



# East Central Ohio Education Association

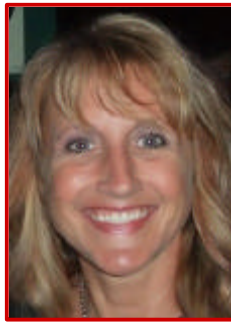
The Link Between Your Local  
and the Ohio Education Association  
Serving members in Stark, Wayne,  
Holmes, Carroll, Tuscarawas,  
and Columbiana Counties

Official Newsletter Publication of ECOEA  
September, 2011

## OFFICERS AND STAFF

President - Angela Stewart  
Vice President - Valerie Heban  
Rec. Sec. - Tammy Bixler-Zalesinsky  
Executive Director - Bruce Rostetter  
Office Secretary - Eva Gutwein  
Editor/webmaster - Bruce Rostetter

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ECOEA President,  
Angela Stewart



Three Dog Night sang, "One is the loneliest number." Well, not if you are one of the 1,298,301 signatures that were collected to repeal Senate Bill 5! It gave me chills to watch the online streaming video of OEA members, including **ECOEA's very own Kelli Green** from the Perry Classroom Teachers Association, loading case after case of petitions into the semi that would deliver them to the Secretary of State for certification. Signatures were collected all across our great state by public and private sector workers and employees, teachers, police officers, firefighters, nurses, pastors, small business owners, Republicans and Democrats, local elected officials and business leaders, and students. The repeal of SB5 will be State Issue 2 on the November Ballot, and to repeal this catastrophic bill we must **vote NO**. The fight is on to spread our **"ONE VOICE"** message to our family, friends, and neighbors that **SB5 is unfair, unsafe, and hurts the middle-class!** You can do your part by becoming active in the upcoming OEA campaign and volunteering for We Are Ohio. For more information about SB5 and details about how you can help, please check out the following websites: [www.ecoea.ohea.us](http://www.ecoea.ohea.us), [www.ohea.org](http://www.ohea.org), [www.weareohio.com](http://www.weareohio.com), [www.plunderbund.com](http://www.plunderbund.com), and [www.jointhefuture.org](http://www.jointhefuture.org), as well as many others.

Unfortunately, it won't be enough just to repeal SB5. No longer can we simply close the door to our classrooms, our police stations, our firehouses, or our hospitals and hope someone else is looking out for our rights. The attacks will keep coming if we do not have legislators in office that support the rights of the middle-class. We must join together in solidarity and keep speaking **with "ONE VOICE"** that We Are Ohio! Now is the time to speak up loudly and proudly! Let your voice join with others and be heard as **"ONE VOICE"** across our great state! In this complex political climate, now more than ever, it has become our duty as public school employees to be informed and vigilant about policies and issues in our local, state, and national government, and hold our elected officials accountable for their actions and voting record. One of the ways to do that is to elect and support those legislators that are pro-public education. Our dues dollars may NOT be used to support campaigns so it is vital to **contribute to the Fund for Children and Public Education**. I urge you to contribute, and I challenge you to run an FCPE Drive in your local. If you have any questions about how to run a successful FCPE Drive, contact Pete Hacekman at OEA.

I welcome all of you back from your summer break. As the new school year begins, and we set our goals for our students, let's set some new goals for ourselves. Mine is to increase my involvement in political action and raise my FCPE contributions. Will you join me? Our voices will become one, and working together in solidarity; none of us will be lonely! Have a great year! **See you at the polls on November 8!**

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Check us out on the web



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

The Picture Gallery



NEA Annual Meeting—Chicago—July 2011



**ABOVE** - ECOEA Delegates pose for the camera in Chicago... (standing) Val Heban (N. Canton EA), Anne Bowles (Wooster EA), Chuck Riegler (N. Canton EA), Carol Kinsey (ECOEA-Retired), Theresa Lemus Santos (Fairless EA), Stephanie Hatheway (Massillon EA)... (seated): Peter Larrousse (Wooster EA), Mary Hetrick (Wooster EA), Kelli Green (Perry CTA), Angela Stewart (Newcomerstown TA)... Not pictured: Brian Collins, Todd Alkire, and Arnette Collins...



ECOEA Local Leadership Training Workshop—August 10, 2011



Over 70 members and guests were in attendance at this annual ECOEA workshop... It was held at the Canton Courtyard Marriott where attendees could choose from three sessions. Above, President Stewart and V.P. Val Heban start with some introductions prior to dinner... Pictured on the right are ECOEA Executive Director Bruce Rostetter, from OEA Governmental Services Robert Davis who gave a session on Political Action, LRC LaVonne Lobert-Edmo and Rittman Education Association Ed Sims, who jointly presented the Local Leadership Team Roundtable session, ECOEA Recording Secretary Tammy Bixler-Zalesinsky, President Angela Stewart, and V.P. Val Heban. Not pictured: OEA Secretary-Treasurer Jim Timlin who gave the Local Treasurers session...

