

Please join us for our  
August Faculty Rep Meetings

**Tuesday, August 31**  
4:15 PM, Top Shelf Cantina,  
1976 W. Southern Ave.  
(Dobson/Southern)

**Wednesday, September 1**  
4:15 PM, Mi Amigo's  
6465 E. Southern Ave.  
(Power/Southern)

Please RSVP by **Friday, August 27**  
to 833-8400 or via email to  
heather.tanner@arizonaaea.org.

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



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**Shepherds of Our Profession**

*By Kirk Hinsey, MEA President*



Welcome back to another thrilling, change-filled year. It is definitely an exciting, yet challenging time to be an educator. We attended a pep rally and kickoff for our PLC's for the year. What a great time to reflect and consider MEA as a larger PLC for our profession. We can be the change we want in education; we can be the **Shepherds of our Profession**.

As we tend our flock, we are attacked by many predators: legislators that don't support public education, shrinking budgets, rumors, cynics, federal and state mandates, forced curriculum, and the list of wolves goes on and on. What have you done to protect your profession and what are you willing to do this year?

As an MEA member, I challenge you to talk with and discuss the importance of the Association with a potential member. I challenge you to attend one meeting or event this year and put your profession first. Protect it from the wolves in sheep's clothing that promise, but never deliver.

If you are not a member of MEA, I challenge you to reflect on what you have personally done to protect our profession. On whose campaigns have you worked? How many times have you discussed important education policy with policy makers? How many education causes have you supported by hosting a block party? Phone banking? Putting up yard signs? Were you there for the passage of the Override and Prop 100?

It is easy to be a wolf and attack those educators who have stood up for their profession. It is easy to attack the shepherds of the profession when they are fighting for a quality education for every child, but it is much harder to be one of those shepherds. It is not easy to have people say you do nothing when you have given up another weekend to pound in signs. It is not easy when all you hear is, "What's in it for me?", yet the person speaking does nothing but complain.

I challenge us to become proactive about our profession. We all believe that we are doing what is best for our students in the classroom as we **dedicate time, money, and energy** into our lessons. Wouldn't it be nice if we dedicated that same passion towards protecting our profession?

I challenge each reader to become a **Shepherd of our Profession**. Thank you MEA and its members for taking the risks and rising to the challenges of being a **Shepherd**. The more shepherds we have, the easier it is to protect the flock.

**MEA, Members Make it Happen.**

# What MEA did on our

# Summer Vacation

It is the beginning of the year, and the old cliché essay is a good way to let you know that MEA and its members did not just lay by the pool and enjoy exotic vacations. MEA continues to work to improve the lives of its teachers as well as educators.

**June 6:** The MEA Executive Board went on their **annual retreat** and planned for the upcoming year. There are some new trainings and events on the horizon. Stay informed and get involved.

**June 30 – July 6:** Many MEA members were delegates to the **NEA – RA** in New Orleans. They participated in the democratic process and discussed issues important to education nationally.

**July 14 – 15: AEA Summer Leader’s Conference.** What a great way to develop better leadership skills as well as network with educators from across the state.

**July – August – Greeted new teachers** to Mesa daily with a smile, words of encouragement, and a refreshing bottled water before their trainings. Sponsored and treated all new teachers to our annual **New Teachers’ Brunch** on **August 4** to say welcome to Mesa and welcome to MEA.

**July – August – Phone banked and walked neighborhoods for Pro-Public Education Candidates.** MEA Members know we can make a difference by having the right people in office. We worked for both Republican and Democratic candidates (an interesting note - 1/3 of our membership is Republican!).

**August 5 – Hosted a Furlough Day of Action** to remind educators of the significance of the day and also talked with several candidates.

Hope your summer was as rewarding and action-packed as MEA’s summer was!

New Teachers’ Brunch August 4, 2010



Furlough Day of Action August 5, 2010

### Candidates at the event

**(L-R):** Vic Linoff, Mesa City Council, District 4; Mike Conway (D), LD 18; Kit Filbey (D), LD 19; Paul Howell (R), LD 22; Penny Kotterman (D), State Superintendent of Education.

