

SCRТА NEWS

Summit County Retired Teachers Association

THE SUMMIT COUNTY AFFILIATE OF Ohio Retired Teachers Association October-November 2014

President's Corner



Monday, November 3, 2014
SCRТА - Last meeting of this year

Tuesday, November 4, 2014 -
ELECTION DAY - Please vote!!

By the time you receive this newsletter, it will officially be Fall! Do enjoy the days ahead because the days do go fast and we all know what comes next! The holidays!!! Ha! Ha! I knew what you were thinking!

We welcomed Ann Hanning, the Executive Director of the Ohio Retired Teachers Association (ORTA), at our September meeting. Three good pieces of news...the COLA is back, STRS investments for 2014 were strong and Bob Stein, a retired teacher, is the new Chairman of STRS. A few of the bills she mentioned to watch in our state were H.B 957 which is the repeal of Common Core; H.B 171 which will give students released time for religious instruction; H.B. 265 regarding care for students with diabetes; and H.B. 454 which will expand concealed weapons rights. A number of members had questions for Ann regarding their pensions. She is the one who can answer almost all of our pension and legislation concerns. SCRТА was privileged to have her as our speaker.

When you see the various topics that come into our state legislature for votes, you can understand why some people really love the political arena. Our Dr. Kay Fluke has been serving SCRТА members for over 30 years in this field. He strongly encourages others in our association to step forward and become a member of his committee. Please talk with him at our November meeting or let one of our officers know

of your interest.

At our last meeting, a member questioned me regarding the fact that our scholarship winner was not from Summit County. I was really happy to answer him because there is no restriction on where a possible scholarship recipient lives. Did you realize that you could have a relative or a good friend's son or daughter living in another state who could receive our scholarship? The most important requirement is that this student is planning to be a teacher.

Gene Thrall, our Membership Chairman, reminded us that 2015 dues should be paid soon. Our Management/Board just voted to put \$3.00 out of your local dues of \$10.00 into our scholarship fund. Our goal is to award more scholarships and possibly give more than \$1000 to our awardees. As most of us are aware...books alone cost close to \$500-700 a semester.

We hope to see you in November because it is a long time before we see you in April of 2015! From all of us in SCRТА..."Happy Holidays!"

As always,
Mary Lou



Be kind whenever possible.
It is always possible.
— Dalai Lama

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*From the Desk of the
SCRTA Treasurer,
Paul DiMascio*

Treasurer’s Report: Account Summaries

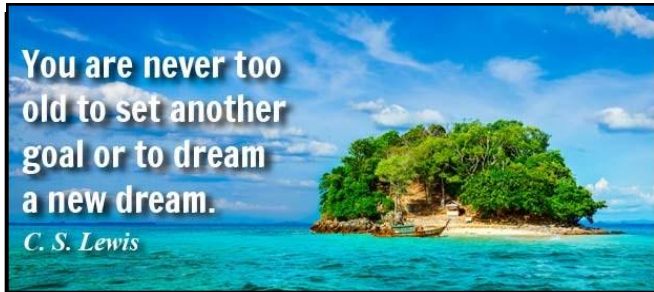
Balances as of September 16, 2014

- Checking Account - \$3,546.73
- Savings (Scholarship) - \$1,174.38
- Savings (Life Memberships) - \$2,593.90
- TCU-CD (12 month Mini. Cert.) - \$12,629.17
- Vanguard Account - \$14,702.64
(Purchased \$5,000.00 in additional shares 8/5/2014)



At the **Nov.3** luncheon, we are collecting items to give as Christmas gifts to Safe Landing Shelter for boys ages 12-18 and girls ages 11-17. Boys can use toiletries, sports equipment such as balls, gloves, bats, etc. Girls can use journals, books, coloring books, drawing paper, markers, crayons, hair ties as well as toiletries. Any other cleaning and paper supplies are also needed.

Thank you for your community service donations. Again, we'll give out an extra door prize ticket for 5 or more donations to this community service program. **(Please see Shelter Care Thank You Note on pg.3)**



**OUR NOVEMBER PROGRAM ...
WE REMEMBER AND WE CLEBRATE!**



Our November program is one dedicated to remembering and celebrating the lives of SCRTA members who have passed away in this past year!

Our Memorial Service is very simple but dignified. Many members have told us they appreciated this event.

Christine Bean, our Community Service Chairman, has handled this memorial service for a number of years. If any member would be willing to serve on her committee, please contact her.

A TEACHER IS FOR ALL SEASONS

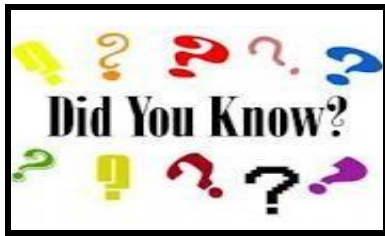
A teacher is like spring, who nurtures new green sprouts.
Encourages and leads them, whenever they have doubts.
A teacher is like summer, whose sunny temperament,
Makes studying a pleasure...preventing discontent.
A teacher is like winter, while it's snowing hard outside,
Keeping students comfortable, as a warm and helpful guide.
Teacher, you do all these things with a pleasant attitude;
You're a teacher for all seasons, and for that you have my gratitude.

by Joanna Fuchs (www.poemsource.com)

Note: Since the last publication of our newsletter, Hal Eckart, our former Travel coordinator and Postmaster has passed away. Dr. Rebecca Zurava's husband, George, died within the last month. We always send sympathy cards from SCRTA to our members. If you would like to send a personal card to Lois (Hal's wife) and Rebecca, the proper addresses are listed below:

Lois Eckart 3081 Southern Rd., Richfield, OH 44286

Dr. Rebecca Zurava 2928 Silver Lake Blvd., Silver Lake, OH 44224



LATEST SCAMS

1. **Travelers Beware!** You arrive at your hotel, check in at the Front Desk, and give the clerk your credit card. You are in your hotel room, you get a call because someone called the Desk and asked for a random room number—your room number! The message: “This is the Front Desk. We came across a problem with your credit card information. Please re-read your credit card number and verify the last three-digit number on the reverse side.” You do this; but, you are now talking to a scam artist from outside the hotel! Do not give the caller your information, but tell them that you will be down to the Front Desk to clear up the problem. Then, inform the manager of the scam.

