



# 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 – Julie Nelson**  
**Vice President –Cindy Endres**  
**Rec. Sec. – Kelli Green**  
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Official Newsletter Publication of ECOEA  
Back to School Edition 2016



ECOEA President  
Julie Nelson

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Recently a local store had many Ohio t-shirt designs for sale including one with the outline of Ohio and the word “bellwether” spelled inside along with “vote.” Although the context clues were obvious, I admit I had to Google the exact meaning of “bellwether.” The definition is “someone or something that leads others or an indicator of trends.” Ohio, of course, is a bellwether state when it comes to elections. We are the pulse of the nation and have the longest streak for voting for the winning presidential candidate.

At a time when our country is politically divided, at least according to the 24 hour news cycle and Facebook, educators must unite. We must unite around the issues that affect our students. We must work for the public schools our students deserve.

The first week of July I had the opportunity to attend my second NEA Representative Assembly in Washington DC along with 17 other delegates from ECOEA and 6,000 delegates from around the country. In her keynote address NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia shared an exchange she had with a taxi driver on her way to the Democratic National Convention eight years ago. The Ethiopian taxi driver asked her numerous questions and offered speculation on the 2008 presidential election, about which he was obviously knowledgeable. President Eskelsen Garcia shared this exchange between her and the driver:

‘You realize that you probably know more about how we pick our president than a whole lot of people who were born here and are going to vote in this election. I’m embarrassed that I don’t even know who the president of Ethiopia is.’

And he looked at me through the rear view mirror and said, ‘You don’t have to know who the president of Ethiopia is. The president of Ethiopia can’t hurt your children. The president of Ethiopia can’t help your children. The president of the United States impacts everyone in the world, but we don’t get to vote for them. You do. All we can do is hope that you choose wisely.’

How blessed we are to live in the time and place that we do. We have the power to elect candidates who support our students. We have the responsibility to elect candidates that will help children in Ohio, the United States, and around the world.

You can watch President Lily Eskelsen Garcia’s Keynote Speech and the inspiring speech from Johana Hayes, 2016 National Teacher of the Year at [ra.nea.org/speakers-speeches/](http://ra.nea.org/speakers-speeches/)

**ECOEA Office**  
129 Easton St. NE  
Suite 103  
Canton, Ohio 44721  
330-499-8587  
ecoea@sbcglobal.net



[www.ecoea.ohed.org](http://www.ecoea.ohed.org)

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](http://www.ecoea.ohea.us)

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

- \* **ECOEA Public Relations Grants for Locals** - deadline Oct 7<sup>th</sup>
- \* **ECOEA Unit Scholarships for Members** - deadline Nov 1<sup>st</sup>
- \* **NEA-Minority & Women's' Training Scholarship** - deadline Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>
- \* **NEA SUMMIT Conference Scholarship** - deadline Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- \* **NEA ESP Conference Scholarship** - deadline Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- \* **NEA-Retired Conference Scholarship** - deadline Jan 13<sup>th</sup>
- \* **Quinn Member and Student Scholarships**- deadline March 8<sup>th</sup>
- \* **OEA Summer Academy Scholarships**- deadline April 15<sup>th</sup>
- \* **Local Levy Support**-contact the ECOEA office
- \* **Inservice Funds**-Apply on the ECOEA website

