

DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

WESTERN OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION—RETIRED

WOEA-R Founded September 1989

Volume 28 Issue 2

May/June 2018

Officers

Phil A. Long, Chair
Sandy Dobberstein, Vice Chair

Jennie Furnas, Secretary
Pat Lynch, Treasurer

Jane Rahn, Past Chair

WOEA-R MAY/JUNE REPORT

The March 21st meeting was canceled due to weather conditions.

April 18 WOE-R co-hosted the OEA-R Spring Conference at Carillon Park with SWOE-R with 15 WOE-R members attending. Participants experienced the park area, heard from OEA-R officers, STRS Board member, Rita Walters and SERS observer Barb Catalano, our own enthusiastic Sandy Dobberstein on her role at the Cincinnati Zoo and SWOE-R Marti Huss and her Lighthouse tours. WOE-R organizing members: Sandy Dobberstein, Jane Rahn, Pat Lynch, Debbie Owens, and Dawn Wojcik – THANK YOU!!!

It is with sadness that WOE-R learned of the passing of one of our members, Deb Tauber on March 4. A Memorial Service was held on March 10. Deb retired from Dayton Public Schools in 2012.

FCPE contributions are going very well: September - \$162; October - \$146; November - \$172; December - \$226; April \$186 Total: \$892. Members contributed over \$1500 last year. Members will have an opportunity the coming year for a Taco dinner for 4 by Sophia Rodriguez and Phil Long.

With the cooperation of Carol Kinsey, WOE-R members Sandy Dobberstein, Jane Rahn, and Phil A. Long are attending Uniserv Council meetings in WOE-R. Assignments are: Sandy Dobberstein: Far West, Western, Miami A&B; Jane Rahn: Greene County and Happy Trails; Phil A. Long: Grand Lake and Grand Old River. The response has been very positive. The cooperation and support of the LRCs is greatly appreciated. We will be participating in

the New Educator Program through Uniserv Councils. Helping with the New Educator Program are Debbie Owens, Sandy Coe, Jane Rahn, Phil Long.

WOEA-R will be involved in the screening process for candidates. WOE-R has representatives for Ohio House District Screenings: 39 – Walita Duvall; 40 – Jane Rahn; 41 – Sandy Coe; 42 – Willie Terrell; 43 – Val Roldan; 73 – Deb Owens; 80 – Sandy Dobberstein; 84 – Phil Long. On March 10th Sandy Coe, Warlita Duvall, and Phil A. Long attended the State FCPE Convention. Several endorsements were made: Zach Space – Auditor; Rob Richardson – Treasurer; Kathleen Clyde – Secretary of State; Steve Dettelbach – Attorney General. Senator Brown was endorsed previously. Please let people know these are pro-education candidates!!!!

NEA/OEA-R Life dues are \$350 until September 1, 2018. Then they will increase to \$450. WOE-R life dues are \$100. Everyone likes a sale!!!! Join pre-retired unified now for \$450 and save \$100!

Voting for NEA- retired delegates is complete and Phil A. Long was elected. Bill Sears was elected OEA-R Chair and Mary Binegar OEA-R Vice Chair.

Phil A. Long, WOE-R Chair

SANDY DOBBERSTEIN'S REPORT

2018 Spring Programs

May 16 Program, lunch, and business meeting: 11:00 AM, the Dayton Masonic Center, 525 W Riverview Ave., Dayton. The Dayton Masonic Center, formerly known as the Dayton Masonic Temple, is a historically significant building in Dayton. It was built by a Masonic Temple Association formed from 14 Masonic groups. The building was completed over a 2 year, 9 month period and completed in 1928 by 450 workers. We will tour the building then have lunch in the Square and Compasses Cafe, followed by our business meeting.

RSVP: sldobberstein@gmail.com or 937-554-6338

June 20 Program, lunch and business meeting: 11:00 AM, the Dayton Public Library (215 E Third St., Dayton). On August 5, 2017, the doors of the new Main Library in downtown Dayton opened to the public. Built upon the strong structural core of the 1962 building, the Main Library is four times the size of the previous building. With expansive park and city views, six original art installations, meeting places and gathering spaces of all sorts, the Main Library is a destination for exploration, learning and discovery. After a private tour we will get lunch at the library café, eat, and have our business meeting in private room #3A, 3rd floor (There is an elevator).

