

Lucas County Retired Teachers Association

The Slate

Affiliated with ORTA

Volume 53, Issue 2

LCRTA.WEEBLY.COM

April 2024

NEXT BOARD MEETING April 2, 2024

MISSION STATEMENT


Our Lucas County Chapter of the Ohio Retirement for Teachers Association is committed to **furthering** the cause of education by **providing** meaningful contact opportunities with fellow educators, **sharing** current valuable information, **inspiring** members to continue their life of service, and **promoting** the benefits of membership in both Lucas County Retired Teachers Association (LCRTA) and Ohio Retirement for Teachers Association (ORTA).

MARCH WINNERS

Bobbie Stebelton—\$110
Nancy Harris—\$110
Nancy Harris—Basket
Nancy Wiegand—Table Topper

Please bring \$5 or \$10 bills to purchase 50/50 tickets

HOW CAREFULLY DO YOU READ? CONTEST

- Find this picture in This Slate → 
- Print that page
- Circle the exact picture
- Write your name on the page
- At the April 18th luncheon, place page in the contest box to enter to win one of two prizes

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Susan Santoro

*"You're only here for a short visit.
Don't hurry. Don't worry.
And be sure to smell the flowers
along the way."*

—Walter Hagen

Greetings! We survived "springing forward" and soon the glorious, colorful, fragrant Spring season will be upon us and the historical Solar Eclipse (see Jeannine Petcoff's informative article in the March *Slate*).

We celebrated Nancy Wiegand's 10 years as LCRTA Treasurer at the March luncheon. Nancy has been fulfilling three jobs for many years. She will remain on the board as Budget and Finance chairperson. Pat Price will assume Treasurer duties. Thanks to both of them and to all of our very hard-working board members!

At our March board meeting we



discussed the increased costs at all of our luncheon venues. The Board approved continuing through 2024 that the general fund will pay up to \$2

per meal for dessert to help off-set the cost of lunch for attendees. I am sure all of you have noticed the increased costs when grocery shopping, so we hope that you appreciate how much we try to keep luncheon costs as reasonable as possible. Please bear in mind that your luncheon payment includes a delicious hot lunch including sides (choice of 3), salad, rolls, beverages, dessert and efficient servers all in beautiful settings.

I look forward to seeing you at Belmont Country Club on April 18th.

ANCHORS HELP STAY THE COURSE—Pauline LoCasio

The signs of spring are in full bloom this month bringing thoughts of enjoying the Metro Parks, gardening, picnicking, and boating. Those who enjoy boating should know that an essential way to keep from drifting off course is to have an anchor. We also may know someone who provides stability or confidence in an otherwise uncertain situation as the anchor. Our community partner this month is East Toledo Family Center. They have been that anchor since 1901 to all its' area families.

Those who are drifting off course because of age, income loss, abuse, or health, find sure footing through ETFC agency programs. These programs include youth sports, nutrition, senior health clinics, preschool programs, court appointment legal visitation site, and more.

By collaborating with neighborhood service agencies, like churches, schools, and health agencies, ETFC identifies common issues and reaches out to educate, engage, and empower families with members of all ages.

This month we will hear from Holly Kennen, Youth Enrichment Director, who will let us in on some exciting news about a new program.

We will be supporting their new art program for children ages 11 to 16. They need art supplies like canvas, paints (both acrylic and watercolor), brushes, sketch pads, colored pencils, and tie-die supplies. Let's help them by supporting East Toledo Family Center's efforts to keep their youth on the right course.



