



KASFAA *Oz-Sociated Press*

— From the President —

Gail Palmer

Where does the time go? It is almost mindboggling that our fall 2008 conference in Junction City was more than a month ago. The accommodations and food were great and when you match this to the program content and the training provided it was a win, win for all who attended. The results of our election were announced and our following colleagues will be installed during the spring 2009 conference in Topeka. They are:

- President Elect, Chris Christensen, JCCC
- Vice President, Stephanie Covington, University of Kansas
- Secretary, Jennifer Hill, Washburn University

And let's not forget that the following will continue to serve their second year commitment:

- Treasurer, Donna Carter, Wichita State University
- Assoc. Member Representative, Mandy Sponholtz, USA Fund Services

This past year, I have had the opportunity to attend NASFAA and RMAA conferences. In my opinion, we should be extremely proud of our state association and the training which we provide to our membership. KASFAA training is second to none, especially when you couple it with the price of our conferences! It is also a great benefit to our membership to have the NASFAA Fall Training held in conjunction with our fall conference as a cost savings to our association and membership. Our Conference Planning Committee did an outstanding job! Again, this committee is busy planning the spring conference, so if you have ideas for breakout sessions, please contact Debbi Johanning. Why not take it a step further and offer to present a topic within an area of your expertise or a subject you would like to learn more about? I guarantee it will be a valuable growth experience which you will not regret.



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Your KASFAA Newsletter Committee

- Kathy Blau—Chair
- Thad Davidson—Co-Chair
- Tricia Brothers
- Laura Henderson
- Ben Kohl
- Elizabeth Mendoza



From the President

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This year High School Counselor training was expanded from seven to twelve sites and was also free of charge! Expansion allowed the counselors to travel less distance for this valuable training and networking opportunity.

For those that have been in this profession for a number of years, do you recall when this was the time of the aid year which we were able to take a breather and plan for the new aid year, make adjustments and update our policies and procedures manual? As I fondly reflect, I realize in today's financial aid world, it is only a memory and a dream we wish would reoccur. However, one thing has not changed and that is the strength and dedication of our state association members to serve one student at a time.

College Goal Sunday is fast approaching and I hope you have taken the time to volunteer. If you

haven't, please don't delay. Without your support, we miss an important opportunity to make the federal student aid process less overwhelming to our future students! You can access the volunteer form at:

<http://www.collegegoal.org/volunteerForm.cfm>



Finally, I want to thank the Board of Directors, Committee chairs, the numerous committee volunteers and the entire KASFAA membership for your support and involvement in making KASFAA a truly great association. I applaud each one of you for your dedication and service to the administration of student financial aid!

Ten Hut!

By Tricia Brothers

Yes, Sir! KASFFA members were an "Army of One" during the Fall Conference held October 1 – 3 at Junction City, Kansas. The troops of one-hundred and forty-six strong deployed to learn and "Be all they can be"! Fifteen rookies attended KASFAA for the first time and were put through the paces as they and the rest of the attendees went through "Field Training 2008." While a few of our old comrades were "MIA", we were excited and appreciative that collection agencies, loan partners and guarantors were "in the mess tent" with us. Especially when there were cookies in the exhibit hall!

Maneuvers started Wednesday with the "honor guard" Board of Directors meeting and ended with the Friday drawing for a new Global Positioning System (maybe to use with her UAV? [Urban Assault Vehicle](#) - - the movie "Stripes" reference for those of you younger than 35).

Neophyte training to Santa Claus giving leadership tips. Drill Sergeants of sessions provided valuable information on upcoming changes to the 09-10 FAFSA along with discussions regarding compliance issues brought about through CCRAA, ECASLA and HEOA. Recruits heard about consumer information regulations and also budget construction ideas. Wednesday night's R & R provided the platoon a chance to enjoy game night and kick back with their comrades. There was a big screen to watch several regiment personnel attempt to perform strategic maneuvers (bowling) on a Wii! It was quite entertaining...there was even a group working on covert operations to take down the enemy (they were playing Catch Phase). There was even a battle at the Yahtzee table.... No injuries were reported.

Thursday night's USO dance was...a BLAST! At one point every single person in the room was on

the dance floor!! This truly showed how much we enjoy each other's company. It did not matter which branch of the service you were from (associate or institution member)... everyone was dancing, laughing and just having a good 'ole time.

