





## (Ohio Retired Teachers Association)

Celebrating 75 years !!

All ORTA members are invited to join this celebration located at the Doubletree Inn (175 Hutchinson Avenue) in Worthington, Ohio from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Light snacks, soft drinks, beer, and wine are complimentary. There will also be a cash bar. Speakers will include members of the STRS Board of Trustees and other "teacher friendly" politicians have been invited.



If you wish to spend the night, rooms are available for a discounted rate.

RSVP to the ORTA office (614-431-7002) or email to [admin.asst@orta.org](mailto:admin.asst@orta.org) by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

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AMBA will hold a webinar on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. about Medical Transportation

[https://ambabenefits.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_\\_1YqAvWqQJml4Nq6Q4G12Q](https://ambabenefits.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__1YqAvWqQJml4Nq6Q4G12Q)

After registration is complete, you will receive a confirmation email with coordinates to join the webinar and a reminder.

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This is from Robin Rayfield, Executive Director of ORTA, in the July Newsletter

"The STRS board met in executive session at the June meeting. After the executive session the board voted to 'amend' Executive Director Neville's contract. The main provisions of the amendments include extending Mr. Neville's contract to the end of June 2027.

He also received a \$9,000 increase in pay next year and again the following year. The decision to extend Mr. Neville's contract was not unanimous. You can guess who opposed this contract extension. It is puzzling to me that three board members, after being voted off the board, would support such a decision. It certainly shows that the ORTA endorsement committee got it right when they decided not to support the OEA candidates that have been so loyal to STRS staff and management while stabbing active and retired educators in the back."

Remember to follow and join these sites on Facebook to learn more about what is happening at STRS.

[Ohio STRS Member Only Forum](#)

[STRS Ohio Watchdogs](#)

[Allen County Retired Teachers](#)

STRS BOARD MEETING DATES that you may want to attend or listen to on the ORTA website.

- Aug. 18 2022
- Sept. 15 2022



August will be the last meeting with the current board members. The September meeting will see the newly elected members take a seat at the table.

Some of you should have seen your 3% COLA in July, if that was your anniversary month of retirement. If you retired in the month of August, it will appear then. This will continue each month through next June for those that retired in June to see their increase. You can call STRS to find out for sure or check your account on STRS. Members can call STRS Ohio's Member Services Center toll-free at 888-227-7877, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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### ~ ~ Message from the President ~ ~

I saw this posted by Libby Cupp and thought it appropriate for thought.

"Important lesson today, Charlie Chaplin died at the age of 88. He left four messages for us: (1) Nothing in this world is permanent, including our problems. (2) Walking in the rain is one of my favorite activities since no one can see my tears. (3) The day we don't laugh is the most wasted day of our lives. (4) The world's six top doctors are...1. The Sun, 2. Take a break, 3. Physical activity, 4. Modesty, 5. Self-esteem, 6. You have good friends. Keep these tips in mind throughout your life and you'll be able to live a healthy lifestyle... When you look at the moon, you see God's beauty. When you see the sun, you realize God's strength. When you look in the mirror, you see God's most beautiful creation. So take my word it. We're all just tourists here; God is our travel agent who has already planned out routes, reservations, and destinations; trust him and have fun. Life is nothing more than an adventure! As a result, enjoy today to the utmost! It's possible that tomorrow will never come."

I hope to see you at our August meeting. We will be finishing up this year with the election of a new president and secretary. Your BOARD has been working on reviewing and updating the bylaws for the past year. Those will be presented in October and voted on in December.

Thank you to all that have joined our organization to keep it strong.

Barb

419-303-5667

[bhochstetler001@woh.rr.com](mailto:bhochstetler001@woh.rr.com)

**ACRTA BOOK PROJECT:** *Profits will go into the Teacher Grant Fund*

**LAST CALL !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We are in the final stages of putting the book together and we would love to have your story. We know that you have some experience that others would like to read about to help make our book a success. PLEASE write and share your story.**



**Purpose:** *Allen County Retired Teachers Association Fund Raiser* for the Dr. Jon Rockhold Teacher grants – The book will be available in both paperback and electronic through Amazon. Paperback may also be available through the ACRTA and local book sellers.

**Authors:** Any retired teacher from Allen County/Lima City/Delphos City schools. Teachers will provide brief bio: Include School building, district, years there, other info you would like to include up to 100 words total.

**Editor:** David Reedy, PhD (Assistant Editors, English/Writing Volunteer retirees).

**Specifics:**

Stories of 150 words or more, multiple submissions from authors will be considered.

