



Northwestern Ohio Education Association  
**NEWSLETTER**

www.nwoea.com

10,000 Members

101 West Sandusky – Suite 302 • Findlay, Ohio 45840 • Tel: 800-366-9632 • Fax: 419-422-3417

## Mark Your Calendars and Grab Your Hat!



Darlene Hanneman, Ottoville EA

Started in 1998 as a way to get kids excited about reading, NEA's Read Across America has become the nation's largest reading event. The year-round program culminates each year on or near Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2.

NEA's Read Across America knows reading is "Where it's Hat" and NEA is leading the nation in a multicultural, multi-hatted way. Get ready for March 2, 2005 and the nation's biggest reading celebration. The 2004-05 Read Across America Resource Kit is newly designed, featuring posters full of reproducible items from logos and certificates to reading activities and book-marks. NEA has also added a poster for teen readers, and a CD-ROM for NEA members. To request a kit, fill out the online form at [www.nea.org/readacross/](http://www.nea.org/readacross/). As a year-round program NEA's Read Across America offers resources for all ages, all year long.

Looking for ideas? In 2004 Darlene Hanneman's third grade at Ottoville Local School celebrated 'Read Across America' and the 100th birthday of Dr. Seuss. The third grade read Dr. Seuss books, helped the kindergarten class learn about the joys of reading and made "Cat in the Hat" hats with the kindergartners.

## NWOEA to Sponsor Workshop Designed to Meet the Needs of New Teachers

New teachers can acquire proven methods for immediate success in the classroom from the I Can Do It workshop that is offered through OEA. The NWOEA Professional Development Committee (PDC) has announced they will hold an I Can Do It workshop for NWOEA members at the University of Findlay on August 9, 2005. The PDC decided that the most beneficial time to offer the I Can Do It program would be just before school starts in the fall. The PDC is also sponsoring an I Can Do It workshop for Bowling Green State University students in April.

This fast-paced, six-hour workshop is primarily for teachers with 0-5 years of experience. New teachers and others who manage students - such as substitute teachers, pre-service teachers, para-professionals, or experienced teachers seeking proven methods may also find the workshop useful. The workshop is conducted by experienced teachers (OEA members) who have completed training for this role by I Can Do It experts. These trainers then guide participants through learning activities that are designed to develop the knowledge and

skills necessary for managing students and creating positive learning climates. The curriculum was developed by the California Teachers Association with the participation of new and successful teachers who identified the key issues that they faced as beginners: What should I do on the first day of school? How can I manage the classroom? What could I have done to maximize students' opportunity to learn, rather than subjecting them to well-intentioned, trial-and-error efforts? The workshop activities were then designed for participants to acquire proven, effective classroom practices. The building blocks of the curriculum are as follows:

- Building a community of learners
- Developing effective rules and reinforcements
- Planning productive routines and transitions
- Communication and learning styles
- Intervention for difficult behavior
- How to create a smoothly-flowing classroom
- Tools for building positive parent-teacher relationships
- Connecting with a partner for future support

## Fall OEA Representative Assembly

A total of 1,252 registered delegates met in Columbus for the OEA RA on December 4. The delegates approved the proposed Legislative Policies and the proposed Education Reform Document. Proposal #1 to amend and restate the Constitution and Bylaws of the OEA was defeated.

Delegates approved New Business Item #1, charging the OEA to investigate organized anti-levy groups such as the Coalition Opposed to Additional Spending and Taxes (COAST), and Citizens for Accountability and Results in Education (CARE), as to purpose, long term strategy, and membership, and to



Seated on the RA stage is Doug Ambroza (Maumee EA) NWOEA's Representative to the OEA Convention Planning Committee.

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# What are you waiting for?

A Message from President Angela Thomas:

This fall I had the pleasure of joining your NWOEA Vice President – Jerry Oberhaus and your NWOEA Secretary-Stephanie Braun by becoming a National Board Certified Teacher. While my desire to attempt this accomplish-ment has lingered for roughly eight years, I never was



able to get up the courage to actually attempt it until recently and now I wonder, “Why didn’t I do this earlier?”

