Notes from the President . . .

There is so much going on right now in the MPAEA world!

Don't forget to get your conference registration forms in! You may be so excited about making the travel arrangements to lovely Beaver Creek Resort, that you forget some of the more 'mundane' details!

Thanks to Jean Fleming, Immediate Past President, for representing MPAEA at the AAACE conference and accepting the 1997 Outstanding Affiliate Award on our behalf. You'll be able to see it at the conference. She even carried our flag in the Parade of Flags.

The AAACE Outstanding Student Award winner, Sophie Samuels from the Phoenix area, was given honorary MPAEA membership in recognition of her outstanding achievement. Board member Blair Liddicoat, who accompanied Sophie to the conference has this to say about her, "Despite her difficulties with glaucoma, Sophie plans on taking some computer and business courses in pursuit of employment. She works for us [Rio Salado Community College Adult Basic Education Program] as an instructional aide at the same location where she was a student herself. Her biggest joy is helping and encouraging others to achieve what she did. As she puts it, 'If I can do it, anyone can!'"

Kathy Vickersman, board member from Idaho and author of MPAEA's latest publication, The Voice of Our History, has graciously accepted appointment as MPAEA Secretary. She will replace Val Ward, who has had to resign because of conflicting commitments. Please join me in thanking Val and welcoming Kathy.

While watching the Olympic coverage from Nagano in February, I was often reminded that the next Winter Olympics will be coming to us from Salt Lake City. This is not only a coup for Utah, but will be an event of great importance for the whole Mountain Plains region. I wonder what kinds of connections we can make. Check out the lesson plans written by MPAEA members and based on the theme of Olympic Values at the conference in Beaver Creek.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the conference as we continue the MPAEA story. Wilda Theobald, MPAEA President, 1997-98
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SUGGESTIONS OR
QUESTIONS?

Wilda Theobald
MPAEA President

Visit your web site at:
http://www.uvsc.edu/mpaea
ELDERHOSTEL

New Opportunities in Education and Travel

Elderhostel - Often defined as educational travel adventure that offers persons over 55 a chance to expand their horizons with people who have similar interests.

Destination: the World, all states of the U.S. and provinces of Canada plus 45 foreign countries.

Elderhostel is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the educational needs of people, usually retired. Each year one-half million people participate in 10,000 different short-term and low-cost programs. The mission of Elderhostel is to offer residential liberal arts or similar classes which are diverse and affordable and taught by top faculty from about 2,000 educational institutions. Classrooms studies are often complemented by course-related field trips.

Programs also include:

- Intergenerational - usually grandparents and grandchildren
- Intensive studies
- Recreational or "moving" programs
- Performance programs
- Adventure programs
- Service programs

Hostelers may participate on their own as singles, as couples or in groups. There is no homework, exams or grades, since classes are not for credit.

The typical program is 5-6 nights at an average cost of $390 per person, which covers tuition and all costs except travel to and from the Elderhostel site. (International programs usually include the travel costs and all arrangements at an additional cost.)

The Elderhostel movement in American adult education was started in 1975 in New England by Marty Knowlton. He linked the European hosteling concept with the residential emphasis of the Scandinavian Folk Schools.

The Elderhostel concept is evolving and programs vary. The Boston-headquartered organization publishes four seasonal catalogs for the U.S. and Canada and four catalogs featuring International programs.

Other supplemental catalogs bring additional opportunities to the Elderhosteler. Catalogs are mailed to up to 800,000 people and are available at most public libraries.

International programs, offered for the last 15 years, are conducted with expert faculty and cultural specialists and are usually from two to four weeks long.

Service programs, started in 1992, billed as "Adventures that make a difference," use volunteer time and energy to carry out significant project assignments and usually last up to 21 days. Projects such as Coral Reef Conservation Project in Belize, Mexico; propagating unique native plants at the Lyon Arboretum on Oahu, Hawaii; maintenance and preservation repair work at the Eisenhower National Historic Site in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; are but a few.

