Set the Example! That is my theme for this year and I hope if you are not already on board, you will be compelled to become an active member, to have your concerns heard, to share in our learning experiences, and above all be proud to be a member of UNOPA.

I was able to participate in the National Association of Educational Office Professionals conference held in Bloomington, Minnesota, July 20 – 24, 2009. What an exciting week! The sessions that I attended were fantastic, including the presenters. Many of you may not know that I have problems keeping awake during meetings, in fact many of my co-workers will attest to that statement. But I was like another person sitting at the edge of my chair trying to absorb everything being presented.

In addition to the five general sessions that I attended Wednesday through Friday, I was also able to attend institute classes and a session on Monday and Tuesday. The keynote speaker for the fifth general session was Lieutenant Wyatt Bienfang. He is a School Resource Officer at Glencoe-Silver Lake School District, who wears many hats: family man, policeman, educator, coach, and a cancer survivor. His presentation helped me to confirm my choice for the 50/50 recipient. I hope you are able to attend our first general business meeting in September to hear more during my announcement.

—Peg Johnson, President

UNOPA Tours Quilt Center at Summer Social

The UNOPA Summer Social was held on Tuesday, June 23, 2009. Members were treated to a tour of the International Quilt Studies & Museum. The quilts on display were truly a work of art. The exhibits we saw were the “Quilt Japan: Selections from the 9th Quilt Nihon Exhibition” and “American Quilts in Modern Age, 1870-1940” The color, design and creativity that went into making the quilts in the “Quilt Japan” exhibit were artistically outstanding. The “American Quilts in the Modern Age, 1870-1940” had several different styles of quilts – pieced block, crazy style and one-of-a-kind from different decades. It was interesting to hear about the fabric and the different ways they were stitched – hand and machine.

The tour was very fascinating, learning about the background of the quilts displayed.

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Michele Strickler the board voted to have the fund given to a charity. That first year the board choose the charity, the Emergency Loan Fund. Since that time we have given to numerous charities. In 1997 it was decided that the President would pick the charity as her project for the year.

What do the National Association Educational Office Professional Meeting, the Nebraska Educational Office Professionals Association Meeting, The Central Area Meetings, and the UNOPA General Meeting all have in common besides the obvious? The 50/50 fund raising. This fund raising is where the pot is split two different ways. You buy a ticket and have a chance to win 50% of the amount collected. Each ticket costs $1.00 or you can get a bargain, for $5.00 you get six tickets. In September 1989 UNOPA established the 50/50 fund. That year Shirley Horstman was UNOPA’s Treasurer and Jan Harris was the President. In the first year 50% of the fund went into the Treasury for operating.

In 1996-97 under President Marcia Rowley the fund was given to the Food bank. In 1998-99 under President Lola Young the fund was given to Camp Kataki and the PSP Fund. In 1999-2000 under President Diane Wasser the fund was given to Cedar’s Home for Children. In 2000-2001 under President Edie Schleiger the fund was given to Friendship Home. In 2001-2002 under President Pat Hust the fund was given to Lincoln Literary Council. In 2002-2003 under President Chris Cary the fund was given to Lincoln Medical Education Foundation (LMEF). In 2003-2004 under President Carol Bom the fund was given to Chancellor’s Impact Fund. In 2004-2005 under President Sandy Watmore the fund was given to Spinoza Bears. In 2005-2006 under President Becky Hastings the fund was given to Camp CoHoLo (Courage, Hope, Love). In 2006-2007 under President Donelle Moormeier the fund was given to Centre Point. In 2007-2008 under President Gretchen Walker the fund was given to Habitat for Humanity and City Impact Fund. In 2008-2009 under President Mary Guest the fund was given to Veterans Memorial Gardens.

So as you can see, not only do you have a chance to win but also donate to a good cause.
Floyd S. Oldt Awards Combined

Do you have a wonderful boss? Or know an outstanding employee? If so, nominate him/her for one of the following UNOPA Floyd S. Oldt awards:
- Boss of the Year
- Outstanding Staff
- Silver Pen

The awards will be presented at the UNOPA awards luncheon on Tuesday, November 10, 2009.

