



OEA-R Newsline Fall 2016 Edition

MISSION STATEMENT

OEA-Retired is dedicated to meeting the needs of its members, providing member involvement within OEA, and supporting public education.

2016-2017 Officers

John Hoyes, Chairperson Bill Sears, Vice Chairperson Peg Ham, Secretary Carol Kinsey, Board of Directors Representative

> <u>OEA-R NEWSLINE</u> is the official publication of OEA-Retired Claudia Miller, Editor OEA-R website <u>http://oea-r.ohea.us</u>

OEA FUND FOR CHILDREN AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

The OEA-FCPE Council would like to invite you to join them for Lobby Day. To RSVP for the November 15th Lobby Day, please email Julie Parsley at parsleyj@ohea.org. A briefing from OEA's lobbyists will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Media Center at OEA Headquarters (225 East Broad Street, Columbus, 43215). Parking is available at nearby surface lots, in the parking garage just south of the OEA building or at parking meters located on 5th and Broad Streets.

Please be sure to schedule a meeting with your legislators prior to attending Lobby Day. Contact information for members of the House and Senate can be found by going to <u>www.legislature.state.oh.us</u>.

For more information on participating in OEA Member Lobby Day, please contact OEA Government Relations at 1-800-282-1500.

Submitted by FCPE Representative Pam Smith

All benefit recipients are encouraged to sign up for email updates from STRS Ohio. This will provide everyone with the most current information in a timely manner.

As of June 30, 2016 STRS Ohio had 171 benefit recipients who are age 100 or older of which 155 are women and 16 are men. The oldest retiree is a 106 year old who retired in 1972 at \$336 per month and is now receiving \$1,500 per month. The retiree who has been receiving benefits the longest is age 103 and retired in 1969 at age 56 following 35 years of service. STRS Ohio has paid this retirement benefit for 47 years.

Eligible health care participants who have Medicare Part B-only, but whose spouses have Medicare Parts A & B are very likely to be eligible to enroll in Medicare Part A for free. This would reduce STRS Ohio's plan costs by about \$4,000 per year, per person.

STRS Ohio has launched Social Media Channels.

The STRS Ohio Board held a Health Care Seminar. The purpose of the seminar was as follows:

- Gain understanding of how health care plans offered by STRS Ohio compare to the market
- Investigate various pathways that will provide for a sustainable health care program
- Gain an understanding of health care exchanges
- Evaluate the pros and cons of delivering health care benefits through an exchange
- Explore the benefits and feasibility of offering a tax-advantaged savings vehicle for health expenses

Submitted by STRS Observer Rita Walters

<u>CONTACT YOUR RETIREMENT SYSTEM</u> STRS: 1-888-227-7877 or <u>www.strsoh.org</u> SERS: 1-800-878-5853 or <u>www.ohsers.org</u> OPERS: 1-800-222-7377 or <u>www.opers.org</u>

DISTRICT REPORTS

<u>CAPITAL</u>: The Capital District is in the final planning stages for our next event brochure. We will travel to the OSU Planetarium on January 9, 2017 and lunch at China Dynasty in the Lane Avenue Shopping Center. On January 23 we will be at the Columbus Hofbrauhaus for a presentation by the Central Ohio Library Consortium. All of the area library systems are now linked, so that services may be accessed from any of the member libraries. February 8 we will attend a comedy presented at CATCO, one of the best local theatre groups. Lunch is not included with the play.

Steve Ball will return on February 21st, and will perform songs of the Civil War at the Clintonville Woman's Club. The Club is known for it's delicious Ham Loaf.

Although the date is not yet confirmed, we will gather at Mozart's Café in early March for a performance by Columbus Magician, Drew Murray. Once again, we will enjoy a mystery trip on March 29th. It is always interesting not knowing where the bus is taking us! For early April we are planning for retired administrator, Sandra Quick, to portray the famous poet, Phillis Wheatley, at Schmidt's Sausage Haus in German Village. Our last event for this cycle is a trip to Pickaway County on April 25th. There we will visit the local sights, including a stop at the Ted Lewis Museum and lunch at the Pickaway County Country Club. For complete information about our activities, go to our website, <u>www.cearetired.com</u>.

