

FCRTA

Franklin County Retired Teachers Association
2007 NRTA "With Our Youth"
National Award Recipient

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December 2007

**FCRTA Program for December 12
meeting at Berwick Manor, will be:**



Don Basham

"The One Man Band"

**Contemporary, Entertaining
Fun-Fun-Fun**



Caregiving

Caregiving for an elderly parent, relative or friend has become a common experience - one that most people can expect to face sometime in their lifetime. Caregiving responsibilities are usually assumed by the spouse, daughter-in-law, relative or friends. In most cases, the elderly live with their caregiver. Care giving can be satisfying and enjoyable, resulting in an improved relationship for both parties. However, the care giver is too often overlooked and their own health is affected. Caregivers need to maintain their own body and spirit while seeing their loved one though their illness. Care giving brings stress and to control the source of the stress is of paramount importance.

Seeking and accepting help is a necessary step. This help can come from family members or from community resources. **The Franklin County Senior Options** is one of several programs offered by Franklin County. These programs provide services that include both home visits and Day Care Centers. Care giving should not be based only on the needs of the receiver. The Caregiver must attend to their own needs and the needs of their family members. Recognize that because you are human, mistakes will be made. Learn from your mistakes and go on from there.

Source: Article by Jill Eversole Nolan, OSU, printed in *This Week* Community Newspaper.

Phil Courtad, Informative Protective Services

Committee

Luncheons and Board Meetings 2008

April 9

Villa Milano
1630 Schrock Rd.

May 14

Friendship Village of
Columbus, 5800
Forest Hills Blvd., (east

of Cleveland Avenue.) Turn north off Rt. 161/
East Dublin-Granville Rd. onto Forest Hills
Blvd. Go 0.5 miles and Friendship Village will
be on right.

June 18

Aladdin Shrine
3850 Stelzer Rd.

Sept. 10

Berwick Manor
3250 Refugee Rd.

Oct. 8

Aladdin Shrine
3850 Stelzer Rd.

Dec. 10

Berwick Manor
3250 Refugee Rd.

Executive Board Meetings

will meet at 10:30 a.m. on these dates.

December LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2007- Berwick Manor

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Year retired _____

Last school _____

Deadline: Dec. 5, 2007

Cost per person: \$15.00

Make checks payable to FCRTA and send to:

Mildred Becker

311 East Walnut Street

Westerville, OH 43081-2339

Special thanks to Ray Fatig, Lale Ruth,
and Donald Conard for being host/
hostesses.

Information for the **April 9, 2008** issue of the FCRTA Newsletter should be to Daisy Clarke, editor, by **February 27, 2008**. To see the Newsletter in color visit the website: **http://www.geocities.com/fcrtaoh**

President's Message

Dear Members,

Teachers Make A Difference – so do Retired Teachers.

This is my last message as President and my shortest. It has been my privilege to serve FCRTA these past two years. A big THANK YOU to the officers, trustees and committee members who helped. I will continue to be involved in our organization in any way I am able. Remember: All of us working together must protect our retirement benefits. And to that end, numbers do count. So encourage retired teachers to join FCRTA.

Don't miss the December luncheon at the Berwick. You will enjoy the program.

Happy Holidays and may the New Year bring you good health and happiness.

Tom Beck, President FCRTA

Tom Beck and Gloria Woods attended the Eighth National Awards Banquet of the National Retired Teachers Association "With Our Youth" in Boston, Massachusetts on September 10, 2007 and received a National Award for Franklin County from NRTA and AARP officers.



Pictured left to right are: Lee Hammond, AARP Board Member, Tom Beck, President, FCRTA, Gloria Woods, Vice President, FCRTA, Annette S. Norsman, NRTA Education Association Director.



Gloria Woods and driver touring the Ohio Historical Center grounds.



Bill Cooke and Gene Kohli shuttled Seniors from the parking lot to the 60th Anniversary Celebration of ORTA at Ohio Historical Center.

Membership

Dues Reminder: If your mailing label does not indicate FA 07 or FL, then you should send in your 2007 dues - 2008 dues are being received at this time.

New Members:

M. Joan Rumer Eva Davis Janis Nelson
Beverly Sapienzak*

Michael Miller John P. Mullin
D. Jay Fields Carolyn Montgomery

* Life member

Other Life Member: Robert Gold

NOTICE: We are looking for someone interested in being Membership Committee Chair within the next year. Training will be provided. It would be helpful to have some computer skills. Let us know if you are interested. Call Gloria at 443-6775. *Gloria Woods, Membership*

Elected Officers for 2008-9

President - Gloria Woods

Vice President - Kathy Thomas

Trustees - Robert Croye, Raymond Jewett, and Fred Ricketts

Treasurer, Dan Baker; Secretary, Martha Kinhead have one year remaining on their term of office.