National Conference Highlights

Fourteen members of UNOPA attended the National Association of Educational Office Professionals Annual Conference in Bloomington, Minnesota from July 20-24th. The theme for the conference was “Explore the Facets of NAEOP.”

This year the NAEOP celebrated its 75th Anniversary. The conference opened on Tuesday night with the traditional flag ceremony followed by the keynote address given by Rick J. Kaufman, one of the first responders to the Columbine shootings. The conference ended with a keynote address by Lieutenant Wyatt Bienfang, a police officer and a school teacher.

Awards are always a highlight of the conference and were given at a general session on Thursday afternoon.

Here are some results:
- UNOPA NOTES (Betty Jacobs, editor) received 3rd place in the Local Newsletter Category 2.
- UNOPA received 3rd place in the Louise Henderson Nelson Award, Local Category, which is a 5-year historical award on events, service and recognition.
- Diane Wasser was elected to the PSP Committee.
- NEOPA received 3rd place in the State Division of the Louise Henderson Nelson Award.
- Nebraska also received 1st place in Membership increases.
- Nebraska received 3rd in the 75th State Anniversary Doll.

Central Area to host National Conference in 2010

Nebraska is one of five Central Area states that will be hosting the 2010 NAEOP Annual Conference in Kansas City in July.

Mary Guest and Gretchen Walker are Nebraska Co-Chairs for our part in the conference.

Nebraska will be responsible for hosting the registration table on July 4, the hospitality room on July 5 with Kansas and the Professional Standards Banquet on July 7.

Mary and Gretchen are asking for help from all of the Nebraska Affiliates. If you would be willing to help out, please contact Mary Guest (mguest2@unl.edu) or Gretchen Walker (gwalker1@unl.edu).

This would be a great opportunity to attend a National Conference if you haven’t done so.

Nebraska State Doll competition

“Explore the Facets of NAEOP”

Rose Frolik turned 100 on June 27th. Sandy Lineberry escorts her to a UNOPA General Meeting.
Upcoming Events

August:  
24  Start Fall Semester Classes  
29  4th Annual PSP Luncheon

September:  
2  Board meeting  
8  General Meeting — Speaker Tom Osborne

October:  
1-2  NEOPA Fall Workshop (Omaha, NE)  
6  Board Meeting  
13  General Meeting — Speaker Terry Wagner  
16  Boss’s Day

Awards Deadline

November  
3  Board Meeting

10  General Meeting —  
Floyd S. Oldt Awards Luncheon

December  
1  Board Meeting

8  General Meeting — Holiday Luncheon  
24  Start Holiday Closedown

Save the Date!
2010 Central Area Professional Development Day/NEOPA Spring Conference
April 23-24, 2010  
Holiday Inn Downtown  
Lincoln, Nebraska
Co-Chair:  Gretchen Walker  
(gwalkar3@unl.edu)  
Mary Grace  
(mgrace2@unl.edu)

Note from Editor:  
If you have an interesting article to share  
or if you would like to see articles of special interest in an upcoming issue of UNOPA Notes please e-mail it to me at dwasser@unl.edu  
This is your newsletter and it is important to put useful information into it.  All suggestions and comments are welcome.  “I aim to please”

University of Nebraska—Lincoln
UNOPA Notes  
PO Box 880541  
Lincoln, NE  68588-0541  
Diane Wasser, Editor  
dwasser@unl.edu

Address Corrrections to:  
Cathy Robertson  
crobertson2@unl.edu

Saturday, August 29, 2009  
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
St. Mark’s United Methodist Church  
84th & Pioneers  
Lincoln, Nebraska
Advance Tickets are $20.00 and can be purchased by contacting a PSP Committee member:

  Chair: Tricia Liedle — 472-8250 or 613-1188  
  Co-Chair: Lorraine Moon—472-6082

Registration deadline is:  
August 14, 2009  
This event is open to the public