RSVP: sldobberstein@gmail.com or 937-554-6338

2018 Fall Programs

Please note two schedule changes for the fall programming. The October meeting will begin with a tour of the Paul Lawrence Dunbar House at 10AM instead of 11AM. Also, due to Thanksgiving our November meeting will be the second Wednesday (Nov. 14) instead of the third Wednesday.

Sept. 19 Business meeting followed by lunch and program: 11:00 AM **Miami County Parks District Lost Creek Reserve** (2385 OH-41, Troy, OH) Come hear a presentation by the director of the Miami County Parks District and maybe be surprised with an animal visit. If weather permits, an easy guided hike after the program. Lunch and program \$12.00

Oct. 17 TIME CHANGE!!!! 10AM

Program: **Paul Lawrence Dunbar House** (219 N. Paul Laurence Dunbar St., Dayton) The tour is free and will last 1 ½ - 2 hours, note the time change to 10AM. Following the tour we will meet at 12 noon for lunch and our meeting, **Texas Beef & Cattle Co.** (1101 W 3rd St, Dayton). After lunch you might want to continue your afternoon across the street at the Wright Cycle Shop. (also free admission)

Nov. 14 (1 Week early due to Thanksgiving)

Program: **WACO Air Museum and Learning Center** (1865 S Co Rd 25A, Troy) The WACO Aircraft Company was the largest manufacturer of civil aircraft in the country in the late 1920's and early 30's and this museum is dedicated to the plant and the employees that made it great. We will be touring their newly remodeled and expanded space. Fee: \$6. Following the tour we will meet for lunch at: TBD

Dec. 19 Program, lunch and business meeting: 11:00 AM, **Archer's Tavern** (2030 East Dorothy Lane, Kettering). Archer's is a locally owned restaurant that has purchased and remodeled a previous restaurant site. Thanks to Deb Owens for finding a restaurant with a private space for us!

RSVP for all programs: sldobberstein@gmail.com or 937-554-6338

READ ACROSS AMERICA

The RAA event was a success thanks to WOE-R volunteers and friends! We had three participating school districts. Six readers volunteered for fourteen classrooms at Main Elementary grades K through 5, one reader for a third grade classroom at Parkwood Elementary and for

two Kindergarten classrooms at Valley Elementary, all in the Beaver Creek School District. Two of our volunteer readers read at Madison Park Elementary for seven classrooms grades 2 and 3 and two readers for seven classrooms grades 4 and 5 at Westbrooke Village Elementary in the Trotwood Madison School District. Thanks to Sandy Dobberstein for being very instrumental in getting six volunteers to read to twenty classrooms at Kleptz Early Learning Center grades K and 1 in the Northmont School District.

Kim Honeycutt did an excellent job posting pictures on the Western Ohio Education Association Facebook page throughout the day. She is still working on editing more pictures to be posted so please continue to check out the Facebook page.

The volunteer readers were invited to the WOEa Spring RA on April 11 to be recognized.

Big Thank You to WOEa-R members:

Deb Drake, Jo Fehl, Jennie Furnas, Phil Long, Kay Piper, Jane Rahn, Gail Saugsted, Dawn Wojcik, Yolanda Unger

We truly appreciate the following volunteers for helping us with our endeavor:

Peggy Cacek, Gloria Dillon, Charlene Foster, Connie Gilhooly, Marlene Hunnell, Barbara Lacey, Lisa Porter, Kathryn Reynolds, Sue Wampler

We would like to thank **Emmy Brudzunski** and **Willie Terrell** for not only reading on March 2 at Riversedge and Dayton Boys Prep Academy but for the work they do at these two schools in the Dayton Public School District throughout the year.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

We love to spread a little sunshine to our WOEa-R members who may have an illness. If anyone has news of an illness or death, please let Debbie

Owens know at hhteach@hotmail.com. and if possible, send an address. Thank you so much!

