



# THE BELLRINGER

Newsletter of the Lake County Retired Teachers Association

Volume 58 No. 4

August, 2022

## From the President.....

Hello Members,

Mark your calendar to come to the September 12, 2020, Luncheon/Business Meeting!

Your Legislative Chair, Tom Moscovic has coordinated a "Get to Know Your Candidate" event so that we all may be more informed of their respective views on various topics. I like to say the an informed voter is an effective voter.

A second big item that will be presented is the vote on our President –Elect. Many, many thanks to the Nominating Committee composed of David Morse, Marion Lipinski and Marilyn Decker who took the time to do this task. Being on this committee is not always easy as some of us well know. Again, your efforts are appreciated.

As you have read my letters, you realize that I get many of my philosophical views from SNOOPY. This time it comes from a TREE.

Stand tall and be proud.	Stay grounded.
Go out on a limb.	Remember your roots.
Adapt to change.	Never stop growing.
Turn over a new leaf	Enjoy the view.

See you on September 12th.  
*Ginny Keller, President*

## Election Stuff-MidTerms

by Tom Moscovic-Legislative Chair

The Primary is over and it is on to the Midterm Election on November 8, 2022. Before that, however, on September 12, 2022, the Lake County Retired Teachers Association General Membership Luncheon meeting, the fifteen candidates who are on the ballot in Lake County will be invited to speak. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 with the presentations to commence at 12:30. Each candidate will be invited to speak for three to five minutes. The candidates are:

Jamie Callender	State Rep.	57th House District
Adam Dudziak	Commissioner	Lake County
John Ecklund	Judge	11th Dist. Court of Appeals
Chris Galloway	Auditor	Lake County
David Joyce	Congress	14th Congressional District
Maureen Kelly	Commissioner	Lake County
Matt Kilboy	Congress	14th Congressional District
Eugene Lucci	Judge	11th Dist. Court of Appeals
George Phillips	State Rep.	56th Ohio House District
John Plecnik	Commissioner	Lake County
Richard Regovich	Commissioner	Lake County
Thomas Right	Judge	11th Dist. Court of Appeals
Evan Rossbough	State Rep.	57th House District
Joseph Shriver	Auditor	Lake County
Dan Troy	State Rep.	23 House District

Plan to join us and meet the candidates.

## Informative & Protective Services

By Janene Ishee

### Don't Get Caught in a SCAM!

#### Four Signs That It's a Scam

1. Scammers PRETEND to be from an organization you know. Scammers often pretend to be contacting you on behalf of the government....
2. Scammers say there is a PROBLEM or a PRIZE....
3. Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately....
4. Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way....

<https://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes/elder-fraud>



**LCRTA Luncheon/Business Meeting**  
**September 12, 2022**  
**St. John Vianney Social Hall**  
**7575 Bellflower Road, Mentor**  
**11:00 Social Hour**

Hear the candidates who will be on the ballot in Lake County give their views on various topics.

See column 1 page 2 for more of this article



## Scams....

### Fraud - Protect Yourself

- Recognize scam attempts and end all communication with the perpetrator including phone calls or email.
- Search on line for the contact information (name, email, phone number, addresses) and the proposed offer. Other people have likely posted information online about individuals and businesses trying to run scams.
- Resist the pressure to act quickly. Scammers create a sense of urgency to produce fear and lure victims to immediate action. Call the police immediately if you feel there is a danger to yourself or a loved one.
- Be cautious of unsolicited phone calls, mailings, and door-to-door services offered.
- Never give or send and personally identifiable information, money, jewelry, gift cards, checks, or wire information to unverified people or businesses.
- Make sure all computer anti-virus, security software and malware protections are up to date. Use reputable anti-virus software and firewalls.
- Disconnect from the internet and shut down your device if you see a pop-up message or locked screen. Pop-ups are used regularly by perpetrators to spread malicious software. Enable pop-up blockers to avoid accidentally clicking on a pop-up.
- Be careful what you download. Never open an email attachment from someone you don't know and be wary of email attachments forwarded to you.
- Take precautions to protect your identity if a criminal gets access to your device or account. Immediately contact your financial institutions to place protections on your accounts and monitor your accounts and personal information for suspicious activity.

### Actions you can take

1. Report serious threats to the local police ( using a non-911 phone number)
2. Forward phishing email to the actual, real company that the email is misrepresenting.
3. Contact the FBI for major intimidation and monetary issues.


CLEVELAND (Covers 40 counties in Ohio)

1501 Lakeside Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

[cleveland.fbi.gov](http://cleveland.fbi.gov)

(216) 522-1400

### On a personal note-Spotting Email Scams

1. You get an email from an organization you know or a subscription you have had in the past. There is something funny about the email like the spelling or spacing of the subject or sender. BLOCK the sender if you can and send the email to SPAM. 

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

*By Louise Bennet*



August is the month when we, as active educators, begin to prepare for a new school year. Our thoughts go now to the students who are gearing up as they move on to the next grade. The Hope Chest in Painesville does its best to help qualified families with clothing for the children in the family. This is the organization we will lend aid to at our September luncheon meeting.

When checking with someone at Hope Chest, I was told there is a need for underwear for boys and girls and for toddler sizes all the way up to adult sizes; some high schoolers need the larger sizes. This time of year, many packages include one or more bonus pairs, if you are lucky to find them.

Regarding the collection of canceled stamps which we have been donating to the VA Hospital in Cleveland, I am sorry to report that the program has ended. Not having kept in touch with the person who was putting the stamps to use during the pandemic, I have discovered (after many phone calls) that she is no longer there.

I finally found another contact person who was going to ask others at the VA if there was an interest in having the stamps. However, after several weeks, I have not heard from anyone. If any of you know of anyone or place that would have use for them, please contact me.

We will continue to collect the pull tabs from the cans to be delivered to McDonald House. Please bring these and your Volunteer Hours slip to the meeting. (See Volunteer Hours slip on the last page of this newsletter.) You will find baskets on the table in which to deposit them.

## Scams....

2. Try this: Hover your mouse over the sender info. If the email address that pops up looks anything like this ([zlavkuebggv@mrnftkxcxereow.net](mailto:zlavkuebggv@mrnftkxcxereow.net)), send it to SPAM and BLOCK the sender.
3. OK, so you already opened the email and hovered over the sender, but you get curious about one of the links in the email. NEVER open a link in this type of email. Remember, "Curiosity killed the cat."
4. I recently received an email claiming to be from McAfee and the sender was "McAfeePratner." Watch for misspellings. "Pratner" instead of Partner indicates a problem. Professional companies are careful about spelling. Send email to Spam.

*Note: We welcome and thank Janene Ishee for volunteering to write the Informative & Protective Services articles for "The Bellringer." You have just finished reading her first informative article.*

LCRTA Luncheon Reservation      St. John Vianney Social Hall      DUE : September 2, 2022

Please cut out and return this reservation form with payment to:      **No reservations accepted after this date.**

Susan McCarter  
9720 Johnnycake Ridge Road  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
440.639.1141

**Make all checks payable to LCRTA**  
**\$21.50 per person**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_ (s) for the LCRTA luncheon on **MONDAY**, September 12, 2022 (Please note ( change of day for luncheon)

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

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

Lunch: (Choose 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef      \_\_\_\_\_ Pasta Primavera  
Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Salad, Rolls, Apple Crisp  
(If there will be more than 1 person on this reservation, please indicate who will be having each selection  
Social time 11:00AM

Scams on the Increase....From the ORTA website

ORTA has received a few calls from members reporting phishing attempts on email and on Facebook. These scams are pretending to be someone from an ORTA local chapter asking the recipient to purchase gift cards. ORTA is not asking any members to purchase gift cards. Please be very careful with such requests and do not send any money to a person unless you have talked directly to them



**MARK YOU CALENDAR**

- September 8, 2022      Mississippi River Cruise  
Pre-Trip Meeting
- September 12,2022      Luncheon/Business Meeting  
"Candidates Luncheon"
- September 25,2022-      Mississippi River Cruise  
October 3 , 2022
- November 15,2022      Luncheon/Business Meeting  
Janet Weir "Christmas at the  
White House"
- November 17,2022      Travel Information Meeting  
Mentor Public Library 1:30 PM  
Village Room-Lower Level

**Volunteer Hours  
June-July 2022**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Cut out this form and mail to:  
Louise Bennet  
7995 Burgundy Court  
Painesville, Ohio 44077

OR Email information to:  
bnlbennet@yahoo.com

OR Bring this form to the next luncheon-  
September 12, 2022

LCRTA

Are you moving? Planning to move? Have a new phone number? Have a new email address? PLEASE let us know !!

Call: 440-255-0764 or Email: [sawitke@oh.rr.com](mailto:sawitke@oh.rr.com)



## **THE BELLRINGER**

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

**LCRTA**

**9399 Ridgeside Drive  
Mentor, Ohio 44060**

**Website**

**<https://lakecountyrta.weebly.com>**



**STATE TEACHERS  
RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OF OHIO**

## 2022 - 2023 SOCIAL/TRAVEL CALENDAR

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2022- MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE PRE-TRIP MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 25 – OCTOBER 3, 2022 – MISSISSIPPI RIVERBOAT CRUISE**  
**NOVEMBER 17, 2022- TRAVEL INFORMATION MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 29 – 30, 2022 – NIAGARA WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**  
**OCTOBER 6 – 21, 2023 – GREAT RIVERS OF EUROPE (GCT)**

**PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO L.C.R.T.A.**  
**UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE!!**

