

**Mother's Day**

# NEWSLETTER



Volume XXXXVIII

[www.learningforlife.org](http://www.learningforlife.org)

May 2007

*Martin (Marty) Walsh  
New Director, Registration Service, ISD*



*Learning for Life is proud to announce the selection of Martin Walsh to serve as Director, Registration Service, Information Systems Division, effective May 16, 2007.*

*Marty is a 23 year career professional, having served as the Associate Director, Learning for Life Division since 1998. Prior to joining the National Staff, Marty served as the Assistant Scout Executive of the Five Rivers Council in Horseheads, NY. From 1988 to 1992, he served as the Program Director of the Minsi Trails Council, in Lehigh Valley, PA. Having started his professional Scouting career in 1984, Marty served the Philadelphia Council as an Exploring Executive and later as a District Executive.*

*He is a graduate of Temple University in Philadelphia, PA with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, Secondary Education Social Studies.*

*In his new position as the Director, Registration Service, he has responsibilities of communicating and maintaining the standards of membership as defined by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America.*

## **Northeast Region Workshops Success**

Over one hundred volunteers and professionals participated in the April Northeast Region workforce development workshops in Rochester, NY; Valley Forge, PA; Bethesda, MD; and Boston, MA. Special thanks to our featured speakers, Tom Flynn, Monroe Community College, Walter V. Yakabosky, Technical Education, Workforce Development, Karen Elzey, Institute for a Competitive Workforce/U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Diana Nicholson, Monster & Monster Youth.

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND SPEAKERS

DATE	LOCATION	SPEAKER(S)
May 7	Kansas City, MO	<b>Gary Sage</b> , President Business & Technology Campus Metropolitan Community College
May 9	Columbus, OH	<b>Ruth Yorston</b> Columbus Chamber of Commerce
May 11	Detroit, MI	<b>Gregory Handel, Sr.</b> Director Workforce Development Detroit Regional Chamber
May 14	Batavia, IL	<b>Bill Ratzburg</b> , Director Career and Technical Education School District U-46
May 16	St. Paul, MN	<b>Jerry Vitzthum</b> , Director Anoka County Training Center
May 18 (WORKSHOP CANCELLED)	Indianapolis, IN	<b>Dave Guarino</b> , Business Advocacy Manager Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce
June 7	Salt Lake City, UT	<b>David Sundwall</b> , Executive Director Utah Department of Health
June 26	St. Louis, MO	<b>Thomas F. George</b> , Chancellor University of Missouri-St. Louis

**National Mock Trial Competition  
July 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
Downtown Chicago, IL**

The skyline of Downtown Chicago will serve as the site of the 2007 National Mock Trial Competition. The date is set for July 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The fee is \$375 which covers housing, meals, competition costs and other activities. Jim Dunn, chairman of this year's event, promises a great event that will be highlighted by a visit to the "Windy City" at its best. The Chicago Bar Association is hosting this year's event where all competitive rounds will be staged. Housing will be in the University Center that provides dorms for several downtown universities.



Posts make your plans now to participate in this outstanding event and experience the excitement that this competition brings. You will put into practice the skills you need to succeed in the world of Law in today's judicial system, plus make friends that will last a lifetime. Plans are underway, which includes attendance at a major league baseball game, the evening meal each night in town, and visits to some of the highlights of Chicago. Download the application and submit it by March along with the deposit to be included. For more information contact Cliff Takawana at 972-580-2437 or [ctakawan@lflmail.org](mailto:ctakawan@lflmail.org).

**Engineering Academy Cancelled**

I am disappointed to inform you that the scheduled Engineering Academy at George Mason University has been cancelled this year. We didn't have enough students attending. We will refund fully any fees sent ASAP. It is our intention to reschedule and refocus another attempt next summer and hope you will be once again interested.

In another opportunity, if you are interested? The Society of American Military Engineers SAME co-sponsors 3 Construction Camps each year with the military. The camps take place at the Air Force Academy on July 5 - 11<sup>th</sup> and the Navy Seabees at Port Heuneme, CA on July 29<sup>th</sup> to Aug 4<sup>th</sup> and the US Army at Vicksburg, MS. on June 10 - 16<sup>th</sup>. You can see the promo on the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) website and look for construction camps. The overall cost is \$500. We have Explorers go every year and they say it is a wonderful event. We even had one explorer get accepted to the Air Force Academy last year. **I do need to know in about a week if you are interested, however so get back with me.** Once again I am sorry we had to cancel our academy and hope to see you maybe next year.

