

NEWSLETTER

for professionals of the mind

September, 2000

editor: Linda McKean Logan

Dateline Columbus . . .

William J. Muthig
Ohio Department of Education

In This Issue

Dateline Columbus
.....page 1

Executive Director's
Message
.....pages 2-3

President's Message
.....page 4

"Curriculum Standards"
.....page 5

OCSS Conference Info
.....pages 6-7

Great Lakes Conference
.....pages 8-10

Announcements
.....page 11

Writing to Legislators
.....page 12

Armonk Scholars
Leadership Conference
.....page 13

OCLRE Updates
.....pages 14-15

Regional
Representatives
.....page 16

Announcements and
Opportunities
.....pages 17-19

New Commission for Student Success

The Governor's Commission for Student Success has been meeting over the summer months. It was created with the following purposes:

- * to recommend rigorous academic expectations and assessments;
- * to propose actions to guarantee that the public understands the academic expectations;
- * to recommend ways to hold adults and students responsible for achieving better results; and
- * to suggest a "structure" that schools need to meet the expectations.

The commission has 33 members.

They represent educators, parents, business and community leaders, and public officials. The members have been hearing a variety of presentations on what Ohio and other states have been doing to increase academic achievement.

The commission's recommendations are due before the end of this year. For more information call Lisa A. Gray, project manager, at (614)995-5442 or e-mail her at sdea_gcoss@ode.state.oh.us.

HSGQE Information to be Released

Revised editions of the High School Graduation Qualifying Examination (HSGQE) Information Guides were

distributed at the Ohio Department of Education's Fall Regional Assessment Meetings. Copies can be obtained by calling the department's Assessment Center at (614) 466-0223.

HSGQE Practice Tests will be distributed later this fall. Resource Manuals, containing samples of scored student responses, will also be distributed later this fall.

2000-2001 Proficiency Testing Dates (Regular Administrations)

October 23-27, 2000	Ninth Grade
February 5-9, 2001	Twelfth Grade
March 5-9, 2001	Ninth Grade
March 12-16, 2001	Fourth and Sixth Grades

Personnel Changes at ODE

Frank Schiraldi, former social studies consultant and more recently the Associate Director with the Office of Urban Education, has retired from the Ohio Department of Education. Frank played a critical role in many departmental initiatives and helped to develop Social Studies: Ohio's Model Competency-Based Program.

E. Roger Trent, Executive Director for Assessment and School Standards, has announced he will retire at the end of

continued on page .

Message from the Executive Director

Eleanor Yunghans

Executive Director
Eleanor Yunghans
President
Tom Shreve
Vide-President
Dan Langen
Past-President
Jim Lane
Treasurer
Abbejean Kehler
Secretary
Joan Smith

At the summer meeting of the OCSS Executive Board, Eleanor Yunghans was named the new Executive Director. Eleanor retired this past June after 28 years in the Perkins Local School District in Sandusky. Along with her service on the OCSS Executive Board for the past 13 years, Eleanor has been recognized by many organizations for her outstanding contributions to social studies education. Her honors include: OCSS Middle School Teacher of the Year, 1990; Erie County Teacher of the Year, 1990; Kappan of the Year, Firelands Branch, 1994; and History Day Teacher of Merit, 1994. Eleanor received her undergraduate education at Bowling Green State University and has two Master's degrees; one from Bowling Green and one from Ohio University.

The 2000 National Council for the Social Studies Summer Leadership Institute was held in Washington, D. C., from July 13-15. Representing OCSS were Tom Shreve, Dan Langen, Joan Smith, Kim Hess, and myself. We met Susan Griffin, NCSS Executive Director, Susan Adler, NCSS President, and many others with whom we exchanged ideas.

Thursday, July 13, was a busy day for us. In the morning we received a legislative briefing from Janet Lieberman, NCSS Director of Communications and Government Relations. Janet briefed us on our congressional visits, which were scheduled for the afternoon. With Congress debating the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, NCSS wanted us to specifically urge our senators and representatives to place priority on professional development for social studies teachers. Under current law, the Eisenhower Professional Development Program must devote the first \$250 million of its appropriation to professional development for math and science teachers. This year \$85 million was available for professional development in all other areas.

While agreeing that math and science education is important to America's

technological and economic health, NCSS "asserts that social studies proficiency is imperative to ensuring the health of America as a society and a democracy. Like math and science teachers, our nation's social studies teachers must maintain knowledge of their subject areas, keep up with new developments and technologies and enhance their teaching skills."

