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NWEOA Spring Workshop door prize is presented to Marsha Reth as Deb Company looks on, both are from MillerCity-New Cleveland.

NWEOA Awards Two \$1000 Scholarships to Members Pursuing Graduate Study

Once again, NWEOA was able to present two \$1000 Graduate Memorial Scholarships. The scholarship Committee is set up to award one scholarship, but if funds are available and two candidates are worthy, NWEOA will award an additional scholarship. We thank all candidates that applied and encourage all of you to spread the word that NWEOA has this award available. Applications for the 2002-03 school year will become available in the fall and may be obtained through local presidents or by calling the NWEOA office at 1-800-366-9632.

The winners of the 2001-02 NWEOA Graduate Memorial Scholarship were announced during the NWEOA Representative Assembly on April 4. The recipients were Jamie Krotzer, Gibsonburg



Teachers Association and Scott Havice, Fremont Education Association.

Jamie Krotzer, a vivacious third grade teacher, is a Bowling Green State University graduate in Elementary

Education who is now pursuing her Master's degree in Curriculum and Teaching. Jamie is currently working on writing a curriculum that could eventually be implemented by her school district. Being in her third year of teaching her achievements already include assisting with the writing and implementing of a \$60,000 grant from the "Ohio Reads" program. The Soar to Success program, as it is called in Gibsonburg, was developed to encourage and enhance the reading skills in first through third graders.

Her association activities include building representative, member of GTA's "Dialogue with the Board" team, association liaison to the Board of Education meetings, and serving on a variety of committees. Jamie is described by her colleagues as having an enthusiastic and child centered attitude.

Scott Havice, a well rounded veteran who teaches 8th grade science at Fremont Middle School, has been teaching for eleven years. Also a Bowling Green State University graduate, Scott has a degree in Secondary Biology Education. He is currently working on a Master of Education in Classroom Technology.

Although he does not graduate until August, he has already begun to apply what he is learning. He designed his team's web site, began an e-mail club for his team's students, and has created a technology component for all of the team's interdisciplinary units; two of which are a roller coaster simulation and an earthquake project using the GIS website.



Scott's achievements include being a mentor teacher, building technology trouble shooter, and a peer instructor for the district's online gradebook and attendance program. His interest in acting has inspired him to advise the FMS Drama Club for the last nine years as well as take part in a variety of productions put on by the Fremont Community Theatre.

Scott is described by his colleagues as being a fair and conscientious teacher who goes above and beyond what's required. He is also described by newer teachers as being an inspiration to the profession.



www.nwoea.com

Northwestern Ohio Education Association

NEWSLETTER

June, 2002

101 West Sandusky – Suite 302 • PO Box 1042 • Findlay, Ohio 45839 • Tel: 800-366-9632 • Fax: 419-422-3417

NWEOA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY MEETS

New Vice President Elected

On Thursday, April 4th, OEA and NWEOA delegates attended the 55th annual NWEOA Representative Assembly held at Findlay High School. The following NWEOA candidates were elected: incumbent Angela Thomas (Seneca East) President- 2 year term; Jerry Oberhaus (Liberty Center) Vice President- 2 year term; Jeffrey Nichols (Bowling Green) Unit I Representative-3 year term; Melinda King (Lima) Unit II Representative- 3 year term; Dave Narducci (Fostoria) Unit III Representative- 3 year term; Nikisha Smith (Lima) At Large Minority Representative- 3 year term; Richard Ehret (TAWLS) Unit I Representative- 1 year term; and Tom Smathers (Bowling Green) OEA Executive Committee- 3 year term.



Jerry Oberhaus, Liberty Center, speaks to NWEOA new business item #1. Behind him other delegates await their turn at the microphone.

Delegates had the opportunity to listen to candidates running for the OEA Executive committee and NEA director #1 and #2. Scott DiMauro spoke on behalf of Tom Beck, candidate for NEA Director #1, who could not be there. After listening to recommendations of

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NWEOA Legislative Dinner a Great Success



Findlay EA members Kathryn Archer (left) and President Dee Groman share their table with State Representative Mike Gilb.

