

# NEWSLETTER

## Mountain Plains Adult Education Association

ARIZONA COLORADO IDAHO MONTANA NEVADA NEW MEXICO UTAH WYOMING

Volume 67, Issue 3

December 2008



### President's Message – *Kelsee Miller*

WOW! Where has this semester gone? I can't believe Thanksgiving is here and that the holidays will be right around the corner. I hope all of you have settled into the semester without skipping a beat!

Dr. Michael Tomlin was the keynote speaker at the annual Wyoming Lifelong Learning Association conference recently and his topic was "Attaining and Maintaining Positive Winning Attitudes in a World of Change". This was an awesome presentation and he mentioned that part of having a great attitude is accepting that life changes. We have the right to choose our attitude and how we will deal with situations. His speech definitely helped put our bad days into perspective and choosing our own attitude will rub off on the students we work with!

On a lighter note, your Executive Board has been working on various issues to include our upcoming conference in Las Vegas in March and the 2010 conference in Arizona! We had numerous responses to the Call for Presenters and unfortunately could not accommodate everyone. This year's presentations are sure to please no matter what topic you are looking for.

You can now register for the conference and find more info on our website at [www.mpaea.org](http://www.mpaea.org). The rooms at the Tuscan are a steal for only \$85 a night and the venue is sure to please! Your conference planning committee has a few wonderful events planned and the entire conference will be in true Las Vegas style!

Our Journal Editor informs us that we are caught up with the Journal and are looking for submissions. I strongly encourage anyone who

has had success with their program to share the good news so other practitioners can stay connected.

#### In this Issue:

President's Message	1
Book Review	2
Let's Go NAEHS	2
News from the Mountains	
Nevada	3
Arizona	3
Idaho	4
MPAEA 2009: Call for Presenters	4

I encourage all of you to contact your state representative on the Board or any Executive Board member with questions, comments, suggestions, etc. that you may have in regard to MPAEA. I look forward to seeing many of you at



our  
conference in  
beautiful Las  
Vegas on  
March 1!

## Lifelong Learning

*It's more than luck!*

### Register now for MPAEA 2009!

Registration is open for MPAEA 2009 in Las Vegas March 1-4. Conference Chair Teri Zutter ([tzutter@wnc.edu](mailto:tzutter@wnc.edu), 775/445-4451) reports a full slate of confirmed activities, giving you many reasons to attend!

### Choose from three super, interactive pre-conference sessions (Sunday, March 1, noon to 4:00 p.m.)

- The Politics of Education, Art Ellison, Chair, National Council of State Directors of Adult Education Policy Committee. How do we advocate for increased adult education funding? Examine the essential elements of successful advocacy campaigns in a variety of states and at the national level and learn the nuts and bolts of leading your own!
- Take a Gamble on Web 2.0! Kimberly Chapman and Laura Cascarddon (University of Arizona) with Darcy Del Bosque (University of Nevada, Las Vegas). Learn all about Web 2.0 tools and concepts from three expert researchers at this hands-on session. Participants will work on individual computers to create wikis and explore how

wikis and other tools can support lifelong learning.

- A New Health Literacy Curriculum for Beginning Level ABE, Meg Schofield, consultant and curriculum developer. This presentation will provide an overview of the dramatic connection between low literacy and poor health status and report on the development of a groundbreaking, research-based curriculum designed to simultaneously improve both literacy and health literacy outcomes in low literate populations. Learn how to implement this exciting, free curriculum!

### Three keynote sessions led by key leaders for lifelong learning (Monday-Tuesday, March 2-3)

- Cheryl Keenan, Director, Division of Adult Education and Literacy, U.S. Department of Education (invited)
- Jim Rogers, Chancellor, Nevada System of Higher Education
- Punam Mathur, Senior Vice President, Corporate Diversity & Community Affairs, MGM Mirage

### Fifty different sessions led by expert presenters (Monday-Wednesday, March 2-4)

- Session topics cover the many facets of lifelong learning: research, transition, assessment, instructional strategies, best practices, leadership, family literacy, Corrections, and professional development.
- Dr. Sandra Ransel, popular presenter at the 2008 MPAEA conference, will lead a special half-day tour of Desert Rose High School and Career Center, Las Vegas' premiere adult education center. The session includes a meal prepared and presented by the center's culinary arts students.
- All adult educators — be they focused on ABE/literacy, ESL, GED, Corrections, family literacy, or community, continuing, and higher education — will find many sessions of value.

**Hey, it's Vegas, baby!**

- It's warm here! Average March temperatures are: high 69°, low 47°, and (for you mathematicians) mean 56°.
- There are a few things to do in your spare time. The conference site is just 1.5 miles from the Strip's hottest corner (Bellagio, Caesars, Bally's/Paris) and a short cab ride to many more attractions!
- Total comfort to rest when you need it. All rooms at the Tuscany are suites, fully equipped with 25" cable TV, coffee maker, refrigerator, etc.

Register now at [www.mpaea2009.org](http://www.mpaea2009.org). You'll be a winner — guaranteed!

## It Truly is a Professional Development Opportunity

By Nancy Lambott



The last month has provided a sharp reminder that we are always given opportunities to learn from our peers. The

executive board has been working on an issue regarding use of MPAEA journal articles by university professors. In our email messages I quickly discovered that I was totally unfamiliar with the laws governing use of articles copied from *The Journal of Adult Education* for distribution in Adult Education classes and the laws governing those rights. As we explored the options, I was reminded that since I had joined the board there had been quite a few times when discussions among members of the board had led to new discoveries and sharing of ideas in a very collegial and friendly discourse among professional educators. I am finding that I am learning more and more about adult learning and adult education practice through these

experiences, conferences and sharing of ideas as a member of the MPAEA board than I ever imagined possible. It also reminded me why I was drawn to join this board and to become more involved in the growth of Mountain and Plains Adult Education Association.

For example, did you know that *"The federal Copyright Act of 1976 provides for the "fair use" of copyrighted material for educational purposes? According to this doctrine, teachers are allowed to make multiple copies of single articles from a periodical for classroom use. One of the provisions of the law is that "the photocopying practices of an instructor should not have a significant detrimental impact on the market for the copyrighted work" Finally, the American Psychological Association points out in its manual (see pages 356 of the 5th Edition) that it owns the copyright to material published in its journal but that "APA requires no written permission or fees when...instructors and educational institutions photocopy isolated articles for nonprofit classroom or library reserve use"*.

From this experience and many that I will not explain further in this article, I feel I have grown personally and professionally and would highly recommend that anyone contemplating professional growth opportunities in the field of Adult Education and Family Literacy consider becoming a representative of their state on the **MPAEA board of directors**. Furthermore, you may find that the growth you experience as a director will move you toward seeking an executive position on the board. *Kelsee Miller*, Wyoming, is now the MPAEA President 2008-09 and I, *Nancy Lambott*, Colorado am the President Elect 2008-09. We both served on the board for less than three years prior to being

elected to the executive board. I know that there are many reasons for not joining a board. We are all busy, but we are all professional adult educators who have a lot to offer our colleagues in the states represented by Mountain and Plains and beyond. If you are considering taking your opportunities for professional development to the next level, joining MPAEA and representing your state on the board could be the best decision that you have made in years. Please contact any of the MPAEA directors or executive board and visit our website at [www.mpaea.org](http://www.mpaea.org) I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the Las Vegas, 2009 MPAEA conference.