



East Central Ohio Education Association

The Link Between Your Local
and the Ohio Education Association

Serving members in Stark, Wayne,
Holmes, Carroll, Tuscarawas,
and Columbiana Counties

Official Newsletter Publication of ECOEA
May 2014

OFFICERS AND STAFF

President - Angela Stewart
Vice President - Tracy Lemus Santos
Recording Secretary - Julie Nelson
Business Manager-Valerie Heban

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Fireworks

Angela Stewart
ECOEA President

One of the reasons I love summer is that I love fireworks. I love sparklers. I love Roman candles. I love the sky rockets. I love watching them at ball games, amusement parks, festivals, and of course, on the Fourth of July. No matter the size of the display, I will ooh and ahh every time. As this school year winds down, I look forward to some of the summer activities that will allow me to appreciate the sparkly aerial displays of color and sound. I actually hadn't even thought about them until last Friday. Last Friday night I was blessed to be a part of a wonderful celebration of talent and beauty. A friend in my local school district organized a You Can do Anything! Pageant. The contestants were guys and gals ages 3-55, each with a unique ability. That night there were no disabilities! Local queens and even a king came to assist each contestant. For one of the talent performances, the contestants sang, danced, and twirled metallic ribbons to Katy Perry's "Firework", a favorite song of mine. The beginning of the song talks about drifting on, caving in, and giving up. But then the chorus starts: "Ignite the light. And let it shine. Just own the night. Like the Fourth of July. 'Cause baby, you're a firework. Come on show them what you're worth. Make them go, "Oh, oh, oh". As you shoot across the sky. Baby, you're a firework. Come on let your colors burst. Make them go, "Oh, oh, oh". You're gonna leave them all in awe." Those contestants ignited the night and left me and the rest of the audience in awe! As I watched in wonder at their unlimited hope, trust and faith, I was struck by their bravery and ability to shine. They weren't afraid to face the audience or judges. How many times have we not even tried something for fear of failure? But how will we ever light up the sky if we aren't brave enough to try? They humbled me, inspired me, and changed me!

We all need to make some fireworks in our lives, especially in our profession. We cannot sit on the sidelines any longer feeling sorry for ourselves and thinking about giving up, or letting one or two others do the work that is vital to our survival-to the survival of public education and the middle class. Tired of being criticized, compromised, and legislatively challenged? We need to ignite ourselves and our colleagues. We need to ignite our friends and families. We need to ignite our communities. Most importantly, we need to ignite our legislators. And if he or she is a dud, it's time to find a new firecracker to replace him or her. Funny thing with fireworks, you have to light a fire to get them to work. Sure, one Roman candle is nice, but it doesn't create quite the impact that 100 or 1,000 or even 121,000 could. If every member of the OEA, all 121,000 ignited their light, we could create some pretty awesome fireworks! Whether you feel you are a firecracker, or a sparkler, or a bottle rocket, or even a sky rocket, we all have the ability to help create an impressive display if we work together. We could definitely show the state, and even the nation, what we are worth and what we are willing to do for our learners.(continued on page 6)

ECOEA Office

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Check us out on the web



www.ecoea.ohea.us

ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop – July 31, 2014

Thursday, July 31, 2014
Courtyard Marriott Canton
4375 Metro Circle N.W.



Near Belden Village

Registration is open now!
Members may attend either an afternoon session, evening session or both! A complimentary dinner will be provided between sessions for all attendees.
Register on the ECOEA website at:
www.ecoea.ohea.org

**ECOEA Programming brings you our Summer Leadership Workshop
Courtyard Marriott at Belden Village in Canton
Thursday, July 31, 2014.**

AFTERNOON SESSIONS

2:00-4:00

Dinner

EVENING SESSIONS

5:30-7:30

TREASURERS' TRAINING

Session 1 OEA Treasurers' Workshop for Novices

Session 2 OEA Treasurers' Workshop for Advanced

OEA Secretary-Treasurer Tim Myers will hold two sessions for the required OEA Treasurer training, each geared to the level of experience of the local treasurers. Each local treasurer is required by OEA to attend a training session or send a representative in his/her place. Treasurers may attend one or both sessions.

