

Upcoming Dates

ACTE National Convention

November 17-19, 2011
St. Louis, MO

DPE National Conference

November 17-19, 2011
Indianapolis, IN

FBLA/PBL National Fall Leadership Conference

November 18-19, 2011
Little Rock, AR

FBLA State Leadership Conference

April 2-3, 2012
Little Rock, AR

PBL State Leadership Conference

April 12-14, 2012
Little Rock, AR

Region IV ACTE Convention

April 19-21, 2012
Albuquerque, NM

NBEA National Convention

April 3-7, 2012
Boston, MA

PBL National Leadership Conference

June 24-27, 2012
San Antonio, TX

FBLA National Leadership Conference

June 29-July 2, 2012
San Antonio, TX

ABEA Conference

July 24-25, 2012
Hot Springs, AR



FALL 2011

[2011 ABEA Conference Highlights](#) P.2

[2011-12 ABEA Membership Form](#) P.3

[Opolka Wins SBEA Teacher Award](#) P.3

[Visit the ABEA Website](#) P.4

Greetings From ABEA President, Kerry Eliason

Dear Arkansas Business Educators:

Revvin' in '11 was the theme for our 2011 ABEA Conference. We had many wonderful workshops and presenters and I would like to thank each presenter for taking time out of their summer to come to ABEA and teach us new things. Thank you for your knowledge in your area of expertise and for sharing with others to help Arkansas Business teachers continue to be the best! We had a wonderful conference with 285 attendees.

We as business educators teach Arkansas student's everyday how to be a better person, how to reach for their goals and how to attain those goals. We work hard through our classes and FBLA to teach the future of our world. Thank you Arkansas Business Educators...I have said and will continue to say...You are the BEST! One of my favorite quotes is "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

We as educators give so much to our students. We sometimes are their only constant in their lives. We impact students in a way that most of the time, we never see. Thank you for all you do for your students!

I would like to take this opportunity to say Thank you! Thank you for allowing me to serve you on the ABEA board for the past 8 years and have enjoyed every capacity that I have served. I have met many teachers in the state that I now call friends and have learned so much for my profession. I am honored to be in this profession and to serve you as your President.

I hope your school year is the best ever and I look forward to seeing each one of you at the ABEA conference in Hot Springs, July 24 & 25, 2012!

Kerry Eliason,
2011-2012 ABEA
President



This newsletter is interactive! Look for [clickable hyperlinks](#) throughout this issue.

Conference Highlights

- 285 attendees
- \$840 raised in Silent and Raffle Auctions benefitting Arkansas FBLA-PBL Foundation
- Cheryl House recognized for 43 years of teaching at West Memphis High School
- 2011 ABEA District Representative Award—Terri McJunkins
- **Award Recipients**—Michelle Robinson, *New Business Educator*; Patti Lovins, *Junior High Business Educator*; Jim Brock, *Distinguished Supervisor*; Michael Lentz, *Secondary Business Educator*; Lisa Hotsenpiller, *Outstanding Leadership*
- **Phyllis Smith Memorial Scholarship Winners**—Connie Westcott, ATU; Lauren Taylor, ATU; Shanetra Sneed, HSU; Kaleb Gray, UCA
- iPad Winner—Linda Clark of Trumann
- **2011 ABEA Conference Handouts, Photos, and Award Winners**



2011 ABEA Conference

July 26-27, 2011

Hot Springs Convention Center

“*Revin’ in ‘11*” was the theme of the 2011 ABEA Annual Conference in Hot Spring on July 26-27. The conference drew almost 300 business educators for two full days of computer workshops, interest sessions, and awards.

Keeping up to date with the most current technology is always a challenge and conference participants had the opportunity to sharpen their skills in workshops covering Photoshop and Word 2007/2010. Each attendee received two hours of technology inservice credit for their participation.

Back by popular demand, the silent and raffle auctions gave teachers the opportunity to not only bid on an array of items, but to also support the Arkansas FBLA-PBL Foundation.

Interest sessions kicked off the final day of the conference and featured a variety of topics,

including iPads, Perkins, and FBLA Middle Level and Senior Level Updates.

