

## Retirement Systems Update

STRS Ohio's Total Fund Return Tops + 16% in Fiscal Year 2014  
Preliminary results show that STRS Ohio's total fund return was +16.7% for the year ending June 30, 2014. The estimated value of investment assets as of June 30 was \$74.7 billion, an increase of about \$6.7 billion from the June 30, 2013, level of \$68 billion. This robust return for fiscal 2014 follows a +13.7% return for fiscal 2013. The fiscal 2014 return exceeded the fund's assumed actuarial return of 7.75%, but trailed the total fund benchmark return.

## SERS

For the first time in over 10 years an election for the retired seat on the SERS Board is expected. In past years the seat has not been contested so no elections have been held. Watch for OEA endorsements in December.

Executive Director Lisa Morris continues to meet with media across Ohio to inform them of the new GASB reporting requirement for school treasurers.

SERS Health Care for Medicare recipients will be unchanged in 2015. *Submitted by SERS Observer Adele Matias*

## CONTACT YOUR RETIREMENT SYSTEM

STRS 1-888-227-7877 or [www.strsoh.org](http://www.strsoh.org)

SERS 1-800-878-5853 or [www.ohsers.org](http://www.ohsers.org)

OPERS 1-800-222-7377 or [www.opers.org](http://www.opers.org)

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## DISTRICT REPORTS

**EEOEA - Holiday Happenin' at the Historic Pine Tree Barn in Wayne County** This outing provides several opportunities to shop, dine and catch up with the happenings around the district.

When: Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2014, 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
Where: Pine Tree Barn, 4374 Shreve Rd. Wooster, OH 44691  
Call: (330) 262-4077 for directions  
Cost: SELF-PAY.  
RSVP: By email to: [ecoearetired@yahoo.com](mailto:ecoearetired@yahoo.com)

Feel free to contact me with any questions or ideas to better serve you at: [ecoearetired@yahoo.com](mailto:ecoearetired@yahoo.com).

*Submitted by District Representative Kathleen Purdy*

**SEOEA** The SEOEA-R E-Newsletter will be distributed by mid-August and then posted to the website ([www.seoea-r.ohea.us](http://www.seoea-r.ohea.us)) To update your email address or request a hard copy, please contact Christine McVicar at 740-551-2133 or email [seoea.retired@gmail.com](mailto:seoea.retired@gmail.com). *Submitted by District Representative Christine McVicar*

**WEOA** The WEOA-R Executive Committee met on July 21. Meetings are planned for September-December 2014. Programs start at 11:00 a.m.; plan to arrive in time for parking and entering the facility. For questions about meetings listed or to RSVP, contact Emmy Brudzynski: phone 937-610-9917 or email [emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu](mailto:emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu).  
Sept. 17 Friendship Village Retirement Center 5790 Denlinger Rd. Dayton, 45426, Tour 11:00. Complimentary lunch and short business meeting follow. RSVP: Sept. 10; Oct. 15 Winery at Versailles 45380. RSVP: Sept. 17; Nov 19 Program-Senior Scams by Attorney General's Office at Company 7 BBQ Englewood; December 17 Lunch at El Meson in West Carrollton. Bring food for Home for Kids. WEOA-R will have a session at the WEOA Fall Forum Nov. 12 entitled "What happens after "drop out" 2015?" Graduate retirees will suggest ideas for life style diversification...C.S.I. Contribute. Share. Inform. *Submitted by District Representative Jane Rahn*

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## An OEA-R Member's Vigilance Pays Off!

Late last year the OEA-R Staff Liaison received a telephone call from an OEA-R member who conveyed a concern about possible overcharges from her STRS healthcare insurer regarding the out-of-network rate for medical supplies. During the conversation, the Liaison asked whether she would be willing to provide him with a chronological outline of what occurred bolstered by as much supporting evidence (i.e. official letters, billing statements, etc.) as she could provide. Fortunately, the member kept comprehensive records and agreed to send the packet of correspondence evidence to OEA. After seeking guidance from STRS Board member, Jim McGreevy, the Liaison forwarded them to the appropriate people at STRS.

