

The CEA Voice

Rhonda Johnson, President

www.ceaohio.org

Volume XLI, No. 38

Columbus Education Association

May 31, 2011

Our honored guests

His last name may be Mild, but this teacher definitely is not. Greg Mild of Northgate Center has been a tireless advocate for the repeal of Senate Bill 5. He was honored with the Association's Outstanding Member Award, presented at the 35th Annual CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet.

Mild made heavy use of social media, including Facebook, to spread the word, and gained hundreds of "followers" who became petition signers. Greg serves as a faculty representative, an OEA and a NEA delegate and will represent teachers next school year on the LPDC.

The banquet, held on May 20, attracted more than 450 guests to the Hilton Columbus at Easton, celebrating our retirees and others whose efforts have gone above and beyond the call of duty in Association work.

Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Bonita Agnew, elementary art teacher at Parsons ES, and Alice Munnerlyn, English teacher at Independence HS, for their tenure on the CEA Board of Governors. Agnew has been a great advocate for elementary specialists and for the arts. Bonita said being involved in the union has been a priority for her. Munnerlyn said, "I came here from a state that isn't a union state." She credited both CEA President Rhonda Johnson and her predecessor, the late John Grossman, for "broadening her horizons" about the power of organization. "I'm a 'union man,' and you should be a 'union man,' too," she said.

Special service awards were given to Paula Garfield and Courtney Johnson for their work to repeal S.B. 5. Garfield, a special education teacher at Beechcroft HS, has single-handedly collected more than 5,000 signatures on the petitions to repeal S.B. 5. Johnson, who teaches English at Ft. Hayes MEC, has testified before the U.S. Congress and has appeared on national TV promoting the Senate Bill 5 repeal effort.

The Friend of Education Award went to We Are Ohio for recruiting more than 10,000 volunteers to circulate petitions for the campaign to repeal S.B. 5. The We Are Ohio coalition has collected nearly 215,000 signatures so far—well within reach of the 231,149 signature requirement. OEA and We Are Ohio Executive Director Larry Wicks accepted the award on behalf of the coalition.

The Innovator in Education Award was presented to OSU College of Education and Human Ecology for its apprenticeship program ASPIRE, which will prepare more than 600 highly qualified teachers to serve in CCS schools. Dean Cheryl Achterberg told the crowd, "I want to honor all of you. You are serving in a noble profession."

To see pictures from CEA Awards & Retirement Banquet, go to CEA's Flickr page at <http://bit.ly/mmybiA>.



Outstanding Faculty Representatives

Each year, the CEA District Governors select faculty representatives to be honored for their exemplary work. We salute the following FRs for their service:

District 1	Magdalene Loudakus	Clinton ES @ Hubbard
District 2	Kris Letson	Woodward Park ES
District 3	Christine Ray	East Columbus ES
District 4	Lisa Straughter	Fifth Ave. ES
District 5	Susan McCoy	Eastmoor Academy
District 6	Kay Cornell	Lindbergh ES
District 7	Terri Slaughter	South HS
District 8	Kyla Mitchell	Buckeye MS
District 9	Deborah Starr	Broadleigh ES
District 10	Beverly Carter	Nurses
District 11	Jean Miller	Gifted & Talented

2011 retirees

CEA congratulates all of our members who are retiring this spring. The following individuals were honored at the CEA Awards Banquet:

Bonita Agnew	Betty Huckaba	Edie Ochab
Maria Agrelo González	Janet K. Jarvis	Charlotte Oechslin
Peggy M. Allison	Deborah S. Jatana	Cecilia Ottersbach
Rita A. Barksdale	Alan Jones	Paul Parks
Denise Barthelmas	David L. Jones	Lynne Prillerman
Susan Bell	Ruby Jones	Bonnie Purdy
Jim Berger	Susan Kinsel-Wilson	Renée Rohrey
Jean Bradwell	Christine C. Law	Rita Sheets-Coleman
Phyllis A. Brasher	Sharon LeBlanc Fields	Kay Skopin
Terry A. Brown	Bonnie Little	Lanée Slaughter
Faye Caner	Cheryl Mandell	Tricia Stinson
Jean Chamberlain	Margy Maul	Loretta Stofocik
Ernestine Creasy	Denise McBroom	Tonda Thomas
Deniece E. Davis	Margaret McDougall	Virginia Todd Hardy
Sandra Denton	Karen McMichael	Deborah P. Walter
Jacqueline Flemming	Kathy McPike	Michael White
Brunetta R. Garrard	Alice T. Munnerlyn	Paul C. Whitehill
Mary Ann Grossman	Cathy D. Nelson	Lynette Woods
Carol Handler	Marti Netler	Ballarrie Wright
Cheryl Harrison	Judy R. Norris	Elizabeth E. Young

CEA scholarship recipients

For more than two decades, CEA has honored and supported students with scholarships at the banquet. We congratulate this year's winners and their CEA-member parents.

Christa McAuliffe Scholarship

Brooke Ison, daughter of Joyce Auer (PAR Office)

CEA General Scholarship

Shannon Moore, daughter of Don Moore (Neil Ave.)

