

Expanding the Horizons of the WEA Legend

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Abstract

This workshop examined the WEA Newsletter, formerly the Legend, and recently changed to the Journal of the Wilderness Education Association. During the interactive workshop, participants examined past Legends and set standards and criteria for this new electronic journal.

Keywords: The Legend, WEA Newsletter, Electronic Newsletter, Journal of the Wilderness Education Association

During the 2005 National Wilderness Education Association in Estes Park, CO, the board of trustees approved a name change for the Legend to become the Journal of the Wilderness Education Association. This session examined the history of the Legend, looked at past issues, and made suggestions and provided direction for the new Journal.

In 2004, the newsletter became electronic to increase distribution and to save money for the Wilderness Education Association. Throughout 2004, receiving article submissions was still a challenge, but the newsletter was published on its scheduled timeline with articles submissions due on September 1, December 1, and April 1.

In 2004, a workshop was held at the National Conference to provide direction for the Legend. This is a list of some of the suggestions from the 2004 conference delegates:

- Standard Features:
 - Board/President/National Office updates
 - Outdoor Equipment Feature
 - Affiliate Feature and Student Feature
 - Instructor Update
 - News, upcoming events, celebrations

- Issue Stuff:
 - Case Studies
 - Book Review/Research Review
 - Member Profile
 - Paul Petzoldt Anecdotes
 - “The Campfire” – 18 point curriculum
 - “Ask the Legends”
 - Recognition

- Rotating:
 - Legal/Risk Management
 - Land/Resource Management Updates
 - Accreditation/Certification Issues
 - Wilderness Medicine Update

- Reports/Updates from Profession at Large and other conferences
- Field Application of Leadership and Decision Making
- Other ideas:
 - Gear Swap
 - Pro Deal Updates
 - Member Benefit Updates

At the 2005 conference, more suggestions were also made. The creation of an Editorial Board was formed and several individuals are interested in being involved with the Journal of the WEA in the future.