PLEASE submit your story or any questions to [davidreedy99@gmail.com](mailto:davidreedy99@gmail.com)

Bruce Hodges, ACRTA member, shared this information at our July Board Meeting and thought some of our members might be interested. He sent the following information to be shared with the membership.

Below is the Lima News article announcing the need for mentors for Lima Senior High students. This is an opportunity to connect retired educators with their life time of experiences to Lima Senior High upper class students. These are high school students that are already being pushed to consider lifetime careers. This concept also recognizes that many of these students are not connected with professional, mature adults who have the wisdom that retired teachers have accumulated through their careers of preparing students for a successful adult life.

Some of our membership may be experiencing the loneliness of retirement and interacting with a young person just beginning to plan their lifetime careers could be a positive experience for both the student and the retiree. Some of our high school students do not have access to advice from professional adults that have had a professional life of supporting and encouraging young people to strive for success in life.

This provides the opportunity for a young high school student to have access to retired educators who are veterans of life and retirees to have the possibility of continuing to shape the lives of young students.

The following was in the *Lima News*

#### **Mentors needed for**

#### **Lima Senior program**

In August, a mentoring program will be established at Lima Senior High School. Starting with sophomores in career tech, the program hopes to expand over time to include the entire school population.

“Research has consistently concluded that the best way, hands down, to help a young person make their way through their life plan and develop self-esteem and their career planning is mentoring, without a doubt,” said Doug Arthur, of Transform Consulting.

The commitment to be a part of this program is very light – once a week after school or on weekends for five minutes via your phone.

“The dependability, the regularity of that five-minute connection is the secret sauce that makes this huge impact on that young person’s approach to problem-solving to getting through the challenges of their day,” Arthur said.

“The dependability, the regularity of that five-minute connections is the secret sauce that makes this huge impact on that young person’s approach to problem-solving to getting through the challenges of their day,” Arthur said.

To sign up to be a mentor, email [hanne.lutton@transformconsulting.us](mailto:hanne.lutton@transformconsulting.us) or text Hanne at 740-590-0560 with the note "Count me in!"

Professionals from all sectors of the business community are desired for mentors. The mentors will mentor for three years – from sophomore through senior year and graduation. There are 261 sophomores at Lima Senior High School. Therefore, 261 mentors are needed.

"We've got a block of work to do connecting with people, putting them through required background checks because they will be working with minors." Arthur said. "We give them a two-hour online training that will cover goals of the program, appropriate topics for mentoring, how to handle difficult and awkward questions, what to say and what not to say and where to reach out for help if needed."

Arthur, principal consultant for Transform Consulting, has designed workforce solutions for 20 years in communities in Ohio, Indiana, Texas and California.

