

DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

WESTERN OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION—RETIRED

WOEA-R founded September 1989

Volume 22 Issue 1

September and October 2011

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Leon Bey will present an “arm chair tour” of the Oregon District at Company 7 BBQ in Englewood Sept. 21 at 11 a.m. Cost of the program is \$5, which can be paid at the meeting. Those who attend can order off the menu. Prices range from \$6-\$10 before tax and tip. Company 7 BBQ is located at 1001 S. Main St., just north of the I-70 exit. RSVP to this event by Sept. 14 by returning the enclosed form or contacting Jane Rahn at 898-3895.

The WOEА RA delegate election will also take place at the meeting. The fall RA is Nov. 16, and the spring RA is Apr. 12. Candidates must return their candidate forms to Jane by Sept. 14. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Remember that those who are elected to the OEA-RA are automatically delegates to the WOEА-RA.

OCTOBER MEETING

KitchenAid Experience is on the agenda for the Oct. 19 meeting. Members will gather in Greenville at the KitchenAid store, where they will make apple dumplings. Self-guided tours of the KitchenAid Museum will also be available. Lunch will be at the Montage Café, half a block from the Kitchen Aid store. Soups, salads and sandwiches are available for \$5-\$9.50 plus tax and tip. After lunch you will return to the KitchenAid store to eat your apple dumpling with a scoop of ice cream. Cost for this program is \$5 to cover the ingredients and lesson for making the dumplings. KitchenAid is located at 423 S. Broadway in Greenville. Send your RSVP and \$5 (check made out to WOEА-R) to Jane Rahn by Oct. 12.

Wheelchairs are available. Let Jane know in advance if you will need one.

NOTE: AAA members will receive 20 percent off the purchase of one regular priced countertop appliance.

OEA-R FALL CONFERENCE

The 2011 Fall Conference is set for Sept. 14 at the STRS building in Columbus beginning at 10 a.m. Speakers will include OEA officers Pat Frost-Brooks, Bill Leibensperger and Jim Timlin, OEA Executive Director Larry Wicks, OEA lobbyist Robert Davis and STRS Director of Health Care Services Greg Nichols. Other breakout sessions will also be offered. The program will conclude by 3 p.m. Registration fee is \$15 and includes lunch. The deadline to register is Sept. 7. A registration form is included in this newsletter and also in the OEA-R Newsline.

OEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

This year’s Representative Assemblies are scheduled for Dec. 3 and May 11 and 12 at Veteran’s Memorial Hall in Columbus. The OEA-R caucuses will be Dec. 2 and May 10 at the STRS building at noon. Declaration of Candidacy forms are available by contacting Carol Price at pricec@ohea.org or by phone at 1-800-282-1500. Forms must be returned by Sept. 19.

NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

Many WOEА-R members are now receiving this newsletter electronically. Anyone else who would like to help WOEА-R to “go green” and receive future newsletters via e-mail should contact newsletter editor Sandy Freeman at sanranfree@live.com with your e-mail address. Be sure to put “WOEA-R newsletter” in the subject line.

WOEA-R MEMBERSHIP

It's time to pay your annual membership dues. Dues are free for all first year retirees (those who retired in 2011). All other members must pay \$10 for the year or \$100 for a lifetime membership. Fill out the attached form and return it with your dues to Jane Rahn by Sept. 30.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WOEA-R is looking for help with mailing the newsletter. Volunteers will meet at the DEA office to help prepare and send the newsletter. Mail dates are Oct. 25, Feb. 28, and Apr. 24 at 1 p.m. Contact Elvira Montgomery to volunteer.

Information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Sandy Freeman or Jane Rahn two weeks prior to the mailing dates listed above. (See attached directory for contact information.)

Committee chairs are needed for the following WOE-R committees: Sunshine, Membership, Nominations/Elections and Life-long Learning. Contact Jane Rahn to volunteer or to receive information on the job responsibilities.

