



NEWSLINE

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

2020-2021 Officers

Mary Binegar, Chairperson

Phil A. Long, Vice Chairperson

Peg Ham, Secretary

Carol Kinsey, OEA Director

John Hoyes, Past Chairperson

OEA-R NEWSLINE is the official publication of OEA-Retired

Jackson Boyd, Editor

STRS REPORT

At the beginning of the meeting Kevin Rohrs of CliftonLarsonAllen presented his findings that resulted from the most recent audit of STRS Ohio. According to CliftonLarsonAllen the financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent and clear. STRS Ohio has been presented with a clean audit.

In Bill Neville's Executive Director's Report for November, Mr. Neville reported that STRS Ohio had received the Public Pension Standards Award for Funding and Administration for 2020 from the Public Pension Coordinating Council. The award recognizes public pension plans that meet key standards in several assessment areas, including actuarial, audit, benefit programs and communications. In his December report he stated that more than 102,000 retirees received a health care rebate in their December benefit payments totaling \$29 million.

The Board approved the Semiannual Broker Evaluation and Associated Policy. Our consultant Callan, recommended that the policy be approved. There had been several questions raised by two of the appointees on the Board concerning the benchmarks used for the asset classes and the total fund over the past couple of months. Callan and Cliffwater presented an extensive review of the benchmarks employed by STRS Ohio. They made the following recommendations. For all of the asset classes except one Callan recommends that the currently used benchmarks be maintained. For the Opportunistic /Diversified Asset Class Callan presented three options that STRS Ohio might consider. They suggested that the third option might be the best to consider. The third option incorporates a new private markets benchmark at the asset class level for Private Equity and O/D. This benchmark will best reduce the tracking error when incorporated into the Total Fund benchmark to represent the asset classes. At the February Board meeting the Statement of Investment Objectives

and Policy for STRS Ohio will be presented to the Board with any recommended changes the staff sees as beneficial for approval.

John Morrow, Chief Investment Officer, for STRS Ohio reported that as of November 30, 2020 the fiscal year to date returns were 12.4%. Those are very good returns but we know what happened in February of 2020, so we have to hope that these positive returns continue through June 30, 2021.

Lynn Hoover, Chief Financial Officer for STRS Ohio, and Brian Grinnell gave a presentation to the Board to explain STRS Ohio's Unfunded Liability from 2000-2020. The key takeaways of the presentation were as follows: *The Unfunded Accrued Asset Liabilities increased from \$4.5 billion to \$22.3 billion from 2000-2020.

- The primary driver were investment returns being less than assumed, even though returns closely tracked the market
- Total contributions were insufficient to cover the tread water cost; both contribution rates and benefits are fixed
- Other experience was less favorable than assumed, including mortality.

We must take into consideration that in the Great Recession STRS Ohio suffered a significant loss as everyone who had money in the market did during that period. It takes time to recoup those losses.

There were several policy changes that Mr. Steen presented to the Board at 8:00 A.M. that he wanted to be considered at Thursday's meeting. There was a motion by the newly appointed member to table these items and consider them at the February meeting. At first glance these are significant policy changes and deserved more in depth consideration.

At this time I want to wish everyone a holiday season that is safe. Hopefully 2021 will be much improved over 2020. Thanks to everyone who has been working so hard on my behalf to secure valid signatures for my petitions. I so appreciate all your efforts. Please take care of yourselves and keep patient just a bit longer. There is light at the end of the tunnel.

Submitted by: Rita Walters.

Editor's Note: Check our web site for Rita's latest report.



SERS REPORT

SERS received a good External Audit Report with the exception of the Auditor of State report which should be in by the end of the year.

Our Annual Portfolio Report and Summary on of Investments were good. We are doing well.

Carol Nolan Drake gave us a Federal Report Update on movements for Pension Plans and what progress has or has not been made. Our representatives for SERS have made contacts with new members of government to discuss the issues important to us.

The big news is the return of the COLA. If you were receiving the Cola prior to April 1, 2018, you will be eligible. Others may have to wait until the 4TH anniversary of their allowance to receive it.

Our endorsed candidates Barb Phillips and Frank Weglarz along with Jim Haller were sworn-in as there were no other candidates meeting the deadline to run.

