



## OEA-R Advisory Council Officer Elections

The following positions on the OEA-R Advisory Council have a filing deadline of February 15, 2019. Forms are to be submitted to OEA Secretary/Treasurer: **OEA-R OEA Board of Directors; OEA-R Higher Education; OEA-R ESP; East Central (ending 2020); North Eastern; South Western; and Western.**

Most of the above positions are for a term beginning September 1, 2019 and ending July 14, 2021. Members holding these positions serve as automatic delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly by virtue of office. Download the Declaration of Candidacy Form at <http://oea-r.ohea.us/files/2018/08/CandidateForms/AC.pdf>

**OEA Committees**—The following committee appointments will be made at the spring meeting of the OEA-R Advisory Council: **Convention Planning; Human and Civil Rights; Legislative; and Resolutions.** The list of OEA-R members currently serving on OEA Committees is at <http://oea-r.ohea.us/page/oea-cfc/>. Letters of intent listing qualifications and reasons for serving are needed for each position and should be sent to OEA-R Chairperson, Bill Sears, by February 15, 2019. These appointments are for three years terms: 7/15/2019 — 7/14/2022.

## NEA-Retired Delegate Election

If you wish to be a candidate for NEA-Retired delegate to the NEA Representative Assembly in Houston TX, you must file a Declaration of Candidacy form by February 15, 2019. Contact William Baird at OEA (800) 282-1500 or (614) 227-3169 for more information. Download an NEA-R Delegate Declaration of Candidacy Form at <http://oea-r.ohea.us/files/2018/08/CandidateForms/NEA-Retired-Delegate-Declaration-of-Candidacy-2019-NEA-RA-REVISED-August-2018.pdf>.

## OEA-R Delegate Election Results

During October, OEA-R members elected 28 Delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly from a field of 34 candidates. The 18 OEA-Retired Advisory Council members are automatic delegates by virtue of office, for a delegation of 46 delegates and 6 alternates by order of votes.

The 2018-2019 OEA-R Delegates and Alternates from NEOEA-R are listed here by votes received: (There were a total of 836 votes cast, 275 from NEOEA-R members.)

- **Delegates by virtue of office on OEA-R Advisory Council:** **Peg Ham**, OEA-R Advisory Council Secretary; **Marsh Buckley**, OEA-R Advisory Council NEOEA Representative; **Barb Catalano**, OEA-R Advisory Council ESP Representative; **Bonnie**

**Harris**, OEA-R Advisory Council Higher Education Representative.

- **Delegates (by order of votes):** William A. Dorsey; Nanci DiBanca; Homer O. Adams; Bill Lavezzi; Marti Franks; Nancy Wonson; Donna Smoot Walters; Beryl M. Burkle; Hank Haynes; Lynnette R. Harris; Gary Hollow; Debbie Bernauer; Steven Mitchell; Joyce M. Hives; Lyn Curry-Huston; Norm Hillstrom; Lynn Aring.
- **Alternates:** John Veverka; Terri Honer.

Delegates attend both the Fall and Spring OEA Representative Assemblies. On the day before, the OEA-R Delegate Assembly meets at the STRS Building to carry out the business of OEA Retired and for a briefing with the OEA officers and reports from the OEA-R Advisory Council. Delegates from NEOEA also attend the Fall and Spring NEOEA RAs.

Thank you to the Delegates and alternates that were able to attend the NEOEA and OEA Fall RAs:

- **NEOEA Fall 2018:** Lynn Aring, Debra Bernauer, Marsh Buckley, Lynda Curry-Huston, Bill Dorsey, Martha Franks, Hank Haynes, Norman Hillstrom, Joyce Hives, Terri Honer, William Lavezzi, John Veverka, and Nancy Wonson.
- **OEA Fall RA 2018:** Adams, Aring, Bernauer, Buckley, Burkle, Catalano, Curry-Huston, Dorsey, Franks, B. Harris, L. Harris, Haynes, Hillstrom (did not vote), Hives, Hollow, Lavezzi, Mitchell, Veverka, and Wonson.

