MCRTA LUNCHEON MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday, May 14, 2014
WHERE: The Dayton Kroc Center, 1000 North Keowee St., Dayton, OH 45404
PARKING: The parking lot is near the building’s entrance.
TIME: 11:30 A.M.
MENU: Mixed Field Greens with choice of dressing, Smoked Turkey & Provolone on Baguette, Tuna Salad on Toasted Croissant, Garden Chicken Noodles Soup, Double Chocolate Brownies, Coffee, Tea and an Assortment of Soda Drinks Vegetarian meals are available – Check the line on the registration form on p. 3.
COST: $18.00

CHAIRPERSONS: Pat Love and Margaret Cosimati
INVOCATION: Margaret Cosimati
RESERVATIONS: Tuesday, May 6, 2014 will be the final day to make or cancel reservations. The reservation form can be found on page 3.
PROGRAM: The Harvey Girls, presented by Nancy Roach. The “Harvey Girls” brought respectability to the work of waitressing while having the chance to travel and experience the adventures of the Old West.
TOUR: 2:00 p.m. - A guided tour of the Kroc Center for anyone wishing see the facility. Assistance (golf carts) will be offered for individuals with walking difficulty.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By: Pat Love

Happy Spring!

Hopefully your flowers and vegetables are beginning to grow and you are planting and adding new ones to your garden. Digging in the earth and reaping the benefits of your labor is such a rewarding feeling. I know my planting and harvesting nature can be attributed to my childhood. I was born on a farm and my father was an avid farmer. I continue to enjoy working outside in my flower garden. This year I will try a vegetable garden. If my garden produces, I will share some small pear tomatoes with you at our September meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at our April meeting. Our speakers will be Don Ullmann (ORTA President) and Tom Seaman (ORTA Director of Publications). The topic is “Why join ORTA/MCRTA?” I know you will enjoy the presentation and have a better understanding of how the associations work for you.

We sent eight representatives to the State Leadership Conference in Columbus on April 8, 2014. Our representatives were, Pat Love, Bonnie Smith, Nancy Browning, Maxine Rutledge, Pat Kuczak, Betty Williams, Theolanda Harewood and Darlene Ruzicka. We heard much information about legislation, benefits and other issues affecting the STRS Ohio membership.

We will be sharing our day with you at an upcoming meeting/luncheon. Membership remains our main focus area for the year. Please invite a friend to one of our luncheon meetings.
and ask them to join MCRTA. Increasing membership is a goal for most chapters across the state. It is important to let nonmembers know that we are an association that works closely with ORTA and the State Teachers Retirement System. They work to protect your retirement benefits. Please bring a new member when you attend. Our May meeting will be held on May 14th and we will be entertained by Nancy Roach. Her topic will be “Harvey Girls: The Women who civilized dining in the Wild West”. They brought respectability to the work of waitressing while civilizing the Old Wild West. Don’t miss this one; I’ve heard it’s really great. We will be taking our regular summer break after the May luncheon. There will be no meetings in June, July, and August. I will look forward to seeing you again in September at our annual Picnic and Bingo Bash. Have an Enjoyable and Safe Summer!

Co-Corresponding Secretaries

Anquinette Waller-Hampton & Betty Williams

If you know a MCRTA member has recently passed away, please provide the following information: (1) Name of the deceased member  (2) Name, Address, City, State & Zip Code of the person to whom we can send condolences. Cards can only be sent for deceased members currently enrolled in MCRTA. You may include this information with your luncheon reservation or send to:

Anquinette Waller-Hampton  Betty Williams
5288 Denlinger Rd.        24 Greenhill Rd.
Dayton, OH  45426        Dayton, Ohio 45405

Legislative Update:
Darlene Ruzicka, ORTA: President-Elect

I just received a letter written by Mr. Michael Neff, our STRS Executive Director, dated Mar. 24, 2014 to Ms Bethany Rhodes, Director of the ORSC - Ohio Retirement Study Council.

