



➔ From right to left: Donna Hazelwood, WAE Treasurer, Member Janice Cummings, AR at Stone Creek Elementary, Supt. Melissa Mathis, and Dr. Jim Barrett, WAE President

Locals in Action

Walker County Schools Superintendent Keynote Speaker for WAE Retirement Dinner

Melissa Mathis, Superintendent of Walker County Schools was the keynote speaker at the Walker Association of Educators retirement dinner at Park Place Restaurant in Ft. Oglethorpe on Tuesday, May 18. Superintendent Mathis spent more than two hours listening to and speaking with WAE members.

“We believe that the relationship between WAE, Superintendent Mathis, and the Walker County Board of Education is a model for cooperation, trust, and progress throughout Georgia,” said WAE President Jim Barrett. WAE also honored Superintendent Mathis and the Walker County Board for limiting furlough days to two during the 2009-2010 school year and for planning a 2010-2011 school year with no foreseeable furloughs.



Did you KNOW?

According to a White House fact sheet, about **7,000** students decide to drop out of school every day—a total of **1.2 million** students each year—and only about **70%** of entering high school freshman graduate every year.

Without a high school diploma, young people are less likely to succeed in the workforce. Each year, our nation loses \$319 billion in potential earnings associated with the dropout crisis.

Learn more about NEA’s 12-Point Action Plan for Reducing the School Dropout Rate, visit <http://www.nea.org/home/19348.htm>

“We cannot lose sight of the fact that the richest country in the world can provide every student with a quality education. We must reorder our priorities now so we can do just that.”

—Dennis Van Roekel,
National Education Association President

websites in 5 seconds

www.digitalwish.com

Digital Wish is a non-profit with a unique mission to modernize K-12 classrooms and prepare students for tomorrow’s workforce. Digital Wish focuses on closing the gap and creating equity in our school systems so that each child has equal access to technology.

www.thinkfinity.org

Verizon Thinkfinity is the Verizon Foundation’s nationally recognized signature initiative for education and literacy. Through Thinkfinity, you’ll have thousands of free lesson plans and special educator resources at your fingertips...for FREE.

www.livingroomcandidate.org

The Living Room Candidate contains a comprehensive online collection of political television advertisements from every Presidential election since 1952.

www.jamestownjourney.org

The mission of JamestownJourney.org is to provide free, engaging educational materials from varying viewpoints to all educators of grade levels K-12. These resources are meant to raise awareness of the fascinating story of Jamestown and to teach its legacies and impact on the United States today.

www.classtrips.com

This is an online directory of day, overnight and travel trips for school, scout and youth groups. Over 500 types of trips to select from. Listings are coded by grade level, curriculum subject, supported state learning standards and scout merit badge achievements. Users can search for trips by curriculum categories and geographic areas. Provides contact and trip information as well as descriptions of venues. Pictures and videos available. Continual updates on day and travel trips.

See this?



This icon means you can find additional resources and info in GAE’s digital magazine.

ASK NEA MEMBER BENEFITS.

Q How do I know if I'm saving enough for retirement?

A **That's a great question.** And it's one you need to think about from day one of your career. Saving for retirement cannot be done over night. It's something you need to build day by day, dollar by dollar.

To get you started, NEA Member Benefits has developed a super easy online quiz for you to take. In less than five minutes, you can take the pulse of your retirement plan. Where are you now and where do you need to be? Answer a few questions and you'll get a retirement savings snapshot plus additional planning resources if you need them.

We've also developed a great savings calculator to help you gauge where you are currently and how much you need to be saving in order to achieve your retirement goals. And this is just the beginning. We've compiled loads of resources all dedicated to helping you to build the retirement you want.

Got a question about your member benefits? Send it to know@gae.org. Include your name and local association.



Membership has its perks! An advantage of purchasing a policy through your Association is the ability to maintain coverage even if you change jobs and move to a different school district.



Proof we believe in education, just look at our math:

Starting at
\$130⁰⁰*
for **GAE Members**

For those who inspire the minds of our next generation, we're offering a little inspiration in return. Or a lot as the case may be, with thousands of acres of pristine beauty. Enjoy it along with our special rate for GAE members.

With four unique locations across Georgia, the lodges are close to you and your budget. This special package rate includes hotel room, meeting facility, meals, breaks, audio/visual equipment and gratuities. Of course the real value is knowing you are supporting our core mission of protecting, preserving and educating Georgians about the benefits of healthy, outdoor activity (especially for kids) and the importance of environmental responsibility.



Call **404.624.6345**
or Visit GaLodges.com/meetings



*Offer is good Sunday - Thursday with a minimum of 10 rooms. Some blackout dates may apply. These rates are net and not offered for commissions. Offer ends November 30, 2010.

Cobb County President Launches Blog

The Cobb County Association of Educators is using a new technology to connect with CCAE members about key issues and important news: a president's blog. Recently launched by new CCAE President Connie Jackson, the blog is dedicated to journaling her experiences as president, sharing information, and keeping in touch with CCAE members.

