

District Retired Report for the September 21, 2022 Executive Committee

From ECOEA Retired Representative Kathleen Purdy, ecoeavp@yahoo.com



Please support the OEA Retiree's Basket Raffle at the December RA.

- OEA-Retired 2022 Fall Conference was held Tuesday, September 6, 2022 introducing our new message: R.E.V. (Relevant, Engaged, Visible)
- I hosted the session: Mental Wellbeing by Building Resilience by **De Lena P. Scales** MPA, Neighborhood Program Specialist, Columbus Public Health and **Kristen Hicks** LISW, Owner of Seasons Counseling & Consulting, LLC.
- September 7, 2022, I attended the OEA Retired Advisory Council Meeting at the OEA HDQ.
  - A. OEA FUND pulls our resources together so our voices will be heard. We collected \$900.00 at this meeting.
  - B. The STRS meetings will now have several OEA Retired members in attendance. We are fully supportive of our members on the Board and looking forward to countering the misleading communications about the STRS' management.
  - C. **Larry Carey**, Columbus EA was a special guest who brought in a box of back packs to distribute to area elementary schools in collaboration with the OEA Retired. Inside the back packs are books donated through the efforts of our **Read Across America** initiative. Larry is an Early Career Educator (pre-k) and the author of "Alliteration Boosts Communication: ABC" for k-3 children. He shared a copy with the Reps. Exciting!



- D. NEA Summit is March 10-12, 2023 followed by the NEA-Retired Spring Conference March 12-14, 2023.
- E. Generous goody bags were given to each District Representative as a thank you for the work that is being asked of us and more.
- F. We now have three (3) traveling suitcases with all materials necessary for membership engagement to be used statewide for recruiting and PR in our prospective Districts.
- G. New Committee Assignments and an updated Advisory Council Roster were shared.
- September 13, 2022, I attended the ARA (Alliance for Retired Americans) of which the OEA is one of its affiliates. This was held at the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local Hall in Columbus. Purpose: Advancing Retirement Security, Building Retiree Advocacy in Ohio while continuing the Work for Human Equality & Economic Justice at Work and in Retirement. **Tim Burga**, Ohio AFL-CIO President and **Jessica Vernon** Ohio AFL-CIO Field Director were among the speakers. Also providing remarks were OEA/ARA endorsed Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate **Nan Whaley** and **Justice Jennifer Brunner**, Candidate Chief Justice for the Ohio Supreme Court.
  - A. ARA President **Norm Wernet** gave the Case for Voting, State and Federal Issues in the General Assembly and Congress Fact Sheets on expanding social security and negotiating the price of insulin.
  - B. Ohio Values Are on the Ballot information comparing **Tim Ryan**: for the working Class and **JD Vance**: For the Wealthy and Extremists. AFL-CIO, OEA and the ARA have endorsed **Tim Ryan** for U. S. Senate.
  - C. The Ohio Supreme Court can Defend or Undermine Our Rights logo with the ARA endorsing **Judge Terri Jamison**, **Judge Marilyn Zayas** for Justices and **Justice Jennifer Brunner** for Chief Justice.

D. Issue 1: Expanding Cash Bail and Issue 2: Attack on the Freedom to Vote were both a “No” on Issue 1 and “No” on Issue 2.

Finally, in conjunction with the Alliance Farmers Market/Voter’s Registration Drive which ended last week, we were very successful. We also recruited Poll Workers (Precinct Elections Officials). Regula Civic Engagement students from the University of Mount Union completed a Saturday of Service with me.

