



# SEAN SCENE

A newsletter by and for members of the  
Student Education Association of Nebraska

605 S. 14th Street • Lincoln, NE 68508 • (800) 742-0047 • [www.nsea.org/sean](http://www.nsea.org/sean) • December 2014

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**2014 Outreach To Teach  
was a success!**  
*Find more details and photos inside!*

*Emily Kassmeier of UNK gathers trash near the football field at Minden's C.L. Jones Middle School during the SEAN Outreach to Teach at that school.*

**THANKS**

*Following SEAN's 2014 Outreach to Teach event at Minden's C.L. Jones Middle School, the following note was received at NSEA, thanking Outreach to Teach Coordinator Brittany Snider, NSEA SEAN Staff Liaison Mike Wiesen and the more than 90 SEAN members who participated in this community service project:*

Dear NSEA and SEAN,  
Thank you so much for all of your efforts with Minden's Outreach Day! Your thoughtfulness and generosity are outstanding examples for our students. I wish you could have been here today to see their excitement. I wish you the very best in your bright education careers.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Wheelock  
Superintendent of Schools



*More details on these events can be found on the following pages.*

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

### **SPRING CONFERENCE**

Friday, Feb. 20 & Saturday, Feb. 21  
Nebraska City and Peru State College

### **INTERGENERATIONAL MENTORING**

Friday, March 20 & Saturday, March 21, 2015  
NSEA Headquarters in Lincoln

### **SEAN DELEGATE ASSEMBLY**

Saturday, April 11, 2015  
NSEA Headquarters in Lincoln

# Painted & Scrubbed

## Minden's Middle School Gets Facelift Through SEAN's Outreach to Teach

Nearly 100 members of the Student Education Association of Nebraska turned out on a November weekend to spruce up the C.L. Jones Middle School at Minden as part of the organization's annual Outreach to Teach.

The project was a part of SEAN's annual fall conference.

Students from a dozen Nebraska colleges and universities spent the day painting, scrubbing, washing and otherwise freshening up the building and grounds at the school. Brittany Snider, president of the SEAN Chapter at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, coordinated the event.

"This project is always a lot of fun for SEAN members. We also hope it enhances the learning that goes on in these schools," said Snider.

Students also gave the gymnasium a deep cleaning. That included sweeping and scrubbing of concrete bleachers and walls, and painting of metal railings.

Minden Public School Superintendent Melissa Wheelock praised the event in an interview with KHAS television.

"I think definitely that what these students are doing develops a spark, a spark to do things for our community and students and also just the notion that it takes a whole village to raise a child," said Wheelock.

Members of the Minden Education Association provided snacks and beverages for the students during the day.

**THE FALL CONFERENCE** opened with dinner at the Great Platte River Road Archway in Kearney and a keynote by NSEA member Allison Aldrich, a health and physical education teacher for the Grand Island Public Schools. Aldrich lost a leg to cancer at age seven, and is now a three-time world medalist in sitting volleyball competition. Aldrich played for and won a bronze medal in world competition in Athens at age 16. Compassionate teachers helped her reach that world stage.

"My teachers could have looked at me as disabled, but they looked for my potential," she said.

Outreach to Teach is patterned after a project hosted by the National Education Association at NEA's annual meeting site every summer. SEAN membership includes about 1,500 college students who are education majors at 17 institutions of higher education across the state.



**Steady hand:** Wayne State College's Kristyn Huelskamp touches up fresh paint on a windowsill at C.L. Jones Middle School in Minden.



**Making News:** Outreach to Teach Coordinator Brittany Snider is framed by a television camera as she gives an interview. Snider is president of the University of Nebraska at Kearney SEAN Chapter.



