



NEOEA -- 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

2018 OEA-FCPE Candidate Screening Committees

OEA-FCPE Candidate Screening Committees are forming this fall. In the spring, the committees will screen and endorse candidates for the Ohio General Assembly based on OEA legislative and educational priorities. One retiree will be appointed to each House District Screening Committee along with representatives from each local association whose school district is wholly or partially within that House District. The committees will choose a Chair and Vice Chair as well as a Delegate and Alternate to the OEA-FCPE Convention. The three House District committees within a Senate District combine to form the Senate District Committee and select a Chair, Vice Chair, Delegate, and Alternate.

Interested in serving? Please contact NEOEA President Jeff Wensing or NEOEA Executive Director Mary Alice Conkey by October 6, 2017. Most people are appointed to serve on the House District Committee in which they live, but on occasion you may be asked to serve on an adjoining House District Committee. Members not recommended for appointment will be considered for Alternate positions.

This year, rather than organizational meetings for the House District Screening Committees being held separately by LRC liaisons, the meetings will be grouped by the three NEOEA District Screening Councils on three dates: October 16, November 20, and December 11. Each DSC group will be assigned to one of the dates and a location east, west, or central as arrangements are finalized.

Members who were recommended in the last cycle were contacted about their intention to continue. If you did not reply to that email, be sure to make your intentions known.

Retired Lunch Leaders Needed

For the past few years, NEOEA has had a system of holding retired luncheons in the various counties making up northeastern Ohio. The purposes of the program are to provide an enjoyable event for our retired members and to promote communication between retired members and their leaders within the Association. Participants have been appreciative of the county luncheons and have advised us to continue the program.

If you'd be willing to organize a luncheon, please send an email to desk@neoea.org so that you can be put on our luncheon leaders list. Current luncheon leaders include Debbie Bernauer, Barb Catalano, Carol Dolgosh, Marti Franks, Peg Ham, Dennis Lewis, and Donna Smoot-Walters.

OEA Higher Education Member Benefit

OEA, in partnership with Eastern Gateway Community College, has created a Higher Education Benefit enabling you and your family members to earn an associate degree online from a public, accredited community college – with no out-of-pocket costs to you.

The program is available to OEA members, retired OEA members, and family of OEA members. The Higher Education Benefit covers any amount for tuition, fees, or books that is not covered by federal or employer education grants. Family of OEA members are defined as children (or stepchildren), grandchildren (or step-grandchildren), spouses, domestic partners, and financial dependents. For more information: <https://freecollege.ohea.org/> or <https://ohea.org/resources/professional-resources/higher-education-benefits/>.

Degree programs include: Business Management Degree; Concentrations in the Business Management Degree (Human Resources, Healthcare Management, Marketing, and Finance); Accounting Degree; Patient Home Navigator Certificate; Associate of Arts Degree; Criminal Justice Degree; Paralegal Degree; Early Childhood Education Degree; and Associate of Individualized Study Degree.

NEOEA Labor Day Events

By Bill Lavezzi

It's safe to assume that northeastern Ohio educators have participated in Labor Day activities since Labor Day became a federal holiday in 1894. And for over a decade, NEOEA has participated officially in several annual Labor Day events. If you missed the following free events this year, consider joining the fun on Labor Day weekend in 2018!

- On Saturday, September 2, the North Shore Federation of Labor held its fifth annual Labor Day Festival at James Day Park in Parma. NEOEA had a booth there, and retired and active members shared festivities with the public and other union members.
- On Sunday, September 3, the organized labor unions of Lorain County held their 21st annual Labor Day Family Celebration at Black River Landing in Lorain. NEOEA and several OEA locals had booths there to share in the activities with other union families.
- On Labor Day itself--Monday, September 4--NEOEA Day active and retired members participated in two large Labor Day parades. The Labor Day Parade in Barberton claims to be Ohio's largest Labor Day event, while the 11th Congressional District parade and

festival in Cleveland has long been an important gathering for unions, public officials, and candidates.

