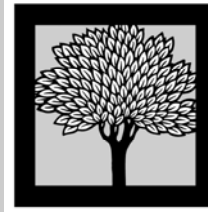


ASSOCIATION NEWS



WEA

Southeast

September 29th, 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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WEA-Southeast Execu-
tive Board Members!!* **2-3**
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Barnhouse-Lopez!* **4**



2010-11 Executive Board

- **Teri Staudinger** (Kennewick) - President & WEA Board
- **Kathy Marquard** (Pasco) - Vice President/Treasurer
- **LaDonna Sterling** (Richland) - Secretary
- **Donna Baumgartner** (Kiona-Benton) - At Large Position 1
- **Bill Griffith** (WWCC-AHE) - At Large Position 2
- **Margo Piver** (WWVEA) - At Large Position 3
- **Barb Thomas** (Kiona-Benton) - WEA-PAC Chair
- **Mary Shaw** (Kennewick) - WEA Board
- **Jeri Morrow** (Richland) - WEA Board

Staff

- **Sharon Adkins-McElroy**—Office Coordinator
- **Edna Barnhouse-Lopez**—UniServ Representative
- **James Gow**—UniServ Representative
- **Michelle Jenner**—UniServ Representative
- **Michelle Joy**—Field Assistant

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Everything changes, nothing remains without change.

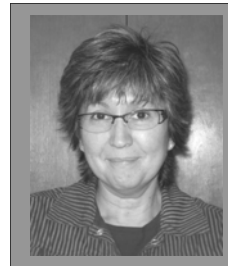
Buddha, 568-488 BC, Founder of Buddhism

Change is inevitable - except from a vending machine.

Robert C. Gallagher, American author

Change is inherent to our profession. With each new school year we say goodbye to former students and colleagues, and welcome new people into our lives. The same holds true here in the WEA Southeast office. This spring we said goodbye to my friend and mentor, Jan Fraley, as she retired from the Kennewick School District. Jan served as the Kennewick Education Association President from 2001-2007, and WEA

Southeast President during the 2008-2010 school



Teri Staudinger

years.

As my mentor I could always count on Jan to listen in an unbiased manner, answer my questions, and make suggestions. Her enthusiasm and strong devotion to the union was an inspiration. Jan frequently met with me, and patiently explained the duties and responsibilities of the council president. She encouraged me to find

my own voice as a leader and pursue my political ambitions.

Jan also taught by example. I watched and learned as she approached every situation in a calm, sensible manner. She treated everyone with kindness and respect. She listened and considered other points of view. Jan was never condescending and always gave everyone the opportunity to be heard. I admired her diplomacy, even in the most difficult situations.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from Jan, and know that if I have a question or concern, she is only a phone call away.

Comments or Questions?
Please contact Teri Staudinger
at tstaudinger@washingtonea.org

BENEFITS OF WEA MEMBERSHIP!!!



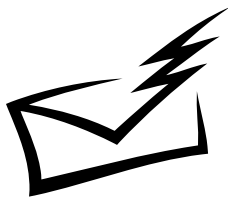
If you are new to the Washington Education Association (WEA), you might be curious about what your association membership entitles you to receive! Here are just some of those benefits:

- Economic benefits through your local's contract negotiations
- Protection of member rights
- Professional development support
- Legislative representation and infor-

mation

- Legal Assistance with job-related issues
- Voice and vote in association decisions
- Publications
- \$1 million in liability coverage
- Life Insurance
- Member benefits discounts
- Legal Assistance and/or discounts for legal services for personal matters (Attorney Referral Program)
- Home & Vehicle Insurance Programs

WEA-SOUTHEAST EMAIL ADDRESSES



Want to get in touch with your WEA-Southeast Council Staff or President? The following are email addresses you can use:

**Sharon Adkins-McElroy—
Office Coordinator**
sadkins@washingtonea.org

**Edna Barnhouse-Lopez
Uniserv Representative**
eblopez@washingtonea.org

**James Gow—
Uniserv Representative**
jgow@washingtonea.org

**Michelle Jenner—
Uniserv Representative**
mjenner@washingtonea.org

**Michelle Joy—
Field Assistant**
mjoy@washingtonea.org

**Teri Staudinger—
Council President**
tstaudinger@washingtonea.org

You can also call the office at 800-945-8555 or 509-783-6318 to speak with any of these Staff or the Council President.

