

DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

Newsletter of the Western Ohio Education Association-Retired

Volume 35 Issue 1

Sept/Oct 2024

Founded September 1989

WOEA-R was founded 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!

-CONTACTS-

Doris Moore

Chair

dlmoore542@gmail.com

-vacant-

Vice Chair

-vacant-

Treasurer

Lori Moodie

Secretary

Lorimoodie64@gmail.com

Emmy Brudzynski

Jane Rahn

Membership Co-Chairs

emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu

jrahna@sbcglobal.net

Joni Watson

OEA-R Advisory Council

jonirwatson1200@gmail.com

Phil A. Long

Past Chair

palcisv13@gmail.com

Future meetings and programs will be advertised in this newsletter.

Time/Date may need to be adjusted due to unforeseen circumstances.

Check website for changes.

woea-r.ohea.us

Upcoming Events

-September Meeting-

Date: Wed. Sept. 18th at 11am

Location: Jimmy's Italian Cuisine, East 5th Street, Dayton

Program: Enjoy connecting with old colleagues and new friends!

Meet **Melissa Rodriguez**, who will give us an update about the **Citizens Not Politician Constitutional Amendment** to end gerrymandering in Ohio. This important issue is on the November ballot and needs your support.

RSVP: by Sept. 14th to Jane Rahn Call or text 937-554-5602

-October Meeting-

Date: Wed. Oct. 16th at 11:00 a.m.

Location: Coco's Bistro at 250 Warren Street, Dayton

Program: Order from the menu and meet Montgomery County

Recorder **Stacey Enson-Taylor**. She'll discuss the **Fraud Alert System**. This is an online subscription service that monitor records filed with the Recorder's office. It then tracks possible fraudulent information that could affect you and your property.

RSVP: by Oct. 12th to Debbie Owen. Call or text 937-237-2063

SAVE THESE DATES!

Date: Wednesday, November 20th **Time:** 11:00 a.m.

Location: Shen's Szechuan & Sushi at 7580 Poe Ave. in Dayton

Program: OEA-R Chairperson **Mary Binegar** will share an update on OEA-R and discuss **"What do I need to know about ableism?"**

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 (note 2nd Wed.) Topic TBD

In the new year, meeting Mar 19th, Apr 16th, May 21st, Jun 18th

Your ideas and colleagues are always welcome!

**WHAT'S
HAPPENING!**

2024 OEA-R Fall Conference
September 25th, from 10am-12:30pm
<https://ohea.org/oea-retired-fall-conference>

The 2024 Fall Conference is sponsoring one virtual webinar in September.
Register by using the link above.

Your Help is Needed!

WOEA-R Dates and Opportunities

WOEA-R is asking members to volunteer to be on the ballot for position of
WOEA-R representative and alternate to the Fall Forum and Spring R.A.

CONTACT Moore and Phil Long as soon as you read this and let them know you are willing to serve.

Doris' email dlmoore542@gmail.com

Phil's email palcisv13@gmail.com

Voting will take place at the Sept. 18th meeting.

Our deadline to submit names to WOE-R is mandated by OEA.

WOEA Fall Forum 4 pm on Nov. 20, 2024

Wayne High School

WOEA Spring R. A. April 16, 2025

Presidential Banquet Center beginning at 4:30pm

Important Dates and Deadlines for OEA-Retired and NEA-Retired Events

| | | |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| September 10, 2024 | DEADLINE to register to be on ballot for OEA-Retired representative to R. A's Contact William Baird at bairdw@ohea.org to receive application. | |
| December 6, 2024 | OEA-Retired Delegate Assembly | Columbus |
| December 7, 2024 | OEA Representative Assembly | Columbus |
| February 10, 2025 | DEADLINE to register to be on ballot for NEA Representative Assembly DEADLINE to run for an OEA- R position (Contact William Baird) | |
| March 7-9, 2025 | NEA Leadership Summit | TBD |
| March 9-11, 2025 | NEA-Retired Conference | TBD |
| TBD | Spring OEA-R Conference | TBD |
| May 8, 2025 | OEA-Retired Delegate Assembly | Columbus |
| May 9-10, 2025 | OEA Representative Assembly | Columbus |
| June 29-30, 2025 | NEA-R Annual Business Meeting | Portland, Oregon |
| July 2-6, 2025 | NEA Representative Assembly | Portland, Oregon |

IN REMEMBRANCE

We recognize those WOE-R members who have passed.

PATRICIA GARNER
12/28/2022

JUANITA A. CAMPBELL
7/12/2024

What's going on with NEA-R, OEA-R, WOE-R ?

On June 29th the following OEA-R delegates arrived in Philadelphia for the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting: Mary Binegar(OEA-R Chair), Jeff Corbin(Capital-R), Steven Mitchell(NEOEA-R), Jene Wilson(NEOEA-R), Kathleen Purdy(ECOEA-R), Garry Curran(Capital-R), Phil A. Long(WOE-R).

OEA-R delegate, Kathleen Purdy, was reelected to the NEA Resolutions Committee as the top vote getter with 103%. This will be Kathleen's third term. OEA-R is very fortunate to have such a well-versed representative on the Resolutions Committee.

President Gibson presented new organizing materials for NEA-Retired (nea.org/retired) along with the Strategic Plan. Many of the proposals in this plan are already underway or being considered by OEA-R. We can be very proud! Ohio was mentioned numerous times for various accomplishments.

Audrey Sargus/OEA is Chair of the *Aspiring Educator* program. She was a recipient of a NEA Retired Jack Kinnaman Scholarship. Since an OEA Aspiring Educator has received a scholarship these past 3 years, OEA-R has decided to focus on acquiring more donations. For years OEA-R has been working with Audrey and her Kent State University colleagues on ***Read Across America*** events.

