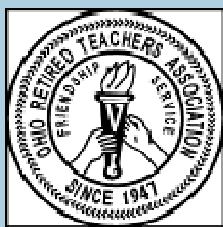


The Desktop

A Newsletter for the Portage County Retired Teachers Association



A Chapter of Ohio Retired Teachers Association

Desktop Volume 22 - Issue 4

Sept - Oct, 2012

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SILVER SNEAKERS, HEALTH, AND FITNESS FOR SENIORS

There is a fountain of youth. Millions have discovered it—the secret to feeling better and living longer. It's called staying active. Finding a program that works for you and sticking with it can pay big dividends.

Regular exercise can prevent or delay diabetes and heart trouble. It can also reduce arthritis pain, anxiety and depression. And, it can help older people to remain independent.



Our September luncheon speaker will be **Deb Tatro** who is the fitness coordinator manager for Assura Med and is also a *SilverSneakers'* coordinator. She will present a PowerPoint presentation along with the "how-to's" for healthy living, strength building, balance, and cardio strength for adult living.



Margo Terry, an instructor from the Tallmadge Rec Center, will accompany Deb. They will demonstrate some moves and stretching activities that you can use at your own home as well as some audience participation for those who can and want to participate.

The National Institute on Aging recommends that seniors employ four different kinds of exercises in order to stay healthy and fit:

Endurance activities like walking, riding a bike and swimming that increase your heart rate and breathing for an extended period of time. Starting with as little as 5 minutes at a time, you can gradually build up your endurance.

Strength exercises which build muscle tissue and increase your metabolism, which help keep your weight and blood sugar in check.

Stretching exercises to keep the body limber and flexible.

Balance exercises to reduce the chances of falling.



SilverSneakers is a fun, energizing program that helps older adults take greater control of their health by encouraging physical activity. It is a benefit offered to members of many Medicare plans across the U.S. that provides free health club memberships to seniors.

Although you may not be old enough to be eligible for this Medicare program, you may pick up some good ideas on how to keep yourself strong and healthy.



Welcome to Retirement
Retired Educators—
Class of 2012 !!

WELCOME TO THE RETIREMENT CLASS OF 2012!



Thank you to the schools who provided the names of the retirees. It is becoming more difficult to have the schools give us the names of their retirees. In several cases, they sent our PCRTA welcoming packets, but we don't know who they went to. If you know any retirees from these schools, please call and invite them to join us at one of our luncheons. The packet included a ticket for a *free luncheon meal*—all you have to do is ask them and include them in your reservation or give them the reservation information so they can make their own reservations.

AURORA CITY SCHOOLS— Raymond Beese, Natalie Mandle

CRESTWOOD SCHOOLS— 8 Retirees

FIELD SCHOOLS— Pat Bissler, Darcy Gillespie, Joyce Lee, Carlene Lundgren, Ron Swearington, Pam Way

GARFIELD SCHOOLS— 2 Retirees

KENT CITY SCHOOLS— Tony Barbuto, Julia Barnett, Ann Conard, Donna Crews, Julie Dietz, Dr. Tim Dortch, Erin Gutowski, Caroline Loomer, Peggy McDaniel, Laura Murphey, Lynne Penix, Heidi Ports, Ernie Rutsky, Michael Sanders, Aurora Stewart, Carol Strobl, Larry Strobl

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY—None available

MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER— 5 Retirees

RAVENNA CITY SCHOOLS— Brenda Bault, John Bault, Darlene Creager, Linda Ferguson, Jill Helman, Pam Nichols, Jane O'Brien, Donna Sell, Mark Stahl, Janet Varner, Pam Thomas, Therese Wakefield

ROOTSTOWN SCHOOLS— Ed Bose, Virginia Kuyon, Debbie Medkeff, Ruth Seton, Sue Schwartzhoff

SOUTHEAST SCHOOLS— Nancy Barrett, Sherrie Cicora, Joseph DeNobile, Michelle Faulstick, Marie Leach, Victor Marozzi, Carol Weigand, Rita Wilcox

