



NEOEAA -- Retired

A publication of the North Eastern Ohio Education Association -- <http://www.neoea.org/> -- retired@neoea.org
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Hank Haynes, Editor

OEA-R Statewide Fall Conference

Save the Date and Register Now.

The **OEA-Retired Statewide Fall Conference** will be held **Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at the STRS Building**, 7th Floor, 275 East Broad Street, Columbus OH 43215. Free parking is provided at the STRS building.

Speakers include the OEA Officers, OEA Executive Director Larry Wicks, and OEA-R Staff Liaison Bill Otten. STRS and SERS Health Care Personnel will be invited to speak on health care issues/changes for 2014 followed by questions and answers. Other interesting and informational sessions include a "So-Called-Right-to-Work" update. Also, several OEA-R members will be describing interesting volunteering activities they are engaged in. Registration will begin at 9:30 am, Program at 10:00 am, Lunch at 12:15 pm, and ending by 3:00 pm.

Registration fee of \$15.00 must be received by September 1st in order to be eligible for door prizes. You will be notified by email once your payment is received. Mail: payment, name, address, email, and OEA-R District (NEOEAA-R) and to: Ohio Education Association, Statewide Fall Conference, PO Box 2136, Columbus, OH 43216-2136, Atten: Bill Otten. Download a registration form at: from the NEOEA-Retired website at <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/files/2012/03/OEA-R-Fall-2013-Conference.pdf>.

NEOEAA-Retired Committees

Please consider volunteering to serve on one of our Committees. Let us know on our "**NEOEAA-R Sub-Committee**" page at <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/neoea-r-sub-committees/> or call the NEOEA Office at 216-518-0200.

The **Outreach** Committee can always use new volunteers. It has been active with the OEA/NEA Read Across America program reading to children at schools and libraries and with the OEA-Retired Intergenerational Mentoring Program pairing retired members with OSEA education students at local colleges. Contact Us and volunteer.

The **Conference** Committee has done a great job with the NEOEA-R Spring Conference and workshops at the NEOEA MegaConference and the NEOEA Summer Leadership Conference. The committee is always looking for ideas for topics that will inform members.

The **Political Action** Committee will be gearing up for candidate screenings and campaign work for the 2014 election. House District committees will form late this fall and begin training. An amendment to the OEA-FCPE C&B now provides a Retired seat on each House

District Committee. Retirees must live in the House District they apply for or in an adjacent HD and be an OEA-FCPE contributor and OEA-R member. If you wish to volunteer, use our Contact Us page.

The **Retirement Issues** Committee attends STRS, SERS, & PERS Retirement Board meetings and monitors their actions. Use Contact Us if you want to car-pool to a meeting.

The **Membership** Committee promotes OEA-R/NEA-R membership. Volunteers are needed to contact/visit local associations in their area and offer to explain the Pre-Retired program to active members. The committee works to establish contact with local Retiree groups throughout NEOEA. Use Contact Us to volunteer.

As an NEOEA Retiree, you have extensive knowledge and experience that can provide valuable help to the active members and public education in general. Please consider volunteering a bit of your time.

NEOEAA Day Friday, October 18, 2013

NEOEAA Day is more than professional development workshops. Many sessions will be of interest to retirees. A guide to NEOEA programs is available at <http://neoea.org/NEOEADay/AtAGlance.html>; it contains links to the descriptions of all 39 NEOEA Day programs. The traditional catalog is available online at <http://www.neoea.org/ND2013.pdf>. If you want a paper copy, contact the NEOEA office at 216-518-0200 or desk@neoea.org. Retired members are welcome at NEOEA Day events. Workshops include sessions on professional development, leadership development, and topics of personal interest, including the popular bus trips. Perhaps we'll see you on October 18!

Member Only Comment Page

The NEOEA-Retired website now offers NEOEA Retirees their own comment page at <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/member-only-area/>. NEOEA Retirees who are also OEA-R/NEA-R members can now request login credentials to post comments and receive notification when others reply. Everyone has an opinion; get it out there and see what other members have to say.

Update Your Contact Information

Have you moved and this newsletter stopped at your old address first? Make sure that we have your correct contact information; update your address and email on our "Contact Us" page at <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/contact-us/>. Don't have internet access? Just call the NEOEA Office at 216-518-0200.

Labor Day Celebrations!

