



SKI COUNTRY EDUCATOR

May - June 2008

Ski Country Locals Honored at CEA Delegate Assembly

Ten out of the fourteen locals in Ski Country UniServ were recognized at the 2008 CEA Delegate Assembly for membership growth of 7% or greater. This included the following locals: Eagle County Education Association; East Grand Education Association; Hayden Education Association; Jackson County Education Association; Lake County Education Association; Mountain Education Association (Colorado Mountain College); Roaring Fork Community Education Association, Summit County Education Association, Summit County Educational Support Professionals Association; and West Grand Education Association.

The Roaring Fork Community Education Association received a cash award of \$100 for outstanding membership growth. Noel Gannett of the Roaring Fork Community Education Association, teacher at Basalt Elementary School, and delegate to CEA Delegate Assembly accepted the award on behalf of the RFCEA.

Congratulations to these 10 locals. Membership in Ski Country UniServ is now at 1,180 members, with a goal of at least 1,200 members for next year.

Dennis Carlson - Ski Country UniServ

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New Officers elected in Summit County and Hayden

Congratulations to the following new officers in the Summit County Education Association the Moffat County Education Association and the Hayden Education Association

Hayden Education Association

- Co-Presidents - Robin Bush and Carolyn Gregory
- Vice President - Andy Dunda
- Treasurer – Grace Wintemute
- Secretary – Christine Epp

Summit County Education Association

- President - Mark Clark
- Vice President - Beth Flaherty
- Treasurer - Jennifer Arias
- Secretary – Jamie Sherman

Moffat County Education Association

- Co-Presidents – Craig Smith and Michele Conroy
- Vice President – David Grabowski
- Treasurer – Deb Frazier
- Secretary – Tiffany Trevenen

Congratulations and thank you to long time Presidents in Hayden and Summit County

Kevin Dellit of the Hayden Education Association and **Janet McDermott** of the Summit County Education Association are stepping down from their positions this fall. Kevin is retiring from teaching. Janet has decided to teach one more year but is stepping down from her leadership role. Janet has also been a member of the CEA State Bargaining Council. She was very instrumental in developing the “Master Agreement” between the Summit County Education Association and the Summit County Board of Education.

Please join Ski Country UniServ and members of both the HEA and the SCEA in congratulating and thanking Kevin and Janet for the many years of service to their local associations, Ski County UniServ, CEA, and NEA. **Thanks Janet and Kevin, your expertise, experience, and dedication will be greatly missed.**

CEA Summer Leadership Conference
Copper Mountain Resort, Colorado - July 28-31, 2008

Generation CEA: Leaders for the Next Decade

Mark your calendar now for the 2008 CEA Summer Leadership Conference: July 28-31 at Copper Mountain Resort. This year's event, under the theme "Generation CEA: Leaders for the Next Decade," offers something for everyone with inspiring guest speakers, a wide variety of sessions to meet your personal and professional needs, and plenty of opportunities for socializing and networking. Courses are offered for credit through Adams State or through CDE Contact Hours.

The conference will feature group sessions on Bargaining Behavior I and II, Leadership Academy and Presidents' Training. Block sessions will be offered on topics such as Grievance Advocacy, Membership Best Practices, Communicating with Legislators, and much more. Read about the Training and Workshops and identify ones you want to take at the following Website - <http://www.coloradoea.org/whatsnew/slc08.cfm>.

If you are interested and would like more information contact us here at Ski Country UniServ (1-800-545-4916), or go directly to the CEA website listed above and submit your application.

Election 2008 is just around the Corner

It is not too early to familiarize yourself with the candidates running for the Colorado Legislature in the upcoming November 2008 elections. The following is a list of candidates running in those races. Take some time to learn more about the candidates, especially about their views on public education, school funding, and school employee rights and benefits. As in the past, CEA will be making recommendations to our members on who is the best candidate on our issues before the election. Stay tuned.

Colorado Senate District 8

Kenneth Brenner (D) – Steamboat Springs
Al White (R) – Hayden

Colorado House District 56

Christine Scanlan (D) – Dillon
Ali Hasan (R) – Beaver Creek

Colorado House District 57

Robert (Todd) Hagenbuch (D) – Phippsburg
Randy Baumgardner (R)– Hot Sulphur Springs
Daniel Korkowski (R) – Grand Lake

“Right to Work” means the “Right to Work – For Less”

To set the record (and the name) straight, right to work for less doesn’t guarantee any rights. In fact, by weakening unions and collective bargaining, it destroys the best job security protection that exists: the union contract. Meanwhile, it allows workers to pay nothing and get all the benefits of union membership. Right to work laws say unions must represent all eligible employees, whether they pay dues or not. This forces unions to use their time and members’ dues money to provide union benefits to free riders who are not willing to pay their fair share.

Right to work laws lower wages for everyone. The average worker in a right to work state makes about \$5,333 a year less than workers in other states (\$35,500 compared with \$30,167). Weekly wages are \$72 greater in free-bargaining states than in right to work states (\$621 versus \$549). Working families in states without right to work laws have higher wages and benefit from healthier tax bases that improve their quality of life.

Federal law already protects workers who don’t want to join a union to get or keep their jobs. Supporters claim right to work laws protect employees from being forced to join unions. Don’t be fooled—federal law already does this, as well as protecting nonmembers from paying for union activities that violate their religious or political beliefs. This individual freedom argument is a sham.

Right to work endangers safety and health standards that protect workers on the job by weakening unions that help to ensure worker safety by fighting for tougher safety rules. According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rate of workplace deaths is 51 percent higher in states with right to work, where unions can’t speak up on behalf of workers.

Right to work laws just aren’t fair to dues-paying members. If a nonunion worker is fired illegally, the union must use its time and money to defend him or her, even if that requires going through a costly legal process. Everyone benefits, so all should share in the process. Nonmembers can even sue the union if they think it has not represented them well enough.

Say “no” to Right to Work Colorado Initiative