

The PCRTA Newsletter

Affiliated with the Ohio Retired Teachers Association, 2018

PCRTA MEMBER MEETING INFORMATION – NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 13TH

Meetings begin at 12 Noon at the St. John's Lutheran Church, Enterprise Road in Ingomar

Menu – Thanksgiving feast, rolls, beverages, and pie.

Program – Presentation by Preble County Native; Brenda Mezz. Brenda will speak and share excerpts from her book "The Place Just Right: An unexpected return to a small-town past." Copies available!

Greeters – Marilyn Vandeschaaff/Mary Jo Baker **Blessing** – Betty Brenner

Door Prizes – Brenda Wright/Nancy Wright

PCRTA OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

<u>President</u>	Harold Niehaus	<u>Vice President</u>	Bob Fox
<u>Treasurer</u>	Darrell Meeks	<u>Recording Secretary</u>	Janet Crelin
<u>Corresponding Sec.</u>	Sharon Norman	<u>Legislative Rep.</u>	George Henry
<u>Retirement Planning</u>	Nancy Wright	<u>Community Service</u>	Judith Looker
<u>Membership & Website/Webmaster</u>	Paul Ellison	<u>Member Newsletter</u>	Open
<u>Information & Protective Services</u>	Phyllis Marling	<u>Public Relations</u>	Sharon Norman
<u>Tools for Schools</u>	Rosalie Doran & Jean House	<u>Past President</u>	Janet Crelin

PCRTA SECRETARY'S REPORT

The September 11, 2018 meeting of the Preble County Retired Teachers Association was again held at St. John Lutheran Church in Ingomar. President Harold Niehaus called the meeting to order and welcomed 45 members and guests who were greeted by Brenda and Nancy Wright. Following the pledge led by President Niehaus, Phyllis Marling offered the blessing.

After a delicious meal served by the ladies from the church, the secretary and treasurer reports were approved as written. Sharon Norman had not sent any cards but she continues to have great success getting articles in the local newspapers. Judy Looker reminded members to keep tracking hours so they can be reported in November. An estimate of hours volunteered for the whole year is encouraged. She reminded members that a drawing for free lunches will be held for those who turn in hours. Phyllis Marling warned the group of ongoing scams that start as a simple email or call to verify the account or number is active and advised to block those not coming from a known source. If you don't know them, don't answer them. George Henry is continuing to monitor Legislative business with nothing new to report.

Nancy and Brenda Wright reported they spent \$471.46 on the "Tools for Schools" program and all supplies have been delivered to the schools. The basket was passed to begin collecting for the program for 2019. Monetary donations are encouraged even by members who are unable to attend the meetings. Paul Ellison continues to update the member list and posts pictures, ORTA and STRS news and meeting summaries on the website, www.PCTRA.org. PCRTA annual dues of \$10 are owed in December.

President Niehaus distributed the Scholarship Committee report. There was discussion to add recent Preble County graduates who are pursuing a teaching degree along with high school seniors who are interested in pursuing an education degree. It was suggested that the ESC could administer the scholarship rather than our group. After much discussion, Harold Steiner moved and Phyllis Marling moved to table the discussion. A

straw vote showed that 14 felt it should be for seniors only and 12 for seniors and beyond. The Scholarship Committee will review and bring recommendations back to the group in November.

President Niehaus again asked for nominations or volunteers for secretary. Joanne Evans stepped forward to volunteer. Thank you, Joanne. Michael Ward from Hamilton County was introduced as the ORTA Regional Liaison. He told the group that ORTA is lobbying on our behalf to reinstate COLA. Door prizes, Indian corn by Darrell Meeks were awarded along with homemade jams and jellies made by Becky Maggard.

The meeting then adjourned to the Sanctuary to hear updates from Kelly McChristy with STRS. The best news was that health insurance rates and services will not be changing in any appreciable way. She did again suggest that teachers and especially spouses check to make sure the STRS plan is the best for their situation. Often there are other plans that are better or more affordable. No increase in costs for medical insurance and STRS will continue giving \$29 Medicare reimbursement. STRS board is very aware that retirees want COLA reinstated but at this time there are still questions as to that feasibility. She gave fun facts about retirees. The bottom line was that teachers and their spouses are healthy. 216 retirees are 100 years + and another 115 are 99. The oldest is 109 and has been receiving retirement benefits for 45 years. She reminded members that we will be receiving new Medicare Plan cards that will have new numbers on them, not our Social Security numbers.

The next meeting will be November 13. All retired teachers and school personnel are invited to attend. More information and photos are available at PCRTA.org.

Respectfully submitted; Janet Crelin, Recording Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance in Checking 10/1/18	\$1636.91	
Receipts 8/1/18 to 10/1/18	1168.49	
Total	2805.40	Savings Certificates (2) \$5538.60
Expenditures 8/1/18 to 10/1/18	1350.60	
Balance in Checking 10/1/18	\$1454.80*	

*Includes \$311.50 in Tools for Schools Fund

Submitted by Darrell J Meeks, Treasurer

Are Your PCRTA & ORTA Dues Current?

PCRTA Annual Dues=\$10; Lifetime Dues=\$100.00

Make checks payable to PCRTA and mail the form below to

Darrell Meeks, 5091 Monroe Central Road, Eaton, OH 45320

____ PCRTA Annual Dues (Teacher) \$10.00 ____ PCRTA Annual Associate (Spouse) \$10.00
____ PCRTA Lifetime Dues (\$100.00) ____ Annual ORTA (\$30.00) ____ Life ORTA (\$500.00)
Name(s) _____ E-Mail _____
Address _____ Phone (____) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Important Information

- DONATE \$ To "TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS" - Basket will be passed at each meeting.
- Check out the Website - **pcrta.org**
- Corresponding Secretary items sent since last meeting: - Sharon Norman sent meeting notices and information to several local papers since the last meeting.
- **Are you continuing to track your volunteer hours in the community?** You will be asked to provide totals at the **November** meeting so add them up today! ☺ You do not have to prove your hours or say what you did or where you worked. We will just need a total at the November meeting plus an estimate for the remainder of the year. We provide these numbers to the ORTA. (Remember **WE** had 4580 volunteer hours in 2017!)

**** PLEASE CALL OR MAIL IN YOUR RESERVATIONS BY NOVEMBER 9TH! THANKS!**

PCRTA Member Meeting Reservation Form

Cost: \$10.00 per person

*****Reservations deadline Friday, November 9th. Checks payable to PCRTA and mail to: Darrell Meeks, 5091 Monroe Central Road, Eaton, OH 45320. Call 456-5340 with questions.**

Enclosed find \$_____ for ___ reservation(s)

Name(s) _____ Telephone (____) ____ - _____

Address _____

E-Mail: _____

(I/We) are willing to be a "Greeter(s)" at the next Member Meeting (Arrive by 11:30 A.M.)

PLEASE SEND RESERVATIONS IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO WE CAN HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT FOR THOSE WHO PREPARE OUR MEAL.