**ECOEA--**

*the link between OEA and your local*

	ECOEA Calendar 2016-2017
Wed., Sept. 14, 2016	ECOEA Exec Board meeting
Sat., Oct. 1, 2016	ECOEA Friend of Education nominations due
Fri., Oct. 7, 2016	ECOEA PR Grant applications due
Wed., Oct. 12, 2016	ECOEA Executive Committee meeting
	ECOEA Program meeting to follow
	Legal Update reservation deadline
Sat., Oct. 15, 2016	OEA GLBT training Columbus
Monday, Oct. 17, 2016	ECOEA Legal Update
Tues., Nov. 1, 2016	ECOEA Unit Scholarship deadline
Wed., Nov. 9, 2016	ECOEA Exec Meeting
	ECOEA Finance meeting to follow
	NEA Minority & Women's Training Scholarship deadline
Sat., Nov. 12, 2016	ECOEA Fall Rep Assembly
Fri., Dec. 2, 2016	DLAMC Banquet
Sat., Dec. 3, 2016	OEA Fall Rep Assembly
	ECOEA NEA ESP, Retired & Summit Scholarship deadlines
Fri., Jan. 13, 2017	ECOEA Exec Meeting
Wed., Jan. 18, 2017	ECOEA Finance meeting to follow
	ECOEA Retirement Workshop reservation deadline
Fri., Jan. 20, 2017	Declaration of Candidacy Unit 1 Board of Directors due
Tues., Jan. 24, 2017	NEA Minority & Womens' Training
Jan. 27-29, 2017	ECOEA Retirement Workshop
Sat., Jan. 28, 2017	ECOEA Exec Meeting
Wed., Feb. 8, 2017	ECOEA Program Meeting to follow
	NEA Leadership Summit
Feb. 24-26, 2017	ECOEA Legislative Dinner reservation deadline
Tues., Feb. 28, 2017	ECOEA Letter of Intent due
Fri., Mar. 3, 2017	ECOEA Legislative Dinner
Wed., Mar. 8, 2017	ECOEA Exec Meeting
	IPPA screening to follow
March 10-12, 2017	NEA ESP Conference
March 21-23, 2017	NEA Retired Conference
Wed., Apr. 5, 2017	ECOEA Exec Meeting
Sat., Apr. 8, 2017	ECOEA Spring RA tentative Scholarship application deadline OEA Summer Academy
Sat., Apr. 15, 2017	ECOEA Executive Board meeting
Wed., May 3, 2017	OEA Awards Banquet
Fri., May 12, 2017	OEA Spring RA
May 12-13, 2017	NEA Delegate Briefing
Sat., June 3, 2017	OEA Summer Academy
June 19-21, 2017	NEA Rep Assembly
June 30-July 5, 2017	ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop
TBD	

## ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop RG Drage Career Tech Center July 18, 2016

The ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop was held at RG Drage CTC on Monday, July 18, with 100 members and presenters in attendance. There were eight different sessions from which to choose. In the opening whole group session, LRCs Alison Hoffa, Gary Kovach, LaVonne Lobert-Edmo, Kim Borzyn, and Tom Booth shared *Communicating in Today's Environment*. How do Millennials talk to Baby Boomers? What are the most effective forms of communication in each generational group? What are the most effective ways to communicate? Very informative!

Thank you to our morning presenters:

OEA Treasurers' Workshop-OEA Secretary Treasurer Tim Myers  
 OTEs-Performance-Ellen Adornetto-OEA Education Consultant  
 Constitution & Bylaws Compliance-LaVonne Lobert-Edmo & Kim Borzyn  
 Building Rep Training-Member Engagement-Alison Hoffa, Gary Kovach & Tom Booth

And to our afternoon presenters:

Local Leaders Networking-ECOEA President Julie Nelson & Vice President Cindy Endres, LaVonne Lobert-Edmo & Kim Borzyn  
 OTEs-Student Growth-Ellen Adornetto  
 Bullying Prevention-ECOEA Board member April Chenault-McLeod & Linda Costello  
 Building Rep Training-Advocacy-Alison Hoffa, Gary Kovach & Tom Booth

Our next event will be our Fall Roundtable on Monday, October 17, at the Hartville Kitchen. OEA Attorney Kathleen McKinley, LPA, will present a Legal Update. Register now on the ECOEA Website at [ecoa.ohea.us](http://ecoa.ohea.us)



**LEFT: Door prize winners:**  
 Susan Freday, Canton Local Classified  
 Deb Wiley, North Canton EA  
 Lea Daut, Perry CTA  
 Roxann Long, Wooster EA  
 Mary Beth Liossis, Massillon EA  
 Anne Bowles, Wooster EA

**BELOW:**  
 Left: Newcomerstown President Janel Travis talks to Guy Kendall-Freas of NEA Member Benefits

Right: LRCs Alison Hoffa and Tom Booth along with Gary Kovach lead a Building Rep session with members from area locals.