The other issue that NCSS wanted us to discuss with our representatives was specifically dedicating funds for professional development. There is a movement in Congress to grant states and local education agencies federal funds for professional development but not requiring these agencies to do so.

Professional development is necessary so that educators may advance understanding of their subject matter and strengthen their teaching practices. NCSS further urges that these federal professional development programs for teachers be funded at levels necessary to meet the needs of all social studies teachers.

The bill that deals with professional development was the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Bill (HR 4577). The general

feeling about this bill is that Clinton will veto it because he is interested in class size and building new facilities for schools. A conference committee is presently trying to resolve differences of opinion between the House and Senate. There is a big surplus coming up in the federal budget. It would be possible to have a 15% increase in educational funding.

Current policy about education is contained in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and in the K-12 federal grant programs (Title I, etc.). Funding for these acts ends this year.

Another act that has already passed in the House is the Teacher Empowerment Act (HR 1995). This act is not necessarily devoted to professional development. In the Senate, a similar bill is still sitting in committee. The Senate bill combines recruitment and professional development.

Currently the Eisenhower funds within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act are used for professional development. Recently lobbyists for history education have been able to convince Congress to add \$50 million devoted exclusively for history education to the Eisenhower funding.

After the briefing, Tom Shreve, Joan Smith, Kim Hess, and I went to visit Capitol Hill. We met with Senators Mike DeWine's and George Voinovich's Educational Liaisons. They were very receptive to our ideas, but also spent time explaining to us their perspective of these issues.

After visiting our senate educational liaisons, we individually met with our district representatives. I met with Paul Gilmor. I was surprised to find a former student interning in this office. Rep. Gilmor was very cordial, but had already made up his mind about professional development for teachers.

In the evening, there was a reception for all the state council

representatives. The main topic of conversation was our congressional visits. Most of us had positive experiences and felt we had represented the issue of professional development and social studies education very well.

Our second day, the morning session was a presentation on "Public Relations for Social Studies," by Lew Armistead, LA Communications. His presentation was focused on a campaign to create awareness of the importance of social studies education. We received an extensive handout that featured PR keys to success.

In the afternoon Lynda Wagner, Chair of NCSS HOD Steering Committee, and Ann Kennedy, Chair NCSS Resolutions Committee, spoke about resolutions and NCSS Platform Development. Kim Kozbial-Hess (Ohio Council) is also the co-chair of the NCSS HOD Steering Committee. Lynda and Ann explained that a resolution may come from any NCSS member, councils and affiliates, summer leadership participants, the steering committee, other House committees, NCSS Committees, and from the floor of the House of Delegates.

Resolutions are also divided into five categories. These are current or future business operations of NCSS and its budget, the nature of social studies education, issues of history and social science inquiry, social and political issues which are of concern to teachers but do not have a direct impact on the nature of social studies education, and those of courtesy.

After Lynda and Ann's presentation, we were divided into groups and worked on writing resolutions. Some of these resolutions will be presented at the NCSS House of Delegates in November. The Ohio Council has been invited to sponsor resolutions.

That evening, Farmers Insurance hosted a dinner for the council representatives and we

continued on page 4

Message from the President

Tom Shreve, Orange High School

Calendar of Upcoming
Events
Executive Board meeting
.....Sept 30
Newsletter deadline
.....Nov. 3
NCSS in San Antonio,
.....Nov 17-18
OCSS Annual Meeting
.....March 30-
31, 2001 (see pages 6-7
for more information)

The 200-2001 school year brings a host of changes to Ohio's social studies professionals. Sure, the official start of the 21st century will occur on January 1, but for those of us in the social studies it ushers in a year in which no proficiency test will be given to all students in the 9th (8th) grade.

Instead, many of us have been working over the summer to realign our curricula with the Ohio Model Social Studies Curriculum, for this year's 8th grade students will be required to pass the new HSGQE test when they are second semester sophomores.

As a high school teacher, I met several times this summer with two other members of our department to discuss how we should alter a series of courses that has served us well for many years. Our students have been accepted into a variety of colleges and universities and have reported that they felt well-prepared for higher level work in the social sciences; and that is what's frustrating. I'm sure it is a feeling many of you have experienced as well, a loss of control over what you teach.

