

What's Happening at SECA

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Online Voting to Open September 1, 2012

Our new on-line voting system will debut on September 1, 2012 to support the election of the next SECA President.

It's being designed to make it a simple "point and click" system that will only take a few minutes, and we hope that will encourage more members to cast a vote.

We will notify members that the system is available in two ways:

⇒ **For members that have an e-mail address on file, we'll send an e-mail notification.** They will re-

ceive at least two more e-mail notifications during the month of September to encourage them to cast a vote.

⇒ **For members without an e-mail address on file, we'll send out a postcard in August,** notifying them that they can go online to vote beginning on September 1st.

We'll also have a paper ballot option. Members must contact the SECA office to receive a paper ballot and we'll pre-print the ballot with their member number.

Election results will be announced by October 15, 2012.

For more information about the SECA election process, see Article VIII of the SECA By-laws and the Election Policies in the SECA Policies and Procedures Manual.

These resources are available on the Leadership/Leadership Resources Page of the SECA website.

Please help us to "spread the word" through your affiliate newsletters. The ad below is available on the Board Resources page of the SECA website.

Need an Ad for Your Newsletter?

Help us to promote our Presidential election by including an ad in your local and/or state affiliate newsletter.

On the Board Resources page of the SECA website, you'll find:

- ◆ **Half page ads in both black/white and color**
- ◆ **Full page ads in both black/white and color**

The ads are in PDF format, so they will be easy to drop in your publications. For more information contact Megan Sullins in the SECA office.



- Online voting will be open September 1–30, 2012.
- You must have your SECA member ID to cast your vote.
- When voting opens, we will email you to remind you (or send a postcard if we don't have your email address).
- If you need a paper ballot, we will mail one to you upon your request.
- Each active member may only vote once.
- We will announce the results on October 15, 2012.

Cast your vote online for SECA President-Elect this September.

Meet Our Candidates



Evelyn Moore, Texas



Kathy Attaway, Kentucky

Want to Get to Know the Candidates?

Go to www.SouthernEarlyChildhood.org and you'll find:

- A video of the candidates — The video is hosted by Dr. Janie Humphries, Immediate Past President of SECA and Chair of the 2012 Nominating Committee.
- An interview with the candidates on SECA Radio.
- In the winter 2012 issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, you'll find the candidate's responses to questions from the SECA Nominating Committee on pages 20-22.



Board of Directors to Hold Summer Meeting

The SECA Board of Directors has scheduled their summer meeting for July 10-13, 2012 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

This meeting is designed to provide an opportunity for the Board to plan for the next year, get the next annual conference underway and chart the course for the organization into 2013.

The Executive Committee of the Board will convene on the afternoon of July 10th and the full Board will convene that

evening for dinner and to begin preliminary work.

Some items to be discussed during the meeting are:

- ◇ Adoption of a budget for 2012-2013.
- ◇ Distribution methodologies for *Dimensions of Early Childhood*.
- ◇ Selection of the 2013 SECA Friend of Children and the 2013 SECA Outstanding Member.



President Nancy Jane Cheshire

- ◇ SECA publishing.
- ◇ The 2012 Presidential election.

For more information, contact President Cheshire at ncheshire@ma.rr.com.

The SECA Board Welcomes Anita Dailey

The SECA Board of Directors is pleased to announce the addition of a new representative from the state of Georgia, Anita Dailey. Anita was elected by the GAYC Board of Directors to replace Terrie Buckner upon her recent resignation.



Anita is a Program Chair/Instructor in Early Childhood Care & Education at Central Georgia Technical College.

She began her career in 1986 working as a preschool teacher and assistant

director of a child care center in her church. Finding she had a strong desire to help others be successful

in working with children, she began teaching adults through the continuing education program at Columbia Tech.

She holds a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from Georgia

College and State University and has been an instructor at the college level for almost 20 years.

She most recently served as the chair person for the Instructional Faculty Curriculum Consortium for the Technical College System of Georgia's Early Childhood Care & Education programs.

Welcome Anita!

Informational Letters Sent to State/Local Affiliate Leaders

As one of our efforts to increase our visibility and outreach to our state and local affiliate leadership, President Cheshire recently issued a letter to the local affiliate leadership and another letter to the state leadership.

