

Lucas County Retired Teachers Association

The Slate

Affiliated with the Ohio Retired Teachers Association

Volume 48, Issue 6

December 2019

NEXT BOARD MEETING

December 3, 2019
11:00am at Bravo's

SHOUT OUT TO WELCH PUBLISHING

They do a remarkable job of printing our Slate newsletter, frequently going above & beyond so that the Slate always represents LCRTA well.

HELP PLEASE

According to the By Laws of LCRTA, an **annual audit** of our books must be performed. The accountant/auditor we have employed for years has retired. If you **know of an accountant** who is able to audit the books for a very small, non-profit organization, please contact our Treasurer, Nancy Wiegand at:
Phone: 419.866.1980
Email:
nancy.wiegand@yahoo.com

Or see a Board member at the December luncheon.

50/50 RAFFLE OCTOBER WINNERS

Joette Boyd-Randall—\$95
Chris Seferian—\$95
Diane White—Basket

Please bring \$1, \$5 or \$10 bills to purchase tickets & you must be PRESENT to win

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Rhea Halloran

I am having mixed emotions as I write this article. It has been my honor to serve as your President a number of times since joining LCRTA IN 1995. (Yes, I am old.)

As my final term as president comes to an end, I want to commend the wonderful members who have served on our Board with me over the years. They served with dedication and affection to LCRTA.

I am proud to say LCRTA has been actively involved with many charities. Our members have demonstrated their generosity and unending support in all of our endeavors.

We have strived to bring our members a variety of venues, menus and programs. I am the first to admit that sometimes something did not work.

However, I feel we have been successful most of the time. At least you can say we have provided a variety.

As I have been around for a while, I find it impossible to name all those who have contributed their time and talents. Also, I am fearful I will inadvertently omit someone. I will simply say, "Thank you to all from the bottom of my heart!"

I will continue to serve and support LCRTA in any way I can. I will happily work with the new president.

Thank you again for your wonderful support and acceptance.

Sincerely, Rhea Halloran

*Remember when we were young
and couldn't wait to grow up?
How's that working out for you?*

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS

Jingle all the way to the Lucas County Retired Teacher's Holiday Luncheon on **Thursday, December 5th, at The Toledo Club**
235 14th Street, Toledo 43604.
The festivities will begin at 12:00.

Bring a stuffed animal or other children's gift to keep the Grinch away from children helped by Lucas County Children Services!

See you there!
HO! HO! HO!



CONCERN WITH NEW PRACTICE BY STRS

A recent article in the Dayton Daily News explains a startling practice by STRS. Ohio's second largest pension fund, State Teachers Retirement System, has had a contract since November 2014 with Republican lobbyist Leah Pappas Porner. She is an independent lobbyist for health care companies, lenders, utilities and others. Initially, STRS paid \$5,000 per month but the retainer fee increased to \$6,000 per month in July 2018. The system has paid Porner some \$261,000 over the past four years to handle both state and federal government relations.

"From our perspective, I'd rather they do it in-house and save the money," said **Robin Rayfield** of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association, which represents 22,000 members in the STRS system.

Read the entire article at:
<https://www.daytondailynews.com/news/local/ohio-public-pension-funds-turn-outside-lobbyists-for-clout/pHWq6pblh6PqH4ftQYwZGM/>

Are you aware that there is also another Facebook group that informs ALL Ohio

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Thursday, December 5, 2019

LCRTA HOLIDAY LUNCHEON (noon-2:00)
The Toledo Club
235 14th Street; Toledo, OH

PROGRAM—Holiday Music Program
The Woodward Choraliers

CHOICES OF ENTRÉE ARE:

- #1 Pesto & Parmesan Chicken with roasted sweet red pepper crema
- #2 Slow Roasted Pork Loin with whole grain mustard creme
- #3 Three Cheese-Filled Jumbo Ravioli in zesty tomato sauce

Entrée served with:

House Salad, Starch
Chef's Choice of Vegetable, Rolls & Butter
Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade

→ **COST — \$23.00** ←

Reservations due Tuesday, November 26

Please complete the reservation form at right and include with your check payable to LCRTA

Please. We're Sorry But...

NO SUBSTITUTIONS can be honored

Please do not call the venue



DECEMBER'S PROGRAM—SCHOLARSHIPS & MUSIC

Woodward High School has answered our call for music for our December 5th Holiday luncheon at The Toledo Club. Dr. Joan Walldorf is the director of Woodward's choral music program which has more than 170 students who make up 6 different

choirs. She has chosen a very special choir for our program. The Woodward Choraliers, who are singing for us, is made up of 60 percent Special Education students. They will be bringing us the true spirit of the Holidays through

the Holiday music they have selected. This group will be accompanied by Mr. Duris. He accompanies all Woodward choirs and is an integral part of their success.

The Choraliers, who are singing for us, hope to raise enough money to take a weeklong trip to the New England states this summer to experience, for the first time, the music scene there.

It seems only fitting that this special group of Choraliers should bring Holiday cheer to such a wonderful group of teachers.



