



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

OFFICERS AND STAFF
President – Tracy Lemus Santos
Vice President – Julie Nelson
Rec. Sec. – Mandy Bankert
Business Manager- Valerie Heban

Official Newsletter Publication of ECOEA
Summer 2015



ECOEA President
Tracy Lemus Santos

**E
C
O
E
A**

It's that Time of Year

I was in the store the other day and noticed that we are already in the midst of “Back to School” sales. July has just started and we are about halfway through the summer but we are hit every time we enter a store that a new school year is right around the corner. Some of us may groan when we see the bins of crayons and pens and stacks of paper we know we will have to purchase while others are looking forward to another school year.

I have always been one of the latter. I remember as a child the excitement I felt when I my parents would take me shopping for new clothes and shoes. I remember getting excited when I would look at my new pack of crayons with the perfect tips just waiting to be used. I remember smiling at the notebooks with fresh pages that I would try to fill. I remember choosing the perfect backpack that I would tote to and from school each day. I remember going to the school building and straight to the doors every day for a week to see who my teacher would be and who would be in my class but always having to go home because it was not posted yet. I remember coming home with a stack of books the first day of school for my mom to cover with brown paper bags and being so excited to decorate them. I could really go on and on with these memories.

I still get excited for this special time. Although the end of summer is a sad time because I have closed another chapter of making memories with my own children, I welcome the new school year with open arms. I look at it as a clean slate that I will have 9 months to fill with memories, ways to improve my teaching, and lessons that will impact students for the rest of their lives. One quote I always keep on my desk is “One hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, or how much money I had in the bank, but the world may be a better place because I made a difference in a child's life.” All of us educators, teachers and Educational Support Professionals alike, truly do work in the greatest profession.

This year is especially exciting because I will have the opportunity to serve as the president of an organization I have come to love, ECOEA. I was given the opportunity to attend the NEA Representative Assembly in Orlando, Florida this summer. The theme of the meeting was “Unite, Inspire, Lead!” While at the assembly, I decided these are the three goals I will strive to achieve this year. My first goal is for us to UNITE as ECOEA and realize we are only as strong as our weakest local. Therefore, my next goal is to INSPIRE members to take a more active role in their locals so that each local can strive for greatness and become stronger. Lastly, I hope to LEAD this organization in a way that each member feels valued and empowered because, together, we can make a difference. In future articles, I will be incorporating ways to assist local leaders to build and encourage member involvement within their own organization.

As stated early, I'm excited to begin this new chapter. If I can assist you in any way, don't hesitate to contact me at ecoeapresident@gmail.com. I truly do look forward to working with you.

ECOEA Office

129 Easton St. NE
Suite 103

Canton, Ohio 44721
330-499-8587

ecoea@sbcglobal.net



www.ecoea.ohea.us

Per By-Law 3.9 Access to Financial Reports-
the Monthly Executive financial reports are
available to any member upon request

Take advantage
of your dues dollars

www.ecoea.ohea.us

Check out the ECOEA Website for
info and online application forms
for all of the following ECOEA
member opportunities:

* **ECOEA Unit Scholarships for Members**

- deadline Nov 1st

* **ECOEA Public Relations Grants for**

Locals - deadline Oct 10th

* **ECOEA Inservice Meeting funds**

* **NEA SUMMIT Conference Scholarship**

- deadline Jan 1st

* **NEA ESP Conference Scholarship** -

deadline Jan 15th

* **Quinn Member and Student**

Scholarships - deadline March 1st

* **NEA-Retired Conference Scholarship** -

deadline Feb 15th

* **OEA Collective Bargaining**

Conf. Scholarship for ECOEA Locals -

deadline January 15

* **OEA Summer Leadership Conference**

Scholarships-deadline April 15

* **Local Levy Support**-contact the ECOEA
office

ECOEA--

the link between OEA and
your local

ECOEA Calendar

August 2015

Mon 8/3-8/5: OEA Summer Academy, Columbus

September 2015

Wed. 9/9: ECOEA Executive Committee meeting 5:00

October 2015

Wed 10/1: ECOEA Friend of Education nomination due

ECOEA Leader of Distinction nomination due

Sat. 10/10: ECOEA Public Relation Grant application deadline

Wed 10/14: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting 5:00

ECOEA Finance meeting

Wed 10/14: Deadline for reservations to ECOEA Fall Roundtable

Mon 10/19: ECOEA Fall Roundtable-Legal Update-Hartville Kitchen

November 2015

Sat 11/1: Deadline for ECOEA Unit Scholarship applications

Tues 11/3: Election Day-Get Out and Vote!