At the start of the second day, the NEA Representative Assembly was suspended due to the NEA Staff (*i.e.* NEASO) striking against NEA Management. OEA-R delegates fulfilled all their duties and responsibilities.

Submitted by Phil A. Long

Welcome to Fall!

I know it has been a very busy summer for all of us. If you are like me, you welcome much cooler weather. The Fall is always an exciting time of year for me. When I was an active educator, I would be excited to see school supplies in the stores knowing that I would soon be seeing my students.

We have a few events coming up this fall. September 25th is the OEA-R Fall Conference-Virtual Session 10:00-12:30. Sandra Feen, Charles Black and STRS will be the presenters. October 23rd will be ***Moving From Land Acknowledgement to Action*** on the Buckeye State Virtual Session from 6:30-8:00. The presenters will be Shawn Brehm, Chair of NEA's American Indian and Alaskan Native Caucus. These are just a few of the many offerings OEA-R has scheduled. Please be sure to look for emails from me throughout the year as I share news for WOE-R and OEA-R. Warm regards!

Joni Watson - WOE-R AC Rep

The Election and Endorsements

Vice-President Kamala Harris has been endorsed for President by the NEA. It's important for you to know the Democratic platform. It's also important to know the Republican platform. ***Project 2025***, drafted by the Heritage Foundation, is often quoted as the Republican platform. Below are some points from this document:

1. **Banning unions for public service workers** (*page 82*).
2. **Firing civil service workers and replacing them with Trump, anti-union loyalists** (*page 80*).
3. **Letting bosses eliminate unions mid-contract** (*page 603*).
4. **Letting companies stop paying overtime** (*page 592*) and **allowing states to opt out of federal and minimum wage laws** (*page 605*).
5. **Eliminating child labor protections** (*page 595*).

Know what a candidate represents before you vote this November.

*Dawn Wojcik
Legislative Chair*



**For the Good
of the Group**

WOEA-R, because you only retired from your job, but not your profession!

WOEA-R was founded by a Dayton teacher, Nancy Brown, upon her retirement. She felt that an organization should enable educators from various school districts to get to know each other and continue to be aware of events in public education. By attending WOE-Retired events one can continue to grow mentally, socially and professionally. At our events you will meet new colleagues from area schools, visit new venues, enjoy lunch, and take away at least one new piece of information to enlighten your life. Come, bring a friend and enjoy retirement with your professional colleagues, and continue to make a difference!

ANNUAL Membership is \$10 for the year 2024-2025

LIFE Membership is \$100.

If you join as a LIFE MEMBER, the special cost to you is only \$90 when you mail in your check made out to *WOEA-Retired* by **October 16, 2024**. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Questions? **CONTACT** Emmy Brudzynski at emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu 937-312-5829
or Jane Rahn at jrahna@sbcglobal.net 937-554-5602



**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT
and welcome as LIFE-MEMBERS of the WOE-R!**

Penny Rouhier from Dayton

Nola Brooks from Xenia

WOEA-R Members are Generous!

We support the **Artemis Center**. For over 30 years, the Center has empowered survivors of domestic violence to make decisions to establish a safe home for themselves and their family. Donations of money are always welcome, as well as gift cards to Meijer, Kroger and Target to purchase necessary household and school items. **Donations are requested during each monthly meeting. Please give generously!**

MORE SUPPORT FOR RETIRED EDUCATORS!

Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA)

Did you know that the OEA-Retired is a member of the Alliance for Retired Americans? This group is active in working for the benefits of all retirees and for public education. The Ohio Chapter has two meetings a year in Columbus from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The dates are Tuesday, September 10, 2024 and Tuesday, April 8, 2025. Interested? **Contact** Doris Moore at dlmoore542@gmail.com

Just so you know...

As of June 30th OEA-R has 7069 members, 276 Pre-Retired OEA-R members and 23 cancelled memberships.



A few thoughts from the WOE-R Chair

Happy 35th Anniversary WOE-Retired!

Welcome! Welcome Retirees as we observe and function to serve in this Anniversary year. Just think how far we have come and where we are going!

I hope you have all enjoyed your summer and are excited about what we are about to accomplish serving those who are following in our footsteps.

This year let's think BIG! We have so much to offer. Therefore, we must all work together to help promote Public Education to be its best. Let's all get together so we can grow, expand our Mission, and continue being a place for those actively working when they retire: a place for them to leave their profession, but continue to serve.

I know as a member of WOE-Retired you are the best of the best and I am so proud to be your Chair. It is our Anniversary! So, let us celebrate with each other all year long. I look forward to seeing you at our first event on Wednesday, September 18th.

*Yours in Education,
Doris Moore*

Chairpersons for WOE-R Standing Committees

Community Outreach Chairperson - *vacant*

Legislative Chairperson - *Dawn Wojcik*

Mailing Chairperson – *Willie Terrell*

Membership chairpersons – *Emmy Brudzynski and Jane Rahn*

Newsletter Chairperson – *Wayne Wlodarski*

Nomination/Election Chairperson and Committee – *Phil Long*. (Need three volunteers to have candidates for officers available for the December meeting. Candidates/positions printed in March/April newsletter.)

Public Relations Chairperson – *vacant*. (Primarily communicating with the media)

Sunshine Chairperson – *Debra Owen*

Webmaster – *Debra Owen*

***As you can see, WOE-R has many opportunities for those who would like to volunteer!
It's doesn't take a lot of time and you'll be working with very supportive colleagues.
Think about what you have to offer. Contact Doris Moore if you have an interest.***

Do you know a WOE-R member who needs a little sunshine?

Contact Debbie Owens hhteach@hotmail.com

Did you know that WOE-R is online?

Information on our history, scholarships, community service, past newsletters and meeting minutes can be found at WOE-R.ohea.us.