Convention Announcements & Updates:

Have you registered for the 93rd Annual Kansas PTA State Convention yet? Remember the Early Bird Deadline was early March but the Advance Registration deadline is April 1st. Sign up early to save money!

The Principal’s Forum listed in the tentative schedule in the Convention Registration Packet is the same thing as the Parent Involvement Forum for Educators and School Administrators. The name was changed to encourage the participation of many school staff. We are sorry for any confusion this may have caused.

We are proud to announce that Special Agent Jeff Lanza with the Federal Bureau of Investigation will be presenting the keynote address at Friday evening’s Welcome Banquet! Special Agent Lanza will speak on internet safety.

The hotel special price offer has been extended to April 10th!!!

More convention information inside, beginning on Page 4
Spring is here and so is a very unique (and important) time for all PTAs. This is a time of celebrating the final events of the year, and evaluating and planning for the future. It’s a time of transition, too. Nominating committee reports have been presented (or are being presented) according to your bylaws and elections are being held. It’s an extremely important time for your PTA. Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised is a great resource for you during this time. You will find examples of exact language your PTA President can use when conducting the election. If you have any questions, please contact me or your Region Vice President.

The Oregon State PTA President, reflected on one of the messages in the book “Good to Great” (by Jim Collins). That message is to “get the right people on the bus.” This is what your nominating committee is charge with. I have used this book with my board and I highly recommend it. You can view information on the book and related resources at www.jimcollins.com.

Speaking of transitioning, National PTA included excellent information on that subject in the February 20th “PTA Local Leader News” that was emailed to PTA Presidents. Managing transition is key to the continued strengthening and effectiveness of your PTA unit. Please take time to evaluate your 2006-2007 programs and activities. Make plans now for your current and future leaders to attend training. This is critical, not only for the information they will obtain, but, also for the networking (which is extremely important). And, don’t forget to recognize your volunteers. They are the foundation for all your work.

Debbie Lawson, Vice President of Advocacy, planned a wonderful 2007 Legislative Conference that many of you participated in. The evaluations were very positive. Attendees really enjoyed having the state citizenship winners recognized at the end of the conference. Our state convention is just around the corner! Tammy Bartels, Vice President of Membership and 2007 Convention Chairman and her committee have planned an exciting training event for you. We hope to see all of you there!

Our convention will start on the last day of National Volunteer Week. In May we will be celebrating “Teacher Appreciation Week” (National PTA will send out information in April). A Kansas PTA Honorary Life Membership or a nomination to the Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame are meaningful ways to recognize special volunteers and teachers. Forms for both of these recognitions can be found on the Kansas PTA website under “Resources.”

Thank you for all the work you do on behalf of all children. See you at convention!

Laura Kaiser, Kansas PTA President

Kansas PTA is:
- A powerful voice for All children
- A resource for parents
- A strong advocate for public education
Teacher Appreciation Week—Renewing a Partnership

By: Anna M. Weselak
National PTA President

Teachers are very special people, and PTA has long promoted the partnership of parents and teachers. One of PTA’s premier events of the year is Teacher Appreciation Week, when we celebrate the contributions of these dedicated women and men.

PTAs across the country recognize Teacher Appreciation Week this year from May 6–12, making it the perfect time to emphasize the importance of parent-teacher partnerships. Plan events to show appreciation for the contributions teachers and school staff make to children’s lives.

Try a few new ideas this year. Ask students to draw pictures or write thank-you notes to their teachers and add in thank-you notes from parents, too. Consider putting flowers in the teachers’ lounge. Stock the staff lounge with gourmet coffee and teas, or plan a special teachers-only breakfast served by parents and students. For more ideas, go to PTA’s Great Idea Bank at www.pta.org.

Teacher Appreciation Week is a wonderful time to honor teachers and renew the partnership between parents and teachers that helps students achieve success.

Semana de Apreciación al Maestro—Una renovada alianza

Los maestros son personas muy especiales y PTA ha promovido siempre una alianza entre los padres y los maestros. Uno de los principales actos del año de PTA consiste en la Semana de Apreciación al Maestro y es cuando se celebra la contribución de estos dedicados hombres y mujeres.

A través del país se lleva a cabo la Semana de Apreciación del Maestro que este año será del 6 al 12 de mayo, lo que crea la oportunidad perfecta para hacer énfasis en la importancia de la relación estrecha que debe haber entre el padre y el maestro. Planee varios eventos para mostrar a los educadores así como el personal de su escuela lo que se aprecia por su dedicación a los niños.

Trate este año nuevas ideas. Pida a los estudiantes que hagan dibujos en relación a su agradecimiento o que les escriban cartas de afecto, a esto, adhiera notas de agradecimiento de los mismos padres. Considere el poner flores en el área de descanso de los maestros y surta de café y té su lugar de reunión; puede planear también un desayuno especial en el cual serán atendidos por los padres y los alumnos. Para más ideas, entre al Banco de Grandes Ideas de PTA en www.pta.org.

La semana de Apreciación al Maestro es una gran oportunidad para honrar a los maestros y renovar la alianza entre padres y educadores, lo que ayuda al éxito de los estudiantes.

Kansas PTA roster changes

Please Note: There are numerous roster changes reflected in this issue of the Bulletin. We thank all those who assumed new leadership positions and welcome them. (See Page 15.)

