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TRTA Newsletter

*Published for the Trumbull Chapter of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association.
TRTA—one of nine chapters in District XI.*

Volume XVII, No. 1

January 2016

From our President:

I hope your holidays were happy and stress free. As we begin the new year Helen Steiner Rice says:

“It doesn’t take a new year to begin our lives anew –

For there comes daily to all men the chance to make another start and begin all over again.”

We had no one from our Chapter interested in running for the Eastern Area Vice President’s position but the elected ORTA Board will be voting this month from those who have been presented as candidates.

In other ORTA news, we had the lowest investment costs, we received an excellent financial statement audit, we approved 158 retirements (active) and 61 (inactive) and members will receive a 1095-B tax form this month in compliance with the Affordable Health Care Act.

At the local level TRTA thanks Denise Bartholomew for her many years of devoted service as Chair of TRTA’s Legislative Committee. We welcome Dottie Fogel who has agreed to Chair the Committee by collecting and passing on to us important ORTA and STRS legislative information.

I hope to see you all at the February General Meeting.

Carol Pinney, President

TRTA Meetings

TRTA General Meeting Dates

February 9, 2016, April 12, 2016, June 14, 2016, August 9, 2016

Every other month on the second Tuesday, 12:00 Noon

Ciminero’s Banquet Centre, 123 N. Main St., Niles, Ohio 44446

Program: As you know, 2016 is a Presidential Election Year. In February, we celebrate Presidents Day. In keeping with our American heritage, our speaker for our February meeting will be the Honorable Former President of the United States, William McKinley, native of Niles, Ohio, portrayed by Mr. Mike Wilson. You won’t want to miss his State of the Union message. To show our support, let’s all wear red, white, and blue. God Bless America.

Collected at all meetings: Candle wax, cancelled stamps, cell phones, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and yarn.

Hospitality, Mary Fuller, Chairperson:

The decorations for the February lunch will reflect the natural beauty of a white winter and also the joy of love and friendship. Thanks to everyone who purchased decorations in 2015. TRTA was able to present Mobile Meals with a check consisting of the profit made for the year.

Mailing Meetings Won’t you consider dropping by to help assemble our newsletter? If everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot! The mailing work sessions are at 9 a.m. at Grace United Methodist Church on Drexel Avenue. Dates: 3/15/16, 5/17/16, 7/19/16, 9/20/16, 11/15/16

Committee News

Membership, Jane Cribbs, Chairperson

Your 2016 dues are payable now. Remember TRTA dues have been increased to \$20.00 annually and \$150.00 for life. ORTA dues are \$30.00 annually. It is recommended that you join ORTA also since they are responsible for representing retirees in Ohio. Total annual dues are only \$50.00 for complete membership.

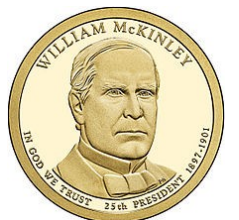
There are many retirees out there who are not aware of the importance of these two organizations. Talk them up!! OEA and NEA represent all teachers but TRTA and ORTA look out solely for us retirees--quite a bargain when you compare their dues.

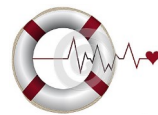
Community Service, Marilyn Stanton, Ellen King Chairpersons

Thanks again go to Lynn Valentino for 5 more beautiful crocheted afghans. The Bella team was especially excited to receive the 2 baby afghans as they were just putting together gift bags. Thanks also to the 62 members who contributed 18,201 volunteer hours in 2015. At our December meeting many of you donated to Second Harvest Food Bank for a total of \$890. Thanks!!

At our February meeting we will be collecting coats, hats, scarves, mittens/gloves, sweaters, pants, shoes, boots, blankets -- anything to warm someone’s body as we warm their heart. Donations will go to the Warren Family Mission.

Web Address: www.trumbullrta.blogspot.com/ Follow Trumbull Retired Teachers Association on Facebook. Please email comments or corrections to the TRTA Newsletter to Sue Datish, editor at suedat@gmail.com






Condo and Renters Insurance

The Homeowners association (HOA) in your condo building provides insurance, but there may be a reason for condo owners to have their own insurance. Generally speaking, the HOA-provided insurance covers the exterior of your unit and the building's common areas. Anything inside is the owner's responsibility. Think of the condo, as an article in AAA Motorist says, as a dollhouse. If you turned it over, everything that fell out would not be covered by the HOA.

