

**K • A • T • E**  
*Kansas Association of Teachers of English*

**KATE Executive Board Meeting Minutes**  
**8 June 2002**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**Eisenhower Library, Abilene, Kansas**

Members present: Tara Azwell, Gerrit Bleeker, Barbara Bleeker, Joy Bunch, Leota Coats, Karri Cromer, Carolyn Davidson, John Franklin, Judy Goodpasture, Ruthann Harris, Clark Killion, Vivian Leupp, Mary Pat McQueeny, Diane McReynolds, Bonnie Newcomer, Paula Ripple, Dave Smit, Karen Stous, and Dana Waters.

**Call to order**

President Joy Bunch called the meeting to order at 9:15.

**Approval of minutes**

Two name misspellings were corrected. Clark Killion moved that the minutes be approved with corrections. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Treasurer's report**

Paula Ripple reported a balance of \$23,285.32. She said she expected approximately \$1000 in outstanding bills. The membership expenses were higher than usual. Paula recommended that members ask Jean Dimmitt for membership lists rather than contacting Jeanne Moxley. She explained that KATE is charged \$12 each time someone requests a membership list and \$.25 each time we add a new member or change address information. Karen Stous explained that in the transition to membership chair, we had sent duplicate membership cards following the conference. Joy asked if Jean Dimmitt had yet purchased software for the membership information; Paula hadn't received a bill. KATE had received invitations to 4-H activities. Bonnie Newcomer moved we accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded and carried.

**Old business**

Joy reported on the Teacher of the Year changes in the absence of Andy Anderson. Laura Woolfolk of Dodge City High School will be recognized at the Fall Conference as 2002 Teacher of the Year. Joy distributed copies of the discontinued nomination form, emphasizing to members that this form is now obsolete and will no longer be accepted. She also distributed a sheet from Andy with proposals for new requirements and procedures. Two problems had been recognized by the committee: the lack of nominees and the process of self-nomination. Members discussed lowering the monetary amount of the award and focusing on recognizing the teacher. Judy Goodpasture said that we had been fortunate that all previous winners had been good speakers, but that might not always happen. Dave Smit suggested that if our ultimate goal is to promote the profession, we select for best practices. Dave Smit moved that we reconsider and revise the Teacher of the Year Award to make it a best practices award, and that the application form be simplified to include

evidence of such practices. Paula suggested we give an award for the best conference session. Mary Pat pointed out that the conference evaluations were specific about what sessions were good. Karen Stous said that she was looking at using Zoomerang for attendees to do their evaluation at the conference, and that could facilitate the selection. We would need to present the award at the following conference. Dave pointed out that Teacher of the Year generated publicity for our organization, and a best practices award would generate more publicity than a best conference presentation. The motion was seconded and carried. The committee will continue to work with these guidelines.

Judy Goodpasture said we should recognize the work of the students selected by NCTE for Achievement Awards in Writing. Gerrit Bleeker reminded us that we would need special dispensation from NCTE to disclose winners before November, so perhaps we should recognize winners from the previous year, which would be the students' senior and ninth grade year. Clark Killion suggested we include other student writing that had been recognized publically, perhaps including a monetary recognition. Paula wondered if that would cause problems for students with the KHSAA; Judy said the recognition was the most important aspect and would look good on college applications. Paula suggested we recognize the 4-H winners by having them present their speeches Thursday night. Karen asked what we needed to do to recognize students for the conference. Judy suggested we display copies of the essays of the eight NCTE winners announced in November. Tara Azwell suggested a session on student voices, asking the students to participate in a panel discussion of their writing. Paula suggested we combine the panel with a reception for those students on Thursday night. She suggested we send the invitations to the school board. Karen said that she would work on that for the conference. Paula will notify the 4-H honorees; Gerrit and Barbara Bleeker will work with Karen to notify the NCTE honorees.

Joy announced that Ruthann Harris has been elected to the position of second vice-president. Newly elected executive board members are Mary Blomquist, Kansas City, Kansas School District; Leota Coats, Wichita Independent School; Matt Copeland, Washburn Rural High School; Cheryl Duffy, Fort Hays State University; Marti Mihalyi, Baker University; Shannon Nickell, Tonganoxie Junior High School; Nancy Piatt, Victoria Middle School; Lisa Plamann, Jefferson West High School; Cathy Sheridan, Shawnee Mission West High School; Carlene Steuve, Salina South High School. They will be installed at the Fall Conference meeting.

Clark Killion and Ruthann Harris will attend the August NCTE affiliate leadership meeting in St. Louis.

Karen Stous reported for Jean Dimmitt that Hazel Ford, a former board member, had died and a memorial scholarship had been established in her name at her former school. Joy will investigate and inform Bonnie for the next *KATE Update*.