## ECOEA FALL ROUNDTABLE – Hartville Kitchen

### FALL LEGAL UPDATE



**Monday, October 17, 2016**

**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 will be returned to you at the event.

\* **MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE AT THE ECOEA WEBSITE BY OCTOBER 12<sup>th</sup>.**

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 12, 2016**  
Canton Professional Educators'  
Association Office

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ECOEA Spring Rep Assembly  
**Saturday, April 8, 2017**  
Canton Professional Educators'  
Association Office

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OEA Fall Rep Assembly  
**Saturday, December 3, 2016**  
Ohio Expo, Cardinal Hall

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OEA Spring Rep Assembly  
**Fri-Sat, May 12-13, 2017**  
TBD

**\* Save the Dates \***

ECOEA  
Retirement  
Workshop

*Saturday, January 28, 2017*  
*Courtyard Canton*

ECOEA Spring  
Legislative Dinner  
and Program

*Friday, March 3, 2017*  
*LaPizzeria*

Details and reservation information will be posted on the website at

[ecoea.ohea.us](http://ecoea.ohea.us)

# OEA Summer Academy 2016

## OEA Summer Academy 2016 Leaders, Advocates, & Educators: The Power of OEA Members

ECOEA members attended the OEA Summer Academy in Columbus this August 1-3, to gain valuable bargaining, organizing, political activism, and leadership skills. The theme this year was **Leaders, Advocates & Educators: The Power of OEA Members**.

ECOEA was proud to provide scholarships through a matching grant program with OEA. Receiving scholarships this year were:

Melissa Kath, Fairless EA  
Bruce Steiner, Wayne County CTC  
Brooke Harter, Jackson CPA  
Julie Nelson, North Canton EA

### Attending the OEA Emerging Leaders Program were:

Adam Amato, Fairless EA  
Taylor Haney, Newcomerstown TA  
Brittany Moore, Newcomerstown TA

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



**Leaders, Advocates & Educators:  
The Power of OEA Members.**

### Receiving OEA Region 2 scholarships to attend the Summer Academy were:

Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA  
Lori Liskey, Jackson Classified PA  
Rita Ruffin, Jackson Classified PA  
Kristi Cropper, North Canton EA  
Jen McKelley, North Canton EA  
Roxann Long, Wooster EA

Download the free My OEA Mobile App for Apple and Android devices. OEA information at your fingertips!



Visit the Voices of Change blog at <http://blog.ohea.org/>



Like ECOEA on Facebook!



### Serving on the OEA Board of Directors from ECOEA:

Anne Bowles, Unit 2, from Wooster EA, Carol Kinsey, OEA-R representative to the OEA BoD, Cindy Endres, Unit 1, from Jackson Classified PA, Dr. Geneva Parker, Unit 3, from Canton Professional EA, and Angela Stewart, NEA Director #4, Newcomerstown TA

## East Central OEA Delegates at the NEA Rep Assembly

Washington D. C. July 2-7, 2016



State and Local delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly from our ECOEA District:

Row 1: Ramona Moore, Lake Local EA, ECOEA President Julie Nelson, North Canton EA, Kristi Cropper, North Canton EA

Row 2: Anne Bowles, Wooster EA, Michelle Martin Jones, Canton Professional EA, Roxann Long, Wooster EA, Val Heban, ECOEA Business Mgr., Tamika Moss, Canton Professional EA, Karen Linch, Wooster EA, ECOEA Vice President Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA, Scott Miller, Wooster EA, Carol Kinsey, OEA-Retired, Dr. Geneva Parker, Canton Professional EA

Missing from above picture: Angela Stewart, Newcomerstown TA, Kathleen Purdy, OEA-Retired



Your ECOEA Executive Board for 2016-2017 is a diverse group of educators from around the six counties that comprise the East Central District. Our members are from Carroll, Columbiana, Holmes, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties and are elected at the ECOEA Spring Representative Assembly for their term of office.

