



NEOEER -- Retired

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

OEA-R Delegate Caucus

The OEA-R Delegate Caucus was held December 5, 2015, at the STRS Building in Columbus. Thank you to NEOEA-Retired members who attended: **Homer O. Adams, Lynn Aring, Debbie Bernauer, Marsh Buckley, Beryl Burkle, Nanci DiBianca, William A. Dorsey, Marti Franks, Hazel Haffner, Peg Ham, Bonnie Harris, Lynnette R. Harris; Hank Haynes, Warren Hershberger, Norm Hillstrom, Joyce M. Hives; Gary Hollow, Adele Matias, Donna Smoot-Walters, and John Veverka.**

Speakers included the OEA Officers: Becky Higgins, Scott DiMauro, and Tim Myers; OEA Executive Director Sheryl Mathis; and STRS Deputy Executive Director/Member Benefits, Sandra Knoesel. Todd Jaeck, OEA Membership Consultant, was announced as the new OEA-R Staff Liaison.

The Caucus heard OEA-R Advisory Council Committee reports and voted to endorse Sophia Rodriguez for the position of NEA Director #2. Delegates contributed to OEA-FCPE. The Caucus heard and discussed a report from the Advisory Council to propose language to amend the OEA-R Guidelines to specify that the OEA-R Delegate Caucus is the supreme governing body of OEA-R.

Retired Representatives Needed for 2016 OEA-FCPE Screenings

The 2016 elections are less than a year away, but screening committees for the candidates are forming now.

NEOEER will recommend a retired member to serve on each OEA-FCPE House District screening committee within our borders. Each Screening Committee includes representatives from each active local within that House District and the one Retired representative. The Committees will review questionnaires and interview candidates for that office and then make a recommendation. Members of the three House District Committees within a Senate District will conduct the screening for the candidates for that Senate position.

We are still looking for a retired member for the screenings in House Districts 6, 36, 55, 57, 75, and 99. If you wish to be considered for appointment, please contact the NEOEA office with your request. You must be an OEA-R member and an FCPE contributor living in or near the House District. See the NEOEA-R website for a list of currently appointed retirees: <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/oea-fcpe-neoea-r/>.

To contribute to OEA-FCPE with a credit card, go to the OEA website and click on "Donate to FCPE" along the left side under "Quick Links".

This powerful FCPE video developed by Kevin Griffin of the Dublin EA explains the importance of contributing: <http://youtu.be/11XQDYkgboo>.

OEA-R Advisory Council Elections

Four positions on the **OEA-R Advisory Council** are open to NEOEA-Retired members and will be elected in March. The filing deadline is February 15, 2016.

- **OEA-R Representative to the OEA Board of Directors**
- **North Eastern Representative**
- **Support Professionals Representative**
- **Higher Education Representative**

The term of office for these positions begins September 1, 2016, and ends August 31, 2019. These positions serve as automatic delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly by virtue of office.

Download a Declaration of Candidacy Form at: <http://oea-r.ohea.us/page/election-information/>. Forms are to be submitted to OEA Secretary/Treasurer. Contact Carol Price at OEA (800) 282-1500 or (614) 227-3169 for more information.

Ohio NEA-R Delegate Election

The **2016 NEA Representative Assembly** will be held in Washington, DC, on July 2 – July 7, with the NEA-Retired Annual Conference on June 27-July 1. OEA-Retired is entitled to eight (8) NEA RA delegates for the 2016 NEA RA. The OEA-Retired Chairperson serves as an automatic NEA RA delegate by virtue of office; therefore, retired members will vote for no more than seven (7) candidates.

Download a Declaration of Candidacy Form at: <http://oea-r.ohea.us/page/election-information/>. Forms are to be submitted to OEA Secretary/Treasurer. Contact Carol Price at OEA (800) 282-1500 or (614) 227-3169 for more information.

2016 NEOEA-Retired Spring Conference

Mark your calendars. NEOEA-R will hold its seventh **Spring Retired Conference** at the NEOEA Conference Center on April 27, 2016.

Choose to attend two of four breakout sessions:

- Legislative Updates
- STRS/SERS Healthcare Overview
- NEA Member Benefits
- Travel Offerings and Strategies

All NEOEA-R and ORTA members in northeastern Ohio are invited. Bring a friend! The registration form will be available soon. Check the NEOEA-R website <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/>.