Capital's Carrie Parks-Boston, a cancer survivor, advocated for cancer patients through the American Cancer Society Cancer Network Ohio visiting Ohio legislators, Senator Sherrod Brown and US Representative, Joyce Beatty. We are so proud of her efforts. Capital was represented at the OEA-R Fall Conference by Jeff Corbin, Paula Garfield, and Annie Roegner.

Submitted by District Representative Jeff Corbin

<u>ECOEA</u>: The Annual "Not Back to School Luncheon" was held at Mulligan's Pub on Wednesday, August 17th. It was another opportunity to casually enjoy each other's company, stories and ambitions. Our Holiday Happenin' Luncheon is December 6, 2016, at the Pine Tree Barn in Shreve (Wayne County).

During the October ECOEA Legal Update Program, the OEA-R display table held brochures, enrollment forms and an array of photographs from retiree activities. If you have a friend or relative interested in becoming a pre-retired member, please contact me or download a form from the website.

There are meaningful ways that are needed for your experience, advocacy and mentoring activities to help make this Association stronger. I am always available to assist you at <u>ecoearetired@yahoo.com</u> or (330) 257-9913.

Submitted by District Representative Kathleen Purdy

<u>EOEA</u>: The monthly luncheon meeting was held in Zanesville. Jim McGreevy discussed the various studies that the STRS Board is currently undergoing. The results of the Investment Asset study will determine STRS Ohio's investment strategies over the next five years. The Health Care Study will be ongoing over the next several months. No decisions will be made until at least March of 2017. Benefit recipients are encouraged to sign up for email updates from STRS Ohio to receive the most up-to-date information.

Submitted by District Representative Rita Walters

<u>SEOEA</u>: A luncheon meeting was held at the Courtside Grill in Gallipolis on Thursday, November 10th. OEA Vice President, Scott DiMauro, addressed the group and Ellen Adornetto, OEA Education Policy and Practice Consultant, was the keynote speaker presenting "What's Happened to Education Since You Retired". The SEOEA-R e-NEWS was distributed on August 11 and the next edition will be distributed the first of March, 2017. For timely information visit the SEOEA-R website: <u>http://seoea-r.ohea.us</u> as well as the OEA-R website: <u>http://oea-r.ohea.us</u>. <u>SWOEA</u>: Has gotten off to a great start this year with lots of activities scheduled for retirees. The first outing was "A Day at the Races" at Beltera Park on September 15th. The October outing was to the Cincinnati Museum of History to view the da Vinci Exhibit. The day began with lunch followed by a two-hour tour. We were pleased that some WOEA-R members joined us for the outing. Also, in October the SWOEA-R Executive members began work on the SWOEA Pre-Retired Seminar that was planned and hosted with the SWOEA Officers on November 1st.

Submitted by District Representative Judith Buschle

<u>WOEA</u>: Jane Rahn, past WOEA-R chairperson and OEA-R Advisory Council member, has been awarded the WOEA Leader of Distinction Award for 2016. This is the highest honor a WOEA member can receive. Employed by Brookville Local Schools from 1971-2007, Jane taught a variety of subjects and grades with relevant units to increase students' knowledge about the world around them. During that time, Jane was also an active member of the Brookville Teachers Association serving as president, committee chair, member, and delegate constantly promoting participation of members. She is a lifetime member of WOEA, OEA, NEA - retired.

Jane continued her dedication to the Association after retirement. She worked tirelessly to increase membership in WOEA-R and provide opportunities for retirees to stay involved in their profession. Jane has created materials and workshops for active and retired members. Jane has attended numerous conferences, at her own expense, to learn more about the education profession and share with members.

Jane has involved herself in numerous civic and community organizations, such as Delta Kappa Chapter, Alpha Delta State, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to promote excellence in education. She has created a scholarship in memory of her husband, Bruce Rahn, to help Dayton students going into the field of education.

Jane Rahn has given life-long service to education and, in particular, to the retired membership the past ten years. She has served as a mentor to new retirees and to actives. When we think of a career educator and a career Association member, Jane Rahn should come to mind. Jane is a Leader of Distinction!

