



# THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 57 No. 4

August, 2021

## PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE.....

Hello Fellow Retired Teachers,

I know it has been a while, but the time is now approaching when we will see each other in person-SEPTEMBER 14 to be exact ! Sue McCarter has all the details in this newsletter. Please, if you are comfortable in seeing your friends, fill out the reservation form as soon as possible.

The Board does all it can in making the appropriate decisions that best fit your needs and interests. You, as members, are the heart of the organizations. When one thinks of the heart as an organ of the body, the heart has many different parts that make it function. L.C.R.T.A. operates the same way. Some members are on the Board; some are on committees; some come to the meetings. No matter the capacity, we are together in our mission and that is what counts.

L.C.R.T.A. is desperately counting on some members to continue making this association operate well. As stated in the last Bellringer, a YEARBOOK editor is needed. In December, 2021, we will have no person to do this. A replacement is needed and if there is no preplacement, there will be no yearbook. Computer skills are needed for the job. Bonnie Lillibridge can answer questions regarding this position, so someone please give Bonnie a call! Another request comes from our treasurer, Pat Humphrey. She is in need of two members to help compile the budget for 2022. Please give her a call.

Come on folks, let's keep L.C.R.T.A. pumping. Everyone benefits from everyone else. Let's strengthen our heart muscles by becoming involved, no matter how big or small.

Best wishes to all and see you soon.

*Ginny Keller*, President

LCRTA LUNCHEON/MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 11:00AM  
ST. JOHN VIANNEY SOCIAL HALL  
7575 Bellflower Road, Mentor

PROGRAM  
THE LAKELAND CIVIC FLUTE CHOIR  
Directed by Judy Elias

## The Legislature at Work

By Tom Moscovic, Legislative Chair

### Ohio's Plan for Spending \$4.4 Billion in Stimulus Money on K-12 Schools Approved by U.S.

#### Department of Education.

CLEVELAND, Ohio The U. S. Department of Education on Thursday approved Ohio's plan for spending \$4.47 billion on statewide K-12 programs, distributing most to local school districts and charter schools.

With the approval, the feds have released Ohio's final installment of \$1.49 billion from the American Rescue Plan's Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief funds (ESSER), after previously doling out \$2.98 billion in March. Ohio's plan identifies two top priorities for the upcoming school year and beyond: support the academic, social and emotional needs of students and educators, and invest in academic resources, connectivity and enhancements of in-person, remote, hybrid and blended educational opportunities.

"Prior to the pandemic, Ohio instituted a five-year strategic plan for education aimed at challenging, preparing, and empowering each child for success," Paolo DeMaria, Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction, said in a news release. "While the pandemic caused many disruptions and illuminated certain inequities, it also highlighted the strengths of our plan. As a result, we've remained aligned to our vision, goals, and priorities even as we've worked together to address pandemic-related challenges.

The school relief fund gives nearly \$122 billion to states and school districts across the country, along with an additional \$3 billion for special education, \$2.75 billion for private schools, \$850 million for the Outlying Areas and funding for homeless students, Tribal educational agencies, Native Hawaiians and Alaska Natives.

Ohio is the twelfth state plan to be approved by the U.S. Department of Education, following Arkansas, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington D.C. and West Virginia.

According to federal guidelines, states are required to subgrant at least 90% of their total school relief amount to K-12 school districts and charter schools. Two previous pots of money came through the CARES Act in March 2020 and the CRRSAA stimulus bill





**To Our New Members**

Sharon Hazen Anna Hinkle  
 Elaine Hinkle Jill Luoma  
 Christine O'Neill  
 Albert & Mary Alice Snyder

**Legislative continued.....**

December 2020.

Of the remaining 10%, states must spend at least 5% on implementing “evidence-based interventions aimed specifically at addressing learning loss, such as summer learning and summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after school programs or extended school year programs.” At least 1% must go toward “evidence-based summer enrichment programs,” and another 1% must go toward “evidence-based comprehensive after-school programs. States may also use up to .5% on “administrative costs and emergency needs as determined by the state to address issues related to COVID-12.”

**Here are some takeaways from Ohio’s statewide plan:**

Support continues efforts to offer safe, fully in-person learning to all students who desire it. Facilitate a process for districts to evaluate students’ learning loss and create “networked improvement communities which districts can opt to participate in.”

Use data to support and encourage the use of evidence-based interventions to address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on certain groups of students.

Expand professional learning programs to enhance educators’ abilities to address literacy progression and better meet individual student needs without sacrificing academic rigor and appropriate grade level content.