MEET YOUR 2010-2011 WEA-SOUTHEAST EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS!

Teri Staudinger (Kennewick EA) - Council President

I am a native of Kennewick. I attended Eastgate Elementary School, Park Middle School and Kamiakin High School. I graduated from Eastern Washington University with my B.A. in Education, and earned my Master's in Education from Heritage University. I received National Board Certification in 2006.



I have taught 4th grade at Hawthorne Elementary for 20 years. I'm happily married and have 1 son, 3 stepsons, and 2 pampered cats. I have been involved in union politics my entire teaching career and have held numerous positions, starting with being a building representative and now as the council president.

Donna Baumgartner (Kiona-Benton EA) - At-Large Position #1

Greetings! Here is a little history on myself. I was born in Walla Walla, moved to Milton-Freewater, OR when I was 8 years old, then moved to the Tri-Cities when I graduated from



McLoughlin Union High School. I worked in Construction as a Union Laborer at Hanford and as a flagger, where I saved enough money to go back to school. I received my AA from CBC and went on to Eastern Washington University through WSU Campus, graduating with Endorsements in K-8 Education, K-12 Visual Arts; Major in K-12 Reading, and a Minor in Studio Arts. I also received my Masters in Creative Arts in Education through Lesley University from Cambridge, MA in 2006.

My 16 year teaching career has been at Kiona-Benton School District as the 1st-8th Visual Art

Teacher. Last year my role changed because of budget crunches, I now teach Middle school Visual Arts and Read 180 (RTI). I have been married for 27 years and my students are my children. We currently have 3 very spoiled dogs and live in Benton City.

I have been exposed to the unions for as long as I can remember. My dad paved the way (and is active as a retiree) and my brothers, uncles, aunts and myself have followed. I have seen the gains made for working rights from different perspectives. I am grateful and honored to have the opportunity to continue to work actively, especially within the WEA-Southeast Council.

Bill Griffith (Walla Walla Community College AHE) - At-Large Position #2

Born and raised in Portland, OR. Certificate of completion in Turf Management from Portland Community College. 13 years experience as a golf course superintendent in Oregon and Washington. 21 years as a Turf Management instructor: Portland Community College (4) and Walla Walla Community College (current) (17). President of WWCC - AHE.



O.G.C.S.A. (Oregon Golf Course Superintendents Association) - Past board member, Past vice president, Co-originated and developed the annual pesticide seminar, 1989 - Distinguished Service Award

N.T.A. (Northwest Turfgrass Association) - Current board member, Past President

I.E.G.C.S.A. (Inland Empire Golf Course Superintendents Association) - Board member - 18 years, Past President
PNWSTMA (Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association) - President

(Continued from page 2)

Margo Piver (Walla Walla Valley EA) - At-Large Position #3

I am an Army brat and I have attended schools from coast to coast and overseas. I graduated from Walla Walla High School and Walla Walla College with a Masters in Education in Special Education.



I have taught birth to grade 13+ in Oregon and Washington. I have been involved in the WEA at the local, regional and national level for most of my 16 years in Walla Walla Schools.

LaDonna Sterling (Richland EA) - Secretary



I see public schools as the source of our society's greatest equalizer: a free education to all. I've enjoyed spending 25 years working in Special Education and remedial programs and advocating for some of the best people and most interesting kids! Have a great school year!

Kathy Marquard (Pasco AE) - Vice-President/Treasurer

I moved to Tri-Cities from the west side of the state in 2000 to teach Special Education at Stevens Middle School in Pasco. I became involved in our local as a Building Representative in 2002 and as a member of our bargain team shortly after that. I love the work on the bargaining team, but I have enjoyed working as building representative as well. I have been a member of the Pasco Association Executive Board for one year. I look forward to new challenges and opportunities as Council Vice President.



Jeri Morrow (Richland EA) - WEA Board

Happy September! I have been working in education since 1995, and

have been an active union member since 1995 as well. I have been a building representative and served on my local and council executive boards. I have also served on the WEA Board of Directors and as Richland's local president and as the WEA-Southeast Council President. My passion is advocacy for all members and making public education the best it can be for ALL students. It is my pleasure to represent WEA Southeast in any capacity I can.



