

"Fostering excellence in early childhood education through professionalism and advocacy on behalf on Missouri's young children, families, and educators."

## Ozark Association for the Education of Young Children Spring 2008

Spring 2008

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### Note from the President

Submitted By: OAEYC President, Kim Roam



Dear Fellow OAEYC Members,

Spring is almost here...but who could tell with this crazy weather we are having. Riding bikes one day and riding sleds the next!! I do have to admit I had fun playing in the snow with my children!

There are several ways that you can become involved with OAEYC;

- ◆ Early Years are Learning Years Spring Seminar-April 5;
- ◆ Dr. Peggy Pearl Retirement Celebration & Candle Light Vigil-April 11;
- ◆ Community Wide Play day-April 26;
- ◆ Child Care Provider Appreciation Banquet-May 8;
- ◆ Relay for life-May 16-17.

You will find more details inside!

My term as President is soon coming to an end. This has been a challenging learning experience, I am sure not challenging for myself, but for the rest of the board and members in general. Ashlee Davis is the President Elect who will be taking over, she has a lot of great ideas for OAEYC, so when she takes over, let's give her lots of support!!

Until next time...continue making a difference in the lives of children and families!

Kim

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# **Membership Committee Update**

**Submitted By: Amber Terrill, Committee Chair**

The OAEYC Membership Committee would like to welcome our  
new members:

**KaSondra Boman, Clara Cozens, Rachel Fischer, Alexis Hendrickson**

**Louise Hund, Kaitlyn Klugman, Jeanne Najafi, Larissa Newman**

**Aimee Noskowiak & Stephanie Shafer!**

**We are looking forward to seeing you at meetings and events!**

**[Norris701@gmail.com](mailto:Norris701@gmail.com)**

## ***Don't Forget to Update Your Information on the Web!!!!***

*Updating is easy anytime on-line by visiting the NAEYC website at [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org). Once your on the website, simply access the "Members Only" section, log in, and make the necessary changes.*

*To continue receiving information please go on-line and provide us with a valid e-mail address.*



### **The OAEYC Executive Committee wants to hear from YOU!**

- Is there an activity or event that you the members feel OAEYC should be involved in?
- Do you have suggestions that would help make OAEYC more enticing to members who are not involved or to those who are not yet members?
- Do you have ideas for ways that we can better serve you?
- Were you once actively involved but no longer attend meetings, events, etc?

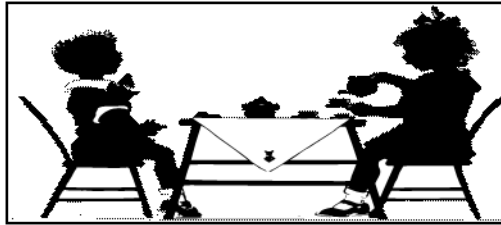
If you answered “Yes” to any of these questions we want to hear from you! The executive committee believes that in order to effectively govern an organization you need input from your members. So we are asking for yours. Many of our Board and more active members have kept OAEYC going for many years, but we want to know what we can do or what it will take to get some new professionals in our ring.

If you have any comments, suggestions, or ideas please let us know what you feel by e-mailing Kim Roam, President ([kimroam@missouristate.edu](mailto:kimroam@missouristate.edu)) or Ashlee Davis, President Elect Ashlee Davis ([ashleefdavis@gmail.com](mailto:ashleefdavis@gmail.com)).

Names of those who respond will be kept confidential, what you have to say is what’s important.

## **EARLY YEARS ARE LEARNING YEARS**

### **MAKE THEM COUNT!**



Saturday, April 5, 2008 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Missouri State University-Strong Hall

Springfield, Missouri

Topics range from health and safety, families, curriculum,  
social emotional development and program management!

For more information about this seminar contact:

### **Volunteers Needed for the Following:**

- ◆ Set up on April 4, 2008
- ◆ Registration on the morning of April 5, 2008
  - ◆ Room hosts
- ◆ Take down at the end of the seminar!