Region 4 PTA units* - Janet Wood has been appointed to complete the remainder of the 2005-2007 Region 4 Vice President term.

Her contact information is listed on page 15.

Janet- thank you for agreeing to accept this leadership position.


The PTA Mission

The mission of the PTA is threefold:
• To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
• To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; and
• To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.
Call to Convention!

April 20-22, 2007
at the Overland Park Holiday Inn West

Did you check out the workshop selection in the convention packet! Wow – what a line up!!!

There is a workshop for everyone – from training for PTA leaders to educational topics. Be sure to fill out your workshop choices when you return your registration form.

For information regarding convention, contact the Kansas PTA Office at 785-234-5782 or ks_office@pta.org. The complete convention packet can be found on the Kansas PTA website at www.ptasonline.org/kspta.

Have you thought about bringing an item for the Silent Auction this year? It’s easy – your item (or items) can be something that you make; that you bought or that you had donated by a business. Just bring them to Chris Akin, the Silent Auction Chair, on Friday (or as soon as you arrive at Convention) and she will take care of them. And while you are at the Silent Auction – check out the other items! Make a bid! Have fun with trying to “outbid” the other delegates! What will be the “popular” item this year??

Returning this Year!
The 2nd Annual PTA Walk!

We talk a good game about fitness and health – well now we’re doing something about it! Come – join the Kansas PTA Board of Managers Sunday morning at 6:30 AM to enjoy nature’s beauty and tranquility and get a little exercise to start the final day of convention. Hope to see you all on the path!

Have you thought about that special educator or volunteer who deserves to be honored? If not, there is still time. Find the Marjorie Holwick Kansas PTA Wall of Fame application on the Kansas PTA website under the “Resources” tab or in your Summer Packet mailing – fill out the form and return it today with your check!

Convention Workshop

Come one come all! – Session 1 - Workshop 101! Kansas PTA State Board – is it for me? If you have ever been curious about what is involved in serving on the state board as a committee chairman, this is the place to be. I will be looking for interested folks to fill the committee chair positions for the 07-09 administration of Kansas PTA. This will be a great way for you to see if it’s something you would like to do! Hope to see you there!

Jan Long, Kansas PTA President Elect
2007 Kansas PTA Convention
Sponsors

Kansas PTA thanks the following 2007 Convention sponsors. More sponsors will be added to this list before convention. It is through the generosity of our sponsors that Kansas PTA is able to keep our convention affordable for all Kansas PTA members.

JLK Corporation
Kansas Association of School Boards
Metcalf Bank
SRS/Head Start-State Collaboration Office

2007 Kansas PTA Convention
Exhibitors

Plan to visit these exciting exhibitors!

Entertainment Publications
Fun Services of K.C., LLC
JT Enterprises, Inc. — 2 booths
SRS/Head Start-State Collaboration Office
Kansas Parent Information Resource Center
Lifetouch National School Studios
SRS/Head Start-Collaboration Office
“The Clicker Guys”
Time Warner

Additional exhibitors will be added. Consult the Kansas PTA website for additions to the list.

Please note: Participation in the Exhibit area by any organization or company does not constitute Kansas PTA’s endorsement of their products or services.

"Don't Delay - there's still room! Recognize a special person, honor an achievement or give your business visibility - Purchase a convention ad today!"

(info on the website, in your convention packet, and in the last Bulletin issue) — Thank you!

Important Region Meeting Information:

Region meetings will be held Friday April 20th, 2007 from 8:30 – 9:30pm at the Overland Park Holiday Inn West. You do not need to be registered for Convention to attend your Region’s meeting. Each Region will be electing a new Regional Vice President to represent them on the Kansas PTA Board of Managers for the 2007-2009 term of office. You can contact your current VP for additional information.

Kansas PTA Parent Involvement Forum for Educators and School Administrators (Principal’s Forum)

Kansas PTA is proud to announce the 1st ever Parent Involvement Forum for Educators and School Administrators being held Friday April 20th from 3-4PM at the Overland Park Holiday Inn West. This forum will provide information to educators (from current and potential PTA schools) on how PTA’s can work with schools to benefit all children in the school. There is no registration fee for this forum and any school staff member interested in learning more about how PTA can help you meet the Parent Involvement Provisions of No Child Left Behind is encouraged to attend.

Kansas PTA Youth Summit

The Kansas PTA Youth Advisory Committee is sponsoring a Youth Summit on Sunday April 22nd for students ages 11-18 (or still in high school). The summit will include group activities led by youth for youth. Topics will include peer pressure, bullies, and how students can get involved in PTA through Parent, Teacher, Student Associations. There is no registration fee for this event.

Additional Information on both events is available on the Kansas PTA website at: www.ptasonline.org/kspta
Kansas PTA 2007-2009 Slate of Nominees

The Kansas PTA Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, consisting of the following members: Gail Vertz, Debbie Lawson, Jackie Waters, Sharlyn Davis, and Chris Akin is pleased to report the following slate of nominees for the 2007-09 term of office (this slate was first reported in the January-February issue of the Bulletin):

- **President-Elect** – Debbie Lawson, Region 8
- **Vice President of Member Services** – Chris Akin, Region 6
- **Vice President of Extension Services** – Tammy Bartels, Region 7
- **Vice President of Advocacy** – Jackie Waters, Region 3
- **Secretary** – Patty Jurich, Region 7
- **Treasurer** – Sharon Rakos, Region 6

The bios of each nominee follow this article.

