

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT**

2008 MSEA Delegate Assembly

The Program Committee worked for several months planning the 2008 Delegate Assembly. Evaluations and comments regarding the Fergus Falls Event Center were very positive. Therefore, the committee decided to host the 2008 Delegate Assembly once again at the Bigwood Event Center in Fergus Falls. The Committee added a welcoming/orientation session for new Delegates and Alternates and a training session with PERA and PEPSA as facilitators to the Assembly agenda. Several documents were created including a Parliamentary Procedure booklet, a document explaining details for volunteer units to help plan future Assembly banquets and a "cheat sheet" outlining Tellers' responsibilities and procedures. The committee also spent time researching the possibilities of renting or purchasing a sound system and an electronic voting tool. At this time both are too costly to purchase.

Regional Core Trainings were planned and held in Mankato and Bemidji during the months of January and February. These workshops replaced the Fall Regionals and focused on "Navigating Conflict" for current and future unit leaders, building reps and negotiation team members. The workshops were well attended (37 in Mankato & 42 in Bemidji) and received high marks all around. A new lapel pin was designed and given to everyone who attended the workshop.

The Committee has also worked on ways to provide opportunities for retired members who wish to remain involved in MSEA activities.

The Directors coordinated the Spring Regionals that were held in six locations during the months of February and March. The meetings prepared Delegates and Alternates for the Delegate Assembly by providing information on upcoming resolutions and Board elections. Two resolutions were submitted by the Board of Directors this year.

The MSEA website continues to be updated on a regular basis and four newsletters per year are sent out to members. Board Highlights are also sent out electronically after each Board Meeting to help maintain communication with membership.

Respectfully Submitted,  
MJ Hanson, MSEA Program Committee Chair

MSEA Board of Directors Program Committee:  
MJ Hanson, Lake of the Woods, Chair  
Nona Bauer, Austin  
Sue Ames, LaCrescent  
Kim Lennartson, St. Paul  
Evan Mapes, Thief River Falls (ex-officio)