If you like people, learning and educational travel, Elderhostel may be for you. The required ingredients are curiosity and a desire to learn, an adventurous spirit and yearning to be challenged by new ideas and experiences. Anyone interested?

Submitted by Marge Slotten, Elderhostel Coordinator, Twin Falls, Idaho
Tomlin's Column Moves to Syndication

University of Idaho professor Dr. Michael Tomlin has joined the "George Will's" of the world as a syndicated columnist. Tomlin, who is a professor of adult education and educational administration, and also serves as editor of the Mountain Plains Adult Education Association's Journal of Adult Education, has been writing an education reform column for six years. It has primarily appeared in a southern Colorado newspaper, The Signature, but more recently has popped up in Oregon, Washington, DC., and other sites. Now it is headed for national syndication.

Tomlin's column has twice been honored by the Colorado Press Association in the Best Serious Column category at their annual convention.

"My greatest joy in writing the column and seeing the circulation expand is knowing that I will be influencing thought and stimulating ideas for improved education," Tomlin says. "I also get a kick from the positive comments that come back from readers and of course the hate mail. I know that I have struck a nerve - so I write on!"

While Tomlin is mum on the actual syndicate that will be circulating his column, titled "The Professor: On Education," he does reveal that it is Texas-based and that he will be the first education writer added to their fold.

MPAEA 56th Annual Regional Conference
"The Rendezvous at Beaver Creek: A Renewal of Mind, Body, and Spirit"
April 29-May 2, 1998
Beaver Creek, Colorado

It's not too late to register --
Contact Ray Peterson
(303)866-6651
Electronic Information and Copyright

I wonder how many of you have recently had an article or book published via the ERIC system or some other electronic media. I also wonder how many of you use the Internet to gather information for your research. And then I wonder how many of you are aware of the copyright laws regarding the use of electronic information.

Principles of copyright law have been around since the invention of the printing press. Drafters of the U.S. Constitution empowered Congress “To promote the progress of science and useful arts by securing for a limited time to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.” (U.S. Const., Art I, sec. 8, cl.8). Thus, the first U.S. copyright law was passed in 1790.

Since 1790, there have been several revisions to the U.S. copyright law as a result of the realization of the importance of copyrightable material to the health of the national economy. Some principles of the current copyright law are: 1) Fair Use-the idea that copyrighted material can be legitimately used by libraries, researchers and educators without the permission of the copyright owner, 2) First Sale-the right of the legal purchaser to dispose of or transfer copyrightable material as s/he sees fit, 3) Library Preservation-the entitlement of libraries and archives to make or distribute copies of copyright material, within certain restrictions, and 4) Education-allowances made for permissible copying for educational purposes.

In December 1996, delegates to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) drafted treaties (signed by President Clinton) attempted to revise intellectual property law to address issues within the digital environment and to maintain a balance between the right of intellectual property owners and the need for public use.

Currently before the houses of Congress are two bills (S.1121 and H.R.2281) to implement the WIPO treaties. Other legislation that have been introduced, that in the opinion of many educational institutions, more satisfactorily addresses the need for copyright protection, are bills S.1146, the Digital Copyright Clarification and Technology Act of 1997, and H.R.3048, the Digital Era Copyright Enhancement Act of 1997.

Senate bill (S.1146) is viewed as an important first step in copyright law in addressing the issues of fair use, library preservation, distance education and temporary reproduction. House Bill (H.R.3048) comprehensively updates American’s copyright laws to accommodate the foster the development of digital technology.

(Taken from Between the Lines, ISU Oboler Library Newsletter, Sandra Schropshire) Submitted by Kathy Vickerman

Got a paper to write or a class to teach but haven’t the foggiest about your subject? Don’t even know which subject to choose? Check out Study Web (http://www.studyweb.com), a collection of “over 15,000 Research Quality URLs.” The Web doesn’t get much easier to use than this. Each study category (such as animals and pets, education, history, literature, math, or music) has subcategories. Each subcategory has hotlinks to Web resources, and each hotlink has a ranking of visual content, an approximation of grade level, and a brief description to help you select a site that may have images, reports, news, or other items for your research.