For more information about this seminar contact:

**Kim Roam 417-836-4151 Or [KimRoam@missouristate.edu](mailto:KimRoam@missouristate.edu)**

All Families with children from birth to 12 years old are welcome



# Community Wide PLAY DAY 2008

Saturday, April 26th

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Fassnight Park

Springfield, Missouri

South Campbell & Meadowmere next to Parkview High School

A Fun Day filled with  
FREE Activities for Families



Picnic spots are available

Local food vendors on hand or  
you might want to bring your lunch

**FREE BOOK**  
for every child attending

**FREE ACTIVITIES**  
for children

For more information, contact  
**Dana Carroll**, Community Partnership's  
Early Childhood Coordinator at

**888-2020**

Event sponsored by



## Other Upcoming Events:

What: A retirement celebration of **Dr. Peggy Pearl** and her dedication to children and families.  
Where: Missouri State University, Plaster Student Union, Room 400  
When: Friday April 11, 2008 4:30 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.

A reception for Peggy will be followed by a candlelight vigil at dusk to cast light on the children of abuse and neglect and celebrate the hope that Peggy has brought to so many of their lives.

**In lieu of gifts, you may wish to make a donation to the MSU Foundation, noting the Peggy Pearl Scholarship fund in the memo line.**

Please RSVP your attendance to: [mstone@commpartnership.org](mailto:mstone@commpartnership.org) by April 7, 2008.

Send email wishes or cards to be included in a memory book to:

Peggy Pearl

c/o Community Partnership

330 N. Jefferson

Springfield, MO 65806

or email wishes to [mwheeler@commpartnership.com](mailto:mwheeler@commpartnership.com).



## Friends Fighting for Friends!

2008 Relay for Life of Springfield

May 16 - 17, 2008

We all know someone that has been affected by cancer in some way. Come join us as we participate this years Relay for Life. If you would like to be a member on our team, contact Rachael Bohnert at [Hoch787@missouristate.edu](mailto:Hoch787@missouristate.edu) or [kimroam@missouristate.edu](mailto:kimroam@missouristate.edu).

If you are unable to participate on a team one of our team members would gladly accept your donation, BIG or small!

Come out and join the fun to help fight for our friends that have need affected by cancer!

## **NEBRASKA AEYC 2008**

### **JULY 24-26, 2008 Kindergarten Preconference**

Thursday, July 24, Embassy Suites, Lincoln, NE

The 11th annual Kindergarten conference will be in partnership with the Nebraska AEYC Conference. The preconference presenter will be Pam Schiller, Cypress, Texas. Dr. Schiller is a curriculum specialist and author.

### **Learning With Nature Preconference-Thursday, July 24, Lied Lodge, Nebraska City, NE**

Three sessions will be presented by the Leadership Team of the International Group Nature Action Collaborative for Children.

- Session One: Using Nature Connections to Support Learning Across the Curriculum
- Session Two: Family Involvement Activities for Helping Children Connect with Nature
- Session Three: Creating Outdoor Spaces that Support Learning with Nature.

Sessions will be repeated so registrants can attend all three sessions.

### **NeAEYC Conference-Friday & Saturday, July 25 & 26, Embassy Suites, Lincoln, NE**

Both the pre-conferences and the conference have been developed to present cutting edge information, feature exhibitors, and provide a great opportunity for networking with colleagues. Toni and Robin Christie, Wellington, New Zealand will be the opening keynote presenters on Friday, July 25. They founded Childspace Early Learning Centers and the Childspace Early Childhood Institute. Claire Warden, Perthshire, Scotland, will be the opening keynote presenter on Saturday, July 26. Claire is an educational consultant, lecturer, author and the owner/manager of Mindstretchers, a Living Classroom which explores sensorial and experiential learning in challenging outdoor spaces across Scotland.

**More information is available at the website at [www.NebraskaAEYC.org](http://www.NebraskaAEYC.org)**

**Or contact 402-476-2092**

## **Legislative Information**

The AEYC-MO state public policy committee is tracking all legislative visits made by our members in order to measure the effectiveness of our advocacy efforts. Please keep us posted if you call, email, or visit your legislator by filling out the legislative contact form on the AEYC-MO web site, or email Mary Spence at [mcos620@yahoo.com](mailto:mcos620@yahoo.com). It will also be helpful to include feedback as to the topic of discussion and the outcome. Legislative contacts also include inviting a legislator to your center, attending or organizing a forum, and visits to the Capitol for Child Advocacy Day. Position statements for the quality rating system, increased subsidies and universal prekindergarten are posted on the web site and may be used as resources. Contact Mary if you have any questions.