“The Nominating & Leadership Development Committee shall report to the convention on the first day of business, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor, provided consent has been obtained from the nominees. Nominees running from the floor must give thirty (30) days notification before the beginning of the state convention of their intent to run. This notification must be given in writing to the state president and chairman of the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee.”

*(Kansas PTA bylaws Article VI, Sec.12)*

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Debbie Lawson, Nominee for President-Elect

Debbie Lawson has been nominated for the position of President Elect of Kansas PTA for the 2007-2009 term. Debbie currently serves as Vice President of Advocacy and Public Relations for Kansas PTA. She is active in community affairs and has been inducted into the City of Lenexa Volunteer Hall of Fame. Debbie co-founded the Dare to Care parent program at Shawnee Mission West High School. Dare to Care is an organization whose aim is to raise awareness and educate parents and students to the harmful effects of underage drinking. She has given classes and seminars on the problems associated with underage drinking.

Debbie has been active in PTA for over 18 years, since her oldest son Darren entered kindergarten. She has served in numerous positions from the elementary to the high school level. She has also served on the Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA for several years. In addition to PTA work she has been a Boy Scout leader for all three of her sons, taught religious education classes and served on the homes association board of her neighborhood.

Debbie lives in Lenexa, KS with her husband Jay. They have three sons, Darren who at 23 passed away this September due to an enlarged heart, Bryan who is 20 and attends the University of Kansas and Matt, 15, a sophomore at Shawnee Mission West. Debbie works as office manager for her husband’s business. Her hobbies are knitting (a new passion), crocheting, boating and attending her sons sporting activities.
Chris Akin, Nominee for Vice President of Member Services

Chris Akin has been nominated for the position of Vice President of Member Services on the Kansas State PTA board of managers. Chris Akin first joined PTA in 2000 when her first child started school at Clear Creek Elementary in the De Soto School District. Chris served as Caring & Sharing chairperson the first year and Vice President of the board her second year. Riverview elementary opened in 2002 and Chris had the exciting opportunity to be co-president of her son’s new school’s PTA. The start of a new PTA and helping develop the traditions of the new school was enjoyable. She served as a co-president of Riverview PTA for 3 years, and as Vice President of Ways & Means for 1 year.

Chris currently serves on the Kansas State PTA Board of Managers as Region 6 VP where she has enjoyed working with all of the units of Region 6 being their first point of contact for support, questions etc. She is serving as the chairman of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee and is chairing the Convention Silent Auction.

Chris became active in public education in the De Soto School District when her oldest child was still under 2 years of age. She has worked on numerous school bond issue elections, served on several Facility Focus groups, boundary committees, and participated in the Strategic Plan for the school district. She was honored in 2003 with the Confidence in Kansas Friend of Education Award for a School Volunteer.

Chris has also served on her Homes Association Board for 8 years and has held every position but treasurer.

Tony and Chris will celebrate their 20th anniversary this spring and are the proud parents of a son Aaron, age 12, currently a 6th grader at Monticello Trails Middle, and daughter Amber, age 9, a 3rd grader at Riverview Elementary. Both schools are PTA schools!

Tammy Bartels, Nominee for Vice President of Extension Services

Tammy Bartels has been nominated for the position of Vice President of Extension Services for the 2007-09 term. Tammy has been a PTA member for 9 years. At the local level she has served as secretary and vice president, as well as chairing many committees including Reflections and Carnival. She first served on the State Board of managers as the Programs and Safety Chairman. During this time Tammy began representing KS PTA on the Safe Kids Kansas board and continues to do so to this day. After serving as Safety Chairman she served one term as the Region 7 Vice President. While serving in Region 7 Tammy worked closely with local leaders to help with programs and membership questions as well as overseeing the startup of new units in the region. In 2005 she was elected to her current position as Vice President of Membership & Organizational Services. During the past 2 years Tammy has overseen the introduction of OMDR to Kansas units and worked closely with Local, State and National leaders in Extension efforts.

Besides her work in PTA, Tammy has volunteered for the Leavenworth County Red Cross as a First Aide/CPR/AED instructor for the past 8 years and has trained over 200 people in these programs. She is also a Babysitter Training Instructor working with youth 11-16 to show them how to provide better care.

Tammy and her husband Robert live in Tonganoxie and have 2 children, Alex age 14 and William age 6. Together they coach youth soccer for the local recreation commission and have begun taking classes to become foster parents. Tammy is employed by KVC Behavioral Healthcare, an organization that provides foster care services for the state of Kansas.
Jackie Waters, Nominee for Vice President of Advocacy

Jackie Waters has been nominated for the position of Vice President of Advocacy for the term 2007-2009. Jackie has been actively involved with PTA for 21 years. She has served on her local board a total of 12 years. She has served in the positions as President (4 yrs.), 1st Vice President (2 yrs.), 2nd Vice President (2yrs.), Secretary (2 yrs.), and Treasurer (2 yrs.). She has served on the State PTA board for 6 years. She has served in the positions of Fundraising/Exhibitor Chair, Safety Chair, and Region 3 Vice President. She has attended 14 State PTA conventions and 4 National PTA conventions. She has attended 9 Legislative Conferences. She is a BSP presenter. She has served on numerous committees for local and state committees.

