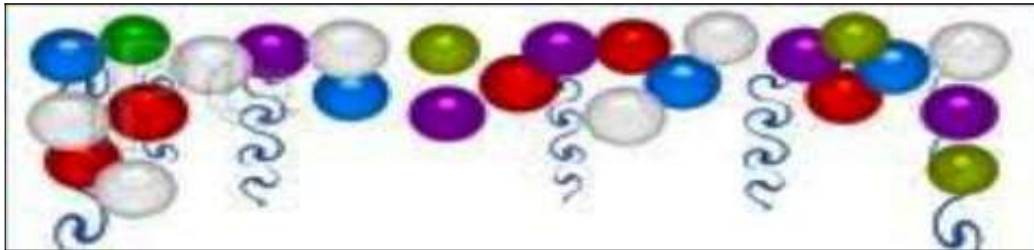


# Bulletin

January / February 2014

Newsletter of the Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers

Volume 83, Issue 1



## **Watch Your Mail - The 100th Anniversary**

### **Call to Convention will be arriving soon!**

Start making plans to attend the 100th Annual Kansas PTA Convention. Convention is an allowable budget item and the training received is invaluable. You also get to participate in the business of PTA, including voting on bylaws changes, setting Legislative Priorities, and hearing informative speakers.

Since it is our 100th there will be many exciting special visitors, including NPTA President Otha Thornton. Other National PTA visitors include a member of their Nominating and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC), our Common Core guru Lee Ann Kendrick, and Eric Snow, a National PTA Board Member & the Director of Watch D.O.G.S.

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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**Kansas  
PTA®**

*everychild.onevoice.*

# Kansas PTA's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Book



May 1945 – New Officers of the Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers. Pictures (l to r): W.T. Markham, Topeka, third vice president; Mrs. Paul Kuhn, Salina, fifth vice president; Mrs. Fred Barber, Concordia, seventh vice president; and Jess Vague, treasurer. Not pictured: Mrs. Ben McCamant, Wichita, president.



1982 – (l to r): Dr. Harold Hosey, Kansas PTA State Legislation Chairman; Dr. Steve McKee, Kansas PTA National Legislation Chairman (also host superintendent of schools); Arnold Fege, our National PTA representative; and Bertha Fritz, Kansas PTA President.

## Order your copies TODAY!

Make sure you've purchased at least one Kansas PTA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History book. These make great gifts. The price has been kept low due to the generous underwriting by Lifetouch. Currently, **hardcover books are \$20** and **soft cover books are \$15**.

The easiest way to purchase your book is online at [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) code = 11756613  
(enter your name in the "student" field and "other" for "grade level")

Order forms are also available on the Kansas PTA website and on your Summer Packet CD

The price of the Kansas PTA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History book is \$15/book for soft cover and \$20/book for hardcover. Your order will be available for pickup at the 2014 Kansas PTA Convention. If you will not be at the 2014 Kansas PTA Convention to pick your book up, please add \$6 per book for shipping and handling. Consider purchasing a book to honor or in memory of someone, for your principal or library, for your PTA and of course, for yourself.

This color 100 page treasure will cover Kansas PTA's history in context with our state and nation's history incorporating as many historical facts and pictures from our units and councils as possible. The book's measurements will be approximately 8.5" X 11".

**Go to [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) (enter code 11756613) and order your books today!**

If you need additional help ordering,  
please contact Lifetouch at 913-649-7040, email: [Lenexa@lifetouch.com](mailto:Lenexa@lifetouch.com)

### Fun Kansas PTA Historical Facts Uncovered In Our Research:

- February 1923 – first *Kansas Parent-Teacher* published.
- On April 25 1924, with the help of Mrs. John McNarrey of Kansas City ( First Vice President of the Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers), the State Branch of the Colored Parent Teacher Associations of Kansas was organized.
- 1937 – PTA units conduct "penny parades." Members and friends march to music past a certain point where a box, can or even the proverbial hat is placed, and as they pass they drop in a penny or whatever they wish to contribute to the Student Aid Fund which the Kansas PTA uses to help worthy boys and girls to secure further education.