WOEA-R SCHOLARSHIP

The WOEa-R Scholarship was established to help members continue their participation in WOEa and OEA. The scholarship covers registration only. For WOEa-R to continue its commitment to this fund, donations are welcomed. Please consider making a donation at our next meeting or contact our Treasurer, Pat Lynch at pat2351@hotmail.com. Thank you so much for supporting this important part of WOEa-R.

FCPE Convention, March 10, 2018

OEA endorsed the following candidates for the state of Ohio positions:

Auditor – Zack Space

Treasurer – Rob Richardson

Secretary of State – Kathleen Clyde

Attorney General – Steven Dettelbach

MEDICARE UPDATE

Starting 4/1/18 Medicare will start a year-long project to replace all current Medicare cards for beneficiaries to convert to alphanumeric ID numbers. Currently, the ID number is your social security number.

Just a heads up that there is a scam going around involving the new Medicare Cards coming out in April. Pass it along. It might come in handy to know Medicare will never call you on the phone.

It is true that the new cards will be sent out from April 2018 to April 2019 Medicare has also warned on scams. They do not charge for cards or want your personal information over the phone.

Example of the new Medicare cards



Here's what you need to know to protect yourself, family and friends, throughout the US.

First of all the new Medicare card will come to you in the mail. You don't need to request it or do anything. It will show up.

WHAT'S THE SCAM?

Somebody from "MEDICARE " will call to tell you-you are getting a new Medicare card. But until it comes you will need a temporary card. Fee for the card is between \$5-50 dollars. They want personal information, bank account or credit card so they can process your temporary card.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Medicare will never call you unless you ask them to.

Medicare does all communications by mail unless you ask them to call.

Ditto for anybody saying they "work with Medicare to make sure you get everything you are entitled to".

Scammer alert

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THIS ONE?

First of all, spread the word. Feel free to share these notes.

Use your answering machine to screen calls or just don't even answer a number you don't recognize.

If it has happened to you or your friends or loved ones and personal info had been given out (happens considerably more often than you think so don't feel bad or stupid) immediately take action to protect yourself against identity theft.

STRS REPORT

Retirement System Update

Pension & health care financial standing from Rita Walters. Segal Consulting produced the valuation report. It showed the funded ratio improved to 75.1% up from 69.6% last year.

The funding period – the amount of time needed to pay off the system's unfunded liability decreased from 18.4 years from 26.6 last year. Big improvement in just one year.

Based upon Segal's recommendations the board adopted several recommendations from Segal.

***Reduce the investment rate expectation to 7.45% from 7.75%

***Update mortality tables to recognize retirees are living longer.

***Reduce inflation assumption & overall expected payroll growth.

The new assumptions had an overall negative impact. Steps taken to correct the imbalance was to reduce the cost of living increases granted after July 1, 2017 to 0%. Without this action the funded ration would drop to 66.6% funding period to 50.4 years. Instead it is funded at 75.1% for a period of 18.4 years.

Health Care Funding Update –

Designs changes to the plan, strong investment return an good claims experience had a positive effect on the fund. The overall news on the health care funding was positive. We hope to continue to offer a meaningful health care plan to retired Ohio educators for years to come.

Rita Walters, STRS Board member

**2018 NEA-Retired Conference:
Uniting our Members and the
Nation; Retirees Hand in Hand with
You
March 18-19, 2018 Hyatt Regency
Chicago, Illinois**

The conference had three keynote speakers, four breakout sessions, evening program and dinner, and breakfast.

The conference was well run and all keynote speakers were informative as well as entertaining. The first speaker was Bob Blancato, President of Matz, Blancato and Associates. He is also the Chairman of the *Board for the American Society of Aging* and serves as the National Coordinator of the bi-partisan 3000 member *Elder Justice Coalition*. He dealt with the status of senior issues as of day 421 of the Trump administration. He talked about the "good, bad and not sure" issues and outcomes of programs such as Meals on Wheels, Independence at Home, the Affordable Care Act, and DACA. He stated to "start thinking advocacy is like a postage stamp-stick with it till meet your destination".

