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ITEMS is published bi-monthly by the Idaho Chapter of IAWP. Articles printed do not represent the policy of the Commerce & Labor or the Idaho Chapter of IAWP, and no endorsement is intended or implied.

The deadline for articles to appear in the next issue is **JANUARY 27, 2006** Please submit articles to:

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Twin Falls, ID 83301  
By email:  
lmccrae@cl.idaho.gov

# ITEMS

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## President's Message

*Al Snyder – Chapter President*

2005 is history. IAWP has had another successful year. The Sub Chapter membership did a great job of completing educational, community service and promotional activities. If there are activities for which fliers or other pertinent material have not been sent to me for Professional Practices or to Pam Pearson for Education, please do so as soon as possible. January is a good time for the Sub Chapters to start thinking about projects for 2006.

## AWARDS

*Liz Ruiz – Awards Chair*

REMINDER: 'Tis the season to be jolly and remembering your co-workers or those who have gone the extra mile to assist or show their kindness throughout the year. Don't forget to send in your nominations for the following AWARDS:

- 1) **AWARD OF MERT**
- 2) **CITATION AWARD - INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP AWARD**
- 3) **SPECIALIZED CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD – INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP AWARD.**
- 4) **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT – INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP AWARD**

- 5) **MARY UPCHURCH – SPIRIT OF IAWPS**
- 7) **GARY RAHN AWARD – INDIVIDUAL AWARD**
- 8) **ART ROWE SERVICE TO VERTANS AWARD – INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP AWARD**
- 9) **RETIREE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

- 10) **CLYDE WILLIAMS MEMBERSHIP**

- 11) **SUBCHAPTER ACTIVITY**

You can get to email or mail your nominations for the following awards by **DECEMBER 31, 2005** to:

[eruiz@cl.idaho.gov](mailto:eruiz@cl.idaho.gov)

OR

**Idaho Commerce and Labor Attn:  
Liz Ruiz  
127 W 5th St N. Burley, Id 83318.**

**Free  
Lunch or  
Breakfast!**

**To the office that  
recruits the most  
new members  
between  
October 1<sup>st</sup>  
And  
December 31<sup>st</sup>**

# IAWP International Friends and Acquaintances



David Washburn

Idaho Chapter International Development  
Committee Chairperson

The Idaho Chapter of IAWP International Development Committee will continue the project designed to increase International friendships and relations. The project consists of publishing articles in the Idaho Chapter ITEMS newsletter, with the intention of introducing the members of the Idaho Chapter of IAWP to one of the IAWP International members from around the World. Through improved International friendships and understanding our great professional organization will grow and become more valuable to all of its members.

Let me introduce Ewa Jurkowska from the Polish Chapter of IAWP. Ewa lives in Gdansk, which is located in northern Poland. She has two grown up daughters but no grandchildren yet.



*Ewa at work*

Ewa's professional career has always been combined in two areas: education and the labor market. She taught school for many years and later



*Ewa's homeland – Poland*

became the head of a teachers' training center. Ewa has been working with the Voivodship Labor Office for the past eleven years. She first worked in a training center and then organized the Vocational Information Center (a vocational counseling center). Currently Ewa is the Manager of the Community Initiatives Department at the Voivodship Labor office in Gdansk, Poland. Her current position was a result of funding and support from the new European Union. Her job includes creating and providing international labor market educational projects.

A few years ago the Polish system of labor offices was decentralized, which did turn out to be the best solution to the labor and economic service provision system. The Polish labor office system has been re-centralizing itself for some time now. Poland is divided into 16 regions called "voivodships" and each of them has its own Voivodship Labor Office for developing workforce programs and creating regional policy concerning labor and vocational training and providing related service delivery on a local level. There are 20 Regional Labor Offices, which deal directly with the unemployed. Unfortunately, with the current unemployment rate in Poland of 18%, an employee of the Regional Labor Office can give an unemployed person only 2 minutes of their time, which does not really effectively help fight unemployment.

Various new labor-related programs are being realized and they are very often combined with using the financial means of the European Union. Poland uses, among others, the EURES system, about which you can learn more at the Internet address: <http://europa.eu.int/eures/index.jsp>



*Ewa at play*

In 1977 Ewa graduated from the University of Gdansk with a Master's of Arts Degree in Polish Philology. She received a second degree in 1999 from the Technical University of Gdansk Department of Management in Management and Law. Ewa obtained her third degree in 2001 from the National Teachers Development Center in Management of Educational Institutions. She speaks and reads three languages: Polish, English and Russian.

Ewa has been an IAWP member for the past ten years since the beginning of IAPES/IAWP's existence in Poland. She is currently serving on the IAWP International Executive Board of Directors as the District 19 Director for the European Chapters.

During her years of IAWP membership Ewa was instrumental in organizing the Women's Center at IAWP in Gdansk. Unfortunately, the Women's Center has a difficult time now, for the conditions have changed

and it is hard to find the financial means for its functioning.

