

Please join us for our  
April All Member  
Meetings

**Tuesday, April 28**  
4:15 PM, Dobson Ranch Inn,  
1666 S. Dobson Rd.  
(Dobson/US 60)

**Wednesday, April 29**  
4:15 PM, Mi Amigo's  
6465 E. Southern Ave.  
(Power/Southern)

Please RSVP by Friday,  
April 24, to Heather at  
833-8400, ext. 101 or to  
heather.tanner@arizonaaea.org

*We welcome ALL members to join  
us at either meeting and hope to see  
you there!*



### Inside the Record

- Page 2 ....Join us for MEA's End of Year Fiesta
- Page 2 ....MEA Elections Results
- Page 3 ....MEA Delegate Elections
- Page 3 ....It's Not Too Late!
- Page 3 ....Pink Slip Resource Page
- Page 3 ....Where to "Surf" this Summer
- Page 4 ....MEA Survey of the Year

April 22, 2009

Volume XL, Number 11

## Aha!

*By Kirk Hinsey, President*



Throughout our teaching careers, we are always looking for those moments that inspire us, the light bulb going off. What connections have we made with our students this year? How have we collaborated with our colleagues? What impact will my day to day teaching have on the future of this country? Will my optimism be able to carry me through the challenges in public education today? Have I reflected on the rewards of my profession, beyond the monetary ones?

As President of MEA the past two years, I have had many of those 'aha' moments. Being president in these unprecedented, auspicious times has been challenging, aggravating, frustrating, but overall rewarding.

I have had those 'aha' moments when something goes my way.

I have had those 'aha' moments when things have not gone my way, but, 'aha', it taught me a lesson.

I have had those 'aha' moments when I realize others do not view the world in the same way that I do.

I have had those 'aha' moments when a member confronts or accosts me about their issue. Sometimes the member misses the bigger picture, but 'aha', in their world it is the biggest issue.

I have had those 'aha' moments when, 'aha', I am not alone and there are others with the passion and fire to make public education better.

I have those 'aha' moments when a student learns a challenging skill and I see the light bulb go off above them. That is rewarding and, 'aha', that's what keeps me coming back.

Despite the current state of affairs for public education and the budget, we still can have our 'aha' moments.

If you are not having these 'aha' moments, ask yourself why. Do you not reflect on the moments? Have we become so micromanaged we miss them? Maybe that is our 'aha' moment.

As we end the year, I want to thank all of you for those many 'aha' moments you have provided for me. I hope to have many more 'aha' moments as I learn and grow personally and professionally. Hope to see you at one of our upcoming meetings!

*Aha! MEA, where members make it happen!*

# Join us for MEA's End of Year Fiesta!

**Where:** Mi Amigo's, 1264 S. Gilbert Rd.  
(Gilbert and Southern)



**When:** Tuesday, May 12, 4:15 PM

All MEA Members are  
welcome to join us for  
food, prizes and fun!



*Please RSVP to Heather at 833-8400, ext. 101, by Thursday, May 7.*

## Congratulations to the New MEA Officers and Executive Board Members!

The following members ran unopposed, and have been elected to these positions:

### Officers:

**President:** Kirk Hinsey, Powell Jr.  
**Vice President:** Kathy Ray, Mendoza/O'Connor  
**Secretary:** Shirley Thomas, Westwood

### Executive Board Members:

**Region 1 Representative:** Tiffany Bunstein, Dobson  
**Region 3 Representative:** Alissa Gonzalez, EEC  
**Region 5 Representative:** Tammie Pursley, Mesa Jr.  
**Region 7 Representative:** Mahle Killian, Hale  
**Region 9 Representative:** Skip Allen, Stevenson

The **Region 8 Representative** spot vacated by Kathy Ray will be filled by **Jamie Bescak, O'Connor**

They will assume their elected positions June 1, 2009. Congratulations again!

## Continuing to serve on the Executive Board for the 2009-2010 School Year are:

**Treasurer:** Andrea Kowalzyk, Webster

**Region 2 Representative:** Olga Grant, Lincoln  
**Region 6 Representative:** Jennifer Tellez-Carson, Keller

**Region 4 Representative:** Mike Conway, Kino Jr.  
**Region 10 Representative:** Dave Clark, Salk

## MEA Delegate Elections

**The following delegates have been elected to attend the AEA Delegate Assembly on April 24-25 in Mesa, AZ:**

Susy Brenden, Dobson  
Alissa Gonzalez, EEC  
Valerie Angus, EVA  
Yvanna Villa, Guerrero  
Jennifer Tellez-Carson, Keller  
Alice Galford, Kino  
Esmerelda Bates, Lindbergh  
Julie Landers, Mesa High  
Tammie Pursley, Mesa Jr.  
Carole Chandler, Porter  
Teresa Williams, Riverview  
Darcy Zucco, SHARP  
Skip Allen, Stevenson  
Anna Cicero, Westwood

