



Oberhaus Announces Candidacy

NWOEA President Jerry Oberhaus has announced his candidacy for the office of the NEA Director #6 and was unanimously endorsed by the NWOEA Board of Directors at its June retreat. The election for the position of NEA Director #6 will take place at the Fall OEA RA on December 4, 2010. This position was recently vacated by Michael Jordan due to his retirement from teaching.

Jerry is currently starting his first year in his third two-year term as President of NWOEA. In 2000 he was elected to the NWOEA Executive Committee as a Unit II Representative and served two years before being elected as the NWOEA Vice-President in 2002 and again in 2004. He is a member and the Past Chair of the Ohio Educator Standards Board. Jerry is also a member of the Liberty Center Classroom Teachers' Association where he served as president twice, negotiated six contracts as a member and chair of the

negotiations team, and was instrumental as Fund Chair in increasing local participation in FCPE to 63%. At the present time he is serving his fourth year as the Chair of the OEA District Leaders Council.

Jerry, in his twenty-fourth year of teaching, is currently instructing 7th grade science and is a National Board Certified Teacher in Early Adolescence Science. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Bowling Green State University and his Master's Degree from Wright State University. Jerry served as co-chair on the Governor's Commission for Teaching Success and as a physical science



NWOEA President Jerry Oberhaus (center), candidate for the NEA Director #6 position, talks about current issues and legislation with fellow NWOEA members (left) Travis Lepley, Perry EA; Katie Slosser, McComb TEA; Christopher Snyder, North Baltimore EA; and Sue Cramer, Northeastern TA.

facilitator for the Ohio Science Institute. Eager to improve the education profession and involved at all levels of the association, he states: "As your colleague I am asking you to give me the

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NWOEA Engage Grants Return with Revisions for 2010-2011

All four NWOEA Engage Grants established last year will be offered again for 2010-2011. In order to provide the opportunity for more locals to apply for these grants and be involved in association activities, changes in the eligibility rules have been made and are denoted in italics. In addition, NWOEA will gladly secure a mentor to help understand the representative process and guide grant delegates through the RA experience.

The FCPE Drive Assistance Engage Grant will provide training, support, and incentives for a local to conduct a Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) drive. This grant will

reimburse up to \$150 each to two locals per NWOEA unit whose FCPE percentage of member participation was 5% or less last year (2009-2010).

The Local Delegate Assistance to OEA Spring RA Engage Grant will reimburse \$100 for overnight lodging and \$50 for mileage to a delegate attending the OEA Spring RA from a local that has not sent delegates to an OEA RA in the *previous two school years*. Preference will be given to delegates who attend the OEA Fall RA and whose local has the highest percentage of member participation in

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NWOEA to Hold Delegate Briefing for OEA Fall RA

The NWOEA Board of Directors unanimously voted at the June retreat to hold an OEA Delegate Briefing during the evening of Friday, December 3, at the Worthington Doubletree Hotel, lodging headquarters for the OEA RA delegation. OEA Delegates will receive briefing information nearer to the actual Fall RA.

The purpose of the OEA Briefing is to hear candidate speeches and for delegates to take a position on endorsement of candidates, new business items, constitution and bylaws proposals, and any other legislation that will come before the delegates at the actual RA. ■

Levers and Leverage



Notes from
NWOEA
President
Jerry Oberhaus

Lever – A device for overcoming resistance at one point by

applying force at some other point.

Leverage - Positional advantage, the power to act effectively

Leverage sometimes is attached to a negative connotation. As educational professionals even within our bodies leverage is critical to basic functions such as breathing and movement.

In the wake of the worst economic crisis in our time our educational institutions are cutting staff. While student enrollments have dropped some, most of the cuts result in increased workloads either directly or indirectly. Amidst these stressors are the increasing pressures to reinvest in an education system remade for our challenging times. It is a very heavy load. Difficult to even comprehend with such large loads on each of us now, is how we also effectively engage the task of transforming our profession. In science class we teach that use of a lever allows you to apply a small force over a long distance to get a large result at another

point. The appropriate use of a lever gives us leverage or advantage. So in my tradition of using science analogies to engage challenging discussions, I will make the case for us to utilize levers and leverage to overcome the challenges we face and optimize the opportunities we have been empowered with to act effectively. To give us an advantage to progress forward I suggest two “levers” that we may (must) utilize to increase our leverage.

