

MVAEA

Happenings in the Valley

MVAEA conference is almost here!

by *Kethy Petz (Kansas), Conference Planning Chair and MVAEA president-elect*

The 2005 MVAEA annual conference (in conjunction with the KAEA state conference) will be held March 16-18 in Overland Park, Kansas. While you have already been mailed a conference reminder postcard, you will not receive a conference registration packet via mail. This year we are handling registration a little differently than in years past. As one major example, we will process virtually all conference registrations online!

We have put together a great lineup of concurrent sessions (see page 4 for a list), and we have booked some excellent speakers who will speak to attendees on topics that are universally appealing.

And we're being hosted by an excellent

hotel—the DoubleTree in Overland Park. To receive a special room rate, please reserve your room by Feb. 15.

Plan now to be part of the 2005 MVAEA annual conference hosted by Kansas. The Overland Park area features many things to see and do, along with excellent restaurants and shopping opportunities.

Best of all, you'll join your colleagues from a seven-state area to learn, explore, and network with one another. As a result, you'll go home with great ideas and a wealth of useful resources that you can call upon often in the years to come.

For an at-a-glance "snapshot" of the conference activities, turn to page 4. To find out more information on the conference—and to register—visit KAEA's Web site:

www.thekeaa.org.

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WINTER
2005
volume 5

MVAEA Leadership Academy speaker will inspire you to perform like a champion

by *Terry Ramig (Nebraska), MVAEA past president*

The 16th Annual MVAEA Leadership Academy will be held Wednesday, March 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the DoubleTree Hotel in Overland Park, Kansas.

Kicking off the Kansas-hosted MVAEA annual conference with inspiration and motivation, Aaron Davis will speak on "The Power of Productivity."

Aaron is known as "the Enthusiator" because of his contagious enthusiasm to equip

others to perform like champions. His powerful and high-energy presentations are interactive and fresh, yet simple. Anyone can use his tips and techniques to attain greater success professionally and personally! Thousands of individuals from coast to coast have been motivated—and more importantly inspired—to take action as a result of Aaron's insights and strategies.

A member of the National Speakers Association, Aaron is co-author of two books. He is also the author of the inspiring book "The
continued on page 2

Want to motivate adult learners? Here's how...

by Kimeiko Hotta Dover

Demonstrating respect and flexibility is essential for motivating adult learners. Here are some ideas to get you started.

Strategies

1. Refer to learners by name. Use icebreakers to memorize names and learn a few personal details about each student as soon as possible.
2. Clarify expectations and negotiate learning goals of A) the group and B) individuals at the beginning of the course.
3. Be punctual. Begin and end class on time every time.
4. Be prepared. Plan activities, photocopy handouts, and test overhead projectors or other presentation tools before the class.
5. Assess learner progress regularly through tests and assignments.
6. Employ a variety of teaching strategies to appeal to a range of learning styles.
7. Acknowledge the limitations of your own knowledge, skills, and experience and draw upon the expertise of individuals in the class whenever possible.
8. Provide opportunities for participants to exchange ideas and learn from each other through pair and group work.

9. Provide frequent feedback to adult learners, including positive reinforcement and concrete suggestions for improvement.
10. Invite frequent feedback from learners regarding course content, materials, activities, instructor, etc.
11. Respond to feedback from adult learners by answering their questions, clarifying their expectations, and implementing suggestions whenever possible.

Tips

1. Remember adult learners do not begin any course as "empty vessels." Respect and draw upon prior skills, knowledge, and experiences.
2. Be flexible when giving assignments. Provide general guidelines, but allow learners to customize projects according to their own learning needs and desired applications.
3. Understand that adult learners juggle multiple responsibilities, and excuse reasonable lateness and absences.

Things you need

- | | |
|---------|---------------|
| Clarity | Humility |
| Memory | Openess |
| Honesty | Understanding |

Source: <http://adulted.about.com/cs/howtoresources/ht/Motivate.htm>

Leadership Academy speaker will offer insights for everyone

from page 1
Truth About Success" and recently released "10 Minute Truths."