So, how can OCSS help you? First, OCSS is your voice with the Ohio Department of Education. Bill Muthig and Donna Nesbitt have done a great job of

keeping us informed of directives from the legislature and the state superintendent. Several members of the OCSS Executive Board either are serving, or have served, on various committees dealing with the HSGQE. We have a network of district representatives across the state who are available to answer your questions and work with you to deal with the consequences of the HSGQE. Please feel free to call upon these people. Their job is to work with you to make this transition to the HSGQE as easy as possible. Also, get your social studies colleagues to join OCSS. The maxim, 'strength in numbers' is true. Our voice grows as our membership increases. If you teach something other than grades 7-10, don't fret. The 12th grade test is being reworked and a committee is working on revisions to the Ohio Model. All of us, k-university are affected.

Finally, attend the annual conference. Present a session which can help your social studies colleagues to revise their curricula and cope with the new requirements. Your attendance shows your commitment to the profession. Walk the talk!

Dateline Columbus

continued from page 1

December. He has overseen the development and implementation of the proficiency testing program.

Dan Good, formerly with the Worthington Public Schools, is the new Director of the Office of Curriculum and Instruction.

Executive Director

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received a brief explanation of the American Promise Program.

Our last day in Washington was Saturday, July 15. Tom Shreve attended a session on "Membership-14 Steps to Building a Better Membership Development Program." Susan Griffin presented this program, which focused on improving state and local council memberships.

Designing “Curriculum Standards” at the State Level

William J. Muthig

Governor Bob Taft and Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Tave-Zelman have taken the position that Ohio does not have “mandated” academic content standards. While Ohio has had curriculum models and Proficiency Test outcomes/competencies, it has not had “curriculum standards” that districts have been obligated to implement. The proposed academic content standards would outline what students should know and be able to do. [More on Dr. Zelman’s thoughts can be found in the interview with Tim Connell published in the current OCSS Review.]

Two groups have been doing work that will set the stage for the development of academic content standards. The Joint Council Project of the Ohio Board of Regents and the State Board of Education has been developing “exit expectations” for high school students over the past year. The Governor’s Commission for Student Success has been meeting since April and examining issues related to state standards, assessments, and accountability issues (see the “Dateline Columbus . . .” column on page 1). The commission’s announced intent is to recommend “rigorous academic expectations”. Work on academic standards will utilize the conclusions of these two groups.

The process to develop academic content standards has begun in the curricular areas of mathematics and language arts. Work in the areas of social studies, science, and technology is tentatively scheduled to begin this fall.

Plans call for a three-step process in developing these standards. In Step I, a

standards-writing team would propose a set of standards. These draft standards would be reviewed by educators in Ohio and invited national reviewers. Following any revisions by the standards-writing team, the State Board would consider the standards and invite public comment.

Step II would see final revisions made to the standards and adoption by the State Board. Following adoption, curriculum guides would be created and staff development conducted on the implementation of the standards. Then the new standards and curriculum would be ready for implementation.

Step III would involve the identification by the State Board of Education of the standards which would be the basis for assessments. This would be followed by new test development and the identification of the first class to be held accountable under the new standards.

The new academic content standards could establish new directions for social studies education in Ohio. The call from the Governor’s Commission for Student Success is for high expectations that are clear and that ensure all students master subject matter. What local districts do in the realms of curriculum and instruction will be impacted by “mandated” academic content standards.

For more information about the development of content standards, contact the Ohio Department of Education, Center for Curriculum and Assessment at 1-877-644-6338. Ask for the Office of Curriculum and Instruction.

Announcing the OCSS Annual Conference

March 30 - April 1, 2001

2001: A Social Studies Odyssey

Be prepared for the 21st century classroom! Make plans to attend the 2001 OCSS Annual Conference. Here's what you can expect:

- * Over 60 break out session, focused at specific grade levels and course content.
- * pre-conference session focused on special topics such as the 10th grade HSGQE
- * An exciting keynote address and speakers at the Friday and Saturday meal functions.
- * Opportunities to meet other social studies professionals and provide input at the grade level networking sessions.
- * Free classroom materials and classroom tested lessons you can use when you return home.
- * Informal receptions and social events.
- * Exhibits by dozens of publishers and civic organizations.

ACT NOW!

Use the information below to submit your professional day(s) request now - before your school fund runs out or substitute teachers are all scheduled. The actual conference registration form will be mailed to you in January.