Sustainability was discussed and the date for our roundtable discussion is Wed. January 17th and it will be a virtual meeting.

Submitted by: Barb Catalano



STRS and SERS ENDORSEMENTS

OEA has endorsed Rita Walters and Bob Stein for the retired positions on the STRS board. Contact Rita or Phil Long to request a petition to sign or circulate. The deadline for the STRS petitions is the last Friday in February, but please sign and return them as soon as possible in order for the candidates to obtain the required number of signatures before the deadline.

Barb Phillips and Frank Weghlarz were endorsed for the SERS retired positions.



CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This past year the Advisory Council developed a new logo for OEA-R, printed new brochures for membership drives, purchased materials for table displays at District and State meetings and pens to hand out at those meetings. We also purchased pins for our delegates and leaders so they can be easily recognized at OEA functions. These materials allow us to be ready to move forward with an aggressive membership drive when the pandemic ends.

The Advisory Council has worked hard to stay in touch with members and continue to encourage member engagement even during the pandemic. We have been challenged to learn new ways to communicate and are learning to be Zoom

proficient. The Advisory Council and committees have continued to meet via Zoom. Several OEA-R members have been placed on NEA-R Committees.

Last spring, the Advisory Council decided to postpone the Delegate Assembly due to the pandemic in order to protect the health of our members. After participating in several large meetings online last year, we were able to plan this Delegate Assembly as a virtual meeting. The Advisory Council is extremely proud of the work accomplished by our members during the election. Many of our members were very involved in the GOTV efforts, as well as working for candidates during the election. We had members using HUSTLE, writing postcards, dropping literature, and making phone calls. Other members worked the polls on election day. We were very pleased with the participation of so many of our members in the TelaTownhall just for retirees about engagement in the election process. We are extremely proud of and grateful for the participation of so many retired members.

The Advisory Council will be supporting Rita Walters' reelection to the STRS Board. Rita is currently the Chair of the STRS Board. She has worked tirelessly on our behalf, and now we need to support her by getting the required signatures for her to be on the ballot and then working with our members to get out the vote.

Discussion is still moving forward on a pre retired prepayment plan for lifetime dues for OEA-R. The discussion was postponed last spring due to Covid and the closing of the OEA building but will be revisited in January. The Advisory Council has been very pleased with the cooperation and support of the OEA officers and the OEA Executive Director, as we have moved forward with this and several other projects.

At our December meeting we seated two new members to the Advisory Council, Julia Basham as the Higher Education Representative and Kathleen Purdy as the ECOEA-R District Representative. Both won by acclamation during our October election.

Submitted by: Mary Binegar, OEA-R Chairperson

OEA FUND FOR CHILDREN AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Help raise money to elect pro-senior, pro-union, pro-education candidates. It's quick and easy to donate electronically. Go to: <https://ohea.org> and click on the **DONATE** button at the top of the page.



2020 DECEMBER OEA-R DELEGATE ASSEMBLY REPORT



The 42 delegates representing OEA-Retired to the OEA Fall Assembly met from the comforts of their own homes via Zoom Friday December 4, 2020. Though to a person delegates continued throughout the meeting to defy the adage “you can’t teach an old dog new tricks” with their easy transitions to virtual meetings, at the end of the meeting no one was heard to mutter, “You know, I could get used to this.”

Delegates heard remarks from a number of guests. First, STRS Executive Director William Neville reported, using a slide presentation, that STRS has processed 992 retirement applications so far this year; last year at this time there were 418 applications. STRS is near to a ratio of about one retiree for every active member in the system. In fiscal 2020, STRS collected \$3.4 billion in member contributions, and paid out \$7.1 billion in pensions and \$490 million in health care benefits. STRS stands at @\$78 billion in assets, and we need a 5% return to keep everything going. Investment return took a dive in February and March 2020, ending at -5.7%. However, it experienced a strong recovery, finishing in June with +3.14%, and this recovery continues. Through November investment return is up @12%. The five-year return of 6.91% outperforms our benchmark of 6.6%. As of now our funded ration is 77.4%. We face a 29% chance of dropping below a 50% funded ration in the next ten years.