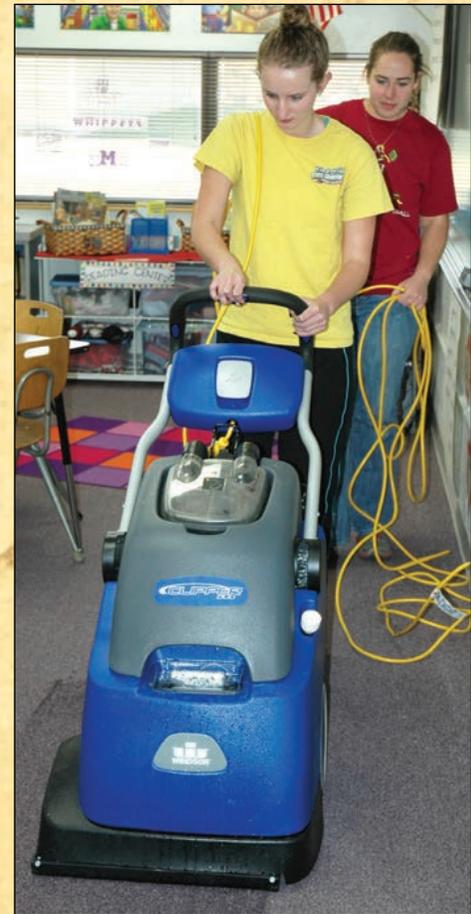
**The Hardware:** Grand Island teacher and NSEA member Allison Aldrich, center, shows the sitting volleyball medals she has won in world competition to University of Nebraska at Kearney students Ashley Hansel, left, and Jill Mallam.



**Reflective:** University of Nebraska-Omaha's Rebecca Burkhardt works on a window at Minden's C.L. Jones Middle School.



**Next step:** Angelica Villalobos and Shantell Ferris ponder their next move as they scrub gymnasium steps at C.L. Jones Middle School in Minden. Villalobos is a student at Northeast Community College; Ferris attends UNO.



**Learning to Drive:** Lexi Arlt embarks cautiously with the rug scrubber as Josi Bradfield handles extension cord duties. Both are students at Wayne State College.

**Dust Removal:** Among those dusting trophy cases at Minden were, from left, Jacey Crawford, Lexy Delvaux, Mattie Klinkman, Raissa Walker and Emily Kassmeier. Walker attends Peru State; the rest are University of Nebraska at Kearney students.



# welcome

## WESTERN REGION REP: BRITTANY SNIDER

The newest member of the SEAN Executive Committee is Brittany Snider, president of the chapter at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Snider stepped forward to fill the vacant position of Western Region Representative caused by a resignation. She comes with plenty of SEAN experience. In addition to serving two years as the UNK Chapter president, she chaired the successful Outreach to Teach event held in Minden in November.

“I really enjoy being involved in SEAN and try to stay as active as I can,” said Snider. “I feel like being the Western Rep will help me be even more involved and broaden my education for my future.”

Snider also attended and participated in the 2013 Fall Conference and Outreach to Teach.

At UNK, she chaired the chapter’s 2013 spring Outreach to Teach, and arranged for Nebraska’s Teacher of the Year to visit chapter meetings each of the past two years. She was also instrumental in arranging an education fair at UNK, with all of the campus education clubs in attendance. She also helped set up the chapter’s booth at UNK’s Welcome Week, which allowed incoming students to learn about SEAN during their first days on campus.

Snider begins her duties as Western Region representative immediately.



## SEAN 2015 SPRING CONFERENCE

If you are looking for a superb conference featuring top-notch educational speakers, you will want to attend

SEAN’s Spring Conference, set for Nebraska City and Peru State College on Friday, Feb. 20, and Saturday, Feb. 21

Each year, Spring Conference features a cadre of excellent speakers and learning experiences. Past speakers have included Nebraska Teachers of the Year, the Nebraska Commissioner of Education and curriculum and teaching experts. Development of the final agenda is still under way, and a final list of speakers will be available in January.

This much is known: The conference will kick off on Friday night with a keynote speaker in Nebraska City. After an overnight stay at the Best Western in Nebraska City, the conference moves a few miles south on Saturday to the beautiful campus Peru State College – Nebraska’s first college – where a full day of speakers and events will take place.

This year’s event will also include a lip sync contest on Friday night.

Watch this space in the next SEAN Scene for more details. Plans will also be available on the SEAN Facebook page and on the NSEA website.



## *Have you SEAN the App?*

Keep up with all SEAN social media, receive important alerts, have the calendar of events handy, register for events and more. Scan the code below or search “SEAN Nebraska” in the App Store or on Google Play to download it now!



