

December 2007



**Kettle Moraine  
UniServ Council**

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December 12, 2007  
**CBC/President's Mtg.**  
KMUC Office  
6:00 p.m.

December 24—26, 2007  
Christmas Holiday  
**OFFICE CLOSED**

December 31—  
January 1, 2008  
New Year's Holiday  
**OFFICE CLOSED**

January 9, 2008  
**CBC/Presidents Mtg.**  
KMUC Office  
6:00 p.m.

January 15, 2008  
**403(b) Meeting**  
KMUC Office  
5:00 p.m.

January 21 & 28, 2008  
**Sign Language Class**  
KMUC Office  
5:30 p.m.

January 22, 2008  
**Exec. Com. Meeting**  
KMUC Office  
4:30 p.m.



*KMUC is affiliated with WEAC  
and NEA*

# THE KMUC

## **PDA Trainings for ESP Members Underway**

The first of five PDA Trainings began this month. Due to an overwhelming response for these trainings being offered by KMUC, each of the classes offered will hold two sessions. The classes being offered this year are Sign Language, Cultural Diversity, Discipline Strategies, Student/Employee Rights & Responsibilities, and Autism.



Mary Smith, a Manitowoc Special Education teacher, shown here, gave the first of two sessions on Autism 101. The classes were held on December 3 and 5 with a full classroom at the KMUC office. This workshop was designed to assist school staff working with students on the autism spectrum. Participants learned about the characteristics of autism, strategies that are successful in the classroom when working with individuals with autism and it incorporated current research, audio-visuals and hands on materials.



Mary Smith stated, "The group had great questions and participation." She really enjoyed them. One person commented on her evaluation form "it was a great class, great strategies given, and great instructor, she would recommend the class to others." Another one commented "It was given in such a real life way of relating to students and their needs." One other comment given, "It's important to put the person first, disability second; a

child with autism, not an autistic child."  
The next PDA training scheduled will be Sign Language. The first of the two sessions will be held in January. The instructor for this class will be Brenda Miota, Educational Interpreter, Sheboygan Falls School District.



**IRS Changes to 403(b)**  
**January 15, 2008**  
**5:00—6:30 p.m.**  
**KMUC Office**

The recent IRS changes to 403(b) regulations create new employer responsibilities. Because of these new regulations, changes must now be made to the language in Collective Bargaining Agreements and the practices of employers and employees regarding 403(b) contributions and product providers.

Since this is an important issue for all the School Districts and unions in the KMUC area, we have decided to bring in experts to help us address these matters. Superintendents, Business Managers, as well as local Association Presidents and lead bargainiers are invited to this meeting and experts will advise us on this issue. Please make every effort to have your School District represented at this important meeting.

Please call Sarah at the KMUC office, 920-565-2913 or email her at [berths@weac.org](mailto:berths@weac.org) with your confirmation by January 11, 2008.

**Life After Retirement**

KMUC-Retired held its annual recognition luncheon on October 10th at Black Wolf Run. This event honors staff members for all KMUC locals who retired during the previous school year. This year 17 retirees were able to attend (it doesn't take long to fill up a retiree's calendar). As part of our "continuing education," we toured the Walderhouse afterwards. We are also planning on a theater outing sometime this winter.

For those of you still working, you might wish to consider pre-joining KMUC-R. Besides the social and education activities, we keep in touch with what is happening in local bargaining (our benefits are determined there), and in the state legislature (lots of possible negatives or positives for retirees can happen there.) These are all things you will want to keep in touch with when you retire. Pre-paid life memberships are available. Contact the KMUC office or Gary Bents (920-682-7689) for more information.

**Teaching Quality in Wisconsin makes a substantial gain in 2007**

According to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, 110 teacher achieved their National Board Certification in 2007. Ten of which were KMUC members. "WEAC is very proud of our members who have gone through the demanding process that leads to National Board Certification," said WEAC President Mary Bell. "It takes extreme dedication, hard work and talent. Ultimately, this is all about doing everything we can to help children succeed, and Wisconsin's teachers continue to demonstrate that they are deeply committed to that goal."

The state's top five school district in terms of the cumulative total of NBCTs are: Milwaukee (35), Manitowoc (19), Madison Metropolitan (18), Wauwatosa (14) and Eau Claire Area (13).

Each month a support group meets at the KMUC office, coordinated by Andrea Daun, a NBCT teacher from Sheboygan School District, to work through the processes of becoming a National Board Certified Teacher. There are eight members attending this class from Manitowoc, Plymouth and Sheboygan and she hopes to recruit more for next year.

Those receiving their NBCT this year are as follows:

Julie Johnson, Howards Grove  
James Bukowski, Manitowoc  
Joseph George, Manitowoc  
Deanne Stokes, Manitowoc  
Donna Kryzenske, Two Rivers

Jessica Gruenke, Kiel  
Rachael George, Manitowoc  
Carl Sieracki, Manitowoc  
Stephen Schneider, Sheboygan  
David Roloff, Two Rivers



*Everyone at the KMUC office wishes you and your family a safe and happy holiday!*

