

DeSoto

DCAE EDUCATOR

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MAE INVOLVED IN PAY CUT CONTROVERSY

MAE's staff became actively involved with investigating questions raised after its office received floods of calls from DCS personnel. Most concerned were band directors and coaches not being able to see their contracted salaries. It appears that the local supplement can not be cut as indicated; the legislature did not propose that as an option when they passed the furloughs. A copy of the supplements showing the 10% cut and days must be provided before teachers give away their rights to a hearing. Mr. Alexander had said that anyone not wanting to sign their contract when they see them next week has that right. The letter from last week is not the binding document. The decreased supplement question is going through MAE legal services.

RECRUITERS RECOGNIZED

Three outstanding members of the DeSoto County Association of Educators received special recognition at the April meeting. Debbie Moore, Barbara Potts-zoke (not pictured below), and Tina Self recruited several new members during the "1/2 Dues Campaign." North UniServ Director, Teri Rounsaville awarded the three active members with a miniature rose plant recognizing their efforts to "grow" the association with new members. All three have been active throughout the year attending meetings, participating in build-ing rep-training, and encouraging their peers to join the association.



LOCAL MEMBERS ATTEND CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS

New ESP members Tina Self and Sherrell Reed had an experience of a lifetime on March 12-14. They attended the 2010 NEA Education Support Professionals (ESP) Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Both Self and Reed flew for the first time as they began their adventure to the Pink Flamingo Hotel where they immediately registered and began going to workshops.

Self and Reed shared their experiences with the DCAE building reps at the April meeting. They explained that they learned how to recruit new members, both certified teachers and ESPs. Learning how to express themselves and tell about the association without being annoying was also part of the workshop curriculum. They both said that one of the most valuable lessons they learned was that ESPs need a strong voice in the association so that their thoughts and opinions can be expressed to those who need to hear.



DCAE members Grace Williams, Debbie Moore, Joyce Helmick, and Renee Lawson show off awards won by our local at the Spring Human Rights Banquet held at the Hilton in Jackson.

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OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.DCAE.ORG**

✓✓ **CHECK IT OUT** ✓✓

NEA Academy: Online Learning for You

NEA Academy offers great course selections for CEU credit and graduate credit. As a MAE/NEA member, some of the workshops are **FREE** for you and graduate courses are provided at a discounted rate. Visit www.nea.org/academy.

Mississippi Association of Educators Summer Leadership Conference

Whispering Woods, Olive Branch

June 10 – 11

Thursday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Contact Teri, 662 473-3325, for information

HELMICK SPEAKS AT UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI DESOTO BANQUET

DCAE President Joyce Helmick recently spoke at the University of Mississippi DeSoto's end-of-the-year banquet honoring clinical instructors for practicing teachers from the university education program. To a crowd of near fifty, Helmick addressed both teachers and graduating seniors about the conditions in education. She compared teaching to the weather we have been having lately...turbulent...calm... turbulent...calm.

She emphasized that one way to "survive" the turbulent times is to be a member of a professional organization that supports the teacher with professional development, mentoring, and a support system that goes beyond the classroom. Also attending the banquet were Renee Lawson, DCAE Treasurer, and Teri Rounsaville, MAE North UniServ Director.

JOYCE'S CORNER



So my race is ended and time has come to pass the baton to the next DCAE president, Tim Gardner. Although not official until after elections, Tim is unopposed for the presidency so I feel good about sending Tim on around the track with a few thoughts. As I look back on the past few years, I am amazed at the changes that I have seen in our association here in DeSoto County. Our association is recognized as a powerful force both within the district as well as in the state. Not only are we having monthly meetings (grown from attendance of less than 10 to now more than 30), we are having professional development workshops, and sending members to state and national conventions. Our ESP membership and involvement has grown rapidly. Our involvement in legislative action has received the attention of our politicians as well as Mr. Kuykendall, superintendent of DeSoto County Schools, who has urged us to continue our pressure on our legislators to support education and has urged us to continue to grow in numbers and strength. All these changes and this growth in involvement and membership are related to a new awareness of the importance of making a difference through this association. As I leave this office and go on to serve DCAE and MAE in other areas, I trust that our next president will continue the work that has already made a difference in our schools as we serve the children of our state.

Congratulations to

Joyce Helmick

**MAE's next
Vice President**

and

Debbie Moore

**NEA ESP Leader
of Tomorrow**