Submitted by District Representative Phil Long

ELECTIONS

Names of persons who are interested in serving in the positions of OEA-R Representative and Alternate to the OEA-FCPE State OEA-R by members serving on the OEA-R Advisory Council.

This is a two (2) year term beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2018. This election will take place at the December meeting of the OEA-R Advisory Council.

In addition to serving on the OEA FCPE State Council, the elected Representative and Alternate are responsible for the following, per the OEA-R Guidelines.

Duties of the OEA-R representative and alternate to the OEA FCPE are: a. The FCPE Representative will attend all Advisory Council meetings and OEA-R Delegate Assemblies.

b. Co-Chair the Legislative/OEA FCPE Committee of the Advisory Council. c. Report in timely fashion to the OEA FCPE State Council the concerns and needs of the OEA-R Advisory Council.

d. Inform the Advisory Council of candidate information, political actions, and elected officeholder opinions and actions.

e. Stimulate and monitor the OEA FCPE contributions of OEA-R membership. f. The term of office for the OEA-R representative to the OEA FCPE State Council shall begin on January 1 following the election in odd years (15, 17, 19, 21...) and shall expire on December 31 two (2) years hence.

g. In the case of a vacancy during the term of office, the alternate shall fill the unexpired term. Members of the OEA-R Advisory Council in consultation shall elect a new alternate.

h. In the case of a vacancy where no alternate exists, the chair of the FCPE State Council shall appoint a new member until the OEA-R Advisory Council elects a new member to serve on the state council.

The FCPE Representative is a non-voting member of the Advisory Council and has no delegate status to the OEA Representative Assembly unless elected as a delegate.

The Advisory Council meets at least four (4) times a year, usually September, December, March, and May. The OEA-R Delegate Assemblies are in December and May in conjunction with the OEA-R Advisory Council meetings held then. The Alternate has no required activity except at such time when the Representative may not be available. To be eligible for either position, candidates must meet the requirements of both the Advisory Council and the OEA FCPE which include a minimum annual FCPE contribution of \$100 which must have been made by the time the letter of interest is considered for election. The Representative shall represent the interests of the OEA-R to engage in political action to effect the implementation of the OEA policies for the improvement of education in the state of Ohio.

Please submit a letter of interest to John Hoyes, OEA-R

Chair<u>ihoyes@columbus.rr.com</u>, and cc Carol Kinsey, OEA-R Board of Directors Representative <u>cskinsey@aol.com</u>, by November 23 indicating if you wish to be considered for the Representative or the Alternate position. Please state your qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve in the position you are seeking. Those persons currently holding these positions must send a letter if they wish to be considered for continued service. If you wish to nominate a person other than yourself, you may do so but that person needs to email both persons listed above as agreeing to their nomination.

2017 OEA-R SPRING CONFERENCE

| V | VEDNESDAY APRIL 26, 20 | 17 |
|---------------------------|---|----------|
| | KINGWOOD CENTER 50 N. TRIMBLE ROAD MANSFIELD, OHIO REGISTRATION: 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. | |
| Contact information: scra | STRS PRESENTATION Fun Activity Lunch On-campus Greenhouse and Grounds Se On-campus Manor Guided Tour Gift Shop and Fresh flowers and plants End Time: 3:00 P.M. COST: \$25.00 d NCOEA Districts. ak OEA-R Advisory Council Reps. <u>mer@toast.net jar4439@gmail.com</u> vailable for conference attendees with handicap cond | |
| For Hotel Accommodatio | ons contact Holiday Inn & Suites at 419- ocation: 116 Park Avenue West, Mansfield | 525-6000 |
| | REGISTRATION FORM | × |
| | | |
| City | StateZip code | |
| Email: | Meal concerns | |
| Phone/cell: | | |
| No. of guest(s)Che | ecks payable to NWOEA Center | |

RSVP BY APRIL 12, 2017 to NWOEA CENTER, 101 W. Sandusky St., Suite 302, Findlay, Ohio, 45840. Fax: 1-419-422-3417.