Aaron is also a seminar leader for the University of Nebraska's corporate manager certification program. His class presentations have received some of the highest ratings by attendees in the program's 24-year history. Aaron has

served clients in various sectors and levels of industry including government, agriculture, medical, mortgage, sales, insurance, and banking, as well as secondary and higher education.

Aaron holds a degree in psychology from the University of Nebraska, where he was also part of the 1994 national

championship University of Nebraska football team. His experience on a national championship team has equipped him with firsthand knowledge of how to achieve incredible results!

Come and hear what Aaron has to say at the Leadership Academy on March 16. See you there!

DETAILS:

Cost:
\$50.00 per person

Contact To Register:
Terry Ramig
Northeast Community College
West Point Education Center
539 E. Decatur Street
West Point, NE
68788-1515
402-372-2269 phone
terryr@
northeastcollege.com

From the President

The year has gone quickly!



by *Evan Bensley*
(Iowa), MVAEA
president

It is hard to believe that my one-year term as MVAEA president is nearly over. It certainly has been a fast year. I finally started to understand the MVAEA presidential duties just when my term is about to end. It has been a wonderful educational experience for me.

I have learned much about the history and traditions of the Association. I have also learned about the differences among the seven states in how their adult education systems are structured. The best part of being a part of the board is the networking with friends and other board members. I always look forward to the portion of our business meeting when we have the opportunity to share our personal and state association news.

The 2005 MVAEA conference will soon be here. In preparation for the conference, we held our quarterly MVAEA board meeting on Jan. 20 in South Sioux City, Neb. We discussed much of the work that will have to be completed between now and the conference. Kansas is designing the conference to focus on all areas of adult education.

It sounds like the Kansas folks will

have an enjoyable and exciting conference this year. We encourage everyone to take a trip to Overland Park, Kansas, on March 16-18. You can register for the conference online at the Kansas Adult Education Association Web site, which is www.thekeaa.org.

Before I conclude my term as the president of MVAEA, I would like to present a challenge to the seven states within the Association to continue providing strong leadership on the MVAEA board. Four of the seven states still need a designated alternate to the MVAEA board in the event that the state representative is unable to attend the meeting.

We appreciate and commend the employers who encourage their employees to become involved with MVAEA. I realize it may take time away from the office and could encompass added expense, but it is a rewarding payback to your state adult education association, as well as to MVAEA.

As I am writing this letter, my wife is due in a week with our second child. In the excitement of anticipating the new addition to our family, it has sometimes been difficult to concentrate on MVAEA matters. Thank you for your support.

Everyone will have the opportunity to see my new baby at the conference in March. I look forward to seeing you in Overland Park, Kansas!

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU???

Please let us know if you have a new job, a life change, an innovative or interesting program to share, or ideas you'd like to pass along to your colleagues throughout the region.

Happenings in the Valley welcomes any articles or photographs that share about "what's new with you" — so start planning your next contribution!

Submit your ideas, articles, or photos to Shari Kiple, editor, at kiplecomm@cablone.net.

**2005
MVAEA
annual
conference
offers
something
for every
interest**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

9:00 – 3:00	Registration
9:00 – 12:00	MVAEA Board Meeting
10:00 – 12:00	KAEA Board Meeting
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch on Your Own
1:00 – 4:00	Leadership Academy
4:30 – 6:30	ND Reception