Ewa has attended previous IAWP International Educational Conferences here in the United States and feels that they are very beneficial and well organized. She finds it very interesting that every IAWP member could be recognized by the other members and told they are doing good work. Ewa states that she has learned many things by attending these conferences. Ewa feels that IAWP is a great organization and provides many wonderful benefits for the members. The benefits of making new professional friends from all over the World and sharing successes and problems and learning from each other through IAWP are tremendous.

When asked what Ewa liked best about the United States she replied: "I love your country – so big, so different, so exotic (landscape, climate). I like the way you work, with big enthusiasm and I think that people in the United States can reach success when they are active." When asked what she liked least she replied: "Sorry, but American coffee and pancakes."

Ewa's hobbies include: skiing, reading good books, watching movies and socializing with her friends. She also enjoys working as a trainer of "soft skills" such as communications, negotiations, etc.



*Poland's flag*

## Subchapter Activities

### Seaport – Craig Smith

The annual state convention was held in Lewiston this year and all reports were that it was a success. We had a "Books for Troops" in June and collected over 300 Books, during August we had a "School Supplies for the Kids" drive and collected 4 boxes of supplies. We also had a food drive for the Lewiston Food Bank and collected over 400 pounds of food. In November we viewed the video "How Difficult Can This Be?" this video gave information on how to effectively work with the learning disabled child/person.

David Washburn met Steve Ruggles the current East Sub-Chapter Present of IAWP in the Washington State Chapter at the District XIV convention and Steve is scheduled to speak to the Lewiston Office on December 16. Steve is currently working at the Spokane TeleCenter as the Resource Coordinator and will be giving us an insight into the TeleCenter Organization/Environment, how to access the

TeleCenters, and what the claimants can expect. He will also be leaving some time for questions. A follow up report will be given.

### Treasure Valley – Lu Lineberry

Treasure Valley Subchapter held its annual Halloween costume contest with many members and non-members alike, vying for the winning prize. Each office held its own competition, with the winner of each office being put into a drawing for the grand prize, which was 1 year membership in IAWP.

Congratulations to Brian Sporleder who won with his costume. It was a fun time to be had by all, both participants and those in the offices who got to enjoy the costumes.

The Treasure Valley Subchapter has also been busy all year collecting aluminum flip tops to recycle and donate to the Ronald McDonald House. Between the flip tops and a few cans thrown in for good measure, we were able to collect approximately 45 pounds. Now that's a lot of flip tops!!

### Panhandle – Nona Rambo

Frightening, funny, clever costumes paid off for Halloween costume contest participants from the Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint offices. The Panhandle Subchapter of IAWP offered the prizes for the contest.



**Costumes seen on Halloween in the Coeur d'Alene office.**

The Panhandle Subchapter came through for some special little girls. In October, 4-year-old Jaden and 7-year-old Katrina awoke to the smell of smoke. The little girls woke up their grandmother and aunt and everyone got out of the house safely. Their mother, Crystal, was serving in Iraq with the 116th Brigade Combat Team of the Idaho National Guard. (Crystal is now home and the girls are VERY happy about that.) The American Legion Post 143 and the Panhandle Subchapter of IAWP immediately made \$600 available to the family. In addition, the Panhandle Subchapter has 'adopted' the girls for Christmas. There will be treasures under the tree for the entire family thanks to the generosity of ICL employees.

Once again, the Panhandle Subchapter is conducting the Holiday Quiz. This year there are 12 days of questions. Kathryn Tacke, Dawn McLees and Nona Rambo wrote the quiz questions. This year the focus is on helping our customers. The answers are on the portal or the ICL website. Participants reply with the answers. For each response, the participant's name is put into a hat. At the end of the quiz, three names will be drawn and cash prizes will be awarded.



Costumes seen on Halloween in the Sandpoint office.

## Membership

Linda Castaneda –Membership Chair

Hello everyone!

Remember to get your new members signed up right away! The deadline is near. The office that has the most new members join during the time frame, ending December 31, 2005, will earn a free breakfast or lunch for their entire office. This is an exciting time to become a new member and also for members who have been in for a while. Remember, you do not have to be an employee of Idaho Commerce and Labor. Talk to our net working friends, such as Health & Welfare, and etc.. Retirees can re-join for only \$21.00 per year and regular members only \$65.00 per year. Be sure to take advantage of the easy

payment plan with our payroll deduction that is available to all current Idaho Commerce & Labor employees. We have an exciting couple of years coming up and would love to see our membership grow. We are looking forward to working with each and every member of IAWP, new and old, to make this the best organization in the country. The Spring State Conference will be held in Twin Falls, Idaho this coming spring. We look forward to seeing all of you there, with your new members. Happy Holidays to you and yours.