Jackie is very active outside of PTA. She has worked for the school district for 18 years. She is the secretary for an elementary school. She is the site council chair for her school. She is active with the crisis team management for the school and currently working with emergency agencies on updating the crisis plan. She is a council trainer and camp director for the Girl Scouts.

Jackie has been married for 28 years to Calvin. They have two shelties to keep them company now that daughter, Nicci and a son, Jason are out on their own.

Patty Jurich, Nominee for Secretary

Patty Jurich, of Kansas City, Kansas, has been nominated for the position of Kansas PTA Secretary, 2007-2009. Patty has been an active member of PTA for 20 years and is currently serving as Region 7 VP for the PTA units in Northeastern Kansas. She also serves on the Kansas PTA Board of Managers (total service 10 years), the Convention Committee, Bylaws Committee, the Auditing Committee and is currently overseeing the “Marjorie Holwick Wall of Fame”. Patty also chairs the Kansas PTA Teacher Scholarship Trustee Committee.

Patty has held numerous offices at PTA at Hazel Grove Elementary PTA, Coronado MS PTA, Sumner Academy HS PTSA and Turner HS PTSA. She has also served as Kansas City Kansas Council President, and many other offices and committees, including hosting the KPTA Convention in Lawrence, KS. Patty is a member of several PTAs, including Turner H.S. PTSA where she currently serves as their 1st Vice President-where her youngest daughter, Kristin, is a senior. In addition to her work in PTA, Patty has been a Boy Scout leader for her son, Nick. She has volunteered four years with Junior Achievement. She has also been a 3-year board member on the Business Education Coalition for Kansas City, Kansas. Patty is a USAG Safety Certified, Gymnastics Instructor and has taught gymnastics since 1994. For the past 8 years she has also worked part-time at Frankie D’s Mexican Restaurant in KCK.

Patty and her husband, Michael, have two daughters, Lauren-22 and Kristin-18, a son Nicholas-26, a daughter-in-law Vanessa-26 and a granddaughter Aurora who is 4. Patty is a life long resident of Kansas City, Kansas and is a graduate of the Turner Unified School District, “Go Bears”!

Patty’s fellow PTA volunteers have described her as being passionate about PTA. She believes her time volunteering with PTA is well spent. PTA is truly a “Grass Roots” organization that does make a difference in the community, schools and in the lives of children. You only have to walk down the halls of a school and have students come up and hug you and say “thank you”. You see it in their faces.

Sharon Rakos, Nominee for Treasurer

Sharon Rakos has been nominated for the position of Treasurer of Kansas PTA for the term 2007-2009. She graduated from Kent State University in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She earned CPA certificate number 68,345 in August 1996. Sharon’s work experience includes public accounting and Springs Industries (textile manufacturing). Sharon worked as a Substitute Teacher in the Rockwood School District (specializing in Reading and Art) for 2 years. Sharon currently works for the Blue Valley School District as a lunch room supervisor.

Sharon has been active in PTA for over 8 years, since her oldest daughter entered kindergarten. Sharon currently serves as President of Harmony Middle School in the Blue Valley School District. She has served as an Art Appreciation Chairperson for 4 years, Room Mother for 4 years, and PTA President for 2 years. In addition to PTA work, she has been a Girl Scout Leader for 4 years. She has also been a Girl Scout Challenge Program Instructor for Traverse Wall and Zip Line. Sharon is an active member in her church. She has held many volunteer titles including Director of Vacation Bible School for 3 years in a row. Sharon has also volunteered her time to the community by conducting a voter registration drive and served as Co-Chair of a Citizens Airport Committee and Clean Water Committee. She is a graduate of the Lake in the Hills Citizens Police Academy and introduced the Neighborhood Watch program into their Illinois subdivision. She currently teaches 4th and 7th grade SOR classes (School of Religion) at Church of the Ascension. She has been the Co-Chair of the Accounting Committee for Mardi Gras (Church of the Ascension) for the past 2 years

Sharon lives in Overland Park, KS with her husband John. They have 2 daughters, Jessica who is a 7th grader at Harmony Middle School and Melissa who is a 4th grader at Harmony Elementary School. Her hobbies are crafts (especially sewing), gardening, boating, camping, most sports and cooking.
If your PTA unit held special activities for PTA Advocacy Week, held February 19-23, please send us information on your activities. We would welcome articles and pictures describing what your local unit did to celebrate and support Advocacy Week. Please send the articles and pictures to: Kansas PTA, 715 S.W. Tenth, Topeka, KS 66612-1686. You may see some of your articles printed in a future Bulletin!

Debbie Lawson, VP of Advocacy and Public Relations

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**LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM**

The Kansas PTA Board of Managers voted on February 11, 2007 to bring the following Legislative Platform to the Convention body for a vote on its adoption.

**Where Kansas PTA Stands**

**EDUCATION**

**BASIC POLICY:** The Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriation for public schools that will ensure all children and youth in Kansas a high quality, adequately funded education. Recognizing that quality education for children is directly related to the effectiveness and efficiency of school personnel, the Kansas PTA will recommend, initiate and support legislation and appropriations to encourage, recognize and provide incentives for school personnel that will improve and benefit the education of children and youth in Kansas. The Kansas PTA recognizes no educational system can be of the highest quality without the support, involvement and cooperation of parents, legislators, and the community.

**HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

**BASIC POLICY:** The Kansas PTA will support legislation and appropriations that safeguard and/or relate to the health and safety of children and youth.

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**The Kansas PTA 2007 Legislative Conference** was held Monday, February 12th at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka. Speakers included Judi Miller, Assistant Director, Kansas State Department of Education, Nancy Kraft, Kansas Parent Information Resource Center, Mark Tallman, Assistant Executive Director for Advocacy, Kansas Association of School Boards, Mark Desetti, Director, Legislative and Political Advocacy, Kansas NEA, Diane Smith, Director of Food Services for the Shawnee Mission Schools and Dale Dennis, Interim Commissioner of Education. PTA members received valuable information from the speakers to take back and share with their local units. Each school in attendance received the PTA Advocacy Toolkit CD to take back to their units and plan Advocacy Week activities. Winners of the Kansas PTA Citizenship Contest at the state level were recognized at the conference, invited to stay for lunch and taken on a tour of the Capitol. Thank you to all in attendance - You make a difference in the lives of all Kansas children!

Debbie Lawson, VP of Advocacy and Public Relations

*Audience is pictured on the right.*
The IRS office of Exempt Organizations (EO) is pleased to present “Stay Exempt”—five dynamic and comprehensive tax courses that can help your tax-exempt organization maintain its exempt status and meet its filing requirements.

**Users can access this new training program at:**

www.stayexempt.org—Users can complete the modules in any order and repeat them as many times as they like. The online training website does not require registration and its visitors will remain anonymous. Each course takes about 30 minutes each:

- **Tax-Exempt Status**—How can you keep your 501(c)(3) exempt?
- **Unrelated Business Income**—Does your organization generate taxable income?
- **Employment Issues**—How should you treat your workers for tax purposes?
- **Form 990**—Would you like to file an error-free return?
- **Required Disclosures**—To whom do you have to show your records?

For more information about Exempt Organization tax issues, visit www.irs.gov and click on the “Charities and Non-Profits” tab at the top.

*Vicky Needham, Treasurer*

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**What is BONDING?** - Crime insurance protection including coverage for Employee Dishonesty (volunteers as employees), Forgery or Alteration, and Theft, Disappearance And Destruction Of Money And Securities will help you protect your hard-earned PTA funds. Kansas PTA negotiates on your behalf for group rates, but the payment submission is the responsibility of each unit. With your unit’s BONDING insurance policy there is a "warranty" with RV Nuccio that must be maintained or your bonding insurance is void. Check out Summer Packet #2 CD (sent to your unit last August) where you can find the “Loss Control Guide” or go to [http://www.rvnuccio.com/pta-e.html](http://www.rvnuccio.com/pta-e.html) and follow the link to the “Loss Control Guide”

Bonding Plus contains specific leadership compliance requirements known as the RVNA Warranty System, which acts to increase financial control, and to reduce exposure to financial loss. **This system is NOT optional and forms a part of the actual insurance contract.** Violation of a Bonding Plus warrant negates Bonding Plus coverage. Group leadership warrants that the following procedures will be installed and maintained.

01. There will be dual, unrelated signatures required on all outgoing checks.
02. There will be no pre-signing of checks.
03. There will be a monthly bank reconciliation (re-balancing of the checkbook) performed by an organization officer (such as the President or Vice President) other than that officer (usually the Treasurer) normally responsible for banking functions. (This warrant forces discovery of deposits that have not been made, from accumulating over a period of months or years.)

Also, don’t forget to follow business procedures for money-handling so your coverage will be considered valid. Check out safe money-handling procedures in National PTA’s Money Matters or the Kansas PTA Treasurer’s Guide.

*Vicky Needham, Treasurer*

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**Many thanks to Debbie Lawson for a wonderful 2007 Legislative Conference!**

The evaluations were very positive and attendees seemed to enjoy the addition of the Citizenship recognition ceremony.

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**2007-2008 Officer Contact Information**

Please send this information to Kansas PTA immediately. If possible, please use the form on the Kansas PTA website (under “Resources”) or mail or email the information to Kansas PTA.
A good investment in your PTA – 2007 National PTA Convention

111th Annual PTA National Convention and Exhibition, June 28 through July 1, 2007, in St. Louis

PTA members from across the country will meet in St. Louis, Missouri, the historic Gateway to the West, to discover what's new in PTA, expand their horizons, and think creatively about ways to support children, families, and schools.

Convention registration and travel costs are legitimate expenses that can be included in your PTA budget. While others charge thousands of dollars for a three-day conference, we hold registration costs down to allow as many PTA leaders as possible to attend. By seeking sponsors and outside funding to defray the costs of convention, we can keep advance registration fees as low as $140 (if you register online). Register today and discover one of the best investments you can make in yourself and your PTA this year!

http://www.pta.org/archive_article_details_1170884626281.html - this link will give you information about hotel accommodations in St. Louis.