OK, I’ll admit that I spent countless late nights last year sitting at my kitchen table with tears pouring down my cheeks wondering how I could ever get all of the requirements completed and with high enough scores to qualify, and I spent many, many hours working in the middle of the night and on the weekends in my classroom pouring my heart and soul into this process; however, now I can tell you it was all worth it and I’d readily do it again. You may wonder why.

Here are just a few of the reasons: The National Education Association was among the founding organizations that established the National Board in 1987 and has been a strong supporter since that time. From the very beginning, teachers were integrally involved in the Board’s work. Teachers compose two-thirds of the Board’s membership, thereby having a real voice in The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards® (NBPTS) policy. Over half of the 54 members of the Board of Directors are NEA members.

NBPTS is rooted in the belief that the single most important action this country can take to improve schools and student learning is to strengthen teaching. Teachers who have participated in National Board Certification have overwhelmingly stated it is the most powerful professional development experience of their careers and I couldn’t agree more! They say the experience changes them as professionals and that through the process they deepen their content knowledge and develop,

master, and reflect on new approaches to working with their students regardless of whether they achieved or not. Still looking for something tangible? Graduate credit: Most Ohio colleges and Universities will accept the NBPTS’s credits to count toward their Masters Degree

Programs often resulting in salary increases for these teachers.

State incentives: Currently, the State of Ohio rewards each NBCT with \$2,500 yearly as an incentive to keep these teachers teaching in Ohio’s K-12 schools. While not as high as some state incentives, it does add up to \$25,000 over the life of the ten year certificate. The state will also pay the application fee for hundreds of Ohio teachers. Local district incentives: Thanks to efforts by our unions at the bargaining tables, some districts in NWOEA offer incentives to their teachers who are NBCTs. This varies greatly by school district, but may include: paying the application fee and providing release time to candidates, mentoring/assistance, and salary recognition for candidates.

The NEA and OEA continue to actively support and promote the national certification process as an important element of a comprehensive system to ensure teacher quality. I urge you to contact me at any time for assistance as you consider or as you work your way through the NBPTS journey. One of my reasons for desiring to be an NBCT was to help and hold the hands of others going through this dynamic process. While I did this basically in secret for fear of failure, I now realize how totally foolish that was and that regardless of what my results would have been, I grew as a professional. There can be no failure as anyone who has gone through the process will most likely tell you - it reaffirms one’s practice and allows one to critically analyze and reflect upon their work in an entirely new light. I hope to hear from you soon! ■

## Get Involved! Run for a NWOEA Position

Delegates to the April 14, 2005, NWOEA Representative Assembly will be electing candidates to fill the following positions:

1. NWOEA Recording Secretary, two-year term
2. NWOEA Executive Committee, Unit I, three-year term
3. NWOEA Executive Committee, Unit I, one-year term
4. NWOEA Executive Committee, Unit II, three-year term
5. NWOEA Executive Committee, Unit II, one-year term
6. NWOEA Executive Committee, Unit III, three-year term
7. NWOEA Executive Committee, Unit III, one-year term
8. NWOEA At-Large Education Support Professional, three-year term
9. NWOEA At-Large Minority Representative, three year term
10. OEA Executive Committee, Unit I, three-year term

If you are interested in running for any of the NWOEA offices listed above send a letter of intent stating the position for which you are declaring yourself a candidate to Tim Myers, NWOEA Past President and Nominating Committee Chair, 101 West Sandusky St., Suite 302, Findlay, OH 45840. The deadline for filing letters of intent is February 14, 2005.

If you are interested in the OEA Executive Committee position contact your local President or Becky Dillon, OEA Mgr. Gov. Relations, (1-800-282-1500 or [dillonb@ohea.org](mailto:dillonb@ohea.org)) and request a Declaration of Candidacy Form. The OEA form must be received in Columbus no later than January 29, 2005. Send a copy of the form to the NWOEA Center.

