



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



Mr. Matt Worley reviewed the Performance-Based Incentive Compensation Program (PBI) for 2022, the program was approved by the Board. Of the 515 associates that the system employs there are only 92 that while saving over \$100 million due to in-house management of investments. Mr. Worley reported that April was another good month for investments. Preliminary fund returns for April were +2.80%. Year-to-date the STRS Ohio fund has earned 24.35% returns. Total investment assets ended April at \$91.8 billion, higher by \$14.8 billion in fiscal 2021.

Mr. Neville reported that voting in the 2021 Retirement Board election for one contributing member seat and two retired member seats concluded on May 3. An independent third-party firm, Election Services Company, certified the election results at the board of tellers meeting on May 8. Carol Correthers was elected to the contributing member seat, while Rudy Fichtenbaum and Robert Stein were elected to the two retired member seats.

Executive Director, Bill Neville, reported that member education staff introduced the new Retiree Series webinar Basics of Online Account Access in April. This program provides an overview of Internet basics and how to access STRS Ohio Online Personal Account features and resources. The new series is being in May. Sponsored by STRS Ohio, a representative from the attorney general's office will discuss how to secure devices, safeguard personal information and avoid cyber scams. Additional webinars will take place in August and December 2021.

STRS Ohio received 739 new Service Retirement Applications in April, representing a 55% increase over April 2020. Fiscal year to date, STRS Ohio has received 3,100 applications, compared to 2,200 for the same period last year and about 2,500 in fiscal 2019.

In a report from Cheiron, STRS Ohio's outside actuary, STRS Ohio conducts experience studies every 5 years and the next one is scheduled after the 2021 valuation. The following factors are considered during this study: historical experience, industry trends, regulatory/professional standards, Board's risk tolerance/preference, plan dynamics, and future expectations. Cheiron recommends that STRS Ohio adjust its discount rate from 7.45% to somewhere in the range of

6.25% and 7.00% for the June 30, 2021. The Board will consider that recommendation at the June Board meeting.

The STRS Ohio Board approved the following motion for changes in the healthcare program for 2022:

Move to Express Scripts' National Preferred Formulary for non-Medicare enrollees and the Premier Performance Formulary for Medicare enrollees,

Reduce specialty co-pay to lesser 8% of cost or \$450 from the lesser of 13% of cost or \$450 per 31-day supply.

Decrease drug maximum out-of-pocket limit to \$5,100 from \$6,550 for the Medicare plans, below the 2022 standard Part D limit of \$7,050.

The Board also approved the following motion to suspend the methodology adopted by the Retirement Board in May, 2015 of setting the self-insured prescription program annual deductible to 63% of standard Medicare Part D deductible limit rounded down to the nearest \$25 increment, and maintain the current 2021 deductible for plan year 2022.

The STRS Ohio will approve the healthcare rates for 2022 at the June meeting. If the projections remain the same the proposed 30-year benefit recipient would be pay a monthly healthcare premium of \$112 instead of the current \$127.

The Board also voted to offer the position of Chief Auditor to Robert Vance to replace Dave Tackett when Dave retires on July 30, 2021.

If you have any questions concerning the report please contact me.

Submitted by: Rita Walters.

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



At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic last year, the SERS Retirement Board began meeting virtually through Zoom.

While the Board now has resumed in-office meetings, SERS will continue to broadcast meetings live via Zoom each month in an effort to provide greater access and transparency to SERS' membership and stakeholders.

The Board generally meets every month, except January and August, on the third Tuesday and Friday, if necessary. The login information to attend Board meetings virtually is posted on the SERS website at www.ohsers.org prior to each meeting.

Submitted by: Barb Catalano

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mary's thoughts-

This has been an extremely interesting year but also extremely productive year for OEA-R. Because of the willingness of our members to find a way to make things happen even during a pandemic, we have made great progress this past year. We were extremely involved in the November elections and then again in the STRS Election in April. Our members wrote and mailed postcards, made phone calls, and sent texts and emails to fellow OEA members regarding these elections. We held an Election webinar with approximately 200 participants and a Retirement webinar with 65 participants.

