

NCOEA Members Attend Strickland Inaugural Ball

Four of our NCOEA members received the opportunity to attend the Inaugural Ball of our newly elected Governor Ted Strickland.

This is what two of them had to say about their experience.

Patti Dice, Mt. Vernon Education Association and NCOEA's Representative to the OEA Board of Directors said:

The Inaugural Ball was a wonderful experience. I feel very fortunate to have been a part (1 out of approximately 6,000 expected people) of the great celebration and a representative of the hard work that many of our members put into electing Governor Ted Strickland. The excitement began when I pulled into the hotel Friday evening to check in and to attend the reception for the OEA Board of Directors. The reception, prior to dinner, was to kick off the Board of Directors Weekend Retreat. Prior to this event, I attended a reception at the Hyatt for several of our other newly elected officials: Marc Dann, Jennifer Brunner, and Richard Cordray. I also got to meet and speak with Sherrod Brown.

Saturday evening brought about lots of excitement also. After sitting through a day of meetings, it was time to prepare for the Inaugural Ball. From the time we stepped out of the cab at the entrance to the Lausche Building on the Fairgrounds to the time we actually entered the building, you could tell we were heading to a celebration. Once inside the building, it was definitely a celebration. It was amazing to see how they turned this wide open, plain building into a celebration hall. I thought with the amount of people there, I would surely not see anyone else I knew besides

the other OEA Board of Directors, and I wasn't even sure I would see many of them. As the evening continued, I was excited to see two of our very own MVEA members there: Peggy and Lou Mavis with their husbands. There was plenty of excitement in the air as we danced to Aaron Tippin and Redline. It truly was a celebration weekend!

Jen Lepard, Mansfield School Employees Association and NCOEA Recording Secretary added the following comments:

Having the opportunity to attend the Inaugural Ball of Governor Strickland was a once in

a lifetime opportunity and I truly enjoyed celebrating such a momentous occasion. Meeting David Leeland, who is Governor Strickland's Communications Director and the Chairman of the event, was a highlight also. Aaron Tippin a country superstar was performing when we all arrived and we were able to get up close enough to get our pictures taken with him. The food was unbelievably delicious; there aren't enough words to describe it. This was a night I will never forget and being able to celebrate with friends from NCOEA and OEA was wonderful.



Rob Fetters, Mt. Vernon; Jen Lepard, Mansfield; Becky Mayer, Ashland; and Patti Dice, Mt. Vernon enjoying the Governor's Inaugural Ball.

Continued from Page 2 NCOEA OPEN Positions

NCOEA President (2 year term) – Brad Strong, Mansfield

NCOEA Vice-President (2 year term) – Donna Christman, Cardington-Lincoln

OEA Legislative Committee (3 year term) – Rob Fetters, Mt. Vernon

OEA Resolutions Committee (3 year term) – Donna Christman, Cardington-Lincoln

Collective Bargaining Core Function Committee (3 year term) –

Local Development and Training Core Function Committee (3 year term) –

Organizing Strategy Core Function Committee (3 year term) –

2 Ashland County Representatives (2 year terms) –

1 Crawford County Representative (2 year term) –

3 Huron County Representatives (2 year terms) –

1 Knox County Representative (2 year term) –

3 Mansfield City Representatives (Yearly appointment by Mansfield President) –

1 Morrow County Representative (2 year term) –

4 Richland County Representatives (2 year terms) –

1 Higher Education Representative (2 year term) –

1 Student Representative (2 year term) –

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please contact Chris Swank, 330-674-9391 or cswank44@earthlink.net; or Mary Jane Schlairet at teach1013@hotmail.com. For more information check www.ohea.org for descriptions of Committees