STREETSBORO SCHOOLS— 0 Retirees

WATERLOO SCHOOLS— Janice Evanovich, Doris Yerkey

WINDHAM CITY SCHOOLS— 5 Retirees

Say Hello to Our Newest Members:

- Linda Foster retired in 1999 from Field Local Schools
- Erhman Armstrong retired in 2009 from KSU
- Debra Medkeff retired in 2012 from Rootstown Schools
- Mark Stahl retired in 2012 from Ravenna Schools

WELCOME

If you know of someone who should be on this list of 2012 Retirees or if your school is having a picnic or an event for retirees and you would be willing to pass out some PCRTA brochures, please call Membership Chair, Helena Parry at 330-673-0577 or send her an email at www.hmparry@att.net



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 next luncheon. If they say yes, pick them up and bring them along.

Helena

PREZ SEZ — REFLECTIONS AND BEGINNINGS

Recently I was fortunate to drive to Florida with my daughter and grandchildren (flying Jan met us there). During the drive, some of the kids' comments caused me to reflect: comments such as "I gotta pee," with daughter saying "You just have to hold it, but I remember when I was small Dad made us go in a small potty at the rear of the station wagon." As the kids groaned "Jewooo," I thought how times have changed.

Now as the last days of August are just around the corner and teachers are excited about returning to the classroom, many of us can reflect on our past achievements in our classrooms. I am certain the new retirees are wondering "What will I do with all the time on my hands?"



Do you remember how some teachers were able to control their classes with a very light rein and have no disciplinary troubles, while others had to shout and plead and threaten and yet they still got nowhere with certain students? You might agree that knowledge was not enough, technique was not enough, and mere experience was not enough. The art at the bottom was the ability to "tune in to each student's wavelength."

As the beginning of a new school year approaches, we need to review our emotions, look back at reflections and look ahead at new beginnings so that every day is a happy day, and a productive one.



And so...

- If I feel depressed, I will sing.
- If I feel sad, I will laugh.
- If I feel ill, I will double my labor.
- If I feel fear, I will plunge ahead.
- If I feel uncertain, I will raise my voice
- If I feel poverty, I will think of wealth to come.
- If I feel incompetent, I will volunteer.**

Thanks to every leader who volunteers at the many places you are needed. **Judy Morgan** collects your hours as we aim to meet our goal of 10,000 hours for 2012. Remember, "**The best helping hand you'll ever find is at the end of your own arm.**"

Just a reminder to continue to keep a check on Columbus. Your comments to our legislators are really needed, especially when matters of concern affect retired educators. I'm looking forward to the September luncheon meeting and program... see you there.

Ron

"The best helping hand you'll ever find is at the end of your own arm."



Ron Snowberger, President of PCRTA and ORTA Trustee

PORTAGE COUNTY RTA OFFICERS NOMINATION REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2012

Election of President, Assistant Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary occur in the even-numbered years.

We accept, with regret, the resignation of **Ron Snowberger** as President as of December 31, 2012, and we commend **Ron** for his outstanding service.

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2013/2014

President:
Helena Parry



Assistant Treasurer:
Maria Mastromatteo



Corresponding Secretary:
Barbara Cribbs



Our bylaws state that there can be nominations from the floor. If you are interested, please contact Nominations Chair **Jan Fencel** at:



330-678-1758

Elections will be held at the November luncheon meeting.



