

conference DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

The 2007 Delegate Assembly brought together 74 members from 29 districts in a new location at the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls.

Delegates elected two new board members and re-elected Nona Bauer of Austin for her second 3-year term. Delegates elected Sue Ames, a LaCrescent Para Educator to a 3-year term and Kim Lennartson, a St. Paul Confidential Secretary to replace Kim Fultz, who announced her resignation at the Assembly. Kim Lennartson will be on the Board for the remaining two years of that position.

In addition to approving the budget for next year, the Delegates passed three resolutions of note:

- (1) One resolution allows school districts with more than one bargaining unit to use an option in determining their delegate count which, if selected, would allow each unit to have at least one delegate.
- (2) When a new member/officer has been elected to and sworn in to the Board he/she will be included in all meetings convened by the Board between the date of election and July 1st, the date upon which the new term actually begins.
- (3) The Board will investigate methods for retired MSEA members to participate in the support, growth and development of MSEA and its causes.

organizer MSEA ADDS STAFF



TIM GEELAN

On May 1st, Tim Geelan was hired as MSEA's new Director of Organizing. Before coming to MSEA, Tim served for several years as the state organizing director for the Minnesota AFL-CIO and prior to that was a Staff Representative and Political Coordinator for the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union.

Tim brings with him an in-depth knowledge of the fine points of organizing and a thorough understanding of the latest techniques. Furthermore, his work at the AFL-CIO provided him with broad exposure to the varied workings of many unions and afforded him the opportunity to build good relationships with labor personnel throughout the state, which he can draw upon in his new role. Tim is enthusiastic about helping MSEA thrive and grow; his energy and commitment is most welcome!

SELA RECIPIENT

Member of the Year

CLINTON TALLEY

a custodian from Moorhead, was awarded the Sue Ezell Leadership Award (SELA) at the 2007 Delegate Assembly.

Clinton has been an active member of the Moorhead bargaining unit

since its inception in 1981. Clinton's leadership skills have given him an opportunity to serve in several positions during the last 29 years including Chief Steward, Grievance Steward, Building Rep, Negotiation Team member & Delegate.



One of Clinton's top priorities is serving his fellow union members. He is a very compassionate person, which gives him the ability to empathize with his local members. Unity is another top priority of Clinton's because he knows it strengthens his unit's bargaining power. Clinton also believes in mentoring; he is always more than willing to mentor new board members. He keeps a watchful eye on Moorhead's income and expenditures making sure they save and spend wisely. Clinton has also served on a number of committees within his district as a union representative. He is a problem solver both on the job and at the union level and is dedicated to the union's mission.

Over the years Clinton has helped MSEA grow and become stronger. His knowledge and wisdom as well as his insight has been invaluable. Clinton has been nominated more than once in the past several years, so clearly his co-workers think very highly of him.

Congratulations Clinton!

"The Minnesota School Employees Association (MSEA), is a growing union which recognizes the dignity of the individual worker and the power of the organized body. It is a democratic union directed by its membership, and fiscally responsible to that membership. Through an empowered membership and a professional staff, MSEA provides the highest level of representation and service in the State of Minnesota."

MSEA

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Field Rep	Lori K. Carlson
Field Rep	Greg Gardner
Field Rep	Cheryl Rosheim
Field Rep	Don Gilbertson
Office Mgr	Jodi Lietzau
Fin Mgr	Lynn Jansen
Admin Asst	Melissa Gara

CLUB FUN!

Valleyfair Summer Savings

Discount coupons available now from the MSEA office.

