

Capitol Chronicle

September 2022

Oklahoma County Retired Educators Association

Volume 22-23

September 17th Meeting

The Oklahoma County Retired Educators will meet Saturday, September 17, 2022, at the Maps 3 Health & Wellness Center, 11501 N. Rockwell. Registration and coffee at 9:30am. The program begins at 10:00am.



Dr. John Otto, veterinarian and volunteer with the Friends for Folks program, will be our guest speaker. (See the article on page 2 for more details.)

See you there!



What Does That Mean?

If you've looked at the word above your name on the mailing address on the front of the newsletter, you may wonder what it's all about.

Comp means you receive a complimentary copy of the **Capitol Chronicle** as a lawmaker or an employee of OREA.

Due means it is time to pay your \$15.00 dues for the coming year.

Life members paid a large amount several years ago and don't need to pay dues. If you are a Life member and want the yearbook mailed to you, a \$3.00 payment will take care of it.

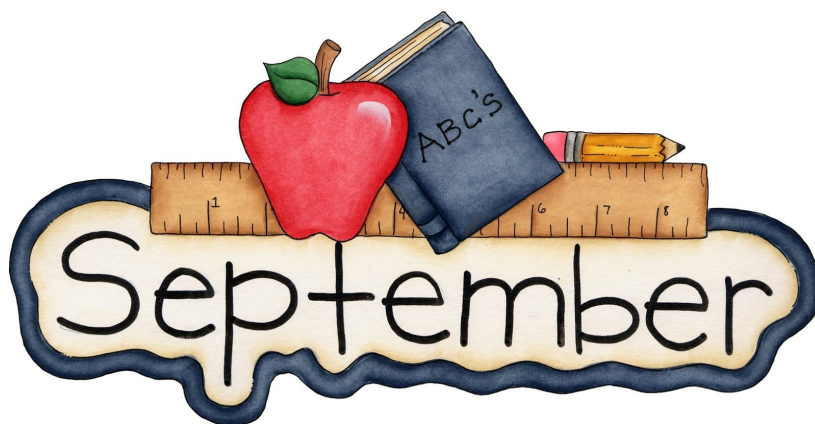
NewR means you have just retired from an Oklahoma County school district this spring.

Paid means you are a step ahead and have already paid your dues for the coming year. Thank you!

Please contact me if you have questions, concerns or suggestions.

Diane Laase

dlaase@hotmail.com
405-692-0456 | 405-206-0456



Presidents' Corner

For most people, a year runs from January through December.

Educators, though, operate on a different calendar. For those of us who have lived much of our lives on the SCHOOL YEAR calendar the year begins in August or September and runs through May.

Even though some of us have been retired for years, we remember well the sense of excitement and anticipation that the new school year brings – the look and smell of summer-freshened school buildings, the challenge of back-to-school in-service sessions, meeting new co-workers and administrators, and most of all, greeting new students. Every new school year is ripe with potential.

We remember those times well and value those memories. Even though we aren't working there now, our hearts are still with schools. We care about and support our professional peers who are still teaching or working in education.

If you haven't returned your OCREA membership dues for 2022-23, we encourage you to do so. You can clip and mail the membership form in this newsletter or bring your \$15 annual dues to our first membership meeting on September 17. It promises to be an exciting, informative meeting because our guest presenter, Dr. John Otto, will tell about his unique pet rescue program (see Page Two). We're hoping that he brings some of his dogs! You won't want to miss it.

What's more, we have more great presentations planned for all of our 2022-23 meetings. It's going to be a great OCREA year.

Kenya Kraft, Co-President

Joe Wynn, Co-President

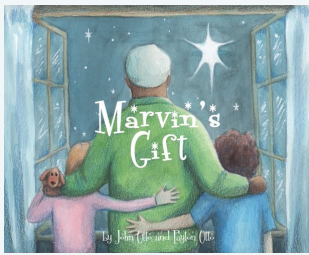
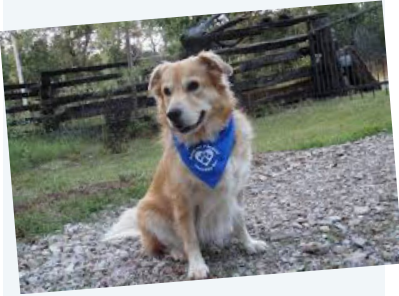
Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame Tickets

Longtime OCREA leader **Weldon Davis** will be inducted into the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame on Friday evening, November 4, at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club. He is one of three who will be honored that evening. Others are H.L. Green and Dr. David Pennington.