Found by the 100th Anniversary Book Research team—  
I think we can all empathize!

THE FIRST TWELVE DAYS OF SCHOOL

On the first day of school, my children said to me, "Aren't you glad that our education's free?"

On the second day of school, my children said to me, "I need 5 notebooks, 6 fountain pens, and an unabridged dictionary."

On the third day of school, my children said to me, "We need Crayolas, your old Victrola, one pencil box, and a buck for a lock and a key."

On the 4th. day of school, my children said to me, "I need a gym suit, sneakers and shower cap, a sewing kit, some pinking shears, 5 yards of string, one tailor chalk, 2 thimbles, one bias tape, and something called emery."

On the 5th. day of school, my children said to me, "We need insurance, don't forget our lunches, and the deposit for our lab breakage fee."

On the 6th. day of school, my children said to me, "You forgot my workbook, name tags on my soccer socks, and the loan of your car till after 3."

On the 7th. day of school, my children said to me, "I need a camera, hockey stick and pink tights, one tuba in key, one chess set, one nose plug, one leotard, for my extracurricular activities."

On the 8th. day of school, my children said to me, "Do we have some old shoes, food we will never use, books we're not reading, money we aren't needing, for some hard pressed needy family?"

On the 9th. day of school, my children said to me, "I had my picture took. It'll cost you 10 just to look, for 20 you can buy the book. No stamps, no checks--just money."

On the 10th. day of school, my children said to me, "Wanta join the PTA, the Boosters and the Blue and Gray? The band is selling key rings, and you know how you're always losing keys."

On the eleventh day of school, my children said to me, "Where is my cigar box? Did you pay my milk bill? I need 50 cents. We're going to plant a flowering tree."

On the 12th. day of school my children said to me, "Why are you crying? You're finished buying. Aren't you glad that our education's free?"



## You are Awesome!

You are awesome and you should be recognized for your hard work. It is not an easy task to serve as an officer on your PTA board. You put in an overwhelming amount of hours as you work for children, families and education.

The Kansas PTA Keys to Leadership program will give you the recognition you deserve. You are already doing things to qualify for the first level. There are five levels at this time and each level is worth 75 points. In each level there are local leadership opportunities, council leadership opportunities, state leadership opportunities, national leadership opportunities, and advocacy opportunities. Points on the levels range anywhere from 5 to 20 and add up very quickly to the 75 needed!

Contact the Kansas PTA office or Region Vice President to get your copy of the "Keys to Leadership" Passport. The maintenance and safekeeping of the passport is your responsibility. Take your passport to all PTA events/activities and trainings/convention. To be recognized at the State Convention, your passport must be mailed into the Kansas PTA office at least 30 days prior to the State Convention.

So please take a few minutes to call to get your Keys to Leadership Passport and be recognized as the awesome leader you are!

"Good leaders are not born. They develop."

Jackie Waters  
NLDC, Chair

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## William Allen White Children's Book Award

The below article was printed in the May 1952 Kansas PTA Bulletin.

Establishment of an annual William Allen White Children's Book Award was announced April 21 in Emporia, KS. The award which will be sponsored by the William Allen White Library will be administered by a committee composed of 3 individuals (including Kansas PTA's Mrs. Gaglairdo, chairman of reading and library services of the Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers. The actual choosing of the award book will be done by the children of Kansas from a list selected by a state committee. The book selection committee is made up of 12 members representing various state educational organizations (Kansas PTA will be on that committee). The medal given to the winning author is being designed by Eldon C. Tefft, a teacher of sculpting in the department of design at the University of Kansas.

