



CE by the sea

Bill Hoelscher,
TCEA President



April will be an exciting month. From April 19 – April 22 community educators will arrive in Corpus Christi to participate in the annual Texas Community Education Conference. As a native of the Sparkling City by the Sea, I would like to personally invite you to attend. The cool spring breezes and warm Gulf water will make your visit a true delight. This is my favorite time of year.

What makes the TCEA conference special is the relevancy of the information to be gained. We recognize that the label “Community Education” covers a multitude of programs and that all come in different shapes and sizes. There are after school and summer camps for youth, continuing education classes for adults seeking job training and/or their GED and community centers providing computer classes and the arts for senior citizens. The TCEA conference provides a plethora of topics that are bound to fit your programmatic needs. But the greatest inspiration you will receive is from each other. The excitement of sharing ideas and your successes build a great sense of optimism and promote that “can do” attitude that community educators are known for.

I look forward to seeing you all in April!

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The STAR



Texas Community Education Association
www.tcea.com

Spring 2009

Conference at the coast

Corpus Christi on April 19-22, 2009

The Texas Community Education Association Board invites you to a conference jam-packed with information for all types of community education projects.

Conference Chair Debby Theis promises sessions of high interest to everyone. Pre-conference sessions begin on Sunday, with breakouts, roundtables and keynotes scheduled through the Awards Luncheon on Wednesday.

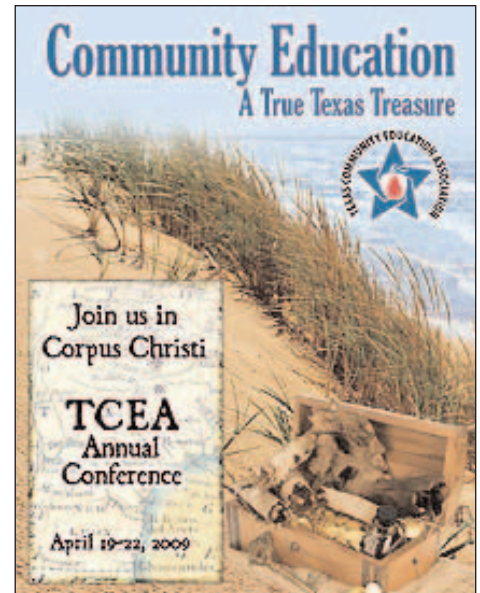
Look on the back page of **The Star** for Conference-At-A-Glance. Watch your mail for details, and more information is always online at www.clubed.net.

Contact:

Debby Theis

(512) 858-3021

debby.theis@dripping-springs.txed.net



Stake your claim!

April 19-22, 2009

Don't forget to bring your auction item - vote for officers - enter awards - reserve your room! Arrrrrrgh!



Foundation welcomes RevTrak as new partner

Jan 2009 - The Texas Community Education Foundation is pleased to announce its newest partner - **RevTrak**.

RevTrak is the premier provider of ecommerce solutions for schools and local governments. As a Visa and MasterCard Independent Sales Organization, the company's mission is to meet the specific needs

of K-12 schools and local governments. RevTrak produces a turnkey ecommerce solution providing organizations with shopping cart websites, ecommerce hosting, payment gateways, and merchant accounts.

Karen House, the Texas Representative for RevTrak, explained the company's fund-based accounting.

"Every transaction carries codes that align with government accounting systems," she explained. "This allows us to do things other companies can't. For example, with RevTrak, every department in a school can take online payments without

TCEA Board 2008-2009



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Director Region 2

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6632 Bandera Rd.
San Antonio, Texas 78238
Phone: 210 522-8100
DonnaDavenport@nisd.net



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234 Friendship Lane
Fredericksburg TX 78624
Phone: 830-997-7182
carolr@fisd.org

Director At Large
OPEN

Run for this office!
See page 4

V-P Advisory Councils
OPEN

Run for this office!
See page 4



V-P Foundation Publications

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The Star

09.2

The official newsletter of the Texas
Community Education Association
Phil Houseal, Editor

To Submit An Item

Please send articles to:
Phil Houseal • Kerrville ISD
1121 Second St. • Kerrville TX 78028
830-257-2218 • FAX 830-257-0566
phouseal@tcea.com

Change of Address

Log on to www.tcea.com and update
your contact information.

