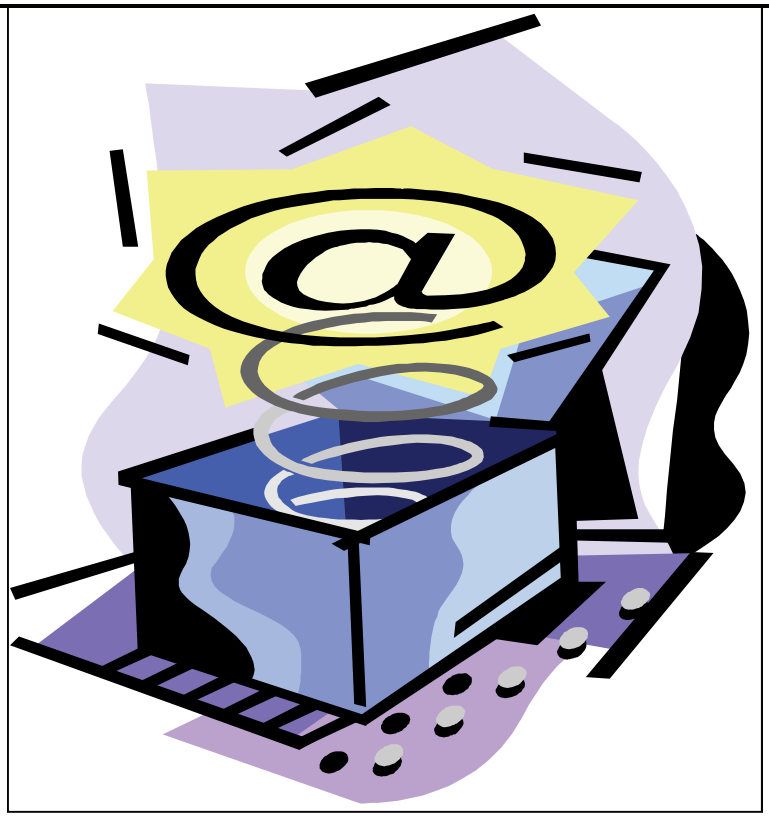
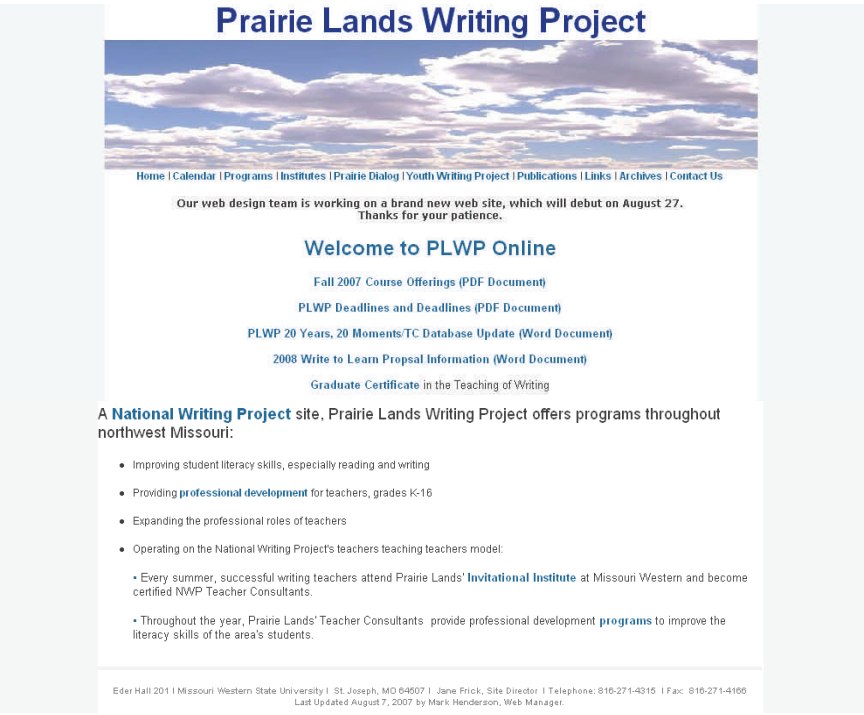
Prairie Lands Writing Project