# OPPORTUNITIES GALORE AT DELEGATE ASSEMBLY!

All SEAN members in good standing will have several unique opportunities at the 2015 SEAN Delegate Assembly:

- They will hear **2015 Nebraska Teacher of the Year Shelby Aaberg** discuss his profession and philosophy. Learn more about Aaberg at: <http://www.nsea.org/shoulders-giants>
- They will have the opportunity to set the future course of the association by seeking election to a SEAN leadership position.
- They will participate in approval and updating of association Bylaws for the coming year.

Delegate Assembly is the association's annual business meeting, where members elect leaders and members set the course of action for the coming association year.

The official transition from the 2014-15 SEAN Executive Committee to the 2015-16 team won't take place until mid-summer. Officers for 2015-16, however, will be elected at Delegate Assembly, also commonly known as 'DA.'

Every office – from the regional representatives to president – will be open for election. Eligibility requirements for election are minimal: candidate dues must be current and candidates must be in attendance at DA, which is set for Saturday, April 11, 2015, at NSEA Headquarters in Lincoln.

Also selected at SEAN's Delegate Assembly will be the delegation to the larger NSEA Delegate Assembly, planned for Friday and Saturday, April 24-25, at Embassy Suites in Lincoln. The SEAN delegation typically includes five to eight members who will attend with up to 300 active service teachers from across the state. That event is a great networking opportunity for SEAN members.

For more details, watch coming editions of the SEAN Scene; the NSEA website at [nsea.org](http://nsea.org), or speak with your local chapter advisor.

## Orlando for Representative Assembly!

Imagine this: Nearly 9,000 educators packed into a convention hall, all focused on issues that affect public schools and student achievement.

That happens every summer at NEA's annual meeting, known as Representative Assembly. About 100 Nebraska delegates will attend – including a handful of SEAN members – and if you're interested in serving, this would be a great year to do so! This year's event will be held in Orlando June 30 through July 7.

Members of the SEAN elect their RA representatives by statewide balloting. SEAN members wishing to file as delegates must complete an online filing process by Saturday, Feb. 28. Watch *The Voice* and the SEAN newsletter for details.



**2014-15 SEAN OFFICERS:** From left: President Jacob Zeiss, Wayne State; Underclass Rep Emily Wilmes, Wayne State; Vice President L.A. Adams, Peru State; Secretary Amanda Volkson, Peru State; Southeast Region Representative Rae Carbaugh, Peru State; Northeast Region Representative Hailey DeRocher, Wayne State; and Metro Region Representative Brenna Wragge, University of Nebraska Omaha.

## **BE A LEADER**

All SEAN terms of office are for one year. These offices will be up for election at the SEAN Delegate Assembly on April 11 in Lincoln:

- **President**
- **Vice President**
- **Secretary**
- **Metro Region Representative:**
  - University of Nebraska Omaha
  - Grace University
  - College of St. Mary
  - Creighton
- **Northeast Region Representative:**
  - Wayne State College
  - Northeast Community College
  - Midland University
- **Southeast Region Representative:**
  - Peru State College
  - University of Nebraska-Lincoln
  - Doane College
  - Nebraska Wesleyan University
- **Western Region Representative:**
  - Chadron State College
  - University of Nebraska Kearney
  - Hastings College
  - York College
  - Central Community College (all campuses)
- **Underclass Representative:**
  - (Elected at the end of his or her freshman or sophomore year from any higher ed institution in Nebraska, the student will serve in his or her sophomore or junior year in school.)

## *Want to be an officer?*

Officers are elected at the SEAN Delegate Assembly in the spring. To learn more, contact a current officer or call Tamra Mick or Mike Wiesen at (800) 742-0047.



# *Election*

# SCHOLARSHIPS!

If you are a Student Education Association of Nebraska (SEAN) member who will soon enter your student teaching semester, keep this in mind: The NSEA-Retired Board of Directors has available three \$1,000 scholarships for use during your student teaching semester.

Applicants shall be college juniors or seniors who have been SEAN members for at least two years, including the current year. Scholarships will be awarded based on financial need and answers to essay questions.

Each application shall also require three letters of recommendation: one from a faculty or staff member of the college or university; one from a local SEAN chapter officer; and one from the local SEAN chapter advisor.