First is the profession’s ownership of educator quality. Quality elevates the profession, mutes discussions of accountability and as a whole enhances each of our abilities to provide for the best educational experiences for our learners. I believe that there are few that would argue that the vast majority of teacher evaluation tools/systems used across the state give valuable data that actually informs professional practice. Teacher evaluation seems poised to be a topic that will dominate reform efforts and contract negotiations. Could better evaluation systems become the lever that elevates the conversation focused on accountability of the profession? Our opportunity to redesign teacher evaluation systems provides the lever to give us the best positional advantage to effectively act to change our profession. When we engage the teacher quality discussion, we have the opportunity to base that conversation on factors of delivery of our service, instead of a single measure of product (student test scores). That is a powerful lever.

Another lever is US. Our unity of purpose as professional educators is an underutilized powerful lever. We are a diverse group of dedicated professionals united by the purpose of providing the

best educational experience for our learners. Unity is powerful. Together we are a series of coordinated levers working together (perhaps like a gear) to apply force at one point to overcome resistance (that resistance may be less supportive home life, malnutrition, poor internal motivation, and other factors that impact learning). A machine with multiple gears may best illustrate our need to work together as a profession. If we remove one gear from the machine, other gears may simply be left spinning. A gear that has damaged or missing cogs impacts the other gears as they are unable to perform their work as effectively. Our collective action is what gives us great leverage. So in times of critical workload and public debates of quality, it is essential that we stand together as a unified profession. As a respected, trustworthy source of information in our communities, it is imperative that we use that “lever” to continue to educate all on the needs, resources, and commitment needed to sustain a quality public education system. A strong education system is a fundamental “gear” in our economic engine and our representative democracy. Are we using our collective professional voice to elevate the conversations about education, educator quality, funding for schools, compensation, and retirement systems? If we are not, we must.

As we begin a new school year it is up to us to use all of the tools, resources, and leverage that we can muster. Only then we may as a profession be best positioned to act effectively for the learners that we serve.

Thank you for all that you do for our students and for our profession.

Have a great fall! ■

Oberhaus Announces Candidacy

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opportunity to contribute my passion and experience to our voice in Washington, D.C. As a member of your NEA team, I will advocate for quality that matters in the education profession and for the learners that we serve. My experience as your district president and chair of the district leaders council will serve as my foundation of collaborative skills to engage conversations that educate, influence, and help form education policy. My lobbying experience at the state and national level supports my willingness to speak for public education and the members that I represent.” ■

OEA 2010-2011 Representative Assembly Dates and Site

OEA Fall RA

Saturday, December 4, 2010

OEA Spring RA

Friday and Saturday, May 6-7, 2011

Veterans Memorial Auditorium Columbus, Ohio

NWEOA Board of Directors Retreat

NWEOA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs met for their annual retreat on June 14 at the 577 Foundation House in Perrysburg, Ohio, to conduct NWEOA business and to plan the 2010-2011 year. Founded by Virginia Secor Stranahan, the 577 Foundation is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the historic property at 577 East Front Street in Perrysburg, Ohio. In 1997 the Stranahan home was given to the 577 Foundation and is available to non-profit organizations for conferences. Today the home and grounds are used for community events and educational experiences.

Before getting down to business, many board members toured the estate grounds enjoying the various gardens and buildings.



NWEOA Board Members are amazed at the organically grown flowers, herbs, and vegetables in the Geodesic Biodome while touring the Stranahan estate before starting a busy day at the June Retreat at the 577 Foundation House.