Following an investigation initiated by STRS, the insurance provider agreed with the OEA-R member that she had not received timely notification about the change in medical supply providers and therefore should not have been billed at out-of-network rates for the medical supplies. As a result of the STRS investigation, it was determined that over 800 other individuals had also not been notified in a timely manner about this change. The outcome of the member's initiative was that the affected individuals were given a credit against future transactions for the difference between the in-network rates they should have been charged and out-of-network rates that they were charged.

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## WE ARE GOING GREEN

*For those of you who have already responded, thank you.* You may have noticed that the size of the paper on which *NEWSLINE* is printed has changed. We are transitioning to *going green* by using less paper and reducing publishing costs. This new format will save OEA thousands of dollars each year. Additionally beginning with the fall, 2014 issue, all individuals with email addresses will only receive an electronic version of *NEWSLINE*.

In order to ensure a smooth transition in our quest to *go green* please remember to update your postal address if you do not have an email address ... *or* if you do have an email address and are not receiving *NEWSLINE* electronically, please provide us with your name and email address by sending it to your OEA-R staff liaison at: [ottenb@ohea.org](mailto:ottenb@ohea.org)  
*Submitted by Bill Otten, OEA-R Staff Liaison*



**Thirteen OEA-R Members attended the NEA-R Annual Meeting in Denver this summer.** Front row: Marilyn Allen, Donna Smoot-Walters, Marti Huss, Carol Kinsey, Judy Buschle and Homer Adams. Back row: Don Traxler, Bill Dorsey, Bill Sears, Peg Ham, and John Hoyes. Absent: Jane Rahn and Chris Swank.

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## Intergenerational Mentoring Program

Have you retired from teaching in the last five years? Do you miss the interaction you had with your students? If you live within 50 miles of Kent State, Miami, Ohio University, The Ohio State University, Ohio University-Lancaster or Youngstown State University, you might be the retired teacher we are looking for! The Intergenerational Mentoring Program pairs retired teachers with education majors on college campuses in Ohio. We have training sessions to get you started in September, followed by our first "Meet and Greet" in October, where you will meet your mentee. We follow up with several group meetings per year -- the rest of the time you communicate with your mentee via text message, email, phone and face to face meetings.

The program is designed to help keep quality educators in our public school classrooms by supplying the education majors with the support and feedback necessary to help build their self-confidence. We can answer the questions that only people who have "been there, done that" have experienced!

The program has been very well received on the campuses with great feedback from the students and retired teachers. We need more mentors! To learn more, contact the State Coordinator, Marti Huss, at [mehuss@hotmail.com](mailto:mehuss@hotmail.com)



OEA-R members Marti Huss and Judy Buschle and OSEA members participated in *Outreach to Teach* in Denver.

## OEA-R STATEWIDE FALL CONFERENCE

**September 10, 2014 - Register Now**

**STRS Building, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**275 East Broad Street - Columbus OH 43215**

Speakers include the OEA Officers, OEA Executive Director Sheryl Mathis, and OEA-R Staff Liaison Bill Otten. STRS and SERS Health Care personnel will speak on health care issues/changes for 2015 followed by Q & A. Other interesting and informational sessions are planned for the afternoon.

**FREE Parking is provided at the STRS building.**

REGISTRATION:	9:30 a.m.
PROGRAM:	10:00 a.m.
LUNCH:	12:15 p.m.
CONCLUSION:	3:00 p.m.

**Complete and return the registration form below with your \$15.00 registration fee by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>** in order to be eligible for door prizes. Lunch is included and you'll be notified by email once your payment is received. **Mail form and payment to:**

**OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
ATTN: BILL OTTEN, P.O. Box 2136  
Columbus, Ohio 43216-2136**

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**OEA-R NEWSLINE**

Ohio Education Association