**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.lcrtasoctrav@gmail.com](mailto:oh.lcrtasoctrav@gmail.com)

### **SOCIAL/TRAVEL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Gail Allcock, Sherry Barbieri, Kathleen Kling, Lynn Miller, Sherry Niederkorn, Sarah Reinhard

**PLEASE check LCRTA website [www.lakecountyrta.weebly.com](http://www.lakecountyrta.weebly.com) for any changes.**

### **SEPTEMBER 25 thru OCTOBER 3, 2022**

### **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 full. We have over 30 participants registered already, so call Mike Benz immediately for availability, or to get on the wait list. Visit the American Queen Steamboat Company website for more information. <https://www.americanqueensteamboatcompany.com/river-cruises/mississippi-river/charms-of-the-south/> Contact Mike Benz from Professional Travel at 440-804-6933 or mbenz@protrav.com for a reservation. Checks should be made payable to “Professional Travel.” **The pre-trip meeting is scheduled September 8, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at the Mentor Public Library in the Garfield Room.** **Sherry Niederkorn at [sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com](mailto:sherry.niederkorn23@gmail.com) is our group leader for this trip.**

### **NOVEMBER 17, 2022**

### **TRAVEL INFORMATION MEETING**

Find out what the Social/Travel Committee has in store for upcoming travel. Come join us at **Mentor Public Library in The Village Room** (lower level) at **1:30 PM** to see the results of the Travel Information Survey and the trips we have planned for 2023. We give a very special thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out the travel information survey! Hope to see you then.

### **NOVEMBER 29 – 30, 2022**

### **NIAGARA WINTER FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS**

A 2-day trip with Great Day! Tours to Niagara Falls. It was one of the first cities in Canada to have electricity. It is never more evident than during the magic of their 39<sup>th</sup> Winter Festival of Lights when they brightly capture the magic of the holiday season. Over a million people typically visit here each year to view many decorated trees, Canadian wildlife display and Niagara’s iconic Skylon Tower, as well as the fireworks. A passport or passport card is required for this tour. The tour has been upgraded as a “gift” to you. Dinner will be served over-looking the Falls. Two meals are included in his holiday tour with time to see the Falls, the attractions on Clifton Hill and perhaps, a bit of gaming at Fallsview Casino. There will be a stop at the Duty-Free Shoppe, just in time for the holidays. There are still spots available for this trip. Payments are due to Sarah Reinhard by October 10, 2022. **CONTACT PERSON:** Sarah Reinhard at (440)567-9515 or [swreinhard4@yahoo.com](mailto:swreinhard4@yahoo.com). **COST:** \$329 per person (dbl.), \$324 per person (triple), \$320 (quad), \$404 (single). Download the flier on our website.

## **OCTOBER 6 – 21, 2023 “THE GREAT RIVERS OF EUROPE” RIVERBOAT CRUISE**

The *Great Rivers of Europe* is Grand Circle Cruise Line’s flagship river cruise. This adventure takes you from Amsterdam to Vienna 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. They do still have availability on this trip across all cabin levels, for when you are ready to join.

Good Buy Discount available for those who pay in full early via checking account. Credit card payments are not eligible to receive the Good Buy Discount. Those who do not decide to take advantage of this discount will have until 90 days prior to departure to make final payment.

**The Great Rivers of Europe** [www.gct.com/sge](http://www.gct.com/sge) Base Trip Dates: 10/6 – 10/21/2023

### **Cabin Pricing/Deck Description (Per Person)**

*\*Follow the link above to view the ship – look for “Accommodations” (left side of screen)*

Prelude – Lower Deck, Half Picture window. Price \$3795-4095

Cantata – Main Deck, Full Picture window. Price \$4395 (Price listed for Cantata E, avoid F – see below)

Sonata – Main Deck, Full Picture window. Price \$4495-4595

Serenade – Top Deck, Balcony. Price \$5095 (Price listed for Serenade A, avoid Serenade B – see below)

*\*Please note, balcony space does take away from the square footage of the cabin*

**Pre and Post Trips:** Bruges Pre Trip: \$895 with a 10/3 departure, Prague Post Trip: \$945 from 10/21 – 10/25, Vienna Post Trip: \$795 from 10/21 – 10/24

### **How to book – New to the group**

- Call the New Reservations department at 800-955-1925
- Mention Group Code GG 33472
- Place a deposit and add travel protection if needed

*\*Maximize the Good Buy Discount - Passengers must pay-in-full by ACH transfer of check in order to receive the Good Buy Discount. Credit card payments are not eligible to receive the Good Buy Discount*

**COST:** Based on cabin selection per person, for double or single.

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

# COME TRAVEL

# WITH LCRTA



Visit the Social / Travel page at <https://lakecountyrta.weebly.com/socialtravel.html> to download forms and see photos of previous trips.