

DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

WESTERN OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION—RETIRED WOE-R

Founded September 1989

Volume 30 Issue 4

June 2019

Phil A. Long, Chair
Sandy Dobberstein, Vice Chair &
Treasurer

Officers
Jennie Furnas, Secretary

Jane Rahn, Past Chair

Welcome! to WOE-Retired.
WOE-R was founded in September 1989 by members who felt that retirees would benefit from getting together to socialize, meet new people and remain aware of events happening in public education after retiring from the job, but not the profession.

OUR JUNE PROGRAM

June 19 Program, lunch and business meeting 11:00AM at MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave., Kettering. Our program will be given by the Washing Township-Centerville Public Library. Prepare to smile as you learn more

about our beloved hometown humorist Erma Bombeck. Debe Dockins from the library will present: Erma Bombeck: A Celebration of laughter. RSVP: sldobberstein@gmail.com 937-554-6338.

WOE-R CHAIR REPORT – May 2019

WOE-R approved support for Sophia Rodriguez for OEA vice president. While the outcome is not as we hoped, WOE-R thanks Sophia for consistent and constant support of retirees in WOE-R and OEA. We know she will continue to advocate for retired members in her continuing capacity with WOE-R, OEA, and NEA!!! WOE-R is proud of you, Sophia!!!!
WEAR RED FOR ED WEDNESDAY

Marge Punter encourages members to bring items for Artemis for each meeting. School, personal items and gift cards are needed. FCPE contributions since September 2018 - \$785.

Delegates for OEA-R: Willie Terrell and Sandy Coe, Jane Rahn and Phil A. Long May 9-11.

Elected for NEA-R delegates from WOE-R: Willie Terrill and Phil A. Long. Jane Rahn, alternate.

Willie and Phil will represent you in Houston at the NEA-R and NEA Rep Assembly this June 29-July 8.

Look for a report later.

Elections will be held for all WOE-R officers at the June meeting.

WOE-R members Sandy Dobberstein, Jane Rahn, and Phil A. Long are attending Uniserv Council meetings in WOE. 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.

OEA-R is working on an NEA grant/project to reach Early Career Educators. WOE-R has been reaching out to 873 OEA members with contact made to 110. Jane and Phil are working on Phase II contacting 64 locals/493 educators in WOE. If contacted – please respond. Jane and Phil are also reminding early career educators of a workshop on Classroom Management being held July 10, July 22, July 23, or August 6. Reservations can be made at www.ohea.org/one as part of Phase III.

Join at any time during your employment the OEA/NEA-Retired. The OEA-Retired Advisory Council, which is 10 retired members from the 10 districts and officers voted to have a promotion for any classified member (ESP) of OEA/NEA. A drawing will be held. The new member has a 10% chance of being reimbursed when joining OEA/NEA Retired as a unified member between now and August 1, 2019. There will be a drawing for every 10 members that join. So join now. You and your membership are priceless!

Join Online : www.nea.org/JoinNea or join by contacting your local leader and asking for a pre-retirement form, or contact Membership at OEA 225 E. Broad Street, Box 2250 Columbus, OH 43216 and request a paper form for PreRetired OEA-R/NEA-R. Then fill out form and mail in with your check.

WOE-R ELECTIONS

In June, elections will take place for the officers for WOE-R. Please consider assuming one of the following positions: Chair – sets agenda (with help from the officers and committee chairs), conducts monthly meetings (about an hour), communicates with members as needed, communicates with WOE as needed. Vice-Chair – sets the program and lunch venue for each meeting (3rd Wednesday of the month Mar-June and Sept-Dec.), assists Chair. Secretary – takes minutes and sends to Chair immediately following the meeting. Treasurer – keeps accurate books and submits a monthly report to the members, writes checks as needed, makes deposits promptly. The officers may meet once a year or as needed and make decisions between monthly meetings as needed.

2019 Fall Programs

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

September 18 Location: TENTATIVE
Meadowbrook Country Club, 6001 Salem Ave., Clayton. Join Charlotte Golden from **Kleptz YMCA** as she tells us about the opportunities, programs and classes, membership and the Silver Sneakers programs available to retired persons. She will speak on behalf of all branches of the Y in the Miami Valley.

October 16 Program: Program, lunch and business meeting 11:00AM at **MCL Cafeteria**, 4485 Far Hills Ave., Kettering. **Road Scholar** (Was previously called Elderhostel) is an American not-for-profit organization that provides educational travel tours primarily geared to older adults. Meet Nancy Tanner, an ambassador for Road Scholar who will share about this amazing organization.

November 20 (Rescheduled from April 2019)

Program, lunch and business meeting 11:00AM at **Ray's Wine Bar**, 8268 N Main St., Dayton.