To my knowledge Kansas PTA has had a representative on this committee from inception. I am serving the third year of my 3 year term. It has been very rewarding to be part of this wonderful process. I'm sure many of you have heard your children talk about William Allen White books or seen them displayed in your public library. Did you know that Kansas PTA had such an integral part in the beginnings of this award? I didn't, when my children were old enough to begin reading the books. But I am honored to have been part of this process. Ok back to reading – I have to read approximately one hundred 4 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade level books by the end of August!

Jan Long  
Kansas PTA President 2007-2009



## The Power of Penmanship

by John Boesen

“A single day’s edition of The New York Times provides us with more information than a person in 17<sup>th</sup> century England experienced in a lifetime!” That quote was from *The Modern Gladiator* by Hyrum Smith, a book published in 2001. Imagine how much more information is flowing now.

Yet in this increasingly technological age, why do many employers still insist on handwritten application letters from prospective employees? The answer is simple: our handwriting provides insight into our character, our personality and our suitability for the job. Pen and paper are still important tools in a variety of modern industries and organizations. Eight years ago in November 2005, when current high school seniors were in fourth grade, NBC News reported that illiteracy in the workforce was costing Fortune 500 companies over \$3 billion a year.

Since the Writing Instrument Manufacturers Association currently reports \$4.8 billion in annual sales of writing instruments, are schools that underemphasize penmanship adequately preparing the students of today for the workplace? When called upon to use these business tools, will they have a sense for the value of pens, pencils, and markers, and will they know how to use them effectively?

If teachers are unable or the curriculum does not permit taking the time, parents can give their children an academic head start so they learn better and an economic head start so they work more efficiently. Help your pre-K, primary, and elementary school children develop cursive handwriting skills.

Otherwise we abandon language literacy in the headlong pursuit of keyboard literacy. We must accept the fact that people who cannot read and write cursive handwriting are language illiterate. Early childhood brain development is aided and can be measured by cursive handwriting. Using, developing and monitoring penmanship influences how well a child learns how to learn. It affects their self-esteem and self-confidence, character development, dignity and respect shown to themselves and others, communication style, developing social skills, critical thinking, and a host of other aspects of the personality. Penmanship is a fine motor body language. Early detection of hostility, defensiveness, and fear can be minimized or reduced by changing the way a student writes along with appropriate adult supervision and intervention.

I urge teachers in schools to include penmanship training and incorporate it throughout the curriculum. Parents provide an important resource to teach and reinforce cursive handwriting at home. The PEN is Mightier Than The Keyboard™.

John Boesen is a court qualified handwriting expert from Salina KS who consults with individuals, public organizations, private companies, and attorneys. Mr. Boesen can be reached online at [www.TheHandwritingGuy.com](http://www.TheHandwritingGuy.com) or by calling 316-617-3501 M-F 10a-5p Central Time.





Join fathers, grandfathers, male teachers, mentors, and PTA MORE (Men Organized to Raise Engagement) Alliance experts at the **fatherhood networking event of the year!**

**Featuring workshop sessions for today's fatherhood leaders, designed to:**

- Provide resources to get men involved in your PTA, school, and community
- Provide ways to create diverse male engagement
- Create awareness of fathers' rights to help children be successful
- Create successful PTA male membership drives
- Build school programs to increase male engagement

2nd Annual

# 2014 National PTA<sup>®</sup> Male Engagement Conference

October 24 - 26, 2014 | Atlanta, Georgia  
Embassy Suites Hotel | Atlanta Airport

- Expert-led sessions
- Multiple workshops
- 3 Days of networking
- Keynote speakers



## Registration Information

Registration opens in **April 2014!**  
Space is limited – Register Early.