Mary Pat McQueeney announced that she had sent the KATE Resolution on Concurrent Credit to CCCC to be included in a discussion group there. Joy reminded us that Clark Killion will take the resolution to the NCTE leadership conference in St. Louis.

Mary Pat McQueeney discussed our agreement with Baker University for issuing credit for our conference. She felt that we should charge Baker University for the table they use to enroll attendees. She pointed out that her responsibilities are to provide the initial assignment and materials, receive the assignments, respond and grade them, and submit grades for credit. Baker only enrolls students and issues credit. She suggested we ask other conferences if they are charging the college a table fee. Judy said that offering credit provides a great benefit for the conference attendees and is a service we should offer. Mary Pat suggested we drop the presiders'

sheets; Baker had never called for them and Mary Pat had not had cause to refer to them. Karen suggested we arrange for a board member to introduce non-member presidors and other than that, drop the presidor. Mary Pat said we need to emphasize that Baker will not allow withdrawals and enrollees must complete the course. This year she will provide an e-mail option for submission. It was reported that MACE had switched from Baker to Emporia. Paula moved that we explore changing our credit institution to Emporia State University. The motion died for a lack of second. Karen Stous volunteered to head a committee to explore charging Baker \$120 table fee for enrollment. Leota Coats and Mary Pat McQueeney will serve on that committee.

## **New business**

Joy presented a report for Anne Phillips on the William Allen White Selection Committee. The committee has met twice to revise procedures. A new website will invite the public to submit titles for consideration. In September the committee will make its choices. The reading list has been increased. Anne's term has expired and KATE will need to choose a replacement. The three-year term will start in October. Bonnie Newcomer will solicit applicants in the next issue of *KATE Update*. Barbara Bleeker expressed the wish that more elementary and middle school classroom teachers would serve on the board. Anne Phillips, Tara Azwell, Diane McReynolds, and Joy Bunch will form a committee to consider the applicants. Tara Azwell will bring application forms to the Fall Conference.

Linda Klubunde and Donna Sears have submitted their resignations as *Young Kansas Writers* editors. Joy asked for suggestions for new editors. Linda and Donna had suggested that the deadline be changed to a later date to allow editors to look at submissions during the summer. Karen Stous said that *Teen-Ink* magazine publishes teen writing and sends thirty copies to teachers for free, at least five times a year. She said that *Young Kansas Writers* doesn't have the distribution resources for such coverage and perhaps teachers are choosing this option instead. Judy said that she felt that *Young Kansas Writers* had been a valuable membership incentive. Bonnie asked if we could find an editor with resources such as John Franklin has for *Kansas English* at Pittsburg State University. The Board asked for a letter of thanks to go to Linda and Donna. Joy had asked for Donna and Linda to list the duties of the editors so she could include them on the website when she asks for a replacement. New editors need to be found before October so submission forms can be included in the conference packets. Bonnie will include an request for volunteers in *KATE Update*. Karen asked if we should waive the dues of editors; Paula pointed out that they are paid a \$100 honorarium.

Joy raised the issue of Board members who never attend meetings. A committee of Joy, Dave Smit, and Andy Anderson was appointed to explore means of replacing inactive board members.

Paula asked that we consider someone to work with and eventually replace her as treasurer. She estimated that during conference time, August to December, she averages 10 hours a week. Other times she averages less than 10 hours per month. Andy Anderson does the taxes, and Kay Flook handles the conference registration. Karen Stous volunteered to take over the conference registration if Kay would assume the office of treasurer, after Karen finishes her duties as president.

Karen Stous reported on the Fall Conference. She had retrieved Carlene Stueve's award certificate from the NCTE conference in Baltimore and she will present it to Carlene at the opening session of the Fall Conference. Committee assignments for the conference are as follows: Publicity--Lisa Broxterman (chair), Joy Bunch, Karen Stous; Registration--Kay Flook (chair), Vivian Leupp, Tara

Azwell, Dana Waters, Carolyn Davidson, Paula Ripple; Conference materials--Rosemary Deen (chair), Joy Bunch, Diane McReynolds, (Clark Killion and Carolyn Davidson will work on site); Local arrangements--Judy Goodpasture (chair), Clark Killion, Ruthann Harris; Exhibits--Joy Bunch (chair), Annie Heidersbach; Idea exchange--Marilyn Brewer (chair), Clark Killion; Books and materials--Andy Anderson (chair); Sales--Ruthann Harris (chair), Paula Ripple, Dave Smit; Teacher of the year--Andy Anderson (chair), Todd Goodson, Karen Stous, Joy Bunch; Baker college liaison--Mary Pat McQueeney (chair), Leota Coats, Karen Stous, Marti Mihayli; Door prizes--Diane McReynolds (chair). The keynote speaker will be Ralph Voss of the University of Alabama, biographer of William Inge. Andrea Warren will speak at the Friday luncheon, and *Scholastic Magazine* will help with her fee. To help teachers justify requests for leave to attend the conference, Karen will contact presenters and ask them to indicate which state communications standards and benchmarks their session will address. Paula suggested we also include NCTE standards. Karen ask for discussion of how we handle door prizes, since some of the evaluations criticized the time spent handing them out. Karen will advertise that the first 100 registrants will receive a free Kansas literary map. Paula suggested we all contribute door prizes from our own towns where possible. Andrea Warren would like to make her presentation on the holocaust on Friday and do her "meet the author" session Friday afternoon. Karen will check on the hotel contract to see if we can use the facility on Friday afternoon. Clark suggested we dispense with the grade-level breakfasts and ask Andrea to do a "meet the author" session during breakfast.