During the late morning and afternoon meeting, the Board adopted the 2010-2011 calendar and approved NWEOA and OEA committee appointments. Board members recognized Michael Jordan who is retiring from teaching and whose term as NEA Director #6 ends August 31 and thanked him for his many years of hard work and dedication to NWEOA. Funding was approved to continue the newly established Engage Grants for next year, and the Engage Grant Committee was directed to revise the grant guidelines to allow for greater involvement by locals in association activities. NWEOA President Jerry Oberhaus announced his candidacy for the position of NEA Director #6, and the Board unanimously approved the endorsement of Oberhaus for this position. Board members also passed a motion to hold an OEA Delegate Briefing on Friday, December 3, 2010 at the Worthington Doubletree Hotel. NWEOA Committee Chairs and NWEOA Representatives on OEA Committees gave reports and updates. A dinner at Biaggi's Ristorante Italiano followed the afternoon meeting. ■



Two local treasurers whose names were drawn at the NWEOA Treasurers Workshop will have the 2010-2011 OEA portion of their dues paid by OEA. From left are Joe Cohagen, OEA Director of Business and Building Operations; dues winners Rhea Young of TAWLS and Cynthia Shoup of Montpelier EA; and Jim Timlin, OEA Secretary-Treasurer.

Record Number Attend Treasurers Training

On August 9 the largest number of local treasurers in the history of the NWEOA Summer Workshops gave up one of their last summer mornings to attend the annual Treasurers Training. Forty-three attendees learned the proper procedures and legalities of being an association treasurer. The level of experience of these treasurers ranged from no experience to that of eighteen years.

Each participant received a copy of the 2010-2011 OEA Treasurer's Manual to use as the textbook for this session. With highlighters and tags in hand, the teachers marked important pages as policy and procedures were explained by OEA Secretary-Treasurer Jim Timlin. With the help of Joe Cohagen, OEA Director of Business and Building Operations, Timlin distributed material about OEA's Fiscal Fitness Award Program. This incentive program offered by OEA could award a local treasurer \$2000, if he or she met the "best practices" outlined in the program.

The two local treasurers whose names were drawn to win their OEA portion of the 2010-2011 dues were Cynthia Shoup (Montpelier EA) and Rhea Young (TAWLS). Winning the summer cooler set door prize was Ashley Marshall (North Central EA). ■

Local Treasurers Attend Quicken Training

On August 9 Northwest Treasurers were given the opportunity to learn to record and summarize financial transactions using Quicken Deluxe 2010, an electronic bookkeeping program. The Quicken Workshop, held in conjunction with the annual Treasurers Workshop, was presented by Tim Myers (Elida). Twenty-two local treasurers filled the University of Findlay computer lab. Each local represented was provided with a copy of the newest Quicken software through a grant from the CentWest Regional Coordinating Council. While participants met with the usual frustrations and confusions of encountering new software, they gave high marks to the training on their evaluations and were enthusiastic about mastering the fundamentals of the program in a short amount of time. ■

Visit the NWEOA Website www.nwoea.org

View individual pictures of the NWEOA Local Leaders and Treasurers Trainings, OEA Summer Leadership Conference, NEA RA, and NWEOA Board of Directors June Retreat.



Retirement Update



**By Tim Myers,
STRS Board Chair**

In previous newsletter articles, I have shared with you the phenomenon known as “pension envy” that seems to be sweeping the country based on

news stories we are seeing in Ohio and other states. Headlines that declare “Ohio Pension Systems: A Time Bomb for Government” and “Pensions Put Local Budgets Under Strain” are, unfortunately, pitting public employees against taxpayers. STRS Ohio and its sister systems in this state are doing what they can to try to “set the record straight.” We also know that arming our own members with the facts is important, as we do not perceive that calls for replacing defined benefit plans with defined contribution plans will lessen in the near future.

I would encourage you to continue reading your STRS Ohio newsletters and messages that you receive via the system’s e-mail news service to keep abreast of the facts. More than 100,000 STRS Ohio members receive e-mail updates that provide a synopsis of each monthly Retirement Board meeting, as well as other important news. I would also direct you to a new section on the home page of the STRS Ohio Web site www.strsoh.org that was posted this summer. Titled “Special Pension Plan Reform Coverage,” this section includes information about STRS Ohio’s proposed plan to help strengthen the financial condition of the retirement

system. You will also find information on related issues, including the value of the defined benefit plan to public employees, which includes Ohio’s public educators, as well as to the state of Ohio. In the weeks ahead, additional information will be posted to help you answer questions you may be receiving about *your* pension plan.