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## ECOEA FALL ROUNDTABLE



### LEGAL UPDATE



**Monday**

**October 17, 2011**

Presenter will be  
OEA Attorney,  
Kathleen McKinley

Roundtable will begin at 5:00 PM  
Hartville Kitchen



1015 Edison St. N.W., Hartville

- \* Sign-In begins at 5:00 PM with complimentary dinner for ECOEA members at 5:30, followed by Legal Update presentation...
- \* A \$10 refundable deposit check is required to hold each reservation, and it will be returned to you at the event...
- \* MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE AT THE ECOEA WEBSITE BY OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup>

[WWW.ECOEA.OHEA.US](http://WWW.ECOEA.OHEA.US)

## SOME FUTURE EVENTS / DATES

### ECOEA Fall Rep Assembly

Saturday, November 19, 2010 – 8:30 AM –  
Canton Professional Educators' Assn. Office

### OEA Fall Rep Assembly

Saturday, December 3, 2011 – 9:00 AM –  
Vets Memorial, Columbus

### ECOEA Spring Rep Assembly

Saturday, April 21, 2012 – 8:30 AM –  
Canton Professional Educators' Assn. Office

### OEA Spring Rep Assembly

Saturday, May 11-12, 2012 – 9:00 AM –  
Vets Memorial, Columbus

BE SURE THAT YOUR LOCAL  
ASSOCIATION IS REPRESENTED

### ECOEA Spring Legislative Dinner and Program

*\* Save the Date \**

Friday, March 9, 2012-6:30 PM  
Courtyard Marriott, Canton



Reservation info will appear on the website  
and in the January ECOEA Newsletter

Take advantage  
of your dues dollars

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

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



**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

OEA: 1-800-282-1500  
OEA Uniserv (Canton): 1-800-221-7427  
OEA Uniserv (Ohio River office):  
1-800-544-7301  
STRS: 1-888-227-7877  
SERS: 1-866-280-7377



\* ECOEA Unit Scholarships  
for Members - deadline Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

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\* ECOEA Public Relations Grants  
for Local Associations - deadline Nov 1<sup>st</sup>

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\* ECOEA Inservice Meeting funds

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\* Mid-Atlantic Minority Leadership  
Conference Scholarship - deadline Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

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\* NEA Education Support Professional  
Conference Scholarship - deadline Jan 15<sup>th</sup>

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\* Quinn Member and Student Scholarship -  
deadline March 1<sup>st</sup>

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\* NEA-Retired Conference Scholarship -  
deadline Feb 15<sup>th</sup>

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\* OEA Summer Leadership  
Conference Scholarships - deadline April 18<sup>th</sup>

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**WERE YOU REPRESENTED?**



The following ECOEA Local Associations had representation at the  
ECOEA Spring Rep Assembly in Canton last April:

- \* Alliance EA
- \* Columbiana EA
- \* CPEA
- \* East Holmes TA
- \* Fairless Local EA
- \* Lake Local EA
- \* Massillon EA
- \* Newcomerstown TA
- \* North Canton EA
- \* Perry CTA
- \* Rittman EA
- \* SCEPTA
- \* Wooster EA

The following ECOEA Local Associations  
had representation at the OEA Spring Rep  
Assembly in Columbus last May:

- \* Alliance EA
- \* CPEA
- \* Claymont EA
- \* Columbiana EA
- \* Columbiana MR/DD
- \* East Holmes TA
- \* East Liverpool EA
- \* Fairless EA
- \* Jackson MEA
- \* Lake Local EA
- \* Massillon EA
- \* Newcomerstown TA
- \* North Canton EA
- \* Perry CTA
- \* Rittman EA
- \* Salem EA
- \* Southern Local TA
- \* SCEPTA
- \* Wooster EA

As you can see, a small portion of ECOEA's 62 locals, elected representatives who actually attended either the ECOEA or OEA Spring Rep Assemblies... If your local is not on this list, contact your association leadership and urge them to get involved so your voice can be heard...

In these tough political times, when some lawmakers in Columbus are engaged in this outright attack on educators and the middle class, we need to show our OEA solidarity and support in fighting back and repealing SB 5 in November with "One Voice"...

**ECOEA Leader of  
Distinction Award**



Every other year, ECOEA members have the opportunity to select an association member they feel best exemplifies superb leadership as is evidenced by their devotion to leading and representing their colleagues through their association work. Nomination forms for the Leader of Distinction Award are available on the ECOEA Website and must be received in the ECOEA office by October 7<sup>th</sup>, for consideration by the ECOEA Executive Committee at their October, 2011 monthly meeting.