



NEWSLETTER

Mountain Plains Adult Education Association

ARIZONA • COLORADO • IDAHO • MONTANA • NEVADA • NEW MEXICO • UTAH • WYOMING

Volume 55, Issue 4

Summer Newsletter, July, 1997

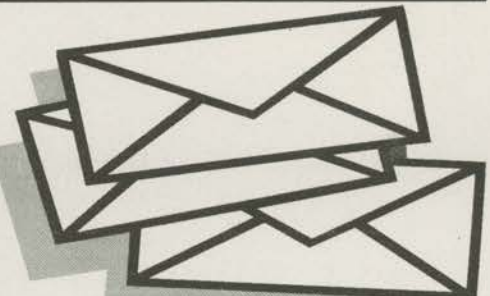
Notes from the President . . .

Well, I give up. I have been trying to come with a catchy name for this column, so I thought I'd look back over some of the more recent one; we've had "Jean's Journal", "Sue's News", "Rea's Ramblings", "Teddi Talks". They are all good ones, but what can you do with "Wilda"? Better to just get on with the actual writing.

Thanks to John Tollakson and his conference committee in Wyoming, the MPAEA Conference in Jackson was a great success. The theme, "Lifelong Learning: The Human Component", was well-represented by the conference speaker and sessions. Murray Banks, the keynote speaker, spoke on the importance of maintaining balance in one's life. This is a theme which I, personally, found useful and

timely as so many issues demand my attention. Questions like, "Who comes first?", "Which is more important?", and "What can I ignore for now?", circle in my brain like vultures threatening to alight on a wobbly telephone pole. My response has always been to gain as much forward velocity as possible so that the momentum thus built up will carry me through any crisis (Well, it works in theory.)

I'm also looking forward to next year's conference in Beaver Creek, Colorado. It's sub-theme, "A Renewal of Mind, Body and Spirit," sounds like one with a lot of potential. I especially like the promises made, in writing, that the conference will allow ample time for relaxation and renewal — and the beavers; I *love* the beavers.



Another place you'll see beavers is on the new MPAEA home page on the Web. I have seen a prototype, and assume it will be available for your viewing and informational pleasure by the time this is printed.

As usual, MPAEA has a busy year planned with lots to discuss and do as we continue to create our vision of the organization and what it can do for its members and the field of lifelong learning. I am honored to have been chosen as your president for the next 11 months and will try to serve you well.

Wilda Theobald, MPAEA President, 1997-98

inside...

MPAEA Award Recipients	Pages 2-3
Conference Highlights.....	Pages 6-7
Notes from State Affiliates	Pages 8-10
MPAEA Joins the World Wide Web	Page 10

MPAEA Association Awards for 1997

Each year, MPAEA takes the opportunity to recognize those outstanding individuals that shine as examples of what makes our work significant and essential to our cultures today.



Dr. Burton Sisco from Wyoming accepting the Award of Merit

The first award is the **Award of Merit** given to only one individual from the eight-state region that comprises the MPAEA. The award is to honor the individual who has made an outstanding contribution toward furthering the concept of adult education as a process of lifelong learning. This year's recipient was **Dr. Burton R. Sisco, Wyoming**. Dr. Sisco has contributed significantly and consistently to adult and continuing education at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels. During his tenure as an adult educator and administrator at the University of Wyoming, his innovative spirit and initiative have helped "grow" the department of adult education from two to more than five professors.

One significant contribution to initiating learning opportunities in Wyoming is the Mountain Folk School, a University one-week residential program for adult learners. Burt also served as Co-Editor of the MPAEA Journal of Adult Education for more than eight years, and is in part responsible for fostering the excellent reputation this journal enjoys across North America. His contributions to adult education span two decades, more than twelve of those in the Mountain Plains region.

Dr. Burton Sisco has been consistently devoted to the ideals of lifelong learning and deserves this award because his contributions have come from his heart.

