

# Council #10

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## New Leaders

Teachers and education support professionals from throughout Wisconsin who gathered in Madison at the WEAC Representative Assembly elected a new President and Vice President this past April.

Mary Bell, Wisconsin Rapids library media specialist, who has served as WEAC secretary-treasurer since 2003, was elected to a three-year term as WEAC president.

Bell bested two longtime WEAC activists and leaders – WEAC Vice President Terry Meyer of Kewaunee and NEA Director Paul Hambleton of Baldwin in a runoff election. Mary leaves the office of Secretary Treasurer vacant with elections being held at the July board meeting in Elkhart Lake.

South Milwaukee teacher, Guy Costello and a member of Council #10, was elected to a three-year term as WEAC vice president, outpolling Beloit teacher and NEA Director Bob Fitzsimmons. Guy will leave his fifth grade classroom in South Milwaukee to take an office at the WEAC building in Madison. Both Bell and Costello take office August 1 and for the first time the Vice Presidency will be a full time release position.

Laura Vernon of Milwaukee and Hedy Eischeid of Fond du Lac were elected to NEA Director Seats, and Britt Hall of Waukesha County was elected as an alternate NEA Director. President Stan Johnson was honored for his six years of service as president.

At Council #10, Nancy Koeckenberg, Greenfield will take the office of UniServ chairperson, replacing Linda Riesen, Franklin who has completed two three-year terms.

## New UniServ Director for Council #10

Starting June 15, Council #10 welcomes Ted Kraig who comes to us from SEIU 1199, a professional health care union. Ted comes to us with a rich background in contract negotiations in the public and private sectors, database management, organizing new members, community campaigns, arguing cases before the National Labor Relations Board, all aspects of grievance representation, media relations, and electoral and legislative campaigns.

Thanks to Don Albee, Jeff Dahlberg, Linda Figueroa, Richard Gould, Barb Groshek, Gail Kablau, Nancy Koeckenberg, Sue Mischler, Bill Morse, Doug Perry, Linda Riesen, Bob Sedlacek, Paul Sojkowski, Beth Washow, and Debby Weyer for giving their time to interview 5 well qualified candidates for UniServ director at Council #10 replacing Jason Mathes. At the same time we will be saying goodbye to Paul Craig who has served as interim UniServ Director. We wish Paul well in his new endeavors.

## WEAC Lobby Day June 19

You can influence the 2007-09 state budget debate by joining your colleagues in Madison on June 19 for WEAC's Lobby Day. With the state facing a \$1.6 billion deficit, legislators will weigh how to prioritize state spending for the biennium. Legislators need to hear from their constituents to ensure that education remains a top priority.

The state budget battle lines have already been drawn. The 2007-09 state budget will be a showdown between Republicans who will cast themselves as protectors of the taxpayer and Democrats who want to invest in education and health care.

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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" O'Connell  
Staff Assistant

### MAKE CONNECTIONS

NEA RA in Philadelphia, PA  
June 30 – July 5

August 1, 2007

Great  
Schools

weac.org

Assembly Speaker Huebsch (R-West Salem) has said “we can balance our budget, provide the best educational opportunities possible for our children and take care of those who can’t take care of themselves” without raising taxes. The Republicans have accused Governor Jim Doyle and the Democrats of supporting tax hikes that will mean \$536 in higher taxes for every man, woman and child in the state.

Senate Democrats have vowed to pass a budget that protects education funding and expands access to health care. Senator Russ Decker (D-Schofield), Joint Finance Committee Co-Chair, said “The public has told us at the budget hearings that they want us to work on their priorities like providing enough funding for their kids’ schools and lowering the cost of health care. So it is disappointing to see the Assembly Republicans are already saying they are going to drag out the budget process just to protect the bottom line of Big Oil and Big Tobacco.”

Don’t miss out on the opportunity to shape legislators’ decisions on education and health care items in the state budget. Visit the WEAC Members’ Only page today to sign up for WEAC’s June 19, 2007, Lobby Day at the State Capitol, at [www.weacm.org](http://www.weacm.org). Also, register with Shorty Ott at [otts@weac.org](mailto:otts@weac.org). This is particularly important for planning bus transportation.

### Summer Academy 2007

Online registration is now open and this year’s Academy will be at the Holiday Inn Convention Center - Stevens Point, starting on Sunday, July 29, and ending Wednesday, August 1. It is set in a hotel with a water park, make it a family event. For the first time free babysitting services will be available. Go to the WEAC website at <http://www.weac.org>. Click the Summer Academy link under Quick Clicks. Online registration accepts Visa and MasterCard.

Of particular interest - Creating A Quality Professional Development Plan and Using QEI; and information regarding the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate. For a complete list of offerings see the website above.

The training is balanced with time to network and socialize with members from across the state. Come and join the learning and solidarity! Register early and save and register as a team of four and save! The Academy registration area is on the WEAC Members Only site.

### Kohl Fellowship Awards

The foundation gave fellowship awards to the teachers for their ability to inspire a love of learning in students, their ability to motivate others, and for their leadership and service within and outside the classroom. Each Educator and Fellow’s school will also receive a \$1,000 grant.

Congratulations to Wendy Hornik, Cudahy, and Cheryl Miracle and Charlene Kujawa, Franklin, recipients of the 2007 Herb Kohl Foundation awards.

Also receiving Initiative Scholarships from the foundation are students chosen by their schools, having demonstrated exceptional initiative in the classroom and strong promise for succeeding in college and beyond, but have not yet received other academic-based scholarships. Congratulations to Rachel Silva, St Francis.

### Member Ads

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.

For Sale: Two bedroom two bath 1,120 sq. ft. condo with two car garage in Oak Creek. Asking \$168,500. Call (414) 828-3309. Dinette set, black metal with glass top and 4 black leather cushion chair contemporary look. Asking \$175. Call (414) 975-2677.

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.