An overwhelming number of legislators responded to an invitation to attend the NWEOA Legislative Dinner. Appreciation was expressed to those attending for taking time out of their hectic schedules to meet and to discuss current educational issues that are of great concern to Northwest members. The event was held at the Findlay Country Club on Wednesday, February 27th. NWEOA members had dinner with the legislators and then listened to them speak. Our thanks to the following for their help in making this event a great success:

- Deputy Secretary of State, Beryl D. Anderson, from the Secretary of State's Office
- Jayne Burger, Teacher in Residence, and Elizabeth Ross, Executive Assistant for Education, from the Governor's Office



Tiffin EA President Jane Tomaszewski expresses her views to State Senator Larry Mumper as Senator Mumper's wife looks on.

- State Senators Larry Mumper and Lynn Watchmann
- State Representatives: Rex Damschroeder, Mike Gilb, James Hoops, Robert Latta, Tom Lendrum, Chris Redfern, and Stephen Bueher (represented by Administrative Aide Hannah Boyd).



Leipsic EA member Lynn Lawrence talks with State Representative James Hoops at the close of the Legislative Dinner.

OEA Adopts Two Year Budget

Members of OEA's Representative Assembly passed amendments to its constitution allowing the OEA to operate on a two-year budget on Saturday, May 4, 2002. A new budget will be presented to members of the R.A. in even years with the understanding that changes can be made in the odd years, if and where, necessary. This will allow for the development of plans which would carry out the development of the new strategic plan OEA has developed. Another change was made in the presentation of the budget which will be in two forms. One will be a

traditional line item listing and the other will group all expenses for certain projects. Ohio Schools, for example, would list printing, mailing and all other expenses devoted to its publication in one grouping.

OEA's dues structure has been a matter of concern for some time. The Spring 2001 R.A. directed the OEA to study the effects of changing its dues structure to a flat rate or sliding scale based on each individual's salary. The Gimball group, Inc. performed an analysis based on the

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Working Together for a Common Goal

A Message from...President Angela

For this year's Read Across America celebration, I was asked by my local president, Jerry Schlick, to read to all of our district's first and second grade students; therefore, I donned my Cat in the Hat hat, dressed my daughters as Thing One and Thing Two and off we went to share in the joy of reading.

My local (Seneca East Education Association) was a grateful recipient of an NWOEA public relations grant in which we received funding for this reading celebration. Because of the NWOEA grant funds, we were able to purchase five hardback Dr. Seuss books which were donated to each first and second grade classroom in our school district. SEEA/NWOEA also presented Dr. Seuss grade appropriate workbooks for three students in each class and each elementary library received a hardback book featuring a collection of five Dr. Seuss stories.



Read Across American Celebration participants from left: NWOEA President Angela Thomas holding Shayla Thomas; SEEA President Jerry Schlick with Christi Thomas in front; SEEA members Tracey Roth and Connie Tyree.



NWOEA President Angela Thomas at the Saturn Dealership in Findlay, OH.

Because of Saturn and its UAW partners' commitment to building and sustaining meaningful relationships within the communities in which they live, they donated a Cat in the Hat hat for each child to make during our celebration in their classrooms. My thanks to Christopher W. Hammond General Sales Manager for Saturn of Findlay's donations as well as for the generous gift certificate to Staples I received for test driving a Saturn. Through established partnerships like these, we're bound to make great things happen for the kids we teach and to receive proper recognition for the colleagues with whom we teach. I hope you'll join NWOEA and SEEA in next year's Read Across America day!

Teacher Preparation and Recruitment Committee Co-Chaired by Jerry Oberhaus

NWOEA's Jerry Oberhaus has been named co-chair of the Teacher Preparation and Recruitment Committee, a part of the Governor's Commission on Teaching Success. His committee's issues include how to attract the best and brightest to teaching, recruitment of more minority teachers, teacher preparation, evaluation of alternative pathways to teaching, the shortage of teachers in math, science and special education and general shortages in poor urban and rural districts. Committee members raised the issues of maintaining a balance between high quality standards for teachers while still supplying enough teachers for the classrooms and the need to match teacher preparation with what research tells us about how students learn. Dr. James Fraser, Dean, College of Education at Northeastern University, urged the committee to find research that supports final recommendations and understand research that argues against it. In developing a work plan a lengthy list of questions were listed concerning recruitment and preparation of teachers.