Tickets to the banquet and ceremony are \$100 each. If you would like to attend this special event, tickets must be purchased with the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame before October 21. Joe Wynn has the ticket order forms. You can call or text him at 580-305-1370, or email him at j_wynn@rocketmail.com.

Friends for Folks

www.friendsforfolks.org



Calling All Dog Lovers

Are you a dog lover? If so, you don't want to miss the September meeting of retired educators. We are having an amazing speaker.

Dr. John Otto has been a veterinarian for over thirty years and a volunteer for the prison program FRIENDS FOR FOLKS for over 24 years. He lives on a hobby farm in Norman, Oklahoma, with his wife, Patti, and he has two sons who help him with rescue pets.



The dogs are from different organizations and are typically victims of abuse or neglect and require substantial patience, care and training in order to become suitable for placement in homes. When training is complete and the animal passes rigorous testing, they are matched with the person most compatible with the dog.

This is just the beginning of what Dr. Otto will tell you about when he comes to talk to us on September 17th. Learn about the trainers of the dogs, helping children of the incarcerated and the books he and his son have written. Marvin???? Who is Marvin???? If you want to know more about Marvin, you will have to come to the meeting.

I'm so excited about this meeting . . . I don't want one of you to miss this amazing program! I'll see you in September.

—Marilyn Davis

P.S. No excuses—come to see what our organization is doing for you! You won't be sorry.

From the Executive Secretary

Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to everyone who has already paid your dues for the coming year! You help keep OCREA strong. It is a great investment in our future as retired educators.

I hope that many of you can attend the September 17th meeting. You can pay your dues there and the new yearbooks will be available. Please contact me with questions about dues or changes of address, phone number or email address.

—Diane Laase

Scholarship News

OCREA awards 10 scholarships each year to education majors. The \$500 scholarships are to be used by students doing their student teaching. Awardees attend one of the four Oklahoma County universities: University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma Christian University, Oklahoma City University or Southern Nazarene University.

Six scholarships were awarded last spring and we plan to award 4 scholarships this fall.

Donations to the scholarship fund are always appreciated.

Annette Fisher
Scholarship Chair

Pioneer Award

Pioneer Awards recognize and commend members who have reached their 90th birthday. If you have reached the age of ninety years or know someone who is or will reach ninety before May 1, 2023, and that person worked in the field of education in any capacity such as administrator, teacher, or school personnel, please notify me. Send a brief history of the honoree, which will be used in the awards ceremony. Please notify me by March 1, 2023

Marilyn Davis
Awards Chair
mdavclv@aol.com

Need to Pay Your Dues?

Fill out the form on the right → and mail it with your check to:

OCREA
10801 W Country Dr
Oklahoma City, OK 73170

Be sure and check your address label...you may have already PAID!

OCREA Unit Meetings

2022-2023 OCREA Meetings are scheduled for
Saturday, September 17, 2022
Saturday, November 12, 2022
Saturday, February 18, 2023
Saturday, April 15, 2023



Maps 3 Health & Wellness Center
11501 N Rockwell, Oklahoma City

9:30am Registration & Coffee
10:00am Meeting begins

Important Web Sites

Like us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/okctyrea

Legislative Web Site:
www.lsb.state.ok.us

OREA Web Site:
www.orea.org

Member Benefits:
www.myambabenefits.info/okrea

Strength in Unity
OCREA / Capitol District



OKLAHOMA COUNTY RETIRED EDUCATORS (OCREA)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2022-2023

(MAIL: OCREA, 10801 W Country Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73170)

NAME _____

SPOUSE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Check here to receive an emailed *Capitol Chronicle* newsletter.

OCREA DUES \$15 _____

OCREA DUES (SPOUSE) \$15 _____

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION _____

POSTAGE FOR YEARBOOK \$ 3 _____

OREA (STATE) DUES \$42 _____

TOTAL _____

OCREA - Why Join?

- **OCREA** is a powerful voice in our legislature. Be heard and protect your retirement.
 - **OCREA** keeps members informed on issues that are important to our current and future well-being.
 - **OCREA** is a way to stay connected with fellow retired educators.
- Annual Dues for **OCREA** are \$15.
4 meetings a year.
5 newsletters each year.

We encourage you to reach out to other retired educators and ask them to join **OCREA**, or rejoin if they have let their membership lapse. Our unit works with OREA to improve our benefits and encourages fellowship with other retired educators.

OREA Convention

Several OCREA members attended the 2022 OREA Convention & House of Delegates on April 5 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Edmond.



Kenya Kraft (right), OCREA co-president, assisting with registration.