## IAWP District XIV

# 14 FACTS

Kathy Bilanko - District XIV Director

1. Washington Chapter established a Clavard Grant Fund. Executive Board agreed that the Grant would be for one nights lodging for International, State, District or Southwest Subchapters Institute & Crab Feed.
2. Southwest Subchapter's annual Winter Institute and Crab Feed is February 25th Westport, Washington. February 26<sup>th</sup> is the annual walk to town on the beach and breakfast. If interested in attending please contact me and I will get a registration form to you.
3. The International Board approved expenditure of \$3,000 for IAWP to attend the NASWA Winter Policy Forum. This includes Exhibit space and one full conference registration. This was a recommendation from Marketing Committee to get us positive exposure with

Administrators and allows for lots of PR opportunities.

4. Nebraska Chapter met with their agencies senior leaders to talk about the benefits of IAWP. The Nebraska administrator wrote to the IAWP Board that the agency would no longer support IAWP. Nebraska countered with recommendations of how to work together.
5. I am a member of a sub-committee reviewing funding for the Educational Grants. Our goal is to guarantee dollars to the funds and to promote the grants.
6. Speaking of Grants: W Scott Boyd is for a group activity. Logan S Chambers is for individual study. Freddy Jacobs Fund is for youth. You can find the details on the International Website. [www.iawponline.org](http://www.iawponline.org). Click into members only, still no extra password needed.
7. Voting, I encourage all members to vote in the spring. I will say again. It is important to show our strength. Even though the races will probably be one person only, we send a message by who we vote for and who we don't vote for.
8. Awards: this is the time of year to focus on the Awards process. Montana is doing extra effort on awards this year; Deb Buxbaum volunteered to be chair. Way to go Deb! Information about chairs can be found in this month's Count Down and on the Internationals website. . [www.iawponline.org](http://www.iawponline.org)
9. Idaho has a contest for a Free Breakfast to the office that recruits the most new members between 10/1/05 – 12/31/05. Please let me know who wins.

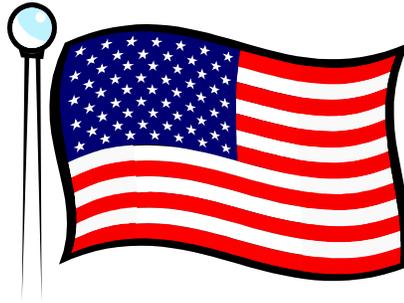
10. Oregon's vision for 05-06 is "Building unity & leadership among professionals." Their goal is to increase participation by partners. Keep us posted on your progress. We can all use best practices in that area.

11. January Jumpstart is once again upon us. January Jumpstart is to recognize membership effort in three categories. Highest % increase in total membership compared to previous years. The most new members and the highest % of renewals. The contest is broken into small, medium and large chapters.

12. This is also the season for nominations for International Offices of President-Elect, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer positions. Nominations are due to George Barthalow by January 9, 2006 3pm Eastern Standard Time. If interested check the International website for the criteria for each position.

13. The International Board meets monthly via phone conference call. The monthly calls are successful. It keeps us connected and keeps people on track. If you have questions, concerns, comments, or anything else please let me know and I will share at the next meeting. My email is: [kbilanko@esd.wa.gov](mailto:kbilanko@esd.wa.gov), work phone 360 902-9705, home 206 772-6785. In the WorkForce Professional News there is a registration form for the International Conference.

14. I wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to those who celebrate the season, Happy Chanukah and Kwanza to those who celebrate their season. Happiness to those who do not celebrate.



## From the Legislative Corner

*Lu Lineberry – Legislative Chair*

The Senate failed on November 18 to approve its bill (S. 1021) to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). The Senate was scheduled to approve its bill to reauthorize WIA by a unanimous consent vote. The vote was to occur after Senator Michael Enzi (R-WY) replaced language in the bill with his manager's amendment. The manager's amendment reportedly received the approval of Senator Kennedy and other members on the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee.

S. 1021 had been rumored to be the target of a month-long plus hold by Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL). Senator Sessions reportedly removed his hold early in the week of November 14, opening the way for the bill's consideration and approval. But shortly after Senator Session's hold was removed, another Senator placed a hold on the bill for a reason unknown. The Senate returns to Capitol Hill on December 12 to resume its work and could, according to some, be again ready to approve S. 1021 quickly if the Senator currently holding the bill has his or her concerns resolved. Approval of S. 1021 would then initiate a conference committee with the House, which approved its bill (H.R. 27) to reauthorize WIA on March 2, 2005.

Senator Enzi's manager's amendment to replace the language approved by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee on May 18 contains a number of noteworthy provisions. The amendment would authorize 100 percent transferability of funds between the WIA Adult and WIA Dislocated Worker programs. The amendment includes language to restrict states ability to re-designate local workforce areas. NASWA is on record and in support of giving states the flexibility to re-designate local workforce areas, a provision the Bush Administration also supports.

### IDAHO CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

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