*(Mike Conway and Paul Howell are both MPS Teachers and MEA Members!)*



# mea MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

2010 - 2011

## MESA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

1032 East University Drive  
Mesa, Arizona 85203 ♦ 480-833-8400

SCHOOL / WORK SITE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

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HOME PHONE

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HOME E-MAIL ADDRESS

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MPS HIRE DATE (YEAR)

NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	LAST NAME
ADDRESS			
CITY & STATE			ZIP CODE

**PAYMENT METHOD**

- Cash  
 Credit Card  
 Payroll Deduction  
**DUES AMOUNT, PER PAY PERIOD**  
 full time \$35.18  
 3/4 time \$29.00  
 1/2 time \$18.24  
 1/4 time \$9.43

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

\_\_\_\_\_ Ed. Improvement Fund  
 \_\_\_\_\_ MEA Scholarship Fund  
 \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL DONATION

**CREDIT CARD**

MC  VISA

# \_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER?  <input type="checkbox"/> YES  <input type="checkbox"/> NO	PARTY AFFILIATION  <input type="checkbox"/> DEM. <input type="checkbox"/> REP. <input type="checkbox"/> IND. <input type="checkbox"/> NO PARTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	SEX  <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/> MALE  DATE OF BIRTH _____ -	ETHNIC INFORMATION: <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> ASIAN <input type="checkbox"/> BLACK <input type="checkbox"/> CAUCASIAN (not of Hispanic origin) <input type="checkbox"/> HISPANIC <input type="checkbox"/> MULTI-ETHNIC <input type="checkbox"/> NATIVE HAWAIIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER
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WHAT IS YOUR POSITION? _____	WHAT SUBJECT DO YOU TEACH? _____
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**EVERY MEMBER OPTION**

AEA annual dues include an assessment, called the Every Member Option (EMO), in the amount of \$12, which impacts all active-certified and active-educational support members working one-half time or more. AEA-Retired members and those active-certified and active-educational support professional members working less than one-half time shall have an EMO rate of \$6.

Monies collected through the EMO assessment shall be divided \$5 for AEA Foundation for Teaching and Learning, \$4 for AEA Fund for Public Education, and \$3 for the AEA Education Improvement Fund. Monies collected through the EMO assessment for those members paying the \$6 amount shall be divided \$2.50 for AEA Foundation for Teaching and Learning, \$2 for AEA Fund for Public Education, and \$1.50 for AEA Education Improvement Fund.

**Refund Procedure**

New members desiring a refund from EMO may request a Refund Request Form by calling 800-352-5411. The member must mail the Refund Request Form to Membership postmarked or hand delivered within thirty (30) days of signing this application. The Arizona Education Association will mail a refund check after receipt of the Refund Request Form.

The Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 has eliminated the individual federal income tax deduction for lobbying expenses paid or incurred as part of membership dues on or after December 31, 1993. This change will affect only those members who itemize deductions and meet the two percent required for additional miscellaneous deductions. Those members will not be able to deduct as union dues 2.04 percent of their AEA 2010-2011 dues. This is the percentage attributable to lobbying expenses on the state and national level. The exact dollar amount will vary depending on each member's category of membership.

With full knowledge of the above, I hereby agree to pay cash for or authorize the Mesa Unified School District Number 4 to deduct from my salary, in accordance with the agreed upon payroll deduction procedure, my membership dues as revised annually in the amounts indicated above for the 2010-2011 membership year and as revised for each successive year. I expressly acknowledge that I may revoke this authorization by giving written notice to that effect to the Mesa Education Association on or before September 1 of any year. To be effective, any notice of revocation must be received by the Association by 5:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on September 1. If for any reason, excepting my death, my employment or membership is terminated, amounts still owing pursuant to this authorization shall be deducted from final pay due. I expressly and voluntarily waive any claim under A.R.S. § 23-352 or other applicable statute, law, policy, or regulation, against the Mesa Education Association or the Mesa Unified School District for wrongfully withholding my wages during any membership year by deducting my membership dues and any political action contribution designated above unless I revoke this authorization with written notice pursuant to the terms set forth above on or before September 1 of that year.