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

8:00 – 3:00	Registration
7:00 – 8:15	President’s Breakfast
7:15 – 8:15	Breakfast
8:45 – 9:45**	Hit Parade!—Terry Ramig
	Boost Your Energy With Feng Shui—Barb Eisenmenger
	The Perfect Instructor’s Handbook—Gerry Baker
	El Heraldo (Volunteer Project)—Doris Reile-Kneller
	Dream Revival: Reaching and Re-teaching the Adult with Dyslexia—Gretchen Andeel
9:45 – 10:00	Refreshments
10:00 – 11:30**	Practical Tips for Teaching Adults—Sally Schroeer
	What Have I Gotten Myself Into?—Debbie Summers
	Making It Happen in Your Adult Education Program: Program Characteristics Associated with Learner Outcomes—Margaret Patterson
	Can You Really Say <i>That</i> to a Student?—Mari John
	First Aid Fast—David Johnson
	Can We Talk?—Lisa Reinhart
11:30 – 1:30	Luncheon/Keynote
1:30 – 1:45	Break
1:45 – 3:15**	Management is a Position, Leadership is an Honor: How to Be Believable, Likeable, and Trustworthy—Mark Towers
	Language Arts—Writing: Test Item Analysis and Instructional Strategies for Improving Student Performance—Bill Furney
	Using No Child Left Behind in Adult Literacy Programs: Mandates, Ideas, and Resources—Nancy Kraft
	English and Beyond: Incorporating Family Literacy and Civics in ESL Instruction—Gretchen Meinhardt
3:15–3:30	Refreshments
3:30–5:00**	“Are you a Peter Jennings or a David Letterman?”—Mari John
	Will Your Program FISH! Or Cut Bait?—Sue Choens
	How and Who: Light Sensitivity, Visual Perceptual Processing, and Reading—Cathryn Hay
	Visualizing Math: Navigating through Data Analysis for the GED—Susan Cowles
	Reading and the GED Test: Research-based Strategies for Improving Advanced Reading Skills—William Furney
5:00	Reception (Cash Bar)
5:45	Silent Auction Ends
6:00	Banquet and MVAEA Awards

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

Concurrent Sessions:

7:30 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:00**	Major Elements of Re-Orienting an Educational Institution toward a Focus on Liflong Learning—John Henschke
	Can We Talk?—Lisa Rinhart
	Transitioning Hispanic Health Care Providers into Health Care Settings—Judi Dunn
	Going Beyond the Book—Martha Ramallo
	Distance Learning—Harold Smith
	Working the Generational Puzzle—Ron Walz
10:15 – 11:00	Brunch/Closing
11:00	Check Out

Missouri association leads effort to assist those affected by tsunami

by John Henske (Missouri)

In the wake of the recent Asian tsunami and the ensuing death and destruction, the Board of Missouri Association for Adult, Continuing and Community Education is seeking to assist with the rebuilding process of the adult education and learning infrastructure and foundation in the tsunami-affected Asia South Pacific region.

We have all seen vividly the catastrophic loss of life and infrastructure, though in real terms the loss of trade skills, community support networks and educational infrastructure cannot be counted so easily.

The kind of contribution and support that is and will be needed is for cash, in-kind, and moral support, so that this generation and future generations in those regions will benefit

from the skills and educational tools we can pass on to their community leaders.

We will direct our efforts in partnership with the Adult Learning Australia National Association, Inc., and the Asian South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education.

More information will be forthcoming in the near future on how this will be accomplished, and, how we will be able to ascertain that our efforts are accomplishing the things to which we will be making our contributions.

However, we encourage MVAEA, the constituent state adult education associations, and individuals in the MVAEA region to consider making a contribution toward rebuilding with our fellow adult educators in that stricken area of the world.

Thank you for your support.

<http://www.thekeaa.org>

The Web site for the Kansas Adult Education Association, host of the 2005 MVAEA conference in Overland Park, Kansas. This is the site to visit for registration information, deadlines, hotel details, and other pertinent facts about the upcoming conference.

<http://www.cal.org/caela/>

The official Web site of the Center for Adult English Language Acquisition, this site features links and resources you may find helpful if you work adult education and/or ESL.

<http://adulthood.about.com/od/adultbasiceducation/>

A great site that offers literacy, numeracy, and

computer skills resources for students of all ages, including adults! You'll find tools and suggestions you can implement right away.

<http://www.ed.psu.edu/acsde/>

Penn State's American Center for the Study of Distance Education (ACSDE) studies and disseminates information about distance education in all its forms. The first center of its kind in the United States, ACSDE has helped to shape distance education practice through its publications, research symposia, leadership institutes, and moderated listserv. Its mission is to help educators meet the challenges of an educational environment significantly influenced by new technologies and the innovative pedagogical approaches they support.

