

# The Tell Tale

Rockwood NEA Newsletter

Volume 42 Issue 5

## **Navigating the Waters**

**Allison Seitz, President**

In the next few weeks the RNEA will be asking you to carve out time in an already hectic schedule to participate in activities that are vital in the success of our Association.

Next week we will begin the process of endorsement for the Board of Education with candidate interviews, followed by a recommendation from the screening committee by the 27th, and an official vote of the membership via Zoomerang on January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Of course, that will be followed by requests to hand out literature, put up yard signs and to work a poll on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Beginning January 30 through February 8<sup>th</sup>, RNEA will be accepting Nomination Forms for the open seats on Executive Board as well as for delegates to the state and national representative assemblies. I encourage you to think about serving your Association in one or more of these ways. I also suggest you talk with members who share your views and encourage them to share their input and leadership at the local, state or national level where our voices are heard. Per RNEA bylaws, the RNEA ballot will be posted in each building for one week prior to the election (February 10th-17th). Voting will be through Zoomerang from February 21<sup>st</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. As soon as they are verified, the results will be shared with candidates first, then with the membership. Positions available are listed in this issue.

Both the Board of Education and RNEA elections are important in determining the path of the RNEA. The men and women who serve on Rockwood's School Board have a great deal of power when it comes to our classrooms, and the members who you elect to be your voice on Executive Board become the avenue through which the membership communicates with the School Board. I hope you take the time to consider sharing your leadership and knowledge with your colleagues in the RNEA.

## **RNEA 2006 Elections – Open Seats/Terms**

### **Executive Board Officers**

President (2 yr term)  
Vice President (1 yr term)  
Secretary (1 yr term)

### **Executive Board Directors**

Early Childhood/ Elementary – 2 seats (2 yr term)  
Middle School – 1 seat (2 yr term)  
High School – 1 seat (2 yr term)

**Missouri NEA Representative Assembly** (one in the fall and one in the spring each year)  
8 open seats (3 yr terms)

**National Education Association Representative Assembly** (Orlando, June 30 - July 5)  
2 open seats

### **Dates to Remember**

<b>Jan 25</b>	<b>Exec Board</b> (4:30pm RNEA office)
<b>Feb 8</b>	<b>Joint Board/AR meeting</b>
<b>Feb 21-27</b>	<b>RNEA Elections</b>

## Finding Strength in Our Differences

This year's Martin Luther King Jr. Poster/Essay Contest is open to all students K-12. RNEA winners will be highlighted on the website and their entries will be forwarded to MNEA for the state competition where they could win savings bonds ranging from \$50-\$100.

Rules and entry form are available at [www.rnea.org](http://www.rnea.org). Entries need to be mailed or dropped off to Dawn Warren at Wild Horse Elementary by February 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Keep the family moving over the winter with Access card discounts!

Enjoy discounts on all of these activities:

**Bowling:** Brunswick Lanes, Arnold Bowl, Strike-n-Spare Lanes

**Ice skating/hockey:** Kirkwood Ice Rink, Brentwood Ice Rink, US Ice Sports Complex

**For a little culture:** Opera Theater of St. Louis, St. Louis Repertory Theater Company, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Eugene Field House and Toy Museum

**For the kids:** The Magic House, The Point at Ballwin Commons, Gymboree Play and Music, Swing Around Fun Town, The World Aquarium

Visit [MNEA.org](http://MNEA.org) for a complete list. You must have an Access card (your MNEA membership card) to enter Members Only area.



### NEA DUES-TAB

All NEA members should register their beneficiary for NEA DUES-TAB – it's fast, easy, and free. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NEA DUES-TAB, which provides all eligible NEA members with these benefits:

- Up to \$1,000 term life insurance coverage
- Up to \$5,000 accidental death coverage
- Up to \$50,000 accidental death coverage for accidents on the job or when serving as an Association leader
- Up to \$150,000 of life insurance for unlawful homicide while on the job.

Since the inception of the program, \$27.5 million has been paid. Last year alone, over \$2 million dollars was paid to members' families. You are automatically entitled to this coverage. All we ask is that you e-mail [askus@neamb.com](mailto:askus@neamb.com) or call 1-800-637-4636 to register your beneficiary and ensure payment is made correctly and quickly in case of a tragedy.

### One last note...

**RNEA Scholarships** are being offered again this year, but Exec Board has approved a couple changes. Please visit [RNEA.org](http://RNEA.org) for the information and application.