



# ACTION



NEA Director Paula Monroe (center) joins CTA President Barbara E. Kerr and Vice President David A. Sanchez in welcoming education support professionals (ESP) into the voting section at State Council.

schools two years ago. CTA spent a lot of money to fight the governor's special election initiatives, said Kerr in her remarks to Council. The \$5 billion now being added to the governor's proposed budget for schools represents a "6,750 percent return on that investment for our students and our public schools."

A large part of the new money is being offered to settle a lawsuit filed by CTA over the governor's failure to fund education at the level required by Proposition 98. It's very different from the deal that the governor made with CTA and then broke in 2004. This time, "there's no trust. There's no handshake. There's no belief that this governor has pulled core values out of the air. This is about doing what he was forced to do by us."

In urging delegates to work for the election of Phil Angelides for governor, Kerr said the election provides an opportunity to elect a candidate for governor who will put education first. "He will do what's right for schools without the lawsuit, without the pounding, without the beating up."

In other business, delegates at the June meeting generated an impressive show of support for Hilton Hotel workers' labor organizing efforts; staged a rally on behalf of Prop. 82, the Preschool

## Historic vote opens CTA membership to education support professionals

In a historic move, CTA's State Council of Education has decided to extend membership to education support professionals (ESP).

For more than 20 years, school paraprofessionals, office workers, custodians and other school employees have been active members of NEA, but have not been eligible to join CTA.

Redlands Teachers Association President Rich Laabs told delegates that a favorable vote would give classified employees

more respect and make them feel "a little less like the hired help."

After all, he said, they are "our partners in educating the children."

With the votes tallied and the results overwhelmingly in favor, CTA President Barbara E. Kerr and NEA Board member-at-large Paula Monroe joined delegates in giving their ESP colleagues a standing ovation and inviting them to take a seat in the voting section. "We welcome these colleagues into our family," said Kerr.

Monroe, president of the Red-

lands Education Support Professionals Association, represents ESP members across the country on the NEA Board of Directors.

Council's action is not directed at school employees already represented by other unions, but will allow for representation of unorganized education support professionals.

In addition to making the landmark decision, Council celebrated its success in forcing the governor to live up to his promise to repay the money he borrowed from



## State Council actions

**C**TA's State Council of Education has voted to take all actions necessary to ensure the continued existence of an autonomous, independent standards board for the teaching profession in California.

"We may be frustrated with the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, but that's politics," said Leslie Littman, chair of Council's Credentials and Professional Development Committee. It doesn't mean teachers don't want an independent licensure board. After all, CTA led the fight to establish the commission in the first place.

The state is entertaining the idea of eliminating the CCTC and moving its duties to the State Board of Education or the California Department of Education. While CTA would like to see a majority of teachers on the licensure board, chosen in a manner similar to that of the State Teachers' Retirement System board, Council decided it does not want the body that deals with the high school exit exam, academ-

ic standards, STAR testing and No Child Left Behind to deal with teacher credentials. The licensure body should be independent and autonomous.

**Council also:**

- Elected Don Dawson to the CTA Board of Directors seat for District F and re-elected Floyd Worsham to the CTA-ABC Committee, the organization's political action committee.

- Authorized the use of up to \$13 million from the Initiative Fund for use in the November general election.

- Took a support position on the bond package that will appear on the November ballot, which provides funds for kindergarten to university education facilities as well as money for transportation, highway safety, air quality, port security, housing and emergency shelter, disaster preparedness and flood prevention.

- Honored members of the media at the annual John Swett Award for Media Excellence luncheon.

## Bass/Fadem awards honor politically active members

**C**TA members and chapters that have distinguished themselves in the political arena were honored at the June meeting of State Council.

**Ted Bass Teacher-in-Politics Awards** were presented to six CTA members:

**Jeanne M. Marks**, a member of the Eastside Teachers Association, won the Getting Others Involved category. She has raised recruiting to the level of a new art form. After bringing in just about everybody who could be brought in from her local chapter, she expanded her range, going out into the community to get volunteers wherever she could find them. As a result, the chapters in the Antelope Valley exceeded their voter contact goal by more than 150 percent.