These letters contained information about how SECA and our affiliates inter-

act and what supports SECA provides to ensure state representation on the SECA Board of Directors. They also promoted some of the "member benefits" that we offer, highlighting the variety of publications and information resources available to members.

The letters were mailed around the

middle of May and should have arrived in mailboxes at this time.

We hope you'll find the information useful and take time to share it with your local and state affiliate leader/member groups. **Don't forget: SECA is Your Association!**

Thank You Dr. Anita McLeod

Last year we initiated a new feature in *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, along with a new complementary publication.

With this feature, we moved the *Putting These Ideas Into Practice* pages to the new online publication, *Dimensions Extra*, to make them easy to duplicate for training purposes. **Those pages were substituted with reviews of either a professional or children's book**, depending upon the content of the article...something we felt would be useful to classroom teachers.

We want to send our thanks to Dr. Anita McLeod for taking on this new task and helping us to design our children's book review process.

Anita has spent her career helping to develop our early childhood professionals and one of her particular loves has been children's literature. She's helped us to rediscover many of the "classics" along the way and established a system that will serve the next editor well.

Anita is retired from Furman University in South Carolina and has served as an



early childhood consultant, preschool teacher and director. She is also a Past President of the South Carolina Early Childhood Association.

Our SECA Treasures!

By now, you're familiar with our group, the **FOSSILS**, and the friendship and camaraderie that still exists among these former members of the SECA Board of Directors.

At each annual conference, we host a meeting of the FOSSILS and the fun, laughter and (sometimes) serious discussions are their special time together.

This is an extraordinary group, and, as far we know, a very unique group in a non-profit organization. It's all about



Left to Right: Dr. Margaret Puckett of Texas, Nancy Alexander of Louisiana and JoAnn Nalley of Arkansas.

those Southern connections!

We couldn't resist sharing this photo that was sent to us with the caption, "Our SECA Treasures!" Renewing old friendships and professional connections in San Antonio, **these three Outstanding SECA Members exemplify all that's great about SECA.** For more info on the FOSSILS, go to the Leadership/leadership resources page on the SECA website.



To coincide with our 2013 conference theme of **Hand-in-Hand: Children and Nature**, SECA is sponsoring an Outdoor

Outdoor Learning Contest Announced

Learning Contest. The purpose of this contest is to:

- Highlight quality, nature-friendly outdoor learning environments that can be used as models for programs seeking to improve their own outdoor spaces, and

- Identify models of quality outdoor spaces in each of the SECA states.

Look for full details in July in the summer 2012 issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood*.

Photo courtesy of Lakeshore Learning

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A Voice for Southern Children!

We're on the web!
www.SouthernEarlyChildhood.org

Southern Early Childhood Association



2012 Executive Committee

Nancy Cheshire, President

Dr. Janie Humphries, Past President

Sister Roberta Bailey, Fiscal Officer

Mary Jamsek, Secretary

2012 SECA Board of Directors

Nancy Cheshire (WV), President

Dr. Janie Humphries (LA), Immediate Past President

Richard Hardison, AL State Representative

Dr. Joanna Grymes, AR State Representative

Sister Roberta Bailey, FL State Representative

Anita Dailey, GA State Representative

Katie Shaughnessy-Williams, KY State Representative

Cindy Ramagos, LA State Representative

Beverly Peden, MS State Representative

Marti Nicholson, OK State Representative

Crystal Campbell, SC State Representative

Lisa Maddox-Vinson, TN State Representative

Mary Jamsek, TX State Representative

Joyce P. Jones, VA State Representative

Melissa Smith, WV State Representative

Carol Montealegre (FL), Member-at-Large

Dr. Floyd Creech (SC), Member-at-Large

Go to the SECA website for e-mail addresses for the Board.

SECA 2012:

Fun Was Had by All!

One of the best things about going to the annual SECA conference is connecting with folks from home that you may not see as often as you'd like.

Here's the photo of the group from Kentucky (KAECE). This group included a **past President of SECA** (Terry Green, 3rd from left in the back row), a **2012 recipient of a Helen Harley Scholarship** (Denise Brann, front row on the left), **Chair of the SECA Editorial Committee** (Jaesook Gilbert, 4th in back row) and **Katie Shaughnessy-Williams, the Kentucky representative on the SECA Board** (black sweater in front row). **Hope you can join the fun in Mobile!**

