

East Central Ohio Education Association



The Link Between Your Local
and the Ohio Education Association
Serving members in Carroll,
Columbiana, Holmes, Stark,
Tuscarawas, and Wayne Counties

Official Newsletter Publication of ECOEA

Winter 2018

OFFICERS AND STAFF

President – Julie Nelson

Vice President –Cindy Endres

Rec. Secretary – Kelli Green

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Julie Nelson
ECOEA President

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Reaching Your 2018 Goals with ECOEA

Happy New Year! For many people turning the calendar to a new year provides an opportunity to reflect, refocus, and set new goals. ECOEA is here to help you and your local association reach your 2018 goals.

With December credit card statements arriving in the mail and tax season approaching January it is the perfect time to assess your personal finances. Our January 27 [Finance for All Educators Workshop](#) (formerly called the Retirement Workshop) is a chance for all members to learn about estate planning, investing, erasing student loans and planning for retirement. Representatives from STRS and SERS will lead sessions on what you need to know now and in the future-- whether you are looking to retire in 2018 or 2048.

I know many of you have education goals to attain this year whether you are taking courses to improve your content knowledge, gain an additional license, advance on the salary schedule or renew your license. If you are pursuing continuing education, please take one minute to apply for the [ECOEA Quinn Educational Scholarship for Members](#). The winner of the lottery drawing will earn \$500 to use toward coursework. In 2017 OEA rolled out a new program for Higher Education Benefits where you and your family members can earn an associate degree for free through online classes at Eastern Gateway Community College. Find out more at FreeCollege.OHEA.org.

2018 is going to bring exciting opportunities on the political front. We will need to work hard to elect a governor in November that cares about our students and our public schools. It was exciting to hear directly from four candidates at the December OEA Representative Assembly. Voting in the next election is not enough, however. Our voices need to be heard as decisions are made about our schools. You can advocate for students at OEA Lobby Day in Columbus on January 31; go to ohca.org for the details. If you can't go to Columbus, mark your calendar now for the ECOEA Legislative Dinner on March 2 at LaPizzaria. Join us for an opportunity to discuss public education with our state representatives and state board of education members. It is always a nice opportunity to talk with colleagues and to share with legislators the realities of what is happening in our students' lives and in our schools.

ECOEA is offering new Internal Organizing Grants for local associations to look for new and creative ways to engage members in your local association. This April we are also offering another round of Public Relations Grants. We hope this will be an opportunity for locals to find ways to connect with members and your communities in 2018. Please go to ecoea.ohca.us for all of the details.

I hope that you will add association involvement as one of your goals for 2018. Whether it is attending a training or taking on a leadership role in your local association we need your involvement. Cheers to a happy, healthy, and productive 2018!

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 In-service Meeting funds
- * ECOEA Local Levy Support
- * Quinn Member and Student Scholarships - deadline March 1st
- * NEA LGBTQ Conference Scholarship application deadline March 1st
- * ECOEA Public Relations Grant-NEW! Spring PR Grants deadline April 1st
- * ECOEA Internal Organizing Grants-NEW! Deadline April 1st
- * OEA Summer Leadership Conference Scholarships-deadline April 15

