2015 can be described as a year of change, challenge and champions. We’ve all heard the phrase “change is hard”. For most of us in this field, change has become a constant part of our lives. New mandates, accountabilities, regulations, and procedures seem to come at us with predictable regularity. We can expect that changes will continue to come at us, as the impact of local, state, and federal legislation and programs, as well as reengineering of professional preparation and credentialing initiatives are implemented. With creating “J-O-Bs” being the #1 priority of our Governor, the emphasis on a productive workforce has never been more evident. As we know, successful employment requires more than simply ratcheting up the rhetoric, or blowing up and reconstructing our employment agencies. There is no magical button that can suddenly be switched on to get people into meaningful jobs. As rehabilitation professionals with training and expertise in the world of work, we do our best to advocate for the people we serve in a highly competitive and ever-changing job market. We use our skills, experience, and connections to educated employers and facilitate appropriate supports for people so they can achieve their goals for work and community engagement. The fall 2014 passing of WIOA, ongoing changes to major agencies such as BWC and OOD, and a continued full-court press from bureaucrats demanding instant results while simultaneously making our work more difficult, has been for many of us, discouraging and exhausting.

Change is hard, and yet we have a strong history of adapting to every change thrown at us. As a profession, we absorb the disrespectful top-down trash talk toward our profession, the inappropriate criticisms from those who have no understanding of our work, and the workplace bullying tactics many of us endure. We persevere, and have always risen to the challenge. As we move into 2016, we are guaranteed the environment from which we work will continue to receive focus. Employment is a key element of a healthy community, state and country. We must accept this challenge, and demand that our education, training, and expertise be honored. Unlike many other groups included in WIOA, we DO have the unique skills and knowledge required to unlock the potential of each person we serve. We ARE the professionals who can drive our workforce and contribute to healthy communities. Given a system that allows us to fully engage our training and talents, rehabilitation professionals are capable of delivering incredible outcomes. We must be champions of our own profession, we must prevail past these challenges and changes.

Closer to home, your Ohio Rehabilitation Association has successfully prevailed in 2015, despite significant challenges which required major changes in our operations. In 2015, your ORA Board took the difficult but correct steps to address budgetary challenges associated with the dramatic decreases in membership over recent years. As a result of your Board’s strong leadership, ORA will wrap up 2015 “in the black”. This is a significant accomplishment when considering the fiscal hole ORA has been facing for years. As a long-time ORA member, I am proud of the ORA Board and staff. They are true champions whose dedicated work in 2015 is to be commended! As 2016 approaches, ORA will offer an exciting spring conference, continued advocacy and representation of our profession, and first-class services. On behalf of the entire ORA Board, we THANK YOU for your continued support of your Ohio Rehabilitation Association!
3  RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED ON THE ORA BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN 2015! THANK YOU!

6  UNIQUELY OHIO MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS—CHECK IT OUT!

8  LOOKING BACK AT 2015 ~ WHAT A YEAR!

10  AND THE AWARD GOES TO. . . . CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WHO RECEIVED AN AWARD THIS YEAR — WELL DESERVED!

12  LOCAL CHAPTER AND DIVISION UPDATES

16  MEET TOM KINSEY, OUR ORA 2016 PRESIDENT! READ HIS MESSAGE ON LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016!

19  ORA’S ELECTION NOTICE ~ BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE VOTING TO COMMENCE IN JANUARY. LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WILLING TO SERVE AS 2016 PRESIDENT-ELECT, SECRETARY, AND TREASURER-ELECT—I S THAT YOU?

21  ORA’S APRIL 11, 2016 TRAINING SEMINAR IN HUDSON

Thanks to the Conference Planning Committee, ORA is pleased to provide its members with a one day training seminar offering 7 hours of CEUs. The Clarion Hotel and Conference Center is conveniently located off the Ohio Turnpike for this Spring Seminar. On page 22, we are offering an opportunity for your company to place an advertisement in our program book! Join us this Spring!

23  PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION/ LICENSURE UPDATES

Review Pages 23-24 for updates and changes from the various Boards, e.g., new online submissions for your CEUs!

CONTACTING THE ORA HOME OFFICE

VICKIE LEEMING, ORA HOME SECRETARY
6111 Chaney Drive
Toledo, OH 43615

PHONE: (419) 841-8889
FAX: (419) 843-2243
EMAIL: oravickie@access Toledo.com
ASSOCIATION’S EMAIL: ora@bex.net
WEBSITE: www.ohiorehab.org
LINKEDIN AND FACEBOOK: ORA—OHIO REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION

PUBLICATION NOTICE

Please note we have endeavored to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this newsletter. Material sources have been identified whenever possible (note hyperlinks). We apologize for any omissions or errors which may be found. In addition, ORA does not endorse any product or service on the paid advertisements included in this issue.
THANK YOU TO THE 2015 ORA BOARD

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT AND NRA BOARD REPRESENTATIVE*
Joseph Keferl ......................... joseph.keferl@wright.edu

PRESIDENT-ELECT*
Tom Kinser .............................. tomk@3hab.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT*
Lynn Hancock ..... lynnghancock99@yahoo.com [NEW EMAIL]

SECRETARY*
Beth Simone ........................... bsimone@ix.netcom.com

TREASURER*
Kathie Kraemer .......................... kraemer7201@fuse.net

BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

TERM ENDS 2015
Jay Leeming .................... jleeming@goodwillnwohio.org
Sally Meyer .......................... sow3sam@aol.com
Cathy Ridenbaugh ................... mytencats@gmail.com

TERM ENDS 2016
Chuck Geiger ...... chuck.geiger@cincyblind.org [NEW EMAIL]
Tami Tabor-Glancy ............... tamiglancy@gmail.com
Nancy Vander Woude .. nvanderwoude@cincigoodwill.org

TERM ENDS 2017
Deanna Arbuckle* ............... darbuckle1@udayton.edu
Andrew Byrne ....................... byrnea@ohio.edu
Michael Ricke* ................. michaeljricke@gmail.com

2015 CONFERENCE CHAIR
Deanna Arbuckle ................ darbuckle1@udayton.edu

CHAPTER & DIVISION PRESIDENTS

CORA (CENTRAL OHIO)
Pat Batdorf ........................ pat.batdorf@fcbdd.org

DACORA (DAYTON AREA)
Jenise Tidd ........................... jenise2101@yahoo.com

EORA (EASTERN OHIO)
David Salewsky ................. vrservices.daves@gmail.com

NEORA (CLEVELAND AREA)
Nora Owens .................. noragowens@sbcglobal.net

SWORA (CINCINNATI AREA)
Kelly Smith-Trondle .............. ksmith@gcbhs.com

JPD (JOB PLACEMENT DIVISION)
Cathy Ridenbaugh ................ mytencats@gmail.com

JTA (JOB TRAINERS ASSOCIATION)
Lori McCarthy .................. mccarthy.lori@cuyahogabdd.org

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AWARDS
Emily Audra Fleisher ................ emaudra@juno.com
Lori McCarthy .................. mccarthy.lori@cuyahogabdd.org
Cathy Ridenbaugh ................ mytencats@gmail.com

CERTIFICATION
Jay Leeming .................. jleeming@goodwillnwohio.org

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS
Deanna Arbuckle ............... darbuckle1@udayton.edu
Beth Simone ................ bsimonexix.netcom.com
Kathie Kraemer .......... kraemer7201@fuse.net

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
Carrie Moreland Hyder ............... cmorel9293@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP
Vickie Leeming .................. pravickie@accessstoledo.com
Michael Ricke ................ michaeljricke@gmail.com
Nancy Vander Woude .. nvanderwoude@cincigoodwill.org

NOMINATING
Lynn Hancock ...... lynnghancock99@yahoo.com [NEW EMAIL]

SCHOLARSHIP
Mykal Leslie ........................ mykal.leslie@gmail.com

WEBSITE
Vickie Leeming .................. pravickie@accessstoledo.com

AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

CONFERENCE PROGRAMS
Tom Kinser .......................... tomk@3hab.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Nancy Miller .................. nsm44882004@yahoo.com

SOCIAL MEDIA! FACEBOOK AND LINKEDIN
Tami Tabor-Glancy* ............... tamiglancy@gmail.com

*Served also as an Executive Committee Member

Certificate of Appreciation

In recognition of their commitment, service, and contributions in 2015 in their roles as identified above.