To check it out, head to <http://www.ccae-president.blogspot.com/>

GaDOE Launches iTunes University Site

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) recently unveiled an iTunes University site—a free technology resource that will allow teachers, students and parents to download resources directly onto an iPod or other portable device.

The iTunes University site creates a base of digital educational content where users can easily download and access audio and video content for use in the classroom, at home or while driving to work. Visitors to the site can find content on everything from mathematics instruction to parent involvement videos.

Check out the GaDOE iTunes University site at <http://public.doe.k12.ga.us/ts.aspx?PageReq=TSiTunesU>



Congratulations to the 2011 Georgia Teacher of the Year

Pam Williams, an Economics teacher from Appling County High School, has been named the 2011 Georgia Teacher of the Year. Ms. Williams was named the winner of the award at the annual Georgia Teacher of the Year banquet at the Georgia Aquarium. She will spend the 2010-2011 school year serving as an advocate for public education and the teaching profession in Georgia.

In her application, Williams described her philosophy of teaching as being focused on respect and responsibility. She stressed the importance of two-way communication between her and her students, because she sees the teaching profession as second only to parenting.

There were 148 district teachers of the year who submitted applications to become the 2011 Georgia Teacher of the Year.

Several sponsors donated money and prizes for the Georgia Teacher of the Year. The title sponsor of the Georgia Teacher of the Year program is UnitedHealthcare. Platinum sponsors included Georgia Natural Gas, AirTran Airways, and SMART Technologies. Other sponsors included Blue Bell Creameries, The Coca Cola Company, Georgia Association of Educators, Georgia Power, Professional Association of Georgia Educators, Keith Plaques, Apple, Inc., The School Box, Inc. and Chick-fil-A.

Congratulations to the 2011 Georgia Teacher of the Year Finalists

Pam Williams, Appling County High School, Appling County, Social Studies

Lori Bone, County Line Elementary School, Barrow County, Special Education

Henry Rentz, Cass Middle School, Bartow County, Language Arts

Kelly Burke, Woodstock High School, Cherokee County, Science

Steven Greer, Dodge County High School, Dodge County, JROTC

Deborah Stringfellow, Alton C. Crews Middle School, Gwinnett County, Science

Coni Grebel, Lee County High School, Lee County, Language Arts

Kathy Neal, Thomson High School, McDuffie County, Science

Bettina Polite Tate, Sol C. Johnson High, Savannah-Chatham County, Marketing & Business

Laura Gerlach, Sumter County Elementary Math, Science & Technology Academy, Sumter County, 3rd grade

Apply for a NEA SOAR Grant

*For NEA Student Program Chapters

Building a strong presence on campus is one of the biggest challenges that NEA Student Program chapters face. NEA provides financial assistance in the form of Student Organizing and Assistance Resources (SOAR) grants to encourage efforts to recruit new members or organize a student chapter. Chapters may apply for funding to recruit in the following areas: urban institutions; minority populations and historically minority campuses; community colleges; and high school future teacher programs. Priority is given to student locals working with UniServ units.

Application deadline: August 31, 2010

For more information: www.nea.org

Apply for the NEA Human and Civil Rights Award

Honoring Those Who Stand Up for Human and Civil Rights

The National Education Association's Human and Civil Rights Awards program honors individuals and affiliates who stand up and defend human and civil rights. It honors individuals who have expanded educational opportunities for minority students and educators and improved intergroup relations in the public schools. Here is the list of awards:

- Applegate-Dorros Peace and International Understanding Award
- Carter G. Woodson Memorial Award
- César Chávez Acción y Compromiso Human and Civil Rights Award
- Ellison Onizuka Memorial Award
- H. Councill Trenholm Memorial Award (Black)
- H. Councill Trenholm Memorial Award (Non-Black)
- George I. Sánchez Memorial Award
- Leo Reano Memorial Award
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award
- Mary Hatwood Futrell Award
- Reg Weaver Human and Civil Rights Award
- Rosa Parks Memorial Award
- Rosena J. Willis Memorial Award (Local)
- SuAnne Big Crow Memorial Award
- Virginia Uribe Award for Creative Leadership in Human Rights

Application deadline: December 9, 2010

For more information: www.nea.org



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The Georgia Association of Educators Foundation exists to provide enhanced educational opportunities for every student by training, developing, and empowering Georgia's public school educators. As part of this mission, the GAE Foundation provides scholarships each year to high school seniors, college/university juniors and seniors, current certified Georgia educators and education support professionals to continue education. The GAE Foundation also works to enhance student achievement by providing support for innovative programs and awarding grants for best practices projects.

2010 High School Senior Scholarship Recipients

Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship to attend a Georgia college or university.