**Michael L. Heyl**, a member of the Guadalupe Teachers Association, won the State Priorities category. He helped fellow teachers and community members see the truth behind Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's flawed reforms last year. He also prodded the district

superintendent to mobilize administrators and enlisted other local unions to work against these bad ideas.

**Shaun Lloyd**, a member of the Redondo Beach Teachers Association, won the Local Priorities category. She helped chapter members see that their success in the classroom was linked to their ability to shape the political environment. She helped mobilize local chapter members so effectively that they won five out of six local school board races. She let chapter members know their individual and collective efforts were vital.

**Mary Ann Luckinbill**, a member of the Nevada City Faculty Association, won the Partisan/Non-partisan category. She is a fierce Democratic partisan and a member of her party's Central Committee. Working in an area in which Democrats are almost an endangered species, she formed coalitions with the party during the recent special election to maximize the effectiveness of phone banks.

**Patrick Riggs**, a member of the Eureka

Teachers Association, won the Coalition Building category. Believing that community coalitions can have remarkable results, he helped build and strengthen relationships between his local chapter and allies, including the Democratic Party. He also drew on his experience as a chapter officer and an official of the local party to meld the two into a powerful force against the governor's anti-education, anti-labor agenda.

**Peggy Colwell**, a member of the Shasta County Office of Education, won the Overall Award. She forged coalitions with the Central Labor Council representing five counties. Early on, she and a few dozen others gave the governor a greeting at a fundraising dinner on his birthday that he will not soon forget. Virtually every television and radio station in the vicinity was there to roll tape. She also organized a Day of the Teacher rally that exposed to the community at large the real agenda behind the governor's proposals. On the day after the election, the numbers told the story. A record 52.5 percent of voters in her area turned out, many of them at her personal urging.



**Joyce Fadem Chapter-in-Politics Awards** went to four CTA chapters:

The **Redondo Beach Teachers Association** won the Small Chapter category by creating a powerful coalition that has helped elect at least

CTA officers (from right) **Barbara E. Kerr**, **Dean E. Vogel** and **David A. Sanchez** present the Overall Ted Bass Award to Shasta County teacher **Peggy Colwell** (left); with her is her mother, **Shirley Marshall**.



one teacher to each of the surrounding school boards, including three pro-teacher members to the chapter's own school board. More than 90 percent of its 360 members are involved in the chapter political action committee (PAC).

The **Merced City Teachers Association** won the Medium-Sized Chapter category. The chapter took more than 200 teachers to the state Capitol hundreds of miles away to press for more funding for public education, and formed more than 11 local coalitions to fight the governor's anti-education initiatives. Its members operated phone banks for more than 200 hours, organized precinct marches and sent personalized

postcards to community members.

The **Moreno Valley Educators Association** won the Large Chapter category by taking the challenge to "organize, not agonize" to heart, quickly mobilizing its 1,700 members into an effective unified force. It headed a wide-ranging local education coalition formed around the goal of securing more school funding from the state, and participated in other local coalitions aimed at defeating the governor's initiatives. The chapter elected five pro-teacher members to its local school board; worked in campaigns for pro-teacher local, state and federal candidates; won the passage of local

and statewide school bonds; and signed up more than 95 percent of the members for the political action committee.

The **Hollister Elementary Teachers Association** won the Rookie Chapter category with its series of "firsts" in this hot political year. For the first time, it began a wide-ranging political mobilization of its 303 members. It printed its first political newsletter, created a website with a focus on political action, and set up phone banks to elect a pro-teacher school board. Also for the first time, the chapter formed coalitions to improve local schools, elect pro-education candidates, and win more



Winners of the Ted Bass awards include (from left) Jeanne M. Marks, Michael L. Heyl, Shaun Lloyd, Mary Ann Luckinbill and Patrick Riggs. Accepting Joyce Fadem awards are Rich Gipson and Marc Medefind, Merced City TA; and Katherine Underwood, Moreno Valley EA. Lloyd accepted for Redondo Beach TA.

school funding from the state. It interviewed candidates, worked in the campaigns of pro-education lawmakers, lobbied elected officials and signed up more than 50 percent of its members for its political action committee.