In responding to recent articles appearing in some Ohio newspapers, STRS Ohio Executive Director Michael Nehf noted that the plan proposed by the State Teachers Retirement Board is “not about defusing a time bomb — it is about reasonable people reaching reasonable solutions.” Collectively, the board, staff *and* members of STRS Ohio must do what they can to ensure that any discourse about pension plan changes is based on facts and focuses on changes that can truly make a difference to the sustainability of STRS Ohio into the future.

Although proposed pension plan changes have been the primary focus of the system for more than a year — and rightly so — work is also proceeding on another system program that is of utmost importance to members. This fall, board and staff will begin developing a long-term strategic plan for the STRS Ohio Health Care Program. The focus of the discussions will be on designing long-term solutions, while also taking into consideration changes brought about by the recently passed national health care legislation. The projected timeline for the discussions calls for board approval of a plan by June 2011.

With the close of fiscal year 2010 on June 30, STRS Ohio is able to report its investment returns and operating expenditures for the past 12 months. The

total investment fund return was 13.5% and exceeded the benchmark return of 13.3%. The market value of investment assets as of June 30, 2010, is \$56.9 billion. While we all know investment returns alone are not the solution to STRS Ohio’s pension funding challenge, it is nevertheless heartening to see movement into positive territory after several years of negative returns.

None of us has a crystal ball to foresee the future. As chair of the Retirement Board, I can assure you that your board is continuing to focus on the issues you and your education colleagues have told us are important to you.

In return I would ask each of you to do your part to help your fellow Ohio taxpayers understand that defined benefit plans **play a critical role in reducing the risk of poverty and hardship among older Ohioans.** In July 2009, the National Institute for Retirement Security issued a report titled “The Pension Factor: Assessing the Role of Defined Benefit Plans in Reducing Elder Hardships.” The report notes that pension income resulted in a savings of \$7.3 billion in public assistance expenditures and 4.7 million fewer households in poverty or near poverty in 2006 in the United States. More than 23 million older Americans received a defined benefit pension that year. **Eliminating or drastically curtailing defined benefit plans would have a far greater impact on taxpayers than making changes that ensure the long-term solvency of Ohio’s defined benefit plans, including STRS Ohio’s.**

This is an important message that all of us should be sharing. ■

Local Leaders Sharpen Skills for New School Year

Nineteen local leaders from fourteen districts attended the NWOEA Local Leaders Training on August 9 at the University of Findlay. Workshop presenters Ann Field and Jan Jones, OEA Labor Relations Consultants (LRC’s) from the Lima Office, shared tips, strategies, and legal advice and distributed handouts useful to both the new and the seasoned leaders. NWOEA Vice-President Jerry Schlick discussed the importance of holding a local Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE) drive. NWOEA President Jerry Oberhaus updated



Workshop participants listen intently to concrete information concerning association leadership and current issues shared at the NWOEA Local Leaders Training.

attendees with information on Campaign 2010. Both officers outlined NWOEA events for 2010-

2011 and encouraged locals to get involved and be engaged in district activities. Workshop participants broke into small groups where they had the opportunity to network among themselves and discuss current issues and problems within their own locals. A summary by each group was shared for further discussion among all participants, as well as suggestions and legal advice from the LRC.

Suzann Bodart (Hopewell-Loudon) won the summer cooler set door prize. Following the workshop, participants enjoyed an Italian Lovers Buffet. ■

NWOWEA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs



Jerry Oberhaus
President
Liberty Center



Jerry Schlick
Vice President
PDC Chair
Seneca East



Stephanie Braun
Secretary
Public Relations Chair
Delphos



Tim Myers
Immediate Past President
Unit II OEA Rep • IAC Chair
Nominating & Elections Chair
Screening Com. Chair • Elida