Friendship Force is a non-profit cultural organization focused on promoting understanding, cultural education and citizen diplomacy through homestay Journeys and personal friendships.

Through these exciting personal encounters, strangers become friends. Their programs bring diverse people together into each other's cultures and homes to share experiences. Julie Vann, President of the Dayton Chapter, will share about Friendship Force. (WOEA-R member Jane Rahn is a FF member and has traveled with FF)

December 18 Program, lunch and business meeting 11:00AM **Old Scratch Pizza** 812 S Patterson Blvd, Dayton, OH 45402. We will be meeting in their private room and will order individually. Program: Artemis House and Crazy Christmas Swap. Bring items or a gift card to share with Artemis House AND bring a wrapped gift (under \$10 new or used) to exchange with our group. We can have some fun among ourselves and share the Christmas spirit with someone less fortunate than ourselves.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Please Check ohea.org & NEA.org for

Legislative updates. Thank you!

READ ACROSS AMERICA

Remember - "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child." ---Dr. Seuss

WOEA Professional Efficacy Committee in partnership with WOE-R participated in Read

ARTEMIS CENTER

OUR COMMUNITY PROJECT

WOEA-R has donated numerous items and money during the year. The Artemis Wish List includes Household Items, Pantry Needs, Personal Hygiene Items, Cell Phones, School Supplies, and always the ever-popular Gift Card.

I will bring copies of the detailed list to our next meeting for those of you who have either misplaced your copy or never received one.

I am also very willing to take things to St. Vincent de Paul.

Marge Punter

Across America. The committee paired up WOE-R volunteers and classroom teachers from surrounding districts. Each volunteer read a book to the class and depending on the grade level did an activity that correlates with the book. The book was donated to the participating class. On May 13, the WOE-R Professional Efficacy Committee under Kim Burris and Val Roldan, presented volunteer readers with a dinner at MCL Café and a token of appreciation for participating in the 2019 Read Across America project. Most of the readers indicated they will return next year. If you are interested in volunteering for 2020, please contact Val Roldan at tmeame@gmail.com.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE We love to spread a little sunshine to our WOE-R members in need. If anyone has news of an illnesses or death, please let Debbie Owens know at hh teach@hotmail.com. and if possible, send an address. Thank you so much!

WEAR RED FOR ED ON WEDNESDAY

MEMBERSHIP

Retired members are encouraged to ask colleagues to join WOE-R. Check the website for past and current newsletters.

Please contact Co-Chairpersons Emmy Brudzynski and Jane Rahn;
emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu 937-813-7661
with any information about our members and colleagues. Thank You.

New member: Michelle Langmeyer

WOEA-R NEEDS A NEWSLETTER EDITOR!

We are in need of a Newsletter Chair. I think our Newsletter is important to all members.

Unfortunately, I am not able to be available to do all the Newsletters. It is my hope that someone who has an interest will step forward. I can tell you that once you get a feel of it, it is easy to complete.

Using this format is easy and it doesn't take that long to put together (cut and paste).

Each Committee Chair writes their articles plus the Chair and Vice-Chair report.

Please consider stepping forward. Thank you. The weird blank spaces are because I don't know how to fix!!! PAL

OEA-Retired Spring Conference

Mark your calendars for the OEA-R Fall Conference on Wednesday, September 11, 2019

at the OEA Building for multiple session offerings – new format!! Check <http://oea-r.ohea.us/events/fall-conference/> for more details.

-BELONGING-

It has been known for centuries that human beings have an innate need to belong. We are social beings! Daily, we make choices to be with family, spouses, co-workers, even strangers. Our choices are made for a variety of reasons. Typically, we enjoy the company we keep! To belong to a larger group, such as an organization, is much more complex. Oftentimes, we choose to belong to a club, a team, a social circle, a gym, because someone has asked us to join - to belong to the group. We gain many things belonging to an organization: information, enjoyment, social status, health. Our sense of belonging is enhanced whenever we participate.

I am asking you to belong to OEA. The material benefits are a great incentive. But I'm also asking you to belong to a group of dedicated professionals – your school colleagues. OEA is a source of information, training, influence all focused on improving public schools for students, their parents, communities and you, the educator. OEA's annual membership is minimal when compared to discounts in travel, retail products, insurance, free college tuition and many more benefits too numerous to list here. However, I believe greatest benefit to belonging to OEA is that it makes a difference in the lives of students. This is what you do every day! Talk to your Association President about belonging to OEA for free and check out OEA at www.ohea.org.

“Belonging has always been a fundamental driver in humankind.”- Brian Chesky

Thank you WOEА-R members Jane Rahn and Wayne Wlodarski(also LRC for Happy Trails) for sharing this piece.