In addition to these activities we also launched our new pre-retirement pre-payment plan for lifetime OEA-R membership. This will allow active members to spread their lifetime dues over multiple months. Our hope is this will encourage more people to join OEA-R while they are still active members.

Additionally, our district representatives have been reaching out by postcards or phone calls to our oldest members, beginning with those who are 90 or over. According to our records we have over 600 members that are 90 or over. The responses to these postcards have been extremely positive, and I am extremely appreciative of the work of our district reps for making these contacts.

Finally, we have begun our OEA-R Membership Campaign. We have begun contacting people who are about five years from retirement to give them information about joining OEA-R before they retire. In the fall, we will be contacting former OEA members who have already retired but have not yet joined OEA-R.

None of this could happen without the involvement and support of many OEA-R volunteers. For that support, I say a heartfelt, Thank you!

Submitted by: Mary Binegar, OEA-R Chairperson



2021 MAY OEA-R DELEGATE ASSEMBLY REPORT

The Virtual Delegate Assembly began at 10:04 A.M. on Thursday, May 6, 2021 with Chairperson, Mary Binegar, calling the meeting to order. There were 35 delegates present and between 7 and 3 guests throughout the meeting. The agenda was adopted with flexibility and minutes from the Virtual Fall Assembly were approved as printed.

Rita Walters presented the STRS Report. Ms. Walters reported the highlights from the April 2021 Board of Directors' meeting.

OEA President Scott DiMauro provided the delegates with an overview of what is to be expected at the OEA Virtual Spring Representative Assembly to be held on Saturday, May 8, 2021. There will be 4 New Business Items considered at the Representative Assembly. President DiMauro said that Ohio would be receiving \$4 billion over 3 years from the COVID Relief legislation that was passed. He explained that the legislation requires that the education community have input into how those dollars are spent. He also emphasized the importance of passing the Fair Schools Funding Plan.

Vice-President, Jeff Wensing, addressed the delegates thanking them for all their help with the current STRS Election. He also thanked the OEA-R delegates for their donations to the OEA Fund, formerly FCPE.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mark Hill, explained that this was an odd year for the budget so there will just be an update on the budget at the OEA Virtual Representative Assembly. He too thanked the delegates for all their help with the STRS Election.

Chairwoman Binegar introduced to Makia Burns, the new staff Liaison for OEA-R. Makia Burns introduced her administrative assistant, Chantelle Dixon who also will be working with OEA-R members. Makia has worked in the Organizing Department at OEA for the past eight years.

Dan Greenburg, NEA Director #5, provided the NEA Directors' Report. Dan reported that they are still meeting remotely with the legislators and that there are plans to resume in-person lobbying in October.

Judy Buschle reported on the NEA-R Grant. She reported that the OEA-R was very successful with their "Read Across America" activities, which was guided by Phil Long. OEA-R members were not allowed to go into the schools to read in person as had been done previously. Several volunteers videotaped the reading of a variety of books on diversity, and a library of those recordings is now available for use by active teachers. One of the goals for the grant had been to reach out and work with new educators and with aspiring educators. They have been able to do one activity with ONE but have not been able to have any activities with aspiring educators. Another activity that several members have participated in is a membership activity. Each OEA-R District Representative received a membership list. Each OEA-R member is listed by age. All OEA-R members 80 years old and more have been contacted either by a postcard, phone call or email. Just to let them know that we appreciate their membership and hope they are well. This offers us the opportunity to update the information on the membership lists and have them corrected. Judy Buschle also discussed a new way to reach out to active OEA members who are within 5 years of retirement to become lifetime OEA-R members by making payments. Mary Binegar and Phil Long have worked with OEA leadership to make this possible.