Thursday, April 18, 2024

LCRTA LUNCHEON (noon-2:00)

Belmont Country Club

29601 Bates Road, Perrysburg

PROGRAM SPEAKER: Pamela Rybka
Better Business Bureau

ENTRÉE CHOICES:

- #1 **Scallopini of Chicken Breast** with a Creamy Marsala wine sauce
- #2 **Roast Pork Tenderloin** served with a Dijon Mustard cream sauce
- #3 **Mushroom Risotto** served with grilled fresh vegetables

Entrée served with:

Duchess sweet potato & bundled fresh haricot vertes, Spring salad (mixed greens with dried cherries, mandarin oranges, pine nuts, crumbled blue cheese, red onion) with Raspberry vinaigrette, Rolls & Butter, Dessert (Chocolate mousse)

COST — \$30.00

Reservations due **Tuesday, April 9**

- ♦ Please complete reservation form at right & include with **check payable to LCRTA**
- ♦ Cash Bar available
- ♦ We're Sorry, but...**NO SUBSTITUTIONS, NO REFUNDS, PLEASE DO NOT CALL VENUE**

APRIL 18, 2024 LUNCHEON RESERVATION

I will attend the luncheon at Belmont Country Club

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____

TOTAL: (\$30.00 X Number Attending) \$ _____

Reservations **MUST** be received by **APRIL 9**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO LCRTA

Please mail to:

Jeannine Petcoff
15139 Todd Rd
Petersburg, MI 49270

Questions? Contact Jeannine at:
jcpetcoff@gmail.com or
734.854.7511

Mail BY
APRIL 3

DIRECTIONS to BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB

- Interstate 75 exit 197 – Buck Road
- At the traffic circle; continue **straight on Buck Rd.**
- 2nd traffic circle, take 1st exit & **stay on Buck Rd.**
- Turn **left on Bates Rd.**
- Turn **right on Carnoustie Rd.** to enter Belmont CC

APRIL PROGRAM—Scams & Artificial Intelligence

Pamela Rybka comes from the **Better Business Bureau** with a wealth of knowledge in geriatrics. Not only is she a Community Outreach Coordinator, but she is spearheading the BBB Senior ScamGuard Program. The goal of BBB Senior ScamGuard is to educate older adults about scams, increase awareness to

ensure public safety and foster independence across the lifespan.

As a clinical counselor and educator, Pamela has made it part of her personal mission to advocate for older adults and assist them in aging in place.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR 2024 LUNCHEONS

DATE	LOCATION	PARTNER	NEEDS
APRIL 18 (THURSDAY)	BELMONT COUNTRY CLUB	EAST TOLEDO FAMILY CENTER	Art Supplies —canvas, paints (both acrylic & watercolor), brushes, sketch pads, colored pencils, tie-die supplies
May 21 (Tuesday)	Highland Meadows Golf Club	Read for Literacy	New books
Sept 26 (Thursday)	Stone Oak Country Club	Aurora Project	

2024 LCRTA and/or ORTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Year Retired: _____ School served: _____

LCRTA DUES: _____ Yearly _____ Life

LCRTA (\$20 per year, \$175 Life Membership)

ORTA DUES: _____

ORTA (\$30 per year, \$75 for 3 years)

DATE (today's) _____ CHECK # _____

Make check payable to LCRTA (one check handles both LCRTA & ORTA)

Send this form & check to: LCRTA Treasurer; 2155 Arlington Avenue; Toledo, OH 43609



**SHARE THE
MEMBERSHIP FORM**
LCRTA 2024 DUES YEAR RUNS
JANUARY 1—DECEMBER 31

CHANGE OF ADDRESS or EMAIL ADDRESS

Text/Call Ruthann Manders at: 419.343.3346

Email Ruthann at: rlsmanders@gmail.com

MARCH LUNCHEON EVALUATION—Doris Weiss

Toledo Country Club is a lovely facility with an amazing river view! The LCRTA luncheon and meeting was held Thursday, March 14, 2024, with ninety-one members and guests. Bethany House, a deserving charity, was represented by Deidra Lashley, Executive Director, who shared the charity's work. Steve Seagrave, President-Elect ORTA, updated us about

ORTA and STRS issues. Some of the comments were:

- Excellent pork, chicken, and ravioli
- Yummy! Good St Patty's cookies!
- Wonderful salad!
- Steve was very clear and knowledgeable!
- Spectacular river view when the storm moved in

- **Life members**, please consider a donation to help support LCRTA budget expenses.
- Members who **receive a printed Slate**, please consider a donation to cover the cost of printing and postage. The cost is approximately \$2 per issue, so \$12 annually.



