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Charles' Comments

The Summer Conference was a huge success! Over 150 leaders from 38 local units from our region made the commitment to serve with more information. Many of you were first timers and came away more educated, informed and renewed to lead the charge into the next year. We offered online registration for the first time, diverse class offerings and extended vendor time, making this region conference the best I've attended. Make plans to join in on the fun next spring. The nominating committee was elected from the floor and has begun their work of finding your 2011-13 Region 7 Director.

I would like to recognize the following people for their selfless dedication to PTA in our region by helping to make our summer conference possible: Dori Tate, Cheryl Child, Brandis Roundy, Rick Simon, Daniela Thom, Julie Matheny, Jenny Forbes, Michelle Nims, Annette Rice, Karen Madsen, Rita Lechlida, Louise Uriu, Theresa Ramey, Kim Morton, Virginia Muniz, Jesica Stickles, Pam Osburn, Kathleen Steck, Barbara Arocha and Evergreen Middle School PTA. Without their expert guidance, support and supplementation, we could not have exceeded the expectations of our PTAs.

These vendors provided door prizes to our conference attendees: **Innisbrook, Kids Corner Gift Shoppes, Mad Science, Right Response, Stickles Press, The Whole Picture, Viva Productions and West Coast Fundraising.**

Mark your calendar and save the dates: For the first time ever, we will present the IRS 990 form class on October 5th at Forest View Elementary in Everett from 6-9 PM. Registration information is inside.

PTA and The Law will be presented on October 16th at Marysville Arts and Technology High School from 9-12:30. Check inside this newsletter for registration information.

As you begin your school year, here are a few reminders:

- Please verify that your new board has been entered into the WSPTA database
- Make certain to send your board to this year's Region 7 PTA and The Law
- Present the proposed budget and standing rules to the membership for approval
- Send your legislative chair to legislative assembly
- Introduce a stranger to PTA and tell them what your PTA does for their child

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Region 7 PTA & The Law Workshop

Saturday, October 16th, 2010 from 9:00am-12:30pm
Marysville Arts and Technical High School
7204 27th Avenue NE, Tulalip, WA 98271



~ **Online Registration at <http://ptalawreg7.eventbrite.com> ~**

Join us for Washington State PTA’s informative program on the legal issues that are of concern to a non-profit organization. Regulations can change every year!

Prepare your leadership team for questions that might arise in the course of the school year. Learn about changes in tax law and how they effect PTAs. Learn the difference between PTA and ASB, the proper way to donate equipment, and what to do if the IRS contacts you. Invite your Principal to attend with you!

This is invaluable training that should not be missed!

This class is one of the suggested requirements under the Washington State PTA “Best Practice” Guidelines, and is required if the PTA wishes to apply for the Standards of Excellence Award.

Registration is \$40 until October 14th, \$65 at the door.

Alternate Date & Location:

Region 8 PTA & The Law Workshop

Wednesday, October 13th, 2010 from 5:30—9:00pm
Oak Harbor School District Offices
350 S. Oak Harbor St.

Registration information available at:

http://www.wastatepta.org/regions/region_8/region_calendar.html

Region 7 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, October 5th:

October 8-9th:

Wednesday, October 13th:

Saturday, October 16th:

990EZ Tax Form Class (Forest View Elementary)

Legislative Assembly

PTA & The Law (Whidbey Island & Region 8)

PTA & The Law (Region 7)

Please refer to http://www.wastatepta.org/regions/region_7/region_calendar.html

Membership Minute:



Hello PTA Membership Chairs,

Thank you to everyone who attended the Region 7 Conference! It was great to finally match names to faces. Please make sure that you have your membership chairs entered into State. There is some wonderful information being shared by your Region Membership Chairs, and if you are not a membership chair, but would love to receive this information, make sure you sign up on the membership listserv on WSPTA Website.