Combine state and district level data on enrollment, absenteeism, engagement in remote learning, access to internet and technology resources and performance on state assessments with non-education data, such as unemployment rates and health statistics, to inform “robust Whole Child needs assessments.”

Partner with the Governor’s office, Ohio Department of Medicaid and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to expand school-based services and increase behavior and physical health supports for students.

Support schools and districts with summer learning and enrichment programs with an emphasis on literacy, math, career and college readiness, STEAM and community partnerships.

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

*By Louise Bennet*



Located at the north end of Lost Nation Road, in the former McKinley Elementary School is the McKinley Community Outreach Center. The volunteers there help to distribute items to fill the basic needs of the residents of the seven western Lake County communities which the center serves. All donations from the following list that are brought to our September meeting will be delivered to the center. Thank you for helping LCRTA provide aid to some of our neighbors.

- Non-perishable food items, including cans and boxes
- Household items such as paper towels, toilet paper, cleaning supplies
- Personal items such as shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, bar soap
- Dog and cat food
- Financial donations
- Gently used or new bath towels and wash cloths
- Clothing for children

**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Perhaps you have been able to return to volunteering or have been preparing meals or finding various ways to help others. Count up the hours, or provide an approximate number. Find the tear-off that appears elsewhere in this newsletter to report the total number of your hours for June through August. Fill out the form and either mail it or email it or bring it to me at the September luncheon meeting.

ORTA requests that we report a total number from our chapter each year; thus the reason you are asked to give this information.

**Legislative continued.....**

Collect state-wide data on districts’ and schools’ education delivery models, along with data on which students opted for remote learning regardless of their district’s model. The state will securely provide districts with analysis that identify their students who missed the most in-person instruction during 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Continue existing programs and partnerships with organizations, including the Ohio Attendance Network, which partners with the Cleveland Browns Foundation and Harvard University Proving Ground program and is advised by AttendanceWorks.

The state said it views the plan as a “living document,” And part of its efforts will include evaluations and potential changes to ensure the objectives are progressing.

Ohio schools and school districts are required to submit their plans for how they wish to spend their money by August 20.

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation

St. John Vianney Social Hall  
7575 Bellflower Road, Mentor

**DUE BY SEPTEMBER 3, 2021**

Please cut out and send the reservation form with payment to:

Susan McCarter  
9720 Johnnycake Ridge Road  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
440-639-1141

**Make all checks payable to L.C.R.T.A.**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ (s) for the Tuesday, September 14, 2021, LCRTA luncheon at \$21.50 per person.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please list names of all attending on this line

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch: (Choose 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Piccata \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetable Lasagna  
Tossed Salad, Redskin potatoes, Green beans, Apple square  
(If there will be more than 1 person attending, please indicate who will be having each meal.)

Social time 11:00AM

**Program(For this luncheon) 11:30AM**

Luncheon Served 12:15PM

Program for September 14th luncheon: The Lakeland Civic Flute Choir under the direction of July Elias will be performing a program of familiar instrumental pieces and invites the audience to participate in a Music Trivia Quiz. Many of the musicians are former teachers, and we hope that you will enjoy their program at our first in person gathering in over a year. Let's make this a great turnout. Please note that the program will begin at 11:30 with luncheon served at 12:15.

## INFORMATIVE & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

By Terri Herbert

### History's Life Saving Vaccines

We all know there is lots of controversy regarding vaccines right now. Found this article interesting. Hopefully you are not too tired of vaccine information to read it.

National Immunization Awareness Month during August is a good time to look back at some of history's most impactful vaccines:

- ◆ **Smallpox:** In 1796, British doctor Edward Jenner discovered that exposing humans to cowpox vaccine protected them from smallpox, a similar disease that had been around for 3,000 years and claimed millions of lives. Thanks to the vaccine smallpox was officially eradicated in 1980.
- ◆ **Rabies:** Louis Pasteur, a French chemist and biologist who produced groundbreaking work on germs, developed a rabies vaccine in 1885. This vaccine is unique in that it is typically given to a person after exposure to the disease, not before.

- ◆ **Influenza:** First developed in the 1940's, the seasonal flu shot is now offered annually, since the influenza virus constantly changes. With ongoing scientific research, a new vaccine is developed every year to target the most common strains.
- ◆ **Polio:** Medical researcher Jonas Salk became a global hero in 1955 after developing a vaccine against polio, a highly contagious disease among children that can lead to paralysis. The U.S. has been polio-free since 1979.
- ◆ **MMR:** This injection that offers protection from measles, mumps and rubella was introduced in 1971, improving upon previous vaccines developed separately for each condition. All three diseases were very common before the vaccine became widespread.

Hope all of you are staying healthy. Looking forward to in person meetings soon.



