

Lucas County Retired Teachers Association

The Slate

Affiliated with the Ohio Retired Teachers Association

Volume 48, Issue 1

March 2019

NEXT BOARD MEETING

March 5, 2019

10:00am

IN MEMORIAM 2018

- Mildred Allred
- Ruth Blakely
- Anna Marie Bolden
- Barbara Polek
- Donna Quertimont
- Katherine Louise Ray
- Clark Reber
- Gloria Remy
- Eloise Tomansky
- Mary Van Cleve
- Shirley Jean Vartice Walker

In addition to the generous contributions to the LCRTA Scholarship Fund by members, we receive **donations as memorials** for our members who have passed away. If you wish to help us carry on this tradition and wish to donate to the scholarship fund, please send your check **payable to LCRTA** addressed to:

LCRTA Treasurer
2155 Arlington Avenue
Toledo, OH 43609

50/50 RAFFLE

DECEMBER WINNERS

Sheryl Bibish—\$123

Susan Merkel—\$123

Basket—Mary Jane Shimmel

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE —Rhea Halloran

Hello and a belated New Year to all our LCRTA members and friends.

I am returning as your President for one more time. For those of you who do not know me, I will fill you in: 1956 I graduated from Waite High School and four years later from The Ohio State University. I later earned a graduate degree from the University of Toledo. Over 32-years I taught various elementary grades--1 - 5 at Oregon and Anthony Wayne Schools. I also worked at the state level to set standards for various subjects on the elementary level.

My husband and I married in 1961. We have a son Kent, who is an environmental engineer working at OSU, and a daughter, Kaleen, who is a third-grade teacher in Washington Local Schools. We have been blessed with five beautiful grandchildren, all of whom are grown, and all but one has graduated from or is attending college. Our second granddaughter is getting married next year so perhaps in a couple of years we might be great-grandparents. (We hope!)

It is my sincere wish that all of you will join us at our six luncheons this year. Invite a friend to come with you;

the more the merrier. We strive to provide delicious meals and meaningful speakers.

Many of our LCRTA members also belong to ORTA (Ohio Retired Teachers Assoc.) ORTA is a very active organization that works on our behalf at the State level to pass meaningful legislation.

If you would like a list of the many things ORTA has done, visit them at www.ORTA.org/. ORTA's Main Purpose is advocacy for you. Also, copies of this article will be available at our first luncheon on **March 28th at the Toledo Country Club**.

Our first luncheon will be held at the TCC in the beautiful glass pavilion facing a picturesque scene of the grounds and golf area. Dr. Robin Rayfield, executive director of ORTA, will address what is happening with our pensions, recent information about our COLAS, and he will answer any pertinent questions you may have.

I look forward to seeing you March 28th at the Toledo Country Club.

The question I have is, how many Girl Scout thin mints do I have to eat for them to start working?



HELP WOMEN REALIZE THEIR DREAMS

Denise Fox of The Aurora Project shared the following anonymous quote with me: "Never let yesterday's disappointments overshadow tomorrow's dreams." By attending the **March 28th luncheon at the Toledo Country Club**, members of LCRTA will have the opportunity to help Aurora House, "a place where women and children have an opportunity to nurture their greatest potentials, and help them realize their dreams." This is our time to give and help alleviate "the instability, turmoil, and utter despair homelessness creates (especially in the life of a child)". **Aurora House** asks us to

become "Ambassadors of Hope," and we can do that by bringing any of the following items to the meeting: **shampoo/conditioner; baby lotion/powder/wash; diapers; makeup; feminine hygiene products; face soap**. Or, if you prefer, you may bring some money to the meeting or send your donation to Nan Fetter at: 7803 Shaftesbury Drive, Sylvania, OH 43560. Checks should be made payable to the Aurora Project. One of the goals of LCRTA is to "Respond to Community Needs" and at that you excel!! I hope to see you at the March 28th luncheon.



THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019

LCRTA LUNCHEON (noon-2:00)

Toledo Country Club (3949 River Rd)

PROGRAM—Our STRS Retirement

Dr. Rayfield, Executive Director ORTA

CHOICES OF ENTRÉE ARE:

- #1 Grilled chicken with pineapple salsa
- #2 Herb crusted pork loin with mustard apricot glaze
- #3 Asparagus & Gouda Cheese Quiche

Entrée served with:

Mashed red skin potatoes, Mixed vegetables
Betty salad with bacon on the side
Rolls & Assorted Cakes
Coffee or Tea—Hot or Iced

COST — \$24.00

Reservations due: **FRIDAY, MARCH 15**

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

Bring a friend!

We're Sorry, But NO SUBSTITUTIONS

MARCH 28, 2019 LUNCHEON RESERVATION

I will attend the luncheon at The Toledo Country Club

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____

TOTAL: (\$24.00 X Number Attending) \$ _____

Reservations are due by **MARCH 15**. Please mail to:

Jeannine Petcoff
15139 Todd Road
Petersburg, MI 49270



MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO LCRTA

DIRECTIONS To TOLEDO COUNTRY CLUB

- Anthony Wayne Trail to
- Copland Boulevard to 3949 River Road

DESPERATELY SEEKING EMAIL ADDRESSES

If you **DIDN'T** receive this Slate via email, please send an email with "LCRTA" in the Subject Line to: jnawrocki@bex.net

DECEMBER EVALUATION—Doris Weiss

Joyous program! Tasty food! Fantastic Inverness! The LCRTA luncheon and meeting was held Wednesday, December 5, 2018 with 146 members and guests attending at Inverness Country Club. Many members brought stuffed animals and children's gifts to the meeting. The entertainment, Sylvania Northview

Choir, was impressive. Some comments were:

- Inverness is such a beautiful place!
- The best meeting of the year.
- Great location, awesome food & top notch choir!



2019 LUNCHEONS & DONATION LIST—MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

DATE	LOCATION	CHARITY	WISH LIST
MARCH 28	TOLEDO COUNTRY CLUB	AURORA HOUSE	Hair products, baby wash/diapers, feminine products, all types makeup
APRIL 25	BRANDYWINE C. C.	THE TOLEDO HOUSE	Paper products (toilet, towel, plates, cups, bowls, tissues), plastic silverware cleaning supplies, all baby products
MAY 23	RADISSON UTMC	RIGHT TO READ	Children's books
SEPTEMBER 26	STONE OAK C. C.	EAST TOLEDO FAMILY CENTER	Arts and crafts supplies, tissues, wipes, paper towels
OCTOBER 24	INVERNESS C. C.	LEADING FAMILIES HOME	Cleaning products, new towels, paper products, pillows
DECEMBER 5	THE TOLEDO CLUB	CHILDREN SERVICES	Stuffed animals, dolls, trucks/cars

2019 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 check payable to LCRTA (one check handles both LCRTA & ORTA) ←

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

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!!!

Memberships in ORTA and LCRTA
EXPIRED DECEMBER 31, 2018.

So, if you haven't already...

RENEW NOW for 2019

by completing the above
 Membership Form.

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

THANK YOU, MEMBERS

From Leading Families Home: Thank you for caring for the families we serve! Your generous donation of \$345 will be matched by local charitable funds and anonymous donors. We are truly grateful for the tremendous kindness of friends and partners like you.

From Boys & Girls Clubs: Thank you LCRTA for donating several boxes of assorted school supplies. Thank you for your continued help and your support is very much appreciated.

MENTORS IN TOLEDO SCHOOLS

Partners in Education is a non-profit here in North West Ohio that has several programs to serve Toledo students. One of those programs is Mentors in Toledo Schools.