Sat. 11/7: ECOEA Fall Representative Assembly CPEA office 8:30 AM

Wed 11/11: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting 5:00

ECOEA Program Committee Meeting

December 2015

Fri 12/4: DLAMC Banquet, Columbus

Sat 12/5: OEA Fall Representative Assembly, Columbus

January 2016

Wed 1/13: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting - office-5:00

ECOEA Finance Committee meeting

Thurs 1/15: ECOEA Scholarship to NEA ESP Conference Application due

Thurs 1/15: ECOEA deadline for ECOEA Scholarships for OEA Collective
Bargaining Conference

Fri 1/22: Deadline to RSVP for ECOEA Retirement Workshop

Sat 1/30: ECOEA Retirement Workshop, Courtyard Canton

February 2016

Mon 2/1: NEA-R Conference Scholarship Application due

Wed 2/10: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting - office-5:00PM

Fri 2/26: Deadline to RSVP for ECOEA Legislative Dinner

March 2016

Tue 3/1: ECOEA Quinn Scholarship applications due

Deadline for Letters of Intent for ECOEA elections

Fri 3/4: ECOEA Spring Legislative Dinner LaPizzaria 6:00 PM

Wed 3/9: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting-5:00

ECOEA Program Meeting

ECOEA IPPA Screening

April 2016

Wed 4/6: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting 5:00 PM

Sat 4/9: ECOEA Spring Representative Assembly CPEA 8:30 AM

Wed 4/15: ECOEA Summer Leadership Scholarship applications due

May 2016

Wed 5/4: ECOEA Executive Committee Meeting 5:00 PM

Fri 5/12-5/13: OEA Spring Representative Assembly Columbus

Fri 5/12: OEA Awards Banquet

June 2016

Sat 6/4: NEA Delegate Briefing-First Caucus-Columbus 9:30 AM

July 2016

7/3-7/8: NEA Representative Assembly-Washington DC

Thur 7/28: ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop (tentative date)

ECOEA Local Leadership Training Workshop-July 30, 2015

Registration deadline July 24. Register today!

ECOEA Programming presents a comprehensive workshop to kick start training for our local leaders. Six different sessions are offered with something for all levels of leadership. Local treasurers have the opportunity to learn at their own level from OEA Secretary Treasurer Tim Myers in two separate sessions-Novice and Advanced. Treasurers and Membership Chairpersons will work with Tim to update their OEA Treasurer handbook. Keeping accurate records, understanding financial record-keeping, tax implications and filing, dues and membership are some of the very important topics that will be covered. In the Novice Treasurer session in the afternoon, the pace is slower and geared to allow questions as new local treasurers learn the ropes. OEA requires that a treasurer or local representative attend a treasurer workshop each year. The evening session for more experienced treasurers moves more quickly.

Members in the OEA Affiliate Grant Writing session with OEA Assistant Executive Director Kevin Flanagan will learn about the various OEA grants available to locals to encourage membership and FCPE participation. In a separate afternoon session, locals are invited to send officers or representatives to work with LRCs LaVonne Lobert-Edmo and Kim Borzyn to bring their Constitution and Bylaws into compliance with OEA. Of the 62 locals in the ECOEA District, only a few are in compliance!

A delicious dinner buffet is available at no charge to all attendees. During the dinner break, door prizes will be awarded. Members can visit the displays of NEA Member Benefits and OEA-Retired to learn about the services provided by these groups.

After dinner, OEA LRC Gary Kovach, assisted by LRCs Alison Hoffa, Todd Jaeck, Katie Boerger, and Kristin Johannsson, will conduct the Building Rep training. Tim Myers will continue on with his second Treasurer training of the day with the Advanced Treasurers' group. Carol Price, OEA Staff, will lead the Local Leaders through Elections training. This includes the nuts and bolts of running an election, ballots, dates of various elections and reporting information, and federal laws governing elections. The Local Leaders will continue in a networking session facilitated by ECOEA President Tracy Lemus Santos, VP Julie Nelson, and LRC LaVonne Lobert-Edmo. It will be a full day of information to assist our local leadership as they prepare to represent and lead their members in the new school year.

ECOEA appreciates the efforts, energy and expertise of all our presenters. There is still time to register! Sign up for just an afternoon session, evening session, or both sessions. Registration closes and deposits are due on Friday, July 24. Sign up now on the ecoea website at this link:

<http://ecoea.ohea.us/workshopevents/ecoea-summer-leadership-workshop/>

Congratulations to the new officers elected at the ECOEA Spring Representative Assembly held at the Canton Professional Educators' Office on Saturday, April 25, 2015. Elected to ECOEA leadership for a two year term were:

Tracy Lemus Santos, Fairless EA, President

Julie Nelson, North Canton EA, Vice President

Mandy Bankert, North Canton EA, Recording Secretary

Elected to three year terms were:

Michelle Martin Jones, Canton PEA, ECOEA Minority Member

Alice Johnston, Massillon EA, ECOEA Stark Rep #3

Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA, ESP #2

Anne Bowles, Wooster EA, OEA Board of Directors, Unit 2

Janel Travis, Newcomerstown TA, OEA Legislative Committee

Dr. Geneva Parker, Canton PEA, Member Rights & Protections Core Function Committee

Sharon Seikel, Massillon EA, OEA Resolutions Committee (appointed)

Tamika Moss, Canton PEA, Local Development Core Function Committee (appointed)

ECOEA FALL ROUNDTABLE – Hartville Kitchen

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FALL LEGAL UPDATE



Monday, October 19, 2015

Presenter

OEA Attorney

Kathleen McKinley

Kathleen will bring you "up to date" on Current laws and legal cases that affect you as an educator.