The Marco Polo program will provide training to conference attendants Friday afternoon and possibly Saturday. Marco Polo is World Com's foundation. They provide training to school districts and conferences about Marco Polo's interdisciplinary computerized lesson plans. Training includes a notebook, CD, and necessary software downloads. The Marco Polo consortium of advisors now includes NCTE. The Marco Polo program will include English standards for each state. NCTE will evaluate the lesson plans Marco Polo puts on-line. Sessions lengths are three hours to train users and five hours to train trainers for districts. Karen is working with Friends University to use their writing lab. A break-out session at the Marriot will include explanations of and booklets about the program. Attendants will need to register in September so Marco Polo can ship materials for the sessions.

Karen raised questions about the effectiveness of the Idea Exchange. People brought seventy-five copies and last year; forty-two teachers participated. Bonnie said that she had observed that many of the participants hadn't prepared very well. Tara asked if we could combine the Idea Exchange with the grade level sessions. Bonnie suggested we publish a booklet of ideas; Clark said we might give it out with KATE membership, but that would necessitate mailing expense. Mary Pat asked if the ideas could be put on the web site for downloading. Dave suggested that to reduce the copies necessary, we could limit grade level round tables to twenty. Barbara Bleeker suggested getting eight to ten good people to sit at a table and present their ideas. Carolyn Davidson emphasized that new teachers really benefit from the idea exchange. Karen will include an idea exchange break-out session; participants will bring seventy-five copies and they will decide what to do with excess copies.

The Kansas Historical Society will present two sessions--one for middle and high school on research using primary sources and one for grades 1 to 6 on reading and evaluating trade books. They may present another session. Karen distributed a sheet of break-out session presentations. She needs about ten more proposals.

Gerrit Bleeker suggested we continue with mailing the conference program to all English teachers in the state.

Paula Ripple, treasurer, asked permission to pay expenses associated with conference, publications, and 4-H donations. Judy Goodpasture moved Paula be allowed to pay any bills. The motion was seconded and carried.

## **Committee reports**

John Franklin reported that he is behind schedule publishing *Kansas English*. John has six editorial assistants and a managing editor. The issue is now at the printer and should be out in mid-June. Jeanne Moxley had sent a list for printing labels. John has missed the deadline for submission to NCTE's competition for affiliates' magazines, but the issue will be submitted for next year. He is not anticipating any cost increases. Bonnie asked for a blurb to be included in *KATE Update*.

Bonnie Newcomer reported on *KATE Update*. She sent our newsletter to NCTE's competition; the web page was not submitted for competition because of time constraints. She suggested we get new magnets made with KATE's web address. Jeanne and Bonnie are changing printers for quality control. Bonnie called our attention to the new two color print. The deadline for the mid-July newsletter is no later than June 25. The following issue will be published in August, before the fall conference. The deadline for that issue is mid-July. Bonnie asked for any changes in addresses or e-mail. Karen will send Bonnie a current list of members. Bonnie spent eighty hours updating the web page in June. It needs to be updated again. The web page is about ninety pages long printed out. Bonnie expresses our gratitude to JCCC for providing the space.

Karen Stous moved we invite Jeanne Moxley to come to the conference so we can meet her, and provide her housing and meal. Motion was seconded and carried.

Leota Coats said that she and Lynn Hughes will consider accepting the editorship of *Young Kansas Writers*.

Gerrit Bleeker reported on the NCTE Achievement in Writing awards. He had received twenty-eight submissions from fourteen school districts, ranging from Blue Valley to Kinsley. The submissions are being judged now.

Barbara Bleeker reported that submissions to NCTE Promising Young Writers had more than doubled, with sixteen entries. Four students were named winners: Kyle Chauvin, Lawrence; Elise Higgins, Topeka; Sara Maatta, Manhattan; and Lauren Smith, Wichita. Barbara thanked the judges, Tara Azwell, Emporia State University; Lori Goodson, Wamego Middle School; David Krumme, Emporia Middle School; and Pam Lewis, Silver Lake Middle School. Barbara agreed to serve again as State Coordinator for NCTE Promising Young Writers.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:25.

Dana Waters, secretary