

The Slate

Affiliated with ORTA

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October 2023

NEXT BOARD MEETING October 3, 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).

SEPTEMBER WINNERS

- Karol Brown—\$107
- Denise Frazier—\$107
- Pat Price—Gift Basket
- Diane Albring— Four UT Women’s Basketball 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 October 19th luncheon, place page in the contest box to enter to win one of two prizes

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE—Susan Santoro

“Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” - Mark Twain

I very well may not be around in 20 years but I have no regrets. I have loved to travel my entire life. Every summer when I was growing up, the youngest of three children, my parents packed us into a station wagon and we headed off on trips all over the US. I traveled to Europe solo the summer after my first year of teaching. My late husband and I loved to travel and when he died, I knew he would want me to continue to explore this big incredible world.

So, in early September, I headed to Mexico City (the most populous city in North America) with my Pastor and six others on a week long “Friendship Trip.” We took only carry-on bags but we packed in unforgettable sights, new friends, delicious foods, the best Sangria I have ever tasted, much laughter and many tears.

We visited Teotihuacan – an ancient city dating back to 1 AD which contains pyramids – the largest in the Americas. At one time 175,000 people lived there and there are still well-preserved murals and complex multi-

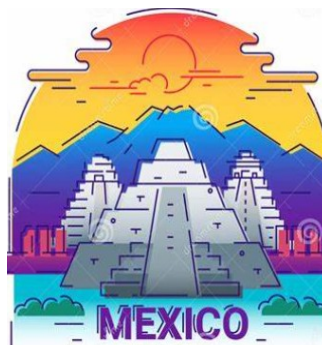
-family residences. It truly took my breath away to see the Pyramids of the Moon and the Sun.

Another unforgettable day trip was to Desierto de los Leones National Park – it is located in the Sierra de las Cruces Mountain Range in a pine, fir and oak forested area. It was at one time a convent and then military headquarters. It was a magical spot.

We also visited Casa Tochán, a shelter for migrants fleeing Central America. It is intended to house only 40 people but due to crisis conditions, they have lately housed over 100 men, women and children. They provide shelter, food, recreation, education, legal services and assistance with CBP One (U.S. Customs & Border Protection mobile application.)

The people that we met were all so gracious and kind. When I was walking up steep steps at the migrant shelter, while wearing a walking boot, I noticed a hand outstretched to help me up the next step. It was the hand of a migrant seeking shelter. He smiled at me and I said “gracias” and smiled back. I almost wept but I did not want him to see my tears. So many memories...

I look forward to seeing MANY of you on **Thursday, October 19th** at **The Inverness Club**.



SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON EVALUATION—Doris Weiss

Fabulous! Great reviews! The LCRTA luncheon and meeting was held at Stone Oak Country Club in Holland, Ohio on Thursday, September 21, 2023 with eighty-four members and guests attending. Personable Tricia Cullop, head coach of Toledo Rockets Women’s Basketball, had many inspiring stories about the

team! Plus, Executive Director of Mom’s House, Christina Rodriguez, shared stories of their life saving work. Some of the comments were:

- Excellent food! Very tasty!
- Loved the cookies.
- Lots of service.
- What a gem of a program!

Thursday, October 19, 2023

LCRTA LUNCHEON (noon-2:00)

Inverness Club

4601 Dorr Street, Toledo, OH

PROGRAM: Andrew Miller

ENTRÉE CHOICES:

- #1 **Chicken Katherine:** Sautéed Chicken with Portobello Mushrooms/Roasted Tomato & Spinach Glacé
- #2 **Petite Breaded Pork Chop:** Crispy Breaded Pork Chop/Mushroom Gravy/Fresh Herbs
- #3 **Roasted Vegetable Strudel:** Rice Pilaf & Red Pepper Sauce

Entrée served with:

House garden salad, Chef's selected starch Vegetable, Rolls & Whipped Butter Belgian mini crème puff, Coffee, Tea

COST — \$29.00

Reservations due: **Tuesday, October 10**

- ◆ Please complete reservation form at right & include with **check payable to LCRTA**
- ◆ **Valet service available**
- ◆ 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

OCTOBER 19, 2023 LUNCHEON RESERVATION

I will attend the luncheon at Inverness Club

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NAME: _____ Choice # _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____

TOTAL: (\$29.00 X Number Attending) \$ _____

Reservations must be received by **October 10**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO LCRTA

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

Please mail to:

**Jeannine Petcoff
15139 Todd Rd
Petersburg, MI 49270**

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

Mail Before October 4

DIRECTIONS TO INVERNESS CLUB

- Reynolds Road to
- East on Dorr Street—entrance to Club is on right

OCTOBER PROGRAM



Andy lives in Whitehouse with his wife, daughter, and son. He graduated with his Master's degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Findlay. After graduation, he realized he wanted to be part of a clinic that specialized in treating diagnoses with the latest tech-

nology, but also treated each patient individually. After many years of being a head PT at Complete Care at Holiday Park, he realized his dream of becoming the owner of the company. He is proud of how well the Complete Care team works together to give patients the best possible care. Andy will be demonstrating simple stretching and movement exercises that benefit older adults.