Adam Wagner
Unit I
Anthony Wayne



Julie Grime
Unit I
Wauseon



Shawn Chalfin Ochs
Unit I
Rossford



Melinda King
Unit II
Lima
Fund Raising Chair



Dianne Carter
Unit II
Awards Chair
Lima



Lynn Lawrence
Unit II
Credentials Chair
Resolutions Chair
Leipsic



Gary Kapostasy
Unit III
Findlay



Joni Jordan
Unit III
Hopewell-Loudon



Jennifer Long
Unit III
McComb



Jessica Freeborn
Unit I OEA Rep
Penta Career Center



Roberta Neff
Unit III OEA Rep
Kenton



Vacancy

NEA Director #6



Marj Castanien
OEA-Retired Rep
Constitution & Bylaws Chair
NWOWEA-R Com. Chair



Rhea Young
At Large
Minority Rep
TAWLS



Chris Menier
At-Large Education Support
Professional Rep
Danburg Non-Teaching



No
Photo
Available

Jeremy Zelis
OSEA Consultant
Miami University



Rita Croy
Convention Planning
Chair
NWOWEA-R



Emilee Whetstone
Scholarship Chair
NWOWEA-R



Joyce Wisebaker
Executive
Director/Treasurer
Budget Chair/NWOWEA-R

NWOWEA REPRESENTATIVES ON OEA COMMITTEES

OEA Standing Committees

Convention Planning
Ilse Marie Goertz, TACLS

Legislative
Gary Kapostasy, Findlay

Resolutions
Lynn Lawrence, Leipsic

Core Function Committees

Collective Bargaining
Darrell Bryan, Elida

Local Development & Training
Jennifer Long, McComb

Member Rights & Protection
Dianne Carter, Lima

Organizing Strategy
Dee Groman, Findlay

Professional Efficacy
Melinda King, Lima

NWOWEA Delegates Attend 2010 NEA RA

During the first week of July delegates from across the nation assembled in New Orleans for the National Education Association's 89th Representative Assembly. The NEA RA is NEA's largest decision-making body. With over 9,000 delegates this year, it is also the world's largest democratic, deliberative body. Of the 335 Ohio delegates, 17 were from NWOEA.

This year's Representative Assembly adopted eight new resolutions on issues such as learning and curriculum, student health and safety, and human and civil rights as well as a number of amendments to existing resolutions. Delegates also considered 103 new business items, 19 legislative items, and several proposals for amending the constitution, bylaws, and standing rules. They elected two NEA Executive Committee members and a Board of Directors ESP At-Large alternate.

In his keynote address, NEA President Dennis Van Roekel called on the delegates to become activists and advocates – both professionally and politically and urged educators to take the lead in creating



First row from left: Nicole Heban (Rossford), Roberta Neff (Kenton), Melinda King (Lima), Jennifer Gent (TAWLS), Tim Myers (Elida), and Rhea Young (TAWLS); **Second row from left:** Jerry Oberhaus (Liberty Center), Jennifer Long (McComb), Don Traxler (NWOEA-R), Gary Kapostasy (Findlay), Lynn Lawrence (Leipsic), and Matthew Durham (TAWLS); **Not Pictured:** Dianne Carter (Lima), Jessica Freeborn (Penta Career Center), Michael Jordan (Bath), Shawn Chalfin Ochs (Rossford), and Marie Wetzel (TAWLS).

sound education policies and to take charge of the teaching profession. Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley received the America's Greatest Education Governor Award for the investment his state has made in its public schools and his efforts to make college more affordable, among many other achievements. Historian and education scholar Diane Ravitch received the NEA Friend of Education Award. In her recent book, she

is raising concerns over testing mania, school choice, and charters – concepts she once embraced but clearly has left behind. 2010 Teacher of the Year Sarah Brown Wessling shared her belief that teachers must be the lead learners in their own classrooms – that means teachers are listening, interacting, and working side by side with their students. ESP of the Year Helen Cottongim, a school bus driver from Kentucky, urged delegates to stand strong in the face of new assaults on children and schools.

Throughout the week, delegates stepped up and took action to influence their members of Congress by sending 13,000 email messages to federal lawmakers on education-related topics. More than 840 educators videotaped messages to their senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. Thousands also wrote down on postcards the specific provisions they want to see when the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), currently known as No Child Left Behind, comes up for reauthorization this fall. Those messages will be delivered to Education Secretary Arne Duncan. ■

NWOWEA Engage Grants continued from page 1

FCPE as of December 31, 2010. Deadline to apply is February 1, 2011.