ON THE WEB

resources
you can
put to work
right now



STATE NEWS

KANSAS

www.thekaea.org

submitted by Kathy Petz and Karen Ulanski

We look forward to welcoming you to Overland Park, Kansas, on March 16-18 for the 2005 MVAEA annual conference. For registration information and details, visit KAEA's Web site (listed above). For early hotel discounts, please book your room at the DoubleTree by Feb. 15. For conference registration discounts, please register by Feb. 28. We'll see you soon!

by Terry Ramig

Karen Ulanski of Kansas has graciously agreed to serve as MVAEA secretary for the upcoming two-year term. Karen will be officially elected at the general business meeting of the MVAEA annual conference in March.

MISSOURI

www.maacce.org/

submitted by Michelle Hanson

Michelle Hanson

The Missouri Association for Adult Community and Continuing Education (MAACCE) board met on Jan. 21 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Lake Ozark, Missouri. The Conference Planning Committee met the previous day to work on plans for the 2005 summer conference, which will be held at Tan-Tar-A Resort at Lake Ozark on June 22-24, along with pre-conferences on June 20-21. It should be a fun and informative conference! We are still taking call for proposals, so if you are interested in presenting, please contact Michelle Hanson at mhanson@marshallschools.com.

Missouri will host 2008 COABE

IN THE PICTURES

Top Photo:
Susan Gunn, SDALL member who recently completed a 3-day, 60-mile walk to raise money and awareness for breast cancer.

Lower Photo:
SDALL decorated a holiday tree that appeared at South Dakota's state capitol throughout the month of December.



national conference. The conference will be held in St. Louis and run in conjunction with MAACCE's annual conference.

Howard Hovland, founder of the Hovland Development Fund, will be inducted into the Adult International Hall of Fame on March 31 in Boston.

The deadline for the Missouri Hovland Development Fund Award is March 4. If there are any MVAEA members who are also members of MAACCE and have a project they think might be worthy of this award, we invite them to submit an application. Applications can be printed off the MAACCE Web site, which is www.maacce.org/docs/MAACCE_Development_Fund_Award.doc.

SOUTH DAKOTA

www.sdall.org

submitted by Lana Reich

The SD Writing Standards Taskforce met in December to continue the process of developing writing standards for adult education. The group developed a draft of proposed standards for program teachers to review and offer insight back to the committee. The goal is to have a finalized document completed by the middle of April and presented to all AEL teachers at Summer Institute in August.

SDALL was selected to decorate a tree for Christmas Trees at the Capitol, which is like walking into a fairyland of Christmas trees and lights. Hundreds of visitors made

the trip to Pierre's state capitol building to see this amazing and impressive sight.

South Dakota Adult Education and English as Second Language programs was at the state capitol for *see page 7*

continued from page 6

Legislative Day on Jan. 27. This was an opportunity to showcase our state's adult education programs to our legislators.

The BEST PLUS (newly revised version of the BEST) is the chosen assessment tool for measuring ESL oral skills. Yvonne Lerew, LSS education coordinator, has completed her training to become one of South Dakota's trainers. On Jan. 7, she trained several ESL staff from across the state on how to use this assessment.

South Dakota is one of six states chosen to participate in the STAR (Student Achievement in Reading) pilot project. This project's focus is on improving reading instruction using evidence-based practices. Each adult education program in South Dakota will have the director and at least one teacher attend the training Feb. 28-March 1. There will be two additional trainings held in the next several months to complete the process.

Susan Gunn, SDALL's grant facilitator, completed a three-day walk for breast cancer in Phoenix, Ariz., in October. Over the three days she and her sister walked 60 miles!! This event raised 5.3 million dollars for breast cancer research. Way to go, Susan!

Finally, Lori Kwasniewski is succeeding Lana Reich as South Dakota's new state representative for MVAEA and may be reached with this contact information: Lori Kwasniewski, Director of the Watertown Career Learning Center, 2001 9th Ave. SW, Suite 100, Watertown, SD 57201; phone 605-882-5080; e-mail lorikwas@itctel.com.

IOWA

www.iowall.org

submitted by Dale Amunson

There are several activities on the agenda for the Iowa Association for Lifelong Learning for the coming year.

The first activity will be the annual Legislative Breakfast held at Iowa's capitol complex in Des Moines on March 16 following a board meeting the night before. This activity has been held for at least 15 or more years and

is an effort to let legislators know that many agencies, institutions, and organizations cooperate in the education of adults in Iowa.