The Teacher Support and Professional Development committee is determining the why and for whom of professional development. This is especially important with the growing expectations for students. Members stressed the importance of professional development for all teachers,

including those with permanent certificates. In a briefing paper prepared by Stephanie Hirsh of the National Staff Development Council it was pointed out that professional development must be a continuing process developed around clear and rigorous content standards, job imbedded and site-based as part of the daily job, while focusing on results for students and adults. Support for professional development consists of at least 30 different state funding sources and over 100 federal grant programs. Presently there are many avenues for presenting professional development through 12 Regional Professional Development Centers (RPDC), 61 Educational Service Centers (ESC), 16 Special Education Regional Resource Centers (SERRC), as well as several colleges.

Early recommendations of the committee include the restoration and expansion of Local Professional Development Block Grant money beyond \$9.6 million, the Ohio Department of Education should provide technical assistance to help schools evaluate their professional development strategies and demonstrate how it has improved student achievement, the requirement that all teachers be involved in professional development, and the Governor's Commission on Teaching Success should

study and issue recommendations on how to facilitate professional development within the constraints of the length of school day and year.

The School Leadership and Teaching/Learning Environments Committee is focusing on the capacity and time restraints of principals to provide instructional and personal leadership, to support quality teaching and learning for all students and to maintain a staff organized for and achieving success. It is also questioning what should be done to create and maintain school and classroom environments that help and encourage students to learn. A third issue is how to remove barriers to quality instruction so every student can succeed and finally, to resolve the question of how teachers' performance should be assessed and compensated. In a discussion of the issues, questions were asked about compensation packages for principals, ISSLC standards for principals being linked to expectations for students and teachers and the fact that all three committees should be involved in the issue of teacher evaluation and compensation.

The next full commission meeting will be July 17. For more information on the commission and committee meetings go to <http://www.teaching-success.org>. To contact the commission by e-mail the address is Teaching.success@ode.state.oh.us.

2001-2002 District Service Awards

Marjorie Castanien

Marj Castanien, a Title I reading instructor at Northeastern, was the deserving recipient of the NWOEA District Service Award. In Northeastern Local Teachers Association, Marj has served as secretary, negotiations committee member, and president. She served as a UniServ representative for many years and was frequently council chair. She also worked with the West Division of the Regional Professional Development Committee.

At the district level, Marj has ably served as the NWOEA Vice-President. In this position, she chairs the Professional Development Committee which plans NWOEA workshops and awards grant monies. Under her leadership, the district increased the number of workshops held annually. As editor, Marj significantly restructured the district newsletter, as well as writing newsletter articles. In September of 2000 Marj was elected secretary of the new CentWest regional coordinating council.

Marj has been a delegate to the NWOEA Representative Assembly, the OEA Representative Assembly, and the NEA Representative Assembly. For many years, she attended Ohio Leadership Academy. She is an active member of the AAUW and Delta Kappa Gamma.

Sandy Wasielewski

Sandy Wasielewski is this year's recipient of the District Award - Retired. Sandy was instrumental in establishing the NWOEA-R group. For some time, she served as the unofficial vice-chair and played a prominent role in organizing spring and fall conferences for retired members. She also arranged for NWOEA-R committee members to attend UniServ meetings in their area.



As NWOEA-R chair, Sandy initiated a plan to contact each local president for names of potential retirees. Through



NWOEA President Angela Thomas presents the 2002 NWOEA District Award to Vice President Marj Castanien.

contact with potential retirees and retirees, the NWOEA-R membership grew. Sandy also wrote a "from the Chair" column for each issue of ChalkTalk, the NWOEA-R newsletter.

President of the Democratic Business and Professional Women, Sandy is a member of AAUW, Sierra Club, Alpha Delta Pi Alumni, World Wildlife Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Defense Fund. She is also a member and past president of the Washington Local Retirees Group.

NWOEA Sponsors Treasurers' Workshop

In an effort to assist new and veteran local treasurers to better understand the duties of their office NWOEA will hold a Treasurers' Workshop on Monday, August 12, 2002, at the NWOEA Center located at 101 W. Sandusky, Suite 302, Findlay. OEA Treasurer William Leibensperger will be the facilitator for this workshop. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. with the actual workshop to begin at 9:00 a.m. and end approximately at 11:30 a.m. Coffee and rolls will be served during registration. The workshop is being offered free of charge.

