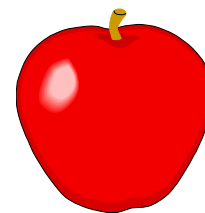


# CHALKDUST



## 2007-2008 NCOEA Leadership Team

Brad Strong	President
Patty Levingston	Vice-President
Jen Lepard	Recording Sec.
Patti Dice	OEA Director
Becky Mayer	NEA Director
Chris Swank	Executive Secretary-Treas.

## NCOEA 2008-2009 Calendar

May 4-10	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 6	National Teacher Day
May 8	*NCOEA Executive Com.
May 12	HCC UniServ Council, Willard
May 22	C.A.R. UniServ Council, Lexington office, 5:30 pm
June 7	NEA Delegate Briefing
June 12	CentWest, PTBD
June 20-21	NCOEA Retreat, Mohican
July 1-6	NEA RA, Washington DC
August 4-6	OEA Leadership Academy Crowne Plaza, Dublin
August 13	NCOEA Treasurer's Workshop Mansfield Sr. H.S., 12:00 pm
September 4	*NCOEA Executive Com.
October 2	*NCOEA Executive Com.
October 14	NCOEA Fall Workshop, Mansfield Sr. H.S. 5:00 pm
November 6	*NCOEA Executive Com.
November 8	State ESP Conference, Mansfield Sr. H.S.
November 15	NCOEA Fall RA, PTBD
January 8, 2009	*NCOEA Executive Com.
February 5	*NCOEA Executive Com.
March 5	*NCOEA Executive Com.
March 19	NCOEA Fall Workshop, Mansfield Sr. H.S. 5:00 pm
April 2	*NCOEA Executive Com.
April 27	NCOEA Spring RA, PTBD
May 14	*NCOEA Executive Com.
May 18	NCOEA Awards Dinner
June 12-13	NCOEA Retreat

\*All NCOEA Executive Committee Meetings begin at 6:00 pm, at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, at Route 42 North and Route 30 East in Mansfield. All NCOEA members are welcome to attend. Pizza, salad and snacks are served at 5:15 pm.

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN –

## Brad Strong, Mansfield City Sharing Some Good Poetry

Recently I discovered some good poetry and wanted to share it with you. The poet is David Arnold of Brownstown Illinois. He is a past president of the Brownstown Education support Association, an active IEA/NEA leader and a published poet.



### Dear Tracks

The soapy handprints upon the bathroom mirror told a story  
Of the mischief and imagination of a child in full glory.  
I pondered many a thought as I wiped them away  
Would this child be an artist, sculptor, or craftsman someday?  
As I buffed a hallway one day to restore its gloss  
I looked at the scratches, heel marks, and beauty loss.  
Again I thought about the culprits of the such  
Will they become ballerinas with grace of touch?  
I labored to remove the scribbling on the classroom door  
And contemplated how this child could become a novelist or more.  
At the end of the day, my wife asked as I began to relax  
“What did you do today?” I replied, “Removed DEAR tracks.”

### So Much For So Little

Some people do so much for so little  
And these people always seem to play second fiddle.  
They always seem to get the short end of the stick  
As for lesson plans they don't get their pick.  
Call them Paraprofessionals or Teacher Aides  
Either way, they do more than for which they are paid.  
They seem to do all that a teacher would do  
And the likes of which are too few.  
Sometimes they are given students with disabilities  
Many times they help on the school bus, as well as the school facility.  
One thing for certain, the Teacher Aide is never bored  
The difference they make in the life of a special child is their only reward.  
If you think teachers have it tough  
Consider the job of a Teacher's Aide  
I think you will see they do more than enough.  
You might even decide, compared to the Paraprofessional, you got it made.  
Mr. Webster says Para means the equal to  
So why is it that Paraprofessional isn't paid the same as a teacher?  
I haven't got a clue.