

HIGHLAND COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

4-7-2021



- “Spring will come and so will happiness. Hold on. Life will get warmer.”– **Anita Krizzan**
- “The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created Spring.”– **Bernard Williams**
- “Spring won't let me stay in this house any longer! I must get out and breathe the air deeply again.”– **Gustav Mahler**
- “The spring wakes us, nurtures us and revitalizes us. How often does your spring come? If you are a prisoner of the calendar, it comes once a year. If you are creating authentic power, it comes frequently, or very frequently.”– **Gary Zukav**

From the Editor:

Hope! Reemergence! Regrowth! Spring!

The winter has mostly past and sunshine, refreshing rains, and beautiful flowers are popping up all over the place! How glorious! This year Spring is especially welcome for most of us, I think, because of the year of long and lonely isolation. Now, bit by bit, as many folks are being vaccinated, businesses are beginning to get back to business-as-usual and gathering restrictions are beginning to ease. I am certainly hopeful that most of you are now able to get out of the house and go in-person shopping, traveling, or visiting loved ones!

HCRTA NEWS:

In keeping with the relaxing of gathering restrictions, your HCRTA executive committee is pleased to announce that we will be meeting in person for the first time in over a year. On Monday, May 3, 2021, we will gather at the Old Y Restaurant. There is no cost to HCRTA for the meeting room and each individual will order off of the menu and pay the restaurant for their meal. Therefore, you do not need to send money to Doris for the meal this month. However, please RSVP using the form provided as to your intention to attend or not to attend so that we may better communicate with the restaurant regarding how many people to expect.

Our program for the May meeting will be entertainment by the choral ensemble from Whiteoak High School in Mowrystown! Our May service project will be collecting monetary donations to support the Southern Ohio Pregnancy Center. This is designed to coincide with Mother's Day and SOPC's Annual Fundraiser. Even though you will not need to send Doris a check for your meal reservations, you still may send service project and scholarship donations with your RSVP.

In other HCRTA news, please be aware that if we are to continue functioning as an organization, there is a critical need for individuals to step into executive and committee roles. As we discussed at the recent Executive Committee meetings many small clubs and service organizations have ceased to exist as younger individuals are not joining, volunteerism is decreasing, and lock-down is reducing attendance and engagement. We would regret to see a valuable organization like HCRTA close-up because we have no one interested enough to become involved. We need officers as well as volunteers to chair or assist the following standing committees: Membership; Legislative; Community Service; Pre-Retirement: Phone Chain; and Scholarship

STRS, ORTA, and ODE News

Articles from Dr. Robin Rayfield in the ORTA Newsletters continue to be interesting. A few items of interest in his news article include:

- The ORTA Forensic Audit of STRS has officially begun. The public records request has been filed and it is anticipated that the forensic audit process will take approximately 4 months.
- STRS is experiencing a good year with nearly 16% earnings in the 1st half of the fiscal year.
- The STRS chief investment officer will retire in April of 2021, to be replaced by the current STRS manager of alternative investments and fixed income.
- The STRS staff appears to be preparing the STRS board for a recommendation that the Assumed Return Rate (ARR) be lowered. If this happens, it could push any discussion of COLA out possibly as far as 2048.
- STRS has the highest individual contribution rate and the lowest employer contribution rate.
- According to the 300 people surveyed, STRS rates high in member satisfaction.

Dr Rayfield continues to bring awareness to how important our vigilance is to the security of our retirement income.

(Cut and Return this Portion)
Doris Pulse, HCRTA Treasurer, 11740 State Route 753, Greenfield, OH 45123

Name: _____

____ I plan to attend the May 3, 2021 meeting
 ____ I do not plan to attend the May 3, 2021 meeting.

____ HCRTA 2021 Dues (\$5.00)	\$ _____
____ ORTA 2021 Dues (\$30.00)	\$ _____
____ Service Project (Southern Ohio Pregnancy Center)	\$ _____
____ HCRTA Scholarship Fund	\$ _____
• In memory of _____	
• In honor of _____	

Name & Address of family to be notified:

____ Spargur Scholarship Fund	\$ _____
• In memory of _____	
• In honor of _____	

Name & Address of family to be notified:

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Additional comments:

Please help us update our records by providing us with the following information:

Your Current Mailing Address: _____

Your Land line Phone Number(s): _____

Your Mobile Phone Number(s): _____ Can you receive Text messages: __ Y __ N

Your email address: _____

*Place this portion and your check in an envelope & return to Doris Pulse, HCRTA Treasurer, 11740 State Route 753, Greenfield, OH 45123.

HIGHLAND COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOC. FINANCIAL REPORT - April 5, 2021

Balance as of January 4, 2021		\$2885.36
Receipts		
11 Local Dues	\$ 55.00	
5 ORTA Dues	150.00	
Scholarship Fund		
General	225.00	
Spargur	125.00	
Food Pantry Project	200.00	
TOTAL Receipts	\$ 755.00	
Balance Plus Receipts		\$3640.36
Expenses		
Because He Lives Food Pantry	\$ 100.00	
Greenfield Area Christian Center Food Pantry	100.00	
ORTA	150.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 350.00	
Balance minus expenses		\$2890.36
CD's		
NCD Bank 19 month	\$ 1155.64	
NCB Bank 18 month	1046.58	
USB bank	689.83	
Total	\$ 2842.05	
Scholarship Funds		
General	\$ 2299.10	
Spargur	403.00	

Respectfully Submitted,
Doris Pulse, Treasurer