To Join

Helen Kimsey, Executive Secretary
hkimsey@tcea.com
10127 Silver Park, San Antonio, TX 78254
210-355-2548

Dues

Institutional (*New!*) = \$125
See application inside for details
Professional = \$60
Paraprofessional = \$20
Advisory Council Member = \$20
Retired Professional = \$20

To Support The Foundation

Help develop Community Education in
Texas. Send donations to:
Texas CE Foundation
1121 Second Street
Kerrville TX 78028

Web Site

www.tcea.com

Up-to-date news, events, forums, forms,
online directory, password-protected
member area. Go here to join, update
contact info.

Contact

Helen Kimsey, Executive Secretary
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Region News

Region I

*Vicki Helms
Region I Director*



I hosted a Regional Cluster meeting on November 21, 2008 in Mesquite. The meeting was informal and very productive. I was able to provide much information about TCEA to everyone as well as share ideas about community education local programs. We discussed some of the policies and procedures used in each of our districts. We also talked about advisory councils and the big part they can play in helping community education programs.

Each of the participants was so appreciative of all the information. I provided lunch for everyone. I plan to invite them back for my advisory council luncheon on February 25, 2009. Helen Kimsey will speak, so it will be a great opportunity to get more helpful ideas regarding advisory councils.

We will schedule another Cluster meeting in March.

Ready to get more involved?

Run for office!

TCEA offers great leadership opportunities, plus you help support fellow community educators across Texas. See page 4 or **contact:**
Vicki Helms, vhelms@mesquiteisd.org.



Region II & III

*Diana Hanz
Region II Director*



*Donna Davenport
Region III Director*



Diana Hanz and Donna Davenport of Regions II & III are planning a joint meeting for March 4, 2009 from

10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The meeting will be at Northside ISD in the Learning Center. The focus will be on a day of in-service training and to promote our spring TCEA annual convention in Corpus Christi. Attendees will enjoy a catered lasagna lunch.

Judson is mourning the passing of Taj Brown, daughter of former Director Beverly Oliver and the first ESL teacher hired at Judson ISD. Taj fought a 9-year battle with cancer.

We are currently working on updating the Region II list and plan to contact non-members to promote starting up new community education projects and memberships in TCEA.



Judson Adventure Club

Students in the **Judson ISD Adventure Club Afterschool program** at Salinas Elementary welcomed guest speaker Helen Darling of the San Antonio Silver Stars Basketball Team. Ms. Darling spoke to the students about the importance of reading and how enjoyable reading skills can make their lives. She motivated the group of kindergarteners through 5th graders to stay in school to receive a good education. Ms. Darling answered questions posed by the students and read from Shel Silverstein's classic *Where The Sidewalk Ends*. There were 100 students in the audience.

**always more info
@
www.clubed.net**

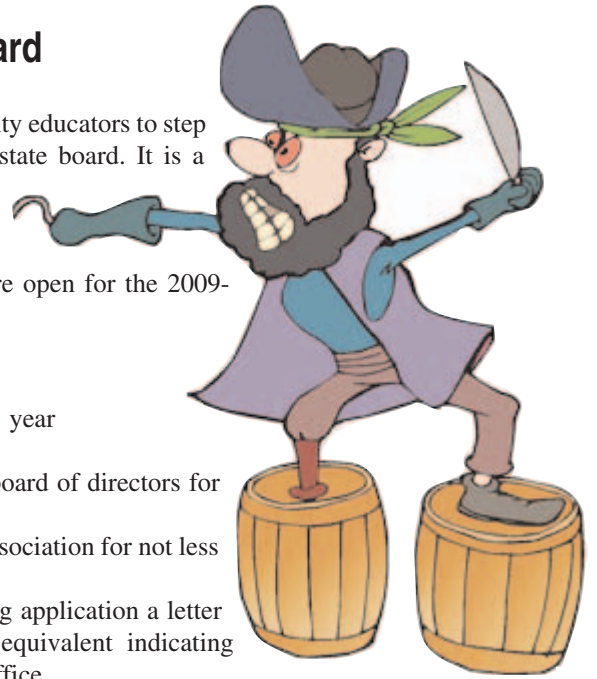
Elections

We want YOU

To serve on TCEA Board

The board invites active community educators to step up and consider serving on the state board. It is a challenge and an opportunity, especially in guiding this organization through inevitable change.

