



NEOEAA -- 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 Election in October

OEA-R members should look for their OEA-R Delegate Ballot in the mail during the month of October. Please mark and return your ballots promptly to OEA no later than Friday, October 23, 2015.

OEA-R members will elect 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.

Please support the 19 candidates from NEOEA: **Homer O. Adams, Lynn Aring, Debbie Bernauer, Marsh Buckley, Lyn Curry-Huston; Nanci DiBianca, William A. Dorsey, Marti Franks, Gail M. Gentile, Hazel Haffner, Lynnette R. Harris; Hank Haynes, Warren Hershberger, Norm Hillstrom, Joyce M. Hives; Gary Hollow, Donna Smoot-Walters, John Veverka, and Nancy Wonson.**

Delegates attend both the Fall and Spring OEA Representative Assemblies and on the day before, a delegate briefing with the OEA officers and reports from the OEA-R Advisory Council. Delegates from NEOEA also attend the Fall and Spring NEOEA RAs.

Retired Representatives Needed for 2016 OEA-FCPE Screenings

The 2016 elections are over a year away, but (as you've probably heard in the news) planning for those elections is already underway.

In 2014, OEA began asking district associations like NEOEA to appoint a retired representative to each of the OEA-FCPE House District screening committees within their borders. In our case, that's 33 house districts. Each House District Screening Committee includes representatives from each 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.

If you wish to be considered for appointment to an OEA-FCPE House District Committee in your area, 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.

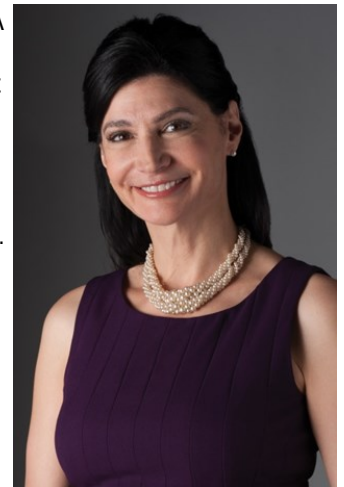
To contribute to OEA-FCPE with a credit card, go to the OEA website and click on "Donate to FCPE" along the left side under "Quick Links".

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

Northeastern Ohio Welcoming NEA President Lily Ekselsen García

Lily Ekselsen García, President of the National Education Association, will be the keynote speaker at NEOEA's fall Representative Assembly at Bay High School on November 7. Visitors are welcome, you do not need to be a delegate.

This is the first time that a sitting NEA President has spoken at an NEOEA Representative Assembly, but it's not Lily's first encounter with NEOEA: she was a member of the NEA Executive Committee in 2001 when she was the keynote speaker at our first Summer Leadership Conference. Since then, she has served as NEA's Secretary-Treasurer and Vice President, and she was elected NEA President in 2014.



She has become a vocal critic of the standardized testing movement and raised alarms on the outside role that testing is playing in public education: taking over the time students spend in the classroom, being used as a weapon against their teachers, and distracting from real problem of inequality.

Lily will be busy while she is here: she will meet with the editorial board of *The Plain Dealer* and appear as a Friday Forum speaker at the City Club of Cleveland.

OEA-R Statewide Fall Conference

The OEA-R Statewide Fall Conference was held September 3, 2015 at the STRS Building in Columbus. Thank you to NEOEA-Retired members who attended: **Kim Backus, Debbie Bernauer, Beryl Burkle, Hazel Haffner, Bonnie Harris, Hank Haynes, Mary Keefe, Adele Matias, Rebecca Moore, Tom Moscovic, Patricia Sharkey, Donna Smoot-Walters, and Harold Wilson.**

Speakers included the OEA Officers, OEA Executive Director Sheryl Mathis, OEA-R Staff Liaison Dinica Williams, and STRS Executive Director Mike Nehf.

OEA-Retired members enjoyed lunch and up to date information about the OEA-R Intergenerational Mentoring Program.

An overview of the Ohio Charter School Accountability Project was presented. Visit the website at <http://knowyourcharter.com/>.

Greg Nickell, STRS Director of Health Care Services, provided an overview of the 2016 STRS Health Care Program. STRS packets will be mailed in the 3rd week of October and plan selections must be made November 1-24, 2015.