The Cluster Delegate to NEA RA Engage Grant will provide funding for an additional cluster delegate to attend the 2011 NEA RA. Locals of 75 or fewer members who have not had a NEA delegate in the *previous two school years* are eligible to receive this grant.

The Local Delegate Assistance to NEA RA Engage Grant will provide each of the three NWOEA units funding of \$750 for the 2011 NEA RA to a delegate from a local of 76 members or more that has not had a NEA RA delegate in the *previous two school years*. To be eligible for this grant, a local would have to hold a local NEA RA election following the NEA guidelines and send delegates to the NWOEA RA with the intent that the actual grant applicant attends the NWOEA RA.

For more information visit the NWOEA website at www.nwoea.org, e-mail nwoea_wisebaker@sbcglobal.net, or call the NWOEA Center at 1-800-366-9632. ■

2010-2011 Service Awards

NWOWEA Provides Locals the Opportunity to Honor Outstanding Members

Do you know a member in your local who deserves to be recognized for the contributions he/she has made to the local association? Do you know a new teacher who has stepped forward to make contributions to his/her local association? Help these outstanding members get the recognition they deserve by nominating them for a NWOEA service award. Your local president will receive nomination forms in November or you may call 1-800-366-9632 to have nomination forms sent to you. Forms will also be available at www.nwoea.org.

Members chosen for awards will be honored at the 27th annual NWOEA Awards Banquet to be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at the Findlay Country Club.

ANY MEMBER CAN PLACE A NAME OR NAMES IN NOMINATION AND ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE AWARDS BANQUET.

AWARDS



Local Service Award

This award is to recognize an individual for distinguished service to association work in his/her local and having local-wide implications. Up to three members per local may receive this award per year, and a member may receive this award every five years.



Promising Leader Award

This award is to recognize a person who within the first five years of teaching has shown initiative in his/her local association. Each local may nominate ONE person per year. A person may receive the award only once.



District Service Award-Active

This award is given to recognize a person or group actively involved in education who has contributed distinguished service to association work on the NWOEA district level or having district-wide implications.



District Service Award-Retired

This award is to recognize a retired person who has remained active in association work and has contributed service on the NWOEA district level or having district-wide implications since retirement.

Locals Increase Visibility Through NWOEA PR Grants

The Elida Education Association teamed up with the Elida School Board and rented a billboard on one of the busiest roads in front of the city's largest retail store. The billboard shows the latest architectural picture of the new high school that will be open for the 2011-2012 school year. Across the top of the billboard are the words "BUILDING THE FUTURE: Elida Schools and You!" to publicize the collaborative efforts given by the Elida school system and the community for quality education. The bottom of the billboard indicates the second year the Elida Local School District has received an excellent rating by the Ohio Department of Education.



Using a NWOEA PR Grant, the Elida EA and the Elida Board of Education show their pride in their school system and their community

2009-2010 was going to be an important year for the Seneca East Education Association (SEEA). SEEA would be negotiating a new contract and it now would have 100% membership. To visibly show its strength, the association purchased



New SEEA Members Zach Amos, Joe Nowak, Catherine Miletti, and Danelle Clime model the shirts purchased for all members by the association using a NWOEA PR Grant.

black shirts with white striping and orange SEEA's logo for all its members. Once a month on "Association Day" members were encouraged to wear their shirts. One of the home basketball games was designated as "Appreciation Night" and SEEA members who wore their shirt were admitted to the game at no charge along with their spouse. Members also donned their new association shirts on days they were in negotiations. SEEA President Jerry Schlick reported hearing numerous positive comments about the members and the wearing of the SEEA shirts.

Billboards and association shirts are just two examples of how six local associations used the 2009-2010 NWOEA Public Relations (PR) Grants to enhance the image of their association among members and/or within the community. Other locals receiving NWOEA PR Grants this past school year were Bellevue, Kenton, Lima, and Maumee. ■



(Left) Lynda Hotz (Old Fort) and Stephanie Dell, Erin Roberts, and Ben Gillig (Tiffin) network over lunch at the OEA Summer Leadership Conference.

