

We must act to preserve

By JAN BEALS
Director, District 8

The incessant actions of a minority group of members aimed at destroying OSEA and its executive director are deplorable.

Attack after unfounded attack has been aimed at our purpose and effectiveness. It is not only the executive director, the Board and the staff employees of OSEA who have been victimized by the self-serving viciousness, but thousands of members who are entitled to receive the full benefits of collective bargaining have been denied the services and effectiveness mandatory to accomplishment of our union's purpose as repeated attacks usurp our funds and strength.

We are on the brink of contract negotiations, and the pay, working conditions and job security of thousands of people are dependent on the collective bargaining ability of OSEA.

We must act to preserve our strength and regain what a vicious minority has denied the majority of thousands.

the OSEA news

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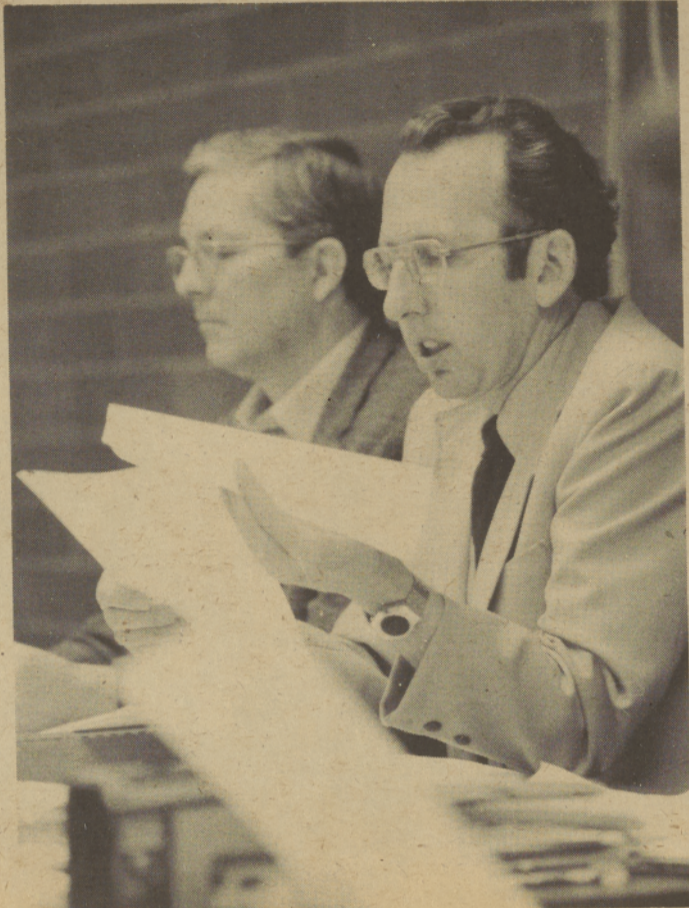
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About this issue

For just over a year OSEA has rocked with internal dissention. The Association's internal problems have been reported in the commercial media but there never has been a comprehensive report to the membership. This issue of The OSEA News is an attempt to correct that. Needless to say, in order to protect the rights of all of our members, some things must be left unsaid. However, in this issue, to the extent legally possible, we will outline what has occurred over the past year.



Dyer reads his statement; Deb Bolton listens.

Financial problem

Financially speaking, OSEA has a real problem.

Financial statements are issued to district directors quarterly and that is the best place to examine the specific facts and figures.

Our membership has declined over projected levels (See accompanying story). The chart on pages 4 and 5 of this issue shows you the decline that has occurred in just this past year.

To give you some indication of the degree of our financial trouble, the secretary-treasurer reported at the last Board

meeting that OSEA is spending money at a slower rate than it budgeted to; still the Association is losing ground.

OSEA's largest source of income (so large that by comparison all other sources are insignificant) are member's dues. The largest expenditure is service to members. Another large item is General Council.

Because of this situation, the fair share suit talked about elsewhere in this issue is a matter of considerable importance.

To start working toward a solution, the Board will hold a

special open meeting on Feb. 3. Any OSEA members with ideas should send them to members of the Association Operations Committee. For this purpose the committee has divided itself into committees.

- Concerning sources of income are Dori Beeks and Sandi Adams.

- Travel - Ralph Jull and Deb Bolton. Districts and chapters - Richard O. Young and Martha Brown.

The AO committee is meeting on Jan. 20 but will accept any suggestions up to and including the day of the Board meeting.



LeAnn Gilmer and Andy Bromeland in gallery.