The **Outstanding Lay Leader** is an award also given to only one individual from the eight state region. The award is meant to honor people who have shown themselves to be a close friend to education by assisting educational efforts through time, money, or other types of support. The 1997 recipient was **Eddie Basha** from Arizona. For the past twenty-five years, Mr. Eddie Basha has donated his time and financial support to community projects of all types. He has been especially involved in the support of quality education. He is currently a board member of the Arizona Board of Regents where he has served since 1990. He has also served on the Chandler School Board for 13 years. Additionally, he was appointed by Governor Bruce Babbitt to the State Board of Education where he served for two consecutive terms, totaling eight years. In 1992, Mr. Basha incorporated a School in the Workplace program in his family-owned supermarkets. This program allowed his employees to continue their education from the convenience of their job site, thereby encouraging them to obtain their GED.

Eddie Basha has shown himself to be an advocate of education at all levels. In particular, his support of adult education and continuing education shows a dedication to lifelong learning. Congratulations and thank you, Mr. Basha!

Congratulations

Award of Excellence

To honor an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of adult education on the local or state level.

Mr. Harry Dennis, Arizona - After retiring from the field of microbiology in 1986, Harry began teaching adult basic adult classes at Phoenix Union High School District. He became active in the Arizona Adult Education Association and was a founding member of the Consortium for Staff Development. Harry is known and respected for his gentle humor, his well-reasoned opinions, and his spirited dig-in attitude.

Mimi Frenette, Colorado - Mimi has served adult education in Colorado for over 11 years. In Durango, Mimi was responsible for creating a community-based, non-profit organization, The Adult Education Center. Recently, Mimi accepted a position with the Colorado Department of Education as a consultant for the Office of Adult Education. She has developed a series of leadership conferences for selected adult education practitioners throughout the state.

Mr. Richard Sparks, Idaho - Richard Sparks is Chair of the General Education Department at Idaho State University School of Applied Technology. He serves on the steering committee of the National Adult Literacy & Technology Network (ALT), and is also a past-president and charter member of the Idaho Lifelong Learning Association. He has authored various computer programs for Adult Basic Education Centers and hosted ABE on TV for Idaho PBS for the last five years.

Ms. Diana Oldenberg, Montana - Diane Oldenberg has been the main force behind all adult education services offered in Lewiston community since 1991. To assist students, Diane has worked with local financial institutions to create student loan programs. She has been an active member of the Montana Association for Adult and Community Education for several years.

Ms. Sharyn Yanoshak, Nevada - Sharyn is coordinator of the Teacher Training Project operated by the Community College of Southern Nevada. She is the editor for Nevada's adult education newsletter, "Connections." Sharyn also coordinates the Successful Management Institutes, supported by Adult Basic Education Teacher Training Funds, which bring program administrators together each fall to improve their skills. An especially innovative approach to connecting part-time instructors are the statewide "Faculty Teleconferences" Sharyn facilitates.

Ms. Susanne Makishi, Utah - Susanne Makishi has been a

professional involved in education for more than 30 years. Susanne's current responsibilities are as coordinator of the adult education program and applied technology coordinator for the alternative high school in the Weber School District. Susanne has been an active member of the Utah Association for Adult, Community, & Continuing Education (UAACCE) for many years. She has been recognized as the recipient of their Professional Educator and Service Awards.

All Adult, Continuing, and Community Educators, Wyoming - (Valerie Ward nominated. Accepted award on behalf of adult educators in the state) The adult educators in the great state of Wyoming deserve kudos and awards. Each individual instructor or administrator works hard each day to serve the student population in Wyoming. Where people are its most valuable resource, the WACCEA conference committee, its Board of Directors, and its individual members honored the members of MPAEA by hosting the 1997 Annual Conference. We were treated to the kind of hospitality we've come to expect in Wyoming; an excellent program; food; and opportunities to network with colleagues from eight states. Innovation abounds here where money is scarce and distances loom between communities and students. "Two thumbs up," to each and every adult, continuing, and community educator in Wyoming!



Outstanding Teacher and Learner of the Year — State of Wyoming

Marilyn Faber (Cody) - Teacher of the Year - \$250 award recipient

Vicky Brown (Sheridan) - Learner of the Year - \$250 award recipient



Marilyn Faber accepts award from Kristen Kulongska, WACCEA Board of Directors, Area 5

Movin' On . . .



Outgoing MPAEA Board Members

From the left: Anita Raynor, New Mexico; Paul Larson, Wyoming; Mimi Frenette, Colorado; and Steve Knight, Nevada



Linda Thomas, Legisletter Editor, accepts Certificate of Recognition



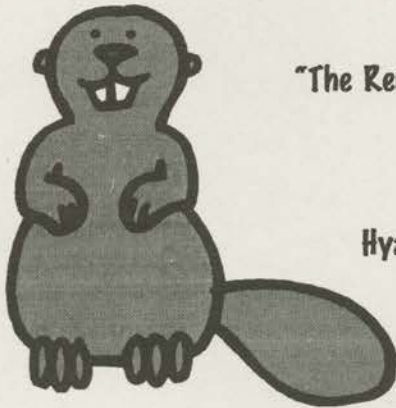
Larry Wickham Resigns as Treasurer

President Jean Fleming presents Larry Wickham, Treasurer, Idaho, with a plaque and gift in recognition of his years of service to the Association.



Announcing

The Mountain Plains Adult Education Association 56th Annual
Regional Conference



"The Rendezvous at Beaver Creek: A Renewal of Mind, Body, and Spirit"

April 29 - May 2, 1998

Hyatt Regency Beaver Creek in the Vail Valley, Colorado

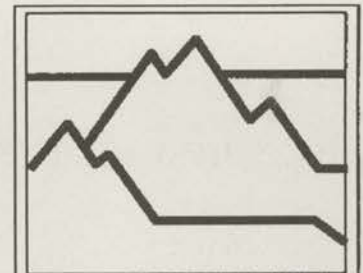
Featured Keynote Speakers

Terrence E. Deal: "Leading with Soul"

Terry Deal is an internationally known writer, speaker, and consultant on organization, leadership, change, culture, and symbolism. He has written seventeen books translated into eight languages including Reframing Organizations: Artistry, Choice, and Leadership (1991, 1997), and Leading with Soul: An Uncommon Journey of Spirit (1995), both co-authored with Lee Bolman. He is a professor at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University.

Jerold W. Apps: "Teaching from the Heart"

Jerry Apps is a prolific writer and well-known speaker and educational consultant on lifelong learning. He is Professor Emeritus of Adult and Continuing Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His most recent books include Mastering the Teaching of Adults (1991), Leadership for the Emerging Age (1994), and Teaching from the Heart (1996).



MOUNTAIN PLAINS
ADULT EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

Conference

Sponsors:

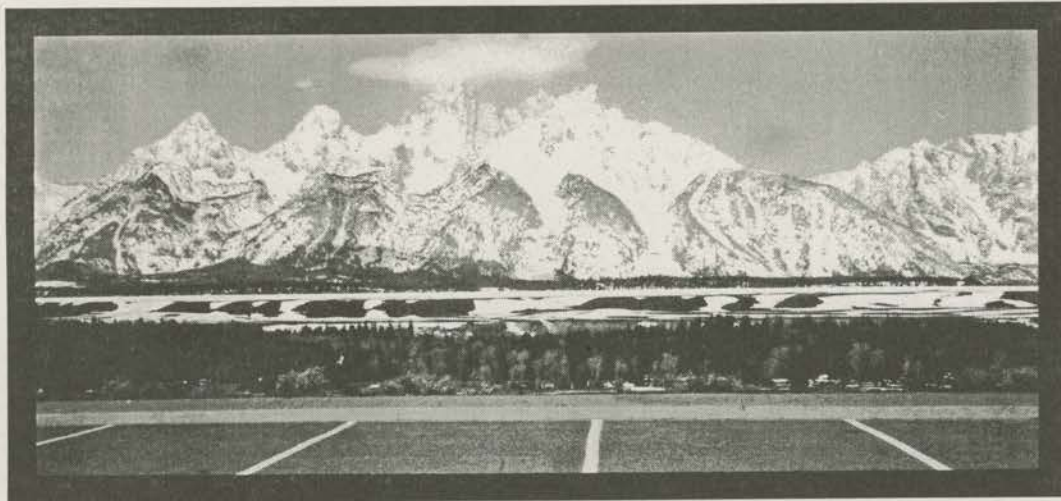
Office of Adult
Education, Colorado
Department of
Education; Colorado
Community College
and Occupational
Education System;
Office of the Governor