Reprinted from Nevada Connections Teacher Tips, October 1997.
News from

Adult educators in Arizona welcome and congratulate Karen Liersch in her new role as Deputy Associate Superintendent of Adult Education. In a speech at the state conference, Ms. Liersch humbly accepted the challenge of her new position and acknowledged the outstanding service and accomplishments of her predecessor, Dr. Gary Eyre. One of her first priorities in moving Adult Education forward in Arizona was the formation of a statewide Adult Basic Education Standards Committee. This is now in place and work has begun. Karen invited Jodi Decker, the president of Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning (AALL), our state association, to participate in the implementation of these standards.

AALL now boasts a roster of 199 members, and we’re proud of this growth. Upcoming regional conferences will be held in Yuma, March 7 and in Flagstaff on May 16th. At the preconference activities during the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) Conference, November 19, 1998, the Arizona State association will be visible by way of either two morning sessions or one all-day session. Additionally, we will host a booth at that event.

A recent drawing was held from the names of AALL members for a stipend to be used to attend the MPAEA Conference in Beaver Creek, Colorado, April 29th to May 2, 1998. Congratulations to the winner, Lynn Pellech! Runners-up were Mary Bradley and Sr. Barbara Webster.

A strategic planning session last month by the Arizona Association for Lifelong Learning produced worthy results and paved the way for future progress in Adult Education in our state. Using criteria for strengths, weaknesses and objectives, eight subject areas were examined. Categories addressed were Awards, Collaboration, Communication, Finances, Legislation, Membership, Professional Development and Public Relations. A time line or target date for some specific action was set for each of these to ensure improvement.

Finally, the mention of time line brings me to one last thought. My term on the MPAEA Board expires this year, and I want to say how much I have enjoyed the experience. I would encourage any members who have considered serving on this board to do so. It’s more than just achievement—it’s fellowship, too!

Submitted by J. Harry Dennis, Senior Board Member, Arizona
News from

IDAHO

The changes that have occurred so far during the 20th century are phenomenal. We can all agree on that subject. Probably we all agree that we haven't seen anything yet in the realm of changes. However, some things have and will remain constant. During the last half of this century our nation has come to realize a tremendous need for better education of adults. This need will continue to escalate in the next century because of changes in the use of technology. Not only is there an increased need to make sure adult basic education is available to everyone who seeks to learn, but professionals must increase their knowledge daily to keep up with trends and technology.

The following are the beginnings of 1,999 Reasons for Lifelong Learning in the 21st Century: (MPAEA Conference Theme for 1999 Conference in Idaho)
- to prepare for a second career
- to keep up with technology advancement
- to be competitive in the workforce
- to enrich personal life
- to prepare for retirement
- to learn for learning sake
- to gain self-esteem
- to expand our wings
- to keep abreast with a change world
- to provide mental stimulation.

As we move toward a new and exciting century each of us should re-evaluate our own goals. What have you accomplished in the 20th Century? How can you use what you have learned this century to benefit others and promote lifelong learning in the next century?

Submitted by Kathy Vickerman, Junior Board Member, Idaho

MONTANA

Montana is currently in the process of developing a new state plan. Montana State University is coordinating the development of this state plan through the use of interactive television (ITV). This technology allows for input from education centers throughout the state. Since Montana has over 147,000 square miles of area in its state, this technology is one way to reach more participants.

The Montana Association for Adult and Continuing Education (MAACE) board held its winter retreat at Chico Hot Springs, January 30-February 1, 1998. Much was accomplished and everyone was refreshed and ready to tackle the year.

The 1998 MAACE Conference is scheduled for October 15 & 16 in Bozeman. The theme for the conference is Creating Futures. Activities planned include skating at the new ice gardens, a tour of Senator Conrad Burns' Telecommunications Center, and a trip to the Museum of the Rockies.

