

DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

Newsletter of the Western Ohio Education Association-Retired

Volume 36 Issue 1

Sept/Oct 2025

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!

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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. 17th at 11am

Location: Big A BBQ and Grill, 209 Byers Rd. in Miamisburg

Program: It's a common experience among senior citizens to be frustrated, alone and bored. Gain new perspectives and information by attending this event: ***The Benefits of the Council on Aging*** presented by Kaylee Snowden

RSVP: Sept. 14th to Clarice Thomas Call or text 937-477-2724.

-October Meeting-

Date: Wed., Oct. 15th, at 11:30 am

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

Program: TBA – attendees will order from the menu

Owen. Oct. 12th to Clarice Thomas Call or text 937-477-2724.

SAVE THESE DATES!

Date: Wed., Nov. 19th **Time:** 11:00 a.m.

Location: Archers Tavern at 2030 E Dorothy Lane Kettering

Program: TBA

Future dates: Wednesday, December 10th, 2025 (*note 2nd Wed.*) For the NEW YEAR, March 18th, April 15th, May 20th, June 17th

Your ideas and colleagues are always welcome!



***Don't forget to walk outside
and enjoy the fall colors!***



**WHAT'S
HAPPENING!**

2025 OEA-R Fall Virtual Conference

Living Well after the Bell

September 24, 2025 10am - noon

Register at <https://ohea.org/oea-retired-fall-conference>

There's always something new at the Fall Conference!

Your Help is Needed!

WOEA-R Dates and Opportunities

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

CONTACT DORIS MOORE and let her know that you are willing to serve.

Doris' email dlmoore542@gmail.com

Voting will take place at our Sept. 17th meeting.

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

WOEA Fall Forum 4:30-7:30 pm on Nov. 19, 2025

Wayne High School

WOEA Spring R. A. 4:30-7:30 pm on April 14, 2026

Presidential Banquet Center

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

September 10, 2025	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 5, 2025	OEA-Retired Delegate Assembly	Columbus
December 6, 2025	OEA Representative Assembly	Ohio Expo Center
February 10, 2026	DEADLINE to register to be on ballot for NEA Representative Assembly <i>(Contact William Baird)</i>	
March 13-15, 2026	NEA National Leadership Summit	Chicago, IL
March 15-17, 2026	NEA-Retired Summit and Organizing Conference	Chicago, IL
May 7, 2026	OEA-Retired Delegate Assembly	Columbus
May 8, 2026	OEA Representative Assembly	Location TBA
June 30 - July 2, 2026	NEA-Retired Annual Meeting	Denver, CO
July 3-7, 2026	NEA Representative Assembly	Denver, CO

WOEA-R Members Continue to Care!

WOEA-R supports the **Artemis Center**. Artemis 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 items. **Donations are requested during each monthly meeting.**

AND

WOEA-R is a *lifetime member* of the **National Association for the Advancement of Colored People**. NAACP, founded in 1909, works to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race prejudice. Do you want to become an individual member? If so, contact **Willie A. Terrell Jr. at 937-238-7640.**

Visit the website naacp.org and the Dayton Chapter website daytonunitnaacp.org



A few thoughts from the WOE-R Chair

WELCOME!

Fellow retirees, welcome to the 2025-26 official school year. This is another new beginning with new leadership at OEA. As we look forward to volunteering and offering our services to those who are actively serving and giving their best, remember that we are where they want to be: RETIRED.

As we continue to serve in our retirement status, I know that many, who have not crossed over, look up to us for help and advice in a variety of ways. Let's be there for them. In the last few years, so much has affected public education, and the challenges to teach, inspire and serve have been put to the test. I am tired of reading and hearing about our uneducated youth, missing children and abuse. I ask that we all make a special effort to inspire, teach and show love, so that *someone*, hopefully many, will understand the need for public education and become successful in their efforts to support it.

As I know that you will, let's continue to support those who need us, and let's stand for the best in public education. You are WOE-R. You matter. You are needed. I celebrate you and look forward to seeing you at the WORA-R event on September 17th.