As a PTA Membership Chair do you have a good answer as to **why** someone should become a PTA member? Could you convince someone to join PTA in 30 seconds? As a membership chair, I'm guessing you are passionate about PTA membership, but what about your Executive Team or the Board? Can they effectively communicate the message? Membership is a team effort. There are so many reasons for becoming a PTA member and you have to remember that people join PTA for different reasons. Some will join for our advocacy work, some will join to support their local school/community, and some will join PTA because it is the right thing to do.

Why should you join PTA? The Elevator Speech...
Do you believe in kids? Then you should become a PTA

member. PTA membership is our voice and vote. It is not about volunteering or attending meetings. PTA is the oldest child advocacy organization in existence that gives all parents a voice in their children's education. PTA continues to be relevant as it advocates for ALL children and provides opportunities to make a difference in the life of kids. Membership is the heart of PTA and we all make a difference, so consider becoming a member today.

Remember, attracting new members and retaining current ones are among the most important duties of a PTA. A thriving membership doesn't just happen; it requires good planning and year-round attention!

As always, feel free to ask any questions or let me know if I can be of any help. I am here for you.

Happy Membership!

Theresa Ramey
Region 7 Membership Chair
RMC7@wastatepta.org

Calling all PTA Treasurers!

||  **IRS FORM 990EZ CLASS**

Class Description: Do you have questions or need help with your PTA's 990EZ? This workshop will give you line-by-line assistance with this very important form. Treasurer's should come after attempting to do their taxes so they have a basic familiarity with the form and their unit's financials for the tax year of 2009-2010. Schedule A, Schedule G, and Schedule C will be discussed if time permits.

Who Should Attend: Any PTA Treasurer (or board member) who would like help or clarification with the IRS 990EZ form!

What To Bring: **Bring your most recent treasurer's report and your PTA's 2009 - 2010 financial records**

Date: Tuesday – October 5, 2010

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 PM (Registration: 5:30 – 6:00 PM)

Location: Forest View Elementary - Cafeteria (5601 156th Street SE, Everett, WA 98208)

Presenter: Pat Nelson – Washington State PTA

Cost: **FREE!**

RSVP: RSVP via e-mail to michellenims@juno.com by October 1, 2010. Please put 990EZ Class in the subject line of your e-mail and include your name, local unit name and number, and how many people from your local unit will be attending.

Region 7 Summer Conference Supporting Vendors


We had a fabulous group of vendors at our Region 7 Fall Conference! A big thank you is in order for their wonderful door prize donations and their sponsorship. If you did not have a chance to speak with these vendors, it's not too late! Speak to one of these fine companies and see what they can do for your PTA.

Stickles Press
RightResponse
Innisbrook

The Whole Picture
Viva Productions
Kids Korner Gift Shoppes

Mad Science
West Coast Fundraising

We are interested in your opinions, so if you do business with one of these companies, give us some feedback. Also, if you think there is a vendor that should be at our next conference, e-mail your suggestions to Brandis Roundy (roundyclan@comcast.net) or Pam Osburn (Pam@duracoat.org).



Mad Science of Sno-King
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At Mad Science our mission is to spark the imagination and curiosity of children everywhere. We do this by providing them with fun, interactive and educational activities that instill a clearer understanding of science and how it affects the world around us. The Mad Science After/Before School program is a unique, innovative, and free to the school/PTA way, to continue the learning process before or after school.



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Your best source for Made in the USA, high quality and value products that your parents will request year after year! Your PTA will earn up to 50% profit and families/students will earn the best promotions/prizes in the industry. While our original EZ Order entry reduces volunteer time by 60% and reduces paperwork by 55% - GO Green with Innisbrook! Parents will **Save Time and Gas** when you offer Innisbrook School Supplies Kits in the spring - delivery before the first day of school!

RIGHTRESPONSE

PH 360-421-0092

Cheryl
Zuchowski
 Fundraising Specialist

Cheryl.zuchowski@myrightresponse.com

Right Response is a fundraiser developed by First Aid Only as a healthy alternative to candy and junk food fundraisers. We are committed to the health and well being of our communities by offering great fundraising products. This is a brand new fundraiser to this area. It will cost you nothing to get started and your group will make a 50% profit.

