

## **LCRTA GENERAL MEETING**

### **THE KIRTLANDER**

**APRIL 9, 2024**

**WELCOME:** President Cathy Szuter welcomed members, new member Pat Gurley, and Julie Altman.

Chaplain Greta Pate led The Pledge of Allegiance and then shared thoughts on a bridge. Sometimes we need a bridge and sometimes we are the bridge.

**PROGRAM:** Connie Irvin introduced Christopher Gillcrest who gave a very interesting talk about the importance of the Great Lakes. Christopher also works at the National Museum of the Great Lakes in Toledo.

**LUNCHEON:** The Kirtlander served tomato-basil soup, salad, chips, and a cookie along with a choice of beef sandwich on sourdough bread, turkey sandwich on nine-grain bread, or a vegetarian wrap.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the February 13, 2024 meeting were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Pat Humphrey reported a total of all monies as of April 9, 2024 to be \$11,652.51 which includes a total of \$2,406.46 in scholarship monies. The report will be filed for audit.

**Social/Travel Treasurer's Report:** Lynn Miller reported a total of all monies as of April 9, 2024 to be \$3,820.57. The report will be filed for audit.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Program:** Thank you to Connie Irvin for the excellent program. Connie welcomes ideas for future programs.

**Meeting:** Mary Sleeman thanked Karen Sawitke for taking the reservations and thanked members for getting reservations in on time.

**Community Participation:** Louise Bennet thanked members for the generous donations to The United Way.

**Social/Travel:** Lynn Miller reported on the following events:

- Sherry Niederkorn shared a photo book from the Great Rivers Cruise
- A number of people enjoyed "Cats" on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- May 24, 2024 – Captains Baseball Game. Reservations need to be sent to Sherry Niederkorn by May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- June 27, 2024 – "Tuesday with Morrie" at Rabbit Run. Reservations need to be sent to Sherry Niederkorn by May 30<sup>th</sup>. An optional dinner will be held at Jennifer Williams' house beforehand.
- August 11, 2024 – "Beautiful, The Carol King Musical" at the Beck Center. Reservations need to be sent to Sherry Niederkorn by June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- August 29, 2024 – Goodtime III Cruise and Lakeview Cemetery. Reservations are to be sent to Kathy Kling by August 10<sup>th</sup>.
- October 10-20, 2024 – Hawaii Cruise. Thirty-six people are going and there is room for 6 more people. Contact Sherry Niederkorn.
- December 3-4, 2024 – Christmas at Tara Mansion. Contact Sarah Reinhard.
- The travel committee is working on a trip to the Canadian Rockies and Vancouver and a trip to the Finger Lakes.

**Legislative:** Tom Moscovic reported on the following:

- Too much tax money is going to private/church schools, which takes money away from public education. There is a lawsuit going on to prevent this. Most school levies failed in the Ohio primary. Dan Troy is a friend to public education.
- SB #168 – OEA opposes this for the following reasons: It would allow employment of unlicensed teachers, prohibit giving preference to seniority in nonteaching employee staffing reductions, require courses to be taught outside the normal school day, change the teacher evaluation framework, and determine the number of professional development hours a teacher must complete regarding dyslexia.
- Some other bills to watch: HB #339 – vouchers; HB #445 – release for religious instruction; SB # 162 – use of outside vendors to catch students up.  
SB #83 – higher education not allowed to strike; HB #168 – prevent gender affirming care for minors.
- Some bills that are good: HB #407 – voucher accountability; HB #408 – every student is allowed to eat lunch even if cannot pay; HB #411 – raise the minimum pay to \$50,000; HB #387 – release East Cleveland and Youngstown schools from state control.

**Newsletter:** Karen Sawitke stated that articles are due on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Scholarship:** Tim Niederkorn reported that there were 9 completed applications. The committee will meet on April 12<sup>th</sup> to select the finalists. Interviews will take place on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The scholarship winners will be notified on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Future Dine-to-Donates include Longhorn Steakhouse in Mentor on April 11<sup>th</sup> and Alfredo's (Holiday Inn) in Mayfield Village on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Flyers are available.

**Virginia Mlakar Enrichment Fund:** Ginny Keller announced that Noreen Stout from Willowick Middle School received \$500 for a wheelchair accessible bus to go on a field trip.

**Sunshine/Remembrance:** Ginny Keller sent sympathy cards to Jim Jamieson on the death of his daughter and to Pat Mazzolini on the death of her husband. Get well cards were sent to Joyce Peoples and to Claire Sonewald following surgeries. Pat thanked members for the many cards and calls.

**Historian:** Marion Lipinski reported the book to be up to date and at the meeting for viewing.

**Public Relations/Website:** Sherry Niederkorn reported that articles had appeared in The News-Herald, Lake County Tribune, and Review Newspaper. Sherry also stated that the website was up to date and that forms could be downloaded.

**Yearbook:** Bonnie Lillibridge and Char Langer gave members their yearbooks. Members not in attendance will receive the books by mail. Please check that information is correct.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Need for a Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and President-Elect in 2025 as well as a person for Information/Protective Services now.

**FREE LUNCH:** Sue McCarter

**50/50:** Pat Humphrey won \$50.00 and generously donated the money back.

**MEETINGS:** Board Meeting – Kirtland Library on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00

General Meeting – The Kirtlander on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00

Debbie Deal

Recording Secretary