



**Kettle Moraine
UniServ Council**

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*KMUC is affiliated with
WEAC and NEA*

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This is an 11.29 communication with WEAC members, Federal Statute CFR 100.8 (b) (4)

Representing Teachers and Support Professionals in Chilton, Elkhart Lake, Howards Grove, Kiel, Kohler, Lakeshore Technical College, Manitowoc, New Holstein, Plymouth, Sheboygan, Sheboygan Falls, Two Rivers, and KMUC Retired



Volume 26, No. 8 **April 2009**

2009 Kohl Fellowship Awards Announced

Recipients of the 2009 Herb Kohl Foundation awards have been selected by the selection committee for the Herb Kohl Foundation Scholarship and Fellowship Program.

Two KMUC teachers were awarded the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellows 2009 award.

Sarah Arenz, an elementary teacher at Jack-

son Elementary School in Manitowoc and a member of Manitowoc EA.

Deanna Milz, a special education teacher at Northview Elementary School in Howards Grove and a member of Howards Grove EA.

The Kohl Teacher Fellowship program recognizes and supports teaching excellence and innovation in the State of Wisconsin. Their goal is to support

teachers in the pursuit of their unrealized goals for their classrooms or professional development. Annually, the Foundation awards 100 Wisconsin teachers with \$1,000 Kohl Fellowship grants, and each Kohl Fellowship recipient's school receives a matching \$1,000 grant. Recipients' professional accomplishments are celebrated at a recognition luncheon in the spring.

PDP Workshop sponsored by KMUC

Are you a first or second year teacher?

If so, KMUC is sponsoring a Professional Development Plan workshop to help you.

Date:	Saturday, May 2, 2009
Time:	8:30 Registration 9:00—12:30
Where:	KMUC Office N7778 Rangeline Road Sheboygan

This workshop is free, paid for by your union dues. Lunch will be provided.

Contact Sarah Berth at the KMUC office to register by calling 800-834-7076 or by email at berths@weac.org.

WEAC Board Report, April 3-5, 2009

Diane Sixel, Lei Lund and Phil Knier

1. Legislative update: The state budget hearings have completed and there is a big push to keep collective bargaining and repealing the QEO on the table. A postcard to Governor Doyle might be in order to thank the governor as well as share how his designating 95% of the stimulus money to education is being used in your districts.

2. Teaching and Learning gave a presentation on student assessments: Current pros and cons were shared as well as where they're at with the "Next Generation Assessment." They're creating emerging

themes for new assessments and attempting to close the "Hope Gap."

3. WEA Trust and Trust Member Benefits elections: WEA Trust: Dennis Hortum, 3-year term; Mary Theisen, 3-year term; Carol Kettner, 3-year term; Dan Weidner, 1-year term. Trust Member Benefits: Elaine Stelter, 3-year term; Dennis Hortum, 3-year term.

4. WEAC Treasurer, Betsy Kippers encouraged Local Presidents to attend the Local Presidents meetings on October 3rd in Madison and March 13th in Wisconsin Dells. Those attending this year's meetings found

them to be very worthwhile. Presidents should watch for announcements and mailings for more details and information.

5. School Finance Network working hard to stay active, more work going toward increasing grass roots awareness and mobilization.

KMUC Board Report, March 9, 2009

Stacy Gloede, Vice President

Get out the vote efforts for the spring elections were discussed. Postcard writing, (March 30 & 31) letters to the editor, candidate side by sides, and actual voting for State Superintendent, Supreme Court and School Board openings will be complete by the time this article appears in the KMUC newsletter. Hopefully our efforts paid off and we have elected education friendly candidates.

There has been discussion in the legislature about removing the Qualified Economic Offer (QEO) from the state budget. We would like the QEO eliminated but it needs to be done through the budget where the item originated. There are other bargain reform issues related to the repeal of the QEO that need to be addressed along with the repeal of the QEO. KMUC governance and staff is drafting an information sheet to share with members so they understand the impact of this topic.

In an effort to support the School Finance Network initiative, we were asking members to write postcards to our legislators to explain how school funding affects them in their classrooms. Postcards need to be in the KMUC office by Wednesday, April 8th so they can be delivered to Madison.

A motion regarding KMUC retired proposal failed. KMUC Retired is looking for ways to recruit members to join the retired group. The proposal that failed asked KMUC to fund 10 people that had been union members for at least 10 years for \$100 each to offset the cost of their retirement dues. Board members felt that locals could do a better job encouraging their retirees to join the retired groups (NEA, WEAC, KMUC).

Provided the funding for the electronic newsletter stays in the proposed KMUC budget, we will be making the switch to an electronic newsletter through Constant Contact next school year. It was discussed to provide a

printed copy of the newsletter for school lounges and ESP member groups that do not have email access. The details will be worked out next school year.

