

CCRTA

NEWSLETTER

C L E R M O N T C O U N T Y R E T I R E D T E A C H E R S A S S O C .

UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR 2011

- **MARCH 16** HELD AT GRANT CAREER CENTER IN BETHEL. PRESENTATION BY PAM MCKINNEY & STUDENTS OF THE TEACHER ACADEMY. A FREE LUNCH WILL BE SERVED TO CCRTA ATTENDEES.
- **JUNE 15** LEGISLATIVE UPDATE ON THE NEW PENSION PLAN BILL FROM LAURA ECKLAR, STRS REPRESENTATIVE
- **SEPT. 21** WILL HILLENBRAND, CHILDREN'S AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR FROM TERRACE PARK, WILL BE OUR SPEAKER. ALSO, CINDY GRAMKE OF CLERMONT SENIOR SERVICES WILL SPEAK ABOUT THE SERVICES THEY PROVIDE
- **NOV. 16** TO BE DETERMINED—HOPEFULLY A MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings from Bob Denny, President CCRTA.

I am looking forward to working with you during 2011. This is going to be a very important year for all STRS retirees as we deal with the ongoing pension crisis that is to be a part of important legislation that the Ohio Senate and House of Representatives will be dealing with sometime during this year's legislative sessions.

The CCRTA Executive Committee, made up of officers and committee chairpersons, met in early February to discuss and schedule our four programs for the year. The November meeting hopefully will be a

nice entertaining program just prior to Thanksgiving. Final details are still being worked out.

CCRTA members will be contacted by the phone tree membership committee prior to each scheduled meeting. A letter about each meeting will be sent by the president to remind you of the date and program that will be presented. All four meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each respective month. The June, September, & November meetings will be held at the Owensville Methodist church.

I would urge you to make use of the following websites for information: www.strs.org, www.orta.org, and www.clermontrta.org.

The STRS Board has voted on the plan they will propose to the legislature.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Delicious meals, good company, interesting meetings, and exciting programs were not all that took place in 2010. Two \$500 scholarships were presented to high school seniors and library books were donated in memory of members who have passed on. These are both very worthwhile ongoing projects that were started years ago.

Two new ideas were adopted by the organization this past year as well. The first came from Linda McKinley. She suggested bringing in books or paperbacks that we no longer wanted to the September & November meetings. Those books were then resold to members & the proceeds donated to the scholarship fund. \$255.80 was raised. Kudos to Linda for an excellent idea. **This year, we are continuing the program so bring your books to the June, Sept. & Nov. meetings for resale.**

The second new project was to sponsor a county wide essay contest for 3rd graders. The topic? "What My Grandparents Mean to Me." Incorporating state standards geared to 3rd grade, teachers were invited to incorporate this competition into their regular lesson plans. They have until March 1, 2011 to select the 3 best letters from their class for submission. All entries will be recognized with a certificate and small gift. The winning entry will be awarded a trophy and gift and the student's teacher will also be recognized. CCRTA members have endorsed this project wholeheartedly by donating \$250. to cover the cost of project. Committee members consists of Jan Schoellman, Chair, Vanda Gregory, Marge Edwards, Joan Ballbach, Phyllis Neal, Mary Jane Kaufman, and Judith Pendry.

MARCH 16th MEETING RESERVATION DUE BY MARCH 9th

March 16th meeting at Grant Career Center, 718 W. Plane, Bethel, OH Lunch served at 11:30 a.m.

NAME _____

MEALS @ \$3.00 _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CCRTA

Send to:

Pauline Caudill, 3382 Clover Rd., Bethel, OH 45106
734-3834 or Davidmedic73@aol.com

Meal is free—\$3.00 is for Scholarship Fund. Thank you, Grant staff, for providing a free lunch.