2. **Bank Jugging.** This term describes suspects who sit in bank parking lots and observe bank customers. They follow the customers they think have obtained cash and rob them directly or burglarize their vehicles. “Juggers” usually target customers who are carrying bank bags, bank envelopes, and coin boxes. Most of these robberies occur at a retail or commercial business at which the customers stop after leaving the bank.

Beware of vehicles backed into parking spots with a clear view of the bank, the ATM, or the drive-thru line and whose drivers remain in the vehicles. Beware of vehicles changing parking spots or vehicles whose occupants cannot be seen because of dark windows, or vehicles with multiple occupants. Protect yourself by being aware of your surroundings.

If you suspect a “juggler,” make a cell phone call to 911, giving the operator your location and the direction you are traveling. Always drive towards the police station until police cars locate you. Do not hide bank bags or bank envelopes in your car at your destination or even at your home.

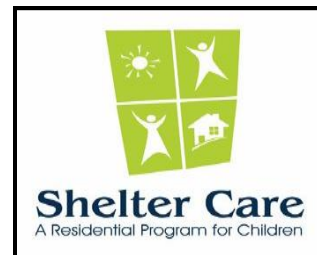
3. **Theater Parking Lots.** Some thieves wait in the theater parking lots, then break into cars when moviegoers enter the theater, steal car registrations to get addresses, and burglarize homes during the films. Always carry your car registration with you.

4. **Library Cards.** Crooks steal library cards, then borrow DVDs from libraries and sell them—leaving the cardholders liable for late fees or replacement costs. Treat a library card as you would a credit card. If you find that it is missing, contact the library and put a hold on your library account.

5. **Digital Wallet.** If you use your smartphone to make purchases, your protection against fraud may be limited. Digital-wallet programs let you wave your phone at a cash register or tap a retailer’s reader to make a payment with a credit or debit card, gift card, or bank account. If you use it to pay by credit or debit card, you get the protection offered by those cards—usually a maximum liability of \$50. But, if you use the phone to buy something with a prepaid card or gift card or on your mobile-phone bill, you will be liable for all purchases until you report a problem, such as a lost or stolen phone!

Mary Kostas Anasson, Chair
Informative and Protective Services Committee

Thank You note From Shelter Care



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the staff and youth served at Safe Landing Youth Shelter (Boys), I would like to thank you for your thoughtful donation. The household cleansers and toiletries that you so kindly donated will be used and are greatly appreciated.

As a non-profit agency, it is encouraging to us to have special people like you have taken an active role in supporting our program. Without the help from dedicated community members like you, Safe Landing would not be the quality program that it is today.

Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated once again by all of the youth. Thank you for your continued thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,
Daniel A. Tousley
Program Director

Summit County Retired Teachers Association
751 Highland Park
Akron, Ohio 44319

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

**DATED MATERIAL...PLEASE
DELIVER BY October 24, 2014**

October-November



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.

DUES ARE PUT TO WORK!



Your Board has just voted to set aside \$3.00 of each **annual dues** paid, to be applied to the Scholarship Fund. This will allow us to assure the fund stays (and hopefully grows) at a minimum of \$25,000. This amount will produce \$1,000 per year at a 4% annual withdrawal rate, which is the current rate recommended by financial advisors.

Gene Thrall - Membership Chairman



November 3rd ... SCRTA / ORTA General Meeting/
Luncheon ... 12 Noon at Guy's Party Center

Deadline for November 3rd SCRTA / ORTA General
Meeting Luncheon Reservation is **October 29th**. Send
reservation slips/money to **Ruby Winter**.

February 17, 2015 ... Management Board Meeting at the
AEA Office Building at **9:30 am**.

April 6, 2015 ... SCRTA / ORTA General Meeting/
Luncheon ... **12 Noon** at Guy's Party Center

SCRTA / ORTA GENERAL LUNCHEON MEETING

Monday, November 3, 2014

Guys Party Center

500 East Waterloo Road, Akron, OH 44319

12 Noon

Price: \$12.00

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, Baked Chicken, 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 ___ BAKED CHICKEN
_____ 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 October 29, 2014.

MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR SCRTA & ORTA UNIFIED DUES

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ / _____ / _____
Street City Zip

SCRTA / ORTA UNIFIED DUES \$40 _____ OTHER \$ _____ FOR _____
(SCRTA \$10 / ORTA \$30)

SCRTA / ORTA UNIFIED LIFE \$600 _____ YEAR YOU RETIRED _____
(SCRTA \$100 / ORTA \$500) I pay ORTA directly _____

I am a SCRTA LIFE member _____ I am an ORTA LIFE member _____

**BRING THIS FORM WHEN PAYING DUES. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO SCRTA.
BY MAIL SEND TO: GENE THRALL 194 CASTLE BLVD., AKRON, OH 44313-6533**