Tom Moscovic reviewed the screening process. Since all candidates were unopposed there was no need to screen. All candidates had completed the questionnaires and returned them. Only Dan Greenburg, running for re-election for NEA Director #5 and Mark Hill, running for re-election for OEA Secretary-Treasurer addressed the delegates. The OEA-R delegates endorsed all the

candidates. Makia Burns had generated an on screen ballot by which delegates could vote. Tom Moscovic also provided the most up-to-date figures for OEA-R delegate contributions to the OEA Fund (formerly FCPE). According to his information, which reflects all OEA-R contributions from September 2020 to May 4, 2021, OEA-R delegates had contributed \$6,519.25

Mary Binegar provided her report from the chair. She reviewed the many activities that OEA-R had accomplished over the past year. She commended the OEA-R members for all their diligent work on the STRS election. Members secured enough signatures to get Rita Walters and Bob Stein qualified for the ballot early in January This was not a small task because there were no in person meetings. Members also hand wrote over 8,000 post cards urging members to vote for the endorsed candidates. Once they were qualified then from the end of February until last week Mary Binegar, Phil Long and Rita Walters met with OEA leadership every Friday to work on the campaign. OEA provided complete support for the campaign for the three OEA endorsed candidates. Other activities have already been addressed in this report.

Carol Kinsey provided the OEA Board of Directors' Report. Because the delegate briefing was held prior to the Board meeting her information available was limited.

Jeff Corbin provided the checking account balance at \$4,713.79. Jene Wilson provided a report on the Resolutions Committee Report.

There were two new business items proposed. Proposal #1 offered recall language and proposal #2 offered language on appointments. Both proposals passed.

Mary Binegar recognized the following individuals for their service to the OEA-R Advisory Council because they have left either last spring or will leave this spring:
Anne Bowles, Jeff Corbin, Jane Rahn, Sue Cramer, Peg Ham and Sandy Coe.

Carol Kinsey provided the delegate briefing.

Submitted by: Rita Walters



MAY 2021 OEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY REPORT

At 9:00am Saturday May 8, 2021, OEA President Scott DiMauro gaveled 615 delegates to order for the OEA Spring Representative Assembly, held for the third time as a Webinar. Perhaps we'll get used to this form of meeting; there's a decent chance we'll assemble virtually at least one more time.

(This report will include highlights, discussion points, and items not necessarily covered in other reports. For links to all reports, financial, and committee reports including our Annual OEA-R report, visit www.ohea.org, click on the Resources link, click on Representative Assembly link, click on the Documents link, and see the links to all documents.)

Early attendees were treated to music from the South East High School Jazz Band! After the normal greetings and introductions the assembled delegates got down to business.

There were candidates for four separate offices: Mark Hill, OEA Secretary/Treasurer; Dan Greenberg, NEA Director #5; Adrienne M. Bowden, NEA Director #6; Cassandra D. Daniels, OEA Board of Directors at-large. None faced opposition, so speeches were waived, and as such all were elected by acclamation.

A Proposal was put forth as follows:

To amend Article V Section 1(a) of the OEA Constitution to increase representation for Education Support Professionals (ESP) on the OEA Board of Directors to ensure that ESP representation on the OEA Board reflects the proportion of Education Support Professionals among active OEA membership.

Discussion brought out the fact that there has been one ESP Rep on the Board, for about 17,000 ESP members. The remaining Board members represent about 3,000 members each.

This proposal required $\frac{3}{4}$ in the affirmative to pass. It received that and more. The Proposal passed. To obtain the ratio of 1:3000, the Board will add three additional ESP members. President DiMauro gave an impassioned speech in which he spoke for unified support of our actions in favor of the Fair Schools Funding Plan, now before the Ohio Legislature. This support is necessary in light of GOP legislative efforts to, among other things, grant educational vouchers to every single Ohio public school student (that is not a misprint). To emphasize the importance of unified action, President DiMauro aired an extended video of the history of our fight against Senate Bill 5, now ten years ago, from its introduction as an anti-collective-bargaining, anti-union bill by Ohio Senator Shannon Jones, to its signing into law by Governor Kasich, to the massive effort across the state to gather signatures for a referendum, to the campaign waged door to door against this bill, to its final defeat at the polls in November 2011. This video can be viewed on OEA's YouTube channel. Scott noted that nearly a third of present-day OEA membership has joined OEA since the defeat of SB5.