JUNE 15th MEETING RESERVATION DUE BY JUNE 8th

Meeting to be held at the Owensville Methodist Church, 2580 US Rt. 50, Owensville

NAME _____

MEALS @ \$10.00 _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CCRTA

Send to:

Pauline Caudill, 3382 Clover Rd., Bethel, OH 45106
734-3834 or Davidmedic73@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 21st MEETING RESERVATION DUE BY SEPT. 14th

Meeting to be held at the Owensville Methodist Church, 2580 US Rt. 50, Owensville

NAME _____

MEALS @ \$10.00 _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CCRTA

Send to:

Pauline Caudill, 3382 Clover Rd., Bethel, OH 45106
734-3834 or Davidmedic73@aol.com

NOVEMBER 16th MEETING RESERVATION DUE BY NOV. 9th

Meeting to be held at the Owensville Methodist Church, 2580 US Rt. 50, Owensville

NAME _____

MEALS @ \$10.00 _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CCRTA

Send to:

Pauline Caudill, 3382 Clover Rd., Bethel, OH 45106
734-3834 or Davidmedic73@aol.com



\$3.00 OF THE COST OF EACH LUNCH IS DIVERTED TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

2011 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

OFFICERS
PRESIDENT

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Joan Ballbach
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Mary Sue Roberts
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MEMORIALS

Mildred McIntyre

NOMINATING

Karen Bauman

RESERVATIONS

Pauline Caudill

BOOK SWAP

Linda McKinley

RAFFLE

Janice Denny

LUNCH PREP

Pat Ison & the church ladies

IT'S TIME TO RENEW

CCRTA was organized to keep retired educators involved in local, state, & national issues involving education and retirement as well as providing a social network for our members. CCRTA dues are only \$5.00 a year or \$40.00 for lifetime. We are proud to say that these dues have not changed for over 30 years. In order to hold down costs, this is the only newsletter to be mailed in 2011. We attempt to contact our members about meetings through the website, phone chain or through email. If you wish to be added to the phone or email list, please let an officer or committee chair know by filling in the form below. The same form can be used to pay your dues.

CCRTA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE / DUES

(This can be mailed to our treasurer or brought to the March meeting.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birthday (if you dare): _____

CCRTA DUES

One Year (2011) _____
(\$5.00)

Lifetime _____
(\$40.00)

Membership is by calendar year. Therefore, your 2011 dues are due now. To renew your membership (or join for the first time), make your check payable to CCRTA & bring it to the March meeting or mail it and the form to our treasurer, Jan Dumford, 4 Commanche Court, Loveland, OH 45140.

CHANGES TO THE PUBLIC PENSION PLANS INTRODUCED INTO THE STATE LEGISLATURE

On Feb. 1, 2011, Rep. Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon) introduced House Bill 69 containing changes to the five statewide public pension plans, including STRS Ohio. **However, this version of the bill does not contain all of the components that comprise the plan the State Teachers Retirement Board adopted on Jan. 27, 2011.** The January plan does not include an increase in employer contributions and also includes changes that bring the funding period for STRS Ohio pensions to no more than 30 years. Click the following link to view the plan: <https://www.strsoh.org/pdfs/40-305.pdf>

A placeholder bill addressing pension reform, Senate Bill 3, was also introduced on Feb. 1 by Sen. Keith Faber (R-Celina). At this time, the only language that it contains calls for changes to the Ohio Revised Code "... to modernize, update, and improve the actuarial soundness of the Public Employees Retirement System, Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund, State Teachers Retirement System, School Employees Retirement System, and State Highway Patrol Retirement System."

H.B. 69 has been assigned to the House Health and Aging Committee, which is chaired by Wachtmann. During sponsor testimony on Feb. 2, Wachtmann noted that he would like to see pension legislation enacted concurrently with the budget and completed by July 1. During his remarks, he also noted the importance of preserving health care coverage for retired public employees if possible.

A Health and Aging Subcommittee on Pensions will first review the bill. This subcommittee is chaired by Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) and consists of Reps. Bruce Goodwin (R-Defiance), Bob Hagan (D-Youngstown), Richard Hollington (R-Chagrin Falls), Todd McKenney (R-Akron), Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) and Wachtmann. A meeting schedule for the subcommittee has not yet been issued.

STRS Ohio will continue to use its Web site and e-mail news service to share information about legislative activity.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARCH MEETING

On March 16, our meeting will be held at the Grant Career Center, 718 W. Plane St., Bethel.

11:00 a.m.– Registration and Social Hour

11:30 a.m.– Buffet lunch in Conference Center (**free to CCRTA attendees**)

12:45 a.m.– Program—Teacher Academy by Pam McKinney & students

1:30 p.m.– Business Meeting

When you arrive, drive to the far end of the building to park and enter where the entrance has steps and a handicap ramp. This takes you into the Conference Center where the luncheon will be served and the program will be presented.

Visit our website
clermontrta.org

for the latest STRS news as well as information about CCRTA