**2007 Health Careers and Science  
Careers Academies**



This year will be busier than ever for Learning for Life's Health and Science Careers Exploring Programs. Three (3) health academies and one (1) science academies will be conducted this summer. Learning for Life's National



Health Careers Committee and National Science Careers Committee are working with organizations across the country, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to give youth an opportunity to experience careers in these areas first hand. The skills and knowledge participants' gain during the academies will be invaluable in

preparing them to make decisions about their chosen careers, college, and future.

Highlights of academies include: (1) career-related seminars/workshops, (2) interaction with practicing health or science professionals, (3) team competitions, (4) tours, (5) award programs, and (6) extracurricular activities. Participants will have an opportunity to experience interactive hands-on seminars, tour NASA and other science-related facilities, visit medical research facilities. For more information contact Peggy Chestnutt at 972-580-2428 or email her [pchestnu@lflmail.org](mailto:pchestnu@lflmail.org).

**2008 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference  
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.  
July 21 – 26, 2008**



The 2008 National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference will host thousands of participants for the 16th biennial National Law Enforcement Exploring Conference. This highly successful event began in 1979 at Michigan State University, with nearly a thousand participants. One of the reasons for the success of the conference has been the Advisors' active support and participation.

The cost is \$350 per person.

The program is several days of exciting competitions and events:

**Team competitions.** Arrest and Search Techniques, Bomb Threat Response, Crime Prevention, Crime Scene Search, Domestic Crisis Intervention, Shoot/Don't Shoot, Hostage Negotiation, Burglary in Progress, Traffic Accident Investigation, Traffic Stop, White Collar Crime, Emergency Field First Aid.

**Individual events.** Police Physical Performance Testing, Air Pistol Competition, Pistol Competition (9mm), Sample Written Examination, Drill Competition, Beam Hit, Bike Policing, Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC).

**Seminars.** Bomb Investigations, Combating Terrorism in America, Executive Protection, Exploring Leadership Development, Fugitive Investigations, Gang Recognition and Identification, Hate Crimes & Terrorism on the Internet, Narcotics Trafficking and Interdiction, Protecting Our National Borders, Protect Yourself: Self-Defense, Psychological Profiling, Surveillance Methods and Technology

**Exhibits and Exploring USA.** Features displays that promote Exploring and a successful post program.

The conference is open to registered law enforcement Exploring participants. Posts must have a minimum of two Explorers participating and appropriate adult leadership. Posts can download the Post Reservation/Security Deposit form from the guidebook, available on the Web site. Posts should complete the form, with approval from the appropriate local Learning for Life office. Mail the approved form, along with the \$100 post deposit, to: Law Enforcement Exploring, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, S210, Irving, TX, 75038.

The conference guidebook is available on the Web site at [www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement](http://www.learningforlife.org/exploring/lawenforcement)

## Learning for Life Info

With the 200 Learning for Life participants (boys & girls) at camp today (yes... the weather is fine at Camp K) we have thus far served

1,260 in the first four days of "Character Camp." With the 13 additional camps scheduled, we will serve an additional 3,098 students for a total of 4,358. There is one adult for each 10



students, so you can see we have quite an undertaking underway. These are "Title I" schools and many of the kids have never been in the "woods" before. They have a nature hike, archery, obstacle course and a "fat bat" ball game to participate in. It is amazing to see them react to the wildlife they see.

While Kleberg Elementary was at camp on Monday our "Rope Works" contractor and San Patricio Electric Co-op were setting poles for our new COPE

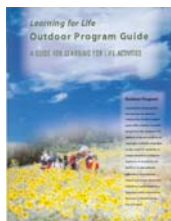


(Challenging Outdoor Physical Experience) also known as a ROPES course. We set poles for the 7 "high elements" Monday and Tuesday we set poles for our 14 "low elements." Our new COPE Course is made possible by a grant to our Capital Development Campaign from the Robert J. Kleberg Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Foundation.