The second keynote speaker was Gary Harmon who taught in Knox County, TN for 33 years. He is the author of a children's book called *My Daddy Takes His Legs Off*. He talked about his experience growing up with physical differences and the impact certain people had on his lives that make him who he is today.

The third keynote speaker was Mary Kusler, Senior Director, NEA Center for Advocacy. She talked about issues dealing with education and health care. As always she was informative.

The retired Conference attendees donated \$3356 to the Jack Kinnaman Scholarship Fund and \$16,115 to the FCPE Fund.

The evening dinner was excellent and Bill Sears, SWOEA, stated he thought it was the best banquet meal he had ever had.

The NEA-Retired RA will be held in St. Paul, MN on June 27-28, 2018.

Submitted by

Jane Rahn, WOE-Retired, OEA-R At-large rep

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Anita Barton – first year

Andrea Hirtle – WOE-R Life

Amy Fugate – WOE-R Pre-Retirement

OEA/ NEA – R MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE/RETIRED MEMBERS:

Do you realize that you can join OEA-R/ NEA-R Retired at any time during your career? Why do that you ask. Lock in the rate of \$350 Retired Life dues today and not pay anything to retain your membership when you retire. The unified dues will increase for OEA-R and NEA-R will increase to \$450 by September 1, 2018. To join online go to www.nea.org/Join NEA or request a membership form from Membership at OEA 225 East broad Street Box 2250 Columbus, OH 43216.

Send the confirmation number of your retired membership or copy your form and cancelled check to Mary Binegar 2210 Woodside Ave. Springfield, OH 45503 prior to June 20th. Your name will be in a drawing to win \$350 from the OEA-Retired Advisory Council.

Attention OEA-Retired members: The OEA-R Newline will only be emailed. Any questions contact OEA 800-282-1500.

At this time, the current officers and committee chairs are willing to continue for next year. This will be voted on at the May meeting. There is one exception: Newsletter chair. If anyone is interested, please let me know.

Directory WOE-R 2017-2018

CHAIR Phil A. Long

VICE CHAIR Sandy Doberstein

SECRETARY Jennie Furnas

TREASURER Pat Lynch

PAST CHAIR Jane Rahn

MEMBERSHIP Jane Rahn

Emmy Brudzynski

NEWSLETTER Sandy Coe

MAILING Willie Terrell

LEGISLATIVE Dawn Wojcik

OUTREACH Nancy Mullins

SUNSHINE Debbie Owens

READ ACROSS Val Roldan

HUGE THANK YOU!!!: To all WOE-R officers , committee chairs, delegates, members. When everyone contributes a little, a lot can be accomplished.

ARTEMIS SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Artemis is a domestic violence resource agency located at 310 W. Monument Ave. in Dayton. Many women and their children go there with very little. Supplies needed include spiral & composition notebooks, binders, construction paper, scissors,

pens, pencils, washable markers, white glue, tissues, and backpacks. NANCY MULLINS delivers the supplies to the agency. WOE-R members are encouraged to take supplies to the monthly meetings for delivery.

EDUCATION REFORM TALKING POINTS

Have you ever wondered how to talk to parents, policy makers, the public or even your colleagues about education reform? The new message deals with what makes schools great. What parents want is the critical thinking skills that would make their child the next great entrepreneur or inventor. With that in mind, consider the following points to discuss for reforming education: !talk about inspiring natural curiosity and creativity !discuss funding inequities as a barrier to higher levels of thinking talk about the testing machine and how it is taking time away from learning explain how privatization hurts public schools.

OEA-R CONFERENCES

The Fall OEA-R Conference will be Sept. 12. Registration information and form attached.

MEMBERSHIP DUES/INFO UPDATES

Annual dues of \$10 per year for WOE-R membership are now due. Members may opt for a lifetime membership of \$100 and avoid having to renew annually. A membership form is enclosed with your mailing or attached to your email. If you have no changes to submit please pass the form to a friend and encourage them to attend an event. Thank you for sharing and growing this organization that was started in 1989. Email Emmy at emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu or call her at 937-813-7661.

