

SCRTA NEWS

Summit County Retired Teachers Association

THE SUMMIT COUNTY AFFILIATE OF Ohio Retired Teachers Association May - June 2017

President's Corner



Greetings!

Our luncheon meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 5th at Guy's Party Centre' at 12 noon!

Your Management Board met with Mr. Winegarner, the Administrator for "Protect Ohio Pensions" (POP5), on April 11th regarding the organization. He informed the Board that POP5 is primarily interested in *active pension plan employees*. POP5 is potentially beneficial to us as retirees due to the fact that our pensions are partially dependent upon current employees. After listening to Mr. Winegarner, the Board agreed to the following recommendation: Joining POP5 is an individual choice for each of our members at this time. If further information becomes available, pro or con, we will inform our membership.

I am sorry to report that Blin Scatterday, a dedicated member, past president of SCRTA and ORTA, has informed us he will no longer be able to serve as our Chaplin. If you would be interested in filling this position for the remaining of the year, please let Lennie Green, Carol Caughron, Johnette Curry or me

know. Responsibilities are providing the blessing at our luncheons and attending Board meetings ... as one is able. I know our new Chaplin is among us and just waiting to step forward!

Looking forward to seeing you on June 5th at Guy's!



Paul DiMascio, SCRTA President

The heart of a
volunteer is
never measured
in size, but by
the depth of
the commitment
to make a difference
in the lives of
others.

DeAnn Hollis

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Doctors all over the world, for centuries, have found that people who live within a short distance of “**green space**” are healthier than those who do not. Researchers have now found a “medical cure for our mental health and creativity.” Cognitive psychologists who study the mind’s ability to think clearly understand the relentless distractions that crowd our modern brains. They believe that being in nature allows the prefrontal cortex, the brain’s command center, to rest and recover like an overused muscle. Their research subjects are hooked up to portable EKG devices that show “calmer frontal theta waves” when they are in green spaces compared to the same waves measured in a city parking lot. Frontal theta waves measure conceptual thinking and sustained attention.

Beware of tricky credit cards! When you make a purchase at one of the larger retail chains, you might be asked to sign up for the chain’s credit card, being promised wonderful perks, such as large discounts, on your **FIRST** purchase. These store branded cards have a very high interest rate, the average being over 23%. There are some larger chains, though, that make it worth your while IF the initial purchase is large and IF you pay the bill in full.

Thunderstorms can trigger asthma attacks. During thunderstorms, pollen and humidity can be high. The theory is that storms cause the pollen in the air to burst into tiny particles that are easily inhaled deeply into the lungs. Another theory is that the downdrafts of cold air that come along with thunderstorms might increase pollen counts low in the atmosphere and more easily inhaled. Lightening can generate ozone gas, which can also trigger asthma attacks. If you have allergy-induced asthma, check with your doctor as to what to do about these condi-

tions.

The **first bumblebee** to be on the endangered-species list is the rust patched bumblebee. It is now found in small colonies in only 13 states. This bumblebee count has declined 87% in the last two decades.

Some surprising uses for duct tape: to hem pants or skirts quickly; to trap bugs; to remove lint; and to remove sticky residue from glass.

Just one ounce of nuts per day may lower your risk for coronary heart disease 29%, reduce the risk for cardiovascular disease 21%, lower the risk for cancer 15%, lower the risk for respiratory disease 52%, and lower the risk for infectious disease 75%. One ounce of nuts per day is about two dozen almonds or 15 pecan halves.

Economy class is being subdivided by some airlines, including American, Delta, and United. The basic class is offered without seat selection, early boarding, or being able to change your itinerary—even for a fee. American and



United restrict carry-ons to one small personal item. But American and Delta are offering a premium economy level on long, international flights which includes more room, better seats, and other amenities and might cost 10% to 85% more than regular economy.

Extended sitting is bad for you. We have all been told that! Take a 5-minute walk every hour to counter the negative effect of sitting at a desk or on a couch.