- If you are not a member of **ORTA**, please join! ORTA does great advocacy work for all of us with STRS regarding our COLA and other issues. \$30 annual ORTA dues or \$75 for 3 years. Use the membership form in every Slate; make the check payable to **LCRTA** and we will forward your application to ORTA.

- **Donation checks** should be **made out to LCRTA** and mailed to

LCRTA c/o Area Office on Aging
2155 Arlington Ave
Toledo, OH 43609

or may be dropped off at check-in at any of the luncheons

SHHH!!
Don't you
love secrets?
Especially
the reveal?!
During the
luncheon on
April 18th at

Belmont, a very amazing
secret will be revealed. Plan to
attend and be the
first to know!



TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE
April 8th at 3:12 edt

2024 LCRTA OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIR

President—Susan Santoro: 419.344.7071
Past President—Rhea Halloran: 419.666.5718
Secretary—Kathy Benya: 419.508.8362
Corresponding Secretary—Pat Holz: 419.740.2274
Budget/Finance—Nancy Wiegand: 419.866.1980
Treasurer—Pat Price: 419.350.1650
Comm. Partnerships—Pauline LoCascio: 419.779.1569
MaryEllen Bollenbacher: 419.277.8165
Evaluations—Doris Weiss: 419.874.2275
Hospitality—Jo Ascunce: 419.308.2928
Legislative—Jeanene Pifer: 419.385.6863
Lunch Reservations—Jeannine Petcoff: 734.854.7511
Or email her at: jcpetcoff@gmail.com
Membership—Ruthann Manders: 419.343.3346
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50/50 Raffle—Wanda Anderson: 419.250.4381
Judy Egan

THE SLATE

Lucas County Chapter Of ORTA
2155 Arlington Avenue
Toledo, OH 43609

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SPOTLIGHT ON LCRTA OFFICERS: PAUL RACKOWSKI & DORIS WEISS—Kathy Benya

PAUL RACKOWSKI - SCHOLARSHIPS

Where were you born?

Toledo

What schools did you attend?

St. Hedwig Grade School, Central Catholic High School,
The University of Toledo BED '69, MED '73, Educational
Specialist '77

What was your first teaching assignment? Where?

Economics/Sociology & World History Teacher at
Central Catholic

What was your final teaching/administrative assignment?

Director of Curriculum at the Knight Academy

What one piece of advice would you give recently retired teachers?

Reflect on your experiences and enjoy your moments of
helping students

Tell us about your family.

Married 52 years to Helen, former Human Resource
Director; Daughter Paulette, Special Education Director
at Springfield Schools; Son Jim, a Funeral Director at
Newcomer Funeral Home

What hobbies do you enjoy?

I enjoy music, playing the trumpet and string bass. I
enjoy golf and fishing on our dock.

Are you active in any other organizations?

Recently selected as Central Catholic Music Hall of Fame
recipient. Will be honored May 5 at the Valentine Theater.

DORIS WEISS – EVALUATIONS

Where were you born?

Toledo

What schools did you attend?

I attended Metamora before it was Evergreen for 12
years. There were 39 students in my graduating class.

Where did you teach?

I taught for 36 years in Anthony Wayne. I taught second,
Third, and fourth grades I also taught three years in
Westwood Heights in Flint, Michigan.

What an adventure! I loved teaching!

Tell us a little bit about your family.

I have been married for 47 years, and we have a son and
daughter.

What hobbies do you enjoy?

I enjoy quilting, sewing, and gardening. In my
free time I play golf. No holes-in-one – just
enjoy lunch!

Have you traveled since you retired?

I have always traveled - from Hawaii
to New York City to Florida and
California. I recently came back
from Boston and will be
heading to South Carolina and
Florida soon.