Joseph E. Keferl, Rh.D., CRC
2015 ORA President
Since our last publication in the Fall of 2014, ORA has welcomed the following new members! We wish to also take this opportunity to thank those members who renewed their membership from the Fall of 2014 through the Fall of 2015. As is our practice, when we receive notice from the NRA office of a your membership, we send the appropriate acknowledgement, either a “Welcome” letter or an email thanking you for renewing. While your state affiliation is Ohio, you are also members of the Great Lakes Region and local chapter based on your geographical location, e.g., those living in Columbus are assigned to CORA or living in Cleveland, NEORA. So, “Welcome” and “Thanks” to the following members (listed alphabetically):

Welcome!
Andrew Byrne, Athens
Tanya Chiles, Columbus
Paris Henry, Middletown
Scott Pickens, Xenia
Kelli Plummer, Dayton
Rachel Reitz, Middleburg Heights
Natalie Schaiper, Fairfield
Xenia Wasao, Dayton

Welcome Back!
Stacey Coleman, Dayton
Brad Hale, Salem
Janet Hash, Dublin
Beth Kimball, Painesville
Jackie Stanton, Olmsted Falls
Peter Stitsinger, Milford
Erika Troke-Whaley, Springboro
Jeffrey Wesly, Cincinnati
Linda Wetters, Columbus

Thank You to our Organizational Members
Franklin County Board of DD
  Ellen Baker
  Pat Batdorf
  Laurie Green-Lauber
  Kris Potridge
  Kurt Schmitter
Goodwill Industries of South Central Ohio
  Keith Alcorn
  Tracy Brown
  Mark Hughes
  Beverly Jeffries
  Danielle Shoemaker

Thank You to our Monthly Payment Members
Cassandra Jones, Cincinnati
Nancy Miller, Johnstown
Debra Moody, Dayton
Pat Murpby, Warren
Tami Tabor-Glancy, Mineral Ridge

Keep in Touch!
Please contact the ORA Home Office at ora@bex.net or call (419) 841-8889 if your EMAIL or contact information changes.

Please let us know also when you renew (or join) so we can ensure your Ohio and national membership benefits and/or help with any follow-up required with the NRA office.

Thank You!

OPPORTUNITIES TO NETWORK AND PROFESSIONALLY GROW ON A LOCAL LEVEL!

When you join or renew, you are assigned to a local chapter based on your geographical location, e.g., those living in Cincinnati are assigned to the SWORA chapter, those living in the Youngstown area are assigned to EORA. To be involved with our Divisions, you do need to join for an additional nominal fee and via their procedures, e.g., JPD is a division of NRA and you select that division during your membership renewal (or join) process. To join JTA, please contact a member of the JTA Board.

We want to encourage ALL our members to become involved at the local level as a way to ensure that they have an opportunity to network and become an active member in our mission. We want our members to experience the many benefits that being involved provides, e.g., expanding your network and developing your leadership and team-building skills and satisfaction of serving the field of rehab, and your community by being involved at the local level. So, please feel free to contact the local chapter or division about their programs (their emails are provided in this issue). Get involved today! We’re worth it!
Thank You for Renewing!

Laura Lamb, Cleveland
Elizabeth Land, Cincinnati
Michael Latkovich, Cleveland
Jay Leeming, Toledo
Mykal Leslie, Stow
Anne Logue, Delaware
Lori McCarthy, Middleburg Heights
Lynn Mark, Fairfax, VA 😊
Robin Markey, Toledo
John Medert, Columbus
Sally Meyer, Miamisburg
Patricia Miles, Cleveland
Carrie Moreland Hyder, Wooster
Dorothy Nespeca, Youngstown
Kelly Penn-Manns, Lebanon
Michael Pitroff, Westerville
Brittany Pope, Cincinnati
James Reed, Columbus
David Reichert, Lakewood
Michael Ricke, Reynoldsburg
Cathy Ridenbaugh, Columbus
Mona Robinson, Athens
Marlis Rock, Norwalk
Amy Rodgers, Warren
George Rogers, Alexandria, KY 😊
Janet Rogers, Alexandria, KY 😊
Judy Roth, Cincinnati
Carl Sabo, Columbus
David Salewsky, Canton
Brett Salkin, Cleveland
Kristin Schaub, Worthington
Renee Scheidweiler, Dayton
Ashley Sherry, Piqua
Beth Simone, Stow
Suzanne Slusher, Springfield
Suman Srinivasan, Beavercreek
Fran Stuckey, Wilmington
Ron Swain, Lancaster
Kym Trenkamp, Burlington, KY 😊
Dave Trimble, Warren
Kelly Smith-Trondle, Cincinnati
Amanda Stark, Akron
Amy Taylor, Rocky River
Jenise Tidd, Dayton
John Tooson, Springfield
Kathleen Trumm, Massillon
Nancy Vander Woude, Bethel
Carol Wagner Williams, Columbus
Nanette Warnecke-Flood, Sycamore
Kevin Yi, Kent
Nancy Zangmeister, Pataskala

Be sure to visit our website for the latest information on our 2016 Board and Seminar along with other legislative and membership news.
UNIQUELY OHIO MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

OUR MISSION…. 

Since 1954, the Ohio Rehabilitation Association (ORA) has been a member organization whose mission is to provide opportunities for professionals and others in the fields of rehabilitation through knowledge and diversity. Included with this mission, the Ohio Rehabilitation Association values: all people; professions in rehabilitation; visionary leadership; responsible resource management; advocacy; personal and professional enrichment; and relationships built on trust and integrity.

OHIO MEMBERS RECEIVE REGULAR UPDATES, NEWS AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS! YES, VIA EMAIL!

Do we have your preferred or current email? If not, you could be missing out on our MONTHLY EMAILS! ORA makes every effort to keep our members informed on the latest news we have received from local, state, or national levels, as well as what local events are occurring, by sending our members monthly emails (our version of an e-newsletter). Members also receive a subscription to our INTERCHANGE newsletter.

In addition, if issues should arise, e.g., legislation or policy alerts, we feel you should be informed about immediately, we will again distribute this news via EMAIL via our own, “THE OHIO WIRE.” In 2015 we sent out several. In January/February there were wires on the BWC fees; in March we announced Dr. Meichenbaum’s Presentation at WSU and National Rehab Counselor Appreciation Day; in July/August our wires were about the CORE/CACREP Merger; and finally in October, we sent you the Rehabilitation Counseling Coalition’s Statement of Professional Qualifications and Credentials.

Please note, we utilize the service of Constant Contact for our emails. Due to anti-spam laws, if you unsubscribe to ANY of our emails, this removes you permanently from receiving ALL FUTURE emails. If this has happened to you and/or you are not getting our emails, or if you would like to receive our emails at a different address, please contact the ORA Home Office.