The following board positions are open for the 2009-2010 school year:



President Elect

Term: 1 year, then President for 1 year

Qualifications:

- (a) Have been a member of the board of directors for one year.
- (b) Have been a member of the association for not less than two years.
- (c) Receive and submit with filing application a letter from his/her superintendent or equivalent indicating support and permission to seek office.
- (d) Be actively employed as a professional community educator.

Vice President, Advisory Council

Term: 2 years

Qualifications:

- (a) Have been a member in good standing of this association for a period of not less than one year
- (b) Have been actively involved as a member of a local community education advisory council for a period of not less than one year.
- (c) Submit with filing application a letter from the appropriate director of community education indicating the director's support and endorsement of the applicant for this position.

Director, Region 1

Director, Region 3

Director at Large

Term: 2 years

Qualifications:

- (a) Have been a professional member of the association for a period of not less than one year,
- (b) Receive and submit with filing application a letter from his/her superintendent or equivalent indicating the support and permission to seek office.
- (c) Shall be actively involved with community education.

Filing Deadline: February 20, 2009

Contact:

Vicki Helms, Mesquite ISD

402 E. Davis St.

Mesquite, TX 75149

972-882-7462

vhelms@mesquiteisd.org

Awards

Achievement in Community Education Recognition

The Texas Community Education Association will recognize the outstanding achievements of community education programs around the state. ACE awards will be presented at the TCEA Annual Conference. The ACE categories are as follows:

ACE - Outstanding Advisory Council Activity or Event

ACE - Bright Idea

ACE - Outstanding Community Education Event or Activity

ACE - Community Education/Business Partnership

ACE - Outstanding Community Education After-School Program

Star of Excellence

The TCEA will recognize program publications for districts/organizations in three categories:

Catalog/Booklet

Brochure

Web site

Entries will be judged in five divisions based on student population

Outstanding Community Education Instructor

This award will recognize the instructor in each program that goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Service to Community Education

Certificates of appreciation will be awarded to those who have completed five, ten, fifteen, or twenty years of service to community education.

Rookie of the Year

The opportunity to be recognized in this category will be extended to those with an “outstanding first year” as a community education director.

Robert I. Berridge Award

This \$250 award will be presented to a TCEA member who shows significant development and implementation of innovative community education programs on the local and state level. Nomination must come from a TCEA member.

Jane Nelson Friend of Community Education

This award will be presented to a nominated person who has shown significant support to further innovative community education programs at the local or state level. The award will include a one-year associate membership to TCEA.

Caldwell/Culbertson Community Education Service Award

This award will recognize a TCEA advisory council member who has demonstrated unselfish dedication to community service, the willingness to serve the needs of others, understanding, patience and reliability. This is the only award category that advisory council members may nominate for.

Information and Award Submission

Hurry and nominate your best and brightest to be honored at our
Download entry forms at www.clubed.net.

For information:

Diana Hanz

Judson ISD, 8205 Palisades Dr., San Antonio, Texas 78233

Phone: 210 945-5340 * Fax: 210-945-6919 * dhanz@judsonisd.org



having to have a separate merchant account. We've found providing students and customers more payment flexibility provides better class utilization and cash flow."

RevTrak's product interfaces with many software companies, including other online registration systems. They are introducing a new free online registration package. It will feature class lists, email receipts, demographic feedback, and the ability to account for non-credit card payments. The company also is working on plans to add software that handles summer school and athletic sports camps.

"If you don't have a registration system set up for your program, this is the one to use to get you started," House said. "RevTrak has a great relationships with several community education projects in Texas. We feel it is so important to give back to the group, and we are thankful for their support."

