

2017 SUMMER EDITION
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ECOEA-R.OHEA.US

Retired Members and Friends of East Central Ohio Education Association-Retired



Retirees enjoying last year's Not Back to School Luncheon were, Sally Smith, Warren Hershberger, Kathleen Purdy, Carol Meyers, Bill Meyers, Kay Leath, Joyce Hawkins Williams and Anne Unklesbay. Not pictured is Carol Hockenberger.

By David Ross

The grant focused on interviewing first year teachers and what issues were most important to them and how the OEA could assist them. Of the 25 teachers that were on my list, I actually interviewed 14; the remaining 11 were contacted a minimum of three times, but no response. Of those contacted all were appreciative for their input and most were willing to speak to new teachers in the future. Most of the new teachers were between the ages of 24 and 27 and did

not get a teaching position in the public schools their first year of application. Most started out substituting or in charter schools. Most expressed a very positive response of the support they received from their mentors and school staffs. One of their major concerns was student loan debt. None of them expressed being overwhelmed by their first year responsibilities. Most believed they were well-prepared for the classroom. None expressed any negativity for choosing the teaching profession as



David Ross, past president of Plain Local Teacher's Association also serves as the ECOEA RA Parliamentarian.

their vocation.



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BRIDGING ACTIVE AND RETIREE GROUPS

The Leadership Development Grant for 2016-2017 was written to include holding a "Train the Trainer" workshop. Our training was held inside the Canton Professional Education Association headquarters on March 28, 2017. With 207 new

educators in ECOEA, we were able to use our retirees to make phone calls and collect data.

Sue Bour, Faye Heim, Carol Kinsey, Elayne Dunlap, Kathleen Purdy, David Ross (see his article above), Sally Smith and Joyce Hawkins Williams all

volunteered their services. Without them, we would not have been successful. The Grant was written by Mary Binegar, Judy Buschle and Kathleen Purdy with input from John Hoyes and Todd Jaeck, Staff member.

Fund for Children and Public Education



Our members generously contributed to the Fund for Children and Public Education when they were working. This fund was primarily used to support OEA’s recommendation of candidates running for political office. Some district treasurers had made this method very easy by offering payroll deductions.

Once you retired, it became more difficult to contribute because you were no longer at your workplace. OEA has now made it very convenient to continue your contributions. Visit the www.ohea.org website or phone 1-800-282-1500. Help make Campaign 2018 the largest total of FCPE monies raised. Donate Online: <http://fcpe.ohea.org>

FAIR FOOD PRODUCE WORKERS

On Saturday, May 20, 2017, a small group of OEA members and staff attended the “Organizing for Economic Justice: A Call to Action” Summit held at the Columbus Mennonite Church from 9:30-3:30. This summit brought together labor leaders, nationally recognized speakers, workers and local activists involved in the struggle for economic justice. The farm workers explained, using a Spanish interpreter,



why they needed to organize and build a diverse and inclusive economic justice movement. One reason was the Wendy’s hamburger chain ran away from responsibility and abandoned the Florida tomato industry altogether, according to the *New York Times*. For over three years, consumers have been demanding that Wendy’s join its major competitors– Taco Bell, McDonald’s, Subway and Burger King by being in the Fair Food Program.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO STAY INVOLVED

If you are interested in becoming a Delegate to the OEA Representative Assembly, please note the Declaration of Candidacy forms are due by September 20, 2017 to Carol Price, OEA, 225 E. Broad St., PO Box 2550, Columbus, OH 43216.

NEA Vice President Becky Pringle discussed our national issues including sanctuary cities, immigration, gender bias/ conflicts, institutionalized racism and bringing awareness for how all education members are the key players during the March NEA-Retired Organizing Conference. Each table discussed 3 questions:

1. Why is it critical for NEA-Retired to be involved in working towards achieving racial justice in education?

2. How do we engage others and create a movement that powers racial justice in education?
3. What have you done/might do to further the progress of racial justice in education?

As retired members, we should be continuing working diligently on making the case that all members are important in Association work.

. Unite. Inspire. Lead!

OEA-RETIRED KINGWOOD CENTER CONFERENCE

The district sponsors for the OEA-R Spring Conference were North West OEA and North Central OEA.

It began with a STRS Presentation from Hope Short. This was very timely because of the recent COLA suspension that was approved by the STRS Board a few days earlier. Many comments and opinions were offered as to how the COLA would affect pensions. However, it was supported when the retirees were made aware of the define benefits that we enjoy when actives are now contributing up to 14% toward their retirement. The average retiree contributed approximately 9%.

The fun activity included making beaded jewelry and bird feeders. (See the pole and cups in the photo background .) The afternoon was spent with an on-campus Greenhouse and Grounds self-tour and a guided tour of the Manor Mansion.

The gift shop with fresh flowers and plants were available for purchase. Each attendee received a fresh potted geranium and catered boxed lunches prepared by the high school culinary students. April 18, 2018 is the next Spring Conference being held in Dayton.



ECOEA-Retired member Carol Meyers is very attentive at the Mansfield Conference.

A young boy was looking through some old family photos and asked his mother, “Who is the guy on the beach with you with all the muscles and curly hair?” “That’s your father.” “ Then who’s that man who lives with us now?”



OEA-Retirees at the NEA-Retired Conference in Dallas, Texas. Plan on joining us in 2018!



Retired Reps: Carol Kinsey and Kathleen Purdy

OEA-R Officers and Staff

John Hoyes, Chair
jhoyes@columbus.rr.com

Bill Sears, Vice Chair

Margaret “Peg” Ham, Secretary

Carol Kinsey, Board of Directors

Kathleen Purdy, District Rep

Todd Jaeck, Staff Liaison

District Website: ecoea-r.ohea.us

East Central Ohio Education Association—Retired 2017 Summer Edition

OEA-R Mission Statement

OEA-R is dedicated to providing services to meet the needs of its members, promoting member involvement within OEA, and supporting public education.

ECOEA Officers and Staff

President-Julie Nelson
Vice President– Cindy Endres
Secretary-Kelli Green
Business Mgr.– Valerie Heban

OEA-R Purpose

1. Advance and promote the OEA programs for retired members and pre-retired subscribers.
2. Provide a structure for participation within the framework of the OEA.
3. Identify the needs and concerns of retired members.
4. Encourage cooperation and communication among all segments of the public education profession.

SAVE THE DATE : OEA-R STATEWIDE FALL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

STRS BUILDING, 7TH FLOOR 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Registration forms are in the *Newsline* and our website.

SLEEP LATE, THEN COME TO LUNCH

“Not Back to School “Luncheon

Mulligan’s Pub

4118 Belden Village St NW

Canton OH 44718

Directions: I-77N to exit 109A; go through the light to Mulligan’s on the left.

When: **Wednesday, August 16, 2017**

Time: **11:30 a.m.—1:00 P.M.**

COST: SELF– PAY

RSVP not needed. All welcome!

Holiday Happenin’ at the Historic Pine Tree Barn in Wayne County

This outing provides you several opportunities to shop, dine and catch up with the happenings around the district by attending this social on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m..

Where: **Pine Tree Barn**

4374 Shreve Rd.

Wooster, Ohio 44691

(330) 262-4077 for directions

Cost: SELF-PAY



OEA-R Elayne Dunlap at the District Grant Writing Training