The NWOEA Representative Assembly will be held at the Findlay High School in Findlay, Ohio on April 14, 2005. Doors open at 5:00 pm and sandwiches and snacks will be available at this time. The first session begins at 5:45 pm and registration closes at 6:00 pm. Deadline for the submission of New Business Items and Resolutions is 6:45 pm. The OEA Delegate Briefing will be held concurrently with the NWOEA RA. ■

## Department of Education Seeking Committee Members

The Office of Assessment continues to seek interested educators, parents and community members to volunteer to serve on assessment development committees. While many committees are in place and working, full membership has not been attained. There are four types of committees with sub-committees for different grade levels.

Content Advisory Committees are specific to a given test (e.g., Third Grade Reading Achievement Test, Ohio Graduation Test in mathematics). The purpose of these committees is to review and evaluate test questions and related test materials to ensure that each question is a valid and appropriate measure of the academic content standards for that particular subject area and grade-level.

Fairness/Sensitivity Committees are associated with all tests related to a grade level or combination of grade levels (e.g., all five Ohio Graduation Tests, all kindergarten - third grade tests). The purpose of these committees is to review and evaluate test questions and related test materials to ensure that test questions are fair and unbiased for all groups of Ohio students.

Rangefinder Committees are specific to a given test (e.g., Third Grade Reading Achievement Test, Ohio Graduation Test in mathematics). These committees are necessary whenever a test contains 'open-ended' questions (i.e., non-multiple choice questions). These committees establish the range, from no credit, to partial credit, to complete credit, of acceptable student responses.

Standard Setting Committees are specific to a given test (e.g., Third Grade Reading Achievement Test, Ohio Graduation Test in mathematics). Unlike other advisory committees, these committees meet only once, to recommend the performance standards (i.e., the score for basic, proficient, and advanced achievement) for a given test.

It is possible to nominate yourself or someone else on line at [http://webapp1.ode.state.oh.us/forms/assessment\\_committee/default.asp](http://webapp1.ode.state.oh.us/forms/assessment_committee/default.asp).

## RETIREMENT EXTRA

By Sam Radel, NWOEA-R Chair

Greetings to all of you still in the classroom, the snowbirds that have left for regions in the south and west and to all of you who love the winter weather in Northwest Ohio. NWOEA-R will be offering a session at the 2005 Fall Workshop, which will have information for all of you who are thinking about, planning or have decided to retire. Watch the September newsletter for information.

NWOEA-R would like all active teachers to consider becoming members of our retired organization. You can do that in two ways: pay dues of \$5.00 a year or \$50.00 for a life membership; in either case we would like you to join our membership. You can also join NEA/OEA-R, which has a lifetime membership fee of \$100.00. You can join at the spring RA or call OEA to get the membership forms (1-800-282-1500).

NWOEA-R needs your help! If you have friends who have retired in the last couple of years, would you please forward their names and addresses to Karen at the NWOEA office address (or e-mail them to [kkdetert@aol.com](mailto:kkdetert@aol.com)) so NWOEA-R can extend to them an invitation to join us. ■

## OEA CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM

The OEA Crisis Response Team serves OEA members and LRCs by responding to crisis situations such as school shootings and natural disasters. The group consists of 13 staff members, a staff retiree, one OEA member and a specially trained Golden Retriever.

The group was formed by seven OEA staff members in January of 2000. They received training from a Pennsylvania State Education Association member in 2000 and underwent a weeklong training conducted by the National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) in 2001.

They have responded to two crisis situations involving the killing of OEA members – one in Gallia County in 2001 and one in Zanesville in 2002.

This summer the response team hosted the first-ever national conference of state education association crisis response teams welcoming CRT members from California, Michigan and Pennsylvania, along with a representative from NEA.

Assistance may be provided when there are acts of violence or disaster which affect OEA members and their students, and which occur at a school site or event. The LRC or local association may initiate the request. Requests may be made by contacting Michelle Webster at 1-800-252-1500, extension 3053.

In addition to crisis assistance, the response team is trained in the evaluation of school district and school building safety plans.

## 2004-2005 LPDC Registration Now

It is necessary for all LPDCs to register with the Ohio Department of Education. This will allow ODE to serve educators' licensure needs in the most efficient, effective manner. Each LPDC should register every year.

All ODE communication to Ohio's LPDCs will be electronic. If you need technical assistance, please contact Karl Wade at [Karl.Wade@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:Karl.Wade@ode.state.oh.us) or 614-728-6921.