ECOEA--

the link between OEA and your local



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ECOEA Calendar

Wed., Jan. 17, 2018	ECOEA Exec Meeting ECOEA Finance meeting to follow	ECOEA Office
Thur., Jan. 18, 2018	Deadline to apply for ECOEA Scholarships to OEA Advocacy & Organizing Institute (formerly Collective Bargaining Conference)	Columbus
Fri., Jan. 19, 2018	ECOEA Finance for All Educators Wkshop reservation deadline Deadline for OEA Scholarships & Awards	
Sat., Jan. 27, 2018	ECOEA Finance for All Educators Wkshp	Courtyard Canton
Wed., Jan. 31, 2018	OEA Lobby Day	Columbus
Feb. 1-3, 2018	OEA Advocacy & Organizing Institute	Columbus
Wed., Feb. 7, 2018	ECOEA Exec Meeting ECOEA Program Meeting to follow	ECOEA Office
Fri., Feb. 23, 2018	ECOEA Legislative Dinner reservation deadline	
Thur., March 1, 2018	ECOEA Quinn Scholarships deadline	
Fri., March 2, 2018	ECOEA Legislative Dinner	LaPizzaria
Mon., March 12, 2018	Letter of Intent ECOEA elections	
Wed., March 14, 2018	ECOEA Exec Meeting IPPA screening to follow	ECOEA Office
Sun., April 1, 2018	ECOEA PR Grants & Internal Organizing Grant deadline	
Wed., April 11, 2018	ECOEA Exec Meeting	ECOEA Office
Sat., April 21, 2018	ECOEA Spring RA	CPEA Office
Fri., May 11, 2018	OEA Spring RA	Columbus
Sat., May 12, 2018	OEA Spring RA	Columbus
Wed., May 16, 2018	ECOEA Exec Meeting	ECOEA Office
June 18-20, 2018	OEA Summer Academy	Columbus
June 30-July 5, 2018	NEA Rep Assembly	Minneapolis, MN
Mon. July 16, 2018	ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop	RG Drage

WHAT IS THE ECOEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY?

ECOEA's top governing body is the Representative Assembly. Delegates and alternates to the OEA Representative Assembly from locals within the ECOEA district are automatic delegates to the ECOEA Representative Assembly. The governance of ECOEA is similar in structure to the National Education Association and Ohio Education Association of which ECOEA is an affiliate. The Representative Assembly allows the will of the membership through the democratic process to elect officers, conduct business, act on resolutions, and other business of the association.

Local associations should hold an election of delegates each fall to ensure their members are represented at the district and state level.

ECOEA FALL REP ASSEMBLY 2017

President Julie Nelson presided over the ECOEA Rep Assembly on Saturday, November 11, 2017, at the CPEA office. Mark Hill, Worthington EA and STRS Chair, gave an STRS update. OEA Secretary-Treasurer Tim Myers gave remarks on behalf of the OEA officers. President Julie made several presentations to locals. She announced the 12 locals that qualified for the ECOEA Five Star Award. The drawing for the \$500 award was held with **Lake Local Education Association** receiving the award this year. President Allison McGinnis accepted the award for her association.

Business Manager Valerie Heban announced the Top Ten FCPE locals along with the presentation of the Public Relations grant winners. There were seven PR Grant winners awarded for their proposals. **Dover EA, Lake Local EA, Minerva Local EA, Newcomerstown TA, North Canton EA, Rittman EA, and Wooster EA**, each received PR grants of \$500 for their projects to promote the image of their association in their communities. Congratulations to these locals for their hard work!

Receiving the **ECOEA Leader of Distinction** award was **Anne Bowles**, Wooster EA. Given biennially, the Leader of Distinction is the only ECOEA award for members who have shown exceptional service to ECOEA, their local and community. Anne is an Intervention Specialist for Wooster City Schools and is in her sixth year on the OEA Board of Directors representing ECOEA Unit 2. Thank you, Anne for working for your students and members!

Unit Scholarship drawings were held for the three ECOEA \$500 scholarships for continuing education for members. Winners were from **Unit I-Beth Sternberg, Perry Classroom TA; from Unit II-Alyssa Rahe, Rittman EA; and from Unit III-Gary George, Newcomerstown TA**. Congratulations to these members!

There were **33 delegates from 13** different locals and OEA-R represented at the ECOEA RA. The Spring ECOEA Rep Assembly will be held at the CPEA office on Saturday, April 21, 2018.

Following the Rep Assembly, the FCPE Reorganizing Convening was held with OEA Vice President Scott DiMauro and Dan Ramos, OEA Govt. Relations, leading the informational session for Campaign 2018. Appointed representatives from locals caucused in their respective House Districts and Senate District to elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman, FCPE Convention Delegate and Alternate. This was the first time for ECOEA that the Reorganizational meetings were held in a convention-style setting. There were 11 locals represented by 27 members including 5



ANNE BOWLES ECOEA LEADER OF DISTINCTION 2017

East Central OEA recognized Anne Bowles, Wooster Education Association, as the 2017 Leader of Distinction. This is a biennial award recognizing an ECOEA member who has given exceptional service to ECOEA, other professional organizations, and/or lifelong dedication to education.

Anne has shown exemplary service to her students and the Association at all levels. She is in her thirty-first year of teaching—10 years in Findlay City Schools and the past 21 years in Wooster City Schools as an Elementary Intervention Specialist. She has served the Wooster Education Association as a Building Rep, Secretary, Treasurer, and on numerous district professional and WEA committees.

Anne has served on the ECOEA Executive Committee for eight years. She initially served as Wayne County Rep for two years and then as Unit 2 Board of Directors member for six years. She was an invaluable member of the ECOEA Crisis Committee for two years. As an OEA Board of Directors member, Anne is completing her sixth year. She has served on and chaired many OEA Board committees. Anne is a former WOEISME Service Council Chair, and a longtime OEA and NEA delegate.

Anne doesn't view herself as a leader, rather someone who intended "to make things better for others." Roxann Long, Wooster EA, in her nomination of Anne for this honor, described Anne as "much more than a teacher in our district. Anne has distinguished herself with an ongoing commitment. Those who know Anne Bowles can tell you of her involvement at school and in our community. She has the ability and ease to create a cohesive sense of community life for all."

Congratulations Anne, ECOEA Leader of Distinction 2017!

FIVE STAR LOCALS FOR 2016-2017

Twelve ECOEA locals have earned the **ECOEA Five Star Award** for 2016-2017. The Five Star Award was designed to encourage participation in ECOEA District activities. At the end of the year, local associations that have met at least 5 of the 6 criteria are acknowledged at the ECOEA Fall Rep Assembly for their accomplishment. A drawing is held among the qualifying locals for a \$500 unrestricted award. The winner this year was Lake Local Education Association. To qualify, a local must meet five of the following criteria:

1. Have a local delegate attend at least two of the four ECOEA or OEA Fall and Spring Representative Assemblies
2. Have at least 5% of local membership make FCPE contributions and be in good fiscal standing with OEA
3. Have a full slate of local officers
4. Have the local represented at least one ECOEA training, workshop, roundtable, or retreat.
5. Have the local or at least one member apply for ECOEA Public Relations Grant, In-Service Meeting Funds, Levy Assistance, Unit Scholarships, William and Delores Quinn Scholarships, NEA ESP Conference Scholarship, NEA Leadership Summit, or ECOEA Conference Scholarship to OEA Summer Academy
6. Have a local member serve as a representative on ECOEA or OEA Committees

Twelve locals met the criteria. Those locals who met all six of the criteria are acknowledged with an asterisk.

Alliance Education Association, Chris Heutsche, President
 Canton Professional Educators' Association, Paul Palomba, President
 Fairless Education Association, Tracy Lemus Santos, President
 *Jackson Classified Personnel Association, Cindy Endres, President
 Lake Local Education Association, Allison McGinnis, President
 Minerva Education Association, Stuart Grunder, President
 *North Canton Education Association, Julie Nelson, President
 *Newcomerstown Teachers' Association, Janel Travis, President
 *Perry Classroom Teachers' Association, Kelli Green, President
 Plain Local Teachers' Association, David Frederick, President
 Rittman Education Association, Ed Sims, President
 *Wooster Education Association, Scott Miller, President

LEADER OF DISTINCTION
ANNE BOWLES

ECOEA FCPE TOP TEN LOCAL PARTICIPATION

FIVE STAR LOCALS 2016-2017
 ALLIANCE EA, CANTON PROFESSIONAL EA, FAIRLESS EA, JACKSON CLASSIFIED EA,
 LAKE LOCAL EA, MINERVA LOCAL EA, NORTH CANTON EA, NEWCOMERSTOWN EA,
 PERRY CLASSROOM EA, PLAIN LOCAL EA, RITTMAN EA, WOOSTER EA

PR GRANTS 2017
 NEWCOMERSTOWN EA,
 RITTMAN EA,
 NORTH CANTON EA,
 DOWELL EA,
 WOOSTER EA,
 LAKE LOCAL EA,
 MINERVA LOCAL EA