Mentors in Toledo Schools provide 1 to 1 tutoring in literacy for students in grades K-3rd. The student's teacher provides all the lessons and activities. The coordinators at each school organize the lessons, retrieve the students from class and return them when finished, and provide scheduling each week. Our sessions go from roughly 9am to 11am, for 30 minutes each session. We are currently in need of volunteers to tutor at **Longfellow, Whittier, and Queen of Apostles**. We would greatly appreciate any time you may be able to give...and so would the kiddos.

Please contact Heather Henson with any questions.
 419.242.2122 OR hhenson@partnerstoledo.org

SPEAKER INFO—DR. ROBIN RAYFIELD

Dr. Rayfield joined ORTA in 2017 from the Toledo area (Fulton & Lucas Counties), with a strong educational background, ranging from classroom, building administration to superintendent. Dr. Rayfield believes that ORTA is doing important work, at a local, state and national level. He says "ORTA was working on my [Dr. Rayfield's] behalf, as a teacher, and all of the classroom warriors, principals, and others who have lived their lives to enrich those of others, and I am excited to be a part of advocating on their behalf." **Bring questions** for Dr. Rayfield to the March 28th luncheon at the Toledo Country Club.

LCRTA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – March 2019

Are you a member of ORTA? Keep an eye in your mail for "2018 Year in Review." If you do not receive this mailing, call toll-free 877.431.7002. If you would like to review ORTA's position on STRS COLA, go to their website at: www.orta.org

2019 LCRTA OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIR

President—Rhea Halloran: 419.666.5718
Secretary—Marion Boyer: 419.824.6539
Corresponding Secretary—Kathleen Brunt: 734.856.3737
Treasurer—Nancy Wiegand: 419.866.1980
Budget/Finance—Rhea Halloran: 419.666.5718
Community Participation—Nan Fetter: 419.885.1692
Courtesy—Pauline LoCascio: 419.779.1569
Evaluations—Doris Weiss: 419.874.2275
Legislative—Susan Santoro: 419.344.7071
Lunch Reservations—Jeannine Petcoff: 734.854.7511
Or 419.351.2601
Membership—Kathy Benya: 419.843.2480
Protective Services—Jeannine Petcoff: 734.854.7511
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THE SLATE

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GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN

Grandparents raising grandchildren, or "grandfamilies" as they are now more commonly known, have finally caught the attention of the U.S. government. According to U.S. census data, 2.5 million grandparents are raising 4.9 million children and the numbers are expected to rise. This new type of kinship care is attributed to the opioid epidemic, substance abuse, illness, unemployment, the recession, incarceration, divorce, unmarried teens, abandonment, neglect, death, and military deployment.

Whether on a permanent, temporary, or assisting basis, grandparents are stepping in to raise their grandchildren in order to preserve family ties, values, culture, spiritual beliefs, and avoid sibling separation and foster care. For the children involved it provides a better sense of security, a more safe, loving, and stable childhood, it reduces the risk of depression and anxiety, and replaces traumatic pasts with loving and hopeful futures.

While the rewards seem many, these growing generation gapped families are also faced with many unanticipated challenges. To help this new under-served population group, Congress passed the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act and in July of 2018 Presi-



dent Trump signed the act into law. The Department of Health and Human Service was designated as lead agency assigned the task of identifying, promoting, coordinating, and publicly disseminating information and resources to help older relatives meet their own needs as well as the needs of the children in their care.

Meanwhile resources for both grandparents and grandchildren are growing. In addition to books, various agencies, organizations, and nonprofit groups are also providing help and guidance. Some of these resources include: HelpGuide.org, USA.gov [search for **grandfamily**], vroom.org, AARP Grandfamilies Guide, Generation United, and Daily Strength. Local resources are also available. They can provide help as well as family enrichment. These resources include Kinship Navigator, the art museum, public libraries, metro parks, and zoos. A third, and often overlooked resource is friends. Friends can provide a sympathetic ear and even help with fun extended family activities like sewing, baking, gardening, and playing games.

A word of encouragement to all grandparents of grandfamilies and this cannot be stressed enough. What you think you lack in energy, you have in the wisdom of experience.