NEOEA members have been participating individually in Labor Day events for years, and NEOEA is now an official sponsor of Labor Day events in Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties.

Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Lake Counties:

The North Shore Federation of Labor, which covers Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Lake Counties, will hold its First Annual 2013 Labor Day Festival on Saturday, August 31, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm. at Euclid Memorial Park (Babbitt Road and Milton Avenue). For more information, go to <http://www.neoea.org/EuclidLaborDay2013.pdf> or call 216-881-1802.

Lorain County:

Join Lorain County Organized Labor members, family and friends as they celebrate Labor Day 2013. Lorain County unions will be enjoying the annual Lorain County Labor Day Festival at Black River Landing, 421 Black River Lane, on Sunday, September 1, from noon to 8:00 PM. . The program includes entertainment, kids' rides, 50¢ hot dogs and sodas, and free raffles. The Lorain Education Association and NEOEA have booths; the NEOEA booth is coordinated by the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Teachers' Association. For more information, call or email Andrew Smith at 440-213-1314 or smithandr@oh.rr.com. Download a flyer at <http://www.neoea.org/LorainCountyLaborDay2013.pdf>.

Visit the NEOEA website at <http://www.neoea.org/NewsDetail.aspx?a=690> or send an email to LaborDay@neoea.org to get on the list.

OEA-Retired Membership Special

News Flash from the OEA-R Membership Committee — Retirees that join unified an OEA-R and NEA-R membership will have a chance to receive a \$25 gas card. Gas cards go to the first 50 new retired or pre-retired members.

Sign-up on line with a credit card at <https://ims.nea.org/JoinNea/> to join both OEA-R and NEA-R. Lifetime membership is a one time \$350 and can easily save you that much every year in insurance and appliance discounts. Visit the Membership page on the NEOEA-R website for more information.

OEA-R Delegates to be Elected

In October 2013, OEA-R members will elect Delegates and Alternates to the OEA RA.

Delegates attend both the Fall and Spring Representative Assemblies of OEA while delegates from NEOEA also attend both of the NEOEA RAs. The day before each OEA RA there is a delegate briefing with the OEA officers and discussion with members of the OEA-R Advisory Council.

Declaration of Candidacy forms may be obtained by contacting Carol Price at OEA: 800-282-1500 and must be filed with the OEA Secretary-Treasurer by September 20.

Ballots will be mailed later in October. Please mark and return your ballots promptly.

Read Across America March 2014

NEOEA-Retired is building on the success of last year with a new volunteer sign-up and Read Across America resource page on the NEOEA-Retired website at <http://neoea-r.ohca.us/read-across-america/>. The page includes links to the OEA and NEA Read Across America pages, each with valuable information about planning an event.

Retirees are invited to volunteer to read at schools and libraries near them. If you can help plan an event, NEOEA-R can get you the materials and information you need. Check the website or contact Beryl Burkle at 330-659-3928.

2013 General Election November 5.

Although an off-year election doesn't have the excitement of statewide and federal elections, Ohio's voters will be asked to decide the fate of local candidates and issues in their communities. Remember that education policy and direction are made by elected officials or those they appoint.

Consider the influence of these local officials and issues on education in your community:

- Local school levies
- Members of boards of education
- County and municipal levies

- Mayors and members of city and village councils and other city and village officers
- Judges and Clerks of municipal courts
- Township trustees
- Local charter and zoning issues

Make sure you are registered to vote.

- Early voting begins October 1st.
- Registration ends on October 7.

Update your address or check your status on the Ohio Secretary of State website at <http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/Voters.aspx>. The site has links to your county Board of Elections for more information on local issues and candidates.

Your Own Personal PAC - and It's Free!

Have you heard of the EMILY principle? The letters stand for "Early Money Is Like Yeast." If you favor a candidate for an Ohio public office, you can support that candidate's campaign, and it won't cost you a cent.

If you make your donation now instead of waiting for next year, your donation can have a much greater impact.

Ohio Revised Code 5747.29 permits a taxpayer to claim a credit for contributions made to campaign committees for state office or for a seat on the Ohio General Assembly. Individuals can claim a credit of up to \$50; couples filing a joint return can claim a credit of \$100. The Ohio tax return contains a place to claim the credit; which is available whether or not you itemize deductions.

Members are still encouraged to donate to the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education, but making this extra donation is a no-brainer since Ohio reimburses you for your donation.