OEA President Scott DiMauro reported that schools are not immune from the COVID spike. Even though there is no evidence that schools are sites for virus spread, and without question schools have done a remarkable job keeping their buildings, students, and educators safe from the virus, OEA will issue a Call to Put Education First! In a four-part position paper, OEA will call for a **hard reset**, an immediate cessation of in-person teaching and schooling until at least January 11, 2021, when more is known about the dramatic surge in positive

cases, hospitalizations, and deaths from COVID. OEA proposes to hold accountable county and state health departments and directors to show, using specific data, that schools are safe to reopen whenever that decision is made, and that all relevant collectively bargained conditions are maintained for teachers and members. President DiMauro affirmed that all STRS members want to see a return of COLA, and we're sympathetic to the lessening benefits coming to new retirees. But President DiMauro also noted the necessity of maintaining the long-term viability of our system. Bigger threats to STRS are threats to Defined Benefits, Social Security and Medicare. OEA will continue its work to get rid of GPO-WEP.

OEA Vice-President Jeff Wensing thanked retirees for all they did in the recent elections. He congratulated Mary Binegar on running such a tight race for State Board of Education in a heavily Republican district. VP Wensing reported on the progress of HB 305, the Cupp-Patterson School Funding Bill, which has passed the House 84-8. There are roadblocks in the Ohio Senate, and we need to contact our senators to urge passage of SB 376 (the companion bill to HB 305). The connection for immediate political action is on the OEA Web site (ohea.org). Keep watching for more action alerts. The OEA Board endorsed incumbent Carol Carrouthers for the active seat on STRS Board, and Rita Walters and Rob Stein for the retiree seats. FCPE Chair Tom Moscovic reported that from September 1 to December 1 OEA retirees contributed \$2416.25 to the Fund. Tom advised we need to keep giving! The goal for retirees is to increase our contribution by 2%.

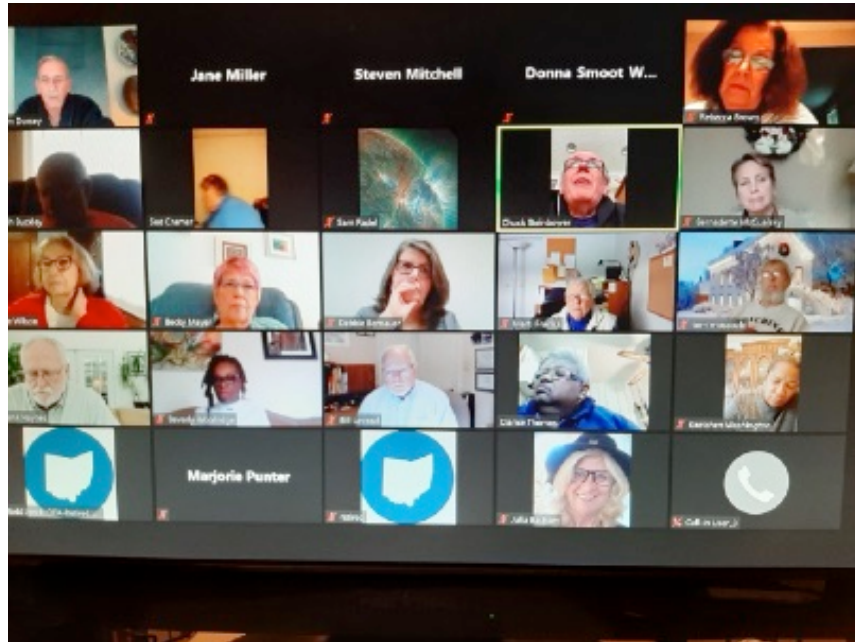
Chair Mary Binegar reported that OEA-R has been busy in its Rebranding program, the results of which we have all begun to see with the new OEA-R Web site (www.ohea.org/retired). New recruitment brochures have been produced and are ready for distribution as soon as we can all get back on the road. Beginning February 2021 OEA-R will begin an energetic campaign to recruit new members, both pre-retired and retired applicants. Another important task is to get our two members re-elected to the STRS Board! Gathering signatures on nominating petitions is difficult during COVID; Mary noted that petitions have been shared across the state with various OEA-Retired Advisory Committee members as well as other retired volunteers. We need to download those petitions, sign them and return them via US Mail to both Rita and Rob! Better yet, if we live with an STRS recipient, and/or in a neighborhood with fellow recipients, we can try to safely gather those signatures too! AND! We need to vote once we receive the ballots!