The screenshot shows the CTA website interface. At the top, there's a navigation menu with links like 'Government Action', 'Issues & Legislation', 'News & Publications', 'Membership', 'Events & Community', 'About CTA', and 'My CTA'. Below the menu are several content blocks: 'Take Action!' with a sub-header 'Gov. Schwarzenegger: Equip your province to teachers and kids', 'CTA News & Publications' with a sub-header 'More members for Schreyvogel State', and a 'CTA Member Login' section. In the bottom right, a membership card is displayed for 'JOHN DOE' with the ID number 'ID: 00122420' circled in red. A red arrow points to this ID number.

## Website makeover gives members new access

Your CTA membership will soon unlock a world of information and benefits on the Web.

The CTA website [[www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)] has been the place for teachers, parents and community members to get information about public education and all the latest news from CTA for years. In mid-July, it will relaunch with a new look and design and a special section for CTA members only.

As a CTA member, your ID number will be the key to getting information about professional development opportunities, training sessions and conferences, scholarships and a host of CTA Member Benefits programs that are available only to CTA members. Your ID number, which is found in the upper righthand corner of your CTA membership card, will be an essential part of the simple log-in process.

The website will continue to provide information on issues impacting teaching and learning, CTA legislative efforts, tips for parents to help their kids succeed in school, higher education issues, and CTA news releases. The new design will organize and present the information in a way that is easy for users to navigate and understand.

Check the website [[www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)] for sneak previews of the new design.

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## CTA awards scholarships

**C**TA's Board of Directors has selected five CTA members, three Student CTA members and 25 dependent children of CTA members to receive \$2,000 each under the CTA Scholarship Program.

The recipients of the 2006 CTA Scholarship for Members are: **Amy Brewster**, Monterey Bay Teachers Association; **Dana Coogan**, Lake Elsinore Teachers Association; **Patricia Fernandez**, Southwest Teachers Association; **Ryan Gantenbein**, San Juan Teachers Association; and **Patricia Winters**, Roseland Educators Association.

The recipients of the 2006 L. Gordon Bittle Memorial Scholarship for Student CTA are: **Steve Goldstein**, UCLA; **Neil Oda**, Cal State-Fullerton; and **Renée Whitworth**, San Francisco State.

**Victoria Degen**, daughter of Capistrano Unified Education Association member Kristine L. Evans-Degen, won the Ralph J. Flynn Memorial Scholarship for the highest-scoring applicant. Other recipients of the 2006 CTA Scholarship for Dependent Children are: **Scott Biering**, son of Paula Harvey, El Tejon Teachers Association; **Alana Cayabyab**, daughter of Andrew Cayabyab, Sylvan District Educators Association; **Eric Clow**, son of Susan Parker, Middletown Teachers Association; **John L. Devine**, son of Kay E. Devine, California Faculty Association (CFA); **Katy Forte**, daughter of John Forte, Atascadero District Teachers Association; **Louise Fox**, daughter of Tom Fox, CFA; Paul Frank, son of Robin Frank, Las Virgenes Educators Association; and **Alison Glensk**, daughter of Mark Glensk, Atascadero District Teachers Association.

Also, **John-Ross Glueck**, son of Pamela Glueck, Madera County Office of Education Teachers Association; **Lisa Heffington**, daughter of Janice L. Heffington, Chowchilla Elementary Teachers Association; **Sarah Hughes**, daughter of David Hughes, Willits Teachers Association; **Brittany Johnson**, daughter of Deborah Johnson, Sacramento City Teachers Association; **Nathaniel Jones**, son of Graham Lawrence Jones, Moorpark Educators Association; **Patrick Krueger**, ward of Mike Gunderson, Placerville Elementary Educators Association; **Ellen Nulph**, daughter of Denise Nulph, Turlock Teachers Association; and **Leanne Oda**, daughter of Christine Oda, Garvey Education Association.

