



GTCREA NEWS

June 2013

WREA CONVENTION, MAY 7 & 8, 2013

The Annual WREA State Convention was held in Stevens Point with Ed Knudsen, GTCREA Vice President/President Elect representing our local unit. There were 300+ in attendance at the convention. The theme of the convention was "Navigating to the Future". The main topic was how to increase membership and how to get better representation. Other topics of discussion included a legislative update, the proposed state budget and changes to the student voucher program being promoted by Governor Walker. The state budget should be adopted in June, which will determine the outcome of the voucher program. The importance of contacting your legislative representatives to express your opinions and/or positions on these issues was stressed as essential to the future of public education.

An increase for WREA membership dues received much discussion at length and was confirmed. The change in dues information will be posted on the WREA website as soon as possible.



GTCREA Board of Directors

1st row: C. Gacek, Treasurer, E. Knudsen, Vice President/President Elect, J. Stills, President, M. Meyer, Secretary

2nd row: R. Marcella, D. Krueger, R. Osantowski, W. Qureshi, S. Stills, R. Kelley, F. Miller, D. Dosemagen

GTCREA COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications Committee

- The first issue of GTCREA News was distributed in March. The committee plans to share current information regarding the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS), the WREA, as well as issues for our local GTCREA unit.
- Members welcome to share items of interest for the GTCREA News. Please submit any items for our quarterly newsletter to Mary Meyer, Newsletter Committee Chairperson at meyerm@tds.net or mail to 6916 McHenry St., Burlington, WI 53105.
- The GTCREA website (<http://gtc.edu/gtcrea>) now includes copies of the GTCREA News issues.
- Both our website and GTCREA News will include a calendar of dates for Board of Director meetings and General Membership meetings and activities as plans are developed.
- Reminder GTCREA Board Meetings, which are open to any member, are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Bioscience Center on Gateway's Kenosha Campus. (Any changes in meeting times or locations will be posted on the GTCREA website.)

Community Service - At the end of the year, the WREA forwards a survey report form to all local units. An important area on this report requests the number of community service hours performed by members of our GTCREA unit. If you are involved with volunteer work in your local community, please contact Jim Stills, GTCREA President at stillsj@gmail.com or at 262-498-1141 with any information and/or questions. Our unit will be given credits for these hours of community service at the end of the year.

Information and Protective Services (Health) - Life Insurance Benefits – Any retiree wishing to verify the value of his/her life insurance policy from Gateway Technical College should contact staff in the Human Resources Department at the Kenosha Campus Administrative Building. **(Be sure to bring a valid driver's license with you to verify your identity.)** If anyone is acquainted with family members of a deceased employee, you should remind them to file a claim for benefits.

Name	Position	Office #	Phone #	Days in Office
Debbie Miller	Director, Human Resources	128	262-564-3220	Mon.-Fri.
Terry Strash	Administrative Asst.	122	262-564-3034	Mon., Tues., Wed.
Judy McNamara	Administrative Asst.	122	262-564-3034	Wed., Thurs., Fri.

Legislative Committee - The changes to the voucher program proposed by Governor Walker are being given considerable discussion both pro and con by legislators. The outcome is unknown until the budget is approved in June.

Membership Committee - The GTCREA membership records indicate that we presently have 38 GTCREA members in 2012-13 (26 WREA members via GTCREA). The Board of Directors would like to achieve an increase in membership this year. If you know of someone either already retired or contemplating retirement from Gateway, please share the membership form for their consideration. (The Membership form is available on our GTCREA website.)

In Memorial – Hans Lothar Langenstroer, 62, of Kenosha passed away on May 11. For nearly 30 years, he was an Apprentice Painting & Decorating Instructor at Gateway Technical College, retiring in 2011.

Mary Meyer
Newsletter Committee Chairperson
meyerm@tds.net

(Please see the “GTCREA Calendar of Events” for Board and General Membership Meetings on the next page.)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – GTCREA Board Meetings & General Membership Meetings

DATE	LOCATION
June 19, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.	Board Meeting, Kenosha Campus Bioscience Center, Room 121
July 24, 2013 – 9:30 a.m.	Board & General Membership Meeting Barbara Tiedt, Elderly Benefit Specialist Medicare Benefits Briefing Aging & Disability Resource Center Racine County Building, 14200 Washington Ave. Ives Grove, Sturtevant
August 21, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.	Board Meeting, Kenosha Campus Bioscience Center, Room 121
September 18, 2013 – 10:30 a.m.	Board & General Membership Meeting Visit by Dave Bennett, WREA Executive Director Madrigrano, Kenosha Campus
October, 8, 2013 – 6:00 p.m.	Board & General Membership Meeting Roger Byers, Wisconsin Retirement System Retirement Planning – WRS Benefits & Options Madrigrano, Kenosha Campus
November 20, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.	Board Meeting, Kenosha Campus Bioscience Center, Room 121
December 18, 2013	Board Meeting, Kenosha Campus Bioscience Center, Room 121