

## CATCHIN' UP WITH INTERGENERATIONAL MENTORING

The Intergenerational Mentoring program is completing its fifth year of existence in Ohio. We began with six mentoring pairs at Kent State University in 2008. Mentoring pairs are education majors, usually in their junior or senior year of college, and retired teachers who live near the college campus. Last year, we had 56 mentors and 67 mentees. We now have 86 mentors and 64 mentees on four college campuses: Kent, Miami University, Ohio University, and The Ohio State University. If you would like to work with education majors and live near one of these campuses, please contact Bill Otten, staff liaison for OEA-R, at 1-866-427-0046 or [ottenb@ohea.org](mailto:ottenb@ohea.org)

## FCPE INFORMATION

Now is the time to make your donation to the Fund for Children and Public Education. It's quick and easy to donate electronically. Go to [www.ohea.org](http://www.ohea.org). On the left, scroll down to "Quick Links" and then to "Donate to FCPE." VISA and MasterCard are accepted. Let's help raise money to elect pro-union, pro-education candidates in 2014.

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

### 2012-2013 Officers

**John Hoyes**  
President

**Carol Kinsey**  
Vice-President

**Marti Huss**  
Secretary

**David Bowen**  
Past President

**OEA-R Newsline is the official publication of OEA-Retired.**

**Bill Sears**, Editor

**Spring 2013**



## STRS

**The Finance Department presented proposed system budgets** for the 2014 fiscal year (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014) during the April meeting of the State Teachers Retirement Board. The proposed operating budget totals \$90,504,600, a slight decrease from the current year's budget. The proposed head count of 585 full-time equivalent associates reflects an increase of six positions for the coming year. The budget provides for the continued implementation of pension reform changes, refinements to the Defined Contribution and Combined Plans, and continued development of Health Care Fund options. The proposed capital budget for fiscal year 2014 totals \$1,684,300. The Retirement Board will be asked to approve the budgets at its June meeting.

## SERS

Valerie Rodgers, Executive Director of SERO, Adele Matias, OEA-R, and Ohio Rep. Lynn Wachtmann addressed the SERS Board concerning the cost of travel by board members. The concern expressed was triggered by a trip two long time board members will be taking in May to Hawaii to attend an annual conference. The board members, Barbara Phillips and Cathy Moss feel the perception of the SERS members can not influence their decision to travel for conferences and training. Rep. Wachtmann also addressed the board concerning their behavior as board members, (boardmanship). The Ohio Retirement Oversight Council requested the SERS Board look at revising their travel policy. Gov. Kasich appointed Daniel Wilson of Beachwood to the SERS Board. He replaces Richard Sensenbrenner whose term expired. Wilson was sworn in today and his term runs through Sept. 27, 2016. Brent Greenwood, a principal with OptumHealth Care Solutions, Inc., addressed the Board to discuss expected changes to healthcare in 2014. He discussed the SERS strategic healthcare plan and offered insights into the plan for a changing future. The SERS fund value as of Feb. 13, 2013 is 11.24 billion

## 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)

## ELECTION RESULTS

In elections this spring, the following were elected to three year terms for the positions indicated. Bill Sears, OEA Retired Representative on the OEA Board of Directors; Beryl Burkle, NEOEA OEA-R Advisory Council Representative; Bob Beers, OEA-R Advisory Council Representative; Jeff Corbin, Capital OEA-R Advisory Council Representative; Jane Rahn, WOEAOEA-R Advisory Council Representative; Adele Matais, ESP OEA-R Advisory Council Representative; and

Bonnie Harris, Higher Ed OEA-R Advisory Council Representative.

The following were elected as Delegates to the NEA-R Annual Meeting and NEA Representative Assembly: John Hoyes, Don Traxler, Bill Dorsey, Bill Sears, Carol Kinsey, Chris Swank, Homer Adams, and Marilyn Allen. Category 2 NEA RA Delegate, Bob Dengler.

All candidates for all positions appreciate your votes.

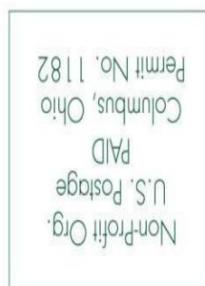
## OEA-R MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT GRANT

The OEA-R Advisory Council has been actively recruiting pre-retired and already retired OEA members. We received a two-year grant from NEA-R to help us in our efforts. Our goal is to recruit 250 new members before July 1 – and we are more than half way there! The Project Team, Marti Huss, Chair, Carol Kinsey, Jack Boyd, Beryl Burkle, Jane Rahn, Michael Jordan, and Sue Christian have been very busy generating ideas. If you know of a recently retired OEA member who has not already joined OEA-R/NEA-R, please have them contact their District Representative for more information. They'll be glad they did!