RevTrak is the fifth Partner for the Foundation, according to Phil Houseal, Foundation President. Others are LUMENS, Collette Vacations, Planet Kidz, and Computer Tots.

"Our Partners have become key supporters of the Foundation, not only with financial support, but by bringing a range of expertise and knowledge of community education," Houseal said. "We welcome RevTrak and invite community educators to take advantage of the services they offer."

The Foundation was formed in order to encourage the growth of community education in Texas. This is accomplished through the Technical Assistance Partnership, an award program set up by the Texas Community Education Association and funded by the Foundation. Since 1998, TAP has provided financial or technical support to a dozen projects. Any school is invited to apply.

For additional information on RevTrak visit www.revtrak.com or call 817-251-8742. To learn more about the Foundation, to apply for a TAP grant, or to become a Partner, visit www.tcea.com or call 830-257-2218.

Yes We Can

by Helen Kimsey
Executive Secretary



"Yes We Can" was the unifying cry of our new 44th President of the United States, a cry that we in community education have used for many years. We have always believed that we can make a difference in the lives of people. Whether it be the children in early childhood programs or students in the after school program, community education has been there.

To keep our children in a safe, positive, educational and caring environment has been our goal. A contributing factor in the formation of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, community education leaders helped move the afterschool programs into the 21st century. As a recipient of one of the first 21st CCLC grants I saw it as an opportunity to provide quality afterschool programs to our students and their families. It wasn't too hard to take the concepts of community education and apply them to this seemingly new program. After all, we have been practicing community involvement for years.

"Yes We Can" has been the motto for adults who want or need to continue their education in a non-threatening environment. Helping the unemployed worker learn new skills, the homemaker who suddenly needs to enter the workplace, community education has provided the venue for such efforts. A young parent that needs to escape for just a few hours or to be able to converse with other adults, we are there for them. For our senior citizens who feel forgotten or isolated, we have opened a gateway back into society.

While "Yes We Can" continues to be our mantra we also have to accept that there are those who want to tell us "No You Can't."

Funding seems to be the primary culprit, and in the defense of school districts and other funding agencies this is a legitimate concern. We are in tense economic

times and we all must accept this fact. However, community educators have been the best conservators of funds in the past by providing much with little or nothing. We must continually educate those in power to the benefits of community education, we must prove our worth and value.

Too many times we have been known to "hide our light under a bushel." It is time to step forward into the light and show our community just what we can do.

But to do this we must educate and continually update ourselves, we need to keep on the cutting edge of technology, follow the trends and be ready to take on any challenge. We have never been stymied by obstacles or naysayers, community educators are the most creative and pro-active people when it comes to solving problems.



Ask your district or agency to involve you in the decision making, show them that we have the history and the knowledge to get things done. Don't be afraid to make that first move - what can you lose?

I want to challenge you to make this New Year the year of "Community Education", and for you to be known as a most valuable asset and integral part of your school district and community.

But most of all remember always -

Yes We Can

Foundation Partners

The following organizations have joined TCEA in helping support the Foundation, bringing the benefits of community education to more Texans.



RevTrak

RevTrak is the premier provider of ecommerce solutions for schools and local governments. As a Visa and MasterCard Independent Sales Organization, the company's mission is to meet the specific needs of K-12 schools and local governments.

Karen House
815 Yellowstone Dr, Grapevine TX 76051
817-251-8742
khouse@revtraktexas.com
www.revtrak.com



LUMENS/Augusoft

Lumens is the original web-based Lifelong Learning Management System, empowering programs to customize their product, operate in real time, sell 24/7, follow program trends, and improve their bottom line.

www.augusoft.net
(612) 605-1200
info@augusoft.net
4050 Olson Memorial Hwy, Suite 245
Golden Valley, MN 55422-5353



PlanetKidz

Planet Kidz is a statewide network of youth programs, designed to give kids in grades 3 through 8 a safe, fun place to be together after school.

www.planetkidz.org
972-772-6000
daleskidz@aol.com
2010 Industrial Blvd #604
Rockwall, Texas 75087
Fax: (972) 772-3737



Collette Vacations

For 90 years Collette Vacations has established a reputation for quality and value offering unique travel opportunities on all seven continents.

www.collettevacations.com
800-922-7005



Computer Explorers

Computer Explorers provides engaging technology programs for after-school and summer camps.

