



An affiliate of  
the Arizona  
Education  
Association and  
the National  
Education  
Association

**Calendar of  
Events**



**May 4- National  
Teach Appreciation  
Day**

**May 7- Lamp of Learn-  
ing Award Dinner**

**May 12- Literacy  
Night**

**May 13- Governing  
Board Meeting**

**May 20- WDEA Instal-  
lation Dinner**

**May 25- Last Day for  
Students**

**May 26- Last Day for  
Teachers**

**May 27- Governing  
Board Meeting**

**Sara Hester, Editor  
Shaw Butte  
602.347.4905**

# The Voice

[www.wdea.net](http://www.wdea.net)

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## Join Us For Free!

### Spring Membership

As always, the spring is a great time to ask potential members to join our ranks. Now more than ever, we are doing great things for our students, our district, and our profession.

Ask any first, second, or third year teacher you know to consider joining. Tell them all the incredible things our organization has done, is doing, and will continue to do, in spite of incredible state-wide setbacks and obstacles this year.

It's free to join! Remind all potential members that it's free to join now. No dues money will be taken until September. In addition, for every new member you sign up, YOU will receive \$20!

Enjoy all the benefits with none of the cost!

Send your membership forms to Nancy Putman at Lookout Mountain.

## End of Year Events and Summer Updates

The school year is almost over and we all still have so much to do! Don't forget to help us celebrate all the wonderful things that we have accomplished this year. Our Installation Dinner will be on May 20 at Anzio's Restaurant. If you would like to attend, please contact Susie Smith at Sunburst School.

Mark your calendars for the Representative Retreat on July 31! Contact Mindy Whalen at Palo Verde School for more information.

We all know that a lot can happen in the summer, usually when we least expect it, so check your district email often throughout the summer. If you haven't already done so, send your HOME email address to your Area Delegate or to Mindy Whalen to receive updates that can't be sent through district mail. Check our website for updates as well: [www.wdea.net](http://www.wdea.net).

Thank you for your membership and willingness to be involved!

## Representative of the Month

Meet Cynthia Valenzuela!

Cynthia Valenzuela is a Title I teacher at Orangewood School. She is not only a long-time member of the WDEA, but she is also their Site Leader. Despite extensive family responsibilities, Cynthia has been willing to maintain this additional responsibility. Knowing that she is nearing retirement, she worked with the membership at her school and identified a new site leader, Ellen Roberts, and has coached her over the year to take over in August, 2010. Cynthia always keeps up-to-date on the latest developments and gets clarification to make sure her school has accurate information. In addition, she has built a strong partnership with her supportive principal and is often afforded the opportunity to speak with staff and gather their questions, so she can get information and bring it back to them! Cynthia thank you very much for all your hard work for students, staff and members over many years. You will be sincerely missed and we wish you all the best in your retirement! Since we know your passion for education will endure, we may very well still see you at political events this Fall.

Thank you Cynthia for all you do for students and members!

P.S. Congratulations on your retirement! Enjoy it!

\*\*Want to know more about your benefits? Surf on over to these websites:

**WDEA Member Assistance:** [wdea.net](http://wdea.net), learn about your Area Delegates and Advocacy Members

**AEA Members Only:** [arizonaaea.org](http://arizonaaea.org), click on the green membership card for coupons and discounts.

**NEA Member Benefits:** [neamb.com](http://neamb.com), make sure to register on the site in order to save money.

## 3rd Annual Literacy Night

Can you believe we are already in our third year?

This year's event will take place on Wednesday, May 12 from 5:00pm until 6:30 at the Cholla Branch of the Phoenix Public Library.

As usual, we will have several guest readers, including Governing Board Members, Dr. Cook, WDEA President Darrin Squire, and Past President Virginia Ptuyak. Students and their families will have the opportunity to sign up for library cards and hear about the summer reading program offered by the Public Library. Please encourage your students to attend.

You should have already received flyers to go home with your students. If you haven't, please speak with your Office Manager and contact Sara Hester at Shaw Butte School. Dr. Cook also sent out some information in an email. You will receive reminder flyers to send home a little bit closer to the day of the event.

If you would like to help out, please contact Sara Hester at Shaw Butte School. We will need volunteers both inside and outside to direct people where they need to go and to answer questions.

See you at the Library!