

NAEOP SOUTHWEST AREA NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015 Issue 4



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“Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don’t know how great you can be! How much you can love! And what your potential is!” – Anne Frank

A Moment with Mary

What is perception? It's the mental organization and interpretation of sensory information. Knowing this begs another question? Are our perceptions always right? No. Why? Because perception is judgment. Sometimes we are spot on - put your hand over fire, it's hot. Our perception is correct. But sometimes we misread or misinterpret a person's intentions, manner or words they say. Sometimes we have the wrong perception of ourselves too.

What do I mean? Let's start with a short story below and see where it leads us.

There were two brothers in a small village in the Eastern Cape. The twin brothers grew up knowing nothing else but poverty. Their father was an alcoholic and their mother a domestic worker. They grew up with very little.

On their way home one day, their parents were involved in a bus accident and died instantly. The brothers' condition became even worse. At age 17 they separated. Years and years later a family member decided to find them for a family reunion.

One of the brothers was a wealthy engineer owning a construction company. He had a wife and three beautiful kids. The other was an alcoholic with no sense of direction for his life.

The family member asked the engineer, "How did your life turn out like this?" "What did you expect with a childhood like mine?" he answered.

She moved on to the other brother with the same question. "What did you expect with a childhood like mine?" was his answer.

This tells us that, "men are not disturbed by the things that happened but by their perception of the things that happened".

--- Author Unknown

Do our perceptions die? Do you remember hearing the words "wild imagination" or "over active imagination"? Remember the days when we would entertain ourselves for the entire day with our daydreams of doing this or that when we "grew" up? As we grow in experiences so does our memory bank of "warnings" and the likes thereof resulting from those experiences. As a youth, our experiences with life are few and influenced by our parents protective environment, but our imaginations are wilder, unencumbered, less restrained by self (so to speak) to enjoy our dreams or desires (within reason).

Dreams are our perceptions in life. To say our perceptions "in" life are based on our experiences is not supported. To say our perception "of" life is based on our experiences is true, but not the focus of what creates our perception. What impedes the advancement of our positive perceptions in living life is the reactions to our warnings stored in our memory bank, experiences.

Our perceptions are influenced by laziness (lack of dedicating time to think) and will automatically revert back to "warnings" (negative) as it should be. But as time changes daily, so should one be willing to modify one's perception of truths embraced (truth exists only if you embrace it as such).

When we are lazy in managing our future and feeding our perception of what we desire in life, we rely on the words of others to influence or shape our perception (under someone else's control) of what is reality. We all have been influenced by the words of others. Embracing that as the truth, based on someone else's belief and never investigating it any further, influence our perception. The point is to allow oneself the freedom to enjoy life by being young of thought, dare to dream, believe, and do what satisfies the needs of your soul.

Thank you to Marlene Blaszczyk at www.motivateus.com for permission to share her article from her newsletter.

Mary C Meyers

News from Utah

Greetings from Utah AEOP, Sherry Wilson, UAEOP Acting President

Since the last edition of the Southwest Area Newsletter, we have had a change in leadership in Utah AEOP. President Vicki Coon decided to seize the day and retire from her job and resign as UAEOP President. We thank Vicki for her service to the association and wish her the best in the future.

In an article from American Society of Association Executives or ASAE, Karl Albrecht "contends that the ground rules for associations have shifted substantially, and it's time for association leaders to reinvent the model. The process for reinvention, Albrecht argues, must begin with strategic conversations that run across the entire organization and are firmly focused on value – defining it, designing it, and delivering it." With that in mind, at our June board meeting we will discuss the reinvention and revitalization of UAEOP--deciding what we value, simplifying, and building on our success.

Have an enjoyable, restful summer.



Greetings from the California AEOP,
Kenton Miller CAEOP President 2015-2016



The California Association had a very successful annual conference at the Pasadena Hilton Hotel, in Pasadena, California, on March 13-14, 2015. The conference was well attended, and we had some dynamic speakers and educational workshops. Conference wasn't all business; there were two well attended pre-conference tours that received high marks by the attendees, with many positive comments provided.

After conference the CAEOP Executive Board hit the ground running, with our first board meeting in May, which we held in conjunction with the board members attending our affiliate in Riverside County (RCAEOP) at their Bosses' Night event. The event had a Glamour theme. They present the yearly awards, including Office Professional, and Administrator of the Year Awards. It was a fantastic event, well attended, and it was great to see many attendees in their "Old Hollywood Glamour" dress. I know a good time was had by all. The next day the board met at the Perris Union High School District Office Board Room. It was a great facility, and the gracious hosting of the District facilitated an extremely productive meeting.

Our next board meeting will be aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach, in September. We will hold our meeting in conjunction with another of our affiliates, LA Unified School District AEOE, at their annual business meeting and installation of officers. I attended the same event last year, and received such a warm welcome. I had a great time talking with old friends, and meeting with their new officers. AEOE is our largest affiliate and extremely supportive of CAEOP. Our board is committed to visiting our state affiliates during the 2015-2016 year and supporting each one of them. The Queen Mary will be the location of our 2016 Annual Conference, February 25-27, 2016.

The NAEOP annual conference is coming in July with a good representation of California members in Buffalo. We are looking forward to seeing many of our Southwest Area associates there. All of us are looking forward to this exciting conference and enjoying some of the exceptional tour opportunities with both pre and post conference tours in Buffalo, and New York City.



The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information for members of the Southwest Area of NAEOP. If you are a member of NAEOP, you are automatically a member of the Southwest Area.

This is YOUR newsletter and as such I would like to provide information that is of worth to you. I would like to keep this a professional newsletter, therefore articles or information pertinent to office professionals would be most welcome.

I would like information from each state, as well as any locals that would like to share with us what is happening in your association. State conferences, local professional development days, or any special honors that have been received by any of our members, would be welcome.

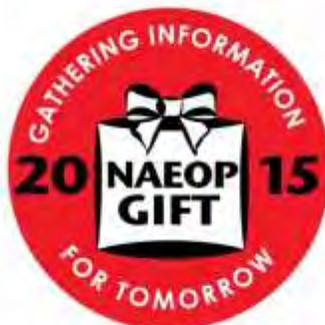
The deadline to submit articles for the fall 2015 issue of the Southwest Area Newsletter is Sept, 1, 2015. Please submit article in a word format and any pictures as a jpeg. Remember this is your newsletter, so let's help each other navigate our way to success. Email articles to Mary Meyers @ mcmeyers@graniteschools.org. Please remember that articles and pictures must be originals or have copyright permission.

NAEOP Annual Conference and Institute

**Hyatt Regency Buffalo and the
Buffalo Niagara Convention Center
Buffalo, NY 14202**

July 22-25, 2015

Wendy Heslink, CEOE
wheslink@fcsd.wnyric.org
Conference Chairman



Jude Gagnier, CEOE
judebg@aol.com
and
Cynthia Marx, CEOE
cmarx@e2ccb.org

Institute/Briefings Co-Chairmen

Deadlines and Events

June

14 Flag Day
21 Father's Day

July

4 Independence Day/National Office closed
22-25 NAEOP Annual conference, Buffalo, NY



**"Miracles happen every day, change your perception of what a miracle is and you'll see them all around you."
--- Jon Bon Jovi**



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