**ACRTA**

**NEWS AND MUSE**

Volume 8 Issue 6

February 2018/March 2018

**December Teacher Grant Raffle**

***You will love this lovely gift to celebrate Valentines Day with a loved one.***

***Proceeds benefit***

***Teacher Grant Program***

**Tickets: $2.00 each or 3 for $5.00**

**Be sure you have renewed your membership for the 2018 year.**

**ACRTA $12 & ORTA $30 Total $42**

**United we stand strong!**

**Contact: Barb Hochstetler**

 **3135 Tawa Drive**

 **Lima, Ohio 45806**

 **419-303-5667**

bhochstetler001@woh.rr.com

**JOIN – JOIN – JOIN**

The next luncheon meeting

will be held on

**April 5, 2018**

**11:30 am** at

Immanuel UMC

699 Sunnydale Drive, Elida



Program: Memorial Service



Menu:

 Appetizers: Veggie Tray

Lasagna

Green Beans

Cream Puff Tarts

Assorted beverages and breads



Send RSVP\* and $10 check to: **Norma Penn**

 **809 Brandonwood Drive**

**Lima, Ohio 45801**

*\*postmarked by JANUARY 23rd*



Everyone is invited to attend our meetings,

weather you order a meal or not.

Come, sit with your friends and join the fellowship of retired educators. We are all special people.

![C:\Users\DILLERAA\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\3FTK74E6\newsletter[1].gif]()

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

ACRTA needs a member to take over composing and editing the bi-monthly News and Muse newsletter.If interested Please contact

Jim Schwabero

![gavel[1]]()**NEWS FROM**

 **THE PRESIDENT**

 Jim Schwabero

419-236-2074

 As I write this letter on January 8; we have just completed the coldest week in a long day. Today was a day I wish I was still teaching since school would have been cancelled.

 I hope everyone is getting adjusted to our new reality of no COLA, which makes it more important than ever before to join ACRTA and ORTA so that our voice is heard. For the next 11 months; until November 6 we will be bombarded with election materials from all sides. It is important that we listen, read and ask questions to make the best decisions for our futures.

 At our February 1 meeting we will be remembering all the great educators who left us in 2017; especially the nine ACRTA members who died. I hope all of you will consider attending this meeting to pay tribute. Even if you do not wish to eat, come for the fellowship and to honor our fellow educators.

 At our April 5th meeting we will have a most informative presentation from the Lima Astronomical Society. Hope you all can attend.

Jim Schwabero

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***TRAVEL***

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 During this time of record low temperatures; the current temp is 36 degrees, highest of the year it is a time to dream of warmer and more pleasant environments. One big trip coming up is a trip to Ireland and Scotland in October from the 15th – 27th. This is a trip planned by Jerry Bunn and Vicki Doty, they attended a meeting with us last year. I will have details at our next meeting.

 Of more immediate interest is a show on February 14th in Celina, A TRIBUTE TO PATSY CLINE. This includes the show and a wonderful buffet luncheon; all for $35, or you can include a bus ride from Lima or Wapakoneta for an additional $5. There are many other trips this
Spring and so on available, just check with me or Choice Travel; 419-586-3144 or TravelWithChoice.com.

*HAPPY TRAVELS TO ALL!*

Jim Schwabero

[www.TravelWithChoice.com](http://www.TravelWithChoice.com)

419-585-3144

February 1, 2018

**Westside United Methodist Church**

*Memorial Service*

June 7, 2018

**Immanuel UMC**

Veterans Food Pantry

Bring Canned goods and paper products

![cartoon_bus[1]]()On The Road

 Jim Schwabero

 1755 Shawnee Rd

Apt # 504

Lima, Ohio 45805

 Fall is a very busy time for motor coach trips. There are trips to

baseball games, football games, plays, casinos, special

 performances by celebrities. As we approach the end of the year there are great trips to view Christmas decorations and see

Christmas shows from the comfort of a bus without worrying about driving whatever the weather. There are also many New Year’s trips both one day and overnight so you don't need to think about driving after celebrating. Get out and enjoy.

![raised-hands-1471189549xg5[1]]()

Many of our Board of Directors are serving on more than one Committee. New fresh ideas are needed. ACRTA could use your help. Can you please volunteer to assist on a committee? Contact: Jim Schwabero ASAP.

Thank You!

**![Ohio_Counties[1]]()LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS**

 Bruce Hodges

ACRTA Legislative Chairperson

Congressional House Districts to be redrawn?