Rejuvenating our Presence on the Web

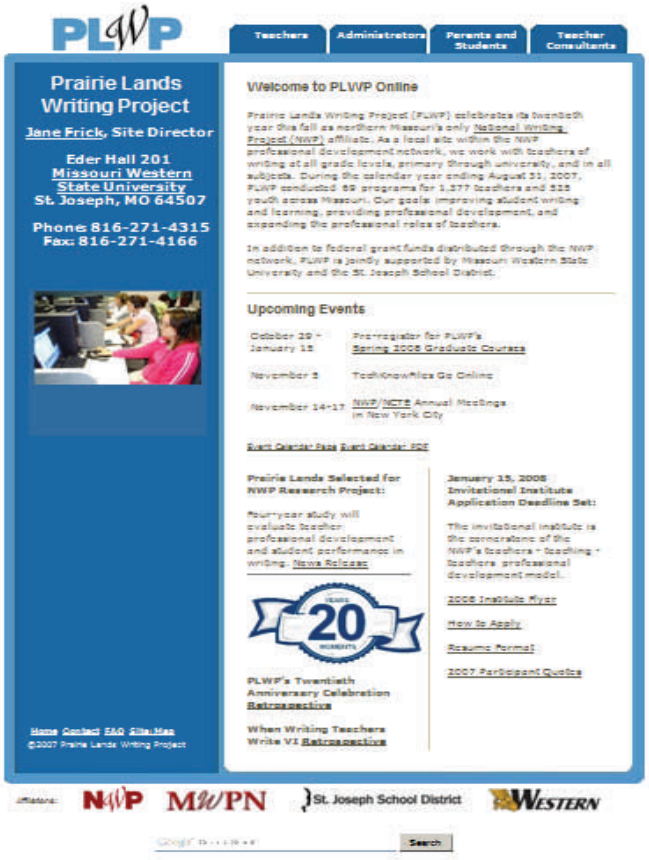
@ http//www.missouriwestern.edu/plwp



PLWP HOMEPAGE BEFORE

This is a "Before" shot of the PLWP Homepage — people typically either loved or hated the cloudy skies graphic, but there was usually no in-between feeling about it. There are also no graphics to break up all the text.

There *are* lots of places to go from here, but that was part of the problem. If you visited this homepage where would you go? Perhaps into yonder skies?



PLWP HOMEPAGE AFTER

This is an "AFTER" shot of the PLWP Homepage — we kept the blue and white from our blue skies, but we framed the info, added a tabbed menu for our audiences across the top of the page, tried to break up the text with space, graphics and photos, and incorporated an acknowledgement of our affiliations.

There are lots of places to go from here too, but hopefully visitors have a better sense of direction here.

PLWP LOGO BEFORE

This is a "Before" shot of the PLWP Logo. The typewriter with the wheat growing out of it particularly bothered our student web designer, Mark Henderson. In his mind, it was an anachronism to have on a website. Oh, and what do you know, there are those blue skies again.

PLWP HOMEPAGE AFTER

This is an "AFTER" shot of the PLWP Logo. It obviously takes its cue from the NWP Logo as well as our state network's the Missouri Writing Projects Network (MWPN) Logo, but for Mark that was the point. He thought it clearly and cleanly gave us a more contemporary identity and emphasized our relationships with the various levels of the overarching organization.

PLWP ANNIVERSARY LOGO

This is the logo Mark designed for our 20th Anniversary celebration earlier this fall. We wanted something besides the regular logo to mark this milestone. If you visit the site (at least until the end of the year) you will be able to see it prominently displayed in a couple of places there.