Scholarships shall be effective for the student teaching semester. Checks will be issued jointly to the student and his or her college or university.

Mail applications to Tamra Mick, NSEA, 605 South 14th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, and must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2015. Download the current application from this website: [www.nsea.org/SEAN](http://www.nsea.org/SEAN)

For details, contact Mick at 1-800-742-0047 or via e-mail at: [tamra.mick@nsea.org](mailto:tamra.mick@nsea.org)



NSEA-Retired awards three **\$1,000 scholarships** each year that go to students in their student teaching semester. An emphasis is placed on activity in the scholarship applicant's activity in their local SEAN Chapter. NSEA-Retired Vice President Tom Black, center, presented the scholarships to Rae Carbaugh, Peru State College, left; and Brenna Wragge, University of Nebraska-Omaha, right. Not present was Hanna Schroeder, Doane College.

## What's Happening...

### Metro Area SEAN Chapters Making a Difference

*Brenna Wragge, UNO, Metro Region Representative*

This past month **Creighton University** had a craft night for their cooperating teachers for those who were student teaching.

Earlier this semester, SEAN at the **College of Saint Mary's** collected and donated prom dresses for a local high school, providing the dresses to those who could not afford their own.

The SEAN chapter at **Grace University** is in the midst of planning a service project that will promote unity and encourage service to the community.

Finally, **UNO's** SEAN Chapter has been busy fundraising for their local Outreach to Teach project in the Spring. There are so many exciting things being done and planned in the Metro area this semester!

### In Southeast Region, Peru State Chapter Keeps Busy

*Rae Carbaugh, Peru State College, Southeast Region Representative*

Members at **Peru State College** have had a busy fall semester.

On Oct. 27, members attended the Trunk or Treat event in nearby Auburn, representing future teachers and all Peru State College students. The next day, members hosted a trick or treating adventure with children from the Peru day care site. PSC members of SEAN accompanied the children in a walk around the Peru State Campus.

During American Education Week Nov. 17-21, the Peru State chapter hosted a book fair on campus for students, faculty, staff and community members to raise money for chapter projects.

Finally, the chapter is planning a bowling night for a holiday/end of semester event. At press time, the date had not yet been set.



## Consider Intergenerational Mentoring!

Every SEAN member should consider enrolling in the NSEA-Retired affiliate's InterGenerational Mentoring project.

The long-running program pairs NSEA-Retired members with members of the Student Education Association of Nebraska – college students – during the student's junior year in teacher education. The NSEA-Retired members act as mentors to the student members from their junior year through their senior student teaching semester and into their first year as a professional teacher.

The relationship between the mentor and the student is non-judgmental and non-evaluative. The mentor can help the prospective teacher get through the tough day-to-day moments and challenging situations that every student teacher and every first-year teacher will face. Through telephone, e-mail, and face-to-face conversations, the student knows he or she has an experienced mentor to ask for an idea for a lesson, a hint for handling a discipline problem, or a trusting shoulder to lean on.

Sessions will be held at NSEA headquarters, and begin at 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 20. The program concludes on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Housing is provided by NSEA. For details, call NSEA's Duane Obermier at 1-800-742-0047. To sign up, go to: [bit.ly/IGMSEAN2015](http://bit.ly/IGMSEAN2015)



Your NSEA Membership Card opens a new world of money-saving benefits. Your card can save you hundreds — even thousands — of dollars at more than 250,000 locations nationwide. You will find savings on groceries, flowers, brand-name clothing, car rentals, motels, school supplies, computers and more. You can get your card and find out more information here: <http://www.nsea.org/membership-card-goes-electronic>



Have you ever thought about joining a credit union?

Membership in a credit union is a great way to manage your money, and now the First Nebraska Educators & Employee Groups Credit Union has opened up membership to students. From auto loans to checking accounts, check out the opportunities at:

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



Want to highlight something that happened on your campus, or a SEAN local chapter event you have coming up?

Let us know and you could be in the next SEAN newsletter! Email Al Koontz ([al.koontz@nsea.org](mailto:al.koontz@nsea.org)) with all the event details or with any questions you may have.