Name _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

School Phone _____

Local Association Name _____

Email _____

Mail to NWOEA, 101 W. Sandusky Suite 302, P.O. Box 1042, Findlay, OH 45839. **RETURN BY AUGUST 5, 2002.**

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NWOEA Representative Assembly continued from page 1

the Internal Affairs Committee the delegates voted to endorse Martha Mitchell, NEA Director #1; Chuck Riegler, NEA Director #2; Dorothy Wilson, OEA Executive Committee At-large, and Susan Vaughn, OEA Exec. Comm. At-Large SSP.

In other official business delegates voted to support proposed OEA Constitution and Bylaws amendments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 and the NWOEA 2002-03 budget was adopted as presented.

NWOEA President Angela Thomas recognized this year's new committee chairs: Mary Hart, Fund Raising; Steve Brown, Constitution and Bylaws; and the departing NWOEA Executive Committee members: Marjorie Castanien, Vice President; Don Law Unit III NWOEA Executive Committee; and Wally Fraker (2001), Unit II OEA Executive Committee member. \$597.50 was collected for the OEA FUND for Children and Public Education.

NWOWEA Funds Local Public Relations Activities



Free money for your local. Sounds too good to be true? Read on.

NWOWEA invites you and your local association to receive some of your NOWOEA dues dollars back in the form of annual NOWOEA Public Relations Grants. The Public Relations Committee provides locals who wish to enhance the image of their local association among members and/or within the community an opportunity to receive funding to finance a public relations project. In the fall of 2002 local presidents will be receiving grant applications for the 2002-03 school year. The PR committee will evaluate applications and award grants of up to \$400 until a total of \$8,800 has been awarded. Requirements for the grant include attendance at two NOWOEA activities, the NOWOEA RA and the OEA RAs. In addition the local must conduct a drive for the OEA FUND for Children and Public Education.

Use this summer to begin thinking of a project you would like to see your local do to promote a positive image of your association within your community and among your members. To get you started here are a few examples of projects that have been awarded Public Relations Grants for the 2001-02 year.

Delphos Education Association – Providing a canvas bookbag/totebag and a keyring to all association members. The bag and keyring will read “Our School is Special, Thanks to You!”

Kenton Education Association – Provide association members with a laminated “discount” card that features discounts from local businesses. Each card will be professionally produced and individualized with the KEA logo and the member’s name.

Miller City – New Cleveland Education Association – To make available to all association members a custom designed sweatshirt featuring the outline of a school building with the Miller City – New Cleveland Education Association logo.

Swanton Education Association –
 1. Purchase gift certificates from local businesses to be made available through an open drawing to all parents who did volunteer work at the school throughout the academic year. 2. Provide refreshments for the monthly Principal/Parent Coffee Hour. 3. Sponsor three parent seminars, presented by school instructors. 4. Provide a web page by school personnel to keep parents informed.

2001-02 PR Grants also awarded to: Fostoria EA, Fremont EA, Lima EA, Seneca East EA, TAWLS, Tiffin EA, and Upper Sandusky EA.

OEA Adopts Two Year Budget continued from page 1

effects of changing to a flat rate or sliding scale, surveyed other state education associations to compare and contrast their dues structures and assessed the operation implications of changing to a different method.

OEA is presently using a combination of flat rate .0076 based on the average teacher salary of the state for the previous year. In order to produce the same income the flat rate for every teacher would be .94% of each of their salary. It would be difficult to get an accurate accounting of what those salaries would be, especially since the Ohio Department of Education is unwilling to release this data. Managing a member-specific database that includes detailed salary information for 128,800 would also be more difficult.

A sliding scale would present much of the same problems: increase in costs, delay of processing, increased likelihood of errors and decrease the predictability and stability of OEA’s revenue. Based on its findings The Gimball Group, Inc. recommended that the OEA stay with its present dues structure.

OEA moves to Explore Statewide Health Insurance

The OEA R.A. passed a motion to investigate the possibility of a statewide insurance program for all public school employees including higher ed and retired members. A committee, consisting of staff and governance, will look into its feasibility, the resources necessary and a potential time table for implementation.