Montana is enjoying the effects of El Nino this winter. We have had extremely mild weather and low precipitation. The ski areas are open and have been lucky to have received enough snow to make skiing enjoyable. We are all hoping for moisture this spring to keep our state from a drought.

Yvonne H and Nancy R are planning to attend the MPAEA Conference at Beaver Creek this spring and hope to see everyone there.

Submitted by Yvonne Hauwiller and Nancy Reynolds
News from

Literacy awareness is a high priority item in the State of Nevada with representatives of education, community and business joining together to publicize the issue and sponsor events to raise the literacy levels.

Vicky Newell coordinator of "Literacy Nevada" has been traveling around the state to fairs, conventions and other meetings with a portable adult education literacy exhibit. Emmy Bell of the Nevada Literacy Coalition provides teacher training activities for literacy volunteers and adult teachers. Washoe county is initiating a program for adults who already have a high school diploma but cannot read.

A highlight of the year was held on International Literacy Day when all representative groups of the State joined together to honor Nevada's first lady, Sandy Miller and the literacy volunteers. Sharon Roman of South West Gas Cooperation chaired the event assisted by Sharon Brooks of the C.A.L.L Program, KLAS TV, Dr. Thomas Guthrie. Over five hundred people attended the dinner to promote literacy and honor those who had paid a part in the fight against illiteracy in the State of Nevada.

Submitted by Beverly Klausner, Senior Board Member, Nevada

In the last issue of the MPAEA Newsletter it was reported that the Wyoming Lifelong Learning Association (WLLA) and the Wyoming Alliance for Literacy (WAL) were considering merging into one association. It appears at this time that the merger will occur in the Spring of 1999. Both organizations are working on solutions for moving from two Boards and two sets of officers to one Board and one set of officers. Has the official decision been made to merge? No, but the officers of both associations, following a meeting in Laramie in February, seem optimistic about "joining forces."

The WLLA Board of Directors has instituted three new awards to recognize an Outstanding Community Service Instructor who is teaching in a non-credit program, Outstanding ABE/GED/ESL/Instructor, and Outstanding Adult Educator chosen from programs outside the "traditional" educational settings such as hospitals, libraries, county extension programs.

The University of Wyoming continues to support WLLA. In the past much of that leadership in the organization came from on-campus personnel such as Paul Kipper and Charles Cooper. At present, UW support is provided for Off-Campus personnel to serve in leadership positions in the Association. Each of the UW Academic Coordinators in the six UW Regional Outreach Offices is actively involved in serving the Association in some capacity.

The WLLA Annual Conference will be held in Sheridan in late March. The theme will be, "Lifelong Learning: A Kaleidoscope." Conference co-chairpersons, Patti Sellennick and John Tollakson, believe that the programs offers something for everyone with topics including "ESL, As the Kaleidoscope Turns", "Western Governor's University", "The Care and Feeding of the Adult Learner", and "How to Make your Brochures Work for You." The keynote speaker will be Peter Pizor from Powell, Wyoming, and will address the topic, "Learning How to Learn: Working Smarter in Teams."

Submitted by John Tollakson, Senior Board Member, Wyoming
Now that the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan, have come to a close, Utahns are anticipating the year 2002 when we will be the focus of the world’s attention and share the “greatest snow on earth” with some of the world’s finest athletes. If you have recently visited Utah or happened to have passed through, you are well aware that preparations have begun with the I-15 road construction and the new light rail transit (TRAX) which will provide a state-of-the-art transportation system along the Wasatch Front.