<b>Conference Registration:</b>	\$119
<b>Special Hotel Room Rates:</b>	\$84 King per night (plus tax)
	\$84 Double per night (plus tax)

To learn more and register for the conference, visit [PTA.org/MEC2014](http://PTA.org/MEC2014).  
For hotel reservations, contact **1-800-EMBASSY** (362-2779)  
or 1-404-767-1988. **Group code: NPTA**

**National PTA** | **Male Engagement Conference**  
*every child. one voice.®*



Signature Sponsor



## ASK MEMEBRSHIP!



*The National PTA membership team answers your questions about membership recruitment, retention, and engagement every month.*

***Dear PTA Membership,***

***I am the PTA membership chair at my son's elementary school. I've been trying really hard to increase our PTA's meeting attendance, but nothing really seems to work. We hold meetings monthly and I try to ask everyone I know to attend, but the same 5 or 6 people show up all the time. How can I get more people to come to the meetings? We really have a great school and I know they want to be more involved!***

***Sincerely,  
Cynthia D. – Lexington, KY***

Dear Cynthia,

Getting new faces to attend your meetings isn't always easy, but here are four quick tips to help you boost your attendance.

1. **Make your meeting date and time visible using physical announcements.** Placing PTA posters with your next PTA meeting date, location, and time in highly visible areas parents frequent when visiting your child's school (next to the front office doorway, school auditorium, and cafeteria areas) is a great way to keep your invitation in front of parents, teachers, and school staff. Gain the school's permission to post PTA posters. Local PTA presidents may check with your State PTA office to get a poster if you don't have one.
2. **Share your PTA meeting on social media.** You're probably already a "friend" or "follower" of many people at your child's school or in the community. Ask others to share your meeting announcement and link to current online content that will be the focus of your upcoming meeting. For more information on how to connect and engage Today's PTA member using social media, [click here](#).
3. **Place PTA flier announcements in students' backpacks.** Backpack fliers are still a number one vehicle for distributing messages to parents. Work with your school's principal to gain permission to do this.
4. **Ask each person attending to bring another attendee.** Double your efforts by asking each PTA attendee to bring one additional person with them from their home, the school, or the community.

Best wishes,  
*The PTA Membership Team*

Have a question for the PTA membership team? Email National PTA's membership marketing manager at [jlindsey@pta.org](mailto:jlindsey@pta.org). Type "Ask Membership! Monday" in the subject line, tell us your question, and include your first and last name, name of your local PTA, and city and state. If your question is selected, it will be answered here in the Ask Membership! Monday blog.

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*Joy Lindsey is membership marketing manager for National PTA.*



## Kansas PTA Virginia Peak Outstanding Leadership Award

The purpose of this award is to honor someone who has given exemplary service to the children and youth of Kansas. Any PTA member, unit, council or region may submit nominations. The nominee must be a member of a local PTA unit and if a teacher or principal, must be from a school that is affiliated with a PTA unit. Please read this application carefully, all PTAs involved must be in good standing.

Supporting evidence, letters of recommendations or explanation from others in the school, the PTA or the community may be included. The application may be no more than ten (10) pages. Please do not staple pages together. Please include a photograph of the nominee.

This award will be available annually, but given as appropriate no more than once a year.

**Criteria:**

1. Describe how this person exhibits good character and dedication to excellence through volunteer service:
2. Describe how this person demonstrates commitment to children and youth through work in PTA, school, community and in the state arena:
3. In accordance with PTA Objects, describe how this person serves as an advocate for children in the areas of education, health, safety, or legislation:

Nominee's name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

PTA membership \_\_\_\_\_ Role in that PTA \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of years involved with PTA? \_\_\_\_\_

**Nomination submitted by:**

Name of person or PTA \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application to: Kansas PTA, Virginia Peak Award Nomination, 715 SW 10<sup>th</sup>, Topeka 66612

Applications must be **postmarked** by Friday, March 21, 2014 to be eligible.



# PTA Advocacy Statement

PTA defines advocacy as supporting and speaking up for children - in schools, in communities, and before government bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children.

For more than a century, PTA has provided families and child advocates with the support, information, and resources needed to focus on the health and education of America's youth.

Child advocates work with policy makers at the federal, state, and local levels to ensure sound policies that promote the interests of all children.