The following is from Kansas PTA Policies and Practices concerning voting delegate cards for National Convention:

NATIONAL PTA CONVENTION DELEGATES

Each state is allowed a quota of voting delegates to the National PTA Convention (Article XVI, Section 1). The quota is the State President and one (1) voting delegate per 1,000 members as of March 1st. Priority for National PTA Convention voting delegate cards would be given to the State Board of Managers and Council Presidents. Local Unit Presidents and others will receive voting delegate cards on the basis of the earliest postmarked request.

Come – join us in St Louis for the 111th National PTA Convention!

Jan Long, Kansas PTA President Elect

If you attended my treasurer training at last year's convention in Wichita, you will probably recall my motto: If your unit RECEIVES a notice from the IRS, remember to RESPOND! RECEIVE ==> RESPOND! Do not just think it is junk mail and file it away or, horrors, throw it away!! In most cases, there is just a little misunderstanding that needs cleared up.

This spring, we had a unit that received a whopping $1,700 late filing penalty on their 990EZ. The letter said it was for the tax year ended December 31, 2005, but you know, our PTA units are all on a fiscal year of July 1 through June 30 and the preparer forgot to put that at the top. The IRS thought this return was due on May 15, when it was actually due and mailed on November 15. WOW! A very simple mistake can cause panic and failure in the hearts of adult PTA leaders! The President contacted Kansas PTA and we were able to administer rescue accounting, for now. We will let you know at Convention in Overland Park how this story ends.

Remember always:
RECEIVE ➔ RESPOND!

Vicky Needham, Treasurer
Did you ever try to assemble a model kit or toy without reading the instructions? That’s like attempting to provide leadership in an organization without reading the bylaws. It can probably be done, but it will be a lot harder, take a lot longer, and may not turn out as well.

Fortunately for PTA Leaders they already have at their disposal, many helpful aids: bylaws, standing rules, parliamentary procedure guidelines and hopefully Procedure Books.

We suggest, that if you have accepted the position of President of your PTA for the next year, you begin preparing now by reading your unit bylaws. Even if you have served as president in another organization or unit each group has bylaws unique to their own needs. The most current issue will be in the secretary’s file, also check the date of the last approval seal. They should be sent to the State Bylaws Review Committee if they have a year or less before that approval expires. You will want to appoint a bylaws review committee to insure that all starred and number sign articles are compliance with the Model Unit Bylaws. These double starred and number sign articles are to safeguard our status as a non-profit, tax free, 501 © (3) organization. If the seal date is two or less years old, you need only to provide copies to all new officers and committee chairmen. There should be extra copies available for any member on request. Unit bylaws must be approved by Kansas PTA every 3 years.

Bylaws have the answers to almost all your questions, they cover the gamut from Name to Amendment Clause and everything in between. They define our purposes, state the cost of membership, list the officers, outline their duties, tell you how and when to hold the election, also when to meet and how many members constitute a quorum, list the chairmanships and the parliamentary authority. If this criteria does not meet your unit needs in every article the amendment article states how to amend the article so it will work better for your group. Usually it requires notice of intent to amend in a specific place at one unit meeting, which will then be voted on at a later meeting and requires a 2/3 majority vote to adopt.

Not only do we have bylaws to assist us in our leadership skills, very often they will also have attached Standing Rules. Standing Rules list practices that we like to do every year such as award Life Memberships or hold a money making event. This saves us from having to purpose a new motion every time we want to do this project, however, they can be easily amended at any meeting by a majority vote without notice. We hope that we have encouraged you to take full advantage of the information contained in the bylaws and standing rules.

Gaila Hein, Parliamentarian

The Kansas PTA Membership Year Explained:

Article V: Membership and Dues, #Section 10 states that “The membership year for Kansas PTA and all local units shall be April 1 through March 31, inclusive.”

It has been almost a year since this section was added to bylaws, but there is still a great deal of confusion about what this means for local units. We hope that the information provided here will help everyone out:

The membership year in this reference is a bookkeeping term only. In order to be counted by National PTA, dues for any one school year must be received in the state office before April 1st.

Example: Your unit has a membership drive in September for the 2006-2007 school year and collects 300 members. You would submit those to KS PTA in October of 2006. If you have a second membership drive in March and collect 75 more members those due must be received in Topeka prior to April 1st of 2007 (not post-marked) to be counted towards the 2006-2007 school year. If they are received on or after April 1st, 2007 your unit would be counted by National PTA as having 300 members for 2006-2007 and 75 members for 2007-2008 at that point.

- The membership year listed in bylaws has nothing to do with what your unit chooses to make its membership year for the purpose of voting and distributing membership cards.

Example: There are spaces on the membership card for your unit to put a date issued and a date expires. The date issued should be the date the person became a member (paid their dues) of your unit. What you choose to make the expiration date is up to the unit itself (or what is written in the unit’s Policies or Standing Rules). Some units have all cards expire on the same date; others issue the card for 365 days from the date issued. That is up to each individual unit to decide what is best for them.

We hope that this helps clear up the confusion. If you have additional questions please feel free to contact Tammy Bartels, KS PTA Vice President of Membership & Organizational Services at racefan@sunflower.com.

Thank you to Nancy Ryan for overseeing the Citizenship Program this year!