Norman Wernet and Bentley Davis from the Ohio Alliance of Retired Americans provided an update of their activities. For more information go to <https://www.facebook.com/OhioARA>.

Rally in Columbus

By Marti Franks, NEOEA Labor Liaison

NEOEA Retirees, **Dave Ciborek, Debbie Bernauer, Marti Franks, Gary Hollow, and Tom Mosovic** joined thousands of union members in Columbus on Friday, August 21.

They came to show solidarity with their brothers and sisters and to demonstrate the importance of fairness in the work place. They rode to Columbus on a bus sponsored by the AFL-CIO.

OEA was represented by Mary Binegar, retired Urbana teacher, who shared the concerns of education workers in the state and in the country. President of Ohio AFL-CIO, Tim Burga, was the main speaker. He was joined by Secretary-Treasurer, Petee Talley, and others.

The purpose of the Rally was to protest the national gathering of the extreme right-wing group called Americans for Prosperity (Koch Brothers) and their anti-worker agenda to make Right to Work the law of Ohio and the entire country.

Americans for Prosperity was holding its national summit at the Columbus Convention Center and one of the conference sessions was entitled, "Right to Work: Understanding the Case for Worker Freedom of Choice."

It was an exciting event and the first of many. This was a perfect opportunity for retirees to help in the fight for good public education and to support labor unions.

For more information see the Ohio AFL-CIO website article at <http://ohioaflcio.com/over-3000-working-people-defendthedream-in-columbus/>.

Read Across America Report

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=IJIJin6ivFK>
- 2014—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8OvylX0ln8>

Intergenerational Mentoring Program Report

Beryl Burkle, OEA-R Advisory Council

We are planning retired events for 2015-2016. The Intergenerational Mentoring Program at Kent State University and Youngstown State University are seeking additional mentors. You will be matched with an education student in the College of Education.

Mentors have retired from their jobs, but not their profession! Please volunteer by calling the NEOEA Office (800-354-6794). Linda Grunden will take your name and address and how we can contact you. We will answer all questions ASAP. WE NEED YOU!

The NEA grant for Intergenerational Mentoring enabled OEA-R to establish the Intergenerational Mentoring Program which matches retirees with education majors on college campuses to give them an experienced educator to consult for advice. This program has received nationwide recognition and the participants in the program have presented national workshops for NEA-Retired.

NEOEA Day—October 16

NEOEA Day is Friday, October 16, 2015. Thirty-nine high quality workshops will be presented at various locations throughout northeastern Ohio. Complete information is at http://neoea.org/neoea_day/neoea-day/. You can download the NEOEA Day Catalog at <http://neoea.org/wp-content/uploads/ND2015.pdf>.

In addition in to the many workshop presentations there are two trips :

New York, New York!—October 15-18. Tour master Dave Baker has a wonderful line-up of events. We are waiting to see what new Broadway Show will be opening in 2015. Once we decide on the shows to be offered, we will inform you of those choices, their cost, Any shows offered will be on Friday night, and you can purchase one of them or choose to get a ticket to another show on your own. Also a visit to the 911 Memorial Museum: Adults (18-64 years old) – \$24 U.S. Veterans or College Students – \$18 Seniors (65+ years old) – \$18 Youth (7-17 years old) – \$15. You may also choose Dinner at Carmine's for \$42 per person. <http://www.neoea.org/NYC2015.pdf>.

Philadelphia and Gettysburg!—October 16-18. Tour some of America's most famous historic sites including Dobbin House Tavern, the Gettysburg battlefield, Independence National Historic Park, Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, America's First Post Office, Betsy Ross House, Battleship New Jersey, a ghost tour of Philadelphia, a tour of the Eastern State Penitentiary (home to some of the most notorious criminals such as Al Capone and Willie Sutton), and a guided mural art tour of Philadelphia (world's largest collection of outdoor public art! <http://www.neoea.org/ND-PhilGet2015.pdf>

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/>

NEOEA-Retired Organizing Committees in High Gear

Congratulations to the incoming Retired Organizing Committee Officers: **Nancy Wonson, Chair; Dennis Lewis, Vice-Chair; and Donna Smoot-Walters, Secretary.** NEOEA-R members owe a big thank you to **Gary Hollow** who served many years as Chair and **Adele Matias** who served as Secretary. **Nancy Wonson** previously served as Vice-Chair.