Also, The American Rescue Plan, recently passed by the US Congress, includes \$4.5 billion additional funding for America's schools, and the plan specifically notes that unions are among the stakeholders who must be consulted about how that money will be spent. OEA is sponsoring a series of "brown bag" meetings, beginning Monday May 10, during which Steve Dyer will present the various aspects and possibilities for the Rescue Plan funds. Links to these meetings will be emailed to members.

Patricia Collins Murdoch, the new OEA Executive Director, reported the addition of a 4th Strategic Priority: Advocate for racial, economic, and social justice. Also, a pilot coaching-mentoring program to produce an increase in the success of new teachers was presented. Pilot Pathways Program with Central State University to support minority candidates into the teaching profession.

Mark Hill, OEA Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Mid-Term Budget Adjustment 2021-2022. Highlights: there has been a reduction in membership as a result of Janus in 2018. The American Rescue Plan: \$4.5 billion to schools. We need to pressure the Ohio General Assembly to pass the Fair Schools Funding Plan. Average teacher salary calculation \$63,709. OEA dues tied into this figure. The complete report including graphs and tables is linked in the materials posted on the Web site.

Phil Long presented information on Kids Voting Ohio (www.kidsvotingohio.com), a new group encouraging Ohio young people to vote! Phil gave the same report to us at the OEA-R delegate briefing May 6!

The Resolutions Committee Report is linked on the Web site. Two new resolutions were proposed: one addressing the crisis in policing in Ohio, and one addressing voting rights in Ohio in light of nationwide attempts to restrict voting access. Chuck Steinbower, maker of these two resolutions, presented initial texts of these resolutions. After discussion, each was referred to the Resolutions Committee for wordsmithing and refinement. There was general agreement on the importance of these resolutions.

There were New Business Items introduced to rename the OEA Media Room the President's Board Room (amended to President's Meeting Room), and for the construction of an Honor Wall at OEA honoring all past OEA presidents. Discussion included an assessment of costs for each

of these. Both were subsequently referred to the Business Support and Administration Committee. Another New Business Item addressed the need for transparency in the newly named OEA Fund (formerly the Fund for Children in Public Education). Discussion included the need to know the specifics of how the funds are distributed, as well as how to educate members on why certain candidates receive funds. This NBI was referred to the Legislative Committee.

Toward the end of the meeting OEA was informed of the election to the STRS Board of one of the OEA-R endorsed candidates, Robert Stein. Our other endorsed candidate, Rita Walters, was not re-elected. Also re-elected to the STRS Board as an active member was Carol Correthers.

Submitted by: Barry Alcock



OEA-Retired 2021 FALL CONFERENCE

The 2021 Fall Conference will take on a different appearance. The Conference will be four virtual workshop sessions (1-1.5 hours each session) held over four days exploring the theme of Racial and Social Justice for Retirees presented by the NEA staff. The sessions will be held at the same time, same day over a four-week period probably late September to early October. Conference attendees will be asked to register for all four of the workshop sessions. However, if someone needs to miss a specific session, plans are being made to record each session so someone will be able to view the session they missed and rejoin the next session. Topics will include introduction to and definitions of the level of racism and its impacts on institutions and systems; outlining why a race equity/justice lens is critical to our work; activities and tools introduced to support the development of a racial analysis, as well as, basic tools to engage in constructive discussions about race.

OEA-R plans to create a Social Justice taskforce and this conference will be one of the requirements. Once the plans are finalized with NEA, registration materials will be distributed through email and the OEA-R website.

If you know you will be interested in registering, please contact Phil A. Long, OEA-R Vice Chair, at palcisv13@gmail.com.