When you first retire, you might consider taking these low-income, low tax-rate years to withdraw from a traditional IRA or 401k. By shrinking these accounts in your 60’s, you may avoid paying larger tax bills in your 70’s when you are required to take minimum distributions. These larger withdrawals will boost your taxable income and trigger taxes up to 85% of your Social Security.

(Please see Did You Know? Pg. 3)

Western Reserve Masonic Community Reader's Theatre



Members of the WRMC Reader's Theater will be providing the program for the **June 5th SCRTA Luncheon Meeting**. They will be performing 5 short comedic skits.

"Readers' Theater" is a style of theater in which the actors do not memorize their lines. Actors use only vocal expression to help the audience understand the story rather than visual storytelling such as sets, costumes, intricate blocking, and movement."

All 15 members of the WRMC Reader's Theater are residents of the Western Reserve Masonic Community. The group has been in existence for approximately 15 years. James Gilder is the coordinator of this "Reader's Theater" group.

Blin Scatterday is a member of the team and will be featured during the groups' performance on June 5th. Looking forward to seeing you on June 5th!

Ellen Goggins, Program Chair

2016 - 2018 SCRTA MANAGEMENT BOARD



President - Paul DiMascio (330-882-4738)

1st VP/ Prog. - Ellen Goggins (330-836-3822)

2nd VP/Legislative Chair - Kay Fluke

(330-773-2097)

Past President - Mary Lou Swartz (330-644-2009)

Administrative Assistant - Judy Mervine
(330-745-7587)

Treasurer - Paul Green (330-733-7311)

Asst. Treasurer/Membership - Gail Danford
(330-524-8890)

Public Relations - Ruby Winter (330-644-6886)

Newsletter Editor - Elaine Jarvis (330-607-0226)

Travel - Carolyn Vogenitz (330-645-9928)

Web Master - Leroy Martin (330-666-3984)

Nominating Committee: 3 elected members -
Johnnette Curry (330-699-4123); Carol Caughron
(330-745-1776); Lennie Green (330-630-2440); and

2 Members at Large - Mary Anasson (330-836-4272) - Informative and Protective Services; Christine Bean (330-784-4575) ... Community Service

Scholarship Committee - Vicky Shaw (330-773-5862) and Judi Hill (330-688-2512) ... Co-Chair

2 Members At Large - IP

(Did You Know? ... Cont. from Page 2)

Laughing may be as relaxing as yoga.

Scientists have found that the gamma wave activity generated from joyous laughter provided the brain with a type of mental clarity and ability to focus that typically are experienced after a yoga session.

Tidying up by categories: (1) Start with clothes, books, and paperwork; (2) Keep things that bring you joy and get rid of the rest; (3) Six things to throw away: unwanted gifts and old greeting cards; unidentified electric cords and plugs; broken appliances; electronic packaging; users manuals; credit card statements and check registers.

Mary Kostas Anasson, Chair

Informative and Protective Services

Scholarship News

YOU DID IT!!! The Scholarship Committee would like to thank the membership of the Summit County Retired Teachers Association for their dedication in enabling the youth of Summit County to attend college. With your generous donations, SCRTA will be awarding \$2,000.00 in scholarships for 2017. Introducing our awardees...

Natalie Rose Cochran, a senior at Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy, will matriculate at Walsh University this fall. Natalie is pursuing a career in the field of education because she wants to make an impact on children, as her teachers have had on her the past fifteen years.

Natalie has been teaching the Kindergarten Sunday School Class at her church for the past four years and has truly loved it. She is also a basketball coach for the fourth through sixth grade girls at Chapel Hill Christian School North Campus. Coaching at practices and games several times a week gives her the opportunity to really aid in the development of these young girls. Additionally, as a student mentor at CVCA, she has been fortunate to build relationships with the younger students during underclassmen retreats.

Natalie states, "I have loved all these opportunities that I have had the past few years, because I have been able to work with children of all different ages and truly invest in their lives." She further states, "I want to help students become successful in whatever they do."