Gloria Meyer



**THE BELLRINGER**  
 A Publication of the  
**LAKE COUNTY RETIRED  
 TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

**LCRTA**  
 9399 Ridgeside Drive  
 Mentor, Ohio 44060



STATE TEACHERS  
 RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
 OF OHIO

**VOLUNTEER HOURS SHEET** for the months of  
JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, 2021

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer Hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Cut out and mail to:

Louise Bennet  
 7995 Burgundy Court  
 Painesville, Ohio 44077

**OR Email to:**  
[bnlbennet@yahoo.com](mailto:bnlbennet@yahoo.com)

**OR Bring** to the next luncheon-Sept. 14.

Sept.. 2021 LCRTA



**MARK YOUR  
 CALENDAR**

- August 20, 2021 Villa Croatia Hall- Walt Wise (CLOSED)
- August 27, 2021 Rabbit Run (CLOSED)
- September 14, 2021 Membership Meeting/Luncheon  
 St. John Vianney Social Hall  
 7575 Bellflower Road, Mentor  
 Reservation Required See pg.3
- October 8-13, 2021 Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta (CLOSED)
- November 9, 2021 Membership Meeting/Luncheon
- December 8-11, 2021 Nashville Aglow

Are you moving? Have a new phone number or  
 new Email ? **PLEASE** let us know.  
 Call: 440.255.0764 or Email [sawitke@oh.rr.com](mailto:sawitke@oh.rr.com)

2021 – 2023 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR

AUGUST 20, 2021 – VILLA CROATIA HALL – “WALT WISE”
AUGUST 27, 2021 – RABBIT RUN - “THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES”
OCTOBER 8 - 13, 2021 – ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA
DECEMBER 8 - 11, 2021 – NASHVILLE AGLOW – OPRYLAND HOTEL
SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 3, 2022 – MISSISSIPPI RIVERBOAT CRUISE
FALL 2023 – GREAT RIVERS OF EUROPE (GCT)

PHONE OR EMAIL THE PERSON IN CHARGE WHEN YOU MAIL YOUR CHECK!!

IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR TRIPS, PLEASE CONTACT A COMMITTEE MEMBER OR SEND AN EMAIL TO OUR EMAIL ADDRESS: oh.lcrtasotrav@gmail.com

SOCIAL/TRAVEL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gail Allcock, Sherry Barbieri, Kathleen Kling, Lynn Miller, Sherry Niederkorn, Sarah Reinhard
ALL INFORMATION, DEADLINES, AND EVENTS are at the mercy of COVID-19

AUGUST 20, 2021 “WALT WISE” – VILLA CROATIA HALL – (CLOSED)

AUGUST 27, 2021 RABBIT RUN “THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES”

The trip to “The Barn” at Rabbit Run in Madison on Friday, August 27th is CLOSED. Check the RRCAA website at rabbitrun.org/2020-season/for any other upcoming shows that you would like to attend on your own.

OCTOBER 8 - 13, 2021 ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA (CLOSED)

This is an exciting 6 day trip to New Mexico with Premier World Discovery. This trip includes 2 nights in Albuquerque and 3 nights in Santa Fe, round trip airfare, and 7 meals. Some of the highlights are the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta – Dawn Patrol and Balloon Glow, Old Town Albuquerque, the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, the Los Alamos Science Museum, a Santa Fe city tour, Loretto Chapel, the High Road to Taos with a Taos city visit and a Taos Pueblo tour. Sherry Barbieri will notify participants about an upcoming meeting to go over travel documents. Contact Sherry at 440-946-1628 with any questions.

FINE ARTS AND BECK CENTER

These venues are working towards bringing back “in-person” performances to their stages. Please check with the websites of these organizations for any schedule updates and visit the LCRTA website for any further news.

DECEMBER 8 - 11, 2021 NASHVILLE AGLOW DEPOSIT DUE: ASAP

Celebrate the Christmas Season on a motorcoach tour to Nashville, TN. This 4 day, 3 night trip with Great Day! Tours begins at the Derby Dinner Theater for a Holiday Musical and a one night stay on the way to Nashville. The next two nights will be spent at Opryland Hotel where the atriums will be glowing with Holiday Lights. Highlights include admission to ICE, Opryland Hotel’s Country Christmas Dinner Show, a luncheon and lively holiday show on board the General Jackson Showboat, Delta Boat Ride through Opryland’s Delta Atrium, and Grand Ole Opry performance at the historic Ryman Auditorium. Six meals, accommodations, and motorcoach transportation are included. COST: \$1,242 pp double, \$1,496 pp single. Full refund if cancelled before September 8, 2021 less any money not refunded from suppliers. \$100 deposit holds your spot. Additional are payments due 9/10/21 and final payment on 10/25/21. Rooms overlooking atriums are approximately \$80 extra pp for the two nights and should be requested and paid with the deposit. CONTACT: Sarah Reinhard at 440-567-9515 or swreinhard4@yahoo.com if interested.