		48" & taller
EARLY SEASON	5/12 - 6/15	\$23.95
MID-SEASON	6/16 - 7/13	\$25.95
PEAK SEASON	7/14 - 8/24	\$28.95
LATE SEASON	8/25 - 9/30	\$23.95
SEASON PASS	5/12 - 10/31	\$89.95
HALLOWEEN HUNT	10/5 - 10/28	\$24.95

\$11.95 for Kids (3 years + and less than 48" tall)

\$11.95 for Seniors (62 years and older)

ANNUAL NOTICE REQUIRED BY LAW

Summary Annual Report for the MSEA MEMBERS WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN

This is the summary annual report for the MSEA MEMBERS WELFARE BENEFIT PLAN, EIN 41-1994256, Plan number 501 for the period Sept. 01, 2005 to Aug. 31, 2006. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Insurance Information: The plan has a contract with insurance carriers to pay Life and Dismemberment claims incurred under the terms of the plan. Carriers are Hartford Life and Horace Mann. Total premiums paid during the plan year were \$14,768.

Your rights to additional information: You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report.

-Insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers

To obtain a **FREE** copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof write or call the MSEA office, who is the plan administrator, 190 E 5TH ST #750, ST. PAUL, MN 55101, 651-227-3623.

You also have the right to receive from the plan administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes, or a statement of income and expenses of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the plan administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include a charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge.

You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan:

MSEA - Plan Sponsor, 41-1994256
190 E 5TH ST STE 750
ST. PAUL, MN 55101

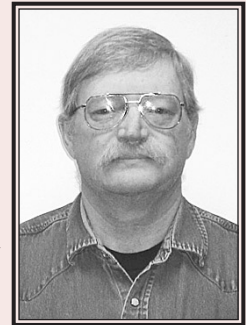
and at the U.S. Dept of Labor in Wash., D.C., or to obtain a copy from the US Dept of Labor upon payment of copying costs. Requests to the Department should be addressed to:

Public Disclosure Room, Rm N-1513
Employee Benefits Security Admin
US Dept of Labor, 200 Constitution Av NW
Washington, D.C. 20210

FROM THE PRESIDENT

HELLO!

By the time you read this another school year will be over, and summer vacation will be upon us.



EVAN MAPES

The 2007 Annual Delegate Assembly is behind us and I would like to congratulate Nona Bauer on being re-elected to the Board of Directors. I would also like to welcome Susan Ames, a Para Educator from LaCrescent, and Kim Lennartson, a St. Paul Confidential Admin. Secretary to the Board.

Nona and Sue were elected to three-year Director terms. After Kim Fultz announced her resignation as Director during the Delegate Assembly, Kim Lennartson was elected to fill the remaining two years of that term.

I would like to thank Directors Les Schermerhorn and Kim Fultz for their time on the Board and their commitment to MSEA.

I am happy to also report that MSEA has hired a Director of Organizing, Tim Geelan. Tim comes to us with a great deal of organizing experience and will be a valuable asset to MSEA. If you know of any unit or classified school employees that are considering joining a union, please let Tim know.

In Unity,

Evan Mapes

MSEA President

MSEA 27th Delegate Assembly

board elections

The 27th MSEA Delegate Assembly was held on April 20-21, 2007 at the Fergus Falls Bigwood Event Center. Sixty-one Delegates and 13 Alternates from 27 districts from around the state attended the Assembly. Friday's agenda included the President's State of the Union report, the Executive Director's Report and budget presentation, Forum on the Future discussion, Resolution Review and MSEA Board Candidate Forum.

The Friday evening banquet had a "Western" theme and gave members a chance to socialize and network with one another. Bargaining units, members and staff were also recognized for outstanding achievements. A wide variety of door prizes were also given out after the banquet including a one-year dues holiday, portable DVD player, digital camera, free hotel stays, Twins tickets and several gift baskets and gift bags.

On Saturday Delegates voted on seven resolutions and filled three open Board of Director positions (see right). Kim Lennartson will begin serving on the Board effective immediately due to Kim Fultz's resignation. Sue Ames will join the Board as a voting Director as of July 1, 2007. Nona Bauer's next term as a Director will also begin on July 1st.