During the conference, sixteen "prize fighters" were commissioned on a good will mission to raise money for the KASFAA Conference Philanthropy project – the Fighting Irish of Chapman. Their orders were to win their battle (by bringing in the most money) and move on to the next round. It was determined that some of us were better at appropriating funds than others... Mark? Brent? (who you gonna call?) The Medals of Honor went to Gail Palmer and Jeanne Mott

for (miraculously) tying for first place. We were delighted to present Tony Frieze, Superintendent of Schools with a donation to assist their community.

Our final session included the Federal Update from Janet Dodson. With the election on the horizon, many changes could be headed our way. We need to continue to serve our students and "fight the good fight" for the industry. Thank you to the conference planning committee and others for digging down in the trenches and serving up a victory!

[Conference Highlights Slideshow](#)



Fight\$ for “Fighting Irish” A Huge Success!

By Kevin Flowers & Laura Schultz

The philanthropy project for this year’s Fall conference was for the USD 473 Chapman Schools Tornado Relief Fund. This project was a huge success thanks to our brave “prize fighters” and the very generous members of KAS-FAA. Sixteen members from all sectors of KAS-FAA were solicited to be available for members to donate

money on their behalf in a “Sweet 16” type tournament with eventual champions determined the final day of the conference. Thanks to everyone’s very generous donations we were able to raise \$2,550 for Chapman! That is very good considering attendance was lower this conference as compared to previous Fall conferences!

Four trophies were handed out. Thanks to Gail Palmer and Jeanne Mott combining their resources, they were the co-Champions raising over \$600 in the final round alone! Third place went to Brent Carpenter who did a

fine job stepping in as a fighter at the last minute. Mark Schilmoeller was the overall MVP for raising the most \$\$\$ with his extra “soliciting” and his “lucky charm” necklace sales!! Gail, Jeanne, and Mark each received Chapman Fighting Irish t-shirts for prizes along with their trophies.

Superintendent Tony Frieze from the Chapman school district came to accept the gift and was noticeably moved by the donation. His acceptance speech was stirring as he explained how the tireless folks of Chapman have worked feverously to rebuild since the tornado devastated their community back in June. He said that as part of pulling the community together he was determined that the school would

get in their first home football game on schedule which meant installing new football field lights that at first didn’t seem like would ever get done. Through hard work and determination as exemplified throughout the entire rebuilding process the school was able to get their lights in place just two hours before kickoff! This was definitely a highlight of the conference!

Thanks again to everyone’s very liberal contributions in making this year’s community philanthropy project such a huge success!!



Can you believe that it’s been 40 years since RMAFSA was born? Well honestly, I can’t. You see, I wasn’t born yet, and I got to be one of the people that stood up when the question was asked, referring to 1978, “Who wasn’t born yet?” However, I did learn that during the year I was born RMAFSA was holding it’s conference in Salt Lake City, the PLUS loan program was part of reauthorization, and Ronald Reagan became our 40th President (I guess now you can age me). Of course, a lot has changed since then. We have seen a lot of changes in higher education in general, and have seen at least three new major financial aid programs. It was very interesting to see RMAFSA’s last 40 years in their kickoff to their 2008 conference, and I must say it was definitely a conference full of meaty goodness.

For example, Monday morning started with a presentation by Dr. Phil Day on the National Conversation Initiative, and he was followed up by Jeff Baker with a Department of Education update. My head was spinning a little bit after that, but it was really great to hear from them on the goings-on in Washington. The rest of the conference was just as good. I often had a hard time figuring out what to go to because the agenda was just so packed full of great sessions.



With that being said, I can’t possibly put everything that I think can be said about the RMAFSA conference into one newsletter article. So, Elizabeth Mendoza had a great idea that we blog about our experience out to South Dakota for the RMAFSA conference. You can check out the blog at <http://kasfaanews.blogspot.com>. Elizabeth’s writings are in green, and mine are in brown.

As for RMAFSA 2009, we won’t have to go very far! I am already looking forward to this conference in our very own Overland Park.

Hunting in South Dakota

By Thad Davidson & Elizabeth Mendoza

What's New?

By Kathy Blau

In the financial aid arena a more appropriate question might be "What's Not?" Recent events in the national economy coupled with legislative action have made our days far from routine. For Kansas financial aid professionals, it is likened to the weather forecast—often unpredictable and always subject to change!