MICHAEL MORRISON VISIONARY SCHOLARSHIP

In honor of Michael Morrison’s lifetime of service to the field of vocational rehabilitation and his dedication to people with disabilities, ORA offers the MICHAEL MORRISON VISIONARY SCHOLARSHIP designed to provide support for a rehabilitation professional(s) or student(s) participating in one of the following:

- NRA Government Affairs Summit (April 10-12, 2016)
- ORA’s Spring 2016 Seminar (April 11, 2016)
- ORA’s Annual Training Conference (September 13-15, 2016 in Richmond, VA)

The application requires a 500 word essay and a follow-up article for publication on your experiences at the designated event. So, visit our website at www.ohiorehab.org and click on the Membership tab for more information and the application.

2016 WEBINARS FROM ORA

The ORA Board is working on providing webinars to its members in 2016. We are finalizing the presentations for submission to the various credentialing boards. So look for more information next year!

JOIN US ON LINKEDIN AND FACEBOOK

“ORA – Ohio Rehabilitation Association”

ORA CONFERENCE CERTIFICATES (CEU) NOTICE

As an ORA conference attendee, you can request a FREE duplicate Certificate(s) of Attendance for nine (9) months after the date of the certificate’s issuance. AFTER that, there is a $30.00 charge per conference year request. For the 2015 April Seminar, ALL certifications were issued April 22, 2015, therefore, the deadline is December 22, 2015. To request a copy, contact the ORA Home Office at oravickie@accesstoledo.com.
NEW MEMBER REPORT
WHERE WE ARE NOW AND WHERE WE WERE LAST YEAR
AS OF AUGUST 31, 2015

ACORA (inactive) .......... 8 ......................... 13
CORA ............................ 43 ................. 45
DACORA ......................... 17 ......................... 22
EORA ............................ 7 ......................... 10
NEORA/KSU .................... 30 ......................... 29
NWORA (inactive) .......... 3 ......................... 6
SWORA ............................. 27 ......................... 30
WSU (inactive)* .......... 8 ......................... 11
Totals 141 21

WSU “Dual” Geographic Chapter Affiliation as of August 2015*
Total WSU Students ............. 6
DACORA ......................... 3

NEW MEMBER REPORT
WHERE WE ARE NOW AND WHERE WE WERE LAST YEAR
AS OF AUGUST 31, 2015

ACORA (inactive) .......... 0 ......................... 2
CORA ............................ 2 ......................... 5
DACORA ......................... 1 ......................... 4
EORA ............................ 0 ......................... 0
NEORA/KSU .................... 1 ......................... 4
NWORA (inactive) .......... 0 ......................... 0
SWORA ............................. 2 ......................... 2
WSU (inactive)* .......... 6 ......................... 6
Totals 141 21

ORA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT ~ DECEMBER 8, 2015

At the ORA Annual Membership and Business Meeting, held on December 8, 2015 in Columbus, Ohio, the ORA Home Secretary, Vickie Leeming, provided the statistical report on Ohio’s membership for the period of September 1, 2014 through August 30, 2015. The yearly average was 148 members. The total number of NEW members for the 2014-2015 year was only 7 (see the above Chapter breakdown).

OHIO’S DECLINING MEMBERSHIP

Throughout the year, the ORA Board has discussed concerns of the continuing decline of rehab professionals not renewing or joining NRA/ORA. The loss of individuals who work for OOD, BWC, etc. has most definitely had an impact. In the last couple of years we have also seen a serious decline of students not joining and at the same time, long-time members retiring. The ORA Board continues its endeavors to reverse this trend.

Archived membership reports were discovered this past year and they provided membership counts from 1975 through 2001* as shown below. We’ve included the counts from 2001 through 2015 from ORA’s database based on NRA membership transaction reports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Ohio Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>681</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*[If multiple reports were available in a given year, the one closest to August/September has been provided. Please note, these are not averages but actual “counts.” To note, NRA’s membership in July of 1990 was 17,547 and in August of 2013 NRA had 4,991 members.*
January
The ORA Board met in January to discuss at length their goals for the year, e.g., balanced budget, review our Constitution & Bylaws, plan at least one training event for our members, and examine ways to be a sustainable and pertinent organization for rehab professionals. In addition, as required as a state chapter of NRA, Ohio submitted their annual report to NRA.

March
NRA Government Affairs Summit was held on March 22, 23, and 24 of 2015 in Alexandria, Virginia. President Joe Keferl and Pat Murphy were in attendance for the various meetings held during this Summit.

April

**ORA’s Spring 2015 Training Seminar**
**April 13, 2015 ~ Columbus**

This one day event was held on April 13, 2015 at the Xenos Main Campus in Columbus, Ohio. We had approximately 35 representatives from the following types of agencies: MCO’s; individual providers from the state vocational related programs, veterans’ services, workers’ compensation, social security and counseling/mental health; academic environments, behavioral/mental health agencies, disability management companies and retired individuals. This demonstrates the diversity within ORA and the rehabilitation field in general. We also had good representation from around the state with attendees from the Central, Northeast, Southeast, Southwest, and West (Dayton/Springfield) areas.

Feedback from this event was essentially positive with excellent and good ratings for Advertisement/Advanced Notice (97%), Date, e.g. April/Spring event (90%), Day of the week (72%), Variety/Schedule of Sessions (84%), Certification/CEU Process [we offered 6 hours of CEUs] (97%), Acoustics, AV Tech, Lighting (94%), Food [lunch was provided] (87%) and Overall Seminar Registration (100%). We also received some good feedback regarding the helpfulness of the program book (79% yes), if a digital program book would be acceptable (48% yes), potential for attendance at a July/August event (81% yes) and the interest in watching recorded sessions for CEUs (97% yes).

Thank you to our Volunteers, Exhibitors, and Participants!

July

On July 26, 1990, the **Americans with Disabilities Act** (ADA) was signed by President Bush. The 25th Anniversary of this Act was celebrated around Ohio as well as in our nation’s capital. Also during July, the **Social Security Administration celebrated its 80th Anniversary!**

Another historic event occurred in July when it was announced **CORE and CACREP would merge** (published in our “Ohio Wire” on July 27, 2015). The ramifications and consequences of this merger are still being explored. The merger will take until August of 2017 to finalize.
LOOKING BACK AT 2015.

September
We had learned that the Indiana Chapter of NRA announced they would be moving to “inactive” status. This sad news prompted the ORA Board to re-evaluate our Constitution and it was discovered we did not have a “dissolution clause” in the event should a similar decision must be made in Ohio. This was only a preventative action on our part as your ORA Board continues to work on ways to improve the services to our members, making every effort to maintain and grow our organization, and maintain a balanced budget. With this in mind, the ORA Board of Directors made the recommendation for an addition to the ORA Constitution whereby creating Article XI - Miscellaneous, Section 1: Dissolution Clause which provides direction to the Board of Directors should ORA ever be forced to make a decision for dissolution of our chapter. Members were informed of this proposed change prior to voting in October.

October
The ballots on the proposed changes to the ORA Constitution were tallied October 23, 2015 and the majority of the votes approved the addition of Article XI—Miscellaneous. Thank you to all who participated in this process.

Another momentous celebration was noted in October — the 70th Anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month! During October, the many and varied contributions of America’s workers with disabilities is celebrated. The theme for 2015 was “My Disability is One Part of Who I am.”

NRA's Annual Training Conference was held on October 5th through the 8th in Biloxi, Mississippi. There were approximately 400 attendees. From Ohio, Joseph Keferl and Pat Murphy were in attendance and Gina Oswald from Wright State University presented on “The Changing Tide: Influence of Undergraduate Education on the Field of Rehabilitation.” For Ohio, the most celebratory news from this event were the TWO awards being presented to Ohioans at the NRA Awards Luncheon, Playhouse Square in Cleveland and the Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services organization. See the article from our Awards Committee Chair, Emily Fleisher, in this issue!

NEORA and JTA's One Day Fall Conference in Independence was held on October 30, 2015. Check out what happened at this event under our Chapter and Division news section in this issue.