Various other reports, including the OEA-Board report, the Legislative Committee Report, the OEA-R Budget Report, and the Audit Committee, are available on the OEA-R web site.

Two New-Business proposals submitted by John Hoyes on behalf of the Membership Guidelines Committee, having to do with removal of OEA-RAC members and officers, and length of terms of service for positions, were

discussed and ultimately postponed and/or referred back to the committee to resolve various issues.

Submitted by: Barry Alcock



DECEMBER 2020 OEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY REPORT

President Scott DiMauro called the virtual Assembly to order at 9:00 AM on December 5, 2020. He paid honor to past OEA President Murl Huffman(WOEA) who passed away earlier this year at age 101. Murl was very influential in establishing collective bargaining in the state of Ohio and will be remembered for his long support and advocacy for public education. The 677 delegates were reminded by President DiMauro about the impact the pandemic has had on educators and students and how OEA has continually fought for the safety of members and students. Attendees heard from NEA President Becky Pringle. OEA-R Chair, Mary Binegar, particularly noticed the comment, “We need to acknowledge our power. We need to stand in our power. We need to act like the largest union in the United States.” As always, Becky was inspiring and uplifting for educators. Jeff Wensing, OEA Vice President, discussed all the legislative undertakings in the Legislature and how they affect OEA members. He also announced that the OEA Board endorsed Rita Walters and Robert Stein for the STRS Board retired seats. Judy Novak represented OEA-R for the screening. Endorsements were made for the SERS retired seats for Barb Phillips and Frank Weghlarz. Barb Catalano and Cindy Endres represented OEA-R.

The new OEA Executive Director, Patricia Collins Murdock, was introduced and outgoing Executive Director, Sheryl Mathis, was thanked for her many years of service to OEA. Sam Radel, OEA-R, was appointed to the OEA Appeals Board.

Barb Armour, ESP of the Year and Leila Kubesch, Teacher of the Year, addressed the delegates.

Delegates passed both the Legislative Report and the Resolutions Report.

The total FCPE contributions totaled \$25,102.24. Retired delegates met the \$50 contribution per delegate.

The Assembly adjourned around 12:30pm.

Submitted by: Phil A. Long

Remember to



Walters and Stein for STRS

OEA-Retired ELECTION INFORMATION

2021 ELECTIONS

July 15, 2021 to July 14, 2024

Advisory Council Officers

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Secretary

Unit Representatives

Capital

EOEA

NCOEA

NWOEA

Higher Education

Declarations of candidacy forms for these positions are due by February 15, 2021 to OEA.

OEA-Retired COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

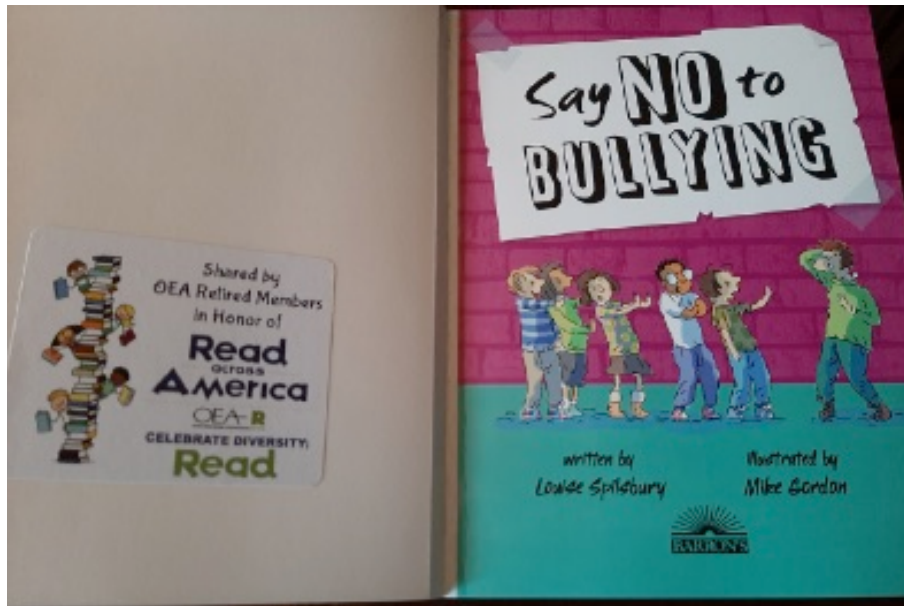
2021 APPOINTMENTS

2021 TO 2024

Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy
Local Development and Training
Organizing Strategy
Resolutions