The second event will be the Office Professionals Workshop April 19 at the Des Moines Botanical Center. This workshop was initially designed to provide a staff development activity for the office professionals that support the myriad of activities coordinated by continuing education offices throughout the state. This event has become very popular with office professionals; they look forward to the event each time it is held. As an active member of his own state association as well Missouri Valley, MVAEA President Evan Bensley is chairing our Office Professionals Workshop Committee for the third time in a row.

IALL will host its 2005 annual fall conference using the theme *Edu-Fest: A Celebration of Lifelong Learning*. This year's conference will be held in Iowa City at the Sheraton Hotel on Oct. 13-14, with the preconference on Oct. 12. Our conference chair is Bill Burdick of North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City, Iowa. Bill is also a member of MVAEA and helped with the 2004 MVAEA conference held in Sioux City. The Conference Planning Committee met on Jan. 13-14 in Iowa City to begin the planning process and to review the facilities. For additional information, visit IALL's Web site.

submitted by Shari Kiple

Greetings, everyone! Just wanted to let you know that your newsletter editor is expecting a baby (this is the third for our family) on or around Sept. 1. I hope to see you at the MVAEA conference in March!

MINNESOTA

www.mnmacae.org

NEBRASKA

www.acean.org

NORTH DAKOTA

www.dpi.state.nd.us/adulted/index.shtm

MVAEA

Happenings in the Valley is published by the Missouri Valley Adult Education Association to provide news, information, and assistance to those interested in continuing education and lifelong learning.

Editor

Shari Kiple

Contributors

Dale Amunson

Evan Bensley

Michelle Hanson

John Henscke

Kimeiko Hotta Dover

Sharon Luhring

Kathy Petz

Terry Ramig

Lana Reich

Karen Ulanski

Submit articles or story ideas to:

Shari Kiple

ph: 712-276-5176

kiplecomm@

cableone.net

For address change or info on MVAEA:

Sharon Luhring

Membership

Services Consultant

P.O. Box 336

Madison Lake, MN

56063

ph: 507-243-4347

sluhring@mctcnet.net

or sluhring@

myclearwave.net

CONSULTANT'S

O *by Sharon Luhring, membership services consultant*

R **O**ur current membership numbers are:

- N** Colorado=1
- E** Florida=1
- R** Iowa=60
- Kansas=23
- Minnesota=11
- Missouri=15
- North Dakota=15
- Nebraska=16
- Ohio=1
- South Dakota=26
- TOTAL=168

We've also received our first membership for the 2005 year, which technically begins April 1. Charlotte Knoche with Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota, is our first member to pay her 2005 dues.

Finally, please change your 2004-05 Membership Directory to reflect the following changes:

Jan Bahr
The correct mailing address for Iowa Lakes Community College is 800 21st Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360.

Dave Massey
His new e-mail address is dmassey@state.nd.us

Coming Soon

March 16
MVAEA Board Meeting and Planning Session

March 16 in Overland Park, Kansas
MVAEA Leadership Academy

March 16-18 in Overland Park, Kansas
MVAEA Annual Conference

April 5
Deadline for *Happenings in the Valley*

Sue Shaner
Her new e-mail address is shaners@mpcc.edu

Mary Steen
Her current contact information is as follows:
Northeast Community College
563-562-3263 phone
563-562-3719 fax
steenm@nicc.edu

Tim Mills
His new e-mail address is learnent@gwtc.net

Gene Dickson
His new e-mail address is genedickson1@pie.midco.net

If you have membership questions or concerns, please contact me at any time. Also, if you know of others who might be interested in MVAEA, please give them my name. I look forward to seeing you all at the MVAEA annual conference in Overland Park this March!

Missouri Valley Adult Education Association – Membership Application

Membership Category (check one) New Renewal
 Individual (\$35) Life (\$300) Student (\$15) Retiree (\$15) Institutional* (\$120)

*For institutional membership, please attach a list of up to four persons who will be part of the membership.

Name _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Organization Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Please submit form and dues, payable to MVAEA, to Sharon Luhring (please see page 7 for contact information).