WOEA FALL MEMBERSHIP FORUM

Again this year, the traditional WOE-R Fall RA will be replaced by a membership forum. The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Northmont High School and will include breakout sessions and a boxed dinner. Online registration begins in October on the WOE-R website.

VALUABLE MEMBER WEBSITES

The electronic age has taken over, and members are encouraged to keep up-to-date on upcoming events and decisions that affect them by visiting the following websites: OEA: www.ohea.org

WOEA: www.woea.org

Minutes from the WOE-R Executive Committee meeting in August are available on the WOE-R website under "WOEA retired" in the upper right corner.

ARTEMIS PROJECT

Nancy Mullins is once again collecting donations of school supplies and money for the Artemis House. WOE-R members are encouraged to take supplies and/or money to meetings to give Nancy for the children. The money is used for gift cards and gas cards for transportation to school.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Last year WOE-R began a scholarship for its members to attend workshops, meetings and conferences with an initial donation from Nancy Brown and additional money from Wanda Adams. A committee is currently working on guidelines for the scholarship. Donations will be gladly accepted.

SB5/ISSUE 2

We Are Ohio delivered 1.29 million signatures to Ohio's Secretary of State on June 29 to place a referendum on the November ballot to repeal Senate Bill 5. Over 6,000 people marched up Broad Street to Fourth Street with a record-breaking number of signatures. SB5 reduces the collective bargaining ability of public employee unions, including police, firefighters and teachers. Among other things, the bill replaces salary schedules and step increases for teachers with a merit pay system.

The Ohio Ballot Board, at its Aug. 3 meeting, approved ballot language that voters will consider in November. The board decided that a **NO vote on Issue 2** Nov. 8 will **REPEAL Senate Bill 5**.

Repealing SB5 will take a lot of time, effort and money by both active and retired teachers. The OEA-R Advisory Council and caucus is encouraging retired educators to donate \$54 and retired ESPs \$25 (the amount of the dues assessment for current employees) to the We Are Ohio group. WOE-R is asking its members to donate whatever they can and to join in the efforts of We Are Ohio to defeat Issue 2. For more information, visit the OEA or WOE-R websites, or go to www.weareohio.com.

MIA

The Executive Committee "cleaned house" at its board meeting in August and discovered missing or incorrect addresses for several life members. If you have a current address for any of the following members, please contact Jane Rahn (see attached directory).

Roberta Hunter
Marilyn Atsalis Bourne
James Hempel
Harrison Dixon
Carolyn Fletcher

STRS HEALTHCARE UPDATE

The date for the STRS Healthcare Update is Oct. 26. Refer to the STRS newsletter or visit www.strsoh.org to register.

NEW MEMBER INCENTIVE

In an effort to increase membership in WOE-R, Chairperson Jane Rahn is offering an incentive for current members. At the September meeting, Jane will be giving you a chance to win a prize. If you take a guest to the meeting Sept. 21 and the guest joins WOE-R that day, you will have an opportunity to win a prize. You will get a chance for EACH new member who joins that day. When you RSVP for the meeting, be sure to let Jane know that you plan to take a guest. **GOOD LUCK!**

Important phone numbers and websites

NEA: 202-833-4000
www.nea.org

OEA: 800-282-1500
www.ohea.org

STRS: 888-227-7877; 614-227-4090
www.strsoh.org

NEA Member Benefits: 888-749-7380
www.neamb.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

2011

Sept. 21: WOE-R meeting
Sept. 14: Fall OEA-R Conference

Oct. 19: WOE-R meeting
Oct. 26: STRS Healthcare Update

Nov. 8: Election day (NO on Issue 2)
Nov. 16: WOE-R Fall Membership Forum
Nov. 16: WOE-R meeting

Dec. 2: OEA Retired Caucus
Dec. 3: OEA Representative Assembly

2012

Apr. 12: WOE-R Spring Representative Assembly

May 10: OEA Retired Caucus
May 11-12: OEA Representative Assembly

WOE-R is the ONLY retiree organization affiliated with NEA, OEA, WOE-R, NEA-R AND OEA-R