NWOWEA Committee Volunteer Form

The success of NOWOEA depends on you – the members. Try volunteering for a committee. It’s fun and you get to meet many wonderful teachers from other locals. Please check or number in order of preference the NOWOEA committees you would like to serve on. If you have any questions, please call the NOWOEA Center at 1-800-366-9632.

- Awards
- Constitution and Bylaws
- Convention Planning
- RA Credentials
- Fund-Raising
- Internal Affairs
- Nominating
- Professional Development
- Public Relations
- Resolutions
- Retired
- Scholarship
- Screening

Name _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

School Phone _____

Local Association Name _____

School Name _____

Mail to NOWOEA, 101 W. Sandusky Suite 302, P.O. Box 1042, Findlay, OH 45839, by June 10, 2002.

A report on their findings is to be given at the May 2003 R.A.

In other business the R.A. directed OEA President Allen to appoint a Task Force to examine OEA’s governance structure to ensure its alignment with the recently adopted Strategic Plan and endorsed Grace Martinez-Bunker for the position of Director for Hispanic Caucus in the Mid-Atlantic Conference. They also passed a motion endorsing a move of Take Your Daughters to Work Day from April to the middle of the summer due to the problems it creates in school attendance. Defeated was a motion asking President Allen to send a communication to Senator Zell Miller of Georgia expressing support and appreciation for his proposal to exempt teachers from federal income taxes.

NWEOA AWARDS BANQUET

The NWEOA Awards Banquet was held March 5 at the Findlay Country Club, with 90 people in attendance. A string ensemble from Lima Senior High School provided music during dinner. Local and District service award recipients, NWEOA Promising Leaders and locals with 100% membership were recognized. In addition, recognition was given to the 2001 Northwest group of National Board Certified Teachers. Jerry Oberhaus, Liberty Center Teachers Association, chaired the Awards Committee and emceed the banquet.

2001-2002 Local Service Award

The NWEOA Local Service Award is presented to recognize distinguished service to association work on the local level. Recipients were nominated by their locals.

First row from left, Vanessa Barrett, Upper Sandusky E.A.; Susan Theodore, Lima E.A.; Linda Miller-Moore, Margaretta T.A.; Jill Krutsch, Continental E.A.; and Jean Killen, Elida E.A.

Back row from left, Roberta Neff, Kenton E.A.; Joyce King, Upper Sandusky E.A.; Rick Bowerman, Seneca East E.A.; Diane Grossman, Upper Sandusky E.A.; Sharon Kirby, Seneca East E.A.; and Sheryl Krotzer, Gibsonburg T.A. Not pictured is Sharon Simm, Ayersville E.A.



Promising Leader Award

The NWEOA Promising Leader Award is presented to a person new to teaching, who within the first three years of OEA membership has made significant contributions to the local association.



NWEOA 2002 Promising Leader Award recipients: From left, Karen Jesionowski, Kenton E.A.; Jennifer Geer, Lima E.A.; and Denise Matthews, Continental E.A.

Golden Membership Award

Representatives in attendance from locals who achieved 100% Membership in 2002 were: From left, Mary Powell, MillerCity-New Cleveland E.A.; Karen Grove, Liberty Center C.T.A.; and Lynn Lawrence, Leipsic E.A.



National Board Certified Teachers Honored at NWEOA Awards Banquet

NWEOA is proud of the teachers from this District who have earned National Board certification and was pleased to recognize their achievement at the 2002 Awards Banquet.



Front row from left, Cindy Johnson, Otsego E.A.; Marcia Focht, Tiffin E.A.; Laura Finney, Findlay E.A.; Louise Ducsay, Tiffin E.A.; Brenda Burns, Hopewell-Loudon E.A.; and Judith Bashforth, Sylvania E.A.

Back row from left, Bruce Jeffers, Otsego E.A.; Michael Eier, Findlay E.A.; and Kenneth Dymond, Evergreen E.A.



From left, Deborah Wickerham, Findlay E.A.; Deborah Weaver, Hopewell-Loudon E.A.; Daniel Thomas, TAWLS; Anne Thomas, TAWLS; Nancy Seeburger, Bowling Green E.A.; Jennifer McCord, Otsego E.A.; Judy McCall, Lima E.A.; and Kelly Kahmann, Springfield E.A.