Yours in Education,
Doris Moore

WELCOME BACK!

Congratulations to newly retired members! I hope you will join us at one of the exciting WOE-R events!

OEA-Retired Advisory Council Positions, which are up for election this spring, are ESP-OEA- Retired Advisory Council Rep (*term ending July 1, 2026*) AND Higher Education-OEA-Retired Advisory Council Rep (*term ending July 14, 2028*). You must file a Declaration of Candidacy form by February 10, 2026.

GO TO =><https://oea-r.ohea.us/files/2025/07/OEA-Retired-ADV-Council-DOC-Spring-2026.pdf> for a Declaration of Candidacy form for Advisory Council and <https://oea-r.ohea.us/files/2025/07/NEA-Retired-Delegate-Declaration-of-Candidacy-2026.pdf> for a form to be a NEA delegate.

Throughout the year I will email you as events or calls to action are scheduled. As always, if there is something you'd like me to take to the Advisory Council, just let me know.

Joni Watson

WOEA-R Advisory Council Representative

WOEA-R Members Attend 2025 OEA Summer Leadership Academy

WOEA-R members Lori Moodie and Yuverdia Irving attended the 2025 OEA Summer Leadership Academy this June—a powerful event that brought together active and retired educators to learn, connect, and grow.

The Academy provided valuable insights on current issues in education and highlighted ways retirees can support today's classrooms. There were many sessions, but Lori and Yuverdia participated in: **Legal Rights for Educators, PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention System), Equity for Neurodivergent Learners, AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Education, NEA Member Benefits & Retirement.**

Motivational speakers included: **Dr. John H. Jackson** (*Schott Foundation*), **Hasan Kwame Jeffries** (*historian and podcast host*) spoke on educational equity. Outgoing OEA President **Scott DiMauro**, incoming President **Jeff Wensing**, who addressed the recent court ruling against the EdChoice voucher program.

The Leadership Academy was a rewarding experience, reaffirming the value of lifelong learning and engagement. WOE-R members are encouraged to attend future events. Our WOE-R dues dollars can help to fund some of these valuable activities. Our retiree voices and experience still matter—and can make a lasting impact!

**For the Good
of the Group**

DID YOU KNOW ?

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. 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. Bring a friend and enjoy retirement with your professional colleagues, and continue to make a difference!

***ANNUAL Membership is \$10 for the year 2025-26
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 15, 2025**. 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

Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA)

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 meetings are typically scheduled in September and April. **Contact** Doris Moore at dlmoore542@gmail.com

WOEA-R is Online

Information on our history (36 year anniversary this year), scholarships, community service, past newsletters and meeting minutes can be found at WOEA-R.ohea.us Check us out. *Thanks Debbie for volunteering!*

A WOE-R member who needs a little sunshine?

Alone, thinking that no one cares. If you know someone feeling like this, a simple card could make a big difference. **CONTACT** *Debbie Owens* hhteach@hotmail.com and a card will be sent on our behalf!
Often, it's the little things that make a difference. *Why not make a difference?!*

YOU can make your voice heard!

You spent your professional career working in behalf of students. You KNOW that every student deserves public schools that are safe, well-funded, and properly staffed. We all share this vision, but we can't achieve it alone. We must elect leaders who believe in this vision. Take the time to make yourself aware of the issues and people that affect public education. Stay informed. Engage your elected officials. Get info you need by visiting [<ohea.org>](http://ohea.org) and [<nea.org>](http://nea.org). You'll be amazed at all the information and ideas at your fingertips!

Public Education Matters Day!

Saturday, October 4th

We will come together to celebrate the power and importance of public education — and more importantly, the passionate, dedicated professionals who make it thrive. We're excited to announce that OEA is again hosting celebrations at **Kings Island** and **Cedar Point** amusement parks! This Public Education Matters event is OEA's way of honoring the hard work and dedication of educators, while showing the public why strong public schools are the foundation of our communities.