EAST CENTRAL OEA
FALL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY
 2017

TOP TEN LOCALS FOR FCPE PARTICIPATION

1. Newcomerstown Teachers' Association-Janel Travis, President
2. North Canton Education Association-Julie Nelson, President
3. Fairless Education Association-Tracy Lemus Santos, President
4. Minerva Local Education Association-Stuart Grunder, President
5. Jackson Classified Personnel Association-Cindy Endres, President
6. Triway Education Association-Melissa Schneider, President
7. Massillon Education Association-Andrea Talkington, President
8. Alliance Education Association-Christine Heutsche, President
9. Wooster Education Association-Scott Miller, President
10. Perry Classroom Teachers' Association-Kelli Green, President

ECOEA Spring Rep Assembly

Saturday, April 21, 2018

8:30 AM

Canton Professional Educators'
Association Office

OEA Spring Rep Assembly

Fri-Sat, May 11-12, 2018

9:00 AM

Greater Columbus Convention Center

NEA Representative Assembly

June 30-July 5, 2018

Minneapolis, Minnesota



OEA Fall Representative Assembly Information

Fifteen of ECOEA's sixty-three locals were represented at the OEA Fall Representative Assembly by 37 delegates including two OEA-Retired delegates:

Canton Professional Educators' Association
SCEPTA
Jackson Classified Personnel Association
Rittman EA
New Philadelphia EA
Perry Classroom TA
Wooster EA
Southern Local TA

Lake Local EA
East Canton EA
Jackson Memorial Education Association
Newcomerstown TA
North Canton EA
Triway EA
Minerva Local EA

Thank you to Kristi Cropper from North Canton EA for serving as a floor attendant. The Stay-to-the-End Drawing winner was delegate Karen Linch, Wooster EA. The fund raiser drawing winner was Kristin Russ from Strongsville EA. Congratulations, ladies!

OEA Advocacy & Organizing Institute 2018

Register today at: [OEA Advocacy & Organizing Registration](#)

Locals are encouraged to send their leadership and bargaining teams to the upcoming OEA Advocacy & Organizing Institute (formerly the OEA Collective Bargaining Conference) that will be held at the Renaissance Downtown on February 1-3, 2018. ECOEA is proud to offer support to our locals by offering a \$50 scholarship for up to twenty members who apply. This is a very affordable and informative conference. Bring the whole team!

You must make your own reservation at the host hotel, the Renaissance Downtown at this link:

[Renaissance Conference Registration](#). The cost of the conference is \$100 which includes 2 nights at the Renaissance, based on double occupancy, conference fees, and meals. This is a great opportunity to get your bargaining team together offsite to focus on team building and training. Regional boot camps will follow for more intense training focused on individual local contracts.

The deadline to apply for an ECOEA scholarship is January 15. The ECOEA scholarship application is located on the ECOEA website at: [ECOEA Advocacy & Organizing Institute Scholarships](#)

FINANCES FOR ALL EDUCATORS

WHERE

CANTON COURTYARD MARRIOTT

4375 METRO CIR NW CANTON, OH 44718

WHEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018

BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION 8:15 AM-9:00 AM

ALL SESSIONS END AT 12:00 PM

FEATURING

Breakfast Buffet · NEA Member Benefits · **STRS session** ·
SERS session · **Door Prizes** · Networking

ON-LINE REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!

http://ecoea.ohea.us/workshopsevents/finances_for_educators/

DEADLINE TO REGISTER JANUARY 19, 2018

BROUGHT TO YOU BY EAST CENTRAL OHIO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

**OPEN TO ALL
ECOEA MEMBERS
AND GUESTS**

FREE TO ALL MEMBERS

\$10 PREPAID DEPOSIT

REFUNDED AT EVENT

\$15 GUEST FEE

OPENING SESSION

"WHAT I WANT MY LOVED
ONES TO KNOW: A PRACTICAL
LOOK AT LIFE AND FAMILY
PREPAREDNESS"-GUY
KENDALL-FREAS, NEA
MEMBER BENEFITS

BREAK-OUTS

STRS-Standard STRS
Information & Investing
with John Buch

SERS-Understanding SERS
Benefits & Retirement with
Cameron Vaughan

NEA Member Benefits-
ERASING STUDENT LOANS
AND DEBT: Student Loan
repayment, cancellation,
forgiveness and
management options &
ALPHABET SOUP:
Understanding the
terminology of retirement
& investing.