Updated MSEA Bylaws are now available at: www.msea-mn.com (click on MSEA Policies). Thanks to all who attended!

director (3-year)

NONA BAUER (incumbent) has worked as Head Cook in Austin for the past 17 years. Nona believes she has more to give MSEA and is willing to fight for the beliefs, wishes and integrity of its membership. She believes MSEA has started some good things such as the Chief Steward Training, Political Committee and organizing and would like very much to play an active part in what is to come for this organization.



director (3-year)



SUE AMES works as a Para Educator in LaCrescent. Sue wishes to continue to educate members on both the tangible benefits such as wages, insurance, pensions - and also on the strength and power of Unions. She is excited to help develop a 5-year plan that will stress communication, knowledge, unit and fiscal responsibility. She hopes to empower members to stand up and become a voice in the future of their districts, communities, state and nation.

director (2-year)

KIM LENNARTSON, a Confidential Administrative Secretary in St. Paul since 1989, feels that as an employee from such a large district, she can bring a different perspective to the Board of Directors. She has strong leadership skills and works well with a variety of people and is respectful of others. She is looking forward to working with the other Directors to achieve goals that will make MSEA a stronger, more cohesive union.



2007 Delegates & Alternates



Assembly Awards and Recognition

leadership

sue ezell leadership award

Clinton Talley, Moorhead (pg 1)

100%

100% full membership

Austin Food Service
Browns Valley
Clearbrook/Gonvick Sec/Cust
Rushford/peterson Custodians
Windom Custodians



back: Imogene Worm, Diane Peck, Pattie Gunderson
front: Pat Gangl, Jeri Loeffler, Diane Schneider (St. Cloud)

left: Virginia Rupp, Alexandria
right: Jens Hansen, Windom



scholarship

nancy crippen ed. scholarships

MEMBERS

Debra Stock, Sartell
Kara Vig, Rochester
Ramses Yannaroda, Moorhead

DEPENDENTS

Lindsay Conroy, St. Cloud
Alyssa Day, Moorhead
Casey Gunderson, St. Cloud
Sarah Henning, Eden Prairie
Angela Howe, St. Cloud
Heather Kuelbs, Chaska
Andrew Paulsen, Anoka

newsletter

unit newsletter of the year

Moorhead

staff

staff recognition

Jodi Lietzau, Office Manager, 15 years
Lori K. Carlson, Field Rep, 10 years

conversions

fair share conversions

127 fair share fee payers from 33
bargaining units converted to full
member status



Cass Lake Delegates Patricia Eslinger & Amy Woodford

organizing

MSEA'S FUTURE

TIM GEELAN, DIR. OF ORGANIZING

organize, organize, organize! Welcome to the future of MSEA. As your new Director of Organizing, I will be bringing the MSEA message to unorganized workers around the state that we are a "member driven" union proud of our experience and representation of public school employees. I will convince the workers that MSEA will spend their dues money directly on representing them and organizing new members to make the union even stronger.

targeting. Targeting is always the first step in organizing. I will spend much of the summer researching the target list and working with our field reps identifying units that have expressed interest in joining the union. It is my plan to have this prep work completed by the end of June 2007.

committees. After the targeting is finished I will be busy setting up member-organizing committees in many of your school districts and will be asking you to help MSEA reach out to your unorganized co-workers who need a strong independent union like MSEA.

contact me. I am delighted to be the newest staff member of MSEA! We are committed to growing the union and I'm here to make that happen. If you know of anyone that is interested in joining MSEA please call me at the St. Paul office at 651-227-3623 or 800.622.0289 or email me at: tim@msea-mn.com. I look forward to meeting many of you and together we will grow this union and make MSEA's voice stronger than ever!

51st Annual Minnesota Food Service Conference

sponsored by the MN School Nutrition Association

Aug 5 - Aug 8, 2006

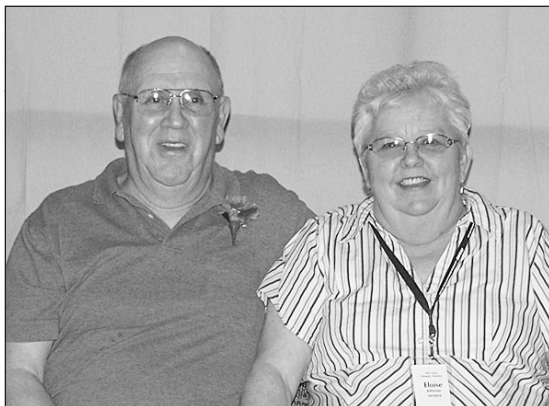
Mayo Civic Center
30 Civic Center Dr SE
Rochester MN 55904

