



# Connections Newsletter

"keeping us all connected"

June 2011

## North Central State College Topic at OGA June Meeting

North Central State College President Don Plotts focused on Capital Campaign projects, training and remediation and preparation programs during his recent presentation to the Ontario Growth Association. The economic downturn has left both positive and negative impacts on the campus.

The college has seen a 25% increase in enrollment over the last 3 years, but this period also saw budget cuts that presented challenges for a campus with facilities that needs upgrading and expansion. Difficult decisions had to be made and layoffs became necessary.

At the same time, the need to better prepare students for college became apparent. A large number of high school students are not college ready and programs such as SPARC, Succeed & Prosper in Ashland and Richland County, allow the college to go out and work with these students to better prepare them. For example, recent math boot camps have resulted in significant state test score improvements.

Once the students have reached the

college level, keeping them in the classroom has proven to be a challenge as well. North Central State College continues to increase completion rates through remediation programs funded by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This program helps provide scholarships to students for expenditures that often are the cause of discontinued studies. These include items like day care and emergency car repairs.

As part of the Capital Campaign, Plotts highlighted the opening of Urban Center in downtown Mansfield. The initial hope was for 80 students, but the site is now at 170 students and growing. On campus, they continue to move things around to make room with out having to build buildings.

In his final comments, Plotts spoke about the hard hit workforce programs and the need to completely reinvent training programs to meet local need.

For more information on North Central State college, please visit [www.ncstatecollege.edu](http://www.ncstatecollege.edu).



Don Plotts and President Mark Weidemyre at the June Meeting

### OGA Officers

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**Membership Packets have been assembled and are available for pick up in the OGA office.**

**Keep in mind that recruiting new members is a team effort and you can help do your part by promoting the group to family, friends and business contacts in the Ontario Area!**

### Member News

- **Greg Boyce**, Modern Woodmen of America representative and Ontario Growth Association member was recently honored. He was named to Modern Woodmen's 2010 President's Cabinet. This distinction recognizes high achievement in life insurance sales and ranking among their top representatives nationwide.



- Ontario resident and Ontario Growth Association member **Vern Barnhill**, 80, recently ran in the Red Dress Run on May 14th. The 5k Run/Walk benefited MedCentral Heart Health Education.

Don't forget to share your news. Email information about weddings, births, celebrations, awards, etc. that you would like included in the newsletter to [jodi.scott@richlandmallshopping.com](mailto:jodi.scott@richlandmallshopping.com).

## Mark The Date:

June 11th - 19th



**Miss Ohio Week** Events include the Fashion Show and Press Day at The Richland Mall, The Miss Ohio Festival, The Miss Ohio Festival Parade, Celebrity Waitressing at Applebee's, The Miss Outstanding Teen Competition and four nights of Miss Ohio Competition at the Renaissance Theatre. Meet the New Miss Ohio at Richland Mall on Sunday, June 19th. Visit [www.missohio.org](http://www.missohio.org) for more information.

June 18th

**Community Bible Church "Fun in the Sun Festival" 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Everyone is invited to the North parking lot of the Richland Mall. Just \$3.00 per person includes inflatables, water games, face painting, a dunk tank, volleyball, basketball and more!

June 18th



**Ontario Warrior Football Golf Scramble—shotgun Start 9 a.m.** Cost is \$250/team and all participants receive an Ontario Football T-shirt and a chance to win a door prize. Each Golfer will also receive bagels & coffee, a hot dog and chips at the turn and a meal at the conclusion of the event. There will be a 50/50 raffle and other prize giveaways. Deadline is June 10th. **Hole Sponsorships available for just \$50 - call Scott Kreger at 529-3969.**

June 19th

**Father's Day**

July 2nd



**Ontario 4th of July Festival & Parade/Mike Martin Memorial Car Show** Donations and volunteers still needed. Contact the OGA office to find out how you can participate today. **BUCKET SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE - CALL BRIAN GATES at 419-529-3888.**

July 4th

**Fourth of July Holiday**

July 7th

**OGA Meeting - 8 a.m.**

July 8th - 10th

**Warrior Uprising High School Baseball Tournament**

July 13th

**Deadline for July OGA Newsletter**

August 1st

**Ad Deadline for the Ontario Booster Club Sports Program** Call or email Debby Grove at 419-747-3825 or [dgrove955@yahoo.com](mailto:dgrove955@yahoo.com) for more information.

August 4th

**OGA Meeting - 8 a.m.**

August 28th

**OGA Golf Outing - 1 p.m. start for 18 holes (\$45 pp) and 3 p.m. start for 9 silly holes (\$30 pp)** Hole sponsorships are available for \$50.

*"My riches consist not in the extent of my possessions, but in the fewness of my wants."*

*—Joseph Brotherton, British politician and minister*