TREASURER'S REPORT by Darlene Fetterhoff

Treasurer's Report August 2, 2011:

Beginning Checking Acct. Balance:	\$ 9,366.54
Expenses:	\$ 3,530.02
ORTA dues	270.00
ORTA- 50 cookbooks	300.00
NEOMED luncheon	972.00
Jan Fencl—refund	1,000.00
James Montaquila—scholarship	29.44
IRS Form 1023 (501c3) fee	850.00
D. Fetterhoff—office supplies/postage	24.65
D. Fetterhoff—501c3 mailing, copies, jump drive	33.93
Check return & bank fee	50.00
Income:	\$1,168.00
Dues, luncheon, 50-50, donations	
Ending Balance:	\$ 7,004.52
Scholarship Funds in Checking	\$ 3,507.00
Working Amount in Checking	\$ 3,497.52

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP

Members who still owe for 2012 have been contacted recently by phone or by letter. Please pay as soon as possible. When you pay, your membership will be credited through 2013. If not paid **before** December 31, your membership will be dropped.

Think how much ORTA does to support our pensions. At \$30 annually that is \$2.50 per month. PCRTA is less than \$1 per month.

Our collective voice is essential! Now that you realize what a bargain our membership is, ask a friend to join!

Seriously, we need to keep our ORTA trustee and that is done through our membership numbers. If we lose members, we lose our trustee. Only the ten counties with the largest dual membership (state and local) are represented on the ORTA Board.

PCRTA has had a trustee for many years. Many of you realize the excellent job **Dan McCombs** has done in the past as trustee, and currently **Ron Snowberger** continues doing a fine job. WE remain strong because we are well represented.

KUDOS

To \$50 Scholarship Club member **Virginia Mills**—Thank You!



To an **anonymous donor** who sent a card with a monetary gift to each of our six 2012 scholarship recipients. PCRTA and the young ladies thank you for your expression of kindness and generosity.

To **Alan Balog** for donating his time and expertise to complete, along with **Darlene Fetterhoff**, our 501(c)(3) application. Darlene commented, "Alan turned the task from a frightening nightmare into an annoying nightmare."



In Memoriam:

Karin Shipley retired in 2002 from Kent Schools. She was a member of ORTA and PCRTA for 10 years. Our sincere sympathies to her husband, John Shipley, who has been an ORTA associate member for many years, her family and friends. Karen passed on July 11, 2012.

New Proctor Orientation Meeting

9:30 to 11:30 Wednesday, August 22

NEOMED Office of Academic Affairs

Please call Edith Scott to register 330-297-1812



Need a ride to the luncheon?

Call Evelyn Park 330-274-2171
or Saroj Sutaria 330-678-9045

School Time = Dues Time

It's that time of year again! When we see the school buses start to roll for a new year, it's our reminder to pay our annual dues to ORTA and PCRTA for the next year—2013.

Of course if you are a lifetime member, you don't have to worry—you are all paid up!



Know of anyone who needs a card for illness, sympathy, or congratulations?

Call or email Pat Mazzer and she will send that person a card from PCRTA.

330-673-3174 or
patmazzer@aol.com



OK—You've Retired! Were Any of These the Reason Why???

- * Your student's pagers have more memory than you do.
 - * Every year it gets tougher to go 50 minutes without going to the bathroom.
 - * Your kids think your whoopee cushion is hilarious—only you don't have a whoopee cushion.
 - * You have an autographed copy of "The Canterbury Tales."
 - * Under the school's zero tolerance drug policy, you've been disciplined for your use of Ben-Gay.
 - * You didn't just "teach" Latin—it was your native language.
 - * Your artificial hip sets off the metal detectors every day you come to school.
 - * Your school board president just came in and hammered your globe flat.
- OK—your school board did just anything annoying...again.



RSVP IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS...HOW ABOUT ONE OF US?

Senior Corps programs (RSVP, Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion) were created by the federal government in the mid-1960s and early 1970s. In Portage County, these programs are administered by Family and Community Services, Inc. We are looking for adults who want to share their time, expertise and leadership in helping out their communities.



RSVP engages adults in a wide range of volunteer experiences: community restoration and clean-up projects, serving hot meals and emergency food services, teaching financial literacy, tutoring children within the schools, assisting with community-wide emergency planning are just a few examples of local opportunities. Placements are based on individual interests and skills. Little or no experience is needed as we offer training to our volunteers.

Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion volunteers must meet certain income guidelines and receive a small stipend. They tutor at-risk students within the school systems. Senior Companions help adults remain independent and in their own homes by providing assistance with shopping, companionship and activities of daily living.

If you are interested in becoming a RSVP volunteer, we would love to talk with you! Our current Senior Corps offices are at 705 Oakwood Street in Ravenna but we will be moving to Acorn Alley in downtown Kent this fall. For that reason it may be easier to reach us via e-mail. For information about RSVP, please contact Crystal Shanley at cshanley@fcsohio.org or Julie Rohrich at jrohrich@fcsohio.org.

Foster Grandparents and Senior Companion information is available through Michael Semon at msemon@fcsohio.org, or Susie Ferrell at sferrell@fcsohio.org.

SPEAK OUT FOR YOUR PENSION SYSTEM'S SOLVENCY



Dan McCombs,
PCRTA
Legislative
Chair

I hope your summer has been as eventful and fun as mine has. We really know that the legislature should be well rested for their fall session leading up to the election. It is time to let our representatives know how we feel about our pension system and ask them to support the STRS effort to make it more solvent.

I had the pleasure to visit with a husband and wife from New Jersey last week and was amazed to find out that Ohio's pension systems for teachers and police are in a lot better shape than theirs. The husband is a retired policeman and his wife is a retired elementary school teacher. What the governor of New Jersey and many of the municipalities have done to balance their budgets, is to borrow money from the retirement systems and to not have any plans to pay them back. I hope Ohio doesn't follow this example!



We need to keep on top of our representatives and make our feelings heard. Sooner is better than later. Also, as I have preached many times to you, THE CHOIR, we need more members to be an effective lobbying organization representing retired teacher interests. Get out and shake the bushes to get your non-involved friends to join our tremendous organization. All of us must be unofficial members of the membership committee. I hope to see all of you this fall with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for the task at hand!

Dan

PCRTA OFFICERS

President & ORTA Trustee: Ron Snowberger
330-678-3268

Vice-President: Georgia Darrah 330-626-2135

Recording Secretary: Ruth Weigand
330-673-4788

Corresponding Secretary: Barb Cribbs
330-422-0842

Treasurer: Darlene Fetterhoff 330-673-8164

Assistant Treasurer: Ria Mastromatteo
330-296-4245

Past President: Dave Gynn 330-678-8423

PCRTA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archival: Norm Park 330-274-2171

Community Service & Volunteer Hours:
Judy Morgan 330-653-8174

Legislative: Dan McCombs 330-673-0744

Membership: Helena Parry 330-673-0577

Memorial and Sunshine:
Pat Mazzer (cards) 330-673-3174
Dee Smith 330-633-0524

NEOMED PROCTOR SCHEDULING:

Edith Scott 330-297-1812

Newsletter Editor: Pat Gynn 330-678-8423

Nominations: Jan Fencel 330-678-1758

Pre-Retirement Planning:
Richard and Mary Ann Brockett
330-527-8049

Protective & Informative Services:
Kay Wise 330-297-1110

Public Relations: Georgia Darrah
330-626-2135

Reservations: Marleen Strebler 330-947-2460

Scholarship: Jim Montaquila 330-657-2017

Social & Travel: John & Sandy Kerstetter
330-673-0129

Telephone/ Need a Ride?:
Evelyn Park 330-274-2171
Saroj Sutaria 330-678-9045

Webmaster: Connie Evans 330-296-6733

Want to join this team??

Contact any one of us!



P
C
R
T
A

KNOW YOUR SCAMS!



Kay Wise, Chair of Informative & Protective Committee

FINANCIAL SCAMS

Many people are looking for assistance with debt or keeping their home. Debt negotiating companies can deal with your creditors, but some of them may ask for an upfront fee, which can leave you with more debt. Stay in contact with your creditors and work out a plan before enlisting outside help or contact a credit counseling service for financial advice.