Note that this credit doesn't apply to donations to candidates for federal offices like President and House of Representatives, and it doesn't apply to local and countywide elections.

So the deal is simple: you can support the state candidate of your choice and the state will give you your money back when you file your 2013 Ohio income taxes. It's like having your own personal PAC!

NEOEA Day Trips

Seats are still available on **20th CENTURY TOURS**: We still have several exciting travel opportunities for NEOEA members.

The **NEOEA Day tour to New York City on October 17-20** (<http://www.neoea.org/NYC2013.pdf>) includes: lodging for one night in Pennsylvania, two nights lodging in New York City, a ticket for one Broadway Show ("Jersey Boys," "Motown The Musical," or "Newsies"), a guided city tour, ticket to the 911 Memorial Site at Ground Zero, and dinner on the way home in Pennsylvania. Dinner at Carmine's in NYC is optional.

Join us on the **Hatfield and McCoy Feud** tour on **October 18-20** (<http://www.neoea.org/HatfieldMcCoyFeud.pdf>). After arriving in "Feud Country" we'll have a "Stolen Pig Dinner" and then be entertained by the heads of the feuding clans themselves—Devil Asne Hatfield and Ole Ranel McCoy along with a little "Hillbilly and Mountain Music" to cap the night off right. The next two days we'll be touring the feud sites, the Delbarton Opry, and Heritage Farm. Then we will head back home with a smile on our faces and a whole passel of stories.

NEOEA Discounts

Check the **NEOEA.org** website for complete information on these valuable discounts:

- **Best Benefits Club** (Our purchasing power allows Best Benefits Club to offer a complete and comprehensive benefits package including excellent discounts on quality products and services from mortgages, food, clothing, auto purchase/lease/repair and insurance... to theaters, amusement parks, sporting events, and more...) <http://www.bbcmember.com/> Our password is NEOEA0613 or call 330-273-5756.
- **Cleveland Browns**: Come join us for NEOEA Day at the stadium on Sunday, October 13, to see the Detroit Lions play our Cleveland Browns at FirstEnergy Stadium! The Browns have provided special ticket offers for NEOEA members, family, and friends with up to \$20 off per ticket. Go Browns! <http://www.neoea.org/Browns2013.pdf>
- **Cleveland Indians** are offering discount tickets and you get to pick your seat location! <http://www.neoea.org/>

[Indians2013.pdf](#). To order, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/d5ly878> with password "NEOEA." Any questions? Please contact John Bowers at 216/420-4493 or jbowers@indians.com.

- **Dollar Bank**: Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <http://www.dollarbank.com/neoea/>
- **Honeybaked Ham** (NEOEA's membership in Best Benefits Club (password: NEOEA0613) permits members to buy Honeybaked Ham gift certificates and save 12%. You can check out the menu at <http://www.honeybaked.com/>).
- **Liberty Mutual**: Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <http://www.libertymutual.com/neoea>
- **Mavis Winkle's Irish Pubs**: Every Friday is "Teacher Appreciation" at Mavis Winkle's, located in Twinsburg and Independence. Just show your school ID and get 20% off your entire food check. <http://www.maviswinkles.com/>
- **Park Place** (discount airport parking). <http://www.neoea.org/ParkPlace.pdf>
- **PlayhouseSquare** (be sure to use the promotional code FAMTIX). <http://ev15.venue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/EVExecMacro?linkID=psq&evm=prmo&RSRC=&RDAT=&caller=PR&promoType=corp>

OEA-FCPE Fundraising

As the saying goes, the most import election is the next election! The 2014 elections will be critical for educators and public education.

The time is now to contribute early and often to the **OEA-Fund for Children and Public Education**. OEA-FCPE funds are used to support candidates recommended by the various Statewide, Senate District and House District OEA-FCPE Screening Committees. Just go to the OEA website at www.OEA.org and click on "Donate to FCPE".



Be an OEA-ACE: Advocate for Children and Education

Get ready to do your part in fighting off bad public policy and supporting issues to help public education.

Just go to the OEA website at www.OEA.org, click on POLITICAL ACTION, click on "Advocates For Children And Education - ACE", click on "Sign Up Now". Enter your name, address, and email, and "Submit."