BUILDING EFFECTIVE LOCALS

Session 3 OEA Affiliate Grant Writing

Session 4 Local Leaders Networking

In the afternoon session, OEA Assistant Executive Director Kevin Flanagan will provide training and assistance to members interested in writing for one of the OEA Affiliate Grants. Kevin will explain the deadlines and purposes of the different grants and provide assistance in the grant-writing process.

The evening session will be lead by LRC LaVonne Lobert-Edmo and ECOEA President Angela Stewart and Vice President Tracy Lemus Santos. In this networking and brainstorming sessions, leaders will discuss and share ideas about how to be an effective local, encourage member involvement, and leadership ideas.

USING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR MEMBER COMMUNICATION

Session 5 OEA Do-It-Yourself Website

Session 6 Communicating through Social Media

In our afternoon session, Darren Clum, Computer Technology Services Consultant from OEA, will instruct members on using WordPress to use their DIY website provided through OEA. Did you know your local has a website hosted through OEA? Here is an opportunity to get your site up and running, or advance your WordPress skills under Darren's guidance. Bring your laptop and log in!

In the evening, Dinica Quesada, OEA Communications Specialist, will teach you how to use social media like Twitter, Facebook, and other media to connect with your tech-savvy members. Bring your devices for a hands-on session!

ECOEA NEWS

The ECOEA Legislative dinner was held at the Courtyard Marriott on Friday, March 7, 2014. We were fortunate to have several legislators that serve the six-county ECOEA district of Holmes, Wayne, Stark, Carroll, Tuscarawas, and Columbiana counties. In attendance were Senator Scott Oelslager, Senator Frank LaRose, Senator Lou Gentile, House Rep. Nick Barborak, and Rep. Stephen Slesnick. Thomas Queen of Congressman Jim Renacci's office also attended.

In attendance from the State Board of Education were District 5 Board Member Deb Cain and District 9 Board Member Stephanie Dodd.

Members and guests at the ECOEA Legislative Dinner had the opportunity to ask questions of our guest panel about their concerns. After the formal program, guests were able to talk one-on-one with the legislators and State Board of Education members. The conversation continued late into the evening, as ECOEA members networked with old and new friends.

ECOEA Legislative Dinner

March 7, 2014



* Delegates *

ECOEA local associations who had delegates attending the Spring ECOEA Rep Assembly:

- * Canton Professional Educators' Association
- * Columbiana MR DD Education Association
- * Fairless Education Association
- * Jackson Memorial Education Association
- * Lake Local Education Association
- * Massillon Education Association
- * Newcomerstown Teachers' Association
- * North Canton Education Association
- * Perry Classroom Teachers Association
- * Rittman Education Association
- * Southern Local TA-Columbiana
- * Stark Co. Educators and Professional Trainers (SCEPTA)
- * United Education Association
- * Wooster Education Association
- * OEA-Retired Educators from ECOEA

Thank you to the Canton Professional Educators' Association for the use of their facility to hold our Representative Assembly. ECOEA thanks President Dr. Geneva Parker and the officers of CPEA for their gracious hospitality!

Is your local sending delegates to the ECOEA and OEA Representative Assemblies? This is your voice at the District and State level where important decisions are debated and voted upon. If you do not see your local listed, it is time to get involved!

CONGRATULATIONS !

Election results from the ECOEA Rep Assembly on April 5:

Board of Directors:

OEA Board of Directors Unit I-Tracy Lemus Santos, Fairless EA
Three Year Term 2014-2017

ECOEA Executive Committee:

Carroll County Representative-Mandy Bankert, Malvern EA
Columbiana County #2 Representative-Karen Marquis, Southern Local EA
Holmes County Representative-Catherine Snyder, East Holmes TA
Stark County #5 Representative Bobbie Grimm, Canton Professional EA
Stark County #6 Representative-Leslie Roteck, Canton Professional EA
Wayne County #2 Representative-Karen Linch, Wooster EA
Three Year Terms 2014-2017

Election results for OEA Committee positions:

OEA Convention Planning Committee-Victoria Freday, SCEPTA
OEA Collective Bargaining Core Function Committee, Dan Campanaro, North Canton EA
OEA Organizing Strategy Core Function Committee-Mary Ann Mastnick, SCEPTA
These positions have a three year term of office, 2014-2017.