CHECK CASHING & MONEY ORDERS

Beware of those purchasing items from you online. A buyer may send you a check for more than what the item costs. They will then ask you to deposit the check and wire the difference back to them. The result? The check bounces, and you lose the payment for the item plus the amount you wired.

IDENTITY THEFT

Friends or grandchildren “stranded” in a foreign country, the hotel front desk “verifying” your credit card in the middle of the night, “charity” solicitations from groups you’ve never supported in the past are all forms of identity theft. Do not give your social security, bank account or credit card numbers to anyone.

ONLINE DATING AND SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

Do you have a lot of information on a dating or social media site that can make it easy for a scammer to pretend he knows you? Be sure to verify the person is who they say they are before sending money or giving out additional personal information.

PHISHING

“Phishing” is when you receive a suspicious email telling you that you’ve won a contest or that the company needs to verify personal information. Be careful not to click on any links and go to the company’s website directly and log into your account to make sure everything is ok.

HOME RENOVATION

Look out for home contractors who offer you a good deal on leftover materials or that knock on your door telling you that you need roof repairs. Find a home contractor that is legitimate, trustworthy, and dependable at www.akron.bbb.org.

JOB SEEKER

Secret shopper schemes, work-from-home scams, and phony offers of employment can dash your hopes and steal your money or identity. Be cautious when wiring money or filling out an online application or credit report that asks for sensitive personal data.

SWEEPSTAKES & LOTTERY

You’ve received notification that you have won a whole lot of money; but in order to claim it, you have to send a smaller amount of money. Keep in mind that you never have to pay to receive your winnings, and the taxes and transfer fees will be deducted.

SALES SCAMS

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don’t fall victim to high-pressure sales tactics, “limited time offers,” or prices that seem to low. Be especially wary of products that claim to help you lose weight, settle debt for a few cents on the dollar, make you rich, make you look years younger, etc.

Always research a business with the BBB before you sign contracts or hand over any money. Visit www.akron.bbb.org or contact them by phone: (800) 825-8887. The Better Business Bureau serves Ashland, Medina, Portage, Richland, Summit and Wayne Counties.

The above information was published in the *Akron Beacon Journal*, Monday, May 28, 2012, p. A10.

BRIMFIELD’S CHIEF OLIVER AND BACKERS FRAZZLE PHONE SCAMMER



After a report from a Brimfield grandmother about a caller saying her grandson needed money to get out of jail in Peru, a common scam, Chief Oliver called the phone number and rattled the scammer by tying up his phone line.

The man told Oliver that “he makes more money in a week than I do in a year by telling people their relatives have been arrested.” Some 6,000 fans of the Brimfield PD’s Facebook page also called the number and kept it tied up as a form of payback. Don’t mess with Brimfield, scammers!

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 is 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 - July 12, 2012

–Vice-President **Georgia Darrah** presided at the meeting in the absence of President **Ron Snowberger**.

–**Barbara Cribbs** filled in for **Ruth Weigand** who was ill. She reported she mailed notices to 34 of the past PCRTA Scholarship winners and received 5 responses.

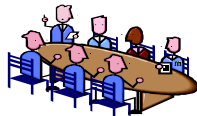
–**Dan McCombs** presented the Trustee report for **Ron**. The ORTA Quarterly had a report about the study of the Defined Benefit Plan. He suggested members send notes to thank **Senators Portman** and **Brown** for sponsoring Senate bill 342. He also said that STRS members received a COLA this year, but may not receive one in 2013.

–Reservations chair **Marlene Strebler** said she has 66 reservations for the July 19 luncheon. **Barb Cribbs** said she had made robocalls for meeting reminders. There was a discussion of the need for these calls; consensus was to leave calls to the discretion of the president.

–Treasurer **Darlene Fetterhoff** there is \$4,975.54 in the checking account plus \$4,391,00 in scholarship funds. She says that due to the low interest, as each CD matures she transfers the money to the business account.

–**Darlene** reported that **Alan Balog** had completed the paper work for PCRTA to be recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization for a tax-free status by the IRS.