It was a huge success!!! The names of the State Citizenship winners as well as the State Reflections winners will be included in the May Bulletin issue. If anyone took pictures at the Citizenship celebration in Topeka Feb. 12th and would like to share them with Kansas PTA, please notify Laura Kaiser or Nancy Ryan.
OMDR Updates:

- We are happy to announce that Marie Thomas has joined our state OMDR team. Marie will be available to help you with your OMDR questions as well as providing support for KS PTA with OMDR functions. You can contact Marie by email at mawrie@everestkc.net.

- National PTA has announced the following OMDR webinar dates:
  
  Tuesday, March 6 at 2:00 PM  
  Thursday, March 8 at 10:00 AM  
  Monday, March 12 at 7:00 PM  
  Wednesday, March 14 at NOON  
  Tuesday, March 20 at 3:00 PM  
  Friday, March 23 at 11:00 AM  
  Wednesday, March 28 at 2:00 PM  
  Saturday, March 31 at NOON  
  Monday, April 2 at 6:00 PM  
  Thursday, April 5 at 10:00 AM  
  Wednesday, April 11 at 3:00 PM  
  Friday, April 13 at 11:00 AM  
  Monday, April 16 at 2:00 PM  
  Tuesday, April 24 at 10:00 AM  
  Thursday, April 26 at 7:00 PM  

Go to National PTA’s website or contact Tammy Bartels at racefan@sunflower.com for information on accessing one of these great trainings.

- Thank you to everyone who participated in the OMDR survey that was sent to unit presidents in January. (Drawing winners will be notified personally.) Your feedback will enable us to better serve you and your units in the future.

You may need to register as a lobbyist if you are: the person formally appointed as the primary representative of an organization or other person to lobby in person on state-owned or leased property; or any person who makes expenditures in an aggregate amount of $100 or more, exclusive of personal travel and subsistence expenses, in any calendar year for lobbying. (this is a partial listing of the statute, see below for statute’s URL)

Lobbying in Kansas is defined as: 46-225. "Lobbying" defined; exceptions; employment of legislator as a lobbyist prohibited. (a) "Lobbying" means: (1) Promoting or opposing in any manner action or nonaction by the legislature on any legislative matter or the adoption or nonadoption of any rule and regulation by any state agency; or (2) entertaining any state officer or employee or giving any gift, honorarium or payment to a state officer or employee in an aggregate value of $40 or more within any calendar year, if at any time during such year the person supplying the entertainment, gifts, honoraria or payments has a financial interest in any contract with, or action, proceeding or other matter before the state agency in which such state officer or employee serves, or if such person is the representative of a person having such a financial interest.

Source: Kansas Ethics Commission Website

If you have any questions, visit the Kansas Ethics Commission website (see below).

For complete information on lobbying in Kansas:  
http://www.kansas.gov/ethics/lobbyingstatues.htm

For Kansas information on: lobbying, campaign finance, state level conflict of interest and local level conflict of interest statutes, rulings, guides and news go to:  
http://www.kansas.gov/ethics/generalprovisions.htm

Visit to Central and Western Kansas PTA Units  
November 1-4, 2006

Thank you to Patty Jurich, Region 7 Vice President, for accompanying me on this tour. I also want to thank the numerous PTA Presidents and Principals who took time out of their busy schedules to meet with us. I am sorry we were not able to meet with all our PTA units, but, hope to in the near future. If we weren’t able to meet with you, please know that we are only a phone call or email away.

Laura Kaiser, Kansas PTA President
**“PTA Night at the K”**  
Saturday, May 5th 2007–6:10 pm  
Detroit Tigers vs Kansas City Royals

**NOTE:** The KC Royals will NOT be mailing information directly to PTA units about this, unless you contact Jen Hyland (jen.hyland@royals.com) and make that request!

**Hip Hip Hooray!** It's time for PTA. Head on out to "The K." Enjoy a night with friends and family from your school- Wear your school colors too!

**Parade** around the ballpark with everyone from all the schools PTA's in attendance (minimum of 500 in attendance) Line up in the parking lot behind the scoreboard by 5:15 pm

**Buck Night** $1 Hot Dog, $1 Sodas, $1 Peanuts

**First Pitch** thrown out by PTA President whose school sold the most tickets

We hope your PTA unit will participate in this fun event. If you are participating, all money needs to be turned into to your PTA Leader by April 6th and the Royals must receive one check per participating PTA unit by April 9th.

“PTA Night at the K” forms for leaders and students are available on the Kansas PTA website or by contacting Jen Hyland. Ticket prices have been discounted from $14 to $10 and parking has been discounted from $9 to $7 for those who take advantage of this special program. If you have questions, please contact Jen Hyland.

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**Kansas Learning First Alliance (KLFA) Resource**

**“Tools for Quality Practice”**

- Activities that support literacy
- Ideas for energizing Professional Development
- How to build a learning community
- Ideas for preservice teachers and aspiring administrators
- Strategies to involve parents
- Answers to my questions about NCLB
- Masterful math strategies
- Live links to current research on what works

If you want to know more about any of these, please check out this website: [http://www.kansaslearningfirst.org/](http://www.kansaslearningfirst.org/)  
To visit the topic of your choice go to “See it here” under “Tools for Quality Practice.”