NEOEA expects to continue supporting these events, and retired members are welcome to participate along with our active members. Because Labor Day is organized between issues of our newsletters, the best way to get information is to join NEOEA's Labor Solidarity Interest Group, a free email subscription available at <http://neoea.org/EmailListSignUp.pdf>.

Ohio Issue 2 - OEA Report

The Ohio Issue 2 - Drug Price Relief Act (2017) has been gaining a lot of attention. OEA has not yet taken a position on this initiative; however, OEA Governmental Services has prepared a report to educate members on the issues involved.

Download the Ohio Issue 2 - OEA Report.: <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/files/2017/09/Ohio-Issue-2-OEA-Report.pdf>.

At the OEA Retired Fall Conference on September 14, 2017, STRS representatives reported that they, too, were studying the affects of the initiative on STRS Health Care programs. Expect a decision from STRS soon.

POP5 - Protect Our Pensions - OEA Report

Many members have again received a solicitation from an organization called Protect Our Pensions, also known as POP5. OEA and OEA Retired want you to know that while there does not appear to be any inherent conflict between the stated goals of POP5 and OEA, it is important to note that there is nothing that POP5 is seeking to accomplish that OEA and our allies are not already working on.

Download the POP5 - OEA Report: <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/files/2017/09/POP5-OEA-Report.pdf>.

Donate to OEA-FCPE

<https://www.ohea.org/donate/>.

OEA-Retired Delegate Election

OEA-R delegates will be elected during October by online and mail-in ballot. Look for information by email and US Mail. Please support candidates from NEOEA-R.

OEA-R Delegates will meet at the STRS Building prior to the OEA Representative Assembly. Over forty delegates will be elected from across the state.

OEA-R leadership is now posting meeting summaries and minutes of the OEA-R Advisory Council, OEA-R Delegate Assembly, and the OEA Board of Directors on the Documents/Reports page of the OEA-R website at <http://oea-r.ohea.us/>.

OEA-Retired Spring Conference

Mark your calendars. Wednesday April 18, 2018, at the Carillon Historical Park, 1000 Carillon Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.

- Registration: 9:40 - 10:15 AM
- STRS/SERS Presentation
- Fun activity
- Lunch
- Celebrating retirement
- Ending Time 2:15 PM

Sponsored by SWOEA and WOEa Districts. Contact OEA-R Advisory Council Reps Judy Buschle judybuschle@aol.com or Phil Long paicis@gmail.com.

RSVP by April 11, 2018, to SWOEA Office, C/O Claudia Miller, 270 Northland Blvd., P.O. Box 224, Cincinnati, OH 45246.

\$25.00 per person. All OEA-R members in are invited. Bring a friend! Download a registration form: <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/files/2017/09/2018-OEA-R-SPRING-CONFERENCE.pdf>. For hotel accommodations contact Marriott Courtyard.

A Christmas Story

Reservations due Sunday, October 29, for A *Christmas Story* at Cleveland Play House. Discount Price = \$35—Reg. Price = \$70. Saturday November 25, 2017 @ 2:30 p.m. Sunday November 26, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. <http://www.neoea.org/CPH-ACS.pdf>.

NEOEA-Retired Organizing Committee Report

By Nancy Wonson, Chairperson

- **NEOEA-R Facebook page:** Keep up-to-date on information from OEA, OEA-R, and NEOEA-R. Join our Facebook page. Search NEOEA RETIRED, then ask to "join" and you will be approved quickly. You will see both state and national issues as well as fun local activities involving our members.
- **Are You a Volunteer? Does Your Organization Need Help?** NEOEA-R is looking to connect NEOEA retirees with your organization. Submit the details on the NEOEA-R website, <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/volunteers/> and we will post them on our Volunteer page.

NEOEA Day – Friday, October 13

Deadlines are approaching! Retirees will find many interesting trips and site visits in addition to the annual favorites. Download the 2017 NEOEA Day Catalog: <http://www.neoea.org/ND2017.pdf>. For more information, visit the NEOEA Day page: https://neoea.org/neoea_day/neoea-day/.