OEA-Retired ELECTIONS INFORMATION

2021 ELECTIONS July 15, 2022 to July 14, 2025

Unit Representatives

NEOEA

SWOEA

WOEA

OEA DIRECTOR

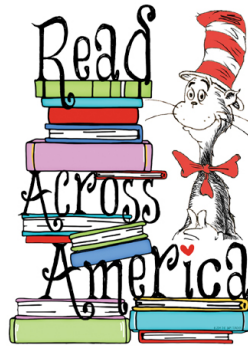
Declarations of candidacy forms for these positions are due by February 15, 2022 to OEA.

NEWLY ELECTED ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mary Binegar – Chairperson
Phil A. Long – Vice Chair
Judy Buschle – Secretary
Rita Walters – EOE
Judy Novak – NCOEA
Lisa Marshall-Scott - NWOEA

**There is the possibility of elections for AC positions from Capital and WOE this fall.
There will be an election for SWOE for the completion of an unexpired term.**

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY: READ 2021 Read Across America



The pandemic caused everyone to look for different ways to accomplish usually easy tasks. The Read Across America campaign was no exception.

In January 2021, the OEA-Retired Advisory Council members went searching for members who would volunteer to be videotaped reading books. They were able to enlist 17 readers. Readers were: Mary Binegar, Perry Brokaw Beryl Burkle, Judy Buschle, Nanci DiBianca, Val Heban, Marti Huss, Barbara Lacy, Phil A. Long, Becky Mayer, Jane Miller, Tom Moscovic, Kathleen Purdy Haven Reardon, Rita Walters, Jene Wilson, Dawn Wojcik.

Todd Jaeck, former OEA-Retired liaison, and Isabel Bozada-Jones held two training sessions consisting of video training and uploading videos to a specific link. Bozada-Jones and Joel Kohler edited the videos.

In March the readings were promoted through a “virtual” library. Approximately 25 readings were made available for classroom use.

The videos are still available on the OEA web site: <https://www.ohea.org/resources/all/oear-read-across-america>.

In addition to the videos, sixteen books were purchased through NEA-R Grant Funds for each district. The books all have an OEA-Retired bookplate. The readers read some of the books, while some readers chose their own books.

The books read included: Malala's Magic Pencil, A Different Pond, Skin Like Mine, I Can Do Hard Things, The Skin You Live In, "Same, Same, Different", What if All the Same, Going Home, The Big Umbrella, So Far From the Sea, Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, Rough Faced Girl, Happy in Our Skin, Whoever You Are, Grace for President, Grace Goes to Washington/It Takes a Village, She Persisted in Sports, Just Ask, Super Heroes are Everywhere, Ruth Badger Ginsberg, All Because You Matter, The Day You Begin, The World Needs Who You Were Made to Be, and Chocolate Milk – Por Favor.

The project follows the OEA Strategic Goal #4 – *to advocate racial, social, and economic justice*. Plans are to continue in 2022, but hopefully more in person than virtual.

Phil A. Long contributed to this article.



GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT

The grant committee members, Judy Buschle, John Hoyes, Phil Long, Mary Binegar, and new staff liaison Makia Burns have been meeting and working towards completing our goals for the OEA/NEA 2020-2021 Grant. The following are the four goals we have been working on all year and an update of our progress.

- I. **To maintain and increase OEA-R membership**
This year we have worked very hard in reaching out to our older members and letting them know we care. We have also been reaching out to potential members through Hustle and letting them know about our pre-payment option that make life time membership easy and affordable. Many of our districts have had pre-retired workshops/seminars encouraging active to join now to make the transition from active to retired seamless. We are also going to start in August beginning to clean up our retired membership so that we have accurate information to keep in contact and make them aware of opportunities as retirees.
- II. **To engaged and provide opportunities for Retirees to participate in activities**
We have had a variety of opportunities for our retirees to participate this year even with a pandemic. We were active in the 2020 Election using Hustle, participating in OEA committee meetings, District workshops and conferences, getting information out about our candidates for STRS, Read Across America Project (targeting diversity), Membership Drive through Hustle, postcards, emails and text messages. The Advisory Committee members have been very busy and have worked very hard to include their district members in all our activities.
- III. **Advisory Council and Ohio's O.N.E. (Ohio New Educators) Member Ambassadors**
This year this has been a very challenging goal, with new liaison staff in mid-year. OEA-R was able to meet with the group and participate in one of their Sunday evening activities. We will continue to work on being more involved with the O.N.E. ambassadors to support and encourage their work in the profession.
- IV. **Advisory Council and making early contact with New Aspiring Educators.**
We are continuing to work with the New Aspiring Educators and their new liaison to identify ways retirees can help in encouraging and inspiring them as they pursue a career in public education and be active in our association. We have a lot more work to reach our goal.

