

DISCOVER NEW HORIZONS

WESTERN OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION—RETIRED

WOEA-R Founded September 1989

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Officers

Phil A. Long, Chair

Sandy Dobberstein, Vice Chair

Jennie Furnas, Secretary

Pat Lynch, Treasurer

Jane Rahn, Past Chair

NOVEMBER MEETING

WOEA-R will travel north to Tipp City to the Greenfire Bistro Nov. 16. Members will see a photography presentation by Margaret Green featuring landscapes, urbanscapes, senior photos and macro photos. She also offers photography classes. Greenfire Bistro is located at 965 W. Main St. (St. Rt. 571) in Tipp City. The program will begin at 11 a.m. followed by lunch and WOEА-R's monthly meeting. Please RSVP to Emmy Brudzynski at emmy.brudzynski@wright.edu or phone her at 937-813-7661. Deadline is Nov. 9.

DECEMBER MEETING

As the holidays approach, members will be asked to help needy children at the Dec. 14 meeting at Franco's Ristorante Italiano. (Note the change to the second Wednesday.) As in the past, members are asked to donate food (see list below) and send cards and children's activity sheets to the Sulphur Grove food pantry. On Fridays (for the weekend) and over holidays, Sulphur Grove sends food to children's homes. The meeting begins at 11 a.m., and parking is in the lot behind the restaurant. Those in attendance will order from the menu. Franco's is located at 824 E. Fifth St. In Dayton. Please RSVP to Sandy Dobberstein: 937-771-0669 or sdobberstein@juno.com by Dec. 7.

Food items for Sulphur Grove: individual packages of pudding cups, fruit cups, pretzels & cheese, crackers & cheese, crackers & peanut butter and drink boxes; 16 oz. peanut butter; small jars of jam, jelly, etc.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

Mark your calendars now for 2017 meetings on Mar. 15, Apr. 19, May 17 and June 21. All programs start at 11 a.m. followed by lunch and a WOEА-R business meeting.

ELECTION RESULTS

Phil A. Long, Jane Rahn and Willie Terrell will represent WOEА-R as delegates to the WOEА Fall Forum and Spring Representative Assembly. Doris Moore, Warlita Duvall, Clarice Thomas and Sandra Coe will serve as alternates. Serving as OEA-R delegate is Phil A. Long (by virtue of office). Jane Rahn, Willie Terrell, Warlita Duvall and Clarice Thomas are running as delegates also.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

WOEA-R welcomes the following new Life Members: Carol Hone, Marjorie Punter, Rebecca Shepard, Jo Fehl and Charlita Keeton.

In addition, Sue Eisner, Nancy Vigh, Gail Saugstad, Stephanie Gaylor, Johnetta Bright, Vonda Smith and Yolanda Unger are recent annual members.

All members are encouraged to invite other retirees to attend meetings and become WOEА-R members.

IN MEMORIAM

Our condolences go out to the friends and family of the following WOEА-R members who have passed away during the past few months: John Van Dine, Del Shannon, Julia Ferguson, Carole Imler and Nancy Brown.

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. WOE-R has decided to collect school supplies, such as notebook paper, pencils, crayons, glue and backpacks. Of special need now are backpacks, page dividers for notebooks, flash drives and non-perishable food (peanut butter, pasta, tomato sauce, canned goods and Tuna Helper). Nancy Mullins delivers the supplies to the agency. WOE-R members are encouraged to take supplies to the monthly meetings for delivery.

HISTORY OF WOE-R

The Western Ohio Education Association--Retired (WOE-R) was established in 1989 and is affiliated with WOE, OEA, NEA and the division of retired educators of OEA-R and NEA-R.

The **Mission** of WOE-R is to support continued leadership and the maintenance of professional skills and to enhance the unique potential of each participating member.

The **Purpose** is to maintain professional contact with the education community of public schools and the professional associations, specifically WOE, through utilization of the expertise and knowledge of retired educators.

FCPE

Many of us contributed to the Fund for Children and Public Education while working. This fund is used primarily to support OEA's recommendations for candidates that are friendly toward public educational issues. Once we retire, it becomes more difficult to contribute because we are no longer at a workplace. OEA has now made it convenient. Visit www.ohea.org or phone 1-800-282-1500 to make Campaign 2016 the largest total of FCPE monies collected. FYI: At WOE-R monthly meetings, FCPE forms will be available. Any donation

amount is welcomed; \$5 or \$10 or more helps support education candidates.