Brittany Laine Cagle, Social Circle High School, Social Circle
Amy Elizabeth Coyle, East Paulding High School, Paulding County
Linda Grace Faircloth, Cook High School, Cook County
Calli A. Helms, Bainbridge High School, Decatur County
Brooke Ashley Mitchell, Gordon Central High School, Gordon County
Andrew Cody Norton, Mt. Zion High School, Carroll County
Feliscia Anglica Parrish, North Oconee High School, Oconee County
Kristi Anastasha Stansberry, Sprayberry High School, Cobb County
Elizabeth Anna Wells, Bainbridge High School, Decatur County
L'rae Noel Wiggs, Charlton County High School, Charlton County

2010 College Junior/Senior Scholarship Awards

Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship to attend a Georgia college or university certified education program.

Cathy Dee Hooper, North Georgia College & State University
 Kathleen McCready Houston, Gainesville State College
 Amanda Kate Jackson, Kennesaw State University
 Jennifer T. Mathews, Armstrong Atlantic State University
 Amber-Leigh Maynard, Georgia State University
 Erin Alisha McCorvey, Armstrong Atlantic State University
 Melissa Marie Medica, Gainesville State College
 Dung Nguyen, Georgia State University
 Kristy Hayes O'Neal, Armstrong Atlantic State University
 Edward Joseph Scheuplein, Jr., Gainesville State College
 LuGena M. Todd, Armstrong Atlantic State University
 Vertis Harriet Weems, Shorter College

2010 Certified Educators/ Advanced Degree Scholarship Awards

Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship to pursue an Advanced Education Degree.

Jhondra Anderson Barnes, Griffin Spalding County Schools
 Angela Susan Brooks, City Schools of Decatur
 Deborah H. Brown, Decatur County Schools
 Kristen Marie DeLay, Madison County Schools
 Carol Chandler Free, Chickamauga City Schools
 Andrienne Marie Kidd, Lumpkin County Schools
 Joniecia Sherdreka King, Dekalb County Schools
 Tiffany Vashuna Matthews-Carter, Cobb County Schools
 Rachael Jean McClain, Hall County Schools
 Patricia Ann Pinkston Nealy, Richmond County Schools
 Titania R. Pachuta, Cobb County Schools
 Wagner Guy Pierre, Fulton County Schools
 Nia Malika Pole, Clayton County Schools
 Virginia C. VanGelderren, Hall County Schools
 Charity Sue Wang, Hall County Schools

The Georgia Association of Educators Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2010 Scholarships and Grants Awards.

2010 Educational Support Professional Scholarship Awards

Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship to advance their professional growth or pursue an Educational Degree.

Leslie Sparnell Albert, Gwinnett County Schools
 Edward D. Anderson, Jr., DeKalb County Schools
 Geraldine Askew, Cobb County Schools
 Ada Loretta Barrett, Grady County Schools
 Deborah Diane Dreyer Battista, Gwinnett County Schools
 Nakisha L. Brown, Decatur County Schools
 Arletta Matrice Cunningham, Gwinnett County Schools
 Shelly A. Drewry, Cobb County Schools
 Catherine Marie Garner, Cook County Schools
 Brigetta Milinda Glynn, Grady County Schools
 Pamela Ann Grady, Whitfield County Schools
 Demetrus Latrell McCray, Bulloch County Schools,
 Jeannette M. Moore, Gwinnett County Schools

2010 Best Practices Grant Awards

Each recipient receives up to a \$1,000 grant to implement an educational best practice project in his/her school.

Jenette Renee Allen, Paulding County Schools | \$989.54
 Darlene D. Belton, Columbia County Schools | \$446.00
 Carol Y. Bennett, Bartow County Schools | \$975.00
 Karen Crow-Roark, Dalton City Schools | \$1,000.00
 Donica Lynette Cuspard-Hightower, DeKalb County Schools | \$970.00
 Sherie L. Green, Gwinnett County Schools | \$995.00
 Maria Ortagio Grovner, Gwinnett County Schools | \$1,000.00
 Carlana J. Hamlin, Clayton County Schools | \$1,000.00
 Theresa Elaine Hines, Dekalb County Schools | \$206.88
 Trenese Marie Johnson, Clayton County Schools | \$1,000.00
 Lynda C. Kerr, Henry County Schools | \$1,000.00
 Yvette Louise Morelon, Clayton County Schools | \$1,000.00
 Joseph M. Nunn, Gwinnett County Schools | \$996.00
 Sherri Evette White, Dekalb County Schools | \$299.75

2010 National Board Certification Scholarship Awards

Mary Elizabeth Dekle, Seminole County Schools
 Osie Mae Huling, Muscogee County Schools
 Kathleen Mary Woods, Dekalb County Schools
 Karen Crow-Roark, Dalton City Schools
 Sarah M. Pruitt, Dawson County Schools
 Josephine Ann Rouse, Fayette County Schools
 Ginga Jones Sweatt, Heard County Schools