Registration will begin at 5:00 PM at the Hartville Kitchen



* Sign-In begins at 5:00 PM with complimentary dinner for ECOEA members at 5:30, followed by Legal Update Presentation.

* A \$10 refundable deposit check is required to hold each reservation, and it will be returned to you at the event.

* **MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE AT THE ECOEA WEBSITE BY OCTOBER 14th.**

VISIT THE ECOEA WEBSITE AT:

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

Register under the MEETINGS AND EVENTS TAB

SOME FUTURE EVENTS / DATES

ECOEA Fall Rep Assembly
Saturday, November 7, 2015
Canton Professional Educators'
Association Office

ECOEA Spring Rep Assembly
Saturday, April 9, 2016
Canton Professional Educators'
Association Office

OEA Fall Rep Assembly
Saturday, December 5, 2015
Jerome Schottenstein Center

OEA Spring Rep Assembly
Fri-Sat, May 13-14, 2016
Greater Columbus Convention Center

*** Save the Dates ***

ECOEA
Retirement
Workshop

Saturday, January 30, 2016
Courtyard Canton

ECOEA Spring
Legislative Dinner
and Program

Friday, March 4, 2016
LaPizzaria

Details and reservation information will be posted on the website at

ecoea.ohea.us

OEA Summer Academy 2015

OEA Summer Academy 2015 Professionally Speaking

ECOEA members will be attending the OEA Summer Academy in Columbus this August 3-5 to gain valuable bargaining, organizing, political activism, and leadership skills. The theme this year is **Professionally Speaking: Discover your voice. Develop your message.**

ECOEA is proud to provide 6 scholarships through a matching grant program with OEA. Receiving scholarships this year are:

Dan Campanaro, North Canton EA

Tamika Moss, Canton PEA

Melissa Kath, Fairless EA

Sharon Caiazza, East Liverpool EA

Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA

Victoria Freday, SCEPTA

Congratulations to these members for receiving scholarships to advance their work for their local associations!



Receiving OEA Region 2 scholarships to attend the Summer Academy are:

Jill Rippeth-New Philadelphia EA

Yvonne Parks-Canton PEA

Julie Nelson-North Canton EA

Lori Liskey-Jackson Classified PA



Row 3: Val Heban, North Canton EA, Carol Kinsey, OEA-R, Charles Cerniglia, Wooster EA, Dr. Geneva Parker, Canton PEA, Jen Milligan, Jackson MEA, Tracy Lemus Santos, Fairless EA, Kristi Cropper, North Canton EA, Anne Bowles, Wooster EA

Row 2: Ramona Moore, Lake Local EA, Lynn Simpson, Malvern EA, Scott Miller, Wooster EA, Cindy Endres, Jackson CPA, Julie Nelson, North Canton EA

Row 1: Karen Linch, Wooster EA, Angela Stewart, Newcomerstown TA

ECOEA DELEGATES TO THE NEA RA 2015

East Central at the NEA RA

NEA is the largest labor union in the United States with 3.2 million members. Delegates meet annually the first week of July to adopt policies, strategies, budgets, to elect officers, and to direct the work of the association for the coming year through New Business Items. This year there were over 7,000 delegates representing all state affiliates and coalitions such as retired and student members. The NEA Representative Assembly met in Orlando, July 1-6, as President Lily Eskelsen Garcia presided over the largest deliberative body in the world. It is truly an amazing experience to be a delegate to the NEA Rep Assembly!



Congratulations to first time delegate Charles Cerniglia, Wooster EA. Charles successfully presented New Business Item 116 to the delegates of the NEA Representative Assembly. Charles is shown here with his mother, Jeanne Cerniglia, Southeast Local and his father, retired teacher, Larry Cerniglia.

Adopted As Modified

The NEA will partner with a broad coalition of national stakeholders on existing campaigns and actions to eradicate policies that perpetuate economic inequality. In addition, the NEA will partner with coalitions on campaigns and actions to promote economic equality.

Cost Implications

This NBI can be accomplished at an additional cost of \$500.

Right: First time delegates Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA, and Jennifer Milligan, Jackson Memorial EA sport their Ohio shirts on the opening day of the Rep Assembly. Lookin' good, ladies!

Below: Veteran OEA-R delegate Carol Kinsey is surrounded by the 6 ECOEA first time delegates Llyn Simpson, Malvern EA, Kristi Cropper, North Canton EA, Jen Milligan, Julie Nelson, North Canton EA, Charles Cerniglia, and Cindy Endres.