The Grant Committee, OEA-R Advisory Council members, OEA Leadership and our Retired Volunteers have done a great job this year in working on our grant goals, however we still have a lot more work to accomplish our goals. OEA-R's job is not completed and we will continue to reach out to our members and build OEA-R as a visible and viable group that supports our association because, we must always remember we may have retired from our positions but **NOT FROM OUR PROFESSION!**

Submitted by: Judy Buschle, Grant Chair



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



© Can Stock Photo

Thank you for your continued interest in OEA-Retired. Current membership information is essential if Chapter/Districts records are to coincide with state records regarding individual membership status for determination of delegate entitlements as well as communicating with the members.

If you need to update your contact information, please use the OEA Membership Update Form below.

For additional membership questions, contact OEA membership at: membership@ohea.

Connect with Us
Ohio Education Association
225 East Broad Street
P.O. Box 2250
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614-228-1500
Toll-free: 1-800-282-1500
Fax: 614-228-8771

PLEASE USE UPDATE FORM ON NEXT PAGE



Member Update Form

- MEMBERSHIP ID NUMBER _____
Don't know your number? It can be found on the mailing label of your Ohio Schools magazine or call the infoOEA Help Line at 1-844-OEA-info (1-844-632-4636).
- NAME _____
First MI Last
- PHONE NUMBER _____
Cell Home
- PERSONAL EMAIL _____
- ADDRESS _____
Street City State Zip
- BIRTH DATE _____
Month Day Year



DISTRICT REPORTS



ECOEA:

Congratulations to our two retiring members on the ECOEA Executive Committee: Ed Sims (Rittman EA) representing Wayne County #2 and Janel Travis (Newcomerstown TA), representing Tuscarawas County as County Representatives and others that are retiring at the close of this school year!

Both Ed and Janel have “pre-retired” status, meaning they only change their membership in the Association from active to retiree. The good news is that you can continue your support, beyond your retirement, by becoming a “pre-retired” member, today! Visit our website: <http://ecoea->

r.ohea.us/ to view our “Belong Now” flyer and application. If you would like a flyer for posting, please feel free to contact me. Pre-payment options are now available. You can also go directly to OEA Membership www.ohea.org/retired or contact OEA-R, 225 East Broad Street, Box 2550, Columbus, OH 43216 or call 1-(800) 282-1500.

Carol Kinsey (Canton Professional Educators’ Association) and Kathleen Purdy (Plain Local Teacher’s Association) thank you for your support as both are representing you at the NEA-R and National Education Association Assemblies.

Submitted by: Kathleen Purdy



EOEA:

Eastern OEA-R has been busy even though we have not been meeting in person yet. In an effort to update our membership lists OEA has supplied us with a membership list that is broken down by age. EOEA-R has one member that is 100 years old. We have handwritten post cards to all EOEA-R members who are 80 years of age or more.

We have received some very positive responses to that effort. In a few instances family members who have received the post cards have notified us that some of those members have passed which allows us to update our records. It has been a positive experience reaching out to our older members.

Submitted by: Rita Walters



NCOEA:

Our members have been involved in various activities. Judy Novak was on the screening committee for STRS candidates. Several members campaigned for STRS candidates using a texting phone application called Hustle.