## DISTRICT NEWS

**CAPITAL** Recently, CEA-R completed its United Way campaign, and raised \$9200. Our new spring/summer activity brochure has been mailed, and has our bi-monthly activities listed. Our annual elections for CEA-R officers will be held on Thursday, June 20, at the Boat House Restaurant. Information may be found on our website, <http://www.cea-retired.com> Submitted by Jeff Corbin

**CENTRAL** As the academic year draws to a close, the work of OEA members cannot end. Continued cuts to education means loss of members, reduced services to our students, crowded classrooms, and in many cases, no extra-curricular activities. This burden is compounded by the ever-increasing demand placed on teachers and administrators because of new evaluation procedures, the Third-Grade Reading Guarantee, testing, and more. The call for continued lobbying must be answered in order for legislators to understand the concerns. Central retirees have participated in many important activities throughout the year. An information event designed for retirees and soon-to-be retirees was held in February which included political/legislative updates as well as STRS and SERS presentations. In lieu of the April meeting date, Central Retired Advisory members are participating in Lobby Day. Additionally, the May meeting will include phone banking at OEA to inform retirees about SB 21, the budget, and other



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225 East Broad Street, Box 2550, Columbus, OH 43216  
OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

legislative concerns. At the Central RA on April 27<sup>th</sup>, a number of important items were on the agenda. The OEA-R lifetime membership drive currently in place offers a monetary incentive to active members to join. Increasing membership is critical for a number of reasons: most importantly is the loss of membership due to budget cuts, and with it the loss of revenues. Endorsement of OEA President and Vice President candidates was also made. Submitted by *Sue Christian*

**ECOEA**

Please visit the Ohio Public Interest Research Group's (PIRG) website at <http://www.ohiopirg.org> to send your message and take action on the CUT Loopholes Act. During the Orlando NEA-R Organizing Conference, my 3-hour workshop identified this problem; of which I had no previous awareness. Marc Kovac, Dix Capital Bureau Chief wrote an April 5, 2013 newspaper article on this \$Billion dollar extra taxes burden to American taxpayers. Marc provided the above website to me, suggesting it would further surprise me. **SAVE THE DATE:** the ECOEA-R "Not Back to School Luncheon" on **Wednesday, August 21, 2013** from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Mulligan's Pub, 4118 Belden Village St.NW, Canton, OH 44718. My invited guest will be Ms. Amanda Tietze (BBB) on Fighting Fraud 101 which targets older Americans. RSVP before Friday, August 16, 2013 to [ecoearetired@yahoo.com](mailto:ecoearetired@yahoo.com). It is self-pay. Thanks to Advisory Council member Christine Vicar and OEA-R Staff Liaison Bill Otten for attending last year. Submitted by *Kathleen Purdy*

**NEOEA**

The NEOEA-R Spring Conference was held at the NEOEA Office in Garfield Hts. It was a success with current information about Health Care, Legislation Updates and Apps for Mobile Devices. The Outreach Committee of the Retired Organizing Committee planned read events for "Read Across America Dr. Seuss Style in March. We had many retired members reading in schools and libraries where they worked or in their home communities. The retired also joined the Kent State University Student Association for a day of "Read Across America" at Kent. Children from the community were brought by parents for a very enjoyable program with activities all related to reading presented by KSU Students and retired volunteers. View our video on YouTube. ([www.ohea.org](http://www.ohea.org)) go to Read Across America Project use that website to get to the video. Enjoy, it has been lots of fun. Please join us next year to Read Across America. We will start preparing in January so let us know if you are interested. We continue to support the NEA-R Recruitment grant. OEA-R will sign up pre-retired membership for NEA-R/OEA-R. Talk to retired friends that have not joined and direct them to <http://www.ohea.org> and click on OEA Retired. The mentoring program at Kent State University is finishing its fifth year under the leadership of Nancy Wonson. We will have a wonderful get together at Kent mentors/students at a picnic before everyone goes home for the summer. This is a program that is very enriching for students as well as the retired mentors. These students will keep you young. Submitted by *Beryl Burkle*