**Members interested in these appointments need to contact
Chairperson Mary Binegar and Vice Chairperson Phil A. Long**

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY: READ 2021 Read Across America



Committee: Jeff Corbin(Capital-R), Cindy Endres(ECOEA-R), Val Roldan(WOEA-R), Beryl Burkle(NEOEA-R), Haven Reardon(SWOEA-R), Susan Stuckey(Central-R), Becky Mayer(NCOEA-R) Rita Walters(EOEA-R), Jane Miller(SEOEA-R), Sue Cramer(NWOEA-R) Judy Buschle, Mary Binegar, Phil A. Long, Chair

Discussion is being held how to use different media to allow readers without in person contact. 16 books for each District were purchased through NEA-R Grant funds. A booklist is available. Donated books will also be accepted as long as the book follows the theme of DIVERSITY. Representatives are encouraged to seek donation funds from their District for additional books to present to classrooms

when in person reading is permitted. The books are currently boxed by District with ongoing discussion about distribution. Each book has an OEA-R bookplate.

A flyer to launch the search for readers will be rolled out in January 2021 through District representatives. Each District committee representative will collect readers. Anyone interested should contact one of the members listed above. The list of readers is due to Phil A. Long by January 13, 2021. Todd Jaeck/OEA will conduct a training workshop for readers on January 27 from 11-12 to prepare for this year. Kick off: March 2021 but will promote use throughout the year for educators – through a “virtual” library – need to finalize how educators will be able to access through OEA. Members have indicated that we have to be flexible and creative.

Submitted by: Phil A. Long



GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT

The grant committee has been meeting since NEA-R approved our grant in mid-October for the 2020-2021 year. This year's grant focuses on the following four goals.

- Goal 1 - Align the state affiliate goals and mission with our district retirement groups to keep our retired members informed and engaged in all aspects of OEA.
- Goal 2 - Develop leadership skills of retired members by encouraging and enlisting more participants in retired activities. Through implementation of the grant, opportunities in the districts such as “Read Across America Project” targeting diversity and in attending various activities in district workshops, trainings and conferences.
- Goal 3 - Each of the 10 districts will work with Ohio's O.N.E. (Ohio New Educators) Member Ambassadors to strengthen the relationship with state affiliate and local leaders.

- Goal 4 - To work with O.N.E. Member Ambassadors in making early contact with new aspiring educators, using technology that acknowledges and welcomes them to the profession of education through a buddy system. Establishing early contact and setting up systemic checks with new aspiring educators will help them have someone to express their needs and frustrations in a safe and secure venue.

The following is the timeline the committee has established to accomplish our goals with the help and engagement of retirees throughout the state.

- January 27 Read Across America Training
- February 8 Zoom with Aspiring Educators
- February 28 Zoom with O.N.E. Member Ambassadors
- March 10 Kick-off of OEA-R membership recruitment
- April 7 Read Across America Rollout
- May 19 Grant Debriefing

If you are interested in participating in any or all of the activities outlined above please contact your Advisory Council member or Judy Buschle, judybuschle@aol.com We are excited to be able to work with Retirees, Active Educators, Ohio's New Educators and Aspiring Educators as we continue to promote Public Education and the value of belonging to Ohio's Education Association.

Respectfully submitted by: Judy Buschle, Grant Chair



Summer Grant Committee Meeting

UNIT REPORTS

ECOEA:

A response to Mental and Social Health Support due to Covid, was discussed during the Thursday, December 4, 2020, OEA-Retired Advisory Council meeting. We would like to “touch” our retired members facing social isolation and family crisis by sending out notes and cards of encouragement. If you, or someone that you know, are wanting such a “touch”, please contact your District Representative, Kathleen Purdy.

The television show “The Talk”, was joined by my former Plain Local Schools 5 th grade student, Amanda Kloots, on January 4th. She joins Elaine Welteroty, Sharon Osbourne, Sheryl Underwood and Carrie Ann Inaba for the 11th Season. I taught three of the Kloots sisters at the Pleasant View School for the Arts when they were 5th graders.