Fortunately, many resources are available to educate and guide us as we navigate our way through federal regulations and set our sails for the voyage through the alphabet soup of acronyms such as ECLASA, HEOA and more. Conferences, workshops, webinars and networking with our peers are our avenues for life-long learning to destinations with myriad effective dates. Recent opportunities have included:

- Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 NASFAA Fall Training / Aspects of Student Eligibility
- Oct. 1-3 Fall KASFAA Conference, Junction City, KS
- Oct. 19-22 RMASFAA Conference, Sioux Falls, SD
- Oct. 28-31 Dept. of Education's FSA Conference, Dallas, TX

Fall 2008 Counselor Training was held November 5, 6, and 7. Financial aid administrators from throughout the state conducted beginner and advanced financial aid training sessions followed by a joint session which included an overview of the ACG/SMART Grants, the new TEACH grant, changes associated with the recently passed Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) programs and the new College Access Challenge Grant. And the Price was right! FREE!!! The KASFAA training committee partnered with KBOR and utilized the College Access Challenge Grant to provide this training at no cost to the participants. Four state teams of financial aid professionals offered sessions at 12 sites over 3 days this year.

Locations: WEST—Dodge City, Oakley, Hays
CENTRAL—Concordia, Lindsborg, Manhattan
SOUTHEAST—Pittsburg, Independence, Wichita
NORTHEAST—Topeka, Hiawatha, Kansas City

This year's invitations to the training were extended to middle-school and TRIO counselors as well as area high school counselors. Even lunch, sponsored by College Goal Sunday, was free!

In your spare time, don't forget about leisure reading such as articles in Today's NASFAA News. Sign up for NASFAA webinars, Department of Education training as well as workshops and webinars offered by lenders and guarantors. Join in the lively discussions on the FINAID-L list serve which confirm that "None of us is as smart as all of us!"

Until the Spring edition of the Oz-Sociated Press, good luck with sorting out all the new regs and may all our tests be open-book!!



Don't forget to catch the Coming Attractions!

December 2-5	Dept. of Education's FSA Conference, Las Vegas, NV
February 5-6, 2009	Kansas Community College Meeting, Hutchinson, KS
April 1-3, 2009	Spring KASFAA Conference, Topeka, KS
April 2009	KASFAA Support Staff Workshops
June 2009	RMASFAA Summer Institute
July 12-15, 2009	NASFAA Conference, San Antonio, TX
October 11-14, 2009	RMASFAA/KASFAA Conference, Overland Park, KS

Membership News *by Laura Henderson*

Announcing Weddings, Promotions, New Hires, Retirements, and Births

The Office of Financial Aid at **Benedictine College** has experienced a complete change of staff since the beginning of 2008. Tony Tanking is Director, Jen Tuft is Assistant Director, Cyndi Scholz is a Financial Aid Specialist, and Kathy Kinney is the Application Support Technician. Jeri Ann Ostertag, former Financial Aid Specialist, has moved to the Office of Admissions. Kim Saak, of **Benedictine College**, was promoted from a Financial Aid Advisor to an Assistant Director in

July 2008. One of Kim's special talents, amongst many talents, is her expertise in coordinating the awarding of ACG and SMART grants within the office. She also is part of the PeopleSoft implementation team.

KASFAA Secretary G. Susie Edwards, Director of Financial Aid at **Butler Community College** had knee surgery replacement surgery Nov. 7th at the Kansas Surgery and Recovery Center in Wichita. She plans to return to work after the Christmas holiday break. Our own KASFAA Queen, Tiffani Price, has taken a new position at **Butler Community College**. She is the new lead instructor in the Hospitality Management Program and will begin her new duties in the Spring 2009 term. Tiffani has been on the KASFAA Conference Planning committee for several years so Event Planning is her cup of tea. Join us in congratulating her on her new endeavor. She will be greatly missed in the Butler office and in KASFAA. Congratulations can be sent to tprice@butlercc.edu AND she will keep the same e-mail after she transitions.

Coffeyville Community College has hired Joy Findley as a new Financial Aid Representative.

Emporia State University welcomes Cindy Brown as their new half-time Loan Assistant. Also, Thad Davidson, Assistant Director, is a new dad. His daughter, Ella Grace, was born on June 16, 2008, weighing in at 7 lbs., 2 oz., and 19 1/2".