### Outdoor Program Tools in Learning for Life

May is the month for outdoor programming in Learning for Life. Make your plans now to offer your students and Explorers the excitement of outdoor education

opportunities and the experience that can only be given in the outdoors. For help in planning your program please refer to the **Learning for Life Outdoor Program Guide # 99-380C**.



There you will find suggestions and tips on planning your activity including the type of activity suggested to each program, the leadership standards, and the safety issues. Outdoor program is a wonderful way of involving volunteers in serving youth and also an excellent opportunity for the funding agencies to witness the program in action. The guide is a bin item and can be ordered for your needs.

Also available for your use is the **Outdoor Program Guide and Sample Lesson Plan** book found on the Learning for Life Websites (Scoutnet & Extranet). The book is filled with lesson plans for youth in all grades and ages. For the younger grades there outdoor craft

ideas to experience nature and wildlife and for the older grades there are situational learning experiences. A day schedule and a weeklong schedule is available for your use and to serve as a suggestion. The book can be downloaded and shared with all who need this kind of help in planning your outdoor experiences.

#### Outing Permits:

All Schools and Explorer Posts are required to submit an Outing Permit found on the LFL Website in the Safety First Guide. The Outing Permits are required for overnight stays and National Outing Permits are required for trips of 500 or more miles. National activities like the Mock Trial Competition require the permits and they must be filed 30 days prior to your attending the activity. Please refer to Safety First for more details. **Outing Permits will become available on-line in the near future.** Local councils will have the ability to offer the process online and manually. More details will follow.





## Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)

### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**PURPOSE:** The Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a Federal discretionary grant program that provides six-year grants to States and Partnerships. The goal of the program is to significantly increase the number of low income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education. To meet this goal, GEAR UP grants must effectuate meaningful, systemic change designed to raise academic performance of students; increase the rate of high school graduation; increase the rate of students completing post-secondary education; and raise educational expectations among students, their parents, and their teachers.

Examples of strategies/activities that GEAR UP supports:

- Support services such as mentoring, counseling, and tutoring
- Information on higher education options
- Professional development for teachers
- Parental involvement activities

**TWO KINDS OF GRANTS:** GEAR UP offers two kinds of grants; **State grants and Partnership grants:**

**State Grants** – What are the basic elements of State grants?

- Any state agency designated by the Governor of the State may apply for a GEAR UP State grant.
- State grants must contain both a college awareness and preparation component and a scholarship component. States are required to spend at least 25 percent and not more than 50 percent of funds on early college awareness and preparation. Also, at least 50 percent of funds must be spent on scholarships. The Secretary of Education may waive the percentage requirements if the grantee has another means of providing the students with financial assistance.
- State grants must provide a non-Federal match that is 50% of the total project costs (dollar-for-dollar) – cash and/or in-kind contributions.
- GEAR UP State grants have the option of implementing 1) a cohort model (whole-grade or public housing), 2) a priority students model or 3) a combination of both:

1. Cohort. There are two types of cohorts:
  - a. The **whole-grade** cohort involves providing services to a cohort of students at a participating school who are at a certain grade level(s). At least 50 percent of the students attending the participating school(s) must be eligible for free and reduced-price lunch.

- College visits
- Summer and weekend academies
- Curriculum enrichment
- School/classroom restructuring
- Capacity building

- b. The public housing cohort involves serving students at different grade levels who reside in a designated public housing complex.

Both cohort approaches must start serving students by no later than 7<sup>th</sup> grade and follow them through high school.

2. Priority Students. Priority students are defined in the GEAR UP statute as students who are eligible to be counted under Section 1124 (c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Title I) for free or reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch Act, or assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families law.

**Partnership Grants** – What are the basic elements of Partnership grants?

- A local education agency or an institution of higher education can apply for a GEAR UP Partnership grant.
- Partnership grants must consist of at least one college or university, at least one school district on behalf of one or more middle schools and high schools in low-income communities, and at least two additional organizations as partners.
- While partnership grants can implement either cohort model (whole-grade or public housing) or a combination of both, they are not permitted to implement the priority student model.
- Partnership grants must also provide a non-Federal match that is 50% of the total project costs (dollar-for-dollar) – cash and/or in-kind contributions.

[www.ed.gov/gearup](http://www.ed.gov/gearup)