NEA Directors Special Report

January, 2009

Annie Crego, NEA State Director, akc9150@aol.com
Janie Hydrick, NEA State Director, hydrick@aol.com
Linda Somo, NEA Retired Director, lasomo@orbitelcom.com

Western Region Minority Leadership Training Seminar
Western Regional Leadership Conference

Western Region Minority Leadership Training Seminar

Congratulations to **Leighia Martinez.** She graduated from the two-year Minority Leadership Training Program (held annually prior to the WRLC). Leighia participated in a graduation ceremony and was congratulated by NEA President Dennis VanRoekel and NEA Executive Committee members Christy Leavings, Paula Monroe, and Carolyn Crowder. Yahoo, Leighia!

The following Arizonans participated in their first year of the two-year program and will graduate in 2010 in Phoenix: **Ericca Arvizu, Angel Bejarano, Jo Bell, Marisol Garcia, Lucy LiBosha, Robin McGee, Debbie Montes, Marivel Roybal,** and **Sylvia Ruiz.** Arizona's participants were always front and center: active participants in sessions, vocal and articulate at the Minority Affairs Committee hearing, and artfully schmoozing with other state delegates.

Janie Hydrick was on the planning committee and served as Chair of this year's Minority Leadership Training Seminar.

NEA Core Value: A Just Society
We believe public education is vital to building respect for the worth, dignity, and equality of every individual in our diverse society.

NEA Core Value: Equal Opportunity
We believe pubic education is the gateway to opportunity.

The FUND

Once again, the Arizona delegation provided irrefutable proof that Arizona educators have FUN with the FUND. See for yourselves in the table below how Arizonans have emptied their pockets to support pro-education candidates. For juicy details on who returned home with which trash or treasures, you'll have to ask the delegates themselves!

	2008 Austin	*2009 Albuq*
Total raised by Arizona	**$5014**	**$6461**
Per delegate contribution	**$63.47**	**$92.30**

Every western region state met its FUNDraising goal! Here are the western regional contest results:

Most new continuous contributors:
Oklahoma

Highest per delegate contribution:
$93.00 New Mexico
$92.30 Arizona
$92.13 Kansas

Highest state total contribution:
$6461 Arizona
$6449 Kansas
$4526 Colorado

Way to go, Arizona!

Western Regional Leadership Conference

The 2009 Western Regional Leadership Conference was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 16-18, and Arizona was well represented in the program.

Annie Crego, Janie Hydrick, and **John Wright** served on the Conference planning committee, and **Janie Hydrick** was Conference Vice Chairperson. **Dennis Van Roekel** was the opening session speaker.

In addition, Arizonans were brilliant presenters in six coveted sessions!

Frank Bing: "Alpha to Omega – Student and Retired Members Bring Diverse Value"

Estevan Carreon: NEA Resolutions Committee Hearing

Annie Crego: "Now that you are here, what's next?"; "Basic Skills for the Survival of Public Education – A GREAT Plan"

Janie Hydrick: "TEF and 21st Century School Funding;" "Basic Skills for the Survival of Public Education – A GREAT Plan"

Penny Kotterman: "Building Coalitions with Community Leaders"

Chris Maza: "TEF and 21st Century School Funding"

Luci Messing: "Basic Skills for the Survival of Public Education – A GREAT Plan"

Sheenae Shannon: "TEF and 21st Century School Funding"

John Wright: "Building Coalitions with Community Leaders"

Western Region Comes to Mesa, Arizona, in 2010

In January, 2010, the Arizona Education Association will host the Western Region Minority Leadership Training Seminar and the Western Regional Leadership Conference. The site was determined aeons ago, but the quality of planning, sessions, and special events will be surpassed only by the extraordinary, infamously gregarious, and fun-loving AEA hosts!

We have one year to plan our FUNDraising FUN so that at last we can break New Mexico's seven-year dominance of the western region. Home court has so many possibilities for riotous and creative FUND FUN!!