The NEOEA-Retired Organizing Committee met on September 15 and finalized a Sub-Committees roster along with Mission and Action Statements which are now posted on the NEOEA-R website. The Sub-Committees met to plan their activities for the year and will continue to communicate through email and the NEOEA-R website. For more information <http://neoea-r.ohea.us/neoea-r-sub-committees/>

Be on the look-out for an email announcing an NEOEA-Retired luncheon meeting in your area. The last round of meetings were well attended and offered retirees a chance to meet other retirees in their area and receive valuable information about Association programs.

The NEOEA-Retired Organizing Committee meets three times a year to provide programs to promote the welfare of retired members of NEOEA; identify concerns of retired members as topics for training workshops and social opportunities; serve as a link between retired members from NEOEA; and foster communication with other OEA-R members.

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

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.

Join Us for Cleveland Play House Performances

The Cleveland Play House has received a lot of attention recently. Founded in 1915, CPH moved to Playhouse Square in 2011, received the 2015 Regional Theatre Tony Award, and is celebrating its centennial in 2015-16. Now, NEOEA members can take advantage of NEOEA discounts for selected Cleveland Play House productions.

Members can access special pricing for two upcoming productions this fall: Arthur Miller's classic American drama *The Crucible* and the holiday favorite *A Christmas Story*, based on stories by Jean Shepherd.

The Crucible: NEOEA members can obtain \$68 tickets for \$49 to *The Crucible* performance on Thursday, October 22; the deadline for orders is Friday, October 2.

A Christmas Story: NEOEA members can obtain \$78 tickets for \$57 to *A Christmas Story* on Thursday, December 10; the deadline for orders is Friday, November 20.

To order, go to <https://clevelandplayhouse.groupmatics.events/> and enter the access code "NEOEA". You'll be prompted to create a free user account and place your order online. For more information about the shows or the Cleveland Play House itself, go to <http://www.clevelandplayhouse.com/>.

NEA ESP National Conference

The annual NEA ESP National Conference will take place this year at the Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, on March 11-13, 2016. NEOEA will make available three \$900 scholarships for NEOEA Education Support Professional members to attend the conference. To be eligible for this scholarship, applications must be received at the NEOEA office no later than Friday, December 4, 2015. Download the application from at http://www.neoea.org/ESP_Scholarship.pdf.

After attending the conference, recipients must attend the ESP Organizing Committee meeting on Saturday, April 16, 2016, to share their experiences at the national conference. Winners will be responsible for making their own registration, room, and travel

arrangements using conference registration materials available from Labor Relations Consultants and on the NEA website. Registrations are due to NEA by late January 2016. For more information, go to the NEA ESP web page at: <http://www.nea.org/grants/31430.htm>.

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/>
- **Cleveland Play House**: Join us for two performances: "The Crucible" and "A Christmas Story.". <http://www.neoea.org/ClevelandPlayHouse.pdf>
- **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
- 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
- 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
- Peg Ham, Lorain EA-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 Koncijija, Painesville City TA-R
- Patricia Sharkey, North Ridgeville EA-R
- Pat Wagar, 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 Now Live

Finally, after many months the new NEOEA website is now up and running at the same URL: <http://www.neoaea.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.

We are still working out a few kinks in the links, but everything is available by a working link on one of the pages. So please bear with us as we strive to create a beautiful and functional site where you can find the information you need quickly and efficiently.

NEOEA Calendar

- October 15-18** NEOEA Day—New York City tour
- October 16** NEOEA Day, various locations throughout NE Ohio.
- October 16-18** NEOEA Day—Philadelphia and Gettysburg tour
- November 3** Election Day
- November 7** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Bay HS
- December 5** OEA Representative Assembly, Ohio Expo, Voinovich Center, Columbus, NEOEA Legislative Receptions, four locations throughout NE Ohio
- February 8** Read Across America
- March 1-31** NEOEA Megaconference
- March 12** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Tallmadge HS
- April 9** NEOEA-Retired Spring Conference, NEOEA Office
- April 26** OEA Representative Assembly, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH
- May 13-14** NEOEA Summer Leadership Conference, TBA
- June 22-23** NEOEA Summer Leadership Conference, TBA

Looking for More Information?

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

Miss Your NEOEA News & Views? – You will find them on the NEOEA website.