Many "Members Making Education Reform Work"

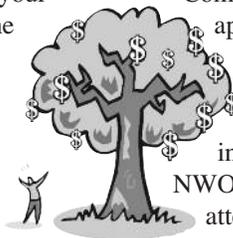
Forty-nine NWOEA members from thirty-four local associations were among the five hundred educators who were "Members Making Education Reform Work," this year's theme for the 2010 OEA Leadership Conference held August 2-4 in Dublin. Twenty-eight of the NWOEA delegates were first-time attendees.

Opening speaker for the conference Bill Raabe, NEA Director of Collective Bargaining & Member Advocacy, encouraged participants to use collective bargaining to improve teaching and learning conditions and student achievement. Conference module training opportunities included association leadership, collective bargaining, political advocacy, and professional advocacy. Singing a duet, Stephanie Dell and Erin Roberts from Tiffin represented NWOEA in the OEA Idol Contest. For District Night on August 3, NWOEA members accepted OEA's invitation to *Step Up to the Plate for Campaign 2010*, a special event at the award-winning Huntington Park in the Arena District. Members from the OEA districts enjoyed a baseball game, as well as a special reception where the educators met with invited political guests. To close the three-day conference, the *Voices for Victory: Campaign 2010 Picnic* provided attendees an excellent opportunity to meet with several endorsed candidates in an informal setting to learn more about their vision for public education and how they will support OEA members if elected.

Each year the NWOEA Professional Development Committee offers scholarships to the OEA Summer Leadership Conference. These scholarships are available through the NWOEA Office, and they cover the cost of registration, lodging, and food. ■

To Apply for PR Grants

Apply for grants from the NWOEA Public Relations (PR) Committee and finance local association activities! The PR Committee invites you and your local association to receive some of your NWOEA dues dollars back in the form of an annual NWOEA Public Relations Grant. These grants are designed to allow locals that wish to enhance the image of their association among members and/or within the community an opportunity to receive funding to finance a public relations project. In



September local presidents will be receiving grant applications for the 2010-2011 school year. The PR Committee will evaluate applications and approve grants up to \$500 until a total of \$8000 has been awarded. Requirements for the grant include attendance at two NWOEA sponsored activities, plus attendance at the NWOEA RA and both OEA RA's. In addition, the local must conduct a successful drive for the OEA Fund for Children and Public Education (FCPE). ■

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Suzann Bodart (left) from Hopewell-Loudon and Ashley Marshall from North Central won the door prizes at the NWOEA Summer Workshops.

NWOEA *Fall Workshop*

When: Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Program: 5:15 - 5:45 Registration
5:45 - 6:45 Dinner
7:00 - 8:30 Break Out Sessions



Where: Findlay Inn and Conference Center

Cost: \$8.00 for NWOEA & NWOEA-R members
\$5.00 for college students
\$20.00 for non-NWOEA members

BREAK OUT SESSIONS – Choose one:

- A. *Creating Collaborative Professional Development Opportunities to Support Quality Teaching: Master Teacher, Tiered Licenses, and Teacher Evaluations*
Jerry Oberhaus, Member and Past-Chair of Ohio Educator Standards Board
- B. *STRS Update: Learn of the Challenges – Be Prepared!*
Tim Myers, STRS Board Chair
- C. *Understanding Your Local Constitution & Bylaws Will Lay the Foundation for a Stronger Association*
Mary Suchy, OEA Director of Membership
- D. *Legislative and Health Care Updates*
William Leibensperger, OEA Vice President



NWOEA *Fall Workshop Registration Form*

Your Name _____ Local Association _____

Your Address _____ Street _____ City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Circle your session choice: A B C D Circle your menu choice: Chicken Salmon

Please return this registration form & your check (made payable to NWOEA) to the
NWOEA Center, 101 W. Sandusky St. - Suite 302, Findlay, Ohio 45840 • Questions?? Call 1-800-366-9632
REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 • You may register online at www.nwoea.org