

The Old Wise One is Back

By Katie & Emma

Some of you may know the old wise one as Mary Ann Brandt. Most people know her as MAB. She was a 5-6 teacher at Merriam Elementary School. She retired at the end of the school year of 2008-2009. MAB worked here for 15 years!!! Now she's back to teach kid's drama. She teaches drama in Christy's classroom one hour a week. She has been helping us with fables. In addition to this she teaches two after school theater classes. One on Tuesday for first to third graders and one on Wednesday for fourth to sixth graders.

Who would have guessed she would have to be forced to do drama!!! MAB didn't want to do theater at first. She said, "My mother forced me when I was 11. I didn't want to do it, I was sure I'd be rejected. I remember her pushing me out the door." It turns out MAB got a part as a nosey girl who always got into trouble. She even won an award for best actress. She said, "My fate was sealed."

Directing is also a talent that MAB possesses. She has directed *Hamlet* and other plays. She directed *Hamlet* last year. She enjoys Shakespeare's



tragedies. The most recent theater production she has been a part of is a group of four theater fables.

MAB has had many students go on to have interesting roles. Aaron Stanford was one of her students. He went on to be the lead in *The Hills Have Eyes*, he played Pyro in *X-Men* and *X-Men, The Last Stand*. Another actor that she taught is Keir O'Donnel. He was the weird son in *The Wedding Crashers*. So as you can see we are and should be truly honored to have MAB directing us as well. Thank you to MAB for letting us interview her and teaching us drama.