CUT -----
DECEMBER 8 – 11, 2021 NASHVILLE AGLOW – OPRYLAND HOTEL DEPOSIT DUE: ASAP

Please Print

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE/ TRAVEL COMPANION \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSED IS MY PAYMENT (payable to GREAT DAY! TOURS) OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_ PERSON(S).

MAIL TO: Sarah Reinhard, 8677 Harvest Home, Mentor, OH 44060.

Please list name(s) and contact information if additional members/guests are included on this form.



## VILLA CROATIA SHOWS

The Croatian Hall is now called Villa Croatia at 34900 Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake. They are planning performances which include meals. The LCRTA website contains information about RSM Events future shows at Villa Croatia.

## MISSISSIPPI RIVERBOAT CRUISE

Staterooms on this 9-day "CHARMS OF THE SOUTH" Mississippi River cruise from New Orleans to Memphis on the American Queen Steamboat are almost gone. We have over 30 participants registered already. The journey takes place from September 25 through October 3, 2022. Ports of call include Nottoway LA, St. Francisville LA, Natchez MS, Vicksburg MS, Port of the Mississippi Delta, and Memphis TN. Visit American Queen Steamboat Company website for more information.

<https://www.americanqueensteamboatcompany.com/river-cruises/mississippi-river/charms-of-the-south/>

The only staterooms left range between \$3,299 and \$7,499 according to your preference (*based on a minimum group booking of 10 cabins*). Airfare, Local Transfers, Port Fees, Gratuities and Optional Excursions are additional and are yet to be determined. Deposits accepted now and final payment will be due 120 days before the trip begins.

Contact Mike Benz from Professional Travel in Cleveland at 440-804-6933 or [mbenz@protravel.com](mailto:mbenz@protravel.com) to make your \$500 per person deposit before cabins are gone. Mike will be coordinating our flights, transfers, insurance and cabin reservations. Checks should be made payable to "Professional Travel," but a credit card deposit is recommended. Sherry Niederkorn at [sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com) is our group leader.

## CRUISE IN EUROPE for 2023

The *Great Rivers of Europe* is Grand Circle Cruise Line's flagship river cruise. This adventure takes you from Amsterdam to Vienna (or vice versa) aboard a privately owned riverboat that offers half picture, full picture, and balcony cabins. Their river cruises have between 140-160 travelers, broken up into groups of 35 for excursions. Their world class Program Directors will lead our group from start to finish, taking in daily activity with you – and they supplement the tours you get from local city guides. This particular itinerary includes:

- 41 meals: 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches, 14 dinners. Complimentary beer, wine and soft drinks with all meals aboard the ship
- Accommodations for 14 nights aboard one of GCCL's privately owned riverboats, in an outside cabin
- 12 included tours with personal headsets and 5 exclusive Discovery Series events: German Immigration discussion, German lesson, Glassblowing demonstration, Home Hosted Kaffeeklatsch, Rhine-Main-Danube Canal transit discussion
- Sightseeing tours including 10 shore excursions: Vienna, Passau, Regensburg, Nuremberg, Bamberg, Wertheim, Wurzburg, Koblenz, Heidelberg, Cologne & Amsterdam
- Captain's welcome & farewell cocktail receptions
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters

Grand Circle Travel strongly recommends that **travelers looking for a "single reservation" to place a refundable deposit as soon as possible** – so they get first pick. They offer a "Pending Reservation" deposit of \$500 to all travelers, and it is fully refundable. They will honor travelers by date of deposit – as singles are limited. As mentioned, if you change your mind for any reasons, this deposit is refundable – no questions asked. Read more about the trip here! The Great Rivers of Europe 2022: [www.gct.com/sge22](http://www.gct.com/sge22)

Here's how you can pre-register for this tour with our group before it is open for public sale:

1. Call GCT Reservations: 800-221-2610
2. Mention Group Code: 3472
3. Advise the Travel Counselor that you want to pre-register for The Great Rivers in October 2023 with the Lake County Retired Teachers Association group.
4. The deposit to pre-register for this tour is \$500 per person. This deposit is 100% fully refundable for any reason until you confirm your reservation after the official dates and prices are released.

**CONTACT PERSON: Sherry Niederkorn at 440-477-1198 or [sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com)**