To register or for more info -
visit: www.mnsfsa.org
or call: 888.326.1412 (toll free)

This year's agenda includes:
Speakers
Workshops (CEU's)
Area Tours
Golf Outing
& Evening Entertainment

Don't miss out on the fun!

Early-Bird Deadline: June 10th
Registration Due: July 10th



Laurel & Eloise Johnson, Bemidji Drivers

good friends

SAY GOODBYE

For the last 22 years, Laurel and Eloise Johnson have safely and reliably transported children of the Bemidji district to and from school. Laurel and Eloise are retiring at the end of this school year.

Laurel and Eloise have served MSEA in numerous capacities on both the state and local levels; as Delegates and Alternates to the Assembly and in elected local positions. Laurel has served on the negotiation team, Bemidji Executive Board and as the Bus Driver Steward for most of the last twenty years. In 2000, both Laurel and Eloise were strong advocates for equity during the Bemidji Bus Driver Strike and a source of strength for our members.

Perhaps Laurel's most significant contribution has been on the Bus Drivers Communications Committee. In this role, Laurel fields questions and complaints from our members. He then meets with the Transportation Director to get answers and solve problems. As a direct result of Laurel's actions, MSEA has filed fewer than five grievances in the past 10 years in this unit. Through his tireless efforts, countless potential grievances have been avoided and/or resolved and MSEA has developed a superb working relationship with the District to the clear benefit of all Bemidji members.

Laurel has also been an outstanding mentor. He has encouraged new members to get involved and make a difference! The Bemidji Bus Drivers have a new generation of leaders ready to "hit the ground running" thanks to Laurel.

MSEA owes Laurel and Eloise Johnson a debt of gratitude for their years of unselfish dedication and service to MSEA. We wish Laurel and Eloise the very best as they settle into a much deserved retirement - you will both be missed more than you know!

MSEA
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political INTERESTS

Day on the Hill

On March 15th, MSEA Board members and officers, the Political Committee and MSEA staff spent a day lobbying at the state capitol in Saint Paul. Earlier in the year the Political Committee had identified two legislative priorities: 1) the creation of a statewide school employees health insurance pool and 2) education funding. With these two items as a lobbying focus, MSEA personnel met with representatives and senators from their home regions. Most of the elected officials agreed to support the statewide pool health insurance and stressed the difficulties involved in targeting the limited funding available for education purposes.

In the evening the House Education Finance Committee debated the statewide school employee health insurance pool. It was clear that the opposition from the School Boards Association was strong. MSEA Board member Cindy Antonson was scheduled to testify about our members' perspective on the overwhelming cost of health insurance, but a recess was called and testimony was cut short before she had the chance. Nevertheless, other union voices were heard that night and we were heard during the day.

The insurance pool bill has continued through the process and as of May 17, 2007, it is before the House of Representatives.



School Board Advocacy

MSEA legal counsel Jim Michels gave the keynote address at the Assembly. Jim has spent years working as an advocate and attorney for public sector unions like MSEA. This has given him the chance to advise unions on how to get politically active at the local level (city council, county board or school board). Jim identified ten steps for effective advocacy at the school board level:

1. Identify "union-friendly" school board members.
2. Take time to get to know them.
3. Take care of your friends, that is, volunteer for them.
4. Target people you want off the Board.
5. Target the most vulnerable of those you want off.
6. Recruit someone who will stay our friend, such as a member or a relative of a member.
7. Make endorsements. Use an endorsement committee.
8. Do your homework and know your voters. Find out how many members live in the district, obtain registered voter's lists.
9. Don't do it alone. Engage other unions, parents.
10. Be visible. Be vocal.