Conference Registration Rates:	member	non-member	retired
Pre-registration Discount Package (including meals)	\$110	\$125	\$100
Pre-registration-conference only	\$70	\$85	\$60
Saturday only	\$35	\$45	\$30
Pre-conference rates (Thursday)	\$15 per session		

Location

The Clarion Hotel-Worthington (just north of Columbus)
7007 North High Street
Worthington, OH 43085
ph: 614.436.0700 fx: 614.436.1208

Why not present a session?

Do you have a unique lesson plan or teaching strategy which has been effective for you? Why not share it with other social studies teachers at the 2001 Annual Conference? It's easy to do! Just complete the proposal form on page ?? and send it to Dan Langen.

visit the OCSS web page at www.ocss.org for more information!

**The Minnesota Council for the Social Studies
announces**

The 2001 NCSS Great Lakes Regional Conference

2001: A Social Studies Odyssey

April 19-21, 2001

Radisson South in Bloomington, Minnesota

The sessions and workshops will include the following topics:

- * **Social studies in the new millennium**
- * **The seven social studies disciplines**
- * **Social studies in the elementary grades: integration in the curriculum**
- * **Standards and assessments: local, state and national**
- * **Diversity and equity**
- * **Environmentalism and ecology**
- * **Student and scholarly research in the social studies**
- * **Teacher preparation and staff development in the social studies**
- * **Independence and Interdependence**
- * **Other related topics of interest**

If you need further information, contact Mary Cunningham at 651.698.5694 or e-mail at mcunningham2@uswest.net

Also, consider presenting at the NCSS Great Lakes Regional Conference. the presenter form for this conference is on the following pages.

President's Facts Chart

Sixteen facts about each of 42 presidents of the United States are included in a 24"x36" full color chart.

Although 19 of the presidents were lawyers before they were elected to the top post, one was in the haberdashery business. The shortest president was 5'4" and the tallest: 6'4". Twenty presidents were Republicans, while one represented no party.

Unframed charts are \$49.50 plus \$7.50 s/h. For quantities of 25 or more, call 1.800.780.4822 e-mail hvac@arlin-schneider.com To order, visit the web page at www.historyoruspresidents.com

Geography Bee

October 15 is the deadline for registration in the *National Geographic* Bee. The contest is for all 4-8th graders. Only school principals can register their schools.

For more information, contact: Mary Lee Elden, National Geographic Bee, National Geographic Society, 1145 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036 or on-line at www.nationalgeographic.com

Institute of Peace Contest

Students in grades 9-12 can win scholarships and a trip to Washington, D.C. and explore complex issues in international peace and conflict resolution in the national Peace Essay Contest.

Three national winners will receive college scholarships of \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$2,500. Fifty-three students will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and an all expenses trip to Washington D.C. for the week long awards program in June 2001.

The 2000-2001 essay question asks students to consider the rise of violent civil wars and examine some of the peace settlements that were negotiated. Students must choose two civil conflicts in which outsiders or "third parties" intervened, analyze the effectiveness of their involvement, and give recommendations for outside interventions in the future.

Request a contest guidebook, including lesson plans and classroom activities.

The Institute of Peace can be reached at 202.429.3854 or on the web at www.usip.org/et.html or e-mail essay_contest@usip.org

**check us out on the web:
www.ocss.org**

Tips for Writing to Legislators

HELPFUL LINKS:

State of Ohio Frontpage
www.ohio.gov

Legislative Directory
(search for your representative by ZIP code, name, committee, or party):
<http://congress.nw.dc.us/cgi-bin/stateindex.pl?dir=nea&state=oh>

Further information on proficiency test forums:
<http://www.ohea.org/forums.htm>

One of the goals of social studies is teaching students to become active and involved citizens in government. Arguably one of the best ways to reach this goal is to directly communicate with legislators regarding issues that are important to us or students.

Ohio legislators generally believe that for every one letter they receive, it represents the opinion of about 40 people in their district.

Knowing how to effectively communicate your opinion is important. For more effective communication with your legislator, follow these guidelines:

* Individually written letters, rather than mass generated form letters, make a greater impression on your legislator. Type your name, address, and phone number at the top of the letter.

* Most state legislatures are only in session part of the year. When the legislature is out of session, it may be more effective to send your letter to your legislator's district office.