Complete your LPDC registration on the LPDC web page at:

[www.ode.state.oh.us/teaching-profession/teacher/professional\\_development/LPDC](http://www.ode.state.oh.us/teaching-profession/teacher/professional_development/LPDC)

## SAVE CLASSROOM SUPPLY RECEIPTS FOR TAX DEDUCTIONS

The IRS advises teachers and other educators to save their receipts for books and other classroom supplies. They will be able to deduct up to \$250 of such expenses again this year, following recently enacted legislation. The Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004 reinstated the educator expense deduction, which had expired at the end of last year, for both 2004 and 2005. Expenses incurred any time in 2004 may qualify for the deduction, it is not just those expenses incurred since the Act was signed on October 4.

The deduction is available to eligible educators in public, or private, elementary or secondary schools. To be eligible, a person must work at least 900 hours during a school year as a teacher, instructor, counselor, principal or aide. An educator may subtract up to \$250 of qualified out-of-pocket expenses when figuring adjusted gross income (AGI). This deduction is available whether or not the taxpayer itemizes deductions on Schedule A. The IRS suggests that educators keep records of qualifying expenses to prevent a missed deduction at tax time. ■

# FALL EVENT PICTURES



*New Unit III NWOEA Executive Committee member Carolyn Kline (Kenton E.A.) won a door prize gift certificate.*



*Sue Pfaff (Seneca East E.A.) won a 'No Teacher Left Behind' t-shirt.*



*Jon Brough, (Fremont E.A.) winner of a door prize gift certificate*



*NWOEA Vice President Jerry Oberhaus and Fall Event keynote speaker Becky Pringle of the NEA Executive Committee select the winning door prize tickets.*



*Gene Damon, Dianna Schweinfurth and Deb Bunn (Findlay E.A.)*



*Sue Bennett and Julie Ludanyi (Ada E.A.)*

## State Board Amends Teacher Education and Licensure Standards NBCTs Get Flexibility In Certification

The Ohio State Board of Education approved a measure that would permit National Board Certified Teachers to renew their licenses one time based on earning National Board Certification. "That shows that they have gone well beyond the state requirements we have in place," said Gregory Bernhardt, chairman of the Ohio Teacher Education and Licensure Advisory Commission. "Teachers are supposed to renew their licenses once every five years, and this would substitute that one time."

At its business meeting on Tuesday, December 14, the State Board of Education also amended other rules relating to Teacher Education and Licensure Standards. All amendments were brought forth in response to mandates in Senate Bill 2 and to provisions of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Additional amendments are: Incorporation of provisions to designate teacher-preparatory intuitions as effective, conditional, or low-performing; Addition of the designation "ESEA Qualified" on educational aide permits of paraprofessionals who meet the No Child Left Behind requirements for paraprofessionals; and Addition of a K-12 gifted endorsement.

## OEA Offers Labor Relations Consultant Internship

The Ohio Education Association is currently seeking internal and external applicants for the Pre-Entry Intern Program developed to prepare individuals for employment in Labor Relations Consultant positions.

Only the first 100 qualified individuals who indicate interest will be considered for the program. Those individuals will be forwarded information describing the requirements for the Labor Relations Consultant position, a Self-Assessment Instrument on which they will rate themselves with regard to the minimal competencies for the position, and a Career Planning Kit.

Interns will be selected based upon demonstration of minimal competencies for the job and an assessment of the personality traits required for the job. Each intern will undergo an intensive individualized training program focused on improving the intern's competency for the job.

Candidates for the Pre-Entry Intern Program must be members of the Association and/or have at least three (3) years of successful employment experience with an education-related employer. All candidates must have obtained a 4-year college degree; must be knowledgeable of

computers and computer applications; have a valid driver's license; have an excellent driving record; have a dependable automobile; be knowledgeable of and in tune with the Association's advocate philosophy; and must commit to acceptance of Association employment, if offered, including a commitment to relocate.

Candidates should be prepared to participate in an initial full-time, two (2) week training period during the summer, followed by additional training on weekends and evenings, ending January 2006. The program will be scheduled to provide the least disruption to full-time work schedules.