This conference is being offered in partnership with:

Colorado Association
for Continuing Adult
Education; Colorado
Association for
Community Educators;
Colorado Association
for Developmental
Education; Colorado
Reading and Language
Association

Please request additional information by email from JeanColo@aol.com

Conference



Site of the 1997 MPAEA Conference
Jackson, Wyoming
Lifelong Learning: The human component



Conference Committee Chair, John
Tollakson and his wife, Ruth



Conference Keynoter
Murray Banks
*Performance Under Pressure: Quality in
our work, balance in our lives.*

H i g h l i g h t s



Dr. Michael Galbraith, Florida Atlantic University — Concurrent Session



Rich Fleming, CO; '96-'97 President, Jean Fleming, CO



**The food WAS good
Kristen Kulongoski, and Lori Austill, WY**



**Wyoming meets Nevada
John Anthony, WY, and Beverly Klausner,
NV, at the Museum of Natural History**

**Mike Wolcott
and Jim Fassler,
Wyoming**



Only rave comments about the 1997 MPAEA conference have been heard from Arizona attendees. One "first-timer" was so enthused as to hope never to miss one in the future! That's the sort of bouquet every conference strives for and, in this instance, was unquestionably deserved. John Tollakson, his committees and all those responsible for pulling together such an outstanding event are to be commended. Even the weather was a wonderful change for those of us from desert climes, and we cooled ourselves as we gazed in awe at the spectacular scenery of Wyoming.

As past chair of the Professional Development Committee, reading the follow-up reports from the scholarship recipients has kept the conference experience alive for me. High on their list of kudos was the Mayor of Jackson Hole for taking time to welcome us and for sharing his delightful sense of humor. Murray Banks received excellent marks on his keynote address as well as his sessions entitled *Performance Under Pressure*:

News from



Quality in Our Work, Balance in Our Lives. Even Snow King Resort itself was applauded for excellent food and caring service. The zeal and appreciation shown by these scholarship grantees has been infectious, and working with them was a joy. Their "awards" are our "rewards," affirming our efforts in carrying out the mission of MPAEA to support and promote lifelong learning.

MPAEA members from Arizona take pride in the fact that our own Wilda Theobald now yields the gavel as the Association's new president, and we wish her success in the coming year. Still another honor for our state came in the selection of Mr. Eddie Basha to receive this year's Lay Leader Award. Eddie has been a dynamo in



education in Arizona for the past twenty-five years and is certainly worthy of this recognition.

Our state association, Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning (AALL), is now working in concert with the Arizona Adult Literacy & Technology Resource Center (AALTRC) and the Arizona Department of Adult Education to forge plans for the state conference next fall. The Arizona Adult Education Conference will be held in Phoenix September 25th through September 27th this year. More to follow on that in future issues!

