

THE SLATE

Gallia County Chapter of the Ohio Retired Teachers Assoc.

Nov. – Dec. 2014

Highlights of GCORTA Meeting of Dec. 11, 2014

The December meeting of the Gallia County Retired Teachers Association was held on December 11 at the Vinton Baptist Church. President Donna DeWitt called the meeting to order and Herb Moore gave the blessing. A delicious meal of ham loaf, sweet potatoes, green beans, rolls, and dessert was served by the ladies of Vinton Baptist Church.

First time attendee retired teacher Mary Deel was welcomed. Vickie Powell and Dorothy Ruff were both celebrating December birthdays. The families of Gary Minton, Gail Belville, and Denise Richards were sent sympathy cards. Volunteer hours need to be turned in to Karen Cornell by the end of the year. Get well cards were sent to Karen Cornell and Jean Clark.

The guest speaker, Rae Farley of Cousin's Floral in Vinton, gave a presentation on the many options available at her floral shop during the holiday season. She had an attractive display of just a few of the many things that she has to offer. Some of these included: floral arrangements, wreaths, candle sticks, Candleberry candles and tarts, Christmas trees, candles, candle sticks, and candle rings, angels, and primitive animals. To the delight of the crowd, she gave away many door prizes including small wreaths, arrangements with edible chocolate roses, table centerpieces of red and white carnations in candy cane vases, and Candleberry candles.

Vickie Powell dressed as Mrs. Santa Claus and Jean Cassidy Rice looking very much like an elf entertained the audience with a story entitled "Santa Claus is Coming to Ohio".



Jean Cassidy Rice & Vickie Powell
portraying an elf and Mrs. Claus.



Rae Farley of Cousin's Floral
shown behind her display table.

Marlene Hoffman conducted a memorial service to honor retired members that have passed on. She read a poem, "We Remember Them" so that their contributions will always be remembered. Gary Minton is the only member who passed away during 2014.

The slate of officers will remain the same for 2015: President – Donna DeWitt, Vice President – Ellis English, Secretary – Jane Ann Slagle, and Treasurer – Marlene Hoffman. Committee Chairs for 2015 are: Legislative – Jerry Davis, Community Participation – Karen Cornell, Informative & Protective Services – Gail Belville, Membership – Cindy Wilson, Pre-Retirement Planning- Lynn Arnott, Public Relations – Donna DeWitt, Phone Tree – Julie Drago, Decorating – Nancy Hood, and Scholarship – Wanda Willis. Marlene Hoffman resigned as webmaster at the October meeting so we are in need of a webmaster. Marlene would go back to being webmaster if someone would like to take over as treasurer. As Donna DeWitt is currently serving as both the President and the chair for Public Relations, we are also looking for a chairperson for the Public Relations committee.

Lynn Arnott has graciously accepted the job of Committee Chair for Pre-Retirement Planning. A big thanks to Lynn for accepting this position and we want to take this opportunity to thank Roy Sprague for his many years of service to GCORTA as the chairperson for this committee. The October meeting minutes were distributed to the members and were approved as written. There is a vote being taken as to whether members would rather receive their newsletter by email or mail. So far, the majority wish to receive it by email. If you haven't voted and would like to get it by email, please let us know your email address. This will save on mailing costs. The executive committee will discuss how to follow-up with this at their Jan. meeting. It is to be noted that ORTA members can now renew their membership online by logging on to ORTA.org and clicking on Online ORTA membership renewal.

The executive committee will meet in mid-January to select meeting locations for the 2015 calendar, a community service project, and to review the by-laws. Meetings are usually the second Thursday of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Changes are sometimes necessary in order to find a venue large enough to accommodate us. In 2015 scholarship winners & new retirees will be recognized at a June potluck at First Baptist Church so the August meeting will be moved to the First Presbyterian Church.

Members were reminded to keep their address current with Pat Dillon or by giving any changes to someone on the executive committee. Mentoring opportunities are available for retired teachers to help aspiring teachers.

Retirees and guests attending the December meeting were: Lynn Arnott, Jessie Barcus, Jean Cassidy Rice, Irene & Jim Clark, Mary Deel, Donna DeWitt, Julie Drago, Diane Drummond, Cathy Elliott, Ellis English, Sheryl Fallon, Dallie Forgey, Glenn Graham, Louise Greenlee, Dixie

Golden, Marlene Hoffman, Nancy Hood, Clyde Jarvis, Robin Lane, Doris Lanham, Mary Lanier, Jean & Herb Moore, Denise Payne, Betty Plymale, Bob & Vickie Powell, Marilyn Reese, Debbie Rhodes, Dorothy Ruff, Patsy Schuldt, Norm & Ruth Snyder, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Sprague, Sharon Vanoy, Chris Williams, Wanda Willis, Cindy Wilson, Cliff Wilson, Robbie Wilson, Mary & Charles Withee, Patricia Young, Debbie North, Janet Wetherholt and guest speaker Rae Farley.

Treasurer's Report – Balances submitted by Marlene Hoffman

Checking \$596.04

Local Life Savings \$4,160.54

Scholarship Savings \$406.70

Local Life Membership and Scholarship CD's \$22,738.67

The raffle netted \$170.00. A big thanks goes to Dixie Golden and Robin Lane for taking care of the raffle! There were too many winners to name them all but Jessie Barcus bought 6 tickets and won on all 6 tickets! The meeting was closed out with a sing-a-long of Christmas songs led by Marlene Hoffman.

NEXT MEETING: FEBRUARY 12 at GOLDEN CORRAL at noon and everyone will individually order off of the menu as they arrive.

2015 Gallia County Retired Teachers Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Menu	Program
Feb. 12	Noon	Golden Corral	Member pays & orders off menu	Carol Remington - ORTA
April 9	Noon	Vinton Baptist	Menu ??? \$12	Field of Hope
June 18	Noon	First Baptist Church (Speaker- ORTA)	Potluck	Scholarship Presentations & New Retirees
August 13	Noon	First Presbyterian Church	Chicken salad, vegetables, & dessert \$10	Linda Carney of AAA on home & travel safety tips
October 8	Noon	Holzer Health Systems	Free – Menu ??? Room ???	Melvin Biars of Floral Fashions & hospital speaker
December 3	Noon	Vinton Baptist (Speaker – Wing Haven)	Ham loaf, potato, dessert \$12	Memorial Service & Christmas reading/songs

GCRTA AND ORTA MEMBERSHIP – Please use this form to submit membership.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone# Home _____ Cell _____

_____ GCRTA –Annual dues \$8.00

_____ Lifetime-Dues \$50.00

_____ ORTA – Annual Dues \$30.00

_____ Lifetime Membership Dues \$500.00

_____ Total

Make checks payable to GCRTA for total amount. GRTA will forward to ORTA.

Memberships can be mailed to: Marlene Hoffman 215 Second Ave. #203 Gallipolis, OH 45631

ORTA - Ohio Retired Teacher Assoc. has been helping teachers since 1947.

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Donna DeWitt

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