Successful interns will be recommended for interview, which may lead to placement in the OEA UniServ Employment Pool.

Persons interested in applying must send a resume and letter of interest to the OEA Pre-Entry Intern Program, 225 East Broad Street, P.O. Box 2550, Columbus, Ohio 43216. NO PHONE INQUIRIES, PLEASE! Deadline for receipt of resumes and letters of interest will be the close of business on Friday, February 18, 2005. OEA is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

## There is Still Time to Apply for the NWOEA Graduate Memorial Scholarship

Applicants for the \$1000 NWOEA Graduate Memorial Scholarship have until Monday, February 7, 2005 to submit the scholarship application form. You may obtain a form by calling the NWOEA Center at 1-800-366-9632 or visiting the NWOEA web site at [www.nwoea.com](http://www.nwoea.com). The scholarship was designed to assist an active NWOEA member in graduate studies in the education field, excluding administration. The criteria includes information about the area the applicant has chosen for further study and their involvement in their local and district association.

MBA  
PhD

## OEA Presents "Presidents Plus Two" Meetings

Dates and locations for the local Presidents Plus Two Meetings have been established.

**March 14, 2005** – Alwydin, Putnam County and Van All Service Councils

Location: Milano's Café in Lima

**March 21, 2005** – Black Swamp, Maumee A and Maumee River Service Councils

Location: Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg

**May 11, 2005** – Northwest Phoenix Service Council

Location: Charlie's Down Under Restaurant in Defiance

**To Be Announced:** Kaleidoscope and S.H.O.E.S. Service Councils

## NEA MB January 2005 Web Site Giveaway:

### Three \$200 U.S. Savings Bonds

Start a New Year's nest egg with a \$200 U.S. Savings Bond courtesy of NEA Member Benefits!



NEA members can register anytime during the month of January 2005 in the "Free Giveaways" area of the NEA Member Benefits Web Site ([www.neamb.com](http://www.neamb.com)) for a chance to win one of three \$200 U.S. Savings Bonds. Giveaway entry begins on January 1, 2005 and ends on January 31, 2005. No purchase necessary to enter. ■

## Are You Interested in Becoming a Representative to the 2005 NEA RA?

The 2005 NEA Representative Assembly will be held in Los Angeles, CA from July 1 through July 6. Find out the ways you can become a delegate to the NEA RA by visiting the NWOEA web site at [www.nwoea.com](http://www.nwoea.com). Select the "Special Events" button and then select "NEA RA." If you have further questions, please call the NWOEA center at 1-800-366-9632. ■

Editorial Staff:  
Marjorie Castanien  
Karen Detert

# NEA 'HITS THE ROAD' TO SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION



Pictured is NEA President Reg Weaver talking to Perry Lefevre's AP Government class at Northview High School in Sylvania. Photo credit Nancy Crandall.

NEA's Bus Tour of Great Public Schools visited Ohio during its Midwest Tour. The tour took place October 18-30 and covered Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. In Northwest Ohio the bus made stops at Sylvania and Lima.

On board the bus was NEA President Reg Weaver. He was accompanied by

other NEA officials, including NWOEA member and NEA Director Tim Myers. They talked to thousands of members, their families, and other school supporters about the importance of education as a political issue. The trip also gave teachers a chance to talk about the ways the Association can help them.

President Weaver asked members to

share their personal experiences so that NEA can paint a picture of how laws such as the so-called "No Child Left Behind" Act affect students and teachers in real classrooms. These experiences were be used to help people understand why it's so important to know where our elected officials stand on education issues. ■

## SOCIAL SECURITY OFFSETS: AN ADVISORY FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

NEA has long argued the need for the Social Security Administration and employers to advise employees in jobs not covered by Social Security of the impact of offsets on their Social Security benefit entitlement. Now employers in non-Social Security districts must alert new employees affected by Social Security offsets.

Section 419(c) of Public Law 108-203,

the Social Security Protection Act of 2004 requires State and local government employers to disclose the effect of the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset Provision to employees hired on or after January 1, 2005 in jobs not covered by Social Security. These employees also must sign a statement that they are aware of a possible reduction in their

future Social Security benefit entitlement.