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**5th Annual Fatherhood Summit**

April 12th and 13th – Jack Reardon Center (KCK)

The Summit includes great keynote speakers -- including Coach Bill Snyder and more than 20 concurrent sessions that focus on fathering and father involvement. For more information go to [www.kpirc.org](http://www.kpirc.org) and click on Kansas Fatherhood Summit under ‘Upcoming Conferences’.

**Nancy P. Kraft, Ph.D., Director**

The Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC)

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**2007 National Volunteer Week April 15-21**

Sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation, National Volunteer Week is about thanking one of America's most valuable assets – our volunteers – and calling the public's attention to all that they do to improve our communities. The 2007 theme is "Inspire By Example" because it truly reflects the power volunteers have to inspire the people they help, as well as, to inspire others to serve! This year the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation is asking you to recognize your volunteers' achievement by joining the thousands of organizations working to deliver the President's Volunteer Service Award to deserving volunteers during National Volunteer Week and throughout the year. Download the 2007 National Volunteer Week toolkit, which will help you plan and publicize your recognition activities on the local, state and national levels.

**Helpful URLs:**

- [http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nww/recognize.cfm](http://www.pointsoflight.org/programs/seasons/nww/recognize.cfm)
- [http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/) (President's Volunteer Service Award) – allow 6 to 8 weeks for awards to be delivered.
## Kansas PTA Board of Managers

### State Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Laura Kaiser</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lgkaiser@swbell.net">lgkaiser@swbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Jan Long</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janlong1@cox.net">janlong1@cox.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VP of Membership/Organizational Services</td>
<td>Tammy Bartels</td>
<td><a href="mailto:racefan@sunflower.com">racefan@sunflower.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VP of Education Services</td>
<td>Kim Frieling</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kfrieling@kc.rr.com">kfrieling@kc.rr.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VP of Advocacy/Public Relations</td>
<td>Debbie Lawson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Debbie@burlislawson.com">Debbie@burlislawson.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Kathy Richardson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kck_kat@hotmail.com">kck_kat@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Vicky Needham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:BJFTbirds@aol.com">BJFTbirds@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Region Vice-Presidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jackie Waters</td>
<td><a href="mailto:paddles73@aol.com">paddles73@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Janet Wood</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cajungirl54@cox.net">cajungirl54@cox.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Chris Akin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:powercatmom@everestkc.net">powercatmom@everestkc.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Patty Jurich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Paaj36@hotmail.com">Paaj36@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Joni Etherington</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kcetherington@kc.rr.com">kcetherington@kc.rr.com</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Consultants/Committee Appointments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bylaws Review Supervisor</td>
<td>Ernie Goerend</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship</td>
<td>Nancy Ryan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Nancy31@swbell.net">Nancy31@swbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Peggy Davis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Pegpta@yahoo.com">Pegpta@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMDR</td>
<td>Marie Thomas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mawrie@everestkc.net">mawrie@everestkc.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentarian</td>
<td>Gaila Hein</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Lu Bever</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lub@ptasonline.org">lub@ptasonline.org</a></td>
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### State Chairmen

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts in Education &amp; Awards</td>
<td>Peg Newton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pegpta@yahoo.com">pegpta@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulletin Editor</td>
<td>Pam Wills</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dpwills@att.net">dpwills@att.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2007 Convention</td>
<td>Tammy Bartels</td>
<td><a href="mailto:racefan@sunflower.com">racefan@sunflower.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:ltdaylor@earthlink.net">ltdaylor@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Beth Brown</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bbrown70@hotmail.com">bbrown70@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent Involvement</td>
<td>Shirllyn Richardson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Shirllyn.Richardson@prl.net">Shirllyn.Richardson@prl.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PTA Shop/Meeting Assistant</td>
<td>Sheila Bunnell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bbyntki@aol.com">bbyntki@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity/Marketing</td>
<td>Andrea Burton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kokopella@sprintpcs.com">kokopella@sprintpcs.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Representative of Council Presidents</td>
<td>Cynthia Jarrold</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cjjarrold@sbcglobal.net">cjjarrold@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Development</td>
<td>Gail Vertz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gv7@juno.com">gv7@juno.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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*Not a board position.*

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>715 S.W. Tenth Street</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ks_office@pta.org">ks_office@pta.org</a>, <a href="http://www.ptasonline.org/kspta">www.ptasonline.org/kspta</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topeka, KS 66612-1686</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>785-234-KPTA, Fax: 785-234-4170</td>
<td></td>
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## National PTA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>541 N. Fairbanks Court, Suite 1300</td>
<td>1-800-307-4PTA (4782)—312-670-6782, Fax: 312-670-6783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, IL 60611-3396</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@pta.org">info@pta.org</a>, <a href="http://www.pta.org">www.pta.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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March, 2007

**Parenting Awareness Month**
15 ... Unit Achievement Award Deadline
26-30...National Youth Violence Prevention Week

**April, 2007**
12 ... National Drop Everything and Read Day
15-21 ... National Volunteer Week
20-22 ... 93rd KPTA State Convention—Overland Park

**May, 2007**
5 ... *PTA Night at the K* (Royals baseball night)
6-12...PTA Teacher Appreciation Week

**June-July, 2007**
6/1 ... May-June Bulletin mailed
6/28-7/1 ... 111th National PTA Convention—St. Louis

**June-August, 2007**

*Use the summer months to begin planning programs, events, and membership recruitment activities for the coming year.*