

GCRTA a Chapter of ORTA
Executive Board Meeting
October 10, 2023
Geauga County Public Library Administration Building

President Pat Cataldo called the meeting to order. Members in attendance were **Cheryl Sekura, , Patrick Cataldo, Jean Paine, Marlene Napalo, Debbie Gallagher, Judy Miller, Terry Miller, and Kay Zurbuch.**

President's comments: **President Patrick Cataldo** thanked **Jean Paine** and **Cheryl Sekura** and all others that helped put the luncheon together. The food was excellent.

- **Bryan Cataldo** will play at our Christmas brunch on December 5th.
- **Judy Miller** will write up a report on the audit that was done earlier.
- **President Patrick Cataldo** thanked everyone on the board for the fine work on keeping our group together. It would be nice to have one person shadow each board member for a year to see how the office is run.
- In May, we will put together a nominating committee for new officers for 2024.

Debbie Gallagher distributed the minutes from the October Luncheon. **Cheryl Sekura** motioned to accept the minutes as read. **Marlene Napalo** seconded the motion, which passed.

Treasurer's Report: **Judy Miller** updated the checking account. After paying for the luncheon, reimbursing a couple of members, and paying **Stevie** \$100.00 for the website, our balance went from **\$2,513.98** to **\$776.82.**

Programs: Jean Paine/Cheryl Sekura- Our December brunch will be held at St Mary Banquet Center in Chardon. In the future St. Mary may charge us for liability insurance per meeting. The liability insurance for the

Christmas brunch will be under the umbrella of the caterer. **Cheryl** will investigate the insurance for further events.

There were some concerns by a few members about meeting at Catholic Churches because of being so against women's rights, gays, and transgenders. They were strongly thinking of not attending further meetings.

Marlene Napalo said we cannot cherry pick where we go for meetings because of politics. We all range from liberal to conservative.

Legislation: Cheryl Sekura- There are two Senate Bills coming up. Senate Bill 162 Brunner Bill which is on academic intervention services. If passed by both houses it would not take effect until 2025. Senate Bill 168 is on education regulation reform. These are both in their first hearing.

Membership: Jean Paine-- We were delighted to announce our newest members who attended our October 3, 2023, meeting/luncheon. Welcome **Rhonda Garrett**, from Chardon Local Schools, **Shari Bailey** from Garfield Hts. Schools, and **John Biros** from Solon Schools. Our own members encouraged these retired educators. We thank **Beth Stickley**, **Marilyn Ettinger** and **John Biros**. We have 3 wonderful new members who were not able to attend the luncheon. **Pete Ronis** from Cleveland Municipal School District, **Kristine Blakeman** from James A. Garfield Schools in Garrettsville, Ohio, **Angela Berlinger** from Tri C Community College!

GCRTA is extremely thankful for our own members! They sprang into action and brought guests and prospective members! **Gloria Boyd** brought **Rose Ricci**, **Beth Stickley** encouraged **Rhonda Garrett**, **Marilyn Ettinger** encouraged her daughter **Shari Bailey**, **Lisa Ciocia** brought **Liza Yazvac**, **Debbie Gallagher** brought **Bryan Kimmel**, and **John Biros** brought his wife **Kathleen Biros**. These members went above and beyond for GCRTA! We are also thrilled to welcome **Shari Bailey** and **Shari McCaslin** as new Lifetime GCRTA members! After the luncheon we received 2 new members! **Adria Fusco** from Chardon Schools and **Shari McCaslin** from Grand Valley LSD.

Histortian: Kay Zurbuch- Stevie would like captions with the photos **Kay** sends to him for the website. **Judy** offered to send her a spread sheet of all those attending the luncheons to help her with names for the captions.

Grant-in-Aid: Marlene Napalo- Debbie read the motion, that was passed in August, to eliminate the Grant-in-Aid. This will be brought to the general meeting in December for a vote. If passed the funds will be transferred to the Teacher Education Grant.

Teacher Education Grant: Judy Miller- We have 3 applicants for the grant so far.

Old Business: Jean suggested putting **News You Can Use** on the agenda for each executive meeting.

There is a breakdown in us sharing information to **Cindy Spikell** for the **News You Can Use**.

Cheryl is sending an issue to 8 members that do not have e-mail. It is becoming too expensive for her to pay for herself. To print 8 sides in color--which is 4 sheets of paper and mailing cost-- \$21.28 per month (\$255.36 yr.). We may have to consider asking for donations to keep this running. **Marlene** suggested not using the photos in the printouts.

New Business: The Huntsburg Grange will be giving out gift cards to Veterans at Mary Yoder's on November 10th.
Different venues were discussed for our upcoming luncheons.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Gallagher
Recording Secretary