Prairie Lands Writing Project

Home | Calendar | Programs | Institutes | Prairie Dialog | Youth Writing Project | Publications | Links | Archives | Contact Us

Event Calendar

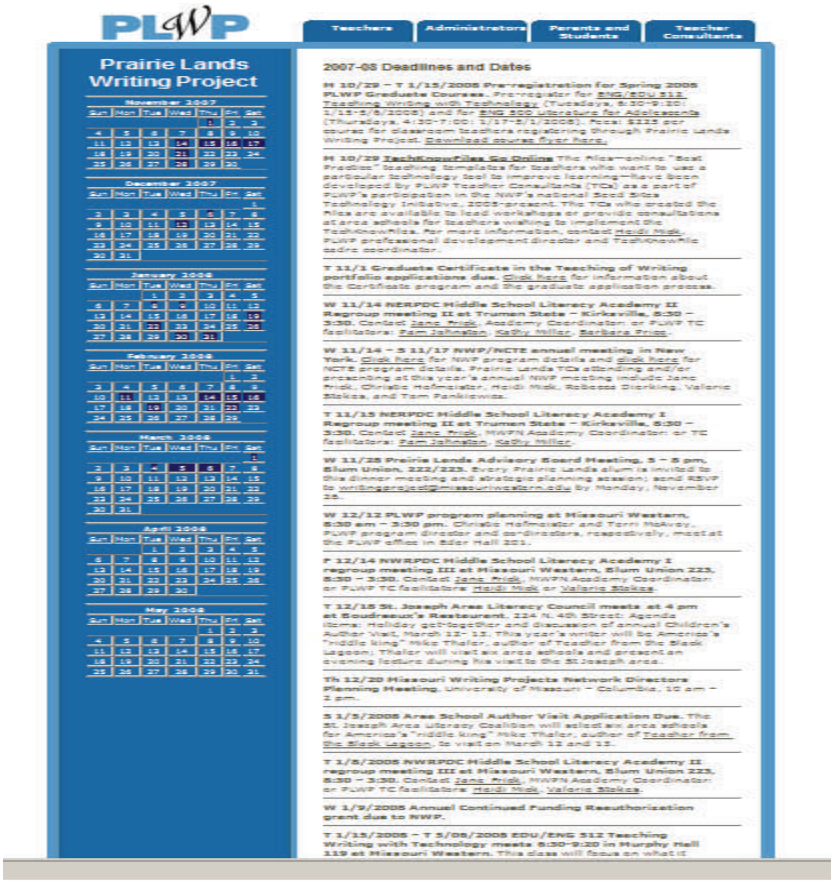
June 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Memorial Day Campus Closed	5 Writing Camps Begin Advanced Institute Meets	6 Writing Camps Advanced Institute Meets	7 Writing Camps Advanced Institute Meets	8 Writing Camps	9
10	11 Writing Camps Digital Storytelling Institute	12 Writing Camps Digital Storytelling Institute	13 Writing Camps Digital Storytelling Institute	14 Writing Camps Digital Storytelling Institute	15 Digital Storytelling Institute	16
17	18 Writing Camps	19 Writing Camps	20 Writing Camps	21 Writing Camps	22	23
24	25 Writing Camps	26 Writing Camps Advanced Institute Meets	27 Writing Camps Advanced Institute Meets	28 Writing Camps End Advanced Institute Meets	29	30

Eder Hall 201 | Missouri Western State University | St. Joseph, MO 64507 | Jane Frick, Site Director | Telephone: 816-271-4315 | Fax: 816-271-4166
Last Updated May 3, 2007 by Mark Henderson, Web Manager.

PLWP CALENDAR PAGE - BEFORE

This is a "Before" shot of the PLWP Calendar Page. Visitors could see what events were scheduled, but if they didn't already know what the events were then it wasn't really very useful to them.



PLWP

Teachers | Administrators | Parents and Students | Teacher Consultants

Prairie Lands Writing Project

2007-08 Deadlines and Dates

M 10/29 – T 1/15/2008 Pre-registration for Spring 2008 PLWP Graduate Courses. Pre-register for ENG/EDU 313, Teaching Writing with Technology (Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30: 1/15-5/6/2008) and for ENG 500 Literature for Adolescents (Thursdays, 4:30-7:00: 1/17-5/1/2008). Fees: $225 per course for graduate teachers registering through Prairie Lands Writing Project. Download courses flyer here.

M 10/29 TechConviles Go Online The Mix-n-mine "Best Practice" teaching templates for teachers who want to use a particular technology tool to improve learning—have been developed by PLWP Teacher Consultants (TCs) as a part of PLWP's participation in the NWP's national Seed Site Technology Initiative, 2006-present. The TCs who created the files are available to lead workshops or provide consultations at area schools wishing to implement the TechKnowFile. For more information, contact Heidi Mok, PLWP professional development director and TechKnowFile cadre coordinator.