SERS Special Election

A Special Election is being held to fill a vacant SERS retiree-member Board seat. Candidates will be nominated, interviewed and elected by the SERS Board. Adele Matias, ESP member from NEOEA-R, has submitted a candidate form to be considered for this election. Look for more information on the SERS Ohio website at <http://www.ohsers.org/>

Calling All Local Retired Groups

Are you involved with a group of retirees from your Local Association? Do you get together for meetings, luncheons, or other events? NEOEA-R can help you involve members, strengthen your group, and keep members informed. NEOEA-R can provide your group with informative speakers or handouts on many subjects.

Two great member involvement programs are Read Across America and Intergenerational Mentoring. NEOEA-R can help you work with your Local Association to bring retired members in to help with Read Across America activities. The Intergenerational Mentoring program pairs retired members with education students at local colleges.

The purpose of the NEOEA-R Organizing Committee is "to promote the welfare of retired members of NEOEA by identifying particular concerns of retired members as topics for training, workshops, and social opportunities; by serving as a link between northeastern Ohio retired members and those in other districts; and by fostering communication within OEA-R".



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NEOEA-R Organizing Committee

- Gary Hollow, Chairperson
- Nancy Wonson, Vice-Chair
- Adele Matias, Secretary
- Beryl Burkle, Board Liaison
- Hank Haynes, Newsletter/Web Editor
- Homer Adams
- Denise Bartholomew
- Debbie Bernauer
- Patricia Black
- Debbie Christman
- Lyn Curry-Huston
- Robert Dengler
- Nanci DiBianca
- Carol Dolgosh
- Martha Dunford
- Hazel Haffner
- Peg Ham
- Norm Hillstrom
- Nancy Javorek
- Richard Javorek
- Dennis Lewis
- Patricia Sharkey
- Pat Waggar
- Karen Wood

Address Service Requested

2014 NEOEA-Retired Spring Conference

It's not too early to mark your calendar for the third NEOEA-Retired Spring Conference at the NEOEA Conference Center on April 30, 2014. All NEOEA-R and ORTA members in northeastern Ohio are invited.

Registration & Continental Breakfast at 9:30; two Breakout Sessions; Lunch; and done by 1:00. Choose from (A). Legislative update, (B). STRS update, (C). Member Benefits update, (D). A special interest workshop.

College Club of Cleveland

Retired NEOEA members from northeastern Ohio are invited to "Wine 101" on Tuesday, September 17, from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. The event is sponsored by The College Club of Cleveland, located at 2348 Overlook Road in Cleveland Heights.

The website (<http://thecollegeclub.org/>) states: "The College Club of Cleveland is home to a community of lifelong learners who engage the mind and body to understand

ourselves, our community, and our world. We welcome new members who share an interest and enthusiasm for learning."

The September 17 event is offered without charge as an introduction to The College Club of Cleveland. Interested members should contact Judy Schneider at 216-407-3729 or schnejudy@aol.com or The College Club at 216-231-1683. Reservations are required by Friday, September 13.

Stay Up to Date with the OEA and NEOEA-R Websites

Visit the **OEA** website - <http://www.ohea.org/> and the **NEOEA-R** website - <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/> every week for current information.

Sign-up for **OEA Text Message Alerts** - Text "OEA" to: **69866**

On the **OEA** website:

- **Sign up to Cyber-Lobby**, click on POLITICAL ACTION / Advocates for Children and Education (ACE)
- **Donate to OEA-FCPE**, click on Donate to FCPE

NEOEA Calendar

- Sept 2** Labor Day Parades and Events, in your community
- Sept 11** OEA-Retired Fall Membership Conference, STRS
- Sept 17** NEOEA-Retired Organizing Com, NEOEA Office
- Sept 20** OEA-R Delegate to OEA RA Candidacy Forms due
- Oct 1** Early Voting begins - Support Pro-Education Candidates
- Oct 17-20** NEOEA New York City Tour and Broadway Show, NY
- Oct 18-20** NEOEA -Hatfield and McCoy Feud Tour, WV
- Oct 18** NEOEA Day Workshops, various locations
- Oct 26** NEOEA Envir Concerns Fall Color Hike, TBD
- Nov 5** Election Day - Support Pro-Education Candidates
- Nov 16** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Mentor HS
- Dec 6** OEA-Retired Delegate Caucus, STRS, Columbus
- Dec 7** OEA Representative Assembly, Veterans Memorial Auditorium, Columbus