Addressing correspondence

To an Ohio State Senator:

The Honorable (Full Name)
Statehouse (Room Number)
Ohio Senate
Columbus, OH 43266

Dear Senator (Last Name),

To a State Representative:

The Honorable (Full Name)
(Office Building), (Room Number)
Ohio House of Representatives
Columbus, OH 43266

Dear Representative (Last Name),

* Be specific. Your purpose for writing should be stated in the first paragraph of the letter. If your letter pertains to a specific piece of legislation, be sure to identify its full name and number, e.g. House Bill: HB _____, Senate Bill: SB _____. Try to send your letter while the issue is still alive.

* State your position. Explain why you support or oppose this particular issue. Keep in mind that local examples concerning the impact of this legislation are very powerful. Be courteous and to the point, keeping your letter focused on one issue.

* Ask for a response. Indicate to your legislator that you would appreciate a reply containing his/her position on the issue. "Sincerely yours" is a proper way to conclude your letter.

* Follow up. If you agree with your legislator's vote, take the time to let him/her know that. Similarly, if you disagree with his or her vote, inform your legislator.

(Source: Ohio Education Association)

Ohio Armonk Scholars Leadership Conference

This summer a group of fourteen Ohio social studies educators were chosen to participate in a study trip to Germany. The trip was sponsored by the Armonk Institute of New York and their partner organization in Germany, Atlantik Brücke.

The tour was a valuable opportunity for an in-depth study of not only contemporary Germany, but the evolving nature of the European Union. The group visited schools, museums, Holocaust memorials, government ministries, and centers of finance. It was an interesting time to visit, since many of the government ministries have just moved from Bonn to Berlin. Group members had an opportunity to meet the American ambassador to Germany at the Aspen Institute Fourth of July celebration and a chance to visit the new amazing dome on the restored Reichstag building. Discussions were held with members of the various political parties, newspaper editors, business people, and government officials. The Ohio educators were able to deepen their knowledge on so many topics through access to experts in each area.

The Armonk Scholars are now in the process of using the knowledge to write lesson plans focused on addressing the competencies related to the new High School Graduation Qualifying Examination. Lesson topics include the European Union, NATO, the role of the government in the economy, reunification, minority issues, and other content related to Germany in the Post World War II era. These lessons will be edited and field tested during the 2000-2001 school year. When they are completed they will be a practical resource for social studies teachers throughout Ohio.

The Great Lakes Regional Leadership Conference was held on July 28-29, 2000, at the Radisson South Hotel, Bloomington, Minnesota. This will also be the site of the Great Lakes Regional Conference which will be from April 19 to April 21, 2001.

Dan Langen, Vice president of OCSS, and Eleanor Yunghans, Executive Director, attended; which was chaired by Tom Schmid, Executive Director of the Minnesota Council of the Social Studies. The agenda for this meeting included a welcome by Jerry Benson, Minnesota Council President. There were also reports from the Michigan Council about the 2000 Great Lakes Conference and from the Minnesota Council about the 2001 Great Lakes Conference, "2001: Social Studies Odyssey."

Rick Theisen, Immediate Past President of NCSS (and from Minnesota), gave an NCSS update. One big change is that the number of presentations will be cut in half. It was decided to emphasize quality rather than quantity. He also reported that the international conference in Calgary, Canada had a \$30,000 debt and NCSS was considering not doing that type of conference again. NCSS is also considering doing a joint conference with the National Middle School Association.

Dan and Eleanor also heard reports from the states about the status of Social Studies instruction, council programs, conferences, membership, finances, publications, and professional concerns. We were most impressed with the Michigan Council which has 3200 members and pays an executive director and a business manager to run their organization.

The Minnesota Council is planning an exciting conference and hoping that many of us will attend.

OCLRE Updates

What is Unconstitutional Search and Seizure?

Mock Trial Information

The Ohio Mock Trial, conducted by the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE), will hold district competitions in 25 county courthouses around the state on Friday, February 16, with the winners going to the state competition in Columbus, March 8-10. The winning team of the state competition, judged by the Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, will go to the national competition in Omaha, Nebraska in May. There's still time to enter a team; materials will be distributed at the OCLRE Law and Citizenship Conference October 29-30 at the Holiday Inn Worthington.

This year's case concerns the issues of profiling, traffic stops, and what constitutes a legal search at a traffic stop. When a car full of students is stopped at a sobriety checkpoint after a baseball game, the police discover marijuana in a backpack in the car. Did the police have cause to search the students' possessions and confiscate what they found? Was this car and its occupants singled out for the traffic stop?