Vacancies exist for the following Executive Committee positions:

Columbiana County Representative #1 (term expires 2015)
ESP #1 (term expires 2015)
Please contact the ECOEA office if you are interested in being appointed to one of these positions.

Delegates endorsed the following candidates for OEA positions. The election will be held at the OEA Representative Assembly May 9-10, 2014:

Emilly Osterling, NEA Director #1
Janifer Trowles, NEA Director #2
Karen Wright, Board of Directors At-Large ESP
Andrea Beeman, Board of Directors At-Large

ECOEA

The link between your Local and OEA



Debra McDonald
Ohio Teacher of the Year
and
President Angela Stewart
along with LRC Alison Hoffa



Top FCPE donors Ed Sims, Rittman EA,
Carol Meyers, Massillon EA and Dan Campanaro,
North Canton EA



NEA Directors
Robin Jeffries and
Andre' Taylor address
the RA



Kaitlyn Bowman, winner of
the Quinn for Children of
Members, receives her award
from Business Manager
Val Heban

ECOEA SPRING RA



President Angela Stewart wishes retiring
SWOEA President Rich Packert well.

The winner of the
OEA-R raffle basket
was ECOEA VP
Tracy Lemus Santos.



APRIL 5, 2014

OEA Summer Academy-Rise, Reclaim and Renew

The OEA Summer Academy will be held August 4-6, 2014 at Hilton Downtown Columbus. The Academy provides training and current information to help local association leaders, both experienced and new, on a variety of topics. There is always something new to learn!

Details will be available on the 2014 OEA Summer Academy website on May 8 at:

leadership.ohea.org

ECOEA provides scholarships to attend the OEA Summer Academy. Apply on the ECOEA website at:

<http://ecoea.ohea.us/formsapplications/>

OEA sponsors an Emerging Leaders program to develop and support our future leaders. Participants in the program may be nominated by an existing local, district or state leader or may also self-nominate.

FIREWORKS (continued from page 1)

The first step is asking your local, district, and state leaders how you can help. Support your local and strengthen your association by serving on a committee or becoming a chairperson or officer. Join Advocates for Children and Education (ACES) on the OEA website and receive alerts about legislation affecting public education. Give generously to the Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) so we can give some financial advantage to those legislators that support us. Support those endorsed candidates who promote our profession by helping with their campaigns with your time, talents, and money.

This November in Ohio some changes must be made or public education, the middle class, and unions will be forever changed and possibly destroyed. If our current governor is reelected, Right to Work will be first on his agenda. He vowed to destroy the unions as part of his platform in 2010, and he almost did with Senate Bill 5. Right to Work was not designed to benefit any worker, only the employers and their profits. A decline in unions is a decline in the middle class. Less protections for our learners means a decline in quality public education.

Ed FitzGerald believes in public education, the middle class, and unions. He is a product of the American Dream and he believes every Ohioan deserves to have a shot at the American Dream. Ed FitzGerald must be elected our next governor, along with the rest of the dream team. Check out OEA's website for a current list of endorsed candidates across the state. Whatever role or action you decide to take, don't do it alone. Get some friends to join you and own the night. Together your colors will burn brighter. Are you ready to ignite and help others to ignite? Katy Perry continues to sing in her song, "Boom, boom, boom. Even brighter than the moon, moon, moon. It's always been inside of you, you, you. And now it's time to let it through." It's our time to shoot across the sky and make some noise. Are you ready to let it through and be brave? I am! Never forget that YOU CAN DO ANYTHING! So let's go light some fires and together create some really awesome fireworks!

Keep showing the world your true beauty!

Winner of the Quinn Educational Scholarship for Members was Angela Hlad, a member of Newcomerstown Teachers' Association. Angela will use her \$500 scholarship to continue her studies at Muskingum University. Congratulations Angela!

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Bowman, daughter of Alberta Bowman, North Canton EA, for being awarded the Quinn Educational Scholarship for Children of Members. Kaitlyn will use her \$1,500 scholarship to continue her studies at Kent State University to become a school counselor. Congratulations Kaitlyn!

