

Arkansas Business Educator



SPRING 2013

[Letter from ABEA President-Elect 2](#)

[ABEA Membership Link 3](#)

[2013 ABEA Conference Flyer 4](#)

Upcoming Dates

[FBLA State Leadership Conference](#)

April 8-9, 2013
Little Rock, AR

[PBL State Leadership Conference](#)

April 12-13 2013
Little Rock, AR

[Region IV ACTE Convention](#)

April 25-27, 2013
Oklahoma City, OK

[NBEA National Convention](#)

April 16-20, 2013
Atlanta, GA

[PBL National Leadership Conference](#)

June 22-25, 2013
Anaheim, CA

[FBLA National Leadership Conference](#)

June 27-30, 2013
Anaheim, CA

[Arkansas ACTE Conference](#)

July 28-30, 2013
Hot Springs, AR

[ABEA Conference](#)

July 30-31, 2013
Hot Springs, AR

[ACTE Career Vision 2013 Conference](#)

December 4-7, 2013
Las Vegas, NV

Greetings From ABEA President, Michael Lentz

Dear Arkansas Business Educators,

It is essential for us as Business Educators to maintain our professional growth and continually improve with the latest teaching techniques each year in our classrooms. You can achieve this by joining us "Under the Big Top" and take part in this year's annual ABEA Conference to be held at the Hot Springs Convention Center on July 30th and 31st, 2013. Your ABEA board met a few weeks ago and is currently working diligently to make this year's conference another successful one.

Tammy Ward, your President-Elect, and her "Big Top Crew" are putting together a surprise filled program that will encompass this year "Big Top" theme! Many sessions are being planned that will be both informative and beneficial to you as you apply new ideas into your classroom. I feel confident you will find interest sessions or topics that will apply to you regardless of what you teach!

Tracie Opolka, your ABEA Treasurer, has been making a few changes to our online registration system and this service should be available for you to register through on April 13th. The cost of

the conference is \$80.00 and your membership dues are only \$20.00 for the year...so you can become a MEMBER and attend all of the "Big Top Sessions" for only \$100. Non member registration is \$150. There has been some confusion over the years as to how our membership year runs. When you register for the conference and pay your membership dues that is for the time period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

I would like to thank all of you who have volunteered to present in the past and have already volunteered your services again this year. Also, a big thank you goes out from me to all who have helped us on different committees for the conference and who have offered your time as facilitators. Without the help from EVERYONE, a conference like this would be impossible! I would also like to take this time to thank everyone who has supported me and encouraged me as I have had the honor to serve you on this ABEA in various capacities over the past 8 years.

The Hot Springs Convention Center will serve as our "Big Top" this summer and I hope to see all of you there on July 30th and 31st, 2013.

Michael Lentz
2012-2013 ABEA
President



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

ABEA: Under the Big Top

Tammy Ward, ABEA President-Elect—Smackover High School

Picture for a moment going to the Circus . . . you see things like fire-eaters, lion tamers, jugglers, tightrope walkers, trapeze artistes, and clowns. Without these varying characters, the circus would be boring and lack zest. With all these diversified personalities come unique assets and abilities. This is where the ringmaster comes in – the driving force that unifies and creates harmony “Under the Big Top.”

Much like a circus, the classroom has students with many different talents and skills. It is the teacher’s role as “ring master” to bring out the best of each student. The teacher choreographs lessons, incorporating the frameworks and mapping the curriculum, tying it all to meet minimum standards (although we all know business educators go well beyond the minimum).

This year’s ABEA Conference, “Under the Big Top”, is nothing short of an elaborate production. It is collaboration between the ABEA Board, the Department of Arkansas Career Education, and a menagerie of presenters and facilitators. The conference will be stimulating and informative and prepare you for the 2013-14 classroom Tour de “Under the Big Top” at your school.

Plans for the program include sessions on

- Projects and activities for Common Core in the CTE classroom
- FBLA updates and training for the competitive events testing system
- Microsoft IT Academy and Certification programs
- CTCO
- Frameworks
- And many more

There will be the traditional activities of the silent auction, raffles, awards luncheon and plenty of door prize giveaways. There is also a very special event planned to honor some very special people.

As Nancy Kassebaum has said, “There can be infinite uses of the computer and of new age technology, but if teachers themselves are not able to bring it into the classroom and make it work, then it fails.” For the greatest teachers in Arkansas, the show goes on and we tell ourselves, “Failure is not an option!” Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the greatest conference in Arkansas “Under the Big Top” at the ABEA Conference in Hot Springs, July 30-31, 2013.

ABEA Membership Link

The days of sending in a paper form to renew your ABEA membership are over! You can now renew your membership online.

Go to www.abea.us and click on this link:



or, go here: <http://www.registermychapter.com/beamem/ar/reg/>

There you will see this page, where you'll choose either **'New Registration'** if you are *not currently an ABEA member* or **'Edit My Information'** if you are currently an ABEA member and need to *renew your membership*.



Click here to **BECOME A**
MEMBER of ABEA

Click here to **RENEW**
YOUR ABEA
MEMBERSHIP



UNDER THE BIG TOP

**ABEA Conference July 30 & 31, 2013
Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs AR**

Conference registration will open online on **April 13, 2013** on the ABEA website at: <http://www.abea.us>

Conference Fees:

- Member \$80
- Nonmember \$150

Membership Dues:

- \$20 and membership runs July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

You will have three choices when registering:

1. Member—this option will take you to the membership database for the 2013-2014 membership year (July 1, 2013—June 30, 2014) to choose your name and will not charge you the \$20 membership fee on your invoice. If your school does not pay your membership dues this would be the option you would need to choose. (Remember to register online as a member for 2013-2014 first, print your invoice, and mail in your dues).
2. Renewal—this option will import your information into the 2013-2014 (July 1, 2013—June 30, 2014) membership year database and will charge you the \$20 membership renewal fee on your invoice..
3. Nonmember—this option will charge you the \$150 flat registration fee and you will not be considered a member of ABEA.

Print invoice and mail along with your check to Tracie Opolka, PO Box 285, Hackett, AR 72937

Hotel Information:

- ABEA has a block of rooms at the Embassy Suites in Hot Springs. Rates for the rooms are \$144 single, \$154 double, \$164 triple, & \$174 quad. If you will be splitting the room with a business teacher from another school, please let them know when making your reservation. The phone number for the Embassy is 501-321-4407 or 501-321-4430

Questions:

- General: Michael Lentz, ABEA President: mlentz@mhs.nesc.k12.ar.us
- Registration: Tracie Opolka, ABEA Treasurer: tracie.opolka@hacketthornets.org
- Presenter Opportunities: Tammy Ward, President Elect: tammy.ward@smackover.net
- Door Prize Donations: Sonya Orrick, District II Rep: sorrick@blackrock.k12.ar.us
- SBEA/NBEA: Carrie Bengston, SBEA Rep: cbengston@bentonschools.org

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN JULY!