Employers do not have to create the notice. The Social Security Administration has produced form SSA-1945, Statement Concerning Your Employment in a Job Not Covered by Social Security, for new employees to sign. This form, along with instructions for its use, can be found at

[www.socialsecurity.gov/form1945](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/form1945). ■



### NWOEA NIGHTS WITH THE CLEVELAND CAVALIERS



For more information, please e-mail [bralston@gundarena.com](mailto:bralston@gundarena.com)

**\$35 Second Level Center – Save up to \$5**  
**\$20 Second Level Corner – Save up to \$2**

Mail orders to: Cleveland Cavaliers, Attn: Bryan Ralston  
 One Center Court, Cleveland, OH 44115  
 Fax to (216) 420-2329 or Call (216) 420-2472 to Order

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

CAVALIERS VS ORLANDO MAGIC – 2/05/05 (SAT.) – 7:30 PM  
 # OF TICKETS @ \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ OR \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ EACH = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CAVALIERS VS DETROIT PISTONS – 3/22/05 (TUES.) – 7:00 PM  
 # OF TICKETS @ \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ OR \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ EACH = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CAVALIERS VS LA CLIPPERS – 3/29/05 (TUES.) – 7:00 PM \*\*\*  
 # OF TICKETS @ \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ OR \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ EACH = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 CAVALIERS VS MILWAUKEE BUCKS – 4/09/05 (SAT.) 7:30 PM  
 # OF TICKETS @ \$30 \_\_\_\_\_ OR \$18 \_\_\_\_\_ EACH = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 HANDLING FEE = \$ 5.00  
 TOTAL AMOUNT DUE = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK/MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO CLEVELAND CAVALIERS  
 PLEASE CHARGE  VISA  MASTERCARD  
 AMERICAN EXPRESS  DISCOVER  
 CARD# \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Each ticket purchased for the Cavaliers vs. the LA Clippers includes 1 McDonald's Value Meal Voucher and 1 LeBron James Mini Bobblehead

## OEA Fund for Children and Public Education Awards Given at December RA

The following people were given awards for their continued donations to the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education:

Sandra Wasielewski, NWOEA-R • Lifetime Achievement Award  
 Melinda King, Lima EA • Presidents Club Award  
 Roberta Neff, Kenton EA • Executive Club Award

Four NWOEA locals were recognized for contributions made by their association as a whole in 2003-2004. Awards are determined on a per capita basis.

Margaretta TA- \$31.15 per member                      Pandora Gilboa EA- \$18.88 per member  
 Seneca East EA- \$21.35 per member                      TA of Washington Local- \$10.82 per member

*Congratulations to All!*

## Ohio State Park Resorts Offer Special Room Rate

The Ohio State Park Resorts are offering a special room rate of \$79 per night for education association members if you make your summer reservation before March 1, 2005.

The rate is available at Burr Oak, Hueston Woods, Maumee Bay, Mohican, Punderson Manor, Salt Fork, and Shawnee. This offer is good on reservations that arrive

Sunday-Thursday between May 31 and September 2, 2005. A limited number of rooms are available at this rate. Some weekend stays are available at a slightly higher rate. Call 1-800-AT-A-PARK or email to: [ohioparks@xanterra.com](mailto:ohioparks@xanterra.com) for reservations and ask for your education association discount.



## Fall OEA RA cont. from page 1

report findings to the OEA membership through local presidents.

In support of this new business item delegates heard from Fairfield Local who had five levy attempts in eighteen months before their issue passed. The speaker from Fairfield reported that she feared these anti-levy groups were moving up I-75 to Northern Ohio.

New Business Item #2 was defeated by the delegates. Its intent was to direct the OEA to request that the NEA provide water and restroom facilities at the NEA headquarters for any NEA member and his/her family attending and participating in the March for Life in Washington DC on January 24, 2005.

