinal** and **John Gunyula** will be legislative co-chairs.

– Following a discussion of a board meeting place, **Helena Parry** moved the board meet at Kent Library and set up the tables ourselves for no fee. Seconded by **Jan Fencel** the motion passed.



– Membership Chair **Helena Parry** said 170 letters were mailed to prospective new members. Several board members volunteered to make personal follow-up phone calls.

–NEOMED Proctor Scheduler **Edith Scott** said she plans to set up another new proctor orientation meeting.

–**Mary Jane Brockett** announced the tentative date for the Pre-Retirement meeting to be March 13, 2012. It was suggested she check with channel 45/49 for the venue.

–Informative and Protective Chair **Kay Wise** said NEOMED students would be taking blood pressures before the November meeting and that members could get flu shots at Giant Eagle after the luncheon.

–**Marlene Strebler** said she has 77 November luncheon reservations and 35 for December.

–Telephone Chair **Saroj Sutaria** asked **Evelyn Park** to be her co-chair.

**PCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING - November 17, 2011**

–**Ken Granville** led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Ken**, **Dave Gynn**, and **Ruth Weigand** were the greeters.

–New members attending were **Janet Fox**, Community Education; **Linda Little**, Ravenna Tappan School; and **Gary Moss**, Streetsboro mathematics.

–First time attendees were: **Norma Jackson** and **Barb Watkins** from Green Local Schools, and **Stan Christenson**, KSU retiree.

–**Nancy Granville** gave the meditation with a poem entitled “Leaves” by **Elsie Brady**.

–**John Kerstetter** reported that 25 people enjoyed the Beckwith Orchard tour and apple pie and ice cream. The next even will be the play “Ragtime” at KSU Theater on February 17 with dinner at the Pufferbelly Restaurant before the performance.

–**Ron Snowberger** presented the slate of **Georgia Darrah**, **Ruth Weigand** and **Darlene Fetterhoff** and asked for any nominations from the floor. When there were none, **Saroj Sutaria** moved to accept the slate, **Donna Hajek** seconded it, and the three were elected. They were installed by ORTA President **Dave Gynn**.

–**Dave** spoke about ORTA and his plans for next year. He mentioned ORTA is celebrating its 65th year and PCRTA is celebrating our 45th year.

–He also explained the difference between the defined benefit and defined contribution as ways to receive STRS pensions. Most people have defined benefit and want to keep it. Defined contribution acts more like a 401K plan.

–**Judy McKinney** won the 50/50 raffle. She received \$64 and donated it to the Thanksgiving food collection.

–**Gene Easter**, who had been a Streetsboro HS Teacher for 40 years and was also affiliated with KSU and Western Reserve University, was our speaker. He brought a large collection of things to demonstrate hands on the (cont.)



Principles of physics. The audience had grand fun trying to complete the many different tasks.

**PCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING – December 8, 2011**

–Greeters were **Nancy Granville** and **Ginger Murphy**.

–Entertainers for the program were **Ray Harcar, Sam Mayes, and Ken Granville** with their brass trio.

–President **Ron** thanked members for their donations of hats and gloves and/or canned goods. He said **Judy Morgan** would deliver them to the Portage County Clothing Center and to food banks.

–Social Chair **John Kerstetter** invited everyone to attend the performance of Ragtime on Feb. 17 at KSU for \$7. He had forms and also had it on our website.

– Legislative chair **Dan McCombs** spoke about HB 136, which is legislation pending to expand the voucher program. He asked members to contact their representatives about this bill because it will be detrimental to all the school districts in the state.

–Members exchanged the gifts they had brought with them with another person a couple of times.

–**Adele Fussner** won \$77 in the 50/50 raffle.

–**Edith Scott** said there will be a new proctor orientation on January 25 at 10 am. Ten new proctors are signed up to take the proctor orientation.



**PCRTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING January 12, 2012**

–President **Ron Snowberger** called the Planning Meeting to order at the Kent Library.

–Treasurer **Darlene Fetterhoff** presented the proposed budget for 2012. As was suggested, the amount for speakers and entertainment were increased.

–**Ron** announced there will be a meeting to discuss HB 136 on vouchers on January 26 at 7:30pm at Streetsboro High School and encouraged attendance.

–**Connie Evans** said the membership list is now online at our website in a section for access by board members using a password.

–All board members received a flyer with the Ohio Apportionment Plan for 2012-2022 for Portage County.

–Ron reported for **Judy Morgan** that PCRTA members had accumulated 6,608 hours of volunteer time. Ron said he wants to set a goal for this year of 10,000 hours.

–**Richard and Mary Ann Brockett** passed around flyers announcing the Pre-Retirement Workshop will be Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 5-7 pm at the Channel 45/49 Building. Attorney **John Flynn**, Financial Advisor **Chris Perme**, and STRS representative **John Buch** will be the speakers.