–After some discussion, **Darlene** made the following motion to add to our bylaws: *In the event of dissolution of PCRTA, the Executive Committee shall, after paying and making provisions for the payment of all liabilities, distribute all the assets of PCRTA over to an organization dedicated to charitable and/or educational purposes and which has been recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service.* The motion was seconded by **Barb Cribbs** and passed with 16 members voting.



–Community Service chair **Judy Morgan** said she received a thank you note to PCRTA for the five members who served refreshments at the GED Graduation. She said members have reported 2,087.5 hours so far in 2012. We will collect school supplies at the September meeting.

–Membership Chair **Helena Parry** said there are over 35 members who still owe 2012 dues. **Ron Snowberger** and **Richard Brockett** will call these members and **Darlene** will send reminder cards.

–NEOMED Proctor Scheduler **Edith Scott** reported there will be a new proctor orientation session at the end of August or first part of September. Four new members are interesting in becoming proctors.

–Newsletter editor **Pat Gynn** reported 358 newsletters were printed and mailed for \$320.57. **Judy Kirman** has volunteered to help with the newsletter.

–**Edith Scott** thanked **Dreama Smith** for the very nice memorial program at the May meeting.

–**Dan McCombs** volunteered to help **Jan Fencil** with the nominations committee.

–**Richard Brockett** said he sent the final report to the state for the Pre-Retirement Planning Committee.

–**Georgia Darrah** said she was trying to see if the Record-Courier would devote a page to the scholarship winners.

–Scholarship Chair **Jim Montaquila** reported that PCRTA has awarded 84 scholarships totaling \$43,200. He thanked **Norm Park** for presenting **Kelsey Stummer** her award at the Aurora honors awards program. He thanked his committee members: **Dan McCombs**, **Lowell Meyers**, **Kay Wise** and **Jan Fencil**.

–Social/Travel Chair **John Kerstetter** wants suggestions for trips and activities. **Kay Wise** suggested a trip on the Cuyahoga Valley train. John said that he and **Sandy** are looking for some people to serve on the committee. **Darlene Fetterhoff** volunteered.

–Webmaster **Connie Evans** said there would be a PDF slide show and a Google map to our meeting site on our website at www.pcrta.net soon. **Edith Scott** thanked **Connie** for her hard work on the website.

THANK YOU—THANK YOU—THANK YOU, JUDY

Thanks Many thanks go out to **Judy Kirman**, a relatively new PCRTA member who read her newsletter, saw my plea for help, and answered. If anyone else would like to help, call me at 330-678-8423. **Pat Gynn**, Editor

PCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING – July 19, 2012

–President **Ron Snowberger** welcomed everyone and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked **Joann and Ken Cardinal** for being the greeters.



–Ron welcomed new member **Mark Stahl** of Ravenna and guest **Linda Foster** from Suffield along with **Dave Gynn** and **Ruth Weigand**, both long-time members returning after medical procedures. He also welcomed **Sue Hricko**, the NEOMED Testing Coordinator.

–**Judy Morgan**, Community Service chair, passed sheets for members to record their volunteer hours. PCRTA has 3,000 hours so far with the goal for the year to be 10,000.

–**Ron** reported that \$200 from our speakers’ fund and \$262 profit from the sale of Regina Brett’s book, was donated to Regina’s favorite charity, The Gathering Place, to help families dealing with cancer.

–**Ron** thanked **Marlene Strebler** for taking care of the luncheon reservations.

–Members were urged to order the ORTA 60th Anniversary cookbook for \$10, with \$4 going to PCRTA scholarships.

–These groups are looking for volunteers: RSVP; the Board of Elections; Portage County Clothing Center.

–**Ron** suggested PCRTA members thank our senators for getting the STRS pension bill passed, and suggested that members read about it in the ORTA Quarterly.

–**Ruth McKay** read an Irish blessing for the meditation.

–ORTA President, **Dave Gynn**, thanked everyone for the phone calls and get well cards. He is back to making visits to other ORTA chapters, but cannot drive yet.