LUNCHEON DEADLINE—TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Please, please, please **mail your December luncheon reservation EARLY**. Mail delivery will be slower than usual with the Thanksgiving holiday immediately after the November 26 deadline. Also, post offices are dealing with increased volume because of December holidays. **MAIL RESERVATION EARLY!!**

DECEMBER 5, 2019 LUNCHEON RESERVATION

I will attend the luncheon at The Toledo Club

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____

TOTAL: (\$23.00 X Number Attending) \$ _____

Reservations are due by **November 26**. Please mail to:

Jeannine Petcoff
15139 Todd Road
Petersburg, MI 49270



MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO LCRTA

DIRECTIONS to THE TOLEDO CLUB
Downtown on 14th Street
between Jefferson & Madison

CALCULATING COST OF LUNCHEON

- Included in the luncheon cost are:
 - Room & Program Costs
 - 22.3% Gratuity
 - All Food including Beverage & Dessert

2019 LUNCHEONS & DONATION LIST—**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

DATE	LOCATION	CHARITY	WISH LIST
DECEMBER 5	THE TOLEDO CLUB	CHILDREN SERVICES	Stuffed animals, dolls, trucks/cars

2020 LCRTA and/or ORTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Year Retired: _____ School served: _____

LCRTA DUES: _____ Yearly _____ Life
 \$20 per year, \$175 Life Membership) ORTA DUES: _____ Yearly
 ORTA (\$30 per year)

DATE (today's) _____ CHECK # _____

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

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

DON'T MISS ANY OF OUR 2020 EVENTS!

Memberships in ORTA and LCRTA will
EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2019.

So...plan ahead and **renew for 2020**
by completing the above
Membership Form

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS *
Phone Kathy Benya at: 419.843.2480
Email her at: kathybenya@gmail.com

*When sending email messages to
membership, many are returned as
undeliverable because of invalid EMAIL
addresses. **Please update Kathy.**

OCTOBER LUNCHEON EVALUATION — Doris Weiss

Everything was super!! The LCRTA luncheon and meeting was held at the Inverness Country Club Thursday, October 24, 2019 with 134 members and guests attending. Our program was Toledo School for the Arts Jazz Group and the presentation of four \$1,000 scholarships to four area college students who major in education.

Some of the comments were:

- Nice roomy & bright facility!
- The luncheon was excellent & the food was delicious!
- Glad to have jazz group from Toledo School of the Arts playing!
- Toledo School for the Arts has very talented students.
- Always enjoy hearing from the UT & Lourdes students.

Lucas County Retired Teachers' Association Awards Four \$1,000 Scholarships

On Thursday, October 24th, the Lucas County Retired Teachers' Association awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to the following students:

Shayla Kazmierczak, a senior at the University of Toledo majoring in Early Childhood Education carrying a 3.739 GPA received the **Pi Lambda Theta Claudia Trombla Scholarship**. This scholarship was named after one of the long-time LCRTA Board members Claudia Trombla, who served as the Scholarship Chair for many years.

Brittany Abraham, a student at the University of Toledo, maintaining a 3.96 GPA received the **Educational Leadership Association Scholarship**. This is a new scholarship, which has been added to the LCRTA list of scholarships. Brittany is also an Early Childhood major.

Kayla Gauthier, a junior at Lourdes University, with a 3.8 GPA majoring in Middle Level Education, received a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by the LCRTA.

Amaya Cummins, currently a sophomore at the University of Toledo maintaining a 3.96 GPA majoring in Early Childhood Education, received a \$1,000 scholarship sponsored by the LCRTA.

Criteria for the scholarships include: the student must be a Sophomore, Junior, or Senior in an Educator Program, demonstrate financial need, have letters of recommendation, and complete a short essay. Students must attend a college or university in Lucas County.

—Paul Raczowski, Scholarship Chair

2019 LCRTA OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIR

President—Rhea Halloran: 419.666.5718
Secretary—Marion Boyer: 419.824.6539
Corresponding Secretary—Kathleen Brunt: 734.856.3737
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Judy Egan

THE SLATE

Lucas County Chapter
Ohio Retired Teachers Association
2155 Arlington Avenue
Toledo, OH 43609

NONPROFIT ORG

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IT'S SCAM TIME ONCE AGAIN—Jeannine Petcoff

Once again, it's that time of year when scammers are trying to take advantage of the unwary. So, once again, with help from AARP, the Better Business Bureau, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office, a list of some of today's more **popular scams** is printed below:

1. **Publishers Clearing House impostors** – To claim your prize, you will need to cover fees, taxes, etc.
2. You are **charged for new technology services** which are actually **free**.
3. For a limited time, you will **receive free clothing, dog toys**, etc. by paying shipping and handling charges.
4. An unsolicited call states that you **qualify for free Medicare durable medical equipment (DMV)**.
5. Phony **funding solicitations** for relief organizations.
6. **Threatening debt collector** phone calls (**FYI**: Both Canada & the U.S. require written notice of debt stating debt amount & creditor owed)

A few tips and reminders to **help avoid scams**:

1. Be **cautious about what you share on social media** – connect with people you already know and be ex-

tremely cautious with anyone you meet online.

2. **NEVER send or use wire transfer, prepaid debit cards or gift cards** to someone you have never met face-to-face or to make payments for goods, services, taxes, and debts.
3. Don't buy anything online unless the transaction is **on an official website, the transaction is secure**, and the website has **https** in the URL (not just http). The 's' in https indicates "**secure**."
4. **NEVER** click on links or open attachments in unsolicited email.
5. **NEVER share personal identifiable information** with someone who contacts you unsolicited whether by phone, email, social media, or your front door.
6. Remember to slow down and **do some research** when **shopping** online, **answering** phone solicitations, and **contributing** to causes and organizations.

Some good "check first" resources to use are: BBB.org, give.org, charitynavigator.org, and ohioattorneygeneral.gov

A good holiday to all!

CONCERN—continued from Page 1

public pension stakeholders of the "goings on" at all 5 systems in our Ohio public pension world? It serves as **another watchdog group for our money**. We can't have too

many watchdogs, can we? Here is a link to this Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ohiopensionsystemmembersretiredandactive/>