–**Jim Montiquila** reported that all scholarship materials have been sent to the schools with the due date June 6.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HARD AT WORK

The task of recruiting and retaining membership is a huge project. We appreciate members who are willing to call teachers who have retired and not yet joined PCRTA, or who are willing to invite a new retiree who has not yet joined PCRTA to one of our luncheons, or invite them to check out our website at [www.pcrta.net](http://www.pcrta.net).

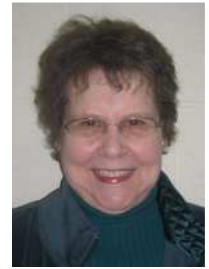
This past November, **Ron Snowberger, Adele and William Fussner**, and I addressed 175 letters to prospective retirees for membership. Now we have several members making personal phone calls as a follow-up to those mailings. Those helping with the phoning include **Dave and Pat Gynn, Ron Snowberger, Marlene Strebler, Adele Fussner, Nancy Granville, Kay Wise, Mike Hardy, Darlene Fetterhoff, Jan Zimmerman, Betty Davis** and myself.

**Betty Davis**, membership committee member, is meeting with retired teachers from Rootstown in March at an informal luncheon where she will distribute brochures, letters, and offer a personal invitation to join PCRTA .

Lifetime PCRTA Members, **Barb Bryner and Judy Hendershot** are also willing to recruit at the informal luncheons of the Field Local Retirees. This plan seems to be a good idea, so if some of you meet with former retirees on a social level, please let me know if you need materials to hand out. Membership forms are posted on the web site as well.

Contact me at [hmparry@att.net](mailto:hmparry@att.net) or at 330-30-673-0577 with questions or suggestions for the Membership Committee.

*Helena*



Helena Parry,  
Membership Chair

# WELCOME

Welcome to our new members who have joined us since November, 2011

**Jerry B. Clavner** retired in 2010 from Cuyahoga Community College.

**Norma Jackman** retired in 2010 from Green Local Schools.

**Linda Little** retired in 2011 from Ravenna City Schools.

**Theresa Schoettler** retired in 2011 from Cleveland Metropolitan Schools.

**Debra L. Thompson** retired in 2011 from Waterloo Schools.

**Barbara Watkins** retired in 2011 from Green Local Schools.

**Patricia Yountz** retired in 2011 from Southeast Schools.



Retirement is a time when you never get around to doing all those things you intended to do when you were still working.

-- Anonymous

I used to dread getting older because I thought I would not be able to do all the things I wanted to do, but now that I am older, I find that I don't want to do them.

--Lady Nancy Astor

Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, March 15 12 noon

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



Buffet Menu: Kielbasa & Sauerkraut, Lasagna, Roasted Baby Red Potatoes, Fresh Veggie Medley, 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 MARCH 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: NEEDED ITEMS FOR SAFER FUTURES (See page 1 for suggestions.)  
Really needed now are toothpaste for children and adults, body soaps, and deodorants.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR – SAVE THE DATE:**

March 8 – Executive Board Meeting

March 15 – Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED  
Speakers: Felicia Johnson and Emily Kulow of Safer Futures

April 1 – Newsletter Deadline

April 15 – Deadline for cookbook recipe

May 10 – Executive Board Meeting

May 17 – Luncheon Meeting @ NEOMED  
Speaker: Regina Brett and Memorial Service

June 1 – Newspaper Deadline

June – Maplewood GED 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

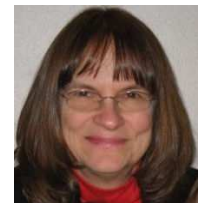
Please notify PCRTA of any address changes.

### 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](mailto:pcrta@aol.com)

Check out our informative website----->



Connie Evans,  
Webmaster

## COMING TO PCRTA ON MAY 17



**Regina Brett**



**New York Times Bestselling Author**

**Introducing her new book—**

**BE THE MIRACLE: 50 Lessons for Making the Impossible Possible**



Author: Regina Brett  
Photo Credit: James Sullivan

## SPEAKING OF BOOKS....

As a part of the “Year of the Volunteer,” ORTA is going to be making a cookbook as a state-wide project. It will contain “Recipes for Busy Volunteers.”

The idea is to make a cookbook of easy-to-make, not-too-many ingredients, or make-ahead recipes for the retired teacher who is out in the community busy volunteering.

Send your easy and yummy recipe to:  
[Carol Wolfe, 206 Avenue B, Bryan, OH 43506](mailto:Carol.Wolfe@bryanohio.com)

The deadline is April 15. Be sure you give your name and address and say you are from Portage County.

The books should be available for purchase in the Fall. They’d make great Christmas gifts for all the busy volunteers and working folks that you know, too.