In this letter, the following information was shared: “During the March 20 Retirement Board meeting, the board voted unanimously to discontinue the current allocation to the Health Care Fund of 1% of the 14% employer contribution, beginning July 1, 2014. This decision followed discussion that began in January, shortly after STRS Ohio received a revised actuarial report that showed the pension fund’s amortization period at 40.2 years. STRS Ohio’s actuary projects this change, coupled with smoothed gains from strong investment returns, will result in an amortization period of about 32 years by the end of this fiscal year. This puts STRS Ohio on track to reach a 30-year amortization period in 2016 the time frame that was projected when pension reform legislation passed in 2012.” “The Board’s action shortens the projected life of the Health Care Fund to about 20 years; however, the Board has authority to direct all or part of the 1% back to the Health Care Fund in the future, and to make “catch-up” once the financial condition of the pension fund improves. The Board realizes that, in accordance with the Ohio Revised code, health care is an optional benefit and its first obligation and fiduciary duty is to the pension fund. The Board also acknowledged that health care coverage is important to STRS Ohio members’ retirement security. The Health Care Fund has a balance of about $3.5 billion and will continue to receive funding from investment returns on the fund, member premiums and government reimbursements (related to STRS Ohio’s prescription drug plan).” The Healthcare and Pension Advocates (HPA) for STRS supported the Board’s action. This HPA group is representing groups of active members, retired members and employers.

NEWSLETTER VS. MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING INFORMATION

There has been some confusion as to who to contact when it becomes necessary to change address labels and membership dues paid or when the dues were paid.

Please Note:

Membership information such as paying dues or “Pd. to Dec. 2014” should go to Patricia Eshbaugh, Membership Chair – ONLY! (937) 461-4404

Newsletter change or corrections of address label (such as Olivia Jones, 2614 Clear Lane, Dayton, Ohio 45407) should be sent via email or mail to Theolanda Harewood, Newsletter Editor – ONLY!

Please assist MCRTA Membership Chair and MCRTA Newsletter Editor to best serve your requests by sending them to the appropriate person, thus reducing inaccurate “Pd. to Dec. 2014” or address labels.

Thank you for your assistance to avoid delays in processing in both areas.
Please check your label to determine when you need to pay your dues. If your label does not have Pd. to Dec. 2014 and/or life member, you need to pay your dues with this mailing.

MEMBERSHIP BLANK MCRTA – 2014
Please make your check out to MCRTA
Send to;
Patricia Eshbaugh
110 Van Buren Street
Dayton, OH 45402
(Phone # 461-4044)

Name ____________________________
MCRTA MEMBERSHIP
Address: __________________________
City, State, & Zip: __________________

Phone: __________

MCRTA Annual Dues $20.00 __
Life $150 __
ORTA Annual Dues $30.00 __
Life $500 __
Total Amount Enclosed __________

NEW MEMBERS ONLY
Year of retirement ________
School district _________________
Social Security # (last 4 digits only)

Do you want a membership card? Please check one! YES _____ NO _____

RESERVATION FORM
Wednesday, May 14, 2014 Luncheon

Name ____________________________
*Telephone Number __________________
*(Please include your telephone and/or cell phone in case of unavoidable cancellations due to weather or other reasons-THANK YOU!)
Deadline: Tuesday, May 6, 2014
Guests (Add “M” if your guest is a member or “NM” if not a member)

Per person $18.00
Total amount enclosed: __________
Please indicate if you want a Vegetarian meal!
Check here ___

If this is your first MCRTA meeting.  
Check here ___

Please return this form, with your check, made out to:
MCRTA
Send to:
MCRTA Reservations
HARRIET GOUNARIS
308 HARMAN BLVD.
DAYTON OH  45419-3526

PH. # 298-4039
2014 UPCOMING MEETINGS

June, July, & August - No scheduled meetings

Wednesday, September 17 – Miami Valley Golf Club: Picnic / “Bingo Bash”

Thursday, October 23 – Beavercreek Country Club: Becky Maggard - “Yoga” & Michael Neff - Updates from STRS.

Special Days in May

1st - May Day
5th – Cinco De Mayo
6th – National Teacher Day
11th – Mother’s Day
17th – Armed Forces Day
26th – Memorial Day