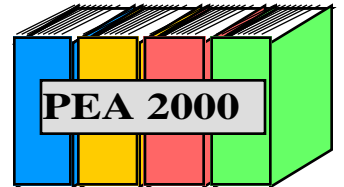


# PEAadvocate

## Welcome Back!



### **RA Reps continue to work for your rights**

Again this the year the association was well represented by Treasurer Barbara Alderfer (MS), Warren County Treasurer Mike Kruczek (HS) and Vice-President Doug Morris (HS) at the National Education



**Reps Morris, Alderfer and Kruczek**

Association Representative Assembly. The meeting was held this year in Chicago, IL from July 1-7. The meetings averaged approximately eleven hours per day. Most of the time we met from 7:00 in the morning until 6:00 in the evening. The last day went from 7:00 am until almost 11:00 pm. NJEA delegates were told to leave at about 10:30 pm.

In a vote that came as no surprise, the RA voted by a 9-1 margin to endorse Al Gore for the

The meeting was not as earth shaking and traumatic as previous years when the NEA-AFT merger was being discussed, the idea of merit pay was a major topic of discussion, not only in the new business items, but also in the resolutions.

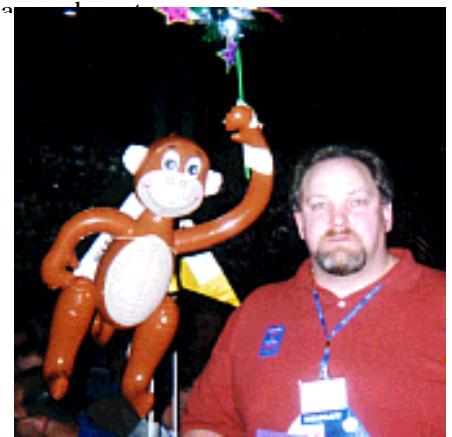
Although there was an attempt to disguise the issue under the title of "pay for performance", it was well understood that it was still merit pay. NJEA President Michael Johnson was honest in the sense when he said New Jersey was one of the leaders in pay for performance. There was a major difference--we

perform a job and you pay us for doing the job.

What was really mind-boggling was the fact that many of the states from the TNT (Teachers of the Northern Tier) were in favor of the idea and couldn't understand why teachers from the northeast were so vehemently opposed to merit pay/pay for performance. This year a majority of the NJEA positions were accepted by many of the states. The only major problem occurred with representation from

merged affiliates. The NJEA position was that if sixty percent of the affiliate paid NEA dues and forty percent paid AFT dues, then the affiliate was entitled to sixty percent representation at the NEA/RA. The constitutional amendment was defeated. It needed a two thirds majority and only received a 60% approval.

With the defeat of the amendment, merged states like Minnesota will get full representation while only paying partial dues. Minnesota also made an attempt last year to have a dues loan waived when they merged with the state AFT affiliate. That new business item was defeated, but this year they did get full representation with the defeat of the constitutional



**Reluctantly, WCEA mascot Darla posed with county-coordinator Mike Kruczek**

#### OFFICERS:

<b>President:</b> John Pokrivchak Middle School	<b>Vice-President:</b> Doug Morris High School	<b>Treasurer:</b> Barbara Alderfer Middle School	<b>Recording Secretary:</b> Debbie Carty Freeman School	<b>Corresponding Secretary:</b> Linda Snyder Andover-Morris
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# President's Letter

On Tuesday, September 5, we officially began the 2000 - 2001 school year. By now we have become acquainted with our new students, attended numerous meetings and have begun a wide variety activities.

Over the summer, the PEA once again provided free craft activities for children, at Phillipsburg's "Ole Towne Festival". Over a two day period, dozens of PEA volunteers entertained hundred's of children from the Phillipsburg area. My thanks to Cindy Perio and family for, once again, planning and implementing the project.

In August, Mike Kruczek, Doug Morris, Craig Stull and I attended the annual NJEA Summer Leadership Conference. Aside from the wide variety of workshops and electives, we were able to renew old friendships and make new contacts among the hundreds of NJEA members in attendance.

Working with teachers and students at the Craft Tent or interacting with colleagues at NJEA workshops are both rewarding events, but they don't quite compare to the gathering of teachers on the first day of school. It's there that we get to see our best friends and some people who we rarely encounter during the school year. For a few hours, all of the teachers in Phillipsburg are together and it is then that we realize what we all have in common. We are all dedicated to providing a first class education to the children of the Phillipsburg School District. We all leave the high school auditorium with the same common goal. I am proud that I could be a part of that yearly gathering, and hope that you have a productive and enjoyable school year.



**Butow and Morris at the Museum of Jewish Heritage**

## Summer School at the NJ Shore!

Again this past summer, the New Jersey Council for the Humanities through its New Jersey Teacher Institute offered seminars at Monmouth University in West Long Branch.

This year, high school librarian Nancy Butow and U. S. History teacher Doug Morris availed themselves of the opportunity to continue their education and took the seminar, "Literature of Genocide".

The seminar dealt primarily with the Holocaust, but did spend time with the Armenian (1915-1919) and Cambodian (1975-1979) genocidal periods.

The seminar included a trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage, and a dinner stop at the "2nd Avenue Deli".

Speakers included Peter Balakian, author of *The Black Dog of Fate* which dealt with the Armenian genocide; Margit Feldmen, a Nazi death camp survivor, and Luong Ung, Khmer Rouge survivor and author of *First They Killed My Father*.

Feldman gave a presentation about her experiences in the death camps and some of the feelings she still holds. She currently resides in Bridgewater, NJ and speaks as

tion. Ung spoke of her time in the camps during the Khmer Rouge takeover of Cambodia including being trained as a soldier to use a rifle, hoe, rake, shovel, etc. at the tender young age of 8. She also spoke of the difficulty of trying to get her relatives here to the US and of her life being in danger when she returns to Cambodia to visit those relatives.



**Butow getting book autographed by author Luong**

### Association Reps:

#### **Andover-Morris:**

L. Incalcaterra/M. Thatcher

#### **Barber School:**

Cathy Tierney

#### **Custodians:**

Robin Schofield

#### **Freeman School:**

Gail Barbadora

#### **Green Street:**

Linda Exley

Lil Mortimer

Trisha Stern

#### **High School:**

Sue Brooks

George Chiltonik

C. Brad Howard

Edward Munley

George Pavlinsky

#### **Middle School:**

Jennifer DiBiase

Rick Rissmiller

Mary Louise Sharpe

Nancy Zgoda

#### **Secretaries:**

Marguerite Scannell

#### **Paraprofessionals:**

Marilyn Shober

#### **Special Services:**

Grace Kelly

