

Washington County Retired Teachers Association

An Affiliate of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association

September 2016

Officers

President:

Juanita Baker (373-9702)

Vice President:

Bonnie Weber (678-2844)

Secretary:

Sally Hale (749-3223)

Treasurer:

Becky Nolt (374-5083)

Past President:

Jo Ann Ingram (374-5001)

Committees

PR and Reservations:

Joyce Ross (373-2359)

Newsletter:

Karen Burton (373-3317)

Legislative:

Juanita Baker (373-9702)

Chaplain:

Jim Fernihough (374-7305)

Retirement Planning:

Barbara Thode (373-3728)

Scholarship:

Barb Meek (445-5094)

Membership:

Hugh Coffman (374-6718)

Eldon Young (678-8077)

Volunteers:

Bob Bumgarner (374-5103)

Greetings once again from former Editor Jim Williams. Karen Burton remains at Harmar Place for therapy and rehabilitation, where she is making progress and hoping to return home soon. She asks that I extend heartfelt thanks to her WCRTA friends for the visits, cards, prayers, and many other kindnesses. She is hoping to be back among us at the December meeting. If you would like to send Karen a card, the address is Harmar Place, 401 Harmar Street, Marietta, OH 45750.

The October meeting of WCRTA is Wednesday, October 12, at 12 noon at the Lafayette Hotel. The menu this time will be pork loin with mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, and pumpkin pie for dessert, along with the usual salad and beverage. The cost of the meal is \$13.00, which includes everything but a gratuity. You can make a reservation by calling Joyce Ross (373-2359), or by e-mail at: joycer1007@gmail.com.

Each October, Chaplain Jim Fernihough, with help from Eldon Young and Hugh Coffman, organizes our memorial tribute to members and affiliates who have passed away in the preceding year.

In addition to the memorial service, the *Dulcimer Ladies*, a group from the Cutler area will perform. The ensemble is directed by Marcie Place, and we hear their music is beautiful.

Also at the October meeting, we will pass the hat for contributions to the WCRTA Scholarship Fund. Last year, the generosity of members made it possible for us to give a \$1,000 award to a graduate of one of the county's high schools.

This is a good year to be doubly thankful that you are retired. It's been a hot summer, and the last days of August and the first three weeks of September have been even hotter than normal. I sometimes think we are paying for the month of May, which was unusually cool and mild. Let's hope that by time for the October meeting, the worst of the hot weather will be over, and we'll be enjoying those wonderful autumn days that are just barely warm enough to be comfortable and give us a preview of what lies ahead. I am hoping to be able to join you for the December meeting, which is always very good time, and the best-attended meeting of the year.

The deadline for reservations is Sunday, October 9, by 8 P.M.

WCRTA

wants

you!

Included with this month's newsletter is the 2017 membership form. Please take a minute today to complete the form and return it to Treasurer Becky Nolt at 107 Iroquois Drive, Marietta, OH 45750. Educators receiving STRS benefits are required to join ORTA in order to belong to the local chapter, but affiliates (spouses or partners of educators eligible to join) can join the local organization only. The cost of local dues is only \$10.00, and \$4.00 of every membership goes directly to the Scholarship Fund.

ORTA is an advocate for Ohio's retired teachers. For the most part, the organization is non-partisan, which can be a significant advantage during this time when our country is more and more polarized. ORTA's efforts on our behalf make an important difference in Columbus, and maintaining a strong membership in our local chapter is critical because we know that there is strength in numbers. If you are currently a member, please renew; if you have not joined the organization yet, please consider it.

Pre-Retirement Planning Event

Barbara Thode has chaired our retirement planning committee for the past several years. Every other year, WCRTA sponsors a planning meeting for educators contemplating retirement. This year's meeting will be held Tuesday, October 18, at 4:30 P.M. at the Washington County Career Center. Several members have volunteered to help out with the event by donating snacks, drinks, and door prizes. If you are able to bring a plate of finger food (cheese and crackers, chips and dip, vegetable tray, fruit tray, mini-sandwiches, e.g.), plan to arrive at the Career Center between 3:30 and 4:00. If you would rather make a monetary contribution to this project, please plan to give it to Barbara at the October meeting. If you have questions, call her at 740-373-3728.

A Fall Foliage Train Trip on October 8?

Eldon Young announced at the September meeting of the executive committee that the railroad club has twenty tickets remaining for the trip to Elkins to ride the train. The per-person cost of \$169 includes bus transportation from Parkersburg, the train ride from Cass to Elkins that includes lunch, and dinner at the Railyard Restaurant in Elkins. If you want more information or have questions, give Eldon a call at 740-678-8077.