## NEOEA Retired Luncheons

The NEOEA Retired Organizing Committee is looking for volunteers to host a luncheon for retirees in your area. These "county" luncheons are a project of the Outreach Committee of the NEOEA-R Organizing Committee. Their purposes are to provide a social opportunity for an enjoyable luncheon among retired educators and to make grassroots connections with our retired members (especially those not involved in leadership roles within our Association). In the past few years, these gatherings have been well-received both by our volunteers and the retirees they host.

Groups are small and informal. Retirees attend on their own, but NEOEA will pick up your lunch and mileage expenses as the organizer. NEOEA will provide a spokesperson to represent the NEOEA-Retired program, ask non-members to join NEA-R/OEA-R, and most important, ask them what kinds of activities they would like NEOEA-R to provide.

Give to the  
Fund for Children  
and Public Education



The procedure is simple:

1. Please contact an establishment in your area and ask for a place suitable for a group between five and ten people. Let them know you will provide a count as we get closer to the event. Let them know that people will be on separate checks. (People have generally used informal diners; a semi-secluded room is a plus.)
2. Set a date with the establishment and find out when they need a final count.
3. Provide NEOEA with the date, time, location of the luncheon, and cutoff date for reservations. Tell us how you want the retirees to contact you to make their reservations. (We recommend email and phone.) We will send that information to retirees in the area.
4. As people register, please keep track of their names, email addresses, and locals (retirement employers). Guests are welcome! Immediately after the luncheon, please send the office the information for the people who actually attended. We want to send them a message thanking them for attending and inviting them to further participation.

### **Oh, the Places We Go— Grab Your Hat and Read with the Cat**

Remember – “You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child.”---Dr. Seuss

We will be celebrating NEA's READ ACROSS AMERICA during the month of March 2019. We will read to students across NEOEA. Retired readers are needed to read in classrooms, libraries, or at other events where children are gathered. Plan to join us. You pick the day, the time, and the place. Invite another retired members to join you. We want you to have a wonderful RAA experience showing students that the joy of reading is a lifelong skill. More information and ideas at: <https://www.ohea.org/get-involved/read-across-america/> and <http://www.nea.org/grants/886.htm>. If you can spend some time in this fun experience contact Beryl Burkle at 330-659-3928 for helpful information. Thanks to a generous grant from the NEOEA Board of Directors, we could buy new books to gift where we read.

### **NEOEA-R Outreach**

Thank you to Mary Keefe for bringing us a donation of 6 cases of gently used children's books from the Lander Circle Kiwanis. Thank you to Joyce Hives for delivering these books to the Thurgood Marshall Recreation Center in Cleveland. Joyce and others tutor children in reading at the center and give these books to all age students to take home and enjoy.

### **Mentoring Program at KSEA**

We had a very positive response from the Kent Student Education Association and OEA Retired at our Meet and Greet this fall. Mentors met their Mentees and are looking forward to another successful Mentoring Program at Kent State University. These are the students who will be taking our places in classrooms across Ohio.

Mentors become a professional friend to Mentees with discussions and activities outside the classroom that can relate to union and an awareness of issues in education in a small group setting. Some participate in The Polar Express at the North Pole (Peninsula) and join us in celebrating Read Across America during the month of March. We have 13 Mentors and 40 Mentees and are enthusiastic about our purposes with these students.

### **NEOEA-Retired Spring Conference**

The popular NEOEA Retired Spring Conference will be held on April 25, 2019, at the NEOEA Conference Center. Invite a friend for a continental breakfast, lunch, and new and old friends. Select from two Break-out sessions: NEA Member Benefits, STRS/SERS, OEA Legislative/Election Update, and Easy Photo Editing. The registration form will be included in the March newsletter.

### **OEA-Retired Spring Conference**

Mark your calendars for the OEA-R Spring Conference on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at the STRS Building for a morning session and the Franklin Park Conservatory in the afternoon. Check <http://oea-r.ohea.us/events/spring-conference/> for more details.

### **Message from Sarah Borgman, NEA-R President**

At our Annual Retired Meeting in June, I challenged our delegates and guests to stand and fill the gap. We had just been handed the Janus decision and membership growth---or lack thereof--- threatened all of us. It appears that we have faced that challenge, but what remains today is the fact that there is a job for everyone in our Association whether seeking new active members or those retired of our own. Maybe “selling” membership is not your strong point, but you certainly have stories to tell and can use to help others: new career teachers, aspiring teachers, active members, or those sitting on the fence!