As the oldest and largest volunteer child advocacy association in the United States, PTA has had an indelible impact on the lives of millions of children and families. PTA's legacy includes the creation of universal kindergarten classes, child labor laws, school lunch programs, a juvenile justice system, and local school wellness policies.

State laws can have a major impact on the health and education of our children. Involving PTA members in state and local advocacy is an important part of securing adequate state laws, funding, and policy for the care and protection of our children.

A legislator's voting record is public information and within our guidelines to publish.

We encourage our members to work with state legislators to influence legislation, serve on local school boards, attend district meetings on topics of local and state budget cuts, work with school leaders and state education officials to implement PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships, and volunteering on Parental Information and Resource Center (PIRC) boards to help guide and build relationships between PIRCs and state PTAs. (*National PTA 2011-2012*, [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)).

Refer to the PTA [Nonpartisan Parameters & Guidelines](#) for more details.

MYTH BUSTERS

VOTE COUNTS

HOW TO TIPS

ISSUE BRIEFS



# Today's PTA Membership Saves You Money



PTA members receive discounts on a variety of services and products to help your family save money daily. Help keep your family's budget on track throughout the school year with offerings from these retail and service providers.

PTA Benefit Provider	Benefit Type	Your Savings!
	Retail – Child Safety	FREE child safety tracking device (\$149 value), plus e-Trak subscription orders earn your local PTA \$6 and State PTA \$2.
	Retail – Educational System	15% discount on the ifocus Standard or Deluxe System; multi-award winning attention-training system for ages 6-12.
	Retail – Office Supply Store	Save 10% off school supplies & furniture; 25% off copy and print purchases; get 5% rewards on all other purchases* & free shipping from staples.com; plus teachers earn 2%-5% in classroom rewards on your Staples purchases when you sign up for the Reward A Classroom program. *Exclusions apply.
	Service – 50+ Senior Benefits & Value	Save up to 15% on 1-3 year membership discounts.**
	Service – Car Rental & Travel	Save up to 20% off car rentals, plus receive special vacation offers throughout the year.*
	Service – Insurance	Special group discounts on auto insurance from MetLife Auto & Home® with quick and easy switches, plus a discount for bank account deductions; save even more with multi-car discounts.**
	Service – Electronics	Sharp® supports National PTA efforts through annual product donations and periodic discounts.
	Service – College Prep & Financial Aid	Waived \$79 fee for entry level Knowledge Base program; plus receive other PTA-only deep discounts on higher level college & career advising programs; ideal for Grades 8-11 (with emphasis on Grades 8-9).

\*Exclusions and/or \*\*qualifications may apply. Visit online at [PTA.org](http://PTA.org) or contact retail/service provider for more details.

For new offers & updates, visit [PTA.org/Benefits](http://PTA.org/Benefits)