December
On December 8, 2015, the Annual Full Membership and Business Meeting for ORA was held in Columbus at the Bing Cancer Center on the OhioHealth Campus. The notice and agenda were provided to members in November. The meeting was called to order by President Joe Keferl. After approving the Agenda, the minutes from 2014 were reviewed and approved. Joe Keferl gave a “state of the industry” report followed by Kathie Kraemer's Treasurer Report on ORA's financial condition—good news—we're “in the black.” Following this Vickie Leeming, ORA Home Secretary, provided an Annual Membership Report. To view the statistics, etc. she provided in this report, please see the “ORA Membership Reports” page in this issue. Chapters and Divisions were then given the opportunity to provide an “annual” report. Finally, the 2016 ORA Board nominations for Board Members-at-Large were discussed and the slate of Elizabeth Land, Judy Roth, and John Tooson was unanimously approved. We still need volunteers for President-Elect, Secretary and the most important position, Treasurer-Elect. To view the bios of these three candidates, please see the “Election Notice” pages in this issue. As there was no other business, the meeting adjourned.

Following this meeting, the ORA Board convened their Full Board December meeting. During this meeting, the proposed changes to update the ORA Bylaws were approved unanimously. These changes were largely clarification of terms: “Board of Directors” (shall consist of the Officers and Board Members-at-Large) and “Full Board” (shall consist of the Board of Directors, Chapter/Division Presidents or representatives, and Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Chairs).

We then held our traditional acknowledgement and recognition of those who served on the Full Board during the year. The meeting concluded with the ceremonial passing of the Presidential gavel as shown here between Joe Keferl and Tom Kinser, 2016 incoming President.
The Ohio Rehabilitation Association continues its tradition of honoring and recognizing the very best in our field. The 2015 ORA Awards Committee, comprised of Lori McCarthy, Cathy Ridenbaugh, and Beth Simone, devoted considerable time and energy to ensuring that every award presentation was special and memorable. Thank you all for your dedication and service! The photographs which accompany this end-of-the-year review, reflect all the fun we have had in planning and orchestrating ORA’s awards this past year.

In April, former ORA President and ever-faithful Board member, Deanna Arbuckle, was presented with our association’s most prestigious honor, the ORA Distinguished Rank of Fellow Award. This surprise presentation was celebrated in Columbus at ORA’s One Day Spring Training Seminar at the Xenos Main Campus in Columbus.

Congratulations Deanna!

In conjunction with the 25th Anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act legislation, our association honored Tim Milkovich with the ORA Doris Brennan Award of Excellence. Tim, who serves as receptionist and greeter at LEAP in Cleveland, was recognized for his self-advocacy and his personal determination and persistence in overcoming barriers to independence. In what is considered a coincidence, Tim knew the disability advocate and rehabilitation pioneer for whom the award is named as Doris Brennan founded LEAP under another acronym.

This event, which unfolded at Tim’s community-based residence, was also a surprise. Family, friends and staff from Our Lady of the Wayside gathered for this very fun, lively and memorable celebration.

Probably no other NRA state chapter can boast having its name featured on a public theater marque! Such was the case when ORA honored Cleveland’s Playhouse Square with the Excellence in Media Award in September.

Playhouse Square was honored and recognized for its production of “Havana Hop,” a sensory-friendly performance created for persons on the autism spectrum and their families.
Awards Committee members, Emily Fleisher and Lori McCarthy thoroughly enjoyed this stellar moment captured in front of the majestic staircase in the historic Connor Palace Theater with Mr. Daniel Hahn, Vice President of Community Engagement and Education for the Playhouse Square.

The National Rehabilitation Association also honored Playhouse Square with their Excellence in Media Award at the Annual Conference in Biloxi, Mississippi, in October. Shown below are Daniel Hahn with NRA President Tarea Stout as he receives the award.

Those in attendance at our ORA 60th Anniversary Commemorative Awards Luncheon at NorthPointe Hotel and Conference Center in May of 2014, may remember the Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services organization was one of the honored recipients of the ORA Outstanding Organization Award.

This October of 2015 ORA SWORA President, Kelly Smith-Trondle (right), Director of Employment & Recovery, along with Alicia Fine (left), Vice President of Employment & Recovery Services, were on hand at the NRA Annual Conference in Biloxi, MS, to accept NRA’s Outstanding Organization Award from NRA 2015 President, Tarea Stout, on behalf of their agency, the Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Congratulations and best wishes to all of the honorees from Ohio!
We wish you continued success!

Our final award for 2015 was presented to our esteemed association Treasurer and Past President, Kathie Kraemer at the ORA year-end Full Board Meeting in Columbus on December 8th. Kathie was honored with the ORA Distinguished Rank of Fellow Award in recognition of her long-standing dedicated service, commitment and contributions.

This honor (presented as a surprise) is certainly well deserved and is reflective of decades of volunteer service to the Ohio Rehabilitation Association.

Congratulations, Kathie!

Pictured here from left to right: Lori McCarthy, Kathie Kraemer, and Emily Fleisher.
COLUMBUS AREA CHAPTER

CORA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

2015 CORA BOARD

President, Pat Batdorf
pat.batdorf@fcbdd.org

Past President, Ron Swain
rswain@fairfielddd.com

Secretary, Cathy Ridenbaugh
mytencats@gmail.com

Treasurer, Carol Wagner Williams
831professor@gmail.com

Board Members-at-Large

Doug Bailey
.................................. dbailey77@aol.com

John Medert
.................................. mmedert@aol.com

A LOOK BACK AT CORA’S ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

The CORA Board, on an average, meets every other month. The location is usually a lovely local Canal Winchester restaurant. The goal for the year is to assist in growing active Central Ohio membership for CORA and ORA.

A LOOK AHEAD AT CORA’S ACTIVITIES FOR 2016

We will begin 2016 with a CORA Board Meeting on January 12th at the Village Wines and Bistro (10 South High Street) in Canal Winchester. Our meeting typically begins at 5:30 p.m. and is a working dinner. One of the agenda items will be the review of proposed revisions to CORA’s Constitution and Bylaws and working on our plans for a spring mixer with JPD following the Spring 2016 Seminar. All are welcome! If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact President, Pat Batdorf at pat.batdorf@fcbdd.org.

Keep an eye out for the announcement regarding our Spring 2016 Mixer! It is bound to be a lot of fun and a great time for networking.

JOB PLACEMENT DIVISION

JPD

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

2015 JPD BOARD

President, Cathy Ridenbaugh
mytencats@gmail.com

Past President, Chuck Geiger
chuck.geiger@cincyblind.org

Treasurer, Elliott Castello
elliott.castello@ftsjobs4u.com

Secretary, Jennifer Bechtel
jennifer.bechtel@ftsjobs4u.com

JPD'S 2015 PRESIDENT

CATHY RIDENBAUGH

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

JPD is looking forward to working with the CORA Chapter on the Spring 2016 Mixer. Look for more information in your Inbox next year!

COLUMBUS AREA CHAPTER

JPD

CORA

CORA’S 2015 PRESIDENT

PAT BATDORF

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

2015 CORA BOARD

President, Pat Batdorf
pat.batdorf@fcbdd.org

Past President, Ron Swain
rswain@fairfielddd.com

Secretary, Cathy Ridenbaugh
mytencats@gmail.com

Treasurer, Carol Wagner Williams
831professor@gmail.com

Board Members-at-Large

Doug Bailey
.................................. dbailey77@aol.com

John Medert
.................................. mmedert@aol.com

A LOOK BACK AT CORA’S ACTIVITIES FOR 2015

The CORA Board, on an average, meets every other month. The location is usually a lovely local Canal Winchester restaurant. The goal for the year is to assist in growing active Central Ohio membership for CORA and ORA.

