



Professional Employees Association, Inc.

PROFESSIONAL VIEW

PEA'S NEWSLETTER FOR JULY-SEPTEMBER, 2006

www.peaonline.org

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Submitted by David Peterson, President

One fall activity (that we may be too well aware of with all the advertising) is the opportunity to vote on the first Tuesday in November (November 7th this year).

Another opportunity for political involvement is through the Minnesota Political Contribution Refund Program:

If you make a contribution(s) to a Minnesota political party, a candidate for state office, or candidates for the Minnesota Legislature, you are eligible to apply for a refund of a portion of your contribution(s).

Only those contributions made to candidates who signed an agreement with the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (formerly Minnesota Ethical Practices Board) to observe state campaign spending limits qualify for the refund.

The maximum refund you can receive is \$50 for single persons and \$100 for married couples. The website for additional information is

http://www.taxes.state.mn.us/individ/forms/pcr_06.pdf

The Executive Committee has continued its schedule of monthly Tuesday night meetings at the union office. The agenda is dominated by committee reports, city or school district negotiation related topics, and the Business Agent/Legal Council Report on current grievances and other issues.

Some of the other current activities and discussion:

Appointment of Marie Schrul as Treasurer;

A report on Mike Wilde's attendance of Mayor Coleman's budget address to union representatives;

A report on the new PEA & school district bargaining agreement timelines for implementation;

Update on Health Insurance issues;

Approved a \$200 donation to the City employee picnic;

Started a policy section within the PEA office computer (bargaining agreement voting procedures being the first item);

Additional assignments for arranging the union office (because of the recent office move);

Noted new positions assigned to PEA, and changes in job duties in some PEA position notices;

Noted recent appointments to the Civil Service Commission; and

Set the dates and agenda for future meetings.

The Executive Committee and Stewards have continued to be very involved and active. I would like to again thank PEA members for their support.

PEA Calendar of Events

2006

September 5th Combined Steward-Executive
Committee Meeting
Joseph’s Grill – 5:30 PM

December 6th General Membership Meeting
(with elections)
Mancini’s – 5:30 PM

2007

March 6th Combined Steward-Executive
Committee Meeting
Joseph’s Grill – 5:30 PM

June 6th General Membership Meeting
Joseph’s Grill – 5:30 PM

Ongoing

The Executive Committee generally meets the first
Tuesday of the month at the union office at 5:30.
Exception: November will be 11/14/05.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The PEA Board is proud to announce
Marie Schrul as the new PEA Treasurer. Marie was
appointed Treasurer at the July 11, 2006 Executive
Committee meeting. Marie is currently an
accountant for the school district, and is a former
City of St. Paul employee.

Also, congratulations to former Treasurer
Rhonda Gilquist on her promotion to an
Accountant IV position in Public Works (a SPSO
position).

The PEA Board is also proud to announce
Librarian Susan Henry as PEA's 2005 employee of
the year! Susan serves as a steward and the
newsletter editor with PEA.

From Kay Wittgenstein, Vice President

As your vice president I serve on the CITY
LABOR/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
ON HEALTH INSURANCE. We meet 1-2
times a month at the Public Works Building
on Como.

We did not meet in July or August and will
resume our meetings in September. At our
June meeting we were given information on
OutsourceOne, Inc. which is a company that is
a third party benefits administrator. They will
be the City's third party administrator effective
January 1, 2007. Open enrollment this Fall
will remain as they have been conducted in the
past. Effective January 1, Ochs Inc. will have
access to go online and enroll employees
immediately. The major change for us will be
during open enrollment in the Fall of 2007 for
2008 coverages. It is anticipated that all
employees will enroll for benefits online at that
time. This may either be done at home or at
your work site. With this new system we will
be able to access our own benefits information
at any time. Look for more information after
the 1st of the year.

Please mark Wednesday December 6, 2006
down on your calendars. We will have our
Holiday Party at Mancini's and would like to
have a great turnout.

*Note from the Editor: Brian Kinder is PEA’s
representative to the School District Labor
Management Committee on Health Insurance.*

Professional Employees Association (PEA)
Steward – Executive Committee Meeting
Agenda

Time & Place:

The meeting will be held Tuesday, September 5, 2006, at Joseph's Grill, 140 South Wabasha in Saint Paul (651-222-2435).