## Kansas PTA Board Roster

President	Tammy Bartels	504 South Delaware, Tonganoxie, KS 66086	913-417-7031
President - Elect	Denise Shultz	9311 West 81st Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66204	913-381-7824
VP Advocacy	Vacant		
VP Extension Services	Monica Crowe	3047 N 65th Terrace, Kansas City, KS	913-299-3583
VP Member Services	Josefina Gutierrez	3803 Gibbs Road, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-384-3823
Secretary	Diana Fabac	5607 Crest Drive, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-957-4840
Treasurer	Sarah Baker	8006 Widmer, Lenexa, KS 66215	913-706-9958
<b>State Officers</b>			
Region 1 Field Service Rep	Allen Bradley	1516 N 85th Place, Kansas City, KS 66112	913-208-8762
Region 2 Field Service Rep	Lauri DeNooy	6615 W 73rd Street, Overland Park, KS 66204	913-548-7277
Region 3 Field Service Rep	Patty Jurich	3314 N 128th Court, Kansas City, KS 66109	913-334-6051
Region 4 Field Service Rep	Patty Jurich	3314 N 128th Court, Kansas City, KS 66109	913-334-6051
Region 5 Field Service Rep	Patty Jurich	3314 N 128th Court, Kansas City, KS 66109	913-334-6051
Region 6 Field Service Rep	Lauri DeNooy	6615 W 73rd Street, Overland Park, KS 66204	913-548-7277
Region 7 Field Service Rep	Sheila Bunnell	7028 Berry Road, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-544-9072
Region 8 Field Service Rep	Dawn Lalumondier	8907 W 82nd St, Overland Park, KS 66204	913-660-4763
<b>Region Vice Presidents</b>			
2013 Convention Chair	Monica Crowe	3047 N 65th Terrace, Kansas City, KS	913-299-3583
Arts in Educations & Awards	Robert DeNooy	9242 Newton Street, Apt2B, Overland Park KS 66212	913-271-6892
Family Engagement	Laura Kaiser	5222 West 98th Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66207	913-341-3078
Health & Wellness	Angel Del Valle	2834 S 48th Street, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-713-9226
Inclusiveness / Diversity	Jose Gutierrez	3803 Gibbs Road, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-787-5775
Male Involvement	Rod Shriwise	9700 Walmer, Overland Park, KS 66212	913-271-8424
Membership	Sheila Bunnell	7028 Berry Road, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-544-9072
Military Engagement	Allen Hopkins	2804 S. 16th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048	913-240-9046
PTA Store / Meeting Assistant	Julie Howard	134 N 71st St, Kansas City, KS 66111	913-299-4877
Publicity / Marketing	Dawn Kindred	5109 Edgehill, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-287-8714
Rep. of Council Presidents	Vacant		
Resolutions Committee	Vacant		
Resource Development	Debbie Lawson	15719 W 86th Street, Lenexa, KS 66219	913-541-0806
State Bylaws	Lauri DeNooy	6615 W 73rd Street, Overland Park, KS 66204	913-548-7277
State Legislative	Brian Hogsett	9705 Slater Lane, Overland Park, KS 66212	913-322-7878
State Extension	Vacant		
<b>State Chairman</b>			
*Bulletin Editor	Robert DeNooy	9242 Newton Street, Apt2B, Overland Park KS 66212	913-271-6892
*Nominating & Leadership Dev	Denise Sultz	9311 West 81st Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66204	913-381-7824
*Parliamentarian	Vacant		
*Website	Robert DeNooy	9242 Newton Street, Apt2B, Overland Park KS 66212	913-271-6892
	Brian Hogsett	9705 Slater Lane, Overland Park, KS 66212	913-322-7878
<b>Consultants / Committee Appointments</b>			
*DeSoto	Vacant		
*Kansas City	Patty Jurich	3314 N 128th Court, Kansas City, KS 66109	913-334-6051
*Shawnee Mission	Pam Hale	7306 Summit St., Shawnee, KS 66216	913-536-5862
*Turner	Josefina Gutierrez	3803 Gibbs Road, Kansas City, KS 66106	913-384-3823
<b>Council Presidents</b>			
<b>Office Support</b>			
*Office Secretary	Natalie Schweda	715 S.W. Tenth, Topeka, KS 66612	785-234-5782

\*Not a board position.

This issue of the Bulletin is available on the Kansas PTA website at [www.kansas-pta.org](http://www.kansas-pta.org).

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**[kansaspta@gmail.com](mailto:kansaspta@gmail.com)**  
**[www.kansas-pta.org](http://www.kansas-pta.org)**

**National PTA Headquarters**  
**1250 N. Pitt Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**  
**Phone: (800) 307-4PTA (4782)**  
**Fax: TBA**  
**E-mail: [info@pta.org](mailto:info@pta.org)**  
**[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)**



**Kansas Congress of Parents and Teachers**  
**715 SW Tenth**  
**Topeka, KS 66612-1686**

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January - February 2014



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If you are no longer a PTA president, please notify the Kansas PTA State Office.  
Forward this and all mailings immediately to your successor.