A LOOK AHEAD AT CORA’S ACTIVITIES FOR 2016

We will begin 2016 with a CORA Board Meeting on January 12th at the Village Wines and Bistro (10 South High Street) in Canal Winchester. Our meeting typically begins at 5:30 p.m. and is a working dinner. One of the agenda items will be the review of proposed revisions to CORA’s Constitution and Bylaws and working on our plans for a spring mixer with JPD following the Spring 2016 Seminar. All are welcome! If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact President, Pat Batdorf at pat.batdorf@fcbdd.org.

Keep an eye out for the announcement regarding our Spring 2016 Mixer! It is bound to be a lot of fun and a great time for networking.

JOB PLACEMENT DIVISION

JPD

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

2015 JPD BOARD

President, Cathy Ridenbaugh
mytencats@gmail.com

Past President, Chuck Geiger
chuck.geiger@cincyblind.org

Treasurer, Elliott Castello
elliott.castello@ftsjobs4u.com

Secretary, Jennifer Bechtel
jennifer.bechtel@ftsjobs4u.com

JPD’S 2015 PRESIDENT

CATHY RIDENBAUGH

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

JPD is looking forward to working with the CORA Chapter on the Spring 2016 Mixer. Look for more information in your Inbox next year!
2015 has been a rather quiet year for SWORA. We have spent a good deal of time analyzing our membership situation and trying to brainstorm how we might improve this in the next year. We have also been working on updating our Constitution and Bylaws to ensure they are in line with the ORA Constitution and Bylaws. Our goal for 2016 is to increase membership and member involvement.

SWORA awarded a $1,000 academic scholarship to Fr. Niby Kannai, who is a UC Doctoral Student in Counselor Education, and in May 2016, will defend his dissertation, “Alcohol Use and Spirituality Among College Students”. We also made numerous Success Fund Awards to assist clients seeking employment to purchase items not covered by their sponsors or programs.

SWORA held their Annual Awards Reception on December 4th at DeStasi’s, and presented six awards:

The Tomko Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Rehabilitation
Steve Goldsberrry with Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services

The Bernard S. Rosenthal Manager of the Year
Harvey Olff with 3Hab, Ltd.

The Rehabilitation Practitioner of the Year
Matt Burnheimer with Ohio Valley Goodwill Industries in Cincinnati

The Rehabilitation Organization of the Year Award
Matthew 23 Ministries

The Advocacy Award
Center for Independent Living Options

The Media Award
Paul Daugherty, Sports Writer for The Cincinnati Enquirer

It was a festive afternoon with an ice breaker that encouraged attendees to interact and get to know one another and a basket raffle that offered a wide variety of enticing items.

Finally, we joined with the Job Development Confab of Butler County to sponsor a training program on Assistive Technology on December 15, 2015.

Looking Ahead to 2016

Look for information on SWORA’s plans for 2016 in your Inbox next year!
NEORA’S 2015
PRESIDENT

NORA Q. OWENS

SPRING 2015 CONFERENCE

We had 38 participants at our one day Spring Conference at the DoubleTree Cleveland South Hotel in Independence. The topics and presenters included:

“Activities and Outcomes of a Multi-disciplinary Demonstration Project to Provide Cognitive Support Technology and Career Preparation Services for Post-Secondary Students with Traumatic Brain Injuries” and “Results from a National Survey of the Employment Concerns of Americans with Multiple Sclerosis.” Both were presented by KSU Faculty/Staff, Callista Stauffer, M.Ed., M.A. Ed.; Phillip Rumrill, Ph.D., CRC; Jian Li, Ph.D; Katherine Daly, MA, NCC, CI/CT; and Steven W. Nissen, M.S., CRC. Guest Speakers included David Levy and Justin Oblisk; II.

Our third program was “Use of O*Net in Career Guidance.” This live working session was presented by George Cyphers, LPC, CRC, CDMS, of G.W. Cyphers & Associates, LLC.

Based on feedback the presentations were well received.

FALL 2015 CONFERENCE

To find out about our Fall 2015 One Day Conference, turn the page! We partnered with the Job Trainers Association for this event!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

2015 NEORA BOARD

President, Nora Q. Owens
noragowens@sbcglobal.net

Past President, Bruce Holderead
vancepack@wowway.com

Treasurer, David Reichert
dreichert6@att.net

Conference Planner, Sam Carlson
scarlson438@sbcglobal.net

Board Members-at-Large

George Cyphers ................. george@gwcyphers.com
Beth Kimball ...................... beth.kimball@vgsjob.org
Laura Lamb ....................... lauralamb@vgsjob.org
Kate Reis ......................... kateris@allworkinc.com
Amy Taylor ...................... amy.taylor@ood.ohio.gov

NEORA CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

The NEORA Board took to task to review and update their Chapter’s Constitution & Bylaws. Subsequently, the proposed changes were submitted and eventually approved by the ORA Constitution & Bylaws Committee. The proposed Constitution & Bylaws was then sent out to the NEORA members for their review and comment. In October, the ballots were issued and on October 23rd the votes were tallied. The changes were approved unanimously by those members who voted. Thank you to everyone who worked on this document and participated in the voting process. If you would like a copy of NEORA’s Constitution & Bylaws, please contact the ORA Home Office at ora@bex.net.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

Look for information on NEORA’s plans for 2016 in your Inbox next year!
FALL 2015 CONFERENCE
JOINT VENTURE ~ JTA AND NEORA!

Northeast Ohio Rehab Association Chapter partnered with the Job Trainers Association of Ohio to host a one day training conference on October 30, 2015 at the Doubletree Hotel in Independence, Ohio.

Fifty eight attendees listened to the opening session where Beth Thompson of Milestones Autism Resources discussed placement and training issues for individuals on the Autism Spectrum.

A panel of job placement experts from United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cleveland, Vocational Guidance Services, VocWorks and the Cuyahoga County Board of DD completed the morning sessions with a moderated discussion about the “As to Zs of Placing Individuals with Disabilities.”

A networking lunch was followed by four roundtable sessions where the attendees were able to participate in small group discussions regarding the placement of individuals who are dealing with mental health issues, Traumatic Brain Injuries, Autism Spectrum Disorder and developmental disabilities.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

Look for information on JTA’s plans for 2016 in your Inbox next year!
EORA'S 2015 PRESIDENT

DAVID SALEWSKY

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

Look for information on EORA's plans for 2016 in your Inbox next year!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

2015 EORA BOARD

President, David Salewsky
vrservices.daves@gmail.com

Immediate Past President, Brad Hale
cve7_3@juno.com

Treasurer, Dottie Nespeca
d.nespeca@goodwillyoungstown.org

Secretary, Sharyn Jacisin Pimpinella
sharynj@live.com

Board Members-at-Large

Mykal Leslie.......................... mykal.leslie@gmail.com
Rachel Reitz..........................rachreitz@yahoo.com
Amy Rodgers.......................... amy_rogers@vchs.net

DAYTON AREA CHAPTER

DACORA

DACORA'S 2015 PRESIDENT

JENISE TIDD

LOOKING BACK ON 2015

Morrison Visionary Scholarship Recipient
April 2015

I had the opportunity to attend the conference on April 13 at the Xenos Campus as a Student Ambassador. I was honored to have been chosen to attend and gained valuable knowledge and insight about various topics that pertain to rehabilitation counseling. The presenters were educated about their topics and offered new information that I will use as I move forward in my graduate program at Wilberforce University. As I work on completing my degree, I appreciated meeting other professionals who offered words of encouragement and experience I will use as I advance my career. Thank you for the amazing experience.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

2015 DACORA BOARD

President, Jenise Tidd
jenise2101@yahoo.com

Past President, Sally Meyer
sow3sam@aol.com

Treasurer, Tony Rakestraw
trakes0001@aol.com

Board Members-at-Large

Tina Porter.........................tina.porter@my.sinclair.edu
Suman Srinivasan...................newlinkrehab@gmail.com

Congratulations to Jenise who graduated on May 10, 2015. She is now Jenise Tidd, M.S., QMHS, CDCA!