–A PowerPoint presentation showed the scholarship recipients and told some things about them. Scholarship Chair **Jim Montaquila** introduced the 2012 recipients and said that **Kelsey Stummer** sent a thank you note for her award. She is in Europe with her family and could not attend.

–Vice-President **Georgia Darrah** presented **Sarah Briggs**, who likes to take things to the fullest extent. She hopes to teach grades four and five.

–**Lowell Meyers** awarded a scholarship to **Jessica Green** in the name of his wife **Carol** who taught 27 years at Crestwood and Streetsboro. Jessica plans to teach middle school math.

–**Norm Park** introduced **Karlie Lieberth**, who will attend the U of Akron and plans to teach middle school.

–**Dave Gynn** introduced **Lauren McBride**, Ravenna valedictorian, who plans to teach special education.

–**Jan Fencil** introduced **Abigail Wemhoff** who will play basketball at the University of Mount Union. She wants to teach high school math.

–**Jim** conducted a round-robin Q & A session with the students answering questions about their plans, why they want to teach, who had been a positive Influence, and what was a positive school activity.

–Along with the checks for \$1000 for each scholarship recipient, **Jim** passed out congratulatory notes with \$50 each from an anonymous donor.

–**Edith Scott** won \$77.50 of the \$154 collected in the 50/50 drawing and donated it to the scholarship fund.

–**Nancy Granville** won the name tag drawing for a free lunch.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE FORMED

A social committee has been formed to plan and carry out social activities for PCRTA.



The members are: **Darlene Fetterhoff, Saroj Sutaria, Nancy and Ken Granville**, with **Sandy and John Kerstetter** serving as co-chairs. If any member has suggestions for special events for the entire membership please contact **Sandy** or **John** at 330-673-0129.



Visit our PCRTA Website often at www.pcrta.net A site map has been added to the website to help you find what you are looking for.

Look under Scholarship to see the slide show presented about the 2012 Scholarship recipients. Many thanks to **Connie Evans**, our Webmaster! Great job, **Connie**.



LOOKING BACK AT SUMMER JOBS by Norm Park, Archivist

Time was when young teachers started their careers it was a necessity for them to find **summer employment**. Salaries were low, families were starting, and the idea of relaxing and enjoying three summer months was only for a select few.



I suspect many of you did as I did, seeking extra income:

*First, I remember helping to roof the veterans' hall in Salem, Ohio.

*Then in Mantua, I was a gandy dancer on the B&O Railroad. A gandy dancer was stuck with the most unskilled and difficult jobs of all railroad employees. I especially remember the Barko Machine—a little heavier than a jack hammer and just as mean. It leveled uneven rails by forcing ballast under the ties. I received a 10 cent raise the last month by becoming the timekeeper. A dollar an hour wasn't bad.



*Next a real easy job—assisting with the roller coaster at Geauga Lake some wild stories to tell, but not now). I was promoted from there to driving the launch around the lake. Another 10 cent raise to \$1.00!

*Then working at a construction company doing what no one else wanted to do. Another promotion—from grunt work to driving a cement truck. I do remember leaving dribbles of concrete on the hill south of town. Salary—not recalled.



*I worked up the financial ladder by working for two summers as a painter, interior and exterior. My father was fussy when it came to painting, so I learned and profited from him. It paid a remarkable three bucks.



*One day I wandered into a small print shop in Mantua. The smooth clicking of a letter press in a darkened corner plus the unmistakable odor of ink grabbed me and I was hooked; for how long? Way, way beyond the allotted three months. I began by proofing galley sheets and after a while I graduated to the perch from which I fed newsprint into an ancient press that was noted for shredding paper into inky messes. Anyway, *The Mantua Record* somehow left the shop as a finished product. Salary? I think one dollar plus a free Coke machine plus a buck or two for a weekly column.



*A friend and I started our own little printing company in his basement. We had a letter press and an ancient offset press. It worked very well until he was transferred to Detroit. My salary dropped to about 80 cents.