Cindy Hernandez will start work in the **Garden City Community College** Financial Aid Office as a new Financial Aid Advisor, a position previously held by Melinda Harrington. Melinda is now the Director of the Endowment at GCCC.

Reta (Beaver) Brewer, Director of Financial Aid at **Haskell Indian Nations University**, was married August 8th in a beach ceremony in Hollywood, FL.

Tanya McGee of **Kansas State University** reports that the water within the pipes of Fairchild Hall must have a special ingredient, as their office has had 3 babies born to their employees. First to arrive was Lucian Edward on May 19th, weighing in at 7 lbs., 1 oz. Lucian's proud mamma is Denise Tabb, their fabulous Reception supervisor. Next on the scene was Kelsey Blaine. She was born on July 20, weighing a whopping 9 lbs, 8 oz! Kelsey's mama Tanya McGee, says three beautiful girls is enough! Last to join the crew was Ezra Edward Kohl, who is fondly called EEK by his daddy, Ben. Ezra was born on September 6th, weighing 6 lbs, 6 oz.

Sarah Pipes has been hired as a new financial aid counselor at **Newman University**. She came to NU after having worked previously at Portland State University.

Stephanie Olds is a new employee in the Financial Aid office at **Pratt Community College**. She was hired in early April and did attend Summer Institute however her first KASFAA conference was this Fall in Junction City.

It's a girl! Brekin Emery Campbell made her way into the world at 4:38 AM on October 3rd. She weighed in at 7 lbs 6 ½ ounces and 19 inches long. She has a head full of black hair. Aimee and Nathan Campbell are the proud parents. Aimee is the Financial Aid Counselor at **Southwestern College**. For a picture of this adorable darling, check out their website at: www.sckans.edu/finaid

The **University of Kansas (KU)** was one of the first schools in the country to disburse the new Federal TEACH Grant. To-date, 41 KU students have received over \$140,000 in TEACH Grants for 2008-09. KU Financial Aid Director Brenda Maigaard is relishing her new role as grandma to new granddaughter, Anya Lucine Maigaard, born February 21, 2008. We would like to introduce our newest KU Financial Aid Counselor Danielle Sullivan to our ranks. She started with our office over the summer and previously worked at Vangent. Our KU office administrative assistant Judith Schneider retired at the end of September and is now enjoying the retiree life on her farm.

Have some membership news you're just itchin' to share?

Contact Laura Henderson at hendersonl@bethanylb.edu

[New Membership Slideshow](#)

Give Me A Break by Thad Davidson

Sometimes you just gotta slow down a minute...

What do these mean?!?

RUE	Tune Tune Tune Chune	TOOL O O O O LOOT	am Uous
CLOUD TH	ecabt	ists ists	TIMINGTIMING

Stump the Financial Aid Administrator!

Four clowns were getting ready for the evening's performance. From the clothes trunk each clown had to get their socks and shoes. There was one pair of each shoes and socks in each colour. The red socks went with the blue shoes. Baba had yellow shoes but not yellow socks. The clown with green shoes did not have blue socks. Boba had neither red shoes nor red socks. Bilbo's shoes were the same colour as Babil's socks. The clown with red shoes had green socks. Can you tell who had which colour shoes and socks?

At the local play group for babies and toddlers, I was asking the mothers about the number of teddies each of their children has. The four children are aged 1, 2, 3, and 4. Remarkably, the children have one, two, three and four teddies, although not necessarily respectively. Darren has more teddies than his age. John is older than Matthew. Curiously, only one child has the same number of teddies as their age. Paul has less teddies than John and the child aged 3 has two teddies. Paul is the youngest. How old is each child, and how many teddies does each child have?

In the olden days, a man rode into town on his horse. He arrived on Monday, spent six days in town and left on Friday. How is that possible?

SUDOKU

5				8			4	
	9				5	7	1	
4		7	1					
				3				4
				6			7	
9		8				3		6
		9			8			
	4			7		5		
		3	4	1	6	9	8	

Drop Quote Game

A Greek Quote by the Poet, Hesiod

Hint: Words can wrap...

A			E	A	I	C		A		A			H	
E	B	A	G	D	T	N	A	D		D		L	I	
I	F	A	L	I	T	O	H	E	D	L	H	A	L	I
T	T	E	N	M	U	T	H	E	N	O	I	O	T	L
T	T	L	Y	O	U	T	L	S	O	S	N	T	T	L