INFO HIGHLIGHTS



Some Options for Preparing for the Digital Television Transition

1. Keep your TV and buy a converter. In 2008 a government coupon will be available to reduce the price of certain converters by \$40.
2. Buy a digital television.
3. Hook up your television to cable, satellite, or other pay television service.
4. Buy a converter with enhanced features, such as one with a DVD recorder. Converters with enhanced features are not eligible for the Coupon Program.

Whatever you decide to do you have until February 17, 2009 to prepare for the digital transition. After that date, you will no longer be able to view your over-the-air broadcasts on your analog TV. Analog TVs are those TV's that pick up air wave signal using "rabbit ears" or a rooftop antenna, and will be affected by the change over from Analog to Digital TV.

Converter Boxes will become available in 2008. Coupons worth \$40.00 to help pay for the converter boxes will be available in January 2009, BUT are only good for 90 days after issue. Consumer electronics makers plan to produce the converter boxes, prices not yet known, but estimated to be between \$50.00 and \$75.00. Call: 1-888-388-2009 (website: www.dtv.gov) for more information.

Katherine Wheeler, Chairman Informative and Protective Service Committee

Legislative Update

Health Care Funding. HB 315, which was introduced by Rep. Scott Oelslager in September, would help ensure affordable health care coverage for retired and current teachers. Contributions by both current teachers would gradually increase by 2.5% over a five-year period. Health Care Advocates--a coalition of management, labor and retiree organizations--contend that this bill is equitable and that the need for passage is urgent. Their position is that if something is not done in the near future, many retirees and disabled teachers will not be able to afford health care coverage.

The bill has been referred to the House Financial Institutions, Real Estate and Securities (FIRES) Committee for deliberations. Hopefully, hearings will begin during the fall session. Letters, e-mails, or phone calls to the committee chair Rep. Chris Widener, Rep. Oelslager, and your own representative in support of this bill are suggested by STRS and ORTA. Mail address is Ohio House of Representatives, 77 S. High Street, Columbus OH 43215. To leave a phone message, call 1-800-282-0253. Check the FCRTA web site (<http://www.geocities.com/fcrtaoh/legislative.htm>) for a longer article on this bill and e-mail addresses.

Divestiture of Investments. HB 151, which would require STRS and other state pension systems to divest holdings in foreign corporations doing business in or with Iran and Sudan, is currently stalled in the Rules Committee, but it could be brought back for a vote by the entire House. Instead of a House vote in June, House Speaker Jon Husted called a meeting of pension fund directors and urged voluntary compliance. Following lengthy discussions at several meetings, the STRS board adopted a policy consistent with the board's fiduciary duty to act solely in the best interests of its members. The policy establishes a voluntary process that is to occur only when substitute investments of similar quality, return, and safety can be identified. Time will tell whether proponents of HB 151 will be satisfied. Check STRS and ORTA web sites periodically to see if there is a need to contact legislators on this issue.

Reemployed Retiree Bills. Two bills related to reemployment of retirees are in the hopper. HB 270 included language related to forfeiture of benefits, waiting periods before reemployment, and whether the new job is the same or similar. HB 240 would cap the salary of a returning manager's or administrator's final average salary at 60%. The Ohio Retirement Study Council recommends passage of HB 270 with certain changes, but rejected passage of HB 240.

Eileen Young, FCRTA Legislative Chair

FCRTA

Franklin County
Retired Teachers
Association
2237 Koebel Road
Columbus, OH 43207-2825
website <http://www.geocities.com/fcртаoh>

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Kathy Thomas

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FRANKLIN COUNTY RETIRED TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION

Last Name First/Given Name Middle Initial

Street Address Apt. City State Zip

Telephone _____ Year retired _____

____ FCRTA Life\$100.00 ____ ORTA Life..... \$300.00
____ FCRTA Annual.....\$ 10.00 ____ ORTA Annual.\$ 20.00

Check the organizations you are joining and enter dues here:

Please make check payable to FCRTA and mail to:
Gloria Woods, 2237 Koebel Road, Columbus, OH 43207-2825
(Enclose a stamped envelope if a dues card is desired.)

If you have moved, please inform the membership chairperson. Be sure to include your phone number.

NEW ADDRESS

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

9 digit Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail to : Gloria Woods,
2237 Koebel Road
Columbus, OH 43207-2825