



OPSU/SOEA Newsletter, Sp 06

Officers:

President: Tracy Glover

Vice President: Brittany Tedder

Secretary: Bandy Barton

Treasurer: Annette Dixon

Faculty Advisor:

Mr. Jerry Mihelic

New Officers

Next years new officers for SOEA will be Annette Dixon, President; Tracy Glover, Vice President; Lindsey Sims, Secretary; and Randa Salisbury, Treasurer. Next year is already setting up to be an exciting year with lots of activities. A big thank you goes out to this year's officers Tracy Glover, Brittany Tedder, Bandy Barton, and Annette Dixon. The 2005/2006 school year saw many projects and activities completed.

Service Project: "Out Reach to Teach"

OPSU sent six members and one advisor to the state "Out Reach to Teach" project. Tracy Glover, Bandy Barton, Staci Dillahunt, Bri Courkamp, Brenna McDow, and Katie Campbell Robison all spent a Saturday in March doing an "extreme makeover" on Westwood Elementary School in Oklahoma City. The team painted classrooms, painted murals, painted a map of the US, and painted 4 Square on the playground. Let's just say they painted. There was also a crew that cleaned the playground of weeds. Mr. Mihelic has pictures if you would like to stop by his office to see them.

This project has inspired OPSU group to take on a project locally. A grant is being written to provide funds for an "Out Reach to Teach" project here in Goodwell. Tracy Glover and Mr. Mihelic have met with the Goodwell School Board about various projects for this makeover. Currently the plan is for our members along with Goodwell community to converge on the school sometime in the spring of 2007. Be on the look out for more information.

Members Help Monitor State Testing

In April, SOEA members helped Goodwell Public Schools to monitor state testing. According to Goodwell School Test Coordinator Sarah Green, this was a great help to the school and made her job so much easier this year. In the past, Goodwell had to hire subs and get community volunteers to come in for this monitoring which was a huge task for Mrs. Green. The principal and staff at Goodwell Public School truly appreciated the students who came to help for the four days of testing.

State OEA Representatives Attend Chapter Meeting

Floyd Cox and Debby Stine of OEA attend the OPSU/SOEA meeting here in March. The OEA representatives had very kind words to say about all the activities and plans of the local chapter. They were very impressed with the plans for the future and the test monitoring project. They also thank us for the wonderful pizza from the 54 Gas and Go.

SOEA Banquet Planned/ Donations Received

The SOEA banquet for graduating education majors will be held in the BSU at 11:30 on May 19th. Through the efforts of member Randa Salisbury, many items and money was donated to help make this a success. Graduates will receive a wonderful meal and a gifts that they can use in their first year of teaching. Donations were received from the following companies: Howard Drilling; Bennett Construction; First Security Bank; Ramon & Bennett Roustabout; M&M Consultants; The Herald Democrat; Timothy J. Becker, DDS; Beaver Oil Co; McFarland Exploration Co; Brown's Auction Service; The Bank of Beaver City; Downing's Food Pride; all of Beaver, Oklahoma, as well as Kim's Ribs; Rick Martinez; United Food Store of Guymon. A special thank you needs to go out to these people and business. Please stop by and let them know how much we appreciate them.

Pioneer Day Parade

Members and local students from public schools rode on the SOEA float for the pioneer day parade. Candy and easers were given out (thrown) during the parade. Thanks to Junior Sandoval for loaning a school bus for the parade.

Benefits of Membership/ Who Can Join

It is a common misconception that one needs to be accepted into the Education Program to join SOEA. Anyone interested in becoming an educator and is a student at OPSU may join OPSU/SOEA. The benefits of joining OPSU/SOEA are numerous. There is leadership training, professional workshops, publications, technical support, first year teacher-student dues rebate, and legal services. The first year teacher-student rebates gives people who teach in Oklahoma a \$30 per year rebate for every year that he or she belonged to SOEA, for up to four years. This means up to \$120 off the first year's dues to OEA once the teacher is employed in Oklahoma. The legal services give members a 1 million dollar professional liability coverage. One last benefit to joining SOEA is that members get to hang out with a bunch of people that like to have fun. You can join for only \$30.00 a year. To join, contact any SOEA officer or stop by Mr. Mihelic's office in Hamilton Hall 122.