The 2019-2020 NEA-Retired Grant is tracking all East Central OEA Retirees volunteering for events and activities, especially during May 30, 2019 through June 1, 2020. Thank you for your commitments.

Read Across America is continuing with the theme “Diversity” and donated books from you. Pick up of children book donations would be arranged. East Central OEA Retiree Cindy Endres serves on the committee.

These Save the Date forms are available on the website ecoea-r.ohea.us:

- 2021 Retired Spring Conference on Tuesday, March 30, 2021, from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
- OEA Retired Advisory Council Declaration of Candidacy, Spring 2021
- NEA Retired Delegate Declaration of Candidacy

Submitted by: Kathleen Purdy

NCOEA:

Since COVID 19 began last March, we have cancelled all our in-person meetings and events. We are hopeful to have our “Not Back to School Brunch” in August 2021.

Becky Mayer, Judy Novak and Chris Swank were delegates to the OEA Representative Assembly that was held virtually on December 5, 2020.

Our members have still remained busy dealing with Educational issues and activities. Members have participated in phone banks and screenings for education friendly candidates. We are collecting signatures for Robert Stein and Rita J. Walters, our endorsed candidates for the STRS Board.

Becky Mayer and Perry Brokaw will be participating in Read Across America. The theme this year is "Celebrate Diversity: Read". If you would like to participate, contact Phil Long at palciv13@gmail.com. We trust everyone remains safe and healthy.

Submitted by: Judy Novak

NEOEA:

NEOEA Retired have been very busy during this past year of Covid-19. The NEOEA Retired Organizing Committee has been meeting virtually to continue working on behalf of NEOEA members. Several NEOEA-R members have gone above and beyond the call of duty considering the new "normal" virtual world we live in today.

Vice Chair of NEOEA-R Organizing Committee; Dennis Lewis was the presenter on NEOEA Day. Dennis's 3-hour workshop entitled, "*I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me...Get Financial Planning Answers Now*". Dennis was very informative and gave practical steps for increasing wealth.

Beryl Burkle volunteered to be NEOEA OEA-R Diversity RAA representative. The "Diversity" Read Across America will be the theme used by OEA-R for our next adventure with NEOEA-R Read Across America. A grant was written to NEA and OEA-R received funds to buy each of our ten districts books on Diversity for children. The committee was formed and started working in June to plan this large endeavor. Phil Long Vice Chair of the Advisory Council for OEA-R held planning sessions on Zoom. They chose book titles from the list printed by NEA. NEOEA-R readers will be reading virtually to students when they get into RAA. Beryl organized our NEOEA-R readers so they will be able to read and be taped for their book presentations. Beryl enjoys spreading her love of reading to all students in a fun way! Beryl is also the Mentorship Program coordinator for NEOEA-R. She continued this school year with the Kent State Education Association (KSEA) President Sarah Parsh. The two arranged to virtually meet and arrange KSEA students. They matched 28 Mentees and 9 Mentors together. They were not able to go to campus or meet any other way in person because of Covid-19. Beryl encouraged the Mentors to support the mentee with their expertise and developed ways to keep them connected. Beryl and NEOEA-R Mentors were invited to KSEA final semester zoom meeting on November 9. They had an enthusiastic response from Mentees and Mentors at this their final virtual meeting of the semester. Many Mentors and Mentees got to see the real people they are working with. Beryl had one student that went home to Slovakia for the summer and wasn't allowed to come back to the states. She was very excited to have a Mentor!!! The student continues to take all classes online.