**A record amount of \$30,275.70 was contributed by the delegates to the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education!**

The assembly was updated and provided information through various reports. OEA President Gary Allen provided some statistics on the views of our members and brought forward the fact that education and working conditions do not register with members in their voting patterns. Other reports included an update by Russ Harris of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force. Numerous issues are yet to be addressed by the Task Force including the following: No universal access to all-day kindergarten or pre-school, no investment in technology, and no elimination of the phantom revenue. Bill Shriver reported on the progress of the Educator Standards Board. The Board is currently organizing and working through the issues it confronts. Rolla Beach, Southwestern City, addressed the delegation as the recommended candidate for STRS. ■

## TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL NWOEA AWARDS BANQUET

Come celebrate with NWOEA at the 21st Annual Awards Banquet as we honor individuals nominated by their local who have made a contribution to their association, either on the local or district level. In addition, NWOEA will recognize teachers that have received National Board Certification in the year 2004 and will present certificates to locals that have increased membership by at least 5% or have 100% membership.

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 8, 2005    **PLACE:** Findlay Country Club, 1500 Country Club Drive  
**TIME: Cash Bar:** 6:00 - 6:30 p.m. • **Dinner:** 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. • **Presentations:** 7:30 p.m.  
**MENU:** Sirloin Steak, Baked Potato, Salad, Vegetable Medley and Dessert    **COST:** \$10.00

Please complete the reservation form and return with check to NWOEA Center, 101 West Sandusky, Suite 302 Findlay, OH 45840, by Tuesday, March 1, 2005.

I would like to make \_\_\_\_\_ reservation[s] at a cost of \$10.00 per person. I have enclosed a check payable to NWOEA in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Association \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**The deadline for the submission of award nomination forms is January 25.  
 If you need a nomination form please call 1-800-366-9632 or go online to [www.nwoea.com](http://www.nwoea.com)**

101 W. Sandusky - Suite 302  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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Findlay, Ohio  
Permit #163



Ada EA member Lynn Davis with the t-shirt she won at the NWOEA Fall Event. The t-shirts were being sold by the NWOEA Professional Development Committee to encourage educators to become politically active.

## Tour Ireland This Summer

Ireland August 8 - 16, 2005  
9 Days - 8 Nights

May the Irish hills caress you. May her lakes and rivers bless you. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you. – Irish Blessing



NWOEA travel representative Muriel Stevens tells us this is a wonderful trip with a fantastic Irish driver/guide, Garry Tierney. Garry and his son, Padraig, will be in Northwest Ohio on March 4 to meet with those who have been on the past two Ireland tours and to talk with those who are thinking of joining Evelyn's Excursions for this year's tour. The Ireland Travel Party will be held at the Ramada Inn at Exit 13 off of the Ohio Turnpike (near Montpelier) at 6:00 pm.

Evelyn's Excursions is still in the process of negotiating some of the trip costs, but a tentative price of \$2,350 per person for double occupancy has been set. There are no triple or quad rates in Ireland. Call for single rates. A \$200 non-refundable deposit is due with your reservation.

 **Luck of the Irish Discount for NWOEA members will be \$100.00.** 

Tour includes: Irish Deluxe coach, Ireland Driver/Guide, all accommodations at 4-star hotels (with portorage in and out), full Irish breakfast each morning, six dinners at hotels, airport transfer on day #8, entrance to the following attractions: **Trinity College with Books of Kell, Waterford Crystal, Kilkenny Castle, Japanese Gardens, National Stud Farm, and Muckcross House. Also included is a traditional Irish night out with dinner in Dublin.**

**Other attractions include Cliffs of Moher, Blarney Castle, Blarney Woolen Mills, Ring of Kerry, Kylemore Abbey and more.**

Why should you never iron a 4-leaf clover? You don't want to press your luck! – Daryl Stout



### July 28 - August 1 Travel to New York City

This is the trip many NWOEA members have ENJOYED for the past two years and it is being offered again this year. The cost is \$639 per person for double occupancy with NWOEA members receiving a \$50.00 discount to bring the cost to \$589.

For detailed itineraries, or if you would like to make a reservation for the Ireland or NYC trip, call Evelyn's Excursions at 877-771-4401, 419-737-2055 or visit [www.evelynsexcursions.com](http://www.evelynsexcursions.com).