**OEA Representative Assembly
Delegates for OEA-R: Willie Terrell and Sandy Coe, Jane Rahn, and Phil A. Long.
May 10-11, 2019**

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

1. Elected the following statewide candidates:
Scott DiMauro (Worthington E. A.) – President (with a term ending 7/14/22)
Jeff Wensing (Parma E.A.) – Vice President (with a term ending 7/14/22)
Kim Richards (Cardinal E.A.) – NEA Director #3 (with a term ending 8/31/22)
Angela Stewart (Newcomerstown T.A.) – NEA Director #4 (with a term ending 8/31/22)
Deborah Jackson (Princeton ACE) – OEA Board of Directors At-Large (with a term ending 7/14/22)
2. Approved the appointment of Sally Oldham to the OEA Appeals Board for a seven-year term ending August 31, 2026.

**There were 948 registered delegates at the assembly.
Delegates contributed \$31,090.00 to the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education.
FCPE giveaway winners:
\$2,000 – Jeff Caivano (Northwestern T.A. – Clark)
\$200 – Joni Watson (Dayton E.A)**

3. Passed the following New Business Items:
SP-2019-01 – The Ohio Education Association shall immediately develop and implement a multi-pronged strategy to provide educators more time to teach and students more time to learn by reducing the burden of over-testing on Ohio’s schools. The strategy will include, but not be limited to, the following:
Engaging members to lobby for passage of HB 239, OEA-initiated legislation which would reduce the number of state-mandated standardized tests to the federal minimums by eliminating four high

school end-of-course exams and limit student retakes of end-of-course exams; require school districts to convene a local workgroup, including teachers and parents, to examine district-required testing and make recommendations for ways to reduce students’ testing load; require that districts that exceed the statutory testing caps pass an annual school board resolution and provide that information to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE); require that ODE issue an annual report on the time spent on state and district mandated testing in Ohio’s schools; and eliminate mandatory administration of ACT/SAT to all high school juniors while continuing to have the state pay for its administration of the ACT/SAT for those who choose to participate.

SP-2019-02 – The Ohio Education Association expresses its unequivocal support for Substitute House Bill 154, as passed by the Ohio House of Representatives by a bipartisan vote of 83-12 on May 1, 2019. OEA expresses its appreciation to Speaker Larry Householder, lead sponsors Representatives Don Jones and Joe Miller, and the overwhelming number of House members who voted for the bill. OEA also appreciates the inclusion of HB 154 provisions in the House budget and calls on members of the Ohio Senate and Governor DeWine to follow the lead of the House and implement the provisions of the bill, which will dissolve academic distress commissions and restore local control to Ohio’s public school districts while providing needed support for schools with struggling students. (Unanimously passed)

SP-2019-03 – To direct OEA to put all Divisions, Departments, Caucuses, and any officially recognized Special Interest Groups that have a membership or application form in one easy to access section, together, on the OEA website.

SP-2019-05 – We call for OEA to encourage our venue location to identify at least one bathroom as a trans-friendly/gender neutral facility at all OEA RA’s and associated activities.

SP-2019-06 - The Representative Assembly calls on OEA governance and staff to develop a legislative advocacy plan to lobby for elimination of the Resident Educator program and creation of a new two-year provisional licensure system that is based on mentoring and support for early career educators under the authority of Local Professional Development Committees, as recommended by the

OEA Professional Efficacy Committee and accepted by the OEA Board of Directors on February 16, 2019.

The advocacy plan shall be developed in consultation and with the support of Ohio's New Educators (ONE) for implementation during the remainder of the 133rd General Assembly. An update on the progress of this issue will be provided to the December 2019 Representative Assembly.

The Legislative Committee and Resolutions Committee are charged with developing appropriate language to embed the recommendations regarding the proposed two-year provisional licensure system into OEA's Legislative Policies and Resolutions for consideration by the December 2019 and May 2020 Representative Assemblies.

4. The following New Business Item failed: SP-2019-04 – OEA will research and write an article about wireless and safe technologies and publish this information as an article in Ohio Schools magazine.

5. The following New Business Item was ruled out of order:

SP-2019-07 – OEA will charge the Resolutions Committee with ensuring the Resolutions Report reflects the importance of paid maternity leave.

6. The following New Business Item was withdrawn:

SP-2019-08 – Subsidizing Healthcare for Family Members of Retirees.

7. The following Resolutions Report proposals were referred to the Resolutions Standing Committee:

RES-SP-2019-01 – OEA believes teachers/educators need more training in identifying and teaching students about addiction. The Association believes wrap-around services should be used to educate students about the effects of addiction. Furthermore, the Association believes addiction/ recovery programs should be utilized through wrap-around services through training and education. The Association believes health/outreach services should be the first

layer of defense through instruction in Health classes.

RES-SP-2019-02 – The Ohio Education Association should work to abolish the death penalty in Ohio.

8. Approved the proposed 2019-2020 Resolutions Report as amended.