CEA-R Scholarship

David Edgar, son of Linda Wright (Northgate Center)

Joan Donley CEA-R Scholarship

Alexander DeNoia Lange, son of Daria DeNoia (Maybury ES)

The John E. Grossman Memorial Scholarship

Nathan Perez, South HS Student

Brace yourself for attacks

The time period for gathering signatures on our petitions will soon end. Once the Ohio Secretary of State certifies that we have collected more than 231,000 registered voters' signatures, S.B. 5 will be placed on the ballot in the November General Election and be subjected to the citizens' veto.

Teachers, firefighters and police officers are some of the highest-trusted professionals in the United States. Despite this fact, we will be the target of an expensive and ugly political propaganda war waged by our enemies specifically designed to discredit us.

Soon, we will encounter ads on television, radio, the Internet and in print that will portray us as a lazy and opportunistic privileged class, unwilling to share the economic pain of the private sector. Our enemies will say that they are simply trying to fix Ohio and save the middle class, but they can't because we stand in their way.

What our enemies will say about us will make our blood boil. As these attacks begin, it is only natural to want to blindly strike back in response, to do something, anything, in defense of our profession. We must take care not to burn ourselves out before the real battle begins. We must be strategic, measured and stay on message during the fight for our lives.

Take heart in the fact that we have been entrusted with that which is most precious to all Ohioans—their children. In the coming months, do not become discouraged and do not despair. We are all in this together. We will emerge victorious. We are CEA.

Don't be the member left behind

From June 5 to August 20, *The CEA Voice* will go on summer hiatus. However, we will continue to communicate urgent and important information to you during the summer break. If CEA doesn't have your email address, you will miss out on vital information.

Another quick and easy way to communicate is through text messages. You should have received an email message from CEA containing a link to an online form to sign up for CEA's text messaging service. You cannot access this form using a CCS computer or through the CCS computer network. While CEA will never charge you for our text messaging service, your carrier's message and data rates apply.

If CEA does not have your personal email address, or if you have opted out of messages from CEA, send your name and personal email address to tellcea@ceaohio.org. Don't be the member left behind.

Retired? Join us!

Just because you're retired doesn't mean you have nothing to do. In fact, our CEA-R members are among the busiest people we know. Join them.

The group has a lot planned, including an outing to the Amish country on June 7, a tour of OSU's new library on July 20 and some exciting trips beyond the Buckeye State. There will be trips to China, Aug. 16–30, the Bahamas in November and coastal California in the spring.

That is only a preview of the activities and benefits you get when you join CEA-R. Visit www.cea-retired.com for more information. Read about the prescription benefits and discounts and other perks our CEA-R members receive. We thank our retired teachers for always supporting CEA with their volunteer efforts.

CEA-R dues are \$10 yearly or \$100 for a life membership. If you retired prior to Jan. 2000, a life membership is \$50. If you are a retired CEA member, consider joining this active and interesting group of people.

Get your red Solidarity T-shirts

Red CEA Solidarity T-shirts are for sale at the CEA office. The shirts are \$6 each and are available in a variety of sizes from S to XXXL. If you are looking for something red to wear on Thursdays, this is the shirt you need. We encourage FRs or designees to take orders at the building and pick up shirts for their schools. We will accept cash only, and exact change is appreciated. Remember, wear red every Thursday to remind us of the day the governor signed S.B. 5 into law, even during summer break.

Calendar survey

More than 1,100 members participated in the calendar survey for the 2012–2013 school year. CEA did not finalize the calendar for the second year of the two year successor agreement during the last round of bargaining due to its abbreviated nature. The survey results are as follows:

- First teacher workday: Monday, Aug. 20, 2012
- Last teacher workday: Friday, May 31, 2013
- Winter break: Saturday, Dec. 22, 2012–Sunday, Jan. 6, 2013
- Spring break: Friday, Mar. 29–Sunday, Apr. 7

CEA will meet with representatives from CCS Employee Relations to negotiate the 2012–2013 school calendar based on the survey results.

Special notes

- If you received a petition from CEA for the repeal of S.B. 5, **you must return the packet to CEA by May 31. Do not return the packet to OEA.** If you have questions or if you need additional petitions, call **Tracey Johnson** at 253-4731 or email her at tjohnson@ceaohio.org.
- Get in the Game! Middle School Summer Institute** will be a motivating and hands-on professional development opportunity for teachers at schools participating in the middle school redesign. This is a **two-day event** with a **stipend of \$135 per day**. Teachers should **register on CiMS** for both days. **Wear your school colors on June 8.** Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the event will begin at 8 a.m.
- Teachers interested in taking their professional growth and accomplishments to the next level should plan on attending the **orientation session** to learn about the **National Board Certification process** and how to **qualify for financial support** from the district. The session will be held at the **Shepard Center on Tuesday, May 31, from 4:30–7 p.m.** Any questions can be directed to Carole Moyer at 365-8241.

Have a good summer break

Summer break is almost here. It's been a trying year for all educators, and you deserve some time to decompress and refresh yourself. Take some time to celebrate. Your job is of vital importance to children and families. CEA deeply appreciates all that you do. We know that you do more than is asked on a daily basis—and this year, you have reached even further to protect our collective rights.

Have a great summer! You've earned it!



Rhonda
Lack
Jilly
Carol Ezzetta
Bob Tracey
Tom Michele
Beth
Judy
Cora