

October 2014 Official Report/ Ohio Education Association-Retired- Kathleen Purdy

- ❖ Our first meeting of the year was held in the OEA Media Room with an amazing start because **David Pepper**, candidate for Ohio Attorney General requested the retirees to be at his press conference. The conference was covered extensively by the Columbus Dispatch, television and the Pepper Communication Team. During the conference, several OEA-R retirees responded to his Call to Action in the Q & A segment, including **Christine McVicar**, from SEOEA-R and **Kathleen Purdy**, from ECOEA-R.
- ❖ The OEA-R Statewide Conference was well- attended with many newly retired members joining the event. Special highlights were the sharing of post-retirement activities from **Bill Shriver** (NCOEA-R) on Boys Scouts of America, complete with a PowerPoint from his past and current Troop and **Ronda Johnson** (CEA-R) on being hired as the Director of Education by Columbus **Mayor Michael Coleman**, a position newly created for her because she is experienced and a well-respected advocate on educational policies.
- ❖ The most impressive fact from the STRS Update is the number of members collecting a benefit over the age of 100. We have 178 with the oldest being 105! Her monthly benefit is approximate \$4,000. I hope many more contributors are able to maintain healthy lifestyles to enjoy their much deserved benefits well beyond retirement.
- ❖ Please consider becoming an OEA/NEA Lifetime member today. Updated forms are now available as well as online transactions to make the experience easier for you. You are more than welcome to contact me with any suggestions or questions on how to become Pre-retired. Email me at: ecoaretired@yahoo.com.
- ❖ Early voting begins October 7, 2014 according to information I received last night while in Youngstown. Few people are certain this won't change, but be sure you read up on the issues and candidates before Election Day, November 4, 2014. The League of Women Voters publishes a nonpartisan Voter's Guide, co-authored by **ECOEA-R Mimi Bogard** which is used by many public places such as libraries, universities and Boards of Elections.

Submitted by Kathleen Purdy ECOEA-R (2011-2017) who appreciates all that you do to make this community a better place.

"If you're not willing to learn, no one can help you.

If you're determined to learn, no one can stop you."