

# Council #10



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## ELECTION SPECIAL

### Supreme Court Race Affects You

Most of us understand that the Wisconsin Supreme Court wields a great deal of power and influence in our state. But what does this really mean for WEAC members, children, and public education?

Consider this: In the last 10 years alone, the following issues have been before the court:

- The constitutionality of Wisconsin's school aid formula.
- The Union's right to bargain and protect contractual benefits.
- Public employee privacy rights.
- Family medical leave rights.

Take the **Dodgeland** case from a few years ago as a specific example of how the court affects our lives. In a 4-3 decision, the court allowed a school district to unilaterally wipe out teacher prep time while imposing a QEO. Now, one of the justices who was appointed to the court by former Governor Tommy Thompson, Jon Wilcox, is retiring. The election to succeed him is April 3. This creates a great opportunity to shift the balance of the court more in favor of working people and public education.

Through our candidate screening process, WEAC has recommended **Linda Clifford** in the election. She has more than 30 years experience as a leader in the legal community, has solid bipartisan backing and has earned recognition for her strong integrity and ethics. She will stand up for public education: *"I believe a child's right to a sound, basic education is a fundamental right. The Wisconsin Supreme Court should uphold this right and make sure all children are given the education they need to be successful."*

Please remember to vote for Linda Clifford for Justice on April 3. It means a great deal to the future of our great schools.

This is an 11.29 communication with WEAC members.

### WEAC Election at April RA

Council #10 reminds you that the election of new WEAC officers for a three-year term of office takes place at this year's Representative Assembly, April 20 – 22, in Madison. There is still time to register your local delegation. Any local with more candidates than positions available to its delegation may ask another Council #10 local if it would conduct an election for an "alternate" delegate seat to be filled by a candidate from the first local. (Call the office for information on this process.) Chairperson Linda Riesen and Chair-elect Nancy Koeckenberg join the rest of the Leadership Council in urging locals to make sure that Council #10 is fully represented in the important decisions coming before this year's RA.

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#### OFFICERS

Linda Riesen  
Chairperson/WEAC Board  
Representative  
Nancy Koeckenberg  
Alt. Chairperson/Alt. WEAC  
Board Representative

#### STAFF

Val Gabriel  
Executive Director  
Paul Craig  
Interim Director  
Sharleen "Shorty" Ott  
Staff Assistant

#### MAKE CONNECTIONS

Southeast Pre-RA at the UEP  
Building April 2, 2007

WEAC RA in Madison, WI  
April 20-22, 2007

New UniServ Director  
Interviews May 11-12, 2007

NEA RA in Philadelphia, PA  
June 30 – July 5, 2007



## Resounding Vote of Confidence

In a huge showing of confidence in the experienced leadership of Council #10's WEAC Board Representative and Board Alternate, the Council on March 13 suspended the scheduled election and cast a unanimous ballot for the two candidates running for the 2007-2010 term.

As of August 1, current alternate Nancy Koeckenberg will assume dual responsibilities as both our representative to the WEAC Board of Directors and chairperson of the Leadership Council. Nancy is a 27-year teacher of children with cognitive disabilities at Greenfield High School. She is also President of the Greenfield Education Association. In addition to her three-year term as our alternate, she is or has been building representative, local treasure, bargaining team member, and delegate to many WEAC and NEA RA's. She served as Chair of the WEAC Exceptional Education Committee for two terms. Many of you know her as the post-card dynamo in the 2002/2004/2006 elections. Nancy enjoys both the work and the perks of union activism: a favorite moment came when she was invited to sit on stage as Al Gore addressed the NEA delegation.

On August 1, when Board Representative and Chairperson Linda Riesen turns her caps over to Nancy Koeckenberg, it will be a mutual exchange. Council #10 keeps the experience of Linda's two terms in office, as she now fulfills the position of alternate. Linda is a 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Family and Consumer Ed teacher at Forest Park Middle School in Franklin. She has served the union in various capacities for an amazing 25 years, as local FEA president, TRACE rep, bargaining team member, WEAC public relations media star, and like Nancy, delegate to numerous WEAC and NEA RA's. Linda's special commitments are to member communications and building new leadership.

Council #10 thanks both of these exceptional leaders for their past, ongoing, and future service to members.

## ESP Members to Hold Elections This Spring

ESP members are reminded that all Council #10 local ESP bylaws call for annual election of representatives to your local boards. Some locals choose officers by general membership vote, others have the board select from among its members. Please consider whether it is time for you to step up to a representative position within your local. Important decisions get made during the course of each year, and without duly elected leadership in place, there's no assurance that the decisions accurately reflect the needs of the membership. Your union is only as strong as you the members choose to make it.

## Member Ads

For Sale: Lakefront Corner Condo, Tuckaway Shores in Franklin. Roomy, open concept, 2-bedroom condo with the feel of a vacation home right on the water. With fireplace, upper and lower decks, 1 & ½ baths, enormous master bedroom, finished basement room, lots of storage. \$195,000. Call 262 506-8505 for information.

For Sale: Memory Foam Mattress /Tempurpedic. Almost brand new; paid \$1200, asking \$800. Includes box foundation and new mattress cover. (414) 571-1766

Door County A-frame for rent: With 2 housekeeping units. Each sleeps up to 6. Upgraded kitchens and bathrooms. Deck, gas grill, fireplace, satellite TV. Available year round. Call (414) 427-8420.

Newsletter ads are printed as a free service to members, space permitting. Other restrictions apply. In providing this service, Council #10 makes no representation as to the product or services advertised.