Education has been an integral part of the preparations for the Olympics 2002. Terry Teigeler, Utah State University, received a 353 Grant from the USDE (AE Section) to write an Olympic Education Idea Book. Olympism, as it is called, is a term used to identify the true spirit and meaning associated with the Olympic Games and not necessarily the athletic programs only. The Idea Book contains 25 value-oriented lessons for adult education students which were developed by adult educators from the eight Mountain Plains states. It was derived from a video and K-12 Olympism Idea Book that had been developed by the Salt Lake City Olympic Organizing Committee as part of the bid process to host the 2002 Olympic Winter Games such as those just completed in Nagano, Japan. The video is a history of the Olympic Games that everyone should see. The Idea Book for adult education is in the final stages of typing and should be available at the Mountain Plains Conference. Like the K-12 version, the book provides 25 ideas of which there could be thousands more, for integrating the excitement of the Olympic sports, values and the proximity of the Olympic Winter Games to the MPAEA region. If you would like information before the Colorado Conference, contact Dr. Terry Teigeler, Utah State University, Ogden Center for Graduate Studies, Ogden City Mall, Ogden, Utah 84401. E-mail: TerryT@ext.usu.edu or fax (801)394-5939 or call (801)6221-5861.

Lenora Plutchow, president-elect of MPAEA, has resigned from her position as chairperson of the Utah Adult Education Advisory Committee in order to focus on her increasing responsibilities at Utah Valley State College and her upcoming presidency of MPAEA. Lenora has provided outstanding leadership for this committee since 1993. State Senator David Steele of Davis County was elected to succeed Lenora as chairperson. The Advisory Committee will continue to provide leadership and direction for adult education programs throughout the state. The group is currently trying to establish uniform guidelines for the awarding of credit for high school completion that will be more in line with the state core. Another major goal of the committee is to review and possibly revise the formula by which state adult education funding is distributed in Utah.

Lou Workman, Utah representative on the MPAEA Board of Directors, assumed a new position this year. Lou was selected to coordinate Utah State University’s extensive, evolving role as one of the lead institutions in the new multi-state electronic university known as the Western Governor’s University.

The Utah Association for Adult, Community, and Continuing Education held its annual conference in Park City, November 10-11, 1997. As the theme of the conference, “Teamwork: Achieving the Extraordinary,” over 170 members, guests, and vendors took this opportunity to interact with each other and share ideas and concerns.

New leadership has been selected for the UAACCE board. Gaylin Rollins, Adult Education Manager for the Alpine School District, will serve as president of the organization, and Loma Prince, Ogden School District, was selected by the UAACCE Board of Directors to be the new president-elect.

See you at Beaver Creek!

Submitted by Susanne Makishi, Senior Board Member, Utah
Volunteers Needed in Arizona

The American Association for Adult, Continuing Education (AAACE) is holding their annual conference in Phoenix, Arizona, November 16-23, 1998. If you are planning to attend the conference and would like to be a conference volunteer, please contact:

Jodi Decker
The Art Institute of Phoenix
(602)678-4300, ext 233

There will be a reduced conference rate available for volunteers. Volunteers will work a shift at the registration booth, book table, help facilitate roundtable discussions, or help with facilities management.

POSITION VACANCY

ALBUQUERQUE TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE

Submit all requested application documents to TVI Human Resources by 5 p.m., 4/6/98.
525 Buena Vista Dr. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
(505)224-4611 (fax)
(505)224-4600

Position: Regular, Full-Time
Director of Adult Basic Education

Duties and Responsibilities:
Primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to, organizing, monitoring and coordinating the activities, personnel, processes, and procedures for the Adult Education Program.

Education and Experience:
Master’s Degree required. Three years teaching and administration experience required. Work experience with an Adult Basic Education program required. Experience with diverse populations. Experience with instructional technology preferred.

Application Instructions:
Submit a thoroughly completed TVI employment application, attach a resume, letter of interest state specifically how applicant meets the required and preferred job requirements, and a copy of transcripts.

Deadline: April 6, 1998
Upcoming Events

APRIL

MPAEA Annual Regional Conference
Beaver Creek, Colorado
April 29 - May 2, 1998

AUGUST

14th Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning
Madison, Wisconsin
August 5-7, 1998

NOVEMBER

AAACE Annual Conference
Phoenix, Arizona
November 16-23, 1998
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

Membership Information

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