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2016

Look for information on DACORA’s plans for 2016 in your Inbox next year!
A MESSAGE FROM . . .

THOMAS KINSER
ORA 2015 PRESIDENT-ELECT
AND
2016 ORA PRESIDENT

I am pleased to address ORA members and soon-to-be members. At the invitation of 2014 ORA President Lynn Hancock, I came back to ORA after a 10 year hiatus. I have been involved in SouthWest Ohio Rehabilitation Association (SWORA) Chapter as a Board Member since 2012 and served as SWORA President in 2014. By virtue of being SWORA President, I was automatically an ORA Board Member, and as ORA President-Elect, I was automatically positioned on the 2015 ORA Executive Committee. My point is, that when Carl Sabo (2013 ORA President) asked and I agreed to run for ORA President-Elect for 2015, it was one of the best professional decisions I have made. Not because of the honor of being voted in as ORA President for 2016; but for the remarkable people I have been able to meet, learn from, and work with when critical and thoughtful decisions need to be made. Being part of this professional organization has provided me the opportunity to learn from these talented professionals, and to see the dedication and initiative of Board Members and Committee Chairs in action.

ORA’s President in 2013 was Carl Sabo during which time ORA reviewed, studied and ultimately opposed Ohio House Bill 567. It died prior to Senate vote. The yearly conference was a joint venture with the American Rehabilitation Counseling Association in Cincinnati, Ohio.

During Lynn Hancock’s 2014 Presidency, it was Ohio BWC changes that became the focus of the ORA Board. Although posed to mount a strong opposition at the JCAR level to defeat the 30% reduction in professional fees, a compromise was reached of 10% reduction. In the midst of this was the 60th ORA Anniversary three day event at NorthPointe Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus. This would be the last three day event as the Board determined that one day events would be given a trial run.

ORA President in 2015 (and 2011) was Joe Keferl. Due to ongoing financial short falls, drastic cuts were made in the budget affecting our only paid staff, ORA Home Secretary, Vickie Leeming. The ORA Secretary, Beth Simone, took up much of the previously paid-for duties. Joe was promoted to Dean-Elect of the College of Education and Human Services at Wright State University beginning October 1, 2015. Despite this huge accomplishment, along with huge responsibilities, Joe continued on as ORA President, RCC member, Great Lakes Regional Representative and NRA Board Representative. Joe was also involved in the CORE/CACREP accreditation issue and addressed the concerns in the Spring/Summer 2013 INTERCHANGE. The RCC meeting in August 2015 at Wright State University was attended by CORE, where the July merger announcement between CORE and CACREP was first discussed. Clearly, your elected ORA leaders know how to LEAD!

Currently, ORA has open Officer positions of President-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, and Secretary. Long term Treasurer, Kathie Kraemer, announced her intention to not seek another term and will officially retire at the end of 2016. Beth Simone, ORA Secretary, has accepted a 2016 appointment provided the additional responsibilities can be shifted to the ORA Home Secretary. We have three candidates for the two open Board positions! Please see their bios included in this issue. The ORA Board also amended its Constitution and Bylaws to accept a “Donor” option for individuals who wish to contribute and/or be involved in ORA. This was brought on through the individual action of Emily Fleisher. Deanna Arbuckle was brilliant in crafting the wording and follow-up to bring the change to a Bylaws vote. ORA also organized a successful one day conference in April at the Xenos Conference Center in Columbus — punctuated by all attendees spelling O—H—I—O.
So here we go into 2016. The planning for the April 11, 2016 one day conference was taken on by Emily Fleisher, Chair of the Conference Planning Committee, and Beth Simone, ORA Secretary and Co-Chair. Emily’s passion to head this committee, her creativity in developing additional funding sources by asking for outside donations to support funding of the project (over $900 to date), as well as, her accomplishment of finding and confirming all the presenters by December 2015, is truly inspiring. Jay Leeming, Certification Chair, has submitted the session proposals to CRC, CDMS, DD, and CSWMFT Board for CEU approval. To date, we are pleased to report approval from CRC (3 hours in ethics), CDMS, and DD. We anticipate a positive response from the CSWMFT Board in the near future.

My vision is to have local Chapter and Divisions reach out to the rehabilitation community in their local area and support ORA trainings, provide financial gifts to non-profit organizations, and encourage ALL Chapters and Divisions to participate in our Full Board Meeting by sending their President, or a Board Member, to our two face-to-face meetings in 2016 and participate in our five teleconferences. Since Kathie Kraemer is leaving the Treasurer position, it is critical that an ORA member step forward in 2016 to accept the 2017 position and use 2016 as a mentoring opportunity to learn from Kathie. Additionally I will encourage each Chapter and Division to update their Constitution and Bylaws. As President-Elect this past year, I encouraged the Chapter and Division Presidents to accomplish this task. To date, NEORA has voted and passed their revised Constitution and Bylaws and SWORA is almost done. Finally, I am asking ORA members to renew their NRA/ORA membership and commitment to our professional organization. Look for exciting new ways to be involved in 2016 via our monthly e-newsletters or on the ORA website (www.ohiorehab.org).

Tom Kinser, M.S., CDMS
ORA 2015 President-Elect and 2016 President
tomk@3hab.com

ORA COMMITTEES

In January 2016, individuals will be asked if they wish to continue serving as Committee Chairs or new individuals will be appointed. ORA has two “groups” of Committees: Standing and Ad Hoc. Below is a description of each of these committees. **If you would like to serve on any of these committees, either as a Chair or member, please contact Tom Kinser, ORA 2016 President at: tomk@3hab.com**

**Standing Committees** serve the association in matters needing continuous pursuit. The standing committees of ORA, according to the Bylaws, with the exception of the Nominating Committee, are as follows: Awards, Certification, Constitution & Bylaws, Governmental Affairs, Membership (Home Secretary acts as Chair), Scholarship, and Website (Home Secretary acts as Chair). Chairpersons of these respective standing committees may serve in that capacity for more than one administrative year.

**Ad Hoc Committees** may be appointed by the President with advice and consent of the Board of Directors, e.g., Public Relations, Social Media, and Ways and Means. These committees are established to address matters of an immediate or non-recurring nature related to the specific purpose or goal of the association. Chairpersons of these respective Ad Hoc Committees may serve in that capacity for more than one administrative year.

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**
Tom Kinser
tomk@3hab.com

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**
Position Open

**PAST PRESIDENT AND NRA BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**
Joseph Keferl
joseph.keferl@wright.edu

**SECRETARY**
Beth Simone (Term Ends 2016)
bsimone@ix.netcom.com

**TREASURER**
Kathie Kraemer (Term Ends 2016)
kraemer7201@fuse.net

**TREASURER-ELECT**
Position Open

**BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

**TERM ENDS 2016**
Chuck Geiger
chuck.geiger@cincyblind.org

Tami Tabor-Glancy
tamiglancy@gmail.com

Nancy Vander Woude
nvanderwoude@cincigoodwill.org

**TERM ENDS 2017**
Deanna Arbuckle
daruckle1@udayton.edu

Andrew Byrne
byrnea@ohio.edu

Michael Ricke
michaeljrice@gmail.com

**TERM ENDS 2018**
TBD ~ Vote in January 2016!

**2016 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Emily Fleisher, Chair
emaudra@juno.com

Beth Simone
bsimone@ix.netcom.com
Dear ORA Members,

As a member of the Ohio Rehabilitation Association (ORA) you have the **OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY** to give input regarding the elected members of the ORA Board. Per ORA’s Constitution under Article V—Administration, Section 1: The Board of Directors:

“The ORA Board of Directors shall be elected by the membership to serve as its policy making body and shall be responsible for carrying on the affairs of the Association except those actions which rest on the membership, as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws.”

