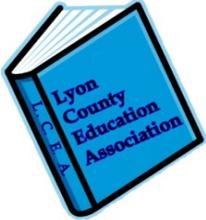


# LYON COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



## The Tutorial Enterprise

An Affiliate of

**NSEA & NEA**

Steve Fargan, President

Leanna Ogle, Vice President

Jane Claar, Secretary

Noreen Albers, Treasurer

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### **New Teachers Welcomed by LCEA**

The Lyon County Education Association (LCEA) hosted a lunch for new certificated employees and their mentors on Tuesday August 21, 2006 at Silver Stage High School. There were about 295 people in attendance.

LCEA President, Steve Fargan, welcomed the teachers to the lunch catered by Mahogany Red's 2-Go Cafe. A box lunch was served as time was very limited due to the training requirements of Lyon County School District (LCSD).

The officers of LCEA as well as many building representatives were in attendance. We are happy to welcome many new members to our LCEA family.

A preliminary count indicated that about 75% of the new certificated employees joined NEA, NSEA and LCEA at the luncheon.

### *In Memory*

*We are very sorry to report the loss of a long time member of our LCEA family. John Alan Pannell passed away while hiking in July 2006. LCEA sent a donation to the Yosemite Association, P. O. Box 230 El Portal, CA 95318 in his memory.*

*Alan was the technology teacher at Fernley Intermediate School and will be missed greatly by the students, staff and community.*

## Wild Time At Wild Island



For the first time, Washoe Education Association invited the small counties from the Uniserve Council of Nevada (UCN) to attend a members only family day at Wild Island on September 9, 2006. This was the first year WEA has bought out the entire park for a Members Appreciation Party. Vice-President, Leanna Ogle, made the arrangements for LCEA members to attend the day of free food, live music and fun at Wild Island.

Over 30 LCEA members and their families attended the Wild Island Party. Members were charged only \$5 per person for entrance to Wild Waters! Members also received discounted prices for the other Wild Island attractions.

Members agreed the day was perfect. The weather was outstanding and the food excellent. People from NSEA locals as far away as Humboldt and Eureka counties came for the day. It was a wonderful way to say "Thank you for your membership." UCN hopes to arrange for members to attend again next year. Mark your calendars for the weekend after Labor Day 2007!

Thanks Leanna for your hard work!!

## Tuvalu Training at Summer Leadership

By Leanna Ogle

What's a Tuvalu? Is it a bird, a plane or a dance craze? No, it is training in team building and communication skills. It is named after a tiny island nation in the South Pacific. The Tuvalu Island Nation consists of 129 tiny islands that add up to less than 10 square miles of dry land. There are fewer than 9,000 inhabitants on these specks in the sea. These humble, friendly people have spent the past several centuries surviving by being able to communicate with each other over the widely scattered islands. The premise that communication is basic to survival is what the NEA Tuvalu training is based upon.

Each of the UCN locals was invited to send a team of its members to the two day training on July 31-Aug 1, 2006 at the Carson Valley Inn in Gardnerville. Leanna Ogle and Jane Wren were the LCEA members who attended. LCEA President, Steve Fargan, was one of the trainer/facilitators.

The first day the teams were loaded into school buses to go to an unknown destination. The group went up Kingsbury grade to the south Shore of Lake Tahoe. The Tuvalu explorers boarded the gondola at the Heavenly Resort to go to the top of the mountain. Members of the "Magical Mystery Tour" were asked to answer questions on a scavenger hunt about the Tahoe area. The gondola stopped at a spectacular lookout area midway up the mountain so members could hunt for answers and talk to other visitors.

The group boarded the gondola to continue the ride to the top (it was no small feat to hop into a moving gondola car with grace and style). When the Tuvaluans arrived at the top of the mountain, they embarked on a hike. The trek afforded a 360 degree view of the Carson valley and the Sierra Mountains. After surviving the high altitude hike, they returned to the main lodge for lunch.

Before leaving the lodge, each team was asked to develop goals for improving communication in its own local. The teams were to create a perfect island with perfect communication among its member inhabitants. They were to draw a map of their island to present to the rest of the group later in the afternoon.

The second day of the training dealt with ways to improve cooperation among the members of a group to reach consensus when making decisions. The activities showed the teams that "several heads are better than one" when making important decisions.

Leanna and Jane will work to bring to life some of the ideas they developed at Tuvalu this year. They want to increase member participation. They also hope to encourage more members to gain leadership skills to keep LCEA moving forward into the future. Both members want to encourage others to take the Tuvalu training.



**Attendees at 2006 Summer Leadership at Carson Valley Inn**

## **Reports from LCEA Mini Grant Winners**

Received from Shaun Minor from Sutro Elementary School. Thank you LCEA so much for helping me enhance the Reading Counts program at my school. My student's enthusiasm for reading has increased since there is now a greater variety of books available in my library at their lexile levels.

The following report was received from Alicia Rowe, a second grader teacher at Yerington Elementary School.

I wanted to express my thanks for being the recipient of a \$200 grant from LCEA. I was in great need of math manipulatives to use for my students. I purchased base ten place value sets, a large assortment of fake money, and "heads and tails" money stamps to be used in my classroom learning centers. Because I was able to purchase these items due to my grant, I feel that my remedial students have made great progress toward their math standards.

This report is from Susan Elson. I would like to send my heartfelt thank you for the generous grant which I received. My entire third grade team was ecstatic. After some deliberation, we chose a number of videos to enhance our science units. We ordered videos on simple machines, plants, muscles, the skeleton, volcanos, layers of the earth, the rock cycle, water and the water cycle and weather. Thanks again LCEA for my mini grant.

**This is going to be a very important year at the ballot box. Please make sure you and your family are registered and then please Vote!!!**



**Nevada State Education Association 2007 Legislative Priorities**

The following is from a pamphlet from NSEA

The Nevada Education Reform Act of 1997 required educators and students to meet new accountability standards. The State of Nevada has not increased the amount of funding per pupil to provide the financial resources necessary to achieve those standards. Thereby leading to overcrowded classrooms, a lack of necessary books, supplies, technology, transportation and a continued deterioration of the education environment.

NSEA believes Nevada's students are entitled to safe, productive learning environments with qualified teachers and education support professionals who are compensated at a level recognizing their skills and responsibilities.

The State of Nevada has a vested interest in a well-prepared, well-educated work force, and a failure to adequately fund public education will ultimately reduce the standard of living for all Nevadans. The failure of the federal government to

adequately fund all federal mandates exacerbates the lack of funding. The federal mandates of No Child Left Behind must be paid for by the federal government.

Therefore, NSEA believes:

- The Nevada Legislature and the Governor must take the results of the study that was created by Assembly Concurrent Resolution 10 of the 2003 Legislative Session into consideration and make education funding a priority in the 74th Session. The study--which directs the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study on adequacy of school finance in Nevada-- will aid in properly funding public K-12 education in Nevada.
- The Nevada Legislature and the Governor must continue to improve Nevada's revenue structure to provide the necessary sources of funding for the support of Nevada's public schools beginning in 2007.
- The Nevada Legislature and the Governor must continue funding the performance audits of Nevada's school districts as set forth in Section 28 through 37 of Assembly Bill 580 of the 2003 Legislative Session.

To read more about what NSEA proposes for the 2007 Legislature go to the NSEA website: <http://www.nsea-nv.org/>

