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Washington County Retired Teachers Association

An Affiliate of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association

May 2015

Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June.

Al Bernstein

Hello, Teachers,

The earth has turned green, and lots of people have already planted their gardens. My twelve tomato plants are in the ground, but that's the extent of my horticultural pursuits. I depend on the local markets and the grocery store for produce most of the time. I have some friends who share the fruits of their labors with me, and I frequently benefit from the generosity of folks who join in the "Leave a Zucchini on a Neighbor's Porch" initiative, but I'm getting ahead of myself.

Our next lunch meeting is Wednesday, June 10, at the Lafayette Hotel at noon. The menu is grilled salmon, roasted red skin potatoes, and a vegetable, plus salad, rolls, and beverage. The dessert this time is a surprise from the chef. **If you do not like fish, you can ask for a chef salad instead when you make your reservation.** 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.

At our April meeting, one of Marietta High School's choirs, under the direction of J.D. Benson, entertained us. My grandson Mac sings with the group, and he made Grandma very proud. The group sang "Happy Birthday" to Ruth Spence in recognition of her 80th birthday (Ruth doesn't look 80, by the way).

Vice President Bonnie Weber has arranged an excellent program for the June meeting. ORTA President Darlene Ruzicka will be with us; and we will be entertained by local author Cathy Mowrer, who has published two books about historical events in our area. I bought both of her books, and I have really enjoyed them.

Joining Dr. Mowrer will be Emily (Bonnette) Hendershot, illustrator for the two books. Several years ago, Emily performed her jump rope routine for a WCRTA lunch meeting. Emily's current fitness passion is cycling, and she will share some details of her cross country bicycle trip. Her mom Kathy retired in 2013 from Warren Elementary.

If you have a friend who is retiring this year, why not invite him or her to join you for lunch at the Lafayette on June 10? We always have a good time, and the food and program this time promise to be extra good.

The deadline for reservations is Sunday, June 7, by 8 P.M.

Bye, Bye,

B-V

As you may know, Barlow-Vincent Elementary School will become the Warren Middle School this fall. The building will get a facelift, along with other significant renovations. Warren students in Grades K-4 will attend either Little Hocking or Warren Elementary, and all the district students in Grades 5-8 will attend the new middle school. I spent thirty-four years of my teaching career in that building and made many lifelong friends there. B-V represents a big part of my professional life, so I was happy to attend the first ever B-V Reunion last week. Many current and former teachers and staff members attended. We had a wonderful pot luck dinner and shared lots of memories. We toured the building, and I looked over my old room with feelings of nostalgia. When I started working there in 1965, both the building and I were young. Fifty years later, just like the building, I could do with some reconstruction, and maybe a facelift too.

KB

In Memoriam

Josephine Weber Hune grew up in this area and taught at Marietta High School in the 1930's. Later, she owned and managed a local business and was active in a wide variety of civic and social organizations. Mrs. Hune passed away in mid-March at the age of 100.

Paul Kulp lived in Marietta and taught most of his career in the elementary schools in the Fort Frye Local School District. After retirement, Mr. Kulp moved to the Finleyville, Pennsylvania, area to be closer to family.

Charles Coyle was born and grew up in Noble County. He had taught at Belle Valley and then at Zanesville High School. After retirement, Mr. Coyle had a second career portraying Abraham Lincoln in nursing homes, schools, and other venues. Mr. Coyle died at age 96 last month.

Jim Creighton was born in Barlow. He taught language arts to students in Grades 7-12 at Fort Frye High School, where he was much admired and respected, both by colleagues and students. Jim was an active member of the Society of Friends and very involved with the Windsor (HS) Alumni Association.

There is a very nice tribute to **Freda Butt** on the Belpre City Schools' website. Mrs. Butt taught in West Virginia and Ohio, with much of her career in Belpre. Barb Meek, one of our members, tells us that Mrs. Butt was her seventh grade teacher. Freda passed away in early May.

I first got to know **Baunelle Hoff** through WCRTA when I retired. Baunelle taught at Putnam, Marion, and Washington Schools in Marietta. She was a very active member of our organization until her health began to fail. Sadly, Baunelle's husband Richard passed away in March of this year.

As always, we apologize for any errors or omissions, and extend sympathy to the families and friends of these educators. They will be missed.

*The truth as I know it.... Karen Burton
(with editorial assistance from Jim Williams)*