The bottom line is that in our advocacy for students, our profession, and public education there is a job for everyone. YOU are needed to stand and fill the gap. Unfortunately, we lose our own members who have been real warriors and someone needs to stand and fill the gap. There are jobs to be done in every facet of our work; there are projects waiting to be done; there are calls to be made and e-mails to be sent to legislators; there are committees with vacancies; there are multiple positions to be filled. Will YOU stand and fill the gap?

### **NEA-Retired Conference**

By Lily Eskelsen Garcia, NEA President

The 2019 NEA-Retired Conference will be held March 17-18, 2019, at the Sheraton Hotel in Denver, Colorado. The theme this year is **NEA-Retired: Leading and Learning**.

We are excited to offer this year's NEA-Retired Conference immediately following the NEA Leadership Summit. We are encouraging our retired members to attend both the Retired Conference and the Summit.

This year's conference will provide NEA-Retired members and staff a venue to participate in professional learning, networking, and developing skills and dispositions to enhance leadership capacity to continue to build strong, thriving NEA-Retired affiliates. In addition, conference attendees will have the opportunity to strategize on ways to engage the retired membership in the priority work of NEA in promoting the mission and vision of our union.

The online early registration opens January 7, 2019. At that time, a link will be available at <http://www.nea.org/retired> to register for the conference, with an option to also register for the Leadership Summit and make hotel reservations. There is a \$50 non-refundable conference registration fee to attend the NEA-Retired Conference only. The registration fee to attend both the Leadership Summit and the NEA-Retired Conference (\$225.00 + \$50.00) will be \$275. The registration fee covers meals provided, conference materials, and refreshment breaks at the conference. We will continue this year with a conference mobile App. Directions to upload the mobile App to your phone or mobile device will be provided prior to arriving at the conference.

### NEOEA Megaconference

Join us on Saturday, March 9, for our annual Megaconference. All the details are available at our "All Things Megaconference" page. <http://neoea.org/Mega/> There you will find:

- PDF version of the registration flyer which can be downloaded and printed from almost any device and filled out by hand.
- RTF version of the registration flyer which can be filled out on most computers, saved, and printed or emailed.
- Graduate credit is available through Lake Erie College. Please contact Sally Schuler at [schuler05@gmail.com](mailto:schuler05@gmail.com) if you have any questions.
- Retired/Pre-Retired Workshop: informative, interactive presentations designed for those nearing retirement or not yet a member of OEA-R/NEA-R. Bring your questions! OEA-R will share the benefits of membership in retirement. Don't miss our great door prizes as well as information every member needs to hear. Guests and current retirees are welcome!
- Directions to Corporate College East in Warrensville Heights.

### Need to Update Your Contact Information?

Update your OEA & NEOEA contact information with at: 1-844-OEA-info (1 844 632 4636) or [membership@ohea.org](mailto:membership@ohea.org).

### Great Shows and Discount Prices at Cleveland Play House

Come join us this spring for great shows and discount prices at Cleveland Play House:

Ken Ludwig's *Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood* at the Allen Theatre: February 2-3; order by January 20. Cleveland favorite Ken Ludwig is back with a rollicking new take on a beloved legend. A greedy prince has taken control of England, and it is up to dashing outlaw Robin Hood to save the day. Join up and take aim with Robin and his band of Merry Men — and women!—as they champion the underdog and fight for justice. Laughs, romance, and plenty of arrows fly in this all-out comic adventure. <http://www.neoea.org/CPH-Robin.pdf>

*Native Gardens* at the Allen Theatre: April 27-28; order by April 14. They say good fences make good neighbors, but that's not the case with the Del Valles and the Butleys. What starts out as a squabble over a backyard property line hilariously erupts into a full-blown border dispute. *Native Gardens* comically unearths deeply-rooted assumptions, plants the seeds for understanding, and blossoms into colorful, thought-provoking entertainment. <http://www.neoea.org/CPH-Native.pdf>

### Miss Your News and Views?

Each issue of the NEOEA *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 and member-only information for download.