SCRTA will be awarding Natalie a \$1,000.00 scholarship at the June general meeting and luncheon.



Natalie Rose Cochran

JoAnna Hrepcak, a sophomore at The University of Akron, has known that she wanted to be a teacher from a young age. She remembers coming home from Woodford Elementary School and playing teacher to her "students", who were really a bunch of empty chairs. By joining band in middle school and staying in it through her high school days at Barberton High, she was inspired to pursue a career in teaching music.

After completing her first year and a half at The University of Akron, JoAnna proudly states, "without a doubt, I made the right decision to attend here. I've had nothing but great experiences since I've started with excellent music professors, and have been able to become very involved at my school."

As a member of The University of Akron's Marching Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Lab Band, she has been taught determination and discipline; two key lessons that can be applied to academics and life. She is really



JoAnna Hrepcak

honored to have been chosen to be a member of the Kappa Kappa Psi, a fraternity-sorority for students that display musical excellence.

JoAnna states, "I've personally been deeply inspired by the teachers that I have had the privilege of being taught by throughout my schooling. I hope to inspire future students as much as my teachers have inspired me."

SCRTA will be awarding JoAnna a \$500.00 scholarship at the June general meeting and luncheon.

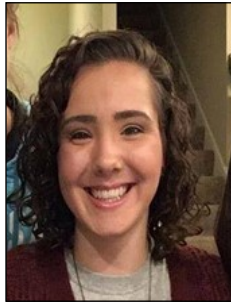
Olivia Michelle Myers, a junior at The University of Akron, really feels like the author George Steiner who wrote, *Lessons of the Masters* (2003). "The calling of the teacher. There is no craft more privileged. To awaken in another human being

(Please See Scholarship News, Page 5)

(Scholarship News Cont.)

powers, dreams beyond one's own; to induce in others a love for that which one loves; to make of one's inward present their future; that is a threefold adventure like no other."

When people inquire, "Why do you want to teach?" ... without hesitation, Olivia responds with a story about a little kindergarten girl from Summit Christian School whom she befriended. Amid occurrences with this little girl, she knew she was called to be a teacher.



Olivia Myers

She watched the educational professionals at Summit Christian School and Lake Center Christian School pour their hearts and souls into the *student* and the *child*. She was inspired and the desire to teach burns within her. She can hardly wait until this dream is realized.

Olivia states, "I would like to thank the Summit County Retired Teachers Association for their kind generosity. As a junior, about to start my fourth year of college, I have somehow managed to remain debt-free; you were a part of making that happen! From the bottom of my heart, I thank you."

SCRTA will be awarding Olivia a \$500.00 scholarship at the June general meeting and luncheon.

As you see, these fine young women will make dynamic educators one day, and thanks to SCRTA their financial load will be a little lighter.

Please Note: The Scholarship Committee will have themed "Baskets" to raffle at the June general meeting and luncheon, in addition to the donation cups on each table. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and generosity. If you would like to contribute items for a basket to raffle, please contact Judi Hill (330) 805-5550 or Vicky Shaw (330) 957-5216.

Judi Hill & Vicky Shaw
Scholarship Committee Co-Chairmen



We would like to encourage all members to send in their **2017 dues** at this time. Please send a check for \$40.00 payable to SCRTA. (A reminder that \$30.00 of your dues are sent to ORTA.) We have **24** members who currently owe dues. If you are not sure if you have paid, please give me a call or email.