Submitted by Harry Dennis

An ABE week-long Institute was held at Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana, in June. ABE instructors, literacy providers, administrators and other instructional staff attended either one or both courses made available through special project Adult Education professional development funds. Joan Cok, Director of Instructional Computing/Media taught a course on "Using the Internet as a Teaching Tool." Participants had an opportunity to design a web page, explore educational software, and to browse the Net. After this course, there should be ABE home pages popping up all over, especially on Netscape Navigator.©

Dr. Ralph Brigham, Director of Career Services at MSU, taught a second course on "Providing Career Directions: Tools for Adult Educators." Students in this career exploration course learned to use computer-assisted guidance software programs including MCIS, Montana Career Inventory System, and Discover. From all reports, it was an especially helpful, "on target" course for ABE instructors.

MAACE (Montana Adult and Community Education) will meet at Fairmont Hot Springs in October. This retreat at the base of the Pintlar Mountains outside Anaconda offers indoor and outdoor hot pools, hiking, horseback riding, and golfing—a great place to hold the Fall Conference. And, yes, there will be a keynote speaker and meetings too! Families will be able to attend also, as the conference will be held during the state MEA days in October.

STATE GED SPECIALIST

The unexpected death of Montana's State GED Specialist on June 22, saddened adult educators around the state.

Karen Sullivan and her husband Dan moved to Helena in 1981 where she began employment with the Office of Public Instruction as the state administrator of the Montana GED Program. She referred to GED participants as "her students" and called GED students the largest graduating class in Montana — 2 - 3 thousand a year.

She travelled widely, but loved Montana beyond all places. Karen was a staunch supporter of education, and had an uncompromising respect for the diversity of humankind. She will be missed by her colleagues, friends, family, and the potential GED graduates of Montana.

Submitted by Yvonne Hauwiller



News from

News from



As we in Nevada plan for the next MPAEA convention in Beaver Creek, Colorado, we think back to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where more than a dozen Nevada adult educators attended. Everyone who made the trek agreed that it was definitely worth the trip. We were all inspired by the keynote speaker Murray Banks, and everyone got a lot out of the workshops they attended. As always, the MPAEA conference serves as an opportunity for professional development, connecting with acquaintances from other states, and refreshing the soul.

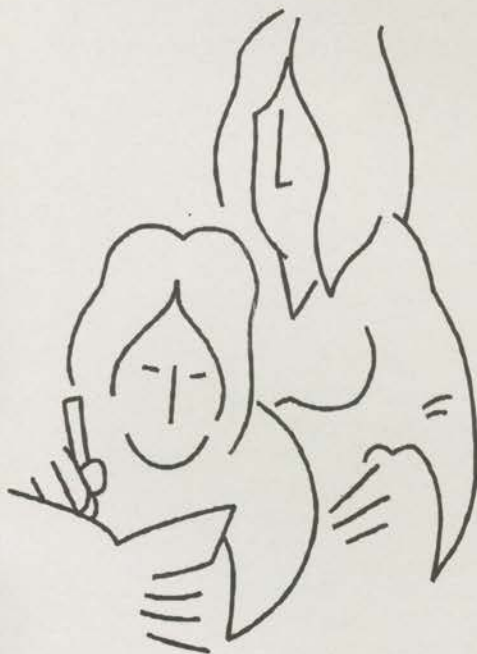
We were thrilled to see Sharyn Yanoshak received the Award of Excellence for Nevada at the conference. Many adult educators in Nevada have benefited from Sharyn's efforts with the Teacher Training grant, under the Community College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas.

In addition, Evelyn Cheny benefited from the MPAEA Professional Development Scholarship to attend the conference. Being a new coordinator for the Pershing County Adult High School Diploma program, this opportunity came at an ideal time to support Evelyn's professional development.

On August 12, the Nevada Adult Education Association will be kicking off its annual convention in Reno, Nevada. This year, it is being held in conjunction with the Nevada Vocational Association to further promote Nevada's dedication to preparing learners for transitions from school to work. It will also provide another opportunity to foster membership and cooperation with the MPAEA while working toward a successful convention in Beaver Creek, Colorado in the Spring of 1998.

