

The Slate

Affiliated with ORTA

Volume 52, Issue 6

LCRTA.WEEBLY.COM

December 2023

NEXT BOARD MEETING December 1, 2023

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).

OCTOBER WINNERS

Joette Boyd-Randall—\$91
Elaine Klewetr—\$91
Juanita Stephens—Basket

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 picture
- Write your name on the page
- At the December 7th luncheon, place page in the contest box to enter to win one of two prizes

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—Susan Santoro



“Life is short, and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the dark journey with us.

Oh, **be swift to love, make haste to be kind.**”

-Henri Frederick Amiel

Wise and beautiful words from famous and sometimes “ordinary” people inspire me. During this time of war in many parts of the world, gun violence and political division in the U.S., it is difficult to focus on our blessings and hold positive thoughts in our hearts. We can control our own actions though and during this holiday season, I choose kindness. That expression is perhaps overused but so impactful.

This month I am using my President’s Slate “space” for announcements and reminders:

- I am happy to announce that **Ruthann Manders** is LCRTA’s new **Membership Chairperson!** Ruthann will focus on increasing membership and be available to answer member questions. Ruthann, Welcome and thanks for stepping up!
- If you were in attendance at the October luncheon, you had the pleasure to meet our scholarship winners, all from Lourdes University. They gave me so much hope for the

future of public education and made my heart happy that there are young people who aspire to be teachers.

- Reminder to ALL members who are **NOT** life members, if you have not already sent them, **2024 annual dues of \$20 should be paid this month.**
- Life members please consider a year-end 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—approximately \$10 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. (Send \$30 annual ORTA dues using our membership form—page 3—and we will forward them to ORTA.)
- **Dues and 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 brought to the December 7th luncheon at The Toledo Club.

I wish all of you a peaceful, joyous holiday season. I look forward to seeing MANY of you at the December 7th luncheon at The Toledo Club.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON EVALUATION—Doris Weiss

Great venue! Service was exceptional! The LCRTA luncheon and meeting was held at Inverness Country Club in Toledo on Thursday, October 19, 2023 with eighty-four members and guests attending. Paul Raczkowski presented four \$1,000 scholarship to four Lourdes education students. Our guest speakers were Andy Miller from Complete Care PT and Denise Fox, Aurora Project. Some

- of the comments were:
- Excellent speakers! Very informative and useful information.
 - Chicken and pork chop were tender and flavorful. Veggy dish was delicious!
 - Love going to Inverness!
 - Thank you for the four guest speakers suggestions.

Thursday, December 7, 2023

LCRTA LUNCHEON (noon-2:00)

The Toledo Club

235 14th Street, Toledo, OH

PROGRAM: St Ursula's Honor Choir
Bella Vocé

ENTRÉE CHOICES:

- #1 **Chicken Picata:** Sautéed breast of chicken, finished with fresh parsley, lemon garlic butter sauce
- #2 **Pork Loin:** Slices of pork loin, finished with balsamic, whole cranberry sauce
- #3 **Grilled Vegetable Lasagna:** Sautéed vegetables and spinach layered with asiago cheese

Entrée served with:

House garden salad, Traditional mashed potatoes, Broccoli, Rolls & Butter
Dessert, Coffee & Tea Bar

COST — \$30.00

Reservations due: **Saturday, November 25**

- ◆ Please complete reservation form at right & include with **check payable to LCRTA**
- ◆ No valet service; parking & entry easily accessible
- ◆ We're Sorry, but...**NO SUBSTITUTIONS, NO REFUNDS, PLEASE DO NOT CALL VENUE**
We are trusting that all attendees are free of COVID symptoms on day of event

DECEMBER 7, 2023 LUNCHEON RESERVATION

I will attend the luncheon at The Toledo Club

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____

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

Reservations **MUST** be received by **November 25**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO LCRTA

Toledo Club charges \$15 late fee for each reservation AFTER November 25

***** How did you hear about this luncheon? *****

Please mail to:
Jeannine Petcoff
15139 Todd Rd
Petersburg, MI 49270

Mail BEFORE
NOVEMBER 18

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

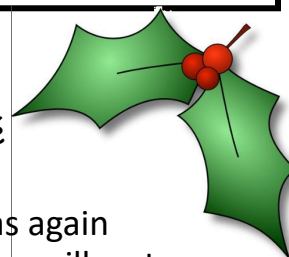
DIRECTIONS to THE TOLEDO CLUB
Downtown on 14th Street
between Jefferson & Madison

DECEMBER PROGRAM

Ursuline Academy's music program provides students with an outstanding education in music instruction through a variety of unique and enriching opportunities. With a wide array of vocal music classes, students can tap into their creativity. For more advanced vocalists, the SUA Honors Choir, Bella Voce, and Concert Choir offer challenging experiences. Bella Voce will "ring in the season" for our enjoyment.

