

**LCRTA GENERAL MEETING  
THE KIRTLANDER  
FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

**WELCOME:** President Cathy Szuter welcomed members and guests Karen Hoffman and Janis Roth to the meeting.

Chaplain Greta Pate led the Pledge of Allegiance and then shared some humorous questions and answers for retired teachers. Greta also shared that LCRTA lost two members – Lillian Spivey and Vickie Stacy.

**PROGRAM:** Connie Irvin introduced Sergeant Scott Daubenmire from the Mentor-on-the-Lake Police Department who gave an informative talk on how to protect yourself from scams and fraud.

**LUNCHEON:** The Kirtlander served Chicken Roulade with roasted pepper sauce, mashed potatoes and asparagus or cheese ravioli with marinara sauce and grilled vegetables. Both meals included a house salad, rolls, beverages, and caramel custard for dessert.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the November 14, 2023 meeting were approved with two corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Pat Humphrey reported a total of all monies as of December 31, 2023 to be \$13,912.72 which included \$2,099.23 in Scholarship monies. Pat also reported a total of all monies as of February 13, 2024 to be \$12,200.38 which included \$2,119.41 in Scholarship monies. The reports will be filed for audit.

**Social/Travel Treasurer's Report:** Lynn Miller reported a total of all monies as of December 31, 2023 to be \$3,800.35. Lynn also reported a total of all monies as of February 13, 2024 to be \$3,820.39. The reports will be filed for audit.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Program:** Connie Irvin thanked Ginny Keller for the table decorations and Denise Brewster for help in getting a projector. Connie also thanked Sergeant Daubenmire for coming in on his day off to make sure that the equipment for his presentation would work.

Connie stated that the speaker for the April meeting will be Christopher Gilcrest from the Museum of the Great Lakes who will discuss the top 10 events that have taken place on the lakes.

**Meeting:** Mary Sleeman hopes that everyone is enjoying the luncheons at The Kirtlander.

**Community Participation:** Louise Bennet thanked everyone for their generous donations to the Lake County Humane Society.

**Social/Travel:** Kathy Kling mentioned that members should look on the website for details and registration forms for events. Kathy then reported the following events:

- February 25, 2024 – “Cats” at Willoughby Fine Arts.
- May 24, 2024 – Lake County Captains Baseball. The due date is May 10<sup>th</sup> to Sherry Niederkorn.
- June 27, 2024 – “Tuesdays with Morrie” at Rabbit Run Theater. The deadline is May 30<sup>th</sup> and the check for \$28.00 is to be mailed to Sherry Niederkorn.
- August 11, 2024 – “Beautiful, The Carol King Musical” at the Beck Center. The deadline is June 14<sup>th</sup> and the check for \$66.00 is to be mailed to Sherry Niederkorn.
- August 29, 2024 - Cruise on the Goodtime III/Lakeview Cemetery. The deadline is Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> and the check for \$172.00 is to be mailed to Kathy Kling.
- October 10-20, 2024 – Hawaii Cruise Vacation.
- December 3-4, 2024 – Christmas at Tara Mansion. The contact is Sarah Reinhard.

**LEGISLATIVE:** Tom Moscovic reminded members that the September meeting for LCRTA will be a Legislative Meeting with those running for office speaking. Tom also discussed the following:

- March 19<sup>th</sup> is the Primary. Dan Troy is Education friendly and supportive.
- The State Senator is not up for re-election.
- Tom encourages members to contact your member of congress to repeal GPO/WEP. Federal legislation is needed to repeal the unjust Social Security offsets that unfairly punish public service workers in states like Ohio. The Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision reduce the earned Social Security, spousal, and survivor benefits of those who also collect a public pension from states (like Ohio) that do not pay into Social Security. The Social Security Fairness Act (HR 82 and SR 597) proposes to fully repeal GPO/WEP. Sen. Sherrod Brown is a primary sponsor of SR 597.
- Columbus keeps pushing for more and more money to go to private schools and almost any family can get vouchers, which comes out of taxes. Ohio has awarded more than 82,000 vouchers for the 2023-2024 school year. The cost to taxpayers so far this school year is \$452.5 million. Jerry Cirino is against public education.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Karen Sawitke reported that LCRTA had 156 members in 2023, which included 1 new and 19 non-renewals. There are 144 members in 2024, which includes 2 new and 13 non-renewals.

**TEACHER GRANTS:** Karen Sawitke reported that 3 teachers from Perry have applied for the \$400 grants: Cindy Banjoff from Perry Elementary School - "Learning Through Nature" for Grades 1-4  
Ann Rayner & Jennifer Keener from Perry Middle School - "The Terracotta Warriors Project" for Grade 7  
Nancy Plisko from Perry Middle School - "The Art of Thank You" for Grade 7  
Karen mentioned that the committee will be looking for changes in order to get more applicants.

**NEWSLETTER:** Karen stated that the Newsletter articles will be due by March 8-9<sup>th</sup>.

**VIRGINIA MLAKAR AWARD:** Ginny Keller announced that Noreen Stout from Willowick Middle School received \$500 to use for a wheelchair accessible bus to transport students for a Luau Field Trip.

**SUNSHINE/REMEMBRANCE:** Ginny sent Thinking of You cards to Mark Mazzolini and to Pat Mazzolini on Mark's illness. Thinking of You cards were also sent to Jane Pastor and Karen Sawitke. Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Jeanette Crislip and Vickie Stacy upon their deaths.

**HISTORIAN:** Marion Lipinski reported that the book is updated and is at the meeting for members to see.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Tim Niederkorn sent a report that announced that the deadline for completed applications is March 15<sup>th</sup>. The applications will then be emailed to committee members for reading and scoring on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The Dine-to-Donate at El Palenque raised \$185.79 and the Dine-to-Donate at Texas Roadhouse raised \$105.84.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Sherry Niederkorn sent a report stating that articles about the luncheon appeared in The Review, Lake County Gazette and News Herald. Sherry will write articles for the April luncheon.

**WEBSITE:** Sherry reported that the website is updated.

**YEARBOOK:** Char Langer asked members to report any change in information.

**OLD BUSINESS:** There is a need for Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and President-Elect starting in 2025. A committee is needed to find people for these positions.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

- Bonnie Lillibridge won the free lunch.
- Terry Weaver won \$41.00 in the 50/50 raffle.

**MEETINGS:**

- LCRTA Board Meeting – Kirtland Library on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00.
- LCRTA General Meeting – The Kirtlander on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:00.

Debbie Deal  
Recording Secretary