Submitted by Beverly Klausner

News from



Ms. Pat Chavez, a native New Mexican, has been named the State Supervisor of ABE with the State Department of Education and Vocational Unit in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Pat has been in administration in higher education for the past 17 years including Director of Continuing Education at New Mexico Tech in Socorro. She has also served as the Director of University Relations at Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico, and worked as a legislative analyst for the New Mexico

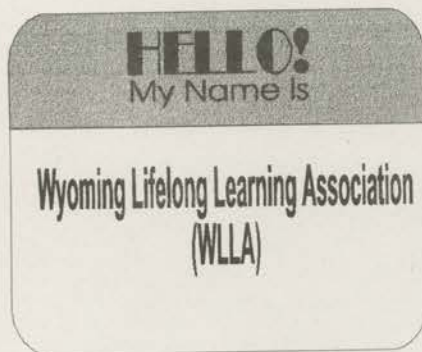


Senate for two sessions. She also comes to this position with a number of years of teaching experience at the elementary and the secondary levels. Pat received her Master of Arts degree from Highlands University.

Submitted by Marilyn Jackson



State Association Changes Its Name



After years and years of discussion (sometimes heated and most often passionate) the Wyoming Adult, Continuing, Community Education Association voted to change its name. The new name of the Association is the *Wyoming Lifelong Learning Association (WLLA)*. There are those who would be quick to say those letters don't spell anything. They are most perceptive and certainly correct. That was the intent of the Board of Directors. No longer are we in the Association "Wacky" but simply members of the state's Lifelong Learning Association. Was the change good? Will some members miss the "wacky" nature of the Association's name? Are some members perturbed

News from

with the change? The answer is undoubtedly, "yes." Even so, in the vote at the Association business meeting in Jackson, there was not one vote in opposition to the name change. It is hoped that those who answered "yes" to the above questions will be encouraged to support the name change, which in the minds of the members of the Board, presents a much more professional aura for the Association. This name change represents a new beginning and hopefully will result in the attraction of new members, working in the areas of lifelong learning, that were not attracted to our "wacky" association.

Submitted by John Tollakson

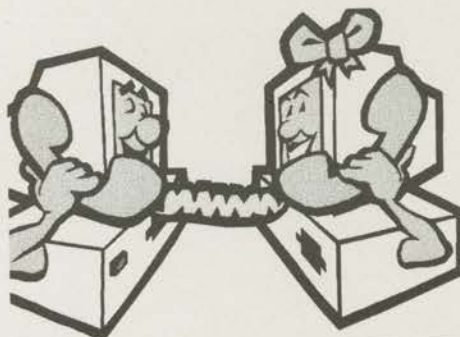
MPAEA JOINS THE WWW



The MPAEA Board of Directors approved the official MPAEA WWW site that is now on-line and available to the membership. You will find the site at the following address:

<http://www.uvsc.edu/mpaea>

Under the direction of the MPAEA Board, the initial development of the site was completed by Dr. Gary S. Wixom and Robert Ward at Utah Valley State College,



Orem, Utah. The site is designed for members as a quick way to keep up-to-date with what is going on within MPAEA. The site is best viewed by using a browser with Netscape 3.0©, or better, or Internet Explorer©.

Once you have reached the site, you can review the mission statement, read the latest newsletter, or learn more about our history as an organization. Check out the Board of Director's page and send them an E-mail message. The Board of Directors would like to hear from you about how the organization can serve you better. Look at some of the fun that members had at the last conference in Jackson, Wyoming, or get information concerning the next conference to be held in Beaver Creek, Colorado. You can even download the "call for proposal page" so that you can send in an

application to present your latest ideas at the conference.

Nonmembers can get information about our organization and examine some of the products and promotional material available. We hope you will invite others to look at the newsletter and legisletter and download a membership form so that they can join with us.