Tiffany Bunstein, Dobson  
Joelyn Hilton, Ed. Tech  
Wayne Manske, Field  
Annette Trujillo, Ishikawa  
Desiree Wells, Kerr  
Kendis Hannah, Kino  
Michelle Peters, Mesa Academy  
Mary Ann Polve, Mesa High  
Kathy Ray, O'Connor  
Kirk Hinsey, Powell  
David Clark, Salk  
Kelda Lewis, Shepherd  
Andrea Kowalzyk, Webster

Kelly Harris, Dobson  
Sue Azizi, Emerson  
Susan Rueckle, Frost  
James Sellers, Johnson  
Nancy Parra-Quinlan, Kino  
Olga Grant, Lincoln  
Marty Haub, Mesa High  
Kim Sunia, Mesa Jr.  
Eric Stuebner, Pomeroy  
Kim Lilly, Rhodes  
Carmel-Ann Ditch, Salk  
Nancy Udall, Serrine  
Shirley Thomas, Westwood

**The following delegates have been elected to attend the NEA-RA in San Diego, CA, July 1-6, 2009:**

Skip Allen, Stevenson  
Joelyn Hilton, Ed. Tech  
Eric Stuebner, Pomeroy  
Joe Thomas, Skyline

Sue Azizi, Emerson  
Kirk Hinsey, Powell  
Kim Sunia, Mesa Jr

Tiffany Bunstein, Dobson  
Tammie Pursley, Mesa Jr  
Jennifer Tellez-Carson, Keller-

Congratulations to all those selected to represent MEA at these State and National functions!

### **It's Not Too Late!**

Interested in making extra money over the summer?



Sign up for the MEA Tutor Bank! We provide your name and phone number to parents who are looking for tutors for their children. You set your rate, availability, and where you will tutor. **All grade levels and subjects are welcome.** (In order to participate, you must be a current MEA Member.)

If you are interested, contact Heather at the MEA Office, 833-8400, ext. 101 or via email at [heather.tanner@arizonaaea.org](mailto:heather.tanner@arizonaaea.org).

If you have already signed up, but do NOT wish to tutor over the summer, please contact the office before the end of the school year.

### **Pink Slip Resource Page**

Have you received a RIF notice this spring? Need some information on what to do next or resources you can use?

Visit the AEA website at [www.arizonaaea.org](http://www.arizonaaea.org) to view their Pink Slip Resource Page - a link is on the main page. You can also find a link on the MEA website at [www.mesateachers.org](http://www.mesateachers.org).

The Pink Slip Resource page includes information about recall, unemployment benefits, community resources, COBRA, and member benefits. Hopefully it will be of assistance to you during this difficult time.

### **Where to "Surf" this Summer!**

Make sure you "surf" on over to the MEA website at [www.mesateachers.org](http://www.mesateachers.org) during the summer months! We will be posting Bargaining updates, links to important resources, news and upcoming events.



Be the first to know and a member that "makes it happen"!



**ME A Record**  
**1032 E. University Dr., Mesa, AZ 85203**  
**(480) 833-8400 (Office) (480) 834-6890 (Fax)**

**End of the Year ME A Survey**

*Please fill out and return to the ME A Office by May 15*

1. What kind of job did ME A do this year in keeping you informed of changes in the district?  

Poor	Average	Good	Very good
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2. What is the best way that you receive information from ME A in regards to the important issues?  
(rank order if you receive info in more than one way)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ The ME A Record
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ attend the monthly Faculty Rep meetings
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ my faculty rep hosts a meeting at my school
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ the flyers and notices sent from the ME A Office
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ other – please list \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. ME A worked hard to elect pro – public education school board candidates, legislators, and other officials. ME A helped to organize educators going to the March4Schools rally. ME A worked with VIP (Valley Inter-faith Project) on accountability sessions. In which of the following did you participate?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ school board elections (phone banks, yard signs, etc)
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ state elections (District 18 \_\_\_\_\_ District 19 \_\_\_\_\_)
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ VIP accountability session
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ March4Schools
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ cyber – lobbied through AEA legislative update
  - f. \_\_\_\_\_ attended Education Day at the Capitol
  - g. \_\_\_\_\_ attended Shadow Day at the Legislature
  
4. ME A supports and works on various committees throughout the year. ME A also works to support our profession. In which of the following did you participate?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ Read Across America – school or district events
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ ME A scholarship fund – (Entertainment Books, etc.)
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ Attended Meet and Confer on a Monday
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ Contributed to the local PAC (Political Action Committee)
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ Superintendent’s Forum (Held in October at Dobson Ranch Inn)

What changes would you recommend for ME A in the upcoming year?

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

School Site (optional) \_\_\_\_\_