T 11/1 Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing portfolio applications due. Click here for information about the Certificate program and the graduate application process.

W 11/14 NERPDC Middle School Literacy Academy II Regroup meeting II at Truman State – Kirksville, 5:30 – 8:30. Contact Jane Frick, Academy Coordinator or PLWP TC facilitators: Pam Johnston, Kathy Miller, Barbara Price.

W 11/14 – S 11/17 NWP/NCTE annual meeting in New York. Click here for NWP program details and click here for NCTE program details. PLWP TCs attending and/or presenting at this year's annual NWP meeting include Jane Frick, Christie Hofmeister, Heidi Mok, Rebecca Sterkling, Valerie Stokes, and Tom Pankiewicz.

T 11/13 NERPDC Middle School Literacy Academy I Regroup meeting II at Truman State – Kirksville, 5:30 – 8:30. Contact Jane Frick, NWPN Academy Coordinator or TC facilitators: Pam Johnston, Kathy Miller.

W 11/28 Prairie Lands Advisory Board Meeting, 5 – 8 pm, Blum Union, 222/223. Every Prairie Lands alum is invited to this dinner meeting and discussion session; send RSVP to writingproject@missouriwestern.edu by Monday, November 26.

W 12/12 PLWP program planning at Missouri Western, 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. Christie Hofmeister and Terri Nakvoy, PLWP program director and co-director, respectively, meet at the PLWP office in Eder Hall 201.

F 12/14 NWRPDC Middle School Literacy Academy I regroup meeting III at Missouri Western, Blum Union 223, 8:30 – 3:30. Contact Jane Frick, NWPN Academy Coordinator or PLWP TC facilitators Heidi Mok or Valerie Stokes.

T 12/18 St. Joseph Area Literacy Council meets at 4 pm at Boudreaux's Restaurant, 224 N. 4th Street. Agenda items: Holiday get-together and discussion of annual Children's Author Visit, March 11- 12. This year's writer will be America's "riddle king" Mike Thaler, author of Teacher from the Black Lagoon; Thaler will visit six area schools and present an evening lecture during his visit to the St Joseph area.

Th 12/20 Missouri Writing Projects Network Directors Planning Meeting, University of Missouri – Columbia, 10 am – 2 pm.

S 1/5/2008 Area School Author Visit Application Due. The St. Joseph Area Literacy Coalition will select six area schools for America's "riddle king" Mike Thaler, author of Teacher from the Black Lagoon, to visit on March 11 and 12.

