

November Program: Hope Short, a STRS representative, will be our guest speaker. While some teachers rely strictly on their internet connections to choose the best insurance for themselves and their spouse, others like the opportunity to hear in person what STRS is saying about healthcare for not only the immediate future but what is on the horizon. Last year was the first time I have ever heard our speaker suggest there may be better plans available than what STRS is offering. While comfortable, the status quo wasn't always the best in a classroom and it may not best in healthcare. HCRTA is providing you the opportunity to listen and question STRS and to chat with colleagues about what options they may be considering. Invite your spouse or a former retired colleague who is not a HCRTA member to join us for this timely topic.

The nitty gritty of the Monday, November 7th meeting at Highland Co Senior Citizen Center:

11:00 - 12:00 Social Hour

12:00 - Lunch of Cranberry Salad, Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Rolls, & Dessert

12:40 - Program "Health Care 2017 and Related Issues"

1:20 - 2:00 - Business Meeting

Community Service Project: Sleepwear For Children - members may contribute money to purchase clothing items or bring packages of new underwear, t-shirts or pajamas. These will be given to the Homeless Shelter for distribution to children who are staying at the Shelter.

Slate of Officers for 2017: President - Robert "Bob" Hottle

Vice President - Paul "Jim" Faust

Secretary - needs to be filled

Treasurer - Doris Pulse

Early Education in Highland County: At the May meeting Pamela Nickell asked the HCRTA to help cover the cost of a black granite tile plaque (24x16x.38), the laser etching, hardware and installation to commemorate the first school in Highland County. This meeting will be the last opportunity to contribute to this project. If you or your family would like to help by making a donation to this project, you can include it with your meal reservation.

2017 Dues: If you haven't already paid 2017 dues, please take care of it with your November meeting reservation. You may put both ORTA dues (\$30) and HCRTA (\$5.00) on the same check with your meal reservation. If you are not sure if you are an ORTA life member, check with Doris Pulse, HCRTA treasurer (937-981-4149).

Internet Connections: Check us out at HCRTA.weebly.com or like us on Facebook at Highland County Retired Teachers. Contact Kevin Black (937-402-7642) if you have information to add to these sites.

Highland Co. Historical Society Christmas Trees: HCRTA has been asked to decorate the tree in the upper hallway and one in the classroom. The theme is snowmen. If you would like to decorate a snowman ornament or have some snowmen ornaments/ decorations that we can borrow, call Kathy Levo (937-393-4951) or Pamela Nickell (937-393-1368). Pamela would also love to have some help decorating the week of Oct 31st. HCHS will be open to the public for the holiday weekends starting Saturday November 5th.

Scholarships: Most of us had financial help while we attend college and feel qualified students should have the same opportunity. While the scholarship box is passed at the meeting, we wanted to remind you that you can make a donation by check "in memory" of a colleague who has passed. HCRTA will send the family a note that you have given a donation in memory of their loved one.

Pre-Retirement Workshop: Elaine Riggle reported that approximately 25 individuals attended the Sept. 22nd workshop held at Hillsboro HS. Attendees were very pleased with the information STRS representative Kelley McChristy shared. Elaine had also arranged to have local financial institutions share some tips in planning for retirement. Elaine suggested that the workshop be repeated in two or three years.

Meals Reservations: Ever had unexpected guests show up as you are about to sit down to dinner. Awkward isn't it! Well that's how our officers feel when members send in meal reservations well after the deadline. HCRTA must make meal reservations with the Senior Citizens Center on the Monday one week prior to the meeting. In this case that is the morning of October 31st. Depending upon who is preparing the meal and what is being served they do their best to accommodate additional reservations but we don't like to estimate because we pay for all meals ordered even if they are not served. So help us out by calling or emailing Doris (937-981-4149) if you haven't put your reservation in the mail by October 27th.

District IV Position: Interested in serving as a District Director for Adams, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Highland, and Warren. You'll need to attend two ORTA board meetings, and attend at least one meeting of each chapter in the district to update members on ORTA and to promote membership in local chapters and ORTA. Contact Jim Faust 9937-288-2235) or email bcrt-a-ohio@gmail.com for more information.

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Name _____ # of Meals Reserved _____

Guest(s) _____

ORTA Dues (\$30) _____ HCRTA Dues (\$5.00) _____

Would you like to contribute to: Historical Plaque Donation \$ _____ Sleep wear \$ _____
Scholarship Fund \$ _____ In memory of _____

Place this portion and your check in the addressed enclosed envelope & return by 10/29. If you feel it will be late, please call Doris Pulse (937-981-4149). Thank you.