After reviewing the KMUC budget in detail, the board recommends a \$10 dues increase for KMUC dues next school year. The budget will be voted on at the KMUC RA on May 12. Members elected by their locals to attend the KMUC RA will receive the budget prior to the event. All board members have a working copy of the budget if you have any questions.

A proposed change to the KMUC Bylaws related to transitioning officers will be voted on at the KMUC RA. The change would allow a newly elected KMUC president or treasurer to request the former president or treasurer to advise them during their first year of the new position. The former president or treasurer would be invited to attend board and executive committee meetings.

Military Family Leave Entitlements

Recently, Congress enacted changes to the federal Family and Medical Leave Act creating two new types of leave for family of service members. If you have a spouse, parent or child who has been called up to active duty (does not apply to career military personnel) you may be eligible to use federal Family and Medical leave for exigent circumstances related to your family member's leaving. The law defines eight different types of exigent circumstances covering a variety of activities and personal obligations. The federal Family and Medical Leave Act also now provides 26 weeks of leave to the spouse, child, parent or next of kin of a service member (including career military) to care for the service member if he/she has a serious injury or illness incurred in the line of duty.

More information about these leaves is available online at:

<http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs28a.pdf>

<http://www.dol.gov/esa/whd/fmla/finalrule/MilitaryFAQs.pdf>

Hwy 42 Construction has begun!!!

If you are coming to the KMUC office anytime now through early September, you will need to take alternate routes. Please see the KMUC website for directions.

www.weac.org/kmuc



Free Financial Seminars—Summer 2009

HELP!

***I need help setting up my retirement savings.
Where can I turn for help with investment options?
I'd like to retire, but I need help deciding if I can.***

During these times of economic change, many Wisconsin public school employees are looking for help to safeguard their financial situation.

We will be hosting **free Financial Tune-Up Seminars** offered by WEA Trust Member Benefits. These seminars will help you find the answers you need today and restore your hope for tomorrow. Seminars to choose from are:

- **Turbulent Markets and Law Changes: Investment Lessons You Can't Afford to Miss**
- **Retirement Planning 101**

For seminar descriptions or to register online, go to www.weabenefits.com.

You may also register for a personal phone consultation with a Member Benefits consultant to discuss your specific situation. Evening and weekend appointments available upon request.

When:	July 6, 2009
Time:	Investment Lessons: 10:00—11:00 a.m. Retirement Planning 101: 2:00—3:00 p.m.
Where:	Kettle Moraine UniServ Council, N7778 Rangeline Road, Sheboygan

What's Going on with my Retirement Money!? [%#@&**]

The financial markets have been on a roller coaster lately after last year's drop off a cliff. So what is the Employee Trust Fund doing? Come and join your KMUC RETIRED colleagues to hear Sari King of the ETF talk about a variety of issues. Covering topics of interest to active employees and retirees alike, Sari will discuss the account crediting and dividend calculation process, legislative proposal which may impact the ETF, initiatives and changes within the ETF, the impact of last year's financial markets on the future of the ETF, and core fund vs. variable performances. There will also be a question and answer period following her presentation. Here's your chance to get the inside scoop on what's going on with your money as well as getting answers to any questions you have about the ETF.

**Thursday, May 14th—Highland House, 820 Indiana Avenue, Sheboygan
Dinner at 5:30—Speaker Sari King at 6:30**

Spouses and Guests are welcome.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM BELOW. INCLUDE YOUR CHECK FOR \$20.00/person to COVER THE COST OF THE MEAL-tax and 18% added gratuity is included. **Checks should be made payable to KMUC-Retired. Send checks and registration form to: Gary Bents
3518 Silver Creek Road
Manitowoc, WI 54220**

Registration is due by Friday, May 8th.

Questions? Contact Gary Bents at gab4647@comcast.net or 920-682-7689.

_____ Name(s) _____ Number Attending

To facilitate meal preparation, please indicate your entrée choice(s).

_____ Primavera Pasta with char-grilled Chicken Breast

_____ Center Cut Sirloin (please circle: Rare Medium Rare Medium Well Done) with blue cheese/onion & mushroom topping: garlic mashed potatoes, and sautéed veggie mix

_____ Sesame Ginger Salmon Filet with Garlic mashed potatoes and asparagus

KMUC Calendar

<p>April 20, 2009</p> <p>Pre-WEAC RA Meeting</p> <p>KMUC Office 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>April 21, 2009</p> <p>Executive Committee Meeting</p> <p>KMUC Office 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>April 27, 2009</p> <p>Costing Workshop</p> <p>KMUC Office 5:00—6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>May 2, 2009</p> <p>PDP Workshop</p> <p>KMUC Office 8:30—12:00</p>	<p>May 4, 2009</p> <p>KMUC Board Meeting</p> <p>KMUC Office 6:00 p.m.</p>
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