NEA & OEA Discounts



Enjoy financial programs and discounts offered by **NEA Member Benefits:**

- Savings & investment programs
- Credit, home financing and loan programs
- Special member-only discounts through the NEA Click & Save program

For questions call 1.800.637.4636 (toll free); <https://www.neamb.com/>.



NEA Click & Save, the online discount buying service for NEA members, highlights select retailers and merchants each month. Stop by <http://www.neamb.com/clickandsave>

every month to see the featured “Buy-lights” for that month.



Save even more with your OEA membership and the **OEA ACCESS** program:

- A wide range of professional services and benefits
- Professional liability coverage
- OEA/NEA periodicals and publications
- Member-only discounts and services at many local and national businesses

Login with the 10-digit number on your OEA membership card.

For questions, call 1-866-203-5167.

The Savings Really Add Up! Log in today and discover: <https://ohea.org/member-center/member-benefits/>.

NEOEA Day Weekend — Two Tours Available!

NEW YORK CITY — OCTOBER 12-15, 2017! NEOEA Day will be here before you know it, and now is the time to make your reservation. New York City tour includes lodging for one night in Pennsylvania, two nights lodging in New York City, a guided city tour, and dinner on the way home. A ticket for one Broadway Show, the 911 Memorial Museum, and dinner at Carmine's in NYC are optional. More details are available at <http://www.neoea.org/NYC2017.pdf>.

WINERIES, CASTLES, AND CRUISING IN THE 1000 ISLANDS, NEW YORK —

OCTOBER 13-15, 2017! Our deluxe motor coach will depart to the 1000 Islands. At our first stop we will watch as a chef creates our 3-course wine pairing lunch. After lunch we will continue to the 1000 Islands and check into the Bonnie Castle Hotel. On Saturday, we will board Clayton Island Tours boat for a Boldt Castle and Two-Nation Tour. We will continue to Coyote Moon Vineyard for lunch and wine tasting. Following lunch we will have a wine tasting at Northern Flow Winery, Otter Creek Winery for a wine tasting with chocolate pairing, and then to the St. Lawrence Spirits Distillery. On Sunday, our first stop of the day is at Thousand Island Winery for a tour and tasting. After our tasting we will visit Tibbett's Point Lighthouse in Cape Vincent. Our last stop before heading home

is Cape Winery for a 5-course wine pairing lunch in an historic barn. After lunch enjoy a wine tasting. Dinner is on your own, and approximate arrival time in Austintown will be around 9:30 p.m. More details are available at <http://www.neoea.org/WineTour2017.pdf>.

NEOEA Discounts

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

- **Best Benefits Club:** 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. Each member must register individually with the website in order to have access to the discounts. On the website, click on the Login tab near the top of the page. Click on the words REGISTER HERE, and use the activation code NEOEA0613 when filling out the small form that comes up. Users will now be required to make up their own username and password. For answers to BBC questions, you can call BBC at 330-273-5756. The office in Brunswick is open Monday through Friday between 9:00 and 4:00. <http://www.bbcmember.com/>.
- **Bright Now! Dental:** has been involved in the union community for nearly 40 years and is pleased to be providing the NEOEA an exclusive discount on general and specialty dental care. Whether you have dental benefits or not, you will experience cost savings of up to 35% on general dentistry and 30% on specialty dentistry. This is not an insurance plan. There is no cost to participate and no restrictions. Your choice to receive dental care at one of their offices is voluntary. There are 7 locations in Cleveland making access to one of their offices convenient. Evening and weekend hours are also available. <https://www.brightnow.com/>.
- **Dollar Bank:** Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <http://www.dollarbank.com/neoea/>.
- **Energy Price Choice:** Confused about how and where to get the lowest prices

for your natural gas and electricity? <https://energypricechoice.com/NEOEA> is an unbiased energy marketplace that compares energy prices automatically for you. It takes less than 5 minutes to get the best possible price without hours of confusing research and hidden catches.