In the Winter 2019 issue: Rob McFee, President's Message—Membership Driven! NEOEA Representative Assembly Summary, Tribute to Brian McConnell, NEOEA Seeks Candidates for Leadership Positions, NEOEA ESP Organizing Committee, Green School Award, Delegates Honor Locals for Achievements, NEOEA Day Glimpses—Pictures from NEOEA events, Megaconference—Topics and Registration, and Will You Be the Lucky Winner of Our Monthly Quiz?

### NEOEA Discounts

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

- **OEA and NEA Member-Only Benefits:** <https://www.ohea.org/member-center/member-benefits/>.
- **OEA Attorney Referral Program:** login at the OEA Member Services page for free half hour and 30% discount. <https://www.ohea.org/legal-services>.
- **Best Benefits Club:** Best Benefits Club offers activities throughout the year such as:
  - Special family weekends at Cedar Point, and the IX Center where the discount or added value is even greater than their usual benefit.
  - Regal Cinema, Cinemark Tickets, and certain amusement parks are available through the on-line shopping cart.
  - And other tickets are available as an e-ticket program, such as Playhouse Square and the Cleveland Browns.
  - Kalahari Resort Day Pass Pre-Order Sale happens three times a year.
  - There are discounts on zoos, amusement parks, hotels, rental cars and much more available to our members!
  - Each person must register individually with the website in order to have access to the discounts. On the website <http://www.bbcmember.com/>, 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 are required to make up their own username and password. Please enter NEOEA as your company name where required. 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
- **Bright Now! Dental:** NEOEA has an exclusive discount on general and specialty dental care. You will experience cost savings of up to 35% on general dentistry and 30% on specialty dentistry. There are 7 locations in Cleveland. Evening and weekend hours. <https://www.brightnow.com/>.



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**NEOEA-R Organizing Committee:**

- Nancy Wanson, 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
- Beryl Burkle, Bedford EA-R
- Dave Ciborek, Twinsburg EA-R
- Lyn Curry-Huston, Cuyahoga Falls EA-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
- Martha Harper, Ashtabula ACSE-R
- Norman Hillstrom, Mentor TA-R
- Joyce Hives, East Cleveland EA-R
- Mary Keefe, Maple Hts. TA-R
- Bill Lavezzi, Aurora EA-R
- Adele Matias, Mayfield EA-R
- Steven Mitchell, East Cleveland EA-R
- Donna Smoot-Walters, Barberton EA-R
- Pat Wagar, Mayfield EA-R

- **Dollar Bank:** Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <http://www.dollarbank.com/neoea/>.
- **Liberty Mutual:** Special Rates for NEOEA Members. <https://www.libertymutual.com/neoea>.
- **Energy Price Choice:** An unbiased energy marketplace that compares energy prices automatically for you. <https://neoea.org/announce/energy-price-choice/>.
- **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>.
- **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>.

**NEOEA Calendar**

- February 9** NEOEA ESP Organizing Committee, NEOEA Office
- February 25** Legislative Receptions, Throughout NE Ohio
- March 1-2** OASNP Special Education Conference, Mohican State Park Resort & Conference Center
- March 9** NEOEA Megaconference, Corporate College East, Warrensville Heights
- March 15-17** NEA Leadership Summit, Denver CO
- March 17-18** NEA-Retired Conference, Denver CO
- April 4** OEA-R Spring Conference, STRS & Franklin Park Conservatory, Columbus
- April 13** NEOEA Representative Assembly, Bedford HS

- April 25** NEOEA-R Spring Conference, NEOEA Office
- April 25** NEOEA-R Organizing Committee, NEOEA Office
- May 4** NEOEA All Committee Conference, NEOEA Office
- May 9** OEA Retired Delegate Assembly, STRS Building, Columbus
- May 10-11** OEA Representative Assembly, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Union Station Ballrooms, Columbus
- June 7** NEOEA Meet & Great Cookout, NEOEA Office
- July 2-7** NEA Annual Meeting, Houston, TX
- July 24-25** NEOEA Summer Leadership Conference, NEOEA Office

**STRS**—<https://www.strsoh.org/>

**SERS**—<https://www.ohsers.org/>

**PERS**—<https://www.opers.org/>