Outreach Outtakes:

The Outreach class was filled with many great ideas. We had the opportunity to discuss and collaborate on ways to ensure our local units are impacting all of the cultures represented in our schools.

Culture can be defined as the ideas, customs, skills, arts, etc. of a people or group that are communicated or passed along from one generation to the next.

Cultural understanding comes from **education** and **communication**. We as parents and PTA members are very familiar with both of those words. Reaching out and meeting the needs of the students and families in our schools is an important role. By not being aware of those around us, we can begin to find it difficult to communicate even simple things like volunteering and or available services.

Cultural awareness is very relevant and vital to the success of a local unit and the communities we live in. The OSPI website (<http://www.k12.wa.us/>) is a great place to start by looking at the statics in your school, from ethnicity to socio-economics, and begin

to reflect on ways to encourage others to get involved.

I was able to attend the Emerging Minority Leadership Conference last year and was inspired and challenged to speak with my local unit about ways that we could welcome members of different backgrounds into our membership, including men and those in poverty. It has been both exciting and rewarding to have these conversations and to begin breaking the stereotypes around us.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Emerging Minority Leadership Conference (November 13th at Tye High School in Seatac) and consider taking as many people with you as you can. If you have any questions please feel free to email me.

Virginia Muniz
Region 7 Outreach Chair
ROC7@wastatepta.org

Legislative Loop:

IT'S COMING.....!!!!

Legislative Assembly - October 8-9th SeaTac Marriott

A must see! You need to go and represent your unit (or council). This means you will have to vote on the issues. Read up and find out what you think about them. Here is where they are listed:

<http://www.wastatepta.org/advocacy/index.html>
[2010 Leg Assembly Issue Guide](#) **NEW!**

[2010 Issue Survey](#) (MS Word) **NEW!**

Then, get a hold of your Legislative Chair to help get this information out to ALL your membership. You can do this by email, print or Survey Monkey...but you need to get their feedback on what they think and how they want you to **vote "for or against?"**

There are some **HOT** topics this session! You don't want to miss out on the heated debate!

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions at anytime!

Jesica Stickles, Region 7 Legislative Chair
RLC7@wastatepta.org
425-931-8553

WSPTA Awards & Programs

PTA MEN: Partners in Making a Difference

Reflections... "Together We Can"

100% Teacher Membership Award

Outstanding Newsletter Award

Outstanding Local Unit of the Year

Mentor-A-PTA Award

Standards of Excellence Award

Honor Unit Award

Communications Award

100% Membership Award

PTAs Taking Significant Action Award

Show off the great things your local unit does!

For more information on these awards and programs, please visit <http://www.wastatepta.org>

Charles' Comments: (continued from page 1)

Here are a few of the goals your Region 7 Service Delivery Team is working on for the year:

- Provide more PTA Council support and idea sharing
- Start a PTA Council in the Arlington area
- Open a new PTA in Granite Falls
- Host a joint training on Whidbey Island of PTA and The Law

Please join me in welcoming our newest PTA, Marysville Getchell High School PTSA!

Thanks for all that you do,

Charles Miller, Region 7 Director
(425) 609-4536 or (360) 659-0151
Ptareg7@wastatepta.org

Council Corner:

Everett Council:

Giving you the tools for success!

Welcome to another wonderful year in the Everett School district! Whether this is your first year as a PTA officer, or your fifth, Everett PTSA Council is here to help make your year a success! I personally invite you to take advantage of everything the Everett Council has to offer, beginning with our first meeting of the year at 6:30pm on Thursday, September 30th at the Longfellow Annex. I look forward to seeing at least one representative from each Everett local unit at this meeting!

I would also like to encourage **each Everett officer** to fill out a short online survey we've created. This survey will take you about 5 minutes, but will provide the Everett Council with truly important information that we can use to

serve you better. We will be sharing the results at our first meeting. I'm including the web address here:
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/B8P5H5H>

Have you heard about our new Everett Council website?! Bookmark it, and check back often to see what's happening!
<http://everettptsacouncil.club.officelive.com/default.aspx>

HUGE increase in Shoe Fund requests! Our Everett Council Shoe Fund Chair, Angela Steck sent out 90 Pay-less shoe cards to Everett schools during the first week of school! Last year only 4 cards were sent out during the first week. We are anticipating this trend to continue, given our current uncertain and challenging economic times, and would like to appeal to our local units to send in your donations by October 31st. More info is available on the website. Thank you!