Renters insurance policies usually include three types of coverage: 1) coverage to replace personal belongings lost to fire, some water damage, and theft or vandalism; 2) personal liability coverage in case of the owners' being sued and required to pay for property damage or bodily injury; 3) reimbursement for "additional living expenses" if it is necessary to relocate temporarily in the event of a covered loss. ("Understanding Condo and Renters Insurance," Robin Jones, *AAA Motorist*, November/December 2015)

When Calling for Help

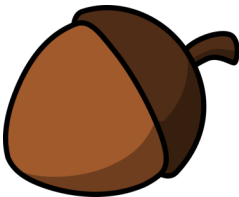
Over half of daily 911 calls are from Americans 55 and older. Below are some tips to help EMT's save a person needing help:

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- Clear the way: Trim bushes and low-hanging trees by the driveway. Have snow shoveled from the walk. Keep stairways in good repair.
 - Make your house a beacon: Make sure there is abundant lighting and that the house or apartment is clearly marked with an address or reflective paint on a curb.
 - Don't lock out EMT's or firefighters: Make a key available. One thing that can be done is a call to the local EMS with the location of a spare key. Breaking down a door requires extra time.
 - Declutter the house: Clear a path to all rooms where people spend time, and make certain there is open space around a bedbound person.
 - Keep records handy: Keep health "cheat sheets" on a refrigerator where they can be easily found. Include lists of medications, physicians, recent surgeries or necessary information.
 - Swap out confusing jewelry: Standard medical alert jewelry may not be fancy, but it is easily understood.
 - Alert EMS to special needs: Add a note to a home-address file if there are special needs for physical disabilities. (*AARP Bulletin*, December 2015)

Some Nutty Trivia

The Vice President of the United States has only two official duties: 1) to preside over the Senate cast tie-breaking votes there, 2) and to certify the official vote count of the United States Electoral College. The Vice President's salary is \$400,000 per year.

An onion, apple and potato all have the same taste. The differences in flavor are caused by their smell. (*Good Neighbor News Letter* Vol. 12 No. 08, August 2015)



Scholarship, Donna Pate, Chairperson

If you know of a young person graduating this year who would be worthy of a TRTA scholarship, please pick up an application at the February luncheon. TRTA members can nominate up to two students who are from a Trumbull County public school. Applications are also available by calling Donna Pate @ [330-638-6550](tel:330-638-6550) or Libby Whetson@ [330-369-8003](tel:330-369-8003). Five \$1000 scholarships will be awarded at the June luncheon.

Meeting Reservation

Tuesday, February 9, 2016– 12:00 Noon at Ciminero's Banquet Centre
Please make reservations by February 1, 2016.

Member Name: _____ Guest Name: _____

Phone number: _____

_____ **luncheon @ \$11.25 =** _____

Scholarship Donation: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Make one check payable to TRTA. Send this form to:
Ellen King,
7141 Vineland Place
Youngstown, OH 44512-4845
Phone: 330.758.3902

2016 Membership Form

TRUMBULL RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (TRTA)
OHIO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (ORTA)

Membership is open to all Trumbull County Educators. Unified membership is required.

Member's Name: _____ Email: _____

____ Current Member ____ New Member *Will not be shared.*

Dues are as follows:

Annual Memberships

____ Annual TRTA/ORTA Dues \$50 (\$20 TRTA + \$30 ORTA)

Life Memberships

____ Life TRTA Dues \$150

Life ORTA dues (\$500) are payable in three ways:

____ Two payments: One-half now; one-half in six months


____ Four payments: January, March, May, July

____ Lump sum: \$500

Total Enclosed: _____ **Check payable to TRTA**

_____ I would be willing to receive my newsletter by e-mail. Referred by _____

Send this form and payment to:
Jane Cribbs, 150 Royal Troon Dr. SE, Warren, OH 44484





Jean Slicker

Jean Slicker, newly elected Eastern Area Vice President and our former District XI Director, passed away unexpectedly on November 11, 2015, in a one-car accident very near her home as she was traveling back from an AMBA conference in Texas. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her brother Dick and sister-in-law Gladys as well as her entire family. She served us well and will be sincerely missed. Rest in peace, Jean . . .