5:00 to 5:30 Social time
5:30 to 6:00 Steward meeting
6:00 to 6:30 Dinner
6:30 to 7:00 Steward meeting (continued)
7:00 to 8:00 Executive Committee Meeting

Agenda:

- 1) Steward Meeting – Current Issues (with Q & A)

- 2) Steward Meeting - Grievances. At the conclusion of the Steward meeting, the stewards are dismissed. However, stewards may stay for the Executive Committee meeting (This may involve discussion of confidential grievance situations that can not be communicated beyond the Executive Committee meeting).

- 3) Executive Committee Meeting (reports, old and new business)

Reservations Required:

Origins of Labor Day

by Jerry Wilson (found on the Wistar webpage)

Labor Day is a national legal holiday that is over 100 years old. Over the years, it has evolved from a purely labor union celebration into a general "last fling of summer" festival.

It grew out of a celebration and parade in honor of the working class by the Knights of Labor in 1882 in New York. In 1884, the Knights held a large parade in New York City celebrating the working class. The parade was held on the first Monday in September. The Knights passed a resolution to hold all future parades on the same day, designated by them as Labor Day.

The Socialist Party held a similar celebration of the working class on May 1. This date eventually became known as May Day, and was celebrated by Socialists and Communists in commemoration of the working man. In the U.S., the first Monday in September was selected to reject any identification with Communism.

In the late 1880's, labor organizations began to lobby various state legislatures for recognition of Labor Day as an official state holiday. The first states to declare it a state holiday in, 1887, were Oregon, Colorado, New York, Massachusetts, and New Jersey. Then in 1894, Congress passed a law recognizing Labor Day as an official national holiday.

Today, Labor Day is observed not only in the U.S. but also in Canada, and in other industrialized nations. While it is a general holiday in the United States, its roots in the working class remain clearer in European countries.

It has come to be recognized in the U.S. not only as a celebration of the working class, but even more so as the unofficial end of the summer season. In the northern half of the U.S. at least, the summer vacation season begins with Memorial Day and ends with Labor Day.

2006 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|--|----------|
| PRESIDENT | DAVID PETERSON | SCHOOLS - 360 Colborne, 55102 | 696-9626 |
| VICE PRES. | KAY WITTGENSTEIN | PHD - 555 Cedar St., 55101 | 266-1285 |
| TREASURER | MARIE SCHRUL | SCHOOLS - 360 Colborne, 55102 | 767-8275 |
| SECRETARY | BRIAN KRAWIECKI | LIEP - 8 E. 4 th St., #200, 55101 | 266-9134 |
| NEGOTIATIONS | | | |
| CITY | SHEILA WINDERLICH | LIBRARY - MMC, 2109 Wilson Ave., 55119 | 501-6309 |
| SCHOOL | JABER ALSIDDIQUI | SCHOOLS - 360 Colborne, 55102 | 767-8352 |
| PERSONNEL | KARIN ANDERSON | CAO - 550 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg, 55102 | 266-8765 |

STEWARDS

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|---|----------|
| CAO & OFS | REGINA ETOLL | 500 City Hall, 15 W. Kellogg, 55102 | 266-8726 |
| FIRE | PAULA PETERSON | 100 E. 11 th St., 55101 | 228-6203 |
| LIBRARIES | | | |
| CENTRAL | SUSAN HENRY | MMC, 2109 Wilson Ave., 55119 | 501-6305 |
| PART TIME | SUSAN McMAHON | Highland Pk, 1974 Ford Pkwy., 55116 | 699-6756 |
| BRANCHES | MARY ANN MILLER | St. Anthony, 2245 Carter Ave., 55101 | 642-0411 |
| LIEP & HR | FRANK BERG | 8 E. 4 th St., #200, 55101 | 266-9072 |
| PARKS & REC | BRIAN TOURTELOTTE | 300 CH Annex, 25 W. 4 th St., 55102 | 266-6414 |
| P.E.D. | CRAIG O'BRIEN | 1100 CH Annex, 25 W. 4 th St., 55102 | 266-6695 |
| POLICE | MARSHA PANOS | 367 Grove St., 55101 | 292-3781 |
| PUB. HEALTH | SUSAN MYRAN | 555 Cedar St., 55101 | 266-1210 |
| SCHOOL DIST. | LYLA GRIFFIN | 360 Colborne, 55102 | 767-8288 |
| | COLLEEN SHIELDS | 360 Colborne, 55102 | 767-3472 |
| TMS & PW | BRUCE RIEBE | 700 CH Annex, 25 W. 4 th St., 55102 | 266-6091 |
| WATER | ISSAC AFWERKE | 1900 N. Rice, 55113 | 266-6267 |

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