- **Great Big Home and Garden Show** at the I-X Center: NEOEA members are eligible for discounts to the Great Big Home and Garden show held each year in February.
- **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>.
- **Liberty Mutual:** Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <https://www.libertymutual.com/neoea>.
- **Park Place:** Discount airport parking. <http://www.neoea.org/ParkPlace.pdf>.
- **Playhouse Square:** Tickets at a discounted rate with a flat \$7 handling fee. Use the promotional code FAMTIX; then select NEOEA. <http://www.playhousesquare.org/ceo>.
- **OEA Attorney Referral Program:** login at the OEA Member Services page <https://www.ohea.org/legal-services>.

Need to 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://neoea-r.ohea.us/contact-us/>. Don't have internet access? Just call the NEOEA Office at 216-518-0200.

infOEA Contact Center

OEA has set up infOEA--a one-stop contact center--to provide assistance to our members with questions they may have.

Update your contact information with OEA at: **1-844-OEA-info (1 844 632 4636)** or membership@ohea.org.



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NEOEA-R Organizing Committee:

- Nancy Wonson, Lakewood TA-R, Chairperson
- Dennis Lewis, Parma EA-R, Vice Chair
- Sherri Koncilja, Painesville City TA-R, Secretary
- Gary Hollow, Bristol-R, Past Chair
- Peg Ham, Lorain EA-R, OEA-R Secretary
- Barbara Catalano, Mayfield EA-R,
OEA-R ESP Representative
- Marsh Buckley, NEOEA Liaison &
OEA-R NEOEA Representative
- Hank Haynes, ACCESS-R, web/newsletter editor
- Debbie Bernauer, Brecksville-Broadview EA-R
- Rhonda Braylock, East Cleveland EA-R
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- Lyn Curry-Huston, Cuyahoga Falls EA-R
- Pat Czech, Sheffield-Sheffield Lake TA-R
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- Sue Fatica, Painesville City TA-R
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- Joyce Hives, East Cleveland EA-R
- Mary Keefe, Maple Hts. TA-R
- Bill Lavezzi, Aurora EA-R
- Adele Matias, Mayfield EA-R
- Patricia Sharkey, North Ridgeville EA-R
- Donna Smoot-Walters, Barberton EA-R
- Pat Wagar, Mayfield EA-R

Address Service Requested

Miss Your News and Views?

NEOEA's newsletter *News and Views* is aimed at active members, but many retired members tell us that they would like to continue receiving it after retirement. Fortunately, there's an easy way to do so: each issue of *News and Views* is available online at <http://neoea.org/>. First register at <http://neoea.org/register/> -- it's easy and free. Once registered, you'll have access to the Members-Only page, which has recent issues for download.

Looking for More Information?

- NEOEA-Retired – <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/>
- NEOEA Retired on Facebook
- NEOEA – <http://www.neoea.org/>
- NEOEA on Facebook
- OEA-Retired – <http://oea-r.ohea.us/>
- OEA – Retired on Facebook
- OEA – <http://www.ohea.org/>
- OhioEA on Facebook
- NEA – <http://www.nea.org/>
- NEA Today on Facebook

NEOEA Calendar

- October 12-15** NEOEA New York City Tour
- October 13-15** NEOEA Wineries, Castles, and Cruising in the 1000 Islands Tour
- October 13** NEOEA Day professional workshops, various locations
- October 13** NEOEA Environmental Concerns Green Tour, Program #3 of NEOEA Day, West Side Market and W. 25th St. businesses
- November 7** General Election Day, Support Pro-Education Candidates
- November 11** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Harding HS, Warren, OH
- December 1** OEA-Retired Delegate Assembly, STRS Building, Columbus
- December 2** OEA Representative Assembly, Ohio Expo, Voinovich Center, 717 East 17th Avenue, Columbus, OH

NEOEA Special Interest Groups

NEOEA maintains eighteen email lists for members who want to receive news and updates from NEOEA on a particular topic. Members can sign up for as many topics as they want.

Download a sign up form at <http://www.neoea.org/EmailListSignUp.pdf> or

Scan the QR Code to see the lists and sign up.