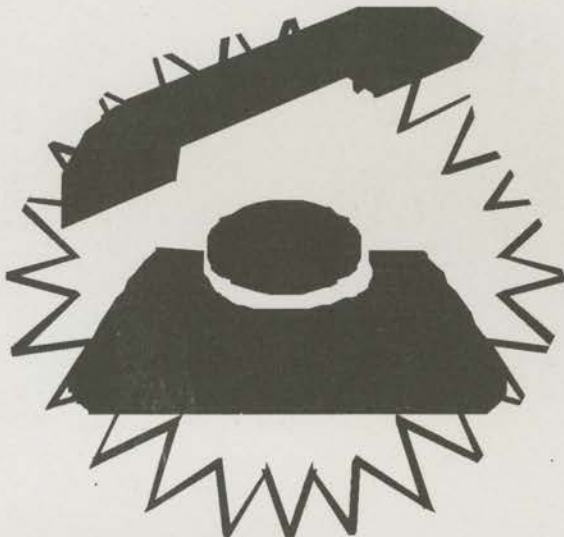
The WWW site is your site. We invite you to check the page often to see what is new. With your help, we will keep the site up-to-date. If you have information that you would like the Board to consider adding to the site, please send that information to Gary at wixomga@uvsc.edu. If you have a link to a state organization, or a link to an appropriate site, please send that information as well.

**SUGGESTIONS OR
QUESTIONS?**

Wilda Theobald
MPAEA President
Phone (602)271-3280

NEWS?

Val Ward
Newsletter Editor
Fax (702)778-4038



MPAEA JOURNAL EDITOR

Dr. Michael Tomlin
University of Idaho - Boise
800 Park Boulevard
Boise, ID 83712
208.334.2999
mtomlin@uidaho.edu

MPAEA Governing Board

President

Wilda Theobald, Phoenix, Arizona
(602)271-3280

President-Elect

Lenora Plothow, Orem, Utah
(801)222-8009

Past-President

Jean Anderson Fleming, Denver, Colorado
(303)337-0166

Secretary

Valerie Ward, Elko, Nevada
(702)778-4417

Treasurer

Gary Wixom, Orem, Utah
(801)222.8372

Board of Directors

Arizona

Harry Dennis
602.274.1624
Blair Liddicoat
602.517.8108

Nevada

Beverly Klausner
702.799.8653
Steve Knight
702.246.6246

Colorado

Ray Peterson
303.866.6651
Patricia Thorpe

New Mexico

Marilyn Matthews
505.599.0270
Marilyn Jackson
505.392.5499

Idaho

Chuck Humphrey
208.236.3640
Kathy Vickerman
208.236.4545

Utah

Susanne Makishi
801.627.8378
Lou Workman
801.797.2171

Montana

Yvonne Hauwiler
406.585.1522
Nancy Reynolds
406.233.2500

Wyoming

John Tollakson
307.674.6446
Jim Fassler
307.856.8651

MPAEA Membership Application

Please select desired membership, detach form and return with dues to:

Gary Wixom, Treasurer
Mountain Plains Adult Education Association
Utah Valley State College
462 West Chokecherry Cr.
Orem, UT 84058

Membership applying for: *(Please check one)*

Individual

- Individuals \$20
- Libraries \$20

Institutional

- Colleges & Universities \$45
- State Education Agencies
- Public Schools, Corporate \$45
- Other \$45

Membership Information

Application Date _____

Name _____

Employing Institution _____

Department or Title _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

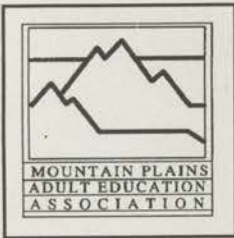
Business Phone _____

Residence Phone _____

E-mail address _____

**Make checks payable to:
Mountain Plains Adult Education
Association**

All membership dues are tax deductible



MPAEA Newsletter
1500 College Parkway
Elko, Nevada 89801
Val Ward, Editor



Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Elko, NV
Permit No. 44