OEA-R Delegates Elected

In October 2015, OEA-R members elected 27 delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly from a field of 44 candidates. The 18 OEA-Retired Advisory Council members are automatic delegates by virtue of office, for a delegation of 45 delegates and 17 alternates by order of votes. Congratulations to the 23 Delegates and Alternates from NEOEA:

OEA-R Advisory Council:

Peg Ham, Lorain EA-R — OEA-R Secretary
Beryl Burkle, Bedford EA-R — NEOEA Representative
Adele Matias, Mayfield EA-R — ESP Representative
Bonnie Harris, YSU-ACE-R — Higher Ed Representative

Delegates (listed by votes received):

William Dorsey, Painesville City TA-R
Homer Adams, Parma EA-R
Marsh Buckley, Mentor TA-R
Hazel Haffner, Willoughby-Eastlake-R
Gary Hollow, Bristol-R
Nanci DiBianca, Cuyahoga Hts AT-R
Warren Hershberger, Barberton EA-R
Nancy Wonson, Lakewood TA-R
Donna Smoot-Walters, Barberton EA-R
Hank Haynes, ACCESS-R
Debbie Bernauer, Brecksville-Broadview Hts. EA-R
Lyn Curry-Huston, Cuyahoga Falls EA-R
Norm Hillstrom, Mentor TA-R
John Veverka, Bay TA-R
Gail Gentile, Akron TA-R

Alternates:

Lynn Aring, Bay TA-R
Marti Franks, Twinsburg EA-R
Joyce Hives, East Cleveland EA-R
Lynnette R. Harris, ACCESS-R

Delegates attend both the Fall and Spring Representative Assemblies of OEA while delegates from NEOEA also attend both of the NEOEA RAs. Prior to each OEA RA there is a delegate briefing with the OEA officers and reports from the OEA-R Advisory Council.

Returning to Work in Education?

Protect yourself, check out the current OEA membership requirements at <http://www.ohea.org/retired-membership-status>.

NEOEA Megaconference

The **2016 NEOEA Megaconference** will be held March 12 at Corporate College East, 4400 Richmond Road, Warrensville Heights. Registration and refreshments begin at 8:30 AM, and workshops begin at 9:00 AM with lunch concluding around 1:00 PM. The \$15 registration fee covers a continental breakfast, lunch, and parking.

Megaconference features twelve simultaneous breakouts in three one-hour time slots. Topics are offered in three theme categories: Leadership Development, Professional Development, and Personal Development. The NEOEA-R Organizing Committee is sponsoring three sessions: "State School Board Update," "Integrating Your Personal Technology"; and "Charter Schools: What Voters and Taxpayers Need to Know." In addition, several other committees have sponsored general-interest sessions that will be of interest to NEOEA's retired members.

For the complete information visit the NEOEA Mega page: <http://www.neoea.org/Mega/>. Graduate credit from Lake Erie College is also available for \$180 for one semester hour.

OEA Pre-Retired Workshop

OEA-R will be conducting a special workshop for **active OEA members** to learn about the benefits of joining OEA-R as a Pre-Retired member prior to their retirement date.

The workshop will be held after the **NEOEA Megaconference** at Corporate College East, 4400 Richmond Road, Warrensville Heights from 1:00 PM—2:30 PM. There is no charge for this workshop.

The program will include an STRS Update, NEA Member Benefits, and information on wills and estate planning.

It will be informative and interactively designed with questions and answers. All members, retirees, and guests are welcome. Please invite any friends who are still working and approaching their retirement date.



Read Across America

Beryl Burkle, OEA-R Advisory Council

Plan to join us March 2016. You pick the day, the time and the place. I want to help you have a wonderful Read Across America experience. Links to materials and resources are at: <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/read-across-america/>.

Let students know the joy of reading is a lifelong skill and it is fun. Be sure to volunteer by next February. Let me know what you are planning or that you need a place to read. Volunteer alone or bring along a friend. Talk to others that have enjoyed Read Across America. NEOEA-R Outreach Committee — Call 330-659-3928 or berylburkle@gmail.com.

Gary Hollow produced a great video for Read Across America and entered the OEA Contest. The YouTube videos are at:

- 2015—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJIAn6ivFk>
- 2014— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8OvyLx0In8>

Ohio's Intergenerational Mentoring Program

By Marti Huss, OEA-R State Coordinator

The 2014-15 NEA-R grant request for Ohio's Intergenerational Mentoring Program was for the full \$5,000.00; we received \$4,900.00 from NEA-R to continue the programming we initiated in 2008.