Retired NEOEA Executive Director Bill Lavezzi has successfully completed the five-part examination given by the National Association of Parliamentarians that is required for certification as a Registered Parliamentarian; Bill completed the five parts between July 2019 and March 2020. Bill was already in demand as a parliamentarian before receiving his RP credential. From 1978 to 1994, Bill served as the NEOEA Representative Assembly parliamentarian, and from 2004 to 2016 Bill served as parliamentarian to the Ohio caucus at the NEA Representative Assembly. Over the years he has presented workshops on parliamentary at training sponsored by NEOEA and OEA. The biggest advantage of his recent studies is a view of a broader picture. "One of the things you learn is that some of our practices are common to many organizations, while others are unique to NEA and its affiliates," he says. "It's interesting to see the different ways in which organizations implement the same parliamentary rules. Contact with the larger parliamentary community forces you to examine your assumptions about why we do things the way we do." Pat Frost Brooks, past OEA President, retired from her office but not her desire to help others. She volunteered at the Kids Books Bank on NEOEA Day with Barb Armour and another women from her ESP Local. They sorted several thousands books for all ages that will be distributed to children throughout NE Ohio. The book bank even placed books in the bag/boxes at food centers. Pat just completed six years as the NEA's Elections Chair. Of course this was the FIRST year of voting during the pandemic. Pat coordinated each step of the election process, which needed to be dissected as to the "how" in this new normal. In the month of October, Pat was the closing keynote speaker for the 2020 virtual OEA MLTP the theme was Educator Standing Up and Answering the Call. She spoke to the participants about their path to leadership and how are they going to answer the call in a leadership position.

During the past Presidential election, Pat worked for Cuyahoga County Board of Election as a Rover. She got to see how the election process behind the scenes the nuts and bolts what makes it work. Pat then switched to help out in GA's senate runoff election by writing messages of encouragement to vote for Rev Warnock and Jon Ossoff. Outside of OEA, NEA, NEOEA Pat belongs to The National Congress of Black Women Greater Cleveland Chapter. Shirley Chisholm and Dr. C. Delores Tucker and other notable founders founded the organization in 1984. The Mission is to empower the black women and her family in Greater Cleveland through social and political development, education, community engagement and rebuilding socioeconomic opportunities. Pat said, "Yes, this year has been challenging. Most have found a new creative way of doing what they once did."

Dennis, Beryl, Bill and Pat reflect a sample of what NEOEA Retired members continue to accomplish. "The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve" Albert Schweitzer.

Submitted by: Donna Smoot Walters

NWEOEA:

We hope each NWEOEA-R, OEA-R and NEA-R member is doing well considering the COVID-19 pandemic is winding up again all over the State of Ohio. Please stay safe as Governor DeWine is doing his best to encourage Ohio citizens to wear masks and social distancing when out in the public.

OEA-Retired has created a new brochure entitled "Working for Your Future" with an application page for the active and non-members who need to pay retired lifetime dues as part of becoming a NEA-R and OEA-R lifetime member. The dues amount is \$450.00, \$300 for NEA-R and \$150 for OEA R. NWEOEA-R lifetime dues are \$50.00. These brochures will be handed out at NWEOEA Leadership Service Councils to locals' representatives. This brochure has great information on why each active member and non-retired member should join. People can join online at: www.ohea.org/retired.

The NWEOEA-R Committee welcomes anyone to nominate any NWEOEA-R member who would qualify for the District Retired Service Award. The application form is located on the NWEOEA Website (www.nwoeacenter.org) and requires this retired member to be active on committees and activities. This applicant should have worked for the good of the NWEOEA/NWEOEA-R Organization.

NWEOEA is sponsoring another Pre-Retirement Workshop Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at Henry's Restaurant. This workshop is for active members to learn more about STRS retirement pensions and NEA Member Benefits. This in-person workshop is tentative until the COVID19 pandemic red alert in Ohio has depleted to a safe level where people can meet in groups. Please check the NWEOEA Website for more information in March.

Submitted by: Sue Cramer

WEOEA:

WEOEA-R is not having in person meetings at this time, but there have been a few zoom meetings. We are still concerned with our member's health and safety, and will try to have regular zoom meetings beginning in March. It will be nice to see faces that we haven't seen in awhile.

Most of our delegates to the Fall OEA RA attended the Delegate briefing on Friday, December 4th. Those who attended made contributions to FCPE. Thank you for your contributions and continued support of this important fund. WEOEA-R also had delegate representation the OEA Representative Assembly on Saturday, December 5th.

WOEA-R members were involved in Mary Binegar's run for the State Board of Education. Our members made phone calls and sent postcards to encourage those that could, to vote for Mary.

Members are busy getting signatures for Rita Walters and Robert Stein so they can run for the Board of STRS.

Closer to home, members have continued to support Artemis Women's Shelter as part of the Community Outreach program. Members have also been informed of educational and legislative issues.

Submitted by: Sandy Coe