Also, **Youcef Ouadah**, son of Janet Ouadah, San Diego Education Association; **Danielle Poindexter**,

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daughter of Theresa Salazar Poindexter, Fontana Teachers Association; **Jessica Porter**, daughter of Susan Porter, Plumas County Teachers Association; **Marie Roy**, daughter of Sally Roy, Del Norte Teachers Association; **Danielle Strother**, daughter of Catherine Frances Strother, Charter Oak Educators Association; **David Waltzman**, son of Linda Waltzman, Teachers Association of Long Beach; **Paul Whiting**, son of Carey J. Whiting, Capistrano Unified Education Association; and **Genevieve Williams**, daughter of Leila Williams, Redondo Beach Teachers Association.

## King scholarships announced

**F**ive CTA members, five Student CTA members and nine dependent children of CTA members have been selected for awards of \$1,000 to \$2,000 under CTA's 2006 Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship program for ethnic minority members, funded entirely by voluntary contributions.

CTA members receiving scholarships are: **Jacquelyn Gainer**, Teachers Association of Long Beach; **Juanita Garcia**, United Teachers Los Angeles; **Kimberly James**, Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association; **Hyun-Yi Kim**, Pittsburg Education Association; and **Marcus Williams**, United Teachers of Pasadena.

Student CTA members receiving scholarships are: **Jenny Arzate**, California State-Los Angeles; **Scott Carrico**, Cal State-Stanislaus; **Cynthia Castro**, UC-Riverside; **Angela Giberti**, UC-Santa Barbara; and **Ngoc Le**, UCLA.

Dependent children receiving scholarships are: **Derrick Baylor**, son of Rhonda Henderson Simmons, Rio Hondo College Faculty Association; **Alana Cayabyab**, daughter of Andrew Cayabyab, Sylvan District Educators Association; **Julia Coleman**, daughter of Janet Coleman, NEA-Jurupa; **Linda Eaton**, daughter of Linda Lee Eaton-Foster, San Bernardino Teachers Association; **Kandace Hunter**, daughter of Debbra A. Hunter, Alvord Educators Association; **Courtney Matz**, daughter of Edward Matz, Torrance Teachers Association; **Natasha Seabrook**, daughter of Monique C. Seabrook, Vista Teachers Association; **Cynthia Sierra**, daughter of Victoria G. Sierra, Montebello Teachers Association; and **Shawn Walker**, son of Laura T. Walker, United Teachers of Pasadena.

## Coming attractions

**June 30-July 5** — NEA Representative Assembly, Orlando, Fla.

**July 16-20** — Presidents Conference, Asilomar

**July 29-30** — CTA Community Outreach Conference, UCLA

**July 30-Aug. 4** — Summer Institute, UCLA

## NEA RA meets in Florida

**T**housands of educators from around the country will gather in Orlando, Fla., June 30-July 5 for NEA's annual meeting. Nearly 9,000 locally elected delegates, including 1,200 CTA members, will convene as the NEA Representative Assembly, which sets NEA's budget, legislative program and constitution, and policy on education issues.

This year, delegates will help develop NEA strategy in dealing with the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (No Child Left Behind). Delegates will also cele-

brate the 40th anniversary of the merger between NEA and the American Teachers Association.

"Education professionals are too often forced to play defense," says NEA President Reg Weaver. This is a chance to talk about the successes and problems we've seen in schools, and use that firsthand experience to fight proactively for what we know is best for engaging students and helping them succeed."

For a list of scheduled events and affiliated conferences, visit the NEA website [[www.nea.org/annualmeeting](http://www.nea.org/annualmeeting)].