East Central OEA 
(330) 499-8587
ecoea@sbeglobal.net

ECOEA Spring Elections 2018

Elections will be held at the ECOEA Spring Representative Assembly on April 21, 2018, for positions with expiring terms.

Executive Committee-Three-year term 2018-2021:

Carroll County Rep (currently vacant)
Columbiana County Rep #1
Stark County Rep #3
Minority Member
ESP Rep #1
ESP Rep #2
Wayne County Rep #1

ECOEA Representatives to OEA Committees-Three-year term 2018-2021:

Human and Civil Rights Committee	Local Development & Training Committee
Legislative Committee	Resolutions Committee

In order for your name to appear on the ballot, a Letter of Intent must be received by the Business Manager no less than 40 days prior to the Spring RA. A sample Letter of Intent can be found on the ECOEA website. The deadline for the Letter of Intent is March 12, 2018.

OEA Board of Directors-Unit 2-Three-year term 2018-2021

The OEA Board of Directors is an OEA position. The Declaration of Candidacy form must be filed with OEA 75 days prior to the Spring RA election. Contact Carol Price at OEA for a form (pricec@ohea.org) or contact the ECOEA office at ecoea@sbcglobal.net. Deadline to file is February 5, 2018.

*** Save the Dates ***

ECOEA

Finances for All Educators Workshop

Saturday, January 29, 2018

Courtyard Canton

Breakfast buffet door prizes!

Sessions for STRS & SERS

NEA SESSION ON STUDENT DEBT

Registration open now!

ECOEA Spring Legislative Dinner and Program

Friday, March 2, 2018

LaPizzaria

Registration opens January 15

ECOEA Summer Leadership Workshop

Monday, July 16 2018

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

R. G. Drage Career Tech Center

Massillon, OH

OEA Treasurer Training

All event registrations can be found on our website at ecoea.ohea.us

ECOEA EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS AND LOCALS

ECOEA has added several new opportunities for locals to engage members and promote their association. Two additional [Public Relations Grants](#) of \$500 will be awarded at the ECOEA Spring Rep Assembly. The goal of a PR Grant is to improve the image of the association within the community. This can be achieved through donations to community projects, taking on a new service project within the community, or participating in an existing community project. Applications are on the ECOEA website and have a deadline to of April 1, 2018. The PR Grant project must be completed by December 31, 2018.

A new [Internal Organizing Grant](#) will be awarded at the Spring Rep Assembly. Ten grants of \$500 are available for locals to develop a project within their own local that engages members and promotes membership. The grant can be used for promotions, events, incentives, etc. for the membership. Deadline to apply is April 1, 2018 and will be awarded at the ECOEA Spring RA. ECOEA is offering a \$500 scholarship for a member to attend the NEA LGBTQ Issues Conference in Las Vegas, NV, May 18-20, 2018. Read more about this conference on the [ECOEA NEA LGBTQ scholarship](#) page. Deadline to apply is March 1, 2018.

A new incentive grant of \$250 will be given to four locals that elect and send at least one delegate to all four Rep Assemblies (ECOEA and OEA, Fall and Spring) in the 2018-2019 year. Locals that have not elected delegates in the past five years are eligible to apply. More info will be available on the ECOEA website this summer.



ECOEA LEGISLATIVE DINNER FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018

SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the annual
LEGISLATIVE DINNER

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018

LAPIZZARIA RISTORANTE

3656 Dressler Rd. NW
Canton, OH 44718

All state legislators and state board of education members serving the six-county ECOEA district have been invited to join us for dinner followed by a moderated panel discussion about public education in Ohio.

Online registration opens
January 15, 2018 at
[Legislative Dinner Registration](#)

Networking begins 6:00 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
Program 7:30 PM
Social 9:00 PM-10:00 PM

Cash bar