JOIN US FOR SOME SWEET TREATS ON DECEMBER 7

- **Delicious Treat:** Luncheon at The Toledo Club
- **Musical Treat:** Enjoy the Sounds of Christmas from St. Ursula's Bella Vocé Honor Choir
- **Visual Treat:** Tour the Parade of Trees before or after Luncheon. LCRTA has again presented a tree, wreath and garland, decorated by JaNeil Mesteller. These will go to the highest bidder with money going to support our Community Partner Program.
- **Community Partner:** Family House of Toledo



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)

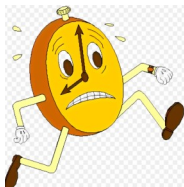
ORTA DUES: _____ Yearly
ORTA (\$30 per year)

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



LAST CHANCE TO BEAT THE CLOCK ON 2024 DUES RENEW BY JANUARY 1, 2024!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS or EMAIL ADDRESS

Text/Call Ruthann Manders at: 419.474.8878
Email Ruthann at: rlsmanders@gmail.com

LCRTA PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS—Paul Raczkowski

On Thursday, October 19th, the Lucas County Retired Teachers' Association awarded four \$1,000 scholarships to the following Lourdes University

to the assistance of Paul Raczkowski, Scholarship Chairperson. The four students are studying to become educators at Lourdes University.



students: Molly Altman, Sophomore; Madeline DuBois, Junior; Caroline Sass, Junior; and Emily Wallace, Senior. Each received a \$1,000 Scholarship from the Lucas County Retired Teachers' Association thanks

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

Congratulations to our 2023 scholarship winners!

BUILDING A GINGERBREAD HOUSE—Pauline LoCascio

Gingerbread Houses are part of many Christmas celebrations. We always enjoy baking cookies, wrapping presents and all the traditions that make every holiday special. When we build a Gingerbread House, we enjoy bringing each piece together with frosting using our imaginations as we add finishing touches and licking the frosting from our fingers.

community Partner. We support their efforts to address not only the immediate needs of food, shelter and safety, but the long term need of safe housing through educational training. Family House makes the perfect partner for this time of year.

Imagine though, that your real home and life are lost. No cookies to bake, no gifts to wrap and all family traditions gone. Homelessness can happen overnight. This leaves parents feeling guilty and children with their hope lost.

Family House, the 1st largest homeless shelter in our area, is our choice for December's Com-



They are in need of blankets, pillows, towels, paper products, plastic silverware, gift cards to Walmart or Meijer, and adult and children size hats, gloves and mittens.

Our community involvement is essential to Family House's vision, so that each family can build their new "gingerbread" home.

2023 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
Co-Treasurer/Budget—Nancy Wiegand: 419.866.1980
Co-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: 419.474.8878
Protective Services—Jeannine Petcoff: 734.854.7511
Public Relations—Nancy Dyer: 419-304-6853
Scholarship—Paul Raczkowski: 419.351.1603
Slate Editor/Webmaster—Jane Nawrocki: 419.861.7766
Social—Wanda Anderson: 419.250.4381
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

CHRISTMAS FAVORITES—Jeannine Petcoff

Our December 7th luncheon at the Toledo Club features St. Ursula's Bella Vocé Honor Choir. What a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit with their joyful, melodic sharing of Christmas songs both old and new. But, with the anticipation of each performance, do you ever wonder which of your favorite songs will be sung?

Checking the internet, I compiled a list of Christmas songs which were found on two or more of nine different websites. The following alphabetized list of the most popular Christmas songs may both please and surprise you!

"All I Want for Christmas is You"
"Frosty the Snowman"
"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"
"Holly Jolly Christmas"
"It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas"
"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year"
"Jingle Bell Rock"
"Jingle Bells"
"Joy to the World"

"Last Christmas"
"Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow"
"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"
"Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer"
"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town"
"Silent Night"
"Sleigh Ride"
"The Little Drummer Boy"

The most popular of all songs is "White Christmas" followed by "The Christmas Song".

Wishing Happy and Safe Holidays to You and Yours!

Note: editor's favorites include

"Hallelujah Chorus," Frideric Handel (1741) sung by Mormon Tabernacle Choir—[Hallelujah Chorus \(Music Video\) \(thetabernaclechoir.org\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRWCQSnkE)

"Mary, Did You Know," Mary J Blige (2013) (My all time favorite!)—https://youtu.be/X_SRWCQSnkE

"Pretty Paper," 1979 written by Willie Nelson recorded by Roy Orbison—[THE ORIGINAL "PRETTY PAPER" BY ROY ORBISON, 1963. CHRISTMAS MUSIC – Roy Orbison](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THE_ORIGINAL_PRETTY_PAPER_BY_ROY_ORBISON_1963)