Kathy Patterson
830-257-8710
khpatterson@windstream.net

The Foundation

The mission of the Texas Community Education Foundation is to encourage the development and expansion of Community Education projects in Texas.

It accomplishes this in four ways:
1) through the formation of new projects,
2) the development of innovative programs,
3) supporting research and development, and
4) educating the population about the benefits of community education.

The process of getting support to projects is through the Technical Assistance Partnership, an award program set up by the Texas Community Education Association and funded by the Foundation.

Funding Sources

The Foundation is funded through individual and organization donations, funds from partnerships with businesses and vendors, and money raised from the Silent Auction at the annual conference (see Partners sidebar).

There is an ongoing search for major underwriters, with the goal of someday having enough principle to generate enough interest to fund the initiatives.

Become a Part

The Foundation is a strong step toward future growth and autonomy, a solid way to bring the benefits of community education to more citizens of Texas. You can help by

- 1) identifying potential partners
- 2) donating to the Foundation

Send your contribution to TCEF, 1121 Second St., Kerrville TX 78028. For more information call 830-257-2218.

To find out more about becoming a Partner, contact Phil Houseal, 830-257-2218, phouseal@tcea.com.

To Support the Foundation

The Foundation is actively seeking partnerships with vendors, businesses, and organizations. Since 1998 the Foundation has played a part in starting many projects.

Anyone interested in supporting the Foundation can contact Phil Houseal, 830-257-2218, phouseal@tcea.com

Conference

Register TODAY for the 2009 TCEA Conference, an opportunity to discover the treasures that lie within. We will provide the latest and best information, resources, and support in Community Education today. TCEA addresses the many facets of Community Education, from 21st Century Learning Centers, adult education, preschool programs, after-school and summer programs for youth. We encourage lifelong learning for all. Discover the secrets of your colleagues from across the state, and learn how to make informed decisions for your programs.

Conference At A Glance

Sunday, April 19

- 12:00-5:00pm Conference Registration
- 1:00-5:30pm Leadership Institute
- 6:00-8:00pm Brewster's Beach Bash (Welcome Reception)

Monday, April 20

- 8:00am-4:00pm Conference Registration
- 8:30 – 10:30am Opening Session w/ Breakfast
- 10:45 – 11:45am Breakout Sessions
- 12:00-1:30pm Lunch with Motivational Speaker
- 1:45-3:00pm Breakout Sessions
- 3:00-3:15pm Break with Vendors
- 3:15-4:15pm Breakout Sessions
- 4:15-5:00pm Partners Share
- 5:00pm - ??? Enjoy Corpus Christi (on your own)

Tuesday, April 21

- 8:00am-4:00pm Conference Registration
 - 8:00 – 9:10am Networking Breakfast
 - 9:15-10:20am Breakout Sessions
 - 10:30-11:45am Breakout Sessions
 - 12:00-1:30pm Lunch with Speaker
 - 1:45-2:45pm Breakout Sessions
 - 2:55-3:55pm Breakout Sessions
 - 4:00-6:00pm Team Building/ Games/ *Silent Auction
 - 6:00pm - ??? Enjoy Corpus Christi (on your own)
- *Please bring an item to be placed in the silent auction.*

Wednesday, April 22

- 9:00-10:30am Annual Meeting/ Networking Breakfast
- 10:30-11:30am "Life's A BEACH!"
- 11:30 – 1:00pm Closing Session with Speaker / Awards Luncheon

Accommodations

Hotel accommodations are provided by the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel Bayfront, located at 900 North Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, Texas 78401. To make reservations, call (361) 887-1600. Refer to the Texas Community Education Association for the negotiated rates.

Room rates: \$95, Single; \$129 Double; \$139 Triple; \$149 Quad

Parking: \$5/day per vehicle

Please make your reservations early, a limited number of rooms are set aside for the TCEA conference.

Registration

Registration form available online at www.tcea.com