If interested, Contact Dean Brown at 567-242-0409, or email <[dbrown@limanews.com](mailto:dbrown@limanews.com)>

~~~~~ Quote to ponder ~~~~~

"You'll never find a rainbow if you're looking down." – Charlie Chaplin

2022 ACRTA

**MeETING**

Dates

General Membership Meetings - Lunch at 11:30 a.m. followed by program/meeting.

\*August 4<sup>th</sup>

\*October 6<sup>th</sup>

\*December 1<sup>st</sup>

Board Meetings - 1:00 p.m. \*September 1<sup>st</sup>

\*November 3<sup>rd</sup>



Opportunities for you.

- Be a mentor to a student at Lima Senior High.
- Write a story from your educational experience and submit it to David Reedy, per information above.
- Submit your name to run for president or secretary of ACRTA for a 2 year term. Can serve two terms maximum.



## August

Robert Suter - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Doreen Martin - 4<sup>th</sup>

Cathryn Nihiser - 6<sup>th</sup>

Don Snook - 7<sup>th</sup>

Joyce Bowerscok-Keating - 12<sup>th</sup>

Kathleen Pseekos - 13<sup>th</sup>

Bill Garling - 19<sup>th</sup>

Caroline E. Miller - 30<sup>th</sup>

Jane Irwin - 4<sup>th</sup>

Shirley Rohr - 5<sup>th</sup>

Gloria Kershner - 7<sup>th</sup>

Nancy Kizer - 11<sup>th</sup>

Sandra Corbet - 12<sup>th</sup>

Kevin Fraley - 15<sup>th</sup>

Loretta Hodges - 26<sup>th</sup>

## September

Jerri Kohlhorst - 2<sup>nd</sup>

Rachel Clum - 7<sup>th</sup>

Donna Greenland - 8<sup>th</sup>

Dee Dee Meringleo-Dirkson - 9<sup>th</sup>

Andrea King - 13<sup>th</sup>

Jane Urish - 14<sup>th</sup>

Sam Bassitt - 19<sup>th</sup>

Diane Koch - 20<sup>th</sup>

Elfrieda Ramseyer - 21<sup>st</sup>

Melinda King - 24<sup>th</sup>

Mila Schwabero - 27<sup>th</sup>

Betty Place - 30<sup>th</sup>

Jon Rockhold - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Bruce Hodges - 7<sup>th</sup>

David Lawrence - 9<sup>th</sup>

Neil Pauff - 9<sup>th</sup>

Carol Blass - 14<sup>th</sup>

Mark Vaughn - 17<sup>th</sup>

Charles LaGrande - 19<sup>th</sup>

Ruth Nichols - 21<sup>st</sup>

Cathy Woodward - 22<sup>nd</sup>

Liz Ebbing - 26<sup>th</sup>

William Lewis - 28<sup>th</sup>

\*\*If we have missed you or have incorrect information, please contact us so that we can update our records.

## The following are the proposed draft minutes for the April General Meeting:

June 2, 2022

ACRTA Luncheon and meeting

The June luncheon was held at Immanuel United Methodist Church in Elida. Following the meal, the Jon Rockhold Teacher Grant recipients explained how they used grant awards in their classrooms. Jude Meyers, Shawnee superintendent, also spoke about the district.

### **Minute of the Business Meeting:**

President Barb Hochstetler opened the meeting with the reading of the minutes from the April meeting and then introduced members who have not been in attendance for a while. Barb also welcomed new member Jana Hines.

Treasurer Sue Cramer presented the current report and proposed budget. Bruce Hodges moved to accept the budget, and it was seconded by Mila Schwabero. The motion passed.

**Membership:** Norma Penn reported that membership stands at 209 paid memberships and 3 free memberships (retirees who have reached age 90.)

**ORTA:** Newly elected STRS board members will take office in September. The Board is being taken to court over the failure to give the promised COLA.

**Legislative:** Bruce Hodges reported that five proposed redistricting plans for Ohio have been rejected due to gerrymandering. The primary is scheduled for August 2, and the Federal Court will intervene on June 3 if no agreement is reached.

**Old Business:** Please continue to send your classroom stories and short biographies to David Reedy. The book is almost ready for publication.

The Allen County Museum needs volunteers to help with the Ohio Presidents Exhibit. There is a training session scheduled for June 24.

**New Business:** Primrose has invited our members to a free luncheon on June 21 at 11:30. If you plan to attend, please call to make a reservation.

The Allen County Museum has a "Life in America Program" covering 1875-1900. Barb has postcards.

ACRTA elections are scheduled for the October meeting. The offices of president and secretary must be filled. If you would like to serve on the nominating committee, please see Barb.

Bylaws are being updated and will be presented at the August meeting.

**Raffle:** Melinda King won the lovely, framed photograph taken and donated by member Paula Millhoff. Sue Morningstar won the door prize provided by the church (flowers) and Jerri Kohlhorst won the free luncheon.

Respectfully submitted.

Norma Penn, secretary pro tem



# SUMMER FUN

## Word Search Puzzle



W A T E R P A R K V A C A T I O N  
F R I E N D S W S T Z G H N A I G  
T S A Z Q P A B Q C N P N M D C S  
E W O N C H I I Y I A S U R X E N  
B I C Y C L E C P C R Y O Z M C F  
O M P W I Z J M N E F J A A P R R  
U M E I F M A T L I U I G M O E I  
T I H G A C O K X C C B S N P A S  
D N N J X O N P S M B K E H S M B  
O G W V F I I P X D R T R A I X E  
O O U E R R O C O O K O U T C N E  
R A R P T L F U W S S C V Q L H G  
S A S D F O L E M O N A D E E T A  
B A A P E Q R S U N S H I N E M N  
W O I F A I R G R O U N D P X B M  
R L W N F E K N B A S E B A L L X  
F B B M Y P M V T D G I S W O R V



|            |            |            |
|------------|------------|------------|
| BAREFOOT   | FISHING    | PICNIC     |
| BASEBALL   | FLIP FLOPS | POPSICLE   |
| BEACH      | FRIENDS    | ROAD TRIP  |
| BICYCLE    | FRISBEE    | SPRINKLERS |
| CAMPING    | GAMES      | SUNSHINE   |
| COOKOUT    | ICE CREAM  | SWIMMING   |
| FAIRGROUND | LEMONADE   | VACATION   |
| FIREWORKS  | OUTDOORS   | WATER PARK |

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