For more information about getting your students involved, call Betsy McNabb, Ohio Mock Trial Program Coordinator, at OCLRE, (614) 485-3504 or toll-free (877-485-3510) or e-mail bmcnabb@ocle.org

OCLRE Law and Citizenship Conference Features Integrated Curriculum, New Classroom Content, Technology

As Ohio prepares to celebrate its bicentennial, the Ohio Center for Law-Related Education (OCLRE) will look through the lens of history's 10th Anniversary Law and Citizenship Conference. Presenters will look back to

see how laws and government affected our lives 200 years ago and forward to see what citizenship education means in the Internet age.

The conference is set for Sunday and Monday, October 29 -30, 2000, at the Holiday Inn Worthington (just north of Columbus).

Sessions include:

- * Building Safe Schools from the Inside Out
- * Literature-Based Middle-School Mock Trial
- * "Coach, is It Okay to Pray for a Home Run?"
- * Violence Prevention Outcomes in Civic Education
- * Storytelling: The Educational Tool
- * History for Citizenship: Conceptually Linking Past and Contemporary Policy Issues
- * Classroom Management for Project-Based Learning
- * Street Law in Cyberspace
- * Conflict Management with the Brain in Mind (a software program for elementary school)

At the Monday luncheon, Eric Scites, storyteller, historian will present a retrospective on law and justice in the 18th century. In addition, awards for contributions to law-related education and for outstanding law-related lesson plans will be presented.

On Monday afternoon, a live replay of their U.S. Supreme court argument pits the Attorney General against the ACLU as they argue the constitutionality of the state motto, "With God, All Things Are Possible."

Conference registration is \$119/day or \$199 for Sunday and Monday, and includes all sessions, food, handouts, certificates for portfolio documentation,

For more information about the OCLRE or to find out more about their programs, check out their web page at: www.ocle.org

and Mock Trial materials. To register, see www.oclre.org or call OCLRE at (614) 485-3510 or (toll-free) 877-485-3510 for a complete program and registration form.

OCLRE Offers Free Youth for Justice Teacher Workshop

The OCLRE will offer a free workshop on November 15 in Columbus for middle-school teachers interested in conducting a Youth for Justice project in their schools.

Youth for Justice is a locally designed, planned, and implemented program that is part of a national effort to promote safe and drug-free schools and communities. In Ohio, students in grades 5-8 spend several months researching problems in their communities, then design solutions and action steps.

Teams may be selected to participate in a Summit in Columbus on April 4, 2001, where the students present their research findings, recommendations, and implementation programs to their peers, legislators, state elected officials, and law enforcement officials. Student teams are encouraged to make additional presentations in their communities and begin implementation of their solutions. The skills students learn by participating in Youth for Justice correlate with those tested by the citizenship, reading, writing, and math sections of the 6th, 9th, and proposed 10th grade Ohio proficiency tests.

There is no cost to participate in Youth for Justice, and special grant funding from the Ohio State Bar Foundation offers some reimbursements for travel and substitute pay for teachers. To find out more about Youth for Justice, call Rhonda Mallory at OCLRE, (614) 485-3509 or (toll-free) (877) 485-3510, or e-mail rmallory@oclre.org

We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution State Competition

The Ohio Center for Law-Related Education will host the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution state high school mock Congressional hearings at the Statehouse, Friday, January 26, 2001. We the People . . . helps students learn the history and principles of our constitutional government. The program focuses on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, fostering civic competence and responsibility. The curriculum is organized on levels for elementary, middle, and high school students, with free classroom sets of textbooks and teacher materials available for each level. High school classes can still plan to participate in a statewide mock Congressional hearing from which the winner advances to the national finals in Washington, D.C.

Free classroom sets of We the People . . . textbooks and high school competition registration materials are available through your Congressional District Coordinator. For more information, please contact Jared Reitz at OCLRE, 614-485-3506 or 877-485-3510, or e-mail jreitz@oclre.org.

Calendar of Events—2000-2001

October 29-30, 2000	Law and Citizenship Conference
November 15, 2000	Youth for Justice Training
January 26, 2001	We the People State Competition
February 16, 2001	Ohio Mock Trial District Competitions
March 8-10, 2001	Ohio Mock Trial State Competition
April 4, 2001	Ohio Youth for Justice Summit
May 18, 2001	We the People Summer Institute (teachers)

Regional Representatives

Have a great idea that you want to share? Want to get more involved in your district or with OCSS? Have a question? Contact your regional representative!