Political operatives for generations have redrawn legislative and congressional districts to benefit the party in power. But that could change in a big way in 2018, and Ohio will be in the forefront as reformers attempt to reduce the influence of partisanship in the drawing of political districts.

A lot is as stake, including, some say, the polarization that defines American politics. Supporters say district with a diverse political mix are fairer, reduce partisanship and give voters greater choice. The new boundaries are supposed to reflect populations shifts after the decennial census. Although differing rules govern how Ohio draws state and congressional district boundaries, essentially the party the controls state government has controlled the redrawing of the districts.

 Ohio’s decrease in population cost it two congressional seats in the 2011 redistricting, and the state may lose another seat after 2020, according to estimates. Ohio now has 16 House members – 12 Republicans and 4 Democrats.

News from the Ohio Retired Teachers Association

Did you know that membership in the Allen County Retired Teacher’s Association (ACRTA) and the Ohio Retired Teachers Association (ORTA) is open to all spouses of any retired educator? Our STRS retirement system considers all non-educator spouses as beneficiaries of their husband or wife. Spouses have a direct and profound need to support their STRS benefits for as long as they live. With that fact in mind, the ACRTA and the ORTA welcome non-educators as eligible to join our retirement association to protect our common benefits.

 All retired educators should consider inviting their non-educator spouses to join with them in protecting our common retirement benefits.

 Spouses who join are fully invited to all of our meetings and association programs and benefits.

Think about it. Join our professional association as a couple. It is the romantic thing to do.

Bruce Hodges

ORTA Northwest Region Liaison

<<<<SCAM WARNING>>>>

To all who may have received an invitation to join an organization called POP-5. This organization claims to defend public employee retirement plans for all public employees. There are already 5 associations doing this work. Asking you for dues to do the work that your professional retirement associations are already doing for you constitutes a scam. WARNING! If you do join, you will not be able to get your money refunded.

What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal.

![768px-Facebook_Shiny_Icon.svg[1]]() We are on FACEBOOK; ALLEN COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS, just log on to view the page. To post a picture or comment you must join the page.

Words of Wisdom

What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | *FEBRUARY* |
| 2 | Marybeth Corbett |
| 4 | Joseph Bonifas |
| 5 | Michelle Sanders |
| 5 | Jim Schwabero |
| 12 | Martha Warden |
| 16 | Phyllis Koch |
| 17 | Brenda Fraizer |
|  |  |
| 17 | Maggie Ballentine |
| 24 | Margret Blanchong |
| 24 | Samual Bowsher |
| 24 | Cheryl Quay |
| 26 | Tom Place |
| 28 | Missy Bennett |
| 28 | Richard Hensley |

* Members who have reached the golden age of 90, receive free membership.

Contact Barb Hochstetler.

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | *MARCH*  |
| ***1*** | Rose Phillips |
| ***11*** | Paula Langhals  |
| ***14*** | Phyllis Fell |
| ***17*** | Pam Lauless |
| ***19*** | Bob Clover |
| ***20*** | Sylvia Clark |
| ***27*** | Irene Cooper |
| ***28*** | Deb Washam |
| ***28*** | Erika Wolff |
| ***28*** | Loren Myers |
| ***29*** | Debra Nelson |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

* Birthdates are compiled from the current 2017 membership list

The following members of the ACRTA have passed away from our presence, but not from our memories, during the 2017 year. If you would like to share any memories of them at the Memorial Service on February 1st, please let Cheryl Quay cdquay@wcoil.com or 419-991-4886, or Rose Phillips, 419-228-4328 know. If you know of any other ACRTA member that have passed, please let us know.

1. Wanda Derringer, 2. Robert Edgington, 3. Bridget Loescher, 4. Loren Keith Myers, 5. Josephine Neff, 6. David Staley, 7. Josephine Staley, 8. Laura Vaughn.

***2017******Board of Directors***

***Executive Committee***

President…………………..Jim Schwabero

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Vice President…………...Jerri Kohlhorst

419-991-2838

Jerrico47@hotmail.com

**Bruce Hodges**

**1419 Wendell Ave**

**Lima, Ohio 45805**

Secretary………………..…Norma L. Penn

419-303-8431

nleigh27catz@aol.com

Treasurer………..……Marybeth Corbett

 419-227-4016

mcorbett3@woh.rr.com

 Past President………….Bruce Hodges

419-228-9753

blhodges@woh.rr.com