**SEOEA**

As your SEOEA-Retired Representative to OEA-R, during two visits to Columbus (March 6 & 20), I have lobbied almost all of the State Representatives and State Senators who have been elected by the 12 counties of SEOEA. I am pleased to say that the attitude of all of our legislators toward educators has become more attentive and recent pro-education lobbying has shown results. For example, while the Executive Budget did not include a restoration of cuts (made during the economic crisis) on per pupil funding keeping it at \$5000 per, the substitute Legislative Budget Bill increased that per pupil to \$5732 for FY 2014 and \$5786 for FY 2015. Lobbying does have an impact these days and the meetings with our leaders in Columbus that were most effective included volunteer SEOEA-R member/constituents who traveled to Columbus to meet their Senator & Rep with me for the appointment I had made. Having actual constituents present makes such a difference that I chose to cancel the appointments I made for because I was unable to get any members from those districts to join me. I urge all of you to consider taking a turn to lobby in Columbus as needed in the future. You will be able to read more about this lobbying program and other items in mid-May when you receive one more newsletter by U.S. Mail. This will be possible due to a one time funding event, so I will be continuing to urge you to share your email address with SEOEA-R so you can receive our three or four e-newsletters during the 2013-2014 year. May we all enjoy our retirement while making time to support Public Schools and OEA which is more vulnerable as membership drops due to teacher RIFs due to inadequate funding. I can be reached at [retired.SEOEA@gmail.com](mailto:retired.SEOEA@gmail.com) or by calling 740-551-2133 or by 740-516-2800. Submitted by *Christine McVicar*

**SWOEA**

On February 5<sup>th</sup>, SWOEA-R sponsored a very successful STRS Health Care Workshop at the SWOEA office. There were 29 attendees for the workshop. The annual meeting will be held May 21, 2013 at 5:30. Guest speaker will be Scott DiMauro, President of Central OEA/NEA, to speak on their efforts to organize their retired. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, SWOEA-R had a field trip to the Cincinnati Museum Center for the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition. Several members enjoyed a lunch and the tour at the museum. There will be another field trip on June 12, 2013 to the Highfield Discovery Garden in Woodlawn. A "NOT Back to School Lunch" will happen on September 17<sup>th</sup>. More information will be available at a later date. Submitted by *Bob Beers*

**WOEA**

The April meeting was a tour and history of the Victoria Theatre or Theater depending on the venue presented...operas or

movies. Lunch and a business meeting followed at UNO's. The members reviewed the slate of officers that will be on the May ballot and voted to donate money to the Strongsville Teacher Association. Thirty participants attended the workshop *What's Up With My Retirement?* sponsored by the WOEa MRP Committee and WOEa-R. Speakers included OEA Lobbyist Robert Davis, STRS Kelley Barone, SERS Cameron Vaughn, and NEA Member Benefits Guy Kendall-Freas. Two members joined OEA-R/NEA-R that day as pre-retired and have a 10% chance to win \$100.

The May 15 meeting at 11:00 a.m. will be held at Company 7 BBQ in Englewood. The program will be *Lost Mansions of Dayton*. The June 19 meeting at 9:45 will be held at Cox Arboretum with a box lunch provided by Christopher's. RSVP to Pat Eshbaugh 937-461-4404 or [pat.eshbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:pat.eshbaugh@gmail.com). Submitted by *Jane Rahn*



**NEA-R Organizing Conference** held in Orlando, March, 2013. *Back row:* Bill Otten, John Hoyes, Bill Sears, Don Holub. *Front row:* Marti Huss, Kathleen Purdy, Donna Smoot-Walters, Peg Ham

**OEA-R Participates in Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans Spring Convention**

On April 9<sup>th</sup> 7 of 10 delegates met at the Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 180 Hall in Columbus for the, OARA, spring Convention. Norm Wernet President of the organization chaired the meeting. Our Delegates were from Capital: Marilyn Allen; Central: Tom Beck and Lee Schreiner; East Central: Carol Kinsey; Eastern: John Hoyes; and Western: Phil Long and Jane Rahn. OEA-R is considered a community organization. After our caucus the OEA-R delegates elected Marilyn Allen to the Ohio Alliance for Retired Americans (OARA) and Tom Beck to the group's Educational Fund (OARAEF). Their charge is to help expand the outreach into the community to educate and activate older workers, retirees and other seniors around the issues of retirement security. Bentley Davis, the Ohio Field Director of ARA, coordinates the activities and communications to us as leaders. The Spring Convention adopted several Resolutions covering Ohio Legislative and ballot concerns. A resolution from the floor supported the teachers of the Strongsville

Education Association. This was not made by an OEA-R member, but from a retired union member from the Cleveland area.

**OEA-R STATEWIDE FALL CONFERENCE**  
**September 11, 2013**  
**Save the Date and Register Now**

STRS Building, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 275 East Broad Street  
 Columbus OH 43215

Speakers include the OEA Officers, OEA Executive Director Larry Wicks, and OEA-R Staff Liaison Bill Otten.

STRS and SERS Health Care Personnel will be invited to speak on health care issues/changes for 2014 followed by questions and answers. Other interesting and informational sessions are being planned including a Right to Work update for the afternoon.

**Note: 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 September 1<sup>st</sup>** in order to be eligible for door prizes. You will be notified by email once your payment is received. Mail form and payment to:

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

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**September 11, 2013**  
**Save the Date and Register Now**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

OEA DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_