While contributing to FCPE is totally voluntary, members are encouraged to contribute to the Fund. During the 2016-17 year, each time a WOE-R member contributes at least \$10 to FCPE at a regular monthly meeting, a card will be completed with the person's name. At the end of the June 2017 meeting, one of the cards will be drawn. The person will receive a Mexican dinner for up to four people, donated by Sophia Rodriguez and Phil A. Long. Date, time and location will be decided among those involved. **NOTE:** At the September meeting, \$182 was collected for the FCPE. In October, members contributed \$138.

PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOP

Once again, WOE-R and WOE are co-sponsoring a pre-retirement workshop at Beavercreek High School Nov. 30. This event may benefit those recently retired as well as those who are planning to retire in the next couple years. Speakers include representatives from the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS) and State Employees Retirement System (SERS), a representative from NEA Member Benefits, Attorney Jeffrey R. McQuiston and retirees from WOE-R. Snacks and drinks will be available for attendees.

There is no cost to attend; however, advanced registration is necessary to plan for food and materials. Use one of the following to register: online at www.woea.org; e-mail at woearpat@gmail.com; phone at 419-733-6947. Include your name, phone number, e-mail address, school district and choose either STRS or SERS. Registration deadline is Nov. 25 at noon.

The event will be in the Commons and Student Success Lab from 4:45-7:45 p.m. Sign-in is from 4:15-4:45 p.m. Beavercreek High School is located at 2660 Dayton-Xenia Road in Beavercreek. Please encourage potential retirees to attend.

GUIDELINE CHANGES

At the October meeting, members approved the proposed changes in the association's guidelines as printed in the previous edition of *Discover New Horizons*

SPRING CONFERENCE

OEA-R's annual Spring Conference is Wednesday, Apr. 16, 2017, at the Kingwood Center in Mansfield from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The day's agenda includes a STRS presentation, a fun activity, lunch, a greenhouse and grounds self tour and a guided tour of the manor. Fresh flowers and plants plus gift shop items are available for purchase. Cost is \$25. More information will be available in the February newsletter.

OEA NEW EDUCATOR CAMPAIGN

According to the Ohio Education Association (OEA), 2 million new educators will be hired over the next five years. As a result, OEA is leading the New Educator Engagement, Recruitment and Support Campaign. OEA has an opportunity to recruit and engage 10,000 new educators statewide. This year OEA plans to use one-on-one conversations to build strong relationships with the next generation of educators and provide them with the support they need to succeed. The top reason new educators leave the profession in the first five years is that they do not feel supported, so OEA wants to help new educators make the transition and become successful. Retirees play an important role in this process, and OEA is encouraging them to make time to visit one-on-one with new educators in their district. Talk to them, welcome them and let them know you want to support them and are interested in learning what you can do to make them successful.

INTERGENERATIONAL MENTORSHIP

The Intergenerational Mentor Program has been extended one year to collect and prepare data. A \$10,000 budget from OEA and NEA has been granted for training mentors. Retirees are needed to serve as mentors for college students in the field of education.

Miami University is the closest college with the mentorship program. Mentors will meet with their students twice in the fall and twice in the spring. Anyone who is interested in the program should contact Warlita Duvall at kaibigant@yahoo.com.

ELECTION DAY

The presidential election is just days away, and it will be a tight race. Don't forget to cast your ballot Nov. 8 if you have not already voted early. The following candidates have been endorsed by the OEA: Hillary Clinton for President, Ted Strickland for Senate, John P. O'Donnell and Cynthia Rice for Ohio Supreme Court.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Retirees may benefit from two websites that offer information and benefits they can use. Visit the Alliance for Retired Americans at www.retiredamericans.org or NEA Member Benefits at www.neamb.com. In addition, NEAMB can also be found on FaceBook and Twitter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 8: Election Day (See above)

Nov. 9: WOEА Fall Forum

Nov. 15: OEA Lobby Day in Columbus

Nov. 16: WOEА-R Greenfire Bistro in Tipp City

Dec. 2: OEA-R Caucus

Dec. 3: OEA Representative Assembly

Dec. 14: WOEА-R Franco's Ristorante

Mar. 21-23: NEA-R Organizing Conference in Dallas, TX

April 26: OEA-R Spring Conference