Region 1

Matt Stowell

614.761.5820

Delaware
Franklin
Licking
Madison
Pickaway
Union

Region 2

David Balzer

419.537.1663

Defiance
Fulton
Henry
Lucas
Williams
Wood
Erie
Ottawa
Sandusky

Region 3

Chad Doll

419.394.4011

Allen
Auglaize
Hancock
Hardin
Mercer
Paulding
Putnum
Van Wert

Region 4

Jan Swartzbaugh

937.854.6369

Champaign
Clark
Darke
Greene
Logan
Miami
Montgomery
Preble
Shelby

Region 5

Clyde Chapman

513.771.7462

Brown
Butler
Clermont
Clinton
Fayette
Hamilton
Highland
Warren

Region 6

Robin Hren

614.393.5900

Crawford
Huron
Knox
Marion
Morrow
Richland
Seneca
Wyandot

Region 7

Adams

Gallia

Jackson

Lawrence

Pike

Ross

Scioto

Region 8

Rob Grossman

440.899.5800

Ashtabula
Cuyahoga
Geauga
Lake
Lorain

Region 9

Ashland

Holmes

Medina

Portage

Stark

Summit

Wayne

Region 10

Bob Jenkins

740.453.0335

Belmont
Carroll
Coshocton
Guernsey
Harrison
Jefferson
Muskingum
Noble
Tuscarawas

Region 11

Jeanne Rice

740.374.6510

Athens
Fairfield
Hocking
Meigs
Morgan
Perry
Vinton
Washington

Region 12

Ro Eckman

330.788.2481

Columbiana
Mahoning
Trumbull

Geography Awareness Week

Resources At Study
Web
Study Web is a
comprehensive research
resource indexing over
121,000 content rich
academic sites in
history, social studies
and general resources.
The address is:
[studyweb.com/links/
382.html](http://studyweb.com/links/382.html)

The great news about Geography Awareness Week (GAW 2000) is that the materials will be available through the internet at www.nationalgeographic.com/gaw. This means that the usual teacher resources have increased dramatically, and these resources will be easily available to teachers, parents, and students. GAW, sponsored by the National Geographic Society, is a time of the year when we are asked look at special issues through the lens of geography. The date for this year's celebration is November 12-19, 2000. The theme is "Here Today, Here Tomorrow - A Geographic Focus on Conservation."

The conservation issues addressed include: biodiversity, population, fresh water, and oceans. We are encouraged to look at these issues by exploring preservation, restoration, and sustainability or wise use of renewable and nonrenewable resources. The web site will offer lesson plans for grades k-12 as well as background material for teachers, parents, and students. It also will include hot links to related web sites. Although we are encouraged to celebrate GAW with special activities, the materials can be used any time during the year when they will fit into the curriculum.

If you have any questions concerning the GAW program, or you wish to schedule a geography related workshop, contact Kathy Lorenz, State Coordinator for GAW, 7931 Hoy Ct. Mt. Healthy, Ohio 45231 or e-mail mklorenz@worldnet.att.net, or call (513) 521-6202.

United Nations Day

The United Nations has designated the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace. The Culture of Peace will also serve as the theme for United Nations Day on October 24th. A "culture of peace" is an environment on the local, national, and international level in which such principles as human dignity, social justice, equity, the rule of law, good governance, and nonviolent conflict resolution are championed and respected. It also involves global efforts to both prevent the outbreak of conflict and to rebuild societies emerging from war.

The United Nations Association invites schools to celebrate United Nations Day on October 24th or in the preceding weeks. The United Nations Day 2000 Program Manual is available at WWW.unausa.org. The Columbus chapter of UNA-USA is planning an evening event for students at the Statehouse Atrium.

For more information contact Donna Nesbitt at donna.nesbitt@ode.state.oh.us

ZPG

Zero Population Growth

ZPG is a national, nonprofit membership organization which works to educate the public about the interconnectedness of population, resource use and the environment; and has produced *World Population*, a video that increases awareness of the earth's population. Starting at 1 A.D. and ending in 2030.

For more information about ZPG or the video, check out their web page at www.zpg.org/education or call 1.800.767.1956.

Congresslink Communicator

The OCSS Review is planning to have an article in 2001 issue that focuses on first-year teachers and their experiences. If you, or someone you know, is a first-year teacher, please contact Tim Connell. (connell@en.com)

CongressLink Communicator is published by The Dirksen Congressional Center. Each monthly issue contains news about CongressLink (www.congresslink.org) and feature articles written by teachers and students who use the site.