The Phyllis Smith Memorial Scholarship was established by ABEA to honor business education students who exemplify a passion for a future in the profession. Winners of this distinction receive a \$1000 scholarship . Michael Lentz, Scholarship Chair, recognized Connie Westcott of Arkansas Tech University, Lauren Taylor of Arkansas Tech University, Shanetra Sneed of Henderson State University, and Kaleb Gray of the University of Central Arkansas as this

year’s scholarship winners. They are pictured to the right.

At the conclusion of the Awards Luncheon, outstanding business educators are recognized by ABEA. The 2011 ABEA Teacher Award recipients are Michelle Robinson, New Business Educator; Patti Lovins of Marked Tree Junior High School, Junior High Business Educator; Jim Brock of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, Distinguished Supervisor; Michael Lentz of Marmaduke High School, Secondary Business Educator; and Lisa Hotsenpiller of Siloam Springs High School, Outstanding Leadership Award.



Arkansas Business Education Association Membership Form 2010-2011

Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

School: _____

School Phone: _____

School Address: _____

E-mail: _____

District of School: _____

<u>District I</u>	<u>District II</u>	<u>District III</u>	<u>District IV</u>	<u>District V</u>	<u>District VI</u>
Benton	Clay	Arkansas	Clark	Cleburne	Baxter
Crawford	Craighead	Ashley	Columbia	Conway	Boone
Franklin	Crittenden	Bradley	Garland	Faulkner	Carroll
Johnson	Cross	Calhoun	Hempstead	Lonoke	Fulton
Logan	Greene	Chicot	Hot Spring	Perry	Izard
Polk	Independence	Cleveland	Howard	Pope	Madison
Scott	Jackson	Dallas	Lafayette	Prairie	Marion
Sebastian	Lawrence	Desha	Little River	Pulaski	Newton
Washington	Mississippi	Drew	Miller	White	Searcy
	Poinsett	Grant	Montgomery	Woodruff	Sharp
	Randolph	Jefferson	Nevada	Yell	Stone
	St. Francis	Lee	Pike		Van Buren
		Lincoln	Saline		
		Monroe	Sevier		
		Ouachita			
		Phillips			
		Union			

Membership runs from July 1 - June 30 Professional Dues \$20 \$ _____

Student Intern dues \$10 \$ _____

Make checks payable to: ABEA

Mail payments to: Tracie Opolka, 2011 ABEA Treasurer
PO Box 285
Hackett, AR 72937



Tracie Opolka Named 2011 SBEA Secondary Teacher of the Year



Tracie Opolka was named the 2011 Southern Business Education Association (SBEA) Secondary Teacher of the Year and the SBEA Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida, last month. Tracie has taught business education for eighteen years and has taught at Hackett High School for the past seventeen years. She received her Bachelor's of Science in Business Education and Master's of Science in Information Technology degrees from Arkansas Tech University. For the past five years Tracie has worked as an adjunct instructor for the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith, in the College of Applied Science and Technology.

She has taught a wide range of classes from keyboarding to digital communications. Tracie serves as the chairperson for the vocational department and the administrator of Edline/GradeQuick for the Hackett School District. She is the FBLA adviser and currently has a district officer. Her FBLA members have competed at the district, state, and national levels.

Tracie has served on the executive board for the Arkansas Business Education Association for the past three years and is the current treasurer. She was ABEA's Secondary Business Teacher of the Year in 2010. Tracie has attended and presented at state, regional, and national conferences all over the United States.

She gives credit for her professional successes to the support she has received from her mother, Pat Black, a retired forty-four year educator; her husband of eleven years, Mike; her two children, Chase and Sydnie; and her fellow colleagues at Hackett High School, as well as her colleagues all over Arkansas. Tracie is now eligible for consideration as the National Business Education Association Secondary Teacher of the Year in 2012.

Arkansas Business Educator Fall 2011

Visit the ABEA Website

<http://www.abea.us>

Check out the [ABEA website](http://www.abea.us) to find all past issues of the [Arkansas Business Educator](http://www.abea.us). You can also revisit past ABEA conferences in the [conference archives](http://www.abea.us) section of the site and look through handouts and photos from each one.