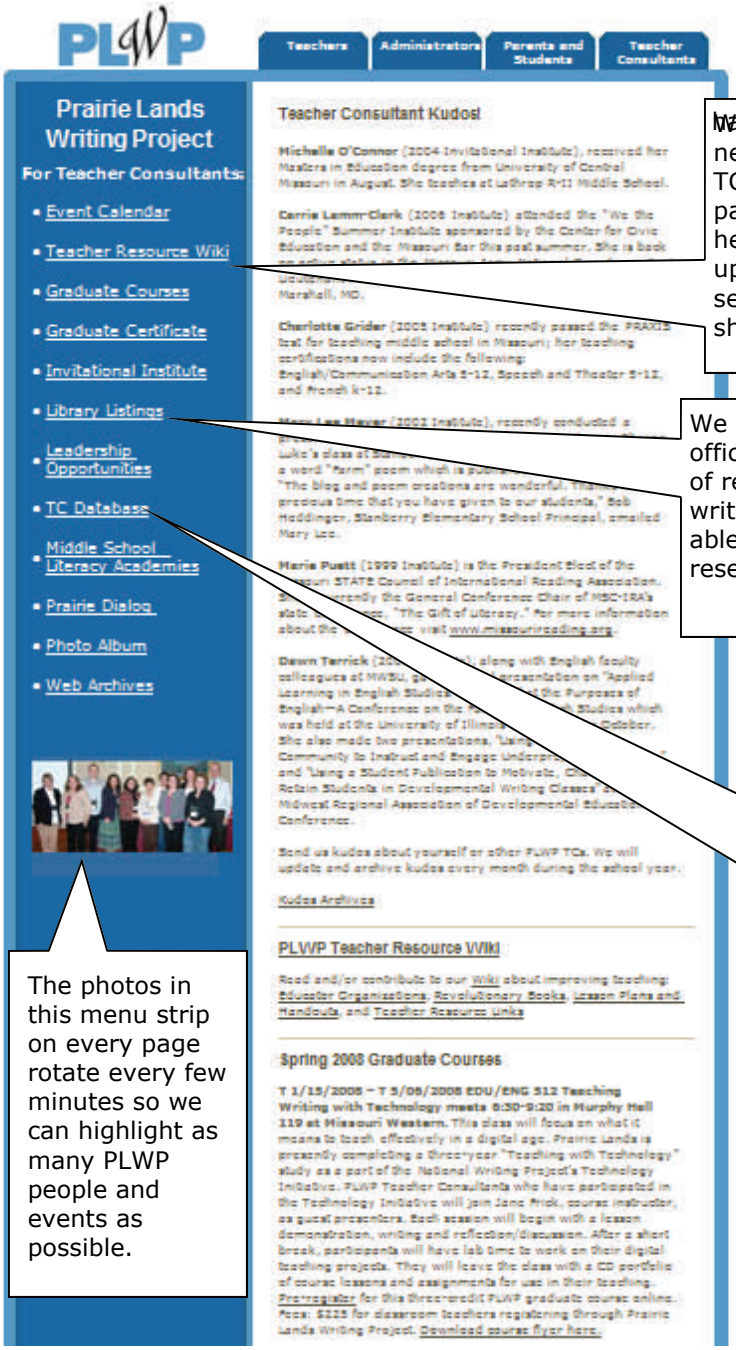
T 1/8/2008 NWRPDC Middle School Literacy Academy II regroup meeting III at Missouri Western, Blum Union 223, 8:30 – 3:30. Contact Jane Frick, NWPN Academy Coordinator or PLWP TC facilitators Heidi Mok, Valerie Stokes.

W 1/9/2008 Annual Continued Funding Reauthorization grant due to NWP.

T 1/15/2008 – T 5/06/2008 EDU/ENG 312 Teaching Writing with Technology meets 5:30-9:30 in Murphy Hall 119 at Missouri Western. This class will focus on what it

PLWP CALENDAR PAGE - AFTER

This is a partial "AFTER" shot of the PLWP Calendar Page. When we had our dinner and critiquing session in mid-summer, people gave quite a bit of input about the calendar. They wanted both the view of the overall month calendar, but they wanted to know a little about the scheduled events, too. This is what we came up with to satisfy both camps.



We now have a link to a new resource Wiki where TCs and other interested parties can post reviews of helpful resources and or upload the resources themselves (from PD or workshop presentations the TCs

We have now included the PLWP office's extensive library holdings of resources on the teaching of writing and reading for TCs to be able to conveniently access and reserve.

We have created a TC Database that gives the TC Alums' year(s) of participation and indicates what they are currently doing (if we know). If the TC gives their permission we also create an automatic link to their email address.

The photos in this menu strip on every page rotate every few minutes so we can highlight as many PLWP people and events as possible.

This is the new Teacher Consultants Page. People liked the idea of highlighting notable achievements and activities of TC Alums—they wanted to know what colleagues were up to, especially the people from their Institute year.

As with all the pages, the menu down the left hand side provides quick access to site areas that are most pertinent to this particular audience.

On every page of our site, there is easy access to the Home Page, the Contact Page, the FAQs Page and the Site Map. We also included the Google Custom Search bar for the site and our affiliations at the bottom of each page.

In this School Inservices section we tried to provide answers and the kind of information we thought would be most helpful to administrators trying to get a quick idea of what PLWP can do for them.

This is the new Administrators Page. We talked about how administrators are busy people so we wanted to state up front how we could be of service to them and then provide quick links down the menu bar to some examples of those services and programs described in more detail on the page.

As with all the pages, the menu down the left hand side provides quick access to site areas that are most pertinent to this particular audience.