Mary Shaw (Kennewick EA) - WEA Board

I'm the full-time release president of the Kennewick Education Association, and am also a member of the WEA Board of Directors. This year I am hoping to visit local associations and to get your input on the important issues facing public education in today's world.



Barbara Thomas (Kiona Benton EA) - WEA-PAC Chair

Sailor, kayaker, crafter, and avid antique collector; yep, eclectic can be used to describe me. I was a para-educator and active Kiona-Benton City Public School Employee Union member, prior to earning a teaching degree from Washington State University Tri-Cities. I obtained a Master's in Educational technology two years later. I spent one year teaching 1st grade in Benton City, before transitioning to the middle school. I have served as a building rep, president elect, and three terms as president of the Kiona-Benton Education Association. After representing members for four years as a WEA-Southeast At Large Executive Board Member, I am looking forward to serving in the political arena.



CHECK OUT THE WEA-SOUTHEAST WEBSITE!!!

The WEA-Southeast Website has been updated and we will continue to work on improving it this year! You will now see all sorts of new information available, including, but not limited to:

- **Council, Exec Board, and Local President Meeting Dates and Times for 2010-11**
- **A link to the NEA Attorney Referral Program (ARP) List.** As an NEA member, you can access an attorney (for personal/non-school related legal matters) in various locations across the state of Washington, for a reduced cost!
- **Forms & Grants**—including the WEA Membership Form, WEA-PAC Form, Member Mileage Voucher, Community Connection Grant, etc.
- **2010-11 Local Presidents, Executive Board Members, and Council Staff**
- **Current Staff Assignments**—this list will tell you which Uniserv Representative is assigned to work with your local (find it under the "About Our Council" Tab)

Go to... www.wea-southeast.org to find these documents/information and more!!

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Fax: 509-783-9509
E-mail: mjoy@washingtonea.org

We're on the web,
www.wea-southeast.org

*Service to
Educational
Employees
through Local,
State and
National
Associations*



We're now on
Facebook. WEA-Southeast
members can find us un-
der the name **Wea South-**
east

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 6th—WEA-Southeast Executive Board Meeting,
5:30PM at Council Office

October 8th—Council President Meeting, Federal Way

October 8-9th—WEA Board Meeting, Federal Way

October 20th—Local President Training, Council Office from
10AM to 4PM

October 21st—Educator Nights—Classroom Management, 4:15PM to 7:30PM at the Coun-
cil Office

October 26th—Safer Relationships Training,, Walla Walla Community College, 4:15PM to
7:30PM (for more information go to www.wea-southeast.org)

October 29th–30th—Eastern Region Bargaining Conference, Location TBD

November 3rd—Election Day!

November 10th—WEA-Southeast Executive Board Meeting, 4:00PM at Council Office

November 10th—WEA-Southeast Council Meeting, 5:30PM at the Council Office



INTRODUCING...EDNA BARNHOUSE- LOPEZ

When the opportunity to apply for the WEA Southeast UniServ Representative position occurred, I was very excited to be considered for the position in the council. My combined union experiences have opened my heart to the challenges and difficulties that are faced everyday by educators. Both of my grandfathers were local presidents in the steel industry and my father is a member of a local pipe-fitters union in Pennsylvania, so having that familial background—union values and work are not a choice, they are a way of life.

Prior to relocating to the Tri-Cities, I lived in Lynden, Washington for 18 years. I completed my degree in Political Science from Western Washington University and then was employed by Bellingham Technical College as the Financial Aid Coordinator for 5 years. I soon became involved in my local association (Bellingham Educational Support Team), where I served as the Association's grievance chair and bargainer. Prior to that period I was employed by

the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in the Seattle District Office for 8 years, where I also served as a union steward for AFGE (Federal employees union).

After attending many WEA sponsored trainings, and working with my UniServ representative on some pretty contentious issues and bargains, I decided to leave the college and pursue staff work with the WEA. A position opened in Bellingham at WEA-Fourth Corner Uniserv

Council and I was hired as a Field Assistant. I was part of a team that supported a 5000 member council office. While employed with WEA, I served on the staff union bargaining and grievance team. During that time I realized that I wanted to do more, I then applied for an internship with the NEA UniServ Pre-employment Development Program, an internship program designed to develop Uniserv Representatives.

I look forward to putting my energies to work to advocate for our professional educators in WEA Southeast.