**Officers:**

President Julie Nelson-North Canton EA  
Vice President-Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA  
Recording Secretary-Kelli Green, Perry Classroom TA  
Past President-Tracy Lemus Santos, Fairless EA  
County Reps:  
Carroll County-Llyn Simpson, Malvern EA  
Columbiana #1-vacant  
Columbiana #2-Karen Marquis-Southern Local TA  
Holmes County-Catherine Snyder, East Holmes TA  
Stark County #1-Dan Campanaro, North Canton EA  
Stark County #2-April Chenault-McLeod-Canton Professional EA  
Stark County #3-Alice Johnston, Massillon EA  
Stark County #4-vacant  
Stark County #5-Bobbie Grimm, Canton Professional EA  
Stark County #6-Leslie Roteck, Canton Professional EA  
Tuscarawas County-Janel Travis, Newcomerstown TA  
Wayne County #1-Ed Sims, Rittman EA  
Wayne County #2-Karen Linch, Wooster EA  
ESP #1-Joshua Cutting, Lake Local  
ESP #2-Roxann Long, Wooster EA  
Minority Member-Michelle Martin, Canton Professional EA  
OEA-Retired Rep-Kathleen Purdy, retired from Plain Local TA

**OEA Board of Directors:**

Unit 1-Cindy Endres, Jackson Classified PA  
Unit 2-Anne Bowles, Wooster EA  
Unit 3-Dr. Geneva Parker, Canton Professional EA

**Retired Rep to the OEA Board-**

Carol Kinsey-retired from Canton Professional EA

**NEA Director #4-Angela Stewart-Newcomerstown TA**

**Representing ECOEA on OEA Committees are:**

**Core Function Committees-**

Tamika Moss, Canton PEA  
Ramona Moore, Lake Local EA  
Mary Ann Mastnick, SCEPTA  
Michelle Martin Jones, Canton PEA  
Julie Rine, Minerva EA  
OEA Legislative-Janel Travis, Newcomerstown TA  
OEA Resolutions-Traci Cottrell-Canton PEA



**Janice Messenheimer-Courtney** was recently honored by her induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame. Major Janice Messenheimer-Courtney entered the teaching profession after a twenty-year military career through the Troops to Teacher program. The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame recognizes veterans who have made a significant impact on their communities. She was recognized at a ceremony in May at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts. Janice is in her twentieth year of teaching. She teaches psychology and global issues at Fairless High School in addition to advising the yearbook, school newspaper and National Honor Society. She serves the Fairless EA members as a Building Rep. Congratulations Janice for a life of service to our country and your students!

**OEA EDUCATORS FOR OHIO'S FUTURE  
CAMPAIGN 2016**

**SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT THIS LINK:**

<http://tinyurl.com/EOF-Signup>

**NEA MB SOCIAL MEDIA**

Connect with us for all the latest tips and deals!



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Start the new school year strong with tips and ideas from NEA Member Benefits

Visit [neamb.com/BTS](http://neamb.com/BTS) to find the resources you need to get ready to head back to school:

\* Classroom organization project ideas: Watch as a professional organizer helps 3 teachers create functional classrooms—and get ideas for your own space, too.

\* Classroom management advice: Find expert answers to NEA members' toughest classroom management challenges.

\* Tips to create a positive work-life balance: Manage your school day, your work relationships and your own health.

\* Savings just for educators: Stretch your back-to-school shopping budget.

**Visit [neamb.com/BTS](http://neamb.com/BTS) today to get your back-to-school resources!**



OEA President Becky Higgins visited ECOEA on May 20, as part of her Spring Listening Tour. Becky was able to visit with Plain Local TA President David Frederick along with ECOEA President Julie Nelson. Becky traveled to Perry High School where she met with new PASS President Cindy Savage and Vice President Keith Zuniga. She ended the day at a Meet & Greet with members of Massillon EA at Massillon Middle School arranged by ECOEA County Rep Alice Johnston. We look forward to your visits Becky!

**OEA SUMMER ACADEMY**

**LEFT:** Attending OEA Summer Academy as Emerging Leaders were Taylor Haney and Brittany Moore of Newcomerstown TA and Adam Amato of Fairless EA. Congratulations to these young leaders!

**Below left:** Celebrating their wins at the District Leaders' Council *Night at the Races* were Lori Liskey, Jackson CPA, and Kristi Cropper, North Canton EA. This FCPE fundraiser is held on Monday night of the Summer Academy.

**Below right:** Members from Jackson Classified PA Brooke Harter, Rita Ruffin and Lori Liskey join with ECOEA Vice President Cindy Endres at breakfast before attending sessions.