Members attended the OEA-R Virtual Spring Conference held on March 30. Three members attended the OEA Spring Representative Assembly, which took place on May 8th.

Becky Mayer and Perry Brokaw volunteered to participate in a virtual Read Across America. They chose book titles from a list dealing with Diversity. They were able to read and have their presentations taped on Zoom. This format allowed active teachers to use the presentations in their classrooms.

OEA-R was awarded a grant to maintain and increase membership. We sent out 125 postcards contacting members over the age of 70 years. We wanted to let them know they are not forgotten and are valued as OEA-R members. Follow up phone calls and written communications aided in updating our membership lists. We have also contacted active members inviting them to join us as pre-retired members.

Future dates to remember:

“Not Back to School” Brunch will be held on August 12, 2021 at 11:00 at “The Blueberry Patch” located at 1285 Hanley Rd. W., Mansfield, OH 44904

Submitted by: Judy Novak

NWEOA:

NWEOA-R Committee had their meeting in March. It was decided to choose someone for the NWEOA-R retired service award and will be awarded next year in 2022 at the NWEOA RA in person. The following year of 2023 will be given to another retiree in-person NWEOA RA. The award winners will remain secret until after the awards are given.

The NWEOA-R/OEA-R Advisory Council Rep(2-3 yr. terms), Sue Cramer, will be retiring from her position due to term limits at the end of August. Lisa Marshall Scott will be the representative and serve 2 terms.

I want to thank all NWEOA-R/OEA-R members for their attentiveness, cooperation, patience and diligence in these hard times of the pandemic. I want to thank NWEOA-R Board of directors and OEA-R Advisory Council members and officers for the work we have done together and made our organizations better to assist educators in their lives and future. I will be working on other projects to make the future a better place to work, play, learn, teach and live.

Submitted by: Sue Cramer



SEOEA:

We held our first in person planning committee meeting at the Ohio University Inn. Planning for the next year was exciting. Just thinking that I will be able to meet with the teachers again is something to look forward to so I can present OEA-R information.

SEOEA has been making donations to food banks throughout Southeast. Helping those food banks with the extra money we had by not meeting in person.

SEOEA has a new President. Bill Van Pelt served as President for the last 6 years but since he was term limited an election was held and Norvel Crandall is SEOEA's new President. Norvel also serves on the OEA Executive Committee.

We had a representative to read in the Read Across America video. A book by Kamala Harris called *Superheroes are Everywhere* was read.

Hope everyone has a restful summer.

Submitted by: Jane Miller



SWOEA:

The SWOEA-R Executive Committee has continued to meet through the year using zoom. We have been able to discuss information to get flyers out from time to time to keep membership inform about what is going on at the district and state level.

We have two SWOEA-R delegates to the virtual NEA-R Conference and the NEA RA, Deloris Rome-Hudson and Becky Brown. Many of our members have participated in various OEA-R meetings, grant activities and OEA-R Spring Conference hosted by NEOEA-R through zoom.

Our goal is to have an in-person SWOEA-R outing in August, more information will be sent out in July. Even in the COVID 19 pandemic we have been able to keep being involved and look forward to a time we can all get together.

For now, we just wish our members to have a safe and healthy summer!

Submitted by: Judy Buschle

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.



OEA is a sponsoring partner for Kids Voting Ohio (KVO), a free, non-partisan, voter preparedness and civic education program for grades 3-12 in Ohio public schools. The intention with this program is to improve voter turnout for the 18/29 age group within Ohio. KVO believes in empowering young people to be civically active and engaged in their communities, as well as emphasizing the importance of local government.

Kids Voting Ohio invites your district, school buildings, and teachers to register for free programs. Our programs include mock elections, Ohio standard aligned curriculum, scholarships for students, curated engagement opportunities with your local and state government, voter registration drives and much more.

We encourage you to explore our web site and register for our 2021- 2022 school year programs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in reaching out to our staff. Together, we hope to build a more civically engaged Ohio.

Editor's note – Our very own Phil A. Long is President of the Board for Kids Voting Ohio.