OAEYC



Ballot



## 2008 Ballot

Please choose one candidate and mail this page to:

Nominations and Elections Committee

PO Box 4912, Springfield MO 65808.

Deadline: April 25, 2008.

### *Secretary*

#### ***Kathy Lorts, Director of Professional Development, OACAC Head Start***

I began my early childhood career at St. Louis Community college many years ago; then moved to Springfield where I completed my degree in Child and Family Development at MSU. I have had the opportunity to serve as an Infant-Toddler & Preschool Lead Teacher, Center Director, MSU Off-site Instructor, OTC Advisory Board Member, and MO. Accreditation Team member and Leader. I was hired in 1991 by OACAC Head Start where I have served as an Education Coordinator, Area Supervisor, Director of Education, CDA Trainer, and currently as Director of Professional Development. I have been a long standing member of first, the St. Louis AEYC, and then OAEYC where I have participated on various committees and served several years as Treasurer. I greatly value the many professional contacts and friends I have made in this community through my involvement in OAEYC. I feel it is essential for Early Childhood professionals to unite to support each other; to benefit all the children we serve in our communities; and provide representation on a state and national level. I do believe "together we're better" and I would be proud to be of service to OAEYC as secretary, if elected.

#### ***Erica Harris, Executive Director, The Lighthouse Child Development Center***

Erica has more than 5 years experience working with children and families in southwest Missouri. An accomplished leader, her vision and drive to improve the lives of others through education and empowerment have allowed her numerous opportunities in the Springfield community.

Erica is currently the Executive Director of The Lighthouse Child Development Center where she is working with low-income, Christian families moving from welfare-dependence to self-sufficiency through the provision of free child-care services for children 0-5, case management and goal-setting assistance, parenting and financial management classes, and the building of a support community for families in the program.

Since completing her Bachelor of Science degree at Southwest Missouri State University in 2002, Erica has been fortunate to work with organizations such as Community Partnership of the Ozarks, OACAC Head Start, the City of Springfield, and NOBLE Communications where her jobs have included Parent Educator, Center Director, Workforce Development Specialist, and Business Manager.

Erica has served as chairperson of the Child Abuse and Neglect Committee through the Community Partnership and is a member of the Jr. League of Springfield where she is actively involved with the crisis nursery of the Ozarks, Isabel's House. When not working or volunteering in the Springfield community, Erica enjoys spending time with her husband and daughter.

## OAEYC Board Members

**President:** Kim Roam  
[kimroam@missouristate.edu](mailto:kimroam@missouristate.edu)

**President Elect:** Ashlee Davis  
[ashleefdavis@gmail.com](mailto:ashleefdavis@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Kaye Clark  
[treefrog42@peoplepc.com](mailto:treefrog42@peoplepc.com)

**Secretary:** Currently Vacant

**Treasurer: & Finance Chair:**  
Rachael Bohnert  
[Hoch787@missouristate.edu](mailto:Hoch787@missouristate.edu)

**State Representative:** Mary Stone  
[mstone@commpartnership.org](mailto:mstone@commpartnership.org)

**Nominations & Elections Chair:**  
Marcia Hildebrand  
[mhildebrand@commpartnership.org](mailto:mhildebrand@commpartnership.org)

**Public Policy Chair:** Peggy Pearl  
[peggypearl@missouristate.edu](mailto:peggypearl@missouristate.edu)

**Membership Chair:** Amber Terrill  
[Norris701@gmail.com](mailto:Norris701@gmail.com)

**Accreditation Chair:** Velynda Cameron  
[cameronv@otc.edu](mailto:cameronv@otc.edu)

**Programs and Services Chair:**  
Vacant

**Southwest Community Group:**  
Vacant

**MSU Community Group:** Joanna Cemore  
[joannacemore@missouristate.edu](mailto:joannacemore@missouristate.edu)

**Member at Large:** Marcia Hildebrand  
[mhildebrand@commpartnership.org](mailto:mhildebrand@commpartnership.org)

OAEYC is an Affiliate of  
AEYC-MO, Midwest AEYC,  
and NAEYC

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EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN  
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