

## VOICES UNITED

EDUCATIONAL PROFESSIONALS STANDING TOGETHER

**JEA Officers***Sam Loizzo, President**Chris Kemp, V. President**Maryanne Messier, Secretary**Jennifer Fanning, Treasurer***In this Issue:**

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- Women of Distinction
- Famous Quotes

**WANTED  
YOUR  
IDEAS, HELP,  
& COMMENTS**

Use the link on our JEA website to submit articles or suggestions for the newsletter.

[weac.org/janesvilleEA](http://weac.org/janesvilleEA)

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## A President's Thank you

By Sam Loizzo

The long journey that resulted in our 2007-2009 contract is finally behind us. We need to thank our negotiators one more time for all of their time and energy. Our team did an outstanding job! I also want to thank the Executive Board for their assistance and guidance on the process. The next in line would have to be all of the members that helped at our polling place and the ones that counted the ballots. The last thank you goes out to our membership. I cannot remember a time in my 32 years in Janesville

that we ever had an 83 percent turnout on a vote.

The other topic that needs to be covered is the snow day make-up. The DPI determined that the elementary schools needed to make up 12.16 hours and two contact days. They also determined that the middle and high schools needed only two contact days. We submitted all kinds of ideas to the District on what they could do to make up these days. What they used and didn't use was up to them. They had to deal with all types of concerns from board members, principals, parents, custodial staff, cooks, Van Galder bus staff, and of course, teachers!

Our issues alone kept Dr. Johnson very busy. After

After receiving a variety of e-mails and voice mails from teachers with all different legitimate concerns, I called Dr. Evert and Dr. Johnson and left them both voice mails explaining my concerns. I asked them to either throw me a bone, or throw me under a bus!! We met the next morning at 8:00AM. They were very impressed with the integrity of our members. We resolved every issue in favor of the JEA member during that meeting. Dr. Johnson and I continued to take care of more requests in the next week.

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## THE "POST-WAR" EFFORT

By Steve Strieker, JEA Action Committee

We have lived through a "war" this past year. This "post-war" era has left us fragmented with as many questions as we have answers about the future of the School District of Janesville.

The most important work in history happens after war. The past has proven that successful reconstruction requires extensive, consistent, persistent efforts. Needless to say, reconstruction of the JEA and the School District of Janesville (SDJ) is needed.

As the dust settles, it is important for JEA members to remain active. The Action Committee is currently organizing to assess our "war" efforts and look to how we can best serve JEA members in the coming months.

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**A PRESIDENT’S THANKS YOU (CON’T)**

Every JEA member that e-mailed me, or sent me a voice mail, had their concern taken care of by us. know how much you care.”

John Maxwell

Attitude 101

Thanks you, Dr. Johnson, and JEA members for the way that you handled everything.

And finally, a BIG thank you to all of you that do what you do best—TEACHING!

“People don’t care how much you know until they



**Famous Quotes:**

“The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn”

John Lubbock

“The pupil who is never required to do what he cannot do, never does what he CAN do!”

John Stuart Mill

“He who teaches me to be good, does me good”

Thomas Fuller

**THE “POST-WAR” EFFORT (CON’T)**

To be frank, the SDJ has shown a real lack of leadership throughout the past year. Hence, I don’t anticipate an active leadership role for school leaders during reconstruction. Let’s take advantage of this opportunity to influence the future of Janesville’s schools. We may have more political influence now, than during negotiations.

Look for direction from the Action Committee and stay involved. Our “war” efforts moved us forward in these past negotiations. Let’s NOT drop the ball! Let’s keep on “kicking (and screaming)” this ball into the 21st century!

**Information Share**

- 1- BUSINESS CARDS order your own professional business cards from WEAC just in time for Parent/ Teacher Conferences. Online at [weac.org](http://weac.org)
- 2- JEA now has an official web-site. To keep up to date on local issues, submit concerns & comments, and leadership contacts, go to: [www.janesvilleteachers.org](http://www.janesvilleteachers.org)
- 3- Professional development — [www.weac.org](http://www.weac.org), sign on as a member. You will find links to PI 34, licensing, free training opportunities and much more.

**WOMEN OF DISTINCTION**

We are lucky to have two “Women of Distinction” in our JEA membership! On Friday, April 14 two teachers were honored at a YWCA Luncheon for being “Women of Distinction” in our community.

Paula DeRubeis, a kindergarten teacher at Harrison Elementary School was honored for her long and dedicated career as a teacher of “little people” and for her winning entry in the Scholastic Book Reading Contest , in which she won a prize of \$5,000. Her creative entry in the contest reflects her enthusiasm daily in the classroom and anyone who knows Paula knows how passionate she is about reading and she brings this passion and love into her classroom every day!

Edna Feldman-Schultz, a Franklin Spanish teacher, was honored for her work in promoting understanding of cultural diversity and the acceptance of differences. She is Advisor of the Franklin Human Relations Club and always is trying to engage her students in cultural activities and learning. Edna is trying to change Janesville by inspiring us to learn, understand and accept that differences are what makes us unique and interesting people.

Congratulations to these wonderful women! We’re proud that you are JEA members and a part of our great profession!

**THREE CHEERS!**



**FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION**