



ECOEA Retired July 2026 News Brief by Kathleen Purdy

As I am concluding four terms on the OEA-Retired Advisory Council as your District Representative, I am so inspired by the work that we have accomplished. In the above photo are Aspiring Educators who sit on the NEA Resolutions Committee, including Alice Summers (far right) who begins her full year of student teaching this Fall. Alice is a member from Twinsburg, OH and a great team asset to the Resolutions Committee. Best wishes to Alice!

Another Aspiring Educator, Alyssa Svoboda, a Junior attending John Carroll University was one of five to receive the Jack Kinnaman Scholarship! This scholarship has \$28,078.69 in the account. If you would like to make a contribution to this special fund, please contact OEA-Retired Secretary Judy Buschle at judybuschle@aol.com for more information or <https://donatekinnaman.com/> to submit a contribution electronically.

Our OEA-Retired 2026-2027 Calendar has been confirmed with the AC Retreat/Meeting on Thursday, September 3 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Friday, September 4 from 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. in the OEA Headquarters. We MUST have a representative from ECOEA Retired to continue this work. Please Contact Mary Binegar, Chair, at binegm@aol.com or Phil Long, Vice Chair at palciscv13@gmail.com ASAP.



“Going the Mile High for Public Education” was the theme for the Representative Assembly. Prior to the RA was the Retired Annual Meeting (RAM) in which we re-elected Anita Gibson (AL) as NEA-R President, Brenda Hare McGown (KY) as Secretary, Karen Randall (MD) and Brent McKim (KY) to the Executive Council and Board of Directors Janice Poirier (FL) and Penni Cyr (ID) to the Board of Directors. Both Janice Dwosh (AZ) and Judy Rohde (MN) were elected as Alternates. We had a candidate to drop out of the Resolutions Committee race, therefore, elected through the waiver rule were Karen Solheim (GA), George Sheridan (CA), Kathleen Purdy (OH), Steve Click (AK), Bobby Pierson (AL) and Linda Linn (IA).

“Fuel the Movement”, “Make a Plan to Vote”, “Promote the Vote” and “Protect the Vote” were common themes throughout the entire conference. At the RAM, our final PAC totals were \$25,108 raised. Of course, as retirees we continue to strive to make our Association relevant! Joining me at my Kit-Kat campaign table are Jene’ Wilson (NEOEA-R) and Jeff Corbin (Capital-R). Much thanks to ECOEA for helping make my campaign so successful!!!



“A farmer was milking a cow one day when he noticed a fly go in the cow’s ear. After he was finished milking, he saw that same fly in the milk pail. “That’s funny,” he said. “That fly went in one ear and out the udder!”

I have been incredibly blessed to have been your representative and colleague. With my health challenges, I was determined to complete my full term, despite many absences and set-backs. Continue to keep your members in your thoughts and prayers. I truly appreciated ALL of the support from the members! “Go, Fight, Win”

In unity,

Kathleen Purdy