For those who are not familiar with CongressLink, it is a free educational web site for teachers and students. Over the past four years it has been in existence, the site has undergone many changes and will continue to do so to meet the needs of its users. CongressLink has a growing library of lesson plans and other resources to encourage a better understanding of Congress. The site also gives teachers the opportunity to communicate with their colleagues and with subject matter experts. And if you can't find what you are looking for on CongressLink, we have an annotated list of over seventy-five related web sites to help you.

COMMUNICATOR ARTICLE SUGGESTIONS

CongressLink Communicator welcomes article suggestions from our readers, although we cannot promise to print everything submitted. Articles focusing on CongressLink features, CongressLink uses, and related news are encouraged. Please include your name and school with your submission, and indicate if you would like to have that information included in the newsletter. Please send your article suggestions to Cindy Koepfel, ckoepfel@pekin.net.

WWII Memorial

The planned World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. is moving ahead. About \$90 million of the \$100 million has been raised for the Memorial which is to be located between the Lincoln and Washington Monuments on the National Mall. This information is from former Senator Bob Dole, the finance chairman of the Memorial project.

For more information about the Memorial, including how to make a donation, visit the web site at www.wwII Memorial.com or write to: National World War II Memorial, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201 or call 800.639.4992.

Japan Highlighted

Asia Video Reports: Japan is a four-part series with a video and a teacher's guide on Japanese housing, food, arts and crafts, and holidays and festivals.

Each 15 minute video contains several shorter segments that can be used individually or together. Each teacher's guide contains background essays, a video transcript and discussion guide, two lesson plans and a list of web resources.

Asia Video Reports was created and compiled at the Asian Educational Media Service in the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies at the Urbana - Champaign campus. Each individual title is \$25 or the set of four is \$90. For information, contact: social Science Education Consortium, PO Box 21270, Boulder, CO 80308-4270.

New Perspectives: Japan

Volunteerism
The National
Center for Education
statistics reported
recently that the number
of US high schools
offering students
community service
opportunities has grown
from 27% in 1984 to
more than 80% in 1999.
Saturday, Oct. 28, 2000,
is Make A Difference
Day. Encourage your
students to make a
difference in their own
community!

“New Perspectives: Japan” is a two-week study tour program that allows American students and teachers to step out of the classroom and into the culture of Japan.

Due to a generous grant from the United States-Japan foundation (USJF), teachers and their students (grade levels 6-11) who have not been to Japan and have not studied the language will now have a chance to experience something totally different, and, to become part of a group of Americans who help others understand Japan.

New Perspectives: Japan is a three-phase study program, centered on a two-week study tour to Japan. Six to eight school teams made up of four students and two teachers from the mid-west will approach the program as a group, sharing insight and reflections to enhance the overall experience. The grant from the USJF will cover all costs except lunches and souvenirs.

The study tour will take place in July 2001 but it really begins several

weeks before departure with weekly lessons to help introduce the students and teachers to the culture, people and history of Japan. Then, the selected schools will travel to Japan where they will visit a Japanese school, live with a host family and visit historical sites in Kyoto and Tokyo. Once the participants return home, they will work as a school group to assess their experiences

NP:J is in its fifth program year. In 2001, teachers and students who have not been teaching or studying Japanese will be able to participate. NP:J is administered by The Laurasian Institution with offices in Seattle, San Francisco, and Tokyo.

For more information, call toll-free 1-800-721-7474 or e-mail npj@npjapan.org. Check their web page for and application or for more information at www.npjapan.org. Or, write: The Laurasian Institution, New Perspective: Japan Program, 18505 Alderwood mall Parkway, Suite 1, PMB 409 Lynnwood, WA 98037-8013.

The deadline for applying for the program is October 2, 2000.

If you are interested in getting your social studies message to Ohio teachers, consider using our newsletter. The rates are:

Full page:	\$250.00
1/2 page:	135.00
1/4 page:	75.00
Classified:	.50 per word

We reserve the right to refuse advertising which is not appropriate. For further information, contact Linda McKean Logan at (614) 527-9079 or e-mail: llogan@gcfn.org

**Deadline for submissions for the next OCSS Newsletter:
November 3, 2000**

PLEASE JOIN US!

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New Renewal

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Position/Grade Level _____

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e-mail _____

**Send check payable to OCSS to: Linda McKean Logan
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