

Ohio Valley Branch Newsletter

February 2026

The Ohio Valley Branch of the IDA is charging into 2026 with fresh momentum—new activities, new committee members, an energized Advisory Board, and incredible volunteers powering it all! We'd love for every member to get involved, and you'll soon hear from a board member with exciting ways to participate. Mark your calendars now for our April 11th conference and April 22nd meeting—we can't wait to see you there. A huge thank-you to our dedicated board members for their passion and commitment to supporting our dyslexia community. Together, we're growing, learning, and making 2026 our strongest year yet! Carmen Mendoza, President



Board members met on February 2 to plan and collaborate for our branch

April Conference – Sign up Now

2026

**OHIO VALLEY BRANCH
INTERNATIONAL DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION
INVITED SPEAKER**

APRIL 11, 2026

SPRINGER SCHOOL & CENTER
2121 MADISON ROAD
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45208
8:30AM-4PM

Presentation
English Syntax & Grammar



SARA HARIG

Director
Children's Dyslexia Centers
of Cincinnati - Norwood



This presentation will **focus on teaching grammar through phrases and clauses:**

- **Noun phrases:** more noun phrases appear in a sentence than any other phrase
- **Clause structure:** how we build sentences with different clauses
 - Simple sentences
 - Complex sentences
- **Orthography:** the writing system as a whole

This **hands-on workshop** will be a mixture of slide presentation and small group activities. We will explore together how writing creates better readers and writers once confidence in the English writing system is established.

Register by April 1, 2026

Sign up [Here](#) or scan the QR code

Members \$60 and Non-members \$100 for 6 hours

**Communications – Sam
Tolbert and Christina
Scheckel**

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) at IDA Ohio Valley.
Know someone that is not getting our emails? Add Ohio Valley Branch IDA or communications@ovbida.org to your contacts through your email provider.

April 22 at 6pm – Next Branch Meeting

at Springer Auditorium – parking lot is behind the school, enter to the left of the courtyard statue through double silver doors. There is a large multicolored Springer sign near the doors.

Vice President – Cari Kelly

Did you know Ohio has three IDA branches? We're excited for the 2026 Ohio Summit on Dyslexia—an in-person, full-day learning event on Saturday, March 14, 2026 hosted by Ohio Central Branch, in Columbus, OH. The Summit features national experts Elsa Cárdenas-Hagan, Lucy Hart Paulson, and Lyn Stone, offering research-based keynotes and practical breakout sessions. It's a great opportunity for educators, specialists, and advocates to gain evidence-based strategies and connect with others committed to strong literacy instruction. Don't miss it!

[Visit Ohio Central IDA for details](#)

At our December branch meeting, Maria and Anne Leeman joined us to share their inspiring story of resilience and advocacy as they navigated and succeeded with dyslexia.

We welcomed our new board members and enjoyed time connecting and networking with others who are passionate about supporting individuals with dyslexia.



Parent Educator Chair – Nikki Sullivan

Check out our new parent page on the website—it's an excellent resource to share with parents and friends looking for information, education, and support. See website link at the bottom of this email.

Membership Chair

Jen Naegele

Please check your contact information by going to IDA website <https://dyslexiaida.org/> and choose tabs Membership and Member portal.

Scholarship Chair – Anne Leeman



IDA
Ohio Valley
Professional Development
Scholarship



Scholarship Information

The scholarship award is available for professional development opportunities that benefit individuals with dyslexia. The applicant must submit the professional development seminar information as part of the application process.

Who can apply?

Professionals including teachers, intervention specialists, reading specialists, speech language therapists, psychologists and other professions relating to literacy. Applicants must reside in the Ohio Valley area including; Dayton, Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky and Southeast Indiana and be an active member of IDA Ohio Valley.

Application Deadline

Spring Scholarship Application Cycle opens April 12 - May 21
Fall Scholarship Application Cycle opens August 15 - September 20

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#) OR SCAN THE QR CODE

