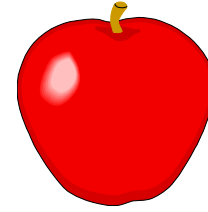


CHALKDUST



2005-2006 NCOEA Officers

Cathy Aleshire	President
Brad Strong	Vice-President
Marcia Savage	Recording Sec.
Kelly Egan Bell	Past President
Patti Dice	OEA Executive Committee
Becky Mayer	NEA Board of Directors
Chris Swank	Executive Secretary-Treasurer

NCOEA/OEA 2005-2006 CALENDAR

NCOEA Ex. Com. Mtgs. 6:00 pm at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church at Rt. 42 & Rt. 30 in Mansfield.
OEA Ex. Com. & DLC Mtgs. at OEA Hdqtrs. Col. CentWest RCC Mtgs. at Tiffin

January 26	C.A.R. Service Council
January 27-29	NEA Mid-Atlantic, Phila.
February 2	NCOEA Executive Com.
February 7	NCOEA Local Presidents Dutch Heritage, Belleville
February 17	DLC
February 17-18	OEA Executive Com.
February 27	Huron/Crawford Service Council, Willard Middle School
March 2	NCOEA Executive Com.
March 16	CentWest RCC, Tiffin
March 17	DLC
March 17-18	OEA Executive Com.
March 23	C.A.R. Service Council
March 28	OEA Lobby Day
April 6	NCOEA Executive Com.
April 24	NCOEA Spring Rep. Assem. RoadHouse, Ontario, 5:00 p.m.
April 25	OEA Lobby Day
May 1	HCC Service Council Bucyrus, 5:00 p.m.
May 3-4	OEA Executive Com.
May 5-6	OEA Spring Rep. Assem. Veterans Memorial, Col.
May 11	NCOEA Executive Com.
May 15	NCOEA Awards Dinner RoadHouse, Ontario, 5:00pm
May 23	OEA Lobby Day
May 25	C.A.R. Service Council
June 2	DLC
June 2-3	OEA Executive Com.

All NCOEA and OEA Executive Committee meetings are open and members of NCOEA and OEA are welcome to attend.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN – CATHY ALESHIRE Money Money Money

A question frequently asked by many members is, why does OEA and NEA need so much money? Many members are frustrated by the large chunk of dues that is taken out of their pay checks. An overused quote may give a new perspective on the use of their dues dollars... "You get what you pay for."

SERVICES:

Many people join because of the million dollar liability coverage which protects teachers financially if they are sued during the course of completing normal teaching duties. OEA also provides legal services to members when state and federal laws have been violated by Boards of Education. Many members are familiar with our Labor Relations Consultants and the services that they provide during contract negotiations. The Labor Relations Consultants help members enforce the provisions of their negotiated agreements by filing grievances and sometimes taking those grievances to arbitration. Labor Relations Consultants also hold meetings with local presidents to inform them about current issues that are occurring in Education.

YOU ARE AN EMPLOYER:

As a member of OEA and NEA you are an employer. We have an obligation to maintain offices in Columbus and in Washington D.C. A common complaint is that OEA and NEA could cut back expenses. After personally viewing the NEA building, I can honestly say that the facility is not ostentatious. The OEA building is very nice and the renovation of recent years needed to be done to update the facility technologically and to remove asbestos. OEA members frequently use the headquarters to hold meetings and to conduct business. We also have an obligation to maintain a pension and health care plan for "Our" employees. We expect to be treated fairly by our Boards of Education and we would look rather hypocritical if we did not treat our employees fairly.

COST OF DOING BUSINESS:

As a consumer you are aware that utilities, insurance, and overhead costs are rising.

OEA has made significant cuts over the years and our employees have made some financial sacrifices to insure the fiscal health of this organization.

ADVOCATE:

OEA and NEA employ full time lobbyists to work on your behalf in Columbus and in Washington D.C. We sometimes feel that the lobbying efforts are not very effective. I can assure you that sometimes our victories go unnoticed because harmful provisions of laws are successfully removed or modified to lessen the severity of their impact.

I know it is difficult to sacrifice a portion of your salary especially when members have to fight voraciously to get a minuscule pay raise. There are so many services and benefits that are available to us as members. I cannot begin to list all the programs in this short column. You are a part of a highly sophisticated and professional organization. OEA is the Fifth largest affiliate within the NEA organization. We have developed programs and systems that other states and NEA has modeled. You are a part of a quality organization and as I stated earlier, **YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR!**



**Cathy Aleshire
NCOEA President**