Our newest Intergenerational Mentoring Program was begun at Youngstown State University in 2014 with 15 students and 9 mentors participating. Under the leadership of Harold Wilson and Bonnie Harris, Youngstown State University has 7 retired teachers and 13 students participating for 2015-16.

Kent State University, facilitated by Nanci DiBianca and Beryl Burkle, completed its seventh year in the program with 14 students and 13 retired teachers participating. For 2015-16, there are 18 students and 13 mentors participating.

Miami University, facilitated by Marti Huss, completed their 6th year with 35 students and

22 retired teachers. For 2015-16, there are 23 mentors and 28 students participating.

Ohio University had 14 students and 10 mentors for their fifth year in the program. Marilyn Allen is the facilitator. For 2015-16, Ohio University has 9 mentors and 10 students participating.

The Ohio State University facilitator is Vivian Brown. For their fourth year of participation, there were 23 students and 21 retired teachers participating. For the current program, there are 17 mentors and 23 students participating.

Ohio University-Lancaster, under the leadership of Sue Christian, had 20 students and 15 mentors participate in 2014-15. Beginning their fourth year in the program, OU-L has 10 mentors and 21 students participating.

Our total student participation on the college campuses reached its highest level of 131 for 2014; this year we have 113. Our mentor numbers decreased from 86 for 2014-15 to 79 for the current school year.

Retirement System Reports

Get the current OEA report on the three retirement systems at <http://www.ohea.org/retirement-systems-updates>.

Adele Matias, OEA-R ESP Representative, attends SERS meetings. Adele's reports are at <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/sers-reports/>. Visit the SERS site for complete information: <http://www.ohsers.org/>

OAESP State Conference

The Ohio Association of ESP (OAESP) is hosting a state conference for ESP, active and retired in Columbus at OEA Headquarters. The conference will be Feb. 27, 2016. Registration begins Jan. 4, 2016.

Scholarships will be available so check the OAESP website <http://oaesp.ohea.us/> in January for more information.

2016 OEA-Retired Spring Conference

Mark your calendars. OEA-R will hold its 2016 Spring Retired Conference at the STRS Building 7th Floor on April 26, 2016. The schedule includes:

- Legislative Update
- NEA Value Builder Program
- Columbus Museum of Art Overview and Tour

All OEA-R members in are invited. Bring a friend! Download a registration form at <http://oea-r.ohea.us/files/2014/12/OEA-R2016SpringConference.pdf>. Check the OEA-R website <http://oea-r.ohea.us/>.

NEA ESP National Conference

The 2016 NEA Education Support Professionals (ESP) Conference will be held March 11-13, at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista hotel in Orlando, Florida. Conference registration will close January 29, 2016. For more information, go to the NEA ESP web page at: <http://www.nea.org/grants/31430.htm>.

The goal of this conference is to enhance the skills and knowledge of ESP members to positively impact student achievement, build community relations, organize members, advocate for educators, build stronger locals, and help our members do their jobs better.

NEOEA made available three \$900 scholarships for NEOEA Education Support Professional members to attend the conference.

2016 NEA Retired Organizing Conference

The 2016 NEA-Retired Organizing Conference - "Unite, Inspire, Lead: Still Doing It" is the theme for the 2016 conference. The conference is devoted to training retired members to organize their communities to advance the cause of public education.

Scheduled for March 22-24, 2016 the conference will be held at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina, San Diego, CA. The event will feature national speakers, skill development and knowledge building,

workshops, fun times as well as opportunities to network with peers.

Registration for the 2016 Retired Organizing Conference is now open. Please go to the NEA-Retired webpage at <http://www.nea.org/home/1598.htm> and click on the links to register for the conference and make your hotel reservation. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Willie Cook at wcook@nea.org.