Therefore, the candidates elected serve an important role and you as a member are an integral part of this aspect of the ORA Board. Included herein you will find the duties of the Board Member-at-Large position as well as the pictures, bio, and candidacy statements of the candidates. Please take a moment to review the candidates’ backgrounds, etc.

**In January 2016, we will send you an electronic, confidential ballot for you to use to vote for the TWO candidates of your choosing. Please locate your NRA membership number prior to voting as this is required to submit your ballot.** Thank you for your participation!

---

**BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE POSITION DUTIES**

The duties of each Board Member-at-Large may include, but are not limited to the following:

1) Serve as a member of the Board of Directors. This requires attendance, either in person or via teleconference, at a minimum of three (3) of the six (6) Full Board meetings per year.

2) Serve as committee chairs and committee members, at request of the President.

3) Provide support for and at the ORA training event(s), e.g., as serving as chairs, selling basket raffle tickets, monitoring sessions, etc.

4) Provide materials for the monthly e-newsletters and/or Interchange, when appropriate.

5) Participate in the annual review of the ORA Strategic Plan and Budget and the Leadership Handbook, when appropriate.

**TERM OF OFFICE:**

Three Years ~ January 1 to December 31.

**For 2016, Two (2) Board Members-at-Large Shall be Elected**

---

**MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE!**

**ELIZABETH (LIBBY) LAND**  
**HOME ~ CINCINNATI**

**JUDY ROTH**  
**HOME ~ CINCINNATI**

**JOHN TOOSON**  
**HOME ~ SPRINGFIELD**

**EMPLOYER ~ MATRIX VOCATIONAL SOLUTIONS**

**EMPLOYER ~ MATRIX VOCATIONAL SOLUTIONS**

**EMPLOYER ~ WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY**
Libby has been a vocational rehabilitation case manager working with Ohio BWC injured workers for over 20 years. Prior to that she worked in Placement with BAWAC in Florence, Kentucky, a pre-release employment counselor for incarcerated juveniles approaching 18 years of age with a JPTA Program in Minnesota, as a test constructor with the City of Dallas, Texas Civil Service Department and an Employment Counselor with the State of Kentucky. She has a BBA in Management from the University of Cincinnati and completed her graduate work in Counseling at Marshall University. She has held a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) credential for 20 years.

**CANDIDACY STATEMENT**

“I believe professionals in our field face a number of changes and challenges in the coming years and I believe ORA can and should be a significant player as these events unfold. In order to achieve this, ORA must reach out and solicit and maintain the participation and support of those affected. I would like to participate in increasing our membership and our recognized relevance in the State.”

---

**ELIZABETH (LIBBY) LAND, CRC**
NRA Member Since 2008

---

Judy L. Roth is an experienced Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and Case Manager. She received her BA degree from the University of Pittsburgh, in 1971, and her Masters in Counseling and Rehabilitation from the University of Southern California, in 1974. For over forty years, Judy has worked in the Rehabilitation field, within both the public and private spheres, in California and Ohio. After retiring from the Ohio BVR, she became a Case Manager for Matrix Vocational Services, and is presently employed part-time with them. In addition, Judy has served in many roles on several community and professional boards, including the Jewish Vocational Service of Cincinnati, Independent Living Options (Total Living Concepts, Inc.), Ohio Rehabilitation Association (ORA), Southwestern Ohio Rehabilitation Association (SWORA) and Summerfair-Cincinnati.

**CANDIDACY STATEMENT**

“I would like to serve on the ORA Board because I believe that ORA provides a significant contribution to the Vocational Rehabilitation profession and enhances each member to better serve those with disabilities. I would like to be active in furthering the organization’s mission.”

---

**JUDY L. ROTH, MS, CRC, CDMS, LPC**
NRA Member Since 1976

---

John Tooson has been a rehabilitation counselor for over 30 years working in various positions at the Rehabilitation Division of the Industrial Commission of Ohio and the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation. In his position with the state, he has worked with individuals with all types of disabilities and these were clients who were industrially injured on the job. John received his master’s degree in rehabilitation counseling and his Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Administration from The Ohio State University. In 2004, he began teaching at Wilberforce University as an adjunct professor in the undergraduate Rehabilitation Services program and the graduate Rehabilitation Counseling program. In 2010, John began working full-time as an Assistant Professor in their masters of rehabilitation counseling program. He is also a certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC).

**CANDIDACY STATEMENT**

“For many years I have contemplated serving in some capacity with this organization and with so many recent changes in the field of rehabilitation counseling, I believe I can help make this organization stronger and prepare for the many adjustments and changes that will need to be made. As we continue to work on membership, professional development and all of the other important issues facing this organization, I want to be a part of the transition and the rebirth of an organization that has served many professionals over the years. I also want to engage the students who are going to be our future leaders and professionals as we move into the next generation of membership.”

---

**JOHN TOOSON, Ph.D., CRC**
NRA Member Since 1989

---

This SIMPLE ballot will contain three areas requiring your attention: 1) Enter your NRA #; 2) Select TWO Board Members-at-Large or enter write-in candidate names; 3) Take this opportunity to write-in possible candidates for President-Elect, Secretary, or Treasurer-Elect and/or let us know of any concerns or suggestions you may have for the ORA Board and then click FINISH. Ballots are tallied automatically and the results will be announced via email shortly after the close of the elections. Thank you for your participation in this important electoral process!
Please join us for ORA’s 2016 Spring Seminar and Networking Event

“Nobody Does It Better: Celebrating Best Practices in Rehabilitation”  
(With a Wink and a Nod to Carly Simon)

Monday, April 11, 2016  
Clarion Hotel and Conference Center  
Hudson, Ohio  
(Conveniently located at the Ohio Turnpike and Route 8)

The Ohio Rehabilitation Association is excited to announce our upcoming dynamic, fun and informative day of training and professional networking! Seven (7) hours of continuing education (including three hours of CRC ETHICS) will be offered by a stellar line-up of presenters:

“Working with Veterans in Recovery from Mental Illness: Academic, Practical and Ethical Considerations” will be presented by former NRA President, Dr. Ray Feroz from Clarion University and co-presenter, Kathleen Feroz Casamento, a VR Counselor from the Pittsburgh OVR office.

Former NRA president, Dr. L. Robert McConnell, will be joining us from Lansing, Michigan. Dr. McConnell’s session entitled Examining Your Personal Ethical Profile: Culture, Theories and Other Factors, will enable participants to assess their individual ethical profiles through a mapping exercise.

Dr. Cheryl Reed, O.D., Optometrist and Director of Low Vision Services at the Akron office of United Disability Services, will be highlighting our seminar theme with her presentation: Nobody Does It Better: Celebrating Best Practices in Low Vision Rehabilitation.

ORA Board Member, Michael Ricke, and his colleague, Erica Smith — both of whom serve as Disability Managers at The Ohio State University — will enlighten us on the Americans with Disabilities Act. Their session is entitled ADA: Case Studies of Complex Accommodation Requests and Some Best Practices.

Many folks who have been in the field for a long time, will recognize the name Dr. Mark Savickas as the iconic, premier expert in the realm of career counseling. A widely popular educator and lecturer in the field, Dr. Savickas’ presentation is titled: Career Construction Counseling: Theory and Techniques.