I hope your school year is off to a fantastic start, and I look forward to working with you!

Jenny Forbes, Everett PTSA Council President

Marysville Council:

The Marysville PTA Council started the year with a well attended President's meeting in August. Co-President Heather Thweatt presented a Thank You program to the local unit Presidents for their commitment to our children. The goals and expectations for the Local Units at the Council level were reviewed and a new participation contest was proposed.

A great new program "LU's Helping LU's" was introduced. This program encourages local units volunteering at each other's events so that the local unit volunteers hosting the event can enjoy it with their family. The RAV (Really Awesome Volunteers) Awards will continue to honor four awesome volunteers from two local units each month at the Council meetings.

We are taking full advantage of the internet resources. Along with the Council website (www.marysvillepta.org) you can now find us on facebook at Marysville PTA Coun-

cil to keep up with the activities of Council and local units between meetings and share activities and ideas. Stop by Survey Monkey and share your thoughts with us at www.surveymonkey.com/s/M9V9WLW and let us know what you would like or need from Council to support your local unit.

Of course participation in Reflections, Scholarships, Service Project – School Bus Cameras, and Region 7 classes will be tops on our list as we serve our community and our kids.

The Executive Committee is excited about our pledge to keep the meetings short and informative and to offer programs to assist the local units. (Please give us your input on Survey Monkey) We look forward to seeing you on Monday, September 27th at 7pm in the MSD Strawberry Room.

Rita Lechliden & Heather Thweatt
Marysville PTA Council Co-Presidents

Mukilteo Council:

Welcome back! As thoughts turn to the new school year, your Mukilteo PTSA Council would like to welcome the 2010-2011 officers and extend our support to you. Just like you, Council is gearing up for another successful year and we want you to know we are here to provide your PTA or PTSA with the tools you need to succeed. Our goal is to offer you information and advice you can use throughout the year. You can expect the following from Council this year:

Communication: It's easy to contact us! Just send your emails to: mukilteoptsacouncil@yahoo.com. We are also working on a comprehensive new website that will provide

timely information, as well as resources ranging from contact lists for all local units to links regarding legislative information and an easy source for forms and other pertinent information. We will also provide you with helpful information via email throughout the year, including seminar schedules, State and local PTA events and updates on district issues.

Meetings: The Mukilteo PTSA Council will continue to provide quality round-tables. Some of the topics you can look forward to are: workshops for Reflections and Spelling Bee, as well as, classes for leadership training. Once our meeting schedule is in place you will receive an email with all of the details.

Cont. Page 8

Mukilteo Council (Continued):

Activities: The Council will continue to coordinate the "Reflections" arts program for the district, spelling bee, and local PTA/PTSA recognition events. We will continue to be a community outreach advocate for the schools and the District, via programs like Project Hope at Christmas.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have regarding Council or anything PTSA/PTA related – we're here to help!

Rick Simon, President Mukilteo PTSA Council
Uniting and Supporting Our PTAs and PTSAs

Edmonds Council:

We would like to welcome Bev Bug as Secretary for the Council. Bev is coming to us from Marysville.

The next meeting of the Edmonds District PTSA 7.2 council will be October 16, 2010. We want to get a QUORUM, which means about 10 people so that we can finish off some old business. It is important that we get this business taken care of.

Also, on the agenda is Barbara Lloyd of the Edmonds School District Food Service. Barbara is going to be talking about food quality and the fees for MyLunchMoney.Com

The website for the Edmonds District PTSA 7.2 Council is up to date ... www.EdmondsDistrictPTA.org

Please visit our website! The membership fees and Reflections deadlines for this year are posted.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Edmonds Council

**WSPTA Region 7
Newsletter
September, 2010
PLEASE READ!**