Annual membership dues to the NEA includes \$5.65 for *NEA Today*. Annual membership dues to the AEA includes \$5.20 for subscriptions which are available only as part of membership. Membership is open only to those who agree to subscribe to the goals and objectives of the Association and to abide by its Constitution and Bylaws.

MEMBER'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RECRUITER \_\_\_\_\_

2010-2011 MEA Unified Dues are \$598.00

Mesa Education Association ♦ Arizona Education Association ♦ National Education Association



**MEA Record**  
**1032 E. University Dr., Mesa, AZ 85203**  
**(480) 833-8400 (Office) (480) 834-6890 (Fax)**  
**www.mesateachers.org**

**The Other Set of Classroom Standards**

*By Will Moore, AEA Organizational Consultant*

There is a set of standards for Mesa schools that has been around for decades. In fact, it's been around so long that we tend to take it for granted – or to ignore it altogether. The standards I refer to are the working conditions and employment procedures spelled out in the agreement between the District and MEA. Officially the document is called **Working Conditions and Benefits for Certificated Employees**. MEA members are voting this month to continue one of the most comprehensive and long-lasting negotiated agreements that you will find among Arizona school districts.



What matters to Mesa educators is that we have a foundation for working conditions that we ought to be able to rely on. Here are a couple of examples: When student enrollment makes it necessary for the administration to transfer teachers in the fall, we have a negotiated procedure which spells out the process. If things get unruly in the cafeteria, principals don't impose lunchroom duties simply because it's convenient: duty-free lunch still must be maintained.

This is a good time to remind ourselves that the working conditions for teachers are the learning conditions for students. We also should remember that these basic standards for teacher working conditions didn't fall out of the sky, nor were they the gift of a benign school board. From the time this unified district was a district, the Mesa Education Association has worked toward fair and reasonable standards that are still there for us today.

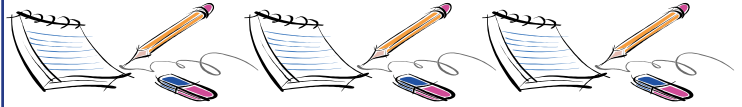
**Entertainment Books Are Here**

The 2011 Entertainment Books have arrived at the MEA Office. Each book is **\$30** and proceeds go to the MEA Scholarship Fund. The price includes an additional \$35 in savings at TGI Friday's, Old Chicago, Black Angus, 5 & Diner and the Melting Pot restaurants!



Books are available until December, so get your book while they last! Stop by the MEA Office to pick one up, or send a request with your payment to the MEA Office and we will school mail your book.

**MEA Calendar of Events**  
**August - September 2010**



**Tuesday, August 24:** *Arizona Primary Election*

**Saturday, August 28:** *1/2 Day New Rep Training, 9AM, MEA Office*

**Tuesday, August 31:** *West Side Faculty Rep Meeting, 4:15 PM, Top Shelf Mexican Cantina, 1976 W. Southern Ave. (Dobson/Southern) Open to all members*

**Wednesday, September 1:** *East Side Faculty Rep Meeting, 4:15 PM, Mi Amigo's, 6465 E. Southern Rd. (Southern/Power) Open to all members*

**Monday, September 6:** *Labor Day, No School*

**Tuesday, September 7:** *MEA Executive Board, 4:30 PM, MEA Office*

**Tuesday, September 14:** *Faculty Rep Training Session, 4:30 PM, Fremont Jr. High*

**Wednesday, September 15:** *Faculty Rep Training Session, 4:30 PM, Redbird Elementary*

**Tuesday, September 21:** *MEA Executive Board, 4:30 PM, MEA Office*

**Tuesday, September 28:** *West Side Faculty Rep Meeting, 4:15 PM, Top Shelf Mexican Cantina, 1976 W. Southern Ave. (Dobson/Southern) Open to all members*

**Wednesday, September 29:** *East Side ALL MEMBER Meeting, 4:15 PM, Mi Amigo's, 6465 E. Southern Rd. (Southern/Power) Open to all members*

**Thursday, September 30:** *MEA's Superintendent's Forum, 4:30 - 6:30 PM, Holiday Inn, 1600 S. Country Club*

*The MEA Calendar is also available online at*  
[www.mesateachers.org](http://www.mesateachers.org)

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