Good News! The credentialing and CEU approval process is in motion. We have received approval from CRC (3 hours of CRC Ethics), CDMS, and DD. We should hear by the end of the year on our approval from the Ohio CSWMFT Board for Social Work and Professional Counseling CEUs. Stay tuned!

The room rate at the Clarion Hotel will be $85.00 plus tax per night! Please mention the Ohio Rehabilitation Association when making reservations.

The hotel number is (330) 653-9191  
To learn more about this great location, visit  
https://www.choicehotels.com/ohio/hudson/clarion-hotels/oh517?source=gglocaloz

Full seminar registration includes all training materials, continental breakfast, buffet lunch and an afternoon break. At this time the seminar schedule will begin at 8:00 a.m. and run until 5:30 p.m. Look for our online registration next year!

More information will be noted in future ORA communications and on our website at www.ohiorehab.org!  
We hope you’ll join us!
Ohio Rehabilitation Association (ORA)

ADVERTISER SUBMISSION FORM

“Nobody Does It Better”
Celebrating Best Practices in Rehabilitation

Monday, April 11, 2016
Clarion Hotel & Conference Center
Hudson, Ohio

Thanks for your generous support of ORA and our 2016 Seminar and Networking Event!

An acknowledgement of your generous support and your advertisement will be placed in our program book.

COMPANY NAME __________________________________________ PHONE NUMBER: ____________________________
CONTACT NAME __________________________________________
EMAIL ADDRESS __________________________________________
WEBSITE ADDRESS _________________________________________

ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPTIONS</th>
<th>DIMENSIONS</th>
<th>PRICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESS CARD</td>
<td>3¼” wide x 2¼” tall</td>
<td>$ 40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUARTER PAGE</td>
<td>3¼” wide x 4¼” tall</td>
<td>$ 80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALF PAGE</td>
<td>6¼” wide x 4¼” tall</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FULL PAGE</td>
<td>6¼” wide x 4¼” tall</td>
<td>$140.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRAND TOTAL $_______

GENERAL INFORMATION AND SUBMISSION/PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

COMPANY LOGO/AD SUBMISSION: Please email company logo and/or ad (BLACK/WHITE, PORTRAIT ORIENTATION) in one of the following formats: .jpg, .gif, or .pdf for conference publications to ora@bex.net.

PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS/SUBMISSION: See below for submission instructions or questions. Please indicate payment method below:

☐ Check Enclosed (make check payable to ORA)
☐ Payment via Credit Card (PayPal)
☐ Request Invoice Prior to Sending Payment

Purchase Order # if available: _________________________

General Questions? Payment/Billing Questions?

Contact Vickie Leeming, ORA Home Office, at ora@bex.net or call (419) 841-8889

Please submit your completed form with your payment to:
ORA Spring 2016 Training Seminar; Attn: Vickie Leeming
6111 Chaney Drive, Toledo, OH 43615
or via Fax at: (419) 843-2243 or via email at: ora@bex.net
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

AMERICAN BOARD OF VOCATIONAL EXPERTS (ABVE)

WWW.ABVE.NET [NEW WEB FORMAT]

ABVE is a professional credentialing body established as a not-for-profit organization and represents both the private and the public sectors. Its Diplomates and Fellows have academic preparation in several disciplines (rehabilitation, psychology, economics and various aligned disciplines) and in assessment, counseling and consulting. Prior to completion of the certification process, professionals may be associate or student members of ABVE. ABVE was founded in 1980 to preserve the integrity, standards, ethics, and uniqueness of vocational experts. As litigation continues to proliferate, the need for qualified vocational experts becomes greater every day.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE: April 8-10, 2016 at the Pinnacle Hotel Vancouver Harbourfront, Vancouver, BC

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Phone: (831) 464-4890; Fax: (831) 576-1417
Email: abve@abve.net
3121 Park Avenue, Suite C, Soquel, CA 95073

FILING ABVE CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE [New]:
Send your copy to ABVE via email, fax, or mail.

COMMISSION FOR CASE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION

WWW.CCMCERTIFICATION.ORG

CCMC® is the first and largest nationally accredited organization that certifies case managers. It is a nonprofit, volunteer organization that oversees the process of case manager certification. The CCM® is the first nationally accredited case manager credential, supporting the case management industry.

UPCOMING EXAM: April 2016 ~ Window Open NOW!

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Phone: (856) 380-6836 ~ Fax: (856) 439-0525
Email: pace@ccmccertification.org
1120 Route 73, Suite 200, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

FILING YOUR CCMC CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE:
Go to https://ccmc certification.org/ccmc-dashboard

CDMS® provides certification and recertification to ensure the competence of those who provide disability management services. The CDMS Commission offers the only independent, nationally accredited program that certifies disability management specialists and promotes competence, high professional standards, and ethical practice in the field for those involved in a variety of practice disciplines, including rehabilitation counseling, nursing, safety, risk management, and HR.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Phone: (847) 375-6380 ~ Fax: (847) 375-6379
Email: info@cdms.org
8735 West Higgins Road, Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60631

FILING CDMS CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE [NEW]:
Got to www.cdms.org and click on LOGIN. Have your Certificate of Attendance handy in order to complete the “Recertification Application” questions with the information contained on your Certificate. Retain your Certificate should CDMS require it for documentation.

ORA provides continuing education units through our conferences/seminar for any individual employed by a County Board in a position that includes directly providing, or supervising persons who directly provide, services or instruction to or on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities.

GOOD NEWS: DODD now gives partial credit! So attendees can now get credit for the actual hours of attendance!

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Phone: 1-800-617-6733
Email: provider.certification@dodd.ohio.gov
30 East Broad Street, 13th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215

FILING YOUR DD CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE:
Please note DODD assigns an individual approval number for each session which is reflected on your Certificate of Attendance. Please retain a copy of this form and submit a copy to your Supervisor at your local DD Board (per 2014 State rule changes). This form is for pre-approval by DD only and will only be added to your certification file with them.
The designation of Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) is an indication of an advanced level of specialized education and training, an adherence to rigid standards of ethical practice, and an ongoing commitment to lifelong learning. Rehabilitation counselors who have earned the CRC designation possess a marketable and valued credential that distinguishes them from other counseling professionals. CRC certification also establishes a recognizable point of differentiation with employers and clients that promotes consumer confidence and protection in the workplace.

CHECK OUT THESE CRC VIDEOS
“CRC Certification Makes a Difference”
“The Art of Rehabilitation Counseling”

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Phone: (847) 944-1325; Fax: (847) 944-1346
Email: info@crccertification.com
1699 E. Woodfield Rd., Ste. 300, Schaumburg, IL 60173

FILING CRCC CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE:
To your clock hours added to your certification file, log on to your profile on the CRCC website. Under Certificants click on the link to ‘add pre-approved continuing education program’ then click ‘Add CE Pre-Approved.’ Please scan and upload the document (please note, ORA sends its Certificate of Attendance already in PDF format) or send a copy of the form to CRCC, 1699 E. Woodfield Road, Suite 300, Schaumburg, IL 60173. It is best to submit this documentation as activities are completed or at least on an annual basis.

EARN VALUABLE CRC CREDITS BY VOLUNTEERING WITH YOUR ORA LOCAL CHAPTER OR DIVISION

CRCC recognizes the valuable contribution of those who put together our conferences, lobby our politicians, and work to keep our profession strong. Service to a professional rehabilitation counseling membership organization falls under “PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.” A maximum of 50 hours (one hour credit for each hour served) is allowed within your five year renewal cycle. Refer to the Criteria for Certification Renewal and Continuing Education Document (see link above).
Ohio Rehabilitation Association

From the ORA Board

Wishing you and yours a joyful holiday season and Happy New Year!