*Four or five of my summers were spent in stone masonry—doing fireplaces, walls, steps, and other jobs requiring stone. The salary when self employed? I don't know—it wasn't much.



*One summer "job" I didn't do was continuing my education. Maybe I should have.

So, how about you retirees our them in Newsletter Land dropping me a card telling what you did to earn extra bucks in the summertime. No signature is necessary. I thought that it would be interesting to write a column listing a lot of the different jobs—babysitting, flipping burgers, etc. The list could go on and on and make for interesting reading.



Hey—just an idea.

Norm

Teachers, Facing Low Salaries, Moonlight in Second Jobs by Christine Armario

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which collects data on student performance across the globe, advised the United States earlier this year to work at elevating the teaching profession in order to improve student performance. In many nations where students outperform the U.S. in reading, math and science, including Japan and South Korea, teachers earn more than they do in the United States. International comparisons show that in countries with the highest performance, teachers are typically paid better relative to others, educational credentials are valued more, and a higher share of educational spending is devoted to instructional services than is the case in the United States, the OECD report concluded.



Huffington Post, 11/11/11

Luncheon Reservation for Thursday, September 20 12 noon
RALPH REGULA CONFERENCE CENTER at NEOMED
4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, OH 44272

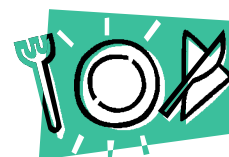
Buffet Menu: Chicken Marsala, Stuffed Green Pepper, Mashed Potatoes, Baby Carrots, Salads, Rolls/Butter, Coffee/Tea, and Assorted Desserts; The NEOMED Vegetarian Entrée of the Day will be made available to take the place of the chicken or stuffed pepper entrée.

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

Your name and phone number _____

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

I have enclosed \$_____ for the scholarship fund.



***Please indicate if any names listed are New Members or Guests. Write a V by those desiring a Vegetarian Entrée.*

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY September 13. Mail your reservation and check made to PCRTA to:
Marleen Strebler, 3109 St. Rt. 183, Atwater, OH 44201 330-947-2460 marleenstrebler@yahoo.com



BRING TO THE MEETING:
School Supplies for Portage County Children



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:



August 22—Proctor Orientation Meeting
 9:30-11:30 at NEOMED (see p. 5)

September 20—NEOMED Luncheon
Meeting Program: SilverSneakers,
Health and Fitness; Welcome New
Retirees

October 1—Newsletter Info Deadline

October 18 – Apple Pie Tour at Beckwith’s
 Orchard, 2:00 pm (call Kerstetters
 for more information 330-673-0129)

October ? – Meet the Candidates Session;
 Kent Free Library (check Record
 Courier or call Dan McCombs)

November 8—Board Meeting

November 15—NEOMED Luncheon
Meeting Program:
Deborah Easton, “Combating
Negativity in Today’s Society;
Election and Installation of
Officers

December 13—NEOMED Luncheon
Meeting— Christmas Party;
Forever Harmony
Acapella Chorus



The Executive Board meetings are held at the Kent Public Library at 9:30 am one week before each luncheon meeting.

The PCRTA luncheon meetings are held at noon at the Ralph Regula Conference Center at NEOMED, Northeast Ohio Medical University, 4209 St. Rt. 44, Rootstown, OH 44272 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 the year indicated
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

Visit our website



Connie Evans,
Webmaster

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



2013 PCRTA AND ORTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Retirement District & Year _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Last 4 digits of Social Security Number _____

Requested by ORTA for a new member at initial joining.)

Gift Membership from _____

E-mail Address _____

2013 DUES PAYMENT

PCRTA & ORTA ANNUAL DUES:

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

PCRTA Life Membership= \$150 _____

ORTA Life Membership = \$500 _____

Scholarship Fund Donation _____

TOTAL _____

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



Make one check payable to PCRTA.

Mail completed form and check to:

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