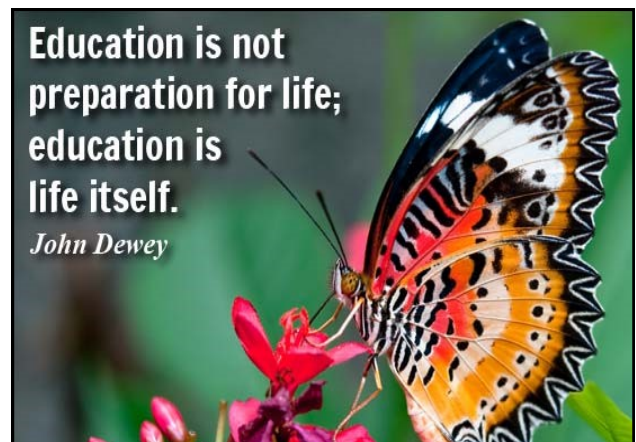
If you are wondering about your membership card, please note that they now come directly from ORTA and that the turnaround time is rather slow. Hopefully they will be available by our June meeting.

We have no new members to report. We did have four prospective members attend our April luncheon and I have reached out to them to join SCRTA.

Please continue to search out new members. At this time our membership is 483 and we have approximately 75 who attend our luncheons. This represents a steep decline in the past few years. We count on our membership to spread the message about ORTA/SCRTA.

Please contact me with any questions, comments, ideas or address corrections.

Gail Danford – Membership & Assistant Treasurer
330-524-8890 gdanford@att.net



Summit County Retired Teachers Association
452 Herbert Rd.
Akron, Ohio 44312

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U, S, POSTAGE PAID
AKRON, OHIO 44309
Permit No. 418

May—June



2017

SCRTA Website
www.summitcountyrta.org

Leroy Martin - Webmaster
lmartin561@gmail.com

ATTENTION NEWSLETTER RECIPIENTS: If your address label is RED-LINED, this will be the last newsletter you will receive unless we receive payment for current dues.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Thank you to all who brought donations to the April luncheon. We gave 275 items to Safe Landing and the Haven of Rest. Continue to bring donations to the June 5th meeting. Bring in 5 or more and receive an extra prize ticket.

Christine Bean



June 5, 2017 ... SCRTA / ORTA General Luncheon Meeting ... 12 Noon at Guy's Party Centre.

July 18, 2017 ... SCRTA / ORTA Management Board Meeting ... **10:30 am** at the AEA Building in Akron.

September 11, 2017 ... SCRTA / ORTA General Luncheon Meeting ... 12 Noon at Guy's Party Centre.'

SCRTA / ORTA GENERAL LUNCHEON MEETING

Monday, June 5, 2017

Guys Party Centre'

500 East Waterloo Road, Akron, OH 44319

12 Noon

Price: \$17.00

DOOR PRIZES

Bring 5 or more items for the Community Service Project and receive an extra door prize ticket.

When you make your reservation, you will need to indicate your entrée: Swiss Steak, Broiled Scrod, *Chicken Paradise, or Vegetarian Stir Fry. Mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, garlic bread, sherbet, coffee, tea or lemonade are included with your entrée (Tax & tip are included).

Clip this reservation form and send to: Ruby Winter 3873 Roller Ave., Akron, OH 44319 (330-644-6886)



NAME _____ ENTRÉE SELECTION: ____SWISS STEAK ____ *CHICKEN PARADISE
____BROILED SCROD ____VEGETARIAN STIR FRY

Check your choice of entrée, make checks payable to SCRTA and send to Ruby Winter. She must receive this completed reservation form and your check by May 31, 2017.

Note: *Guy's Party Center will no longer offer baked chicken on the menu choices. Because of this, we will be trying their Chicken Paradise – charbroiled chicken breast in an Italian dressing based marinade.

DUAL-MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR SCRTA & ORTA DUES

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ / _____ / _____
Street City Zip

SCRTA / ORTA DUAL-MEMBERSHIP DUES \$40 ____ (SCRTA \$10 / ORTA \$30)
(Dual-membership required) YEAR YOU RETIRED _____

I am a SCRTA LIFE member _____
I pay ORTA directly _____

I am an ORTA LIFE member _____

BRING THIS FORM WHEN PAYING DUES. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO SCRTA.
Check # _____ Email: _____

BY MAIL SEND TO: **GAIL DANFORD – 381 LAKE OF THE WOODS BLVD., AKRON, OH 44333**