NEOEA Discounts

Check the **NEOEA.org** website for complete information on these valuable discounts visit <http://neoea.org/resources/member-benefits/>

- **OEA Attorney Referral Program:** login at the OEA Member Services page <https://www.ohea.org/legal-services> or download <http://www.neoea.org/ARP.pdf>
- **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. Our password is **NEOEA0613e** or call 330-273-5756. <http://www.bbcmember.com/>
- **Honeybaked Ham:** Order on the Best Benefits Club website (password: NEOEA0613e) to buy Honeybaked Ham gift certificates and save 12%. You can check out the menu at <http://www.honeybaked.com/>
- **Playhouse Square:** Tickets at a discounted rate with a flat \$7 handling fee. Use the promotional code FAMTIX. <http://www.playhousesquare.org/ceo>
- **Great Lakes Science Center:** Join their educator membership program and share your love of science with your family! Enjoy free, unlimited general admission to the Science Center and the Mather Steamship for a full year plus free general admission to more than 340 science centers worldwide. For information on their discounted educator memberships, call 216-696-4576 or visit <http://www.greatscience.com/educators.aspx>.
- **Park Place:** Discount airport parking. <http://www.neoea.org/ParkPlace.pdf>





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NEOEA-R Organizing Committee:

- Nancy Wonson, Lakewood TA-R, Chairperson
- Dennis Lewis, Parma EA-R, Vice Chair
- Donna Smoot-Walters, Barberton EA-R, Secretary
- Gary Hollow, Bristol-R, Past Chair
- Peg Ham, Lorain EA-R,
OEA-R Secretary
- Beryl Burkle, Bedford EA-R, NEOEA Liaison &
OEA-R NEOEA Representative
- Adele Matias, Mayfield EA-R,
OEA-R ESP Representative
- Hank Haynes, ACCESS-R, web/newsletter editor
- Deb Bakos, Cardinal EA-R
- Debbie Bernauer, Brecksville-Broadview EA-R
- Rhonda Braylock, East Cleveland EA-R
- Barbara Catalano, Mayfield EA-R
- Dave Ciborek, Twinsburg EA-R
- Pat Cohen, LEADD-R
- Lyn Curry-Huston, Cuyahoga Falls EA-R
- Pat Czech, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake TA-R
- Nanci DiBianca, Cuyahoga Hts. TA-R
- Carol Dolgosh, Lakewood TA-R
- Martha Dunford, Perry EA-R
- Sue Fatica, Painesville City TA-R
- Patricia Frost-Brooks, East Cleveland EA-R
- Hazel Haffner, Willoughby-Eastlake TA-R
- Norman Hillstrom, Mentor TA-R
- Joyce Hives, East Cleveland EA-R
- Richard Javorek, Brunswick EA-R
- Dale Kain, Mayfield EA-R
- Mary Keefe, Maple Hts. TA-R
- Sherri Koncija, Painesville City TA-R
- Patricia Sharkey, North Ridgeville EA-R
- Pat Waggar, Mayfield EA-R

Address Service Requested

- **Dollar Bank:** Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <http://www.dollarbank.com/neoea/>
- **Liberty Mutual:** Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <https://www.libertymutual.com/neoea>

New NEOEA Website

Visit the new NEOEA website at <http://www.neo.org/>.

Be sure to register on the site to take advantage of all of the information that is available. After you complete the registration process, you will receive an email with a temporary password. Then log in and enjoy the new site and your *NEOEA News & Views*.

Looking for more information?

- NEOEA-Retired – <http://neo.org/neoea-r.ohea.us/>
- NEOEA – <http://www.neo.org/>
- NEOEA Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/NEOEA>
- OEA-Retired – <http://oea-r.ohea.us/>
- OEA – <http://www.ohea.org/>

NEOEA Calendar

- February 8** NEOEA Legislative Receptions, four locations throughout NE Ohio
- February 9** NEOEA-Retired Organizing Com, NEOEA Office
- February 15** NEA-R Delegates Declaration of Candidacy Forms due to OEA Secretary-Treasurer
- February 15** OEA-R Advisory Council Officers and Representatives Declaration of Candidacy Forms due to OEA Secretary-Treasurer
- February 27** OAESP State Conference, OEA Headquarters, Columbus, OH
- March 1-31** Read Across America
- March 11-12** NEA ESP Conference, Orlando, FL
- March 12** NEOEA Megaconference
- March 22-24** NEA-Retired Organizing Conference, San Diego, CA
- April 9** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Tallmadge HS
- April 26** OEA-Retired Spring Conference, STRS Building

- April 27** NEOEA-Retired Spring Conference, NEOEA Office
- May 12** OEA-Retired Delegate Caucus, STRS, Columbus, OH
- May 13-14** OEA Representative Assembly, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH
- June 10** NEOEA Emerging Leaders Cookout, NEOEA Office
- June 22-23** NEOEA Summer Leadership Conference, Holiday Inn, Independence, OH

Update Your Contact Information

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