FALL 2023 LUNCHEON & COMMUNITY PARTNER INFO—MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DATE	LOCATION	PARTNER	NEEDS
Oct 19	Inverness Club	Aurora Project	Paper products, Lysol spray, Gift cards to Sam's Club or Costco, gas cards to Kroger's, Band-aids, Sterile Gloves, Glass cleaner, Air freshener
Dec 7	Toledo Club	Family House	Paper plates, cups & towels, Plastic silverware, Adult/Child Hats/gloves & Mittens, Adult & child Blankets, Pillows, Gift cards to Walmart or Meijer

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



GET A JUMP ON YOUR 2024 DUES— RENEW BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2024!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS or EMAIL ADDRESS
Text/Call Pat Price at: 419.350.1650
Email Pat at: ppretire17@gmail.com

How can YOU be Involved/Help with LCRTA/ORTA?

- Pick up one or more of our new business cards at a luncheon and share with retired teacher friends.
Bring items for Community Partners to luncheons or make a cash/check donation.
Inform us of any changes in your personal information – phone, email, address.
Invite a retired teacher friend to a luncheon AND encourage them to join.



- Stay current on membership dues. You can renew now for the LCRTA 2024 year – \$20 annual fee. ORTA dues - \$30 - can be paid at any time. It is best practice to include ORTA dues with your LCRTA dues and note on the check memo line and/or membership form.
If you read any LCRTA information in local publications, let Nancy Dyer, PR chairperson know.
If you know of any LCRTA members who pass away, notify Pat Holz, Corresponding Secretary.

A BALANCING ACT—Pauline LoCascio



This time of year brings the sights and sounds of fall, like football, festivals and friends. We may love to do it all, but we know it will take a balancing act to accomplish everything we want to enjoy. Imagine adding to that challenge, the reality of homelessness. Just surviving becomes the ultimate balancing act.

Thankfully in 1986, Aurora Project was established to provide a unique service-enriched housing program for the homeless women and children in our community. Aurora Project maintains the family unit, while assisting families to feel safe. Aurora succeeds by providing each family strategies that will lead them on a path towards a new life.

Families begin this journey through three phases of acquiring permanent housing that will help break the cycle of poverty and create a catalyst for change. The

first step is transitional housing, which is group oriented and secured. Support is constant and guided. They then move to temporary permanent housing, where education, social and financial skills are taught. Finally, independent permanent housing is provided, while still providing service to insure success.

Our October Community Partner does all these things to help homeless families feel balanced and secure. We can help them in their mission by donating at our luncheon on October 19th at Inverness Country Club. They need: paper products, Lysol spray, sterile gloves, band-aids, small plastic containers, glass cleaner, gift cards for Sam's Club or Costco, gas cards for Kroger's. Thank you for your generous donations for our Community Partners each month.

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
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Judy Egan

THE SLATE

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THINK BEFORE YOU SCAN A QR CODE—Jeannine Petcoff

QR or “quick response” codes are those black-and-white squares that seem to be popping up everywhere. Used for years by the Japanese to track automakers’ parts and inventory, their use has increased due to the demand for touch-less transactions. Using a smart phone screen, you can show your QR code to board a plane, enter a sporting event, or attend a concert. Your smart phone camera can scan a QR code to review a restaurant menu or donate to a cause or charity appearing on your TV screen. QR codes are now appearing on your Express Scripts prescription drug containers, over-the-counter drugs, delivery labels, company websites, and mailed ads to name but a few other uses.

On the negative side, con artists and scammers are tampering with the QR codes wanting their “piece of the action.” By altering the digital and physical QR codes with a malicious code, they use your mobile device to reveal your location and gain access to your personal and financial information.

In an alert issued by the FBI earlier this year, the FBI offered the following tips and warnings:

1. **Do NOT download an app from a QR code.** Use your phone’s app store for a safer download.

2. **Do NOT scan a code if it is on a sticker,** looks like it has been replaced or covered up, seems in an odd place, or looks odd and suspicious.
3. **Avoid making payments through a site that pops up after scanning a QR code.** Manually enter a known and trusted URL to complete the payment.
4. After scanning the code, see if the URL you are taken to is secure and begins with **https**.
5. **Avoid using QR codes to pay bills.**
6. If a statement from a company states your payment failed to go through and you can only complete payment by QR code, **contact the legitimate company directly through a trusted site.** Do NOT use the number provided by the email.
7. **Do NOT trust QR codes sent by strangers** or a supposed friend that is emailed or appears in a text. **If you think you have been a victim of QR code fraud, report it to your local FBI field office and the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center.**
Stay Safe!



Sources: AARP and USA Today Network