Not Just Special …Extraordinary

The 2008 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year doesn’t believe she is special. She says, “What I do on a daily basis is no more extraordinary than what most folks do in correctional education . . . We all get the job done to the best of our ability, and we often go above and beyond on a regular basis. Sometimes we have more success with some things we try than others.”

The students, fellow teachers, and administrators at Southern Oaks Girls School have a different opinion. They think Linda Eberle is extraordinary.

In recognition of her extraordinary efforts to provide educational opportunities for juvenile girls at SOGS, the CEAW Executive Board is proud to recognize Linda Eberle as the 2008 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year.

Linda earned a BA in Psychology, Education, and Special Education from Carthage College in 1971. She went on to get her MA in Special Education from UW-Whitewater in 1995. She has taught for 36 years, the last 10 at SOGS.

Her duties at SOGS include developing and implementing programming to meet the science and math needs of a diverse population.

Linda believes whatever we teach needs to be interesting and relevant. One activity that Linda enjoyed and was very successful was incorporating a garden into her science curriculum. Through the gardening activities, she was able to engage her students in many “hands on” experiences.

Linda uses the gardening experience to form the basis of the cooking/nutrition education that she collaborates with the University of Wisconsin Extension. As Linda describes the garden, “It provides a wealth of critters to study in a natural environment: insects and garden spiders, rescued turtles, saw fly larvae, composting worms, bats, and a variety of birds all have found their way into the curriculum. The garden also (continue on page 3)
“Correctional Education: An Integral Piece of the Puzzle” is the timely theme for this year’s Region III & IV CEA Conference. In the age of reentry and successful reintegration back into society being at the forefront of corrections everywhere, we know that correctional educators play a vital role in this process for our students. The conference committee has put together a schedule of two keynote speakers, 35 informative workshops, a vendor resource fair, and some time for fun and networking.

Two of the conference workshops will be presented by Wisconsin educators. They are:

**Vocational Literacy - A Model with Results**
Come and learn about a Vocational Literacy Course that demonstrates a 43% average increase in post-test scores over pre-test scores. The resources and philosophies utilized in developing this course for the Dunn County Jail will be shared. The 12-hour course covers goal setting, attitudes & excuses, career exploration, job search techniques, resumes, cover letters and interviewing.
Presenter: Laura Reisinger, Dunn County Coordinator, Literacy Volunteers - Chippewa Valley

**Teaching Responsible Thinking**
Offenders often lack empathy for others and are delayed in their moral development. This workshop will describe the stages of moral development through which everyone moves on their way to moral maturity. A systematic instructional format that encourages students to revise their world view and accelerate their movement through the developmental stages will be presented. Exercises for exploring the inter-relationship between obligations, ideals, and consequences will be illustrated.
Presenter: Jerry Bednarowski, CEA-Wisconsin Board Member

To obtain the Region III & IV CEA Conference registration form go the www.ceanational.org website and click on “conferences” and “upcoming events.” For more information, contact Helen Jaeb at helen.j.jaeb@state.mn.us
provides the hands on activities the girls need to understand plant germination, growth, and reproduction --- all pretty sterile topics when simply read from a book.”

From the garden, the girls learn much more than science. The gardening experience has helped the girls develop the ability to work together in planning and carrying out a rewarding task. Linda remarks it is a rare that a girl doesn’t take pride in the flowers and vegetables that she has helped raise. Gardening has given the students a chance to experience success from nurturing the living things around them.

The garden allows Linda’s students an opportunity to help others. They share the food and flowers they produce with others at the institution and some of what is raised is cleaned and processed and donated to area food pantries.

In addition to her teaching duties, Linda serves as a resource and case manager for special education students served by her teaching team. She guides a caseload of students as they explore lifework education topics. Linda also helps fellow employees find resources through her role as an Employee Assistance Coordinator.

Most recently, Linda is working on creating a collaborative parenting class; integrating science topics like development, brain development, and learning with more traditional parenting topics.

Linda views teaching as an opportunity to make a difference. Most of what she tries to do meets one of three goals:

- To inspire her students to enjoy learning again
- To empower them to be successful learners in whatever environments they encounter in the future
- To improve their confidence/belief in themselves

Linda believes, “As a correctional education teacher it’s my goal to present material and learning opportunities in such a way that students regain the excitement about learning that many of them have lost. This includes relearning how to ask the questions, to go beyond the “Wow!” factor to ask “Why?” and “How?” It also means incorporating a lot of “hands on” and variety in each learning task. In addition, I attempt to learn new things about myself in each unit I teach, and try to model my own enthusiasm about learning.”

Linda’s second challenge --- and opportunity --- in the classroom is to help her students learn how to be successful in the traditional classroom. “This task is figuring out how successful students approach their work in the classroom, and then consciously teaching these skills to students who have never learned them. Things as simple as keeping track of assignments, developing a way to get homework completed on time, finding techniques for learning material, learning to think critically, developing test-taking strategies, improving written work, and especially learning to be respectful and an active classroom participant are the kinds of skills I try to integrate into regular lessons. These need to be repeated and practiced and incorporated over and over by students. As a teacher, I try to put as much preparation and thought into teaching these skills as I put into teaching biology and math content.”

The third way Linda tires to impact the lives of her students is to give them a reason to feel pride. “Ideally I would like to have students feel they have experienced some personal positive change as a result of my class. It is important to me to show each student respect and to appreciate each one’s efforts . . . I see it as my goal as a teacher to develop students’ confidence that they WILL be successful if they try, to help them feel competent and in control of their own learning.”

The CEAW Executive Board is pleased to recognize Linda Eberle as the 2008 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. Linda will represent Wisconsin at the Region III & IV CEA Conference in Bloomington, Minnesota on April 10-11.
Ethan Allen School Focuses on Inclusion

The majority of Ethan Allen School students enter the institution two to four years behind in credits and basic skills. Therefore, education programming focuses on remediation of basic skills and providing special education services with an inclusion model of academic and Career and Technical Education classes. Seventeen year old students with higher academic abilities are provided HSED programming. Special education services are provided in accordance with DPI, IDEA and Section 504 of the Federal statues. Although public schools average an incidence of less than 16% special education students, EAS has nearly a 50% incidence under SPED and 95% incidence under Section 504, primarily in EBD.

The achievement levels of new admissions are assessed using the Wechsler Individual Achievement Test. Interests, aptitudes and independent living skills are also assessed during the reception process. During their stay at EAS students are also assessed on an ongoing basis for specifically funded programs such as Title I.

Basic skills are remediated through the core content areas of English/Language Arts, Math and Social Studies. When provided two key instructional factors: student ratio and student teacher contact time, EAS student show 1.5 months’ progress for each month in the program. Length of stay is another EAS variable that impacts educational achievement. In effect, a student released four months from admission shows four months’ or academic progress, while a student released 12 months from admission shows 18 months’ progress.

Although, there are two separate resource rooms: special education services are primarily delivered through an inclusion model. Speech/Language services are provided through a combination of classes and individual therapy. Nearly half the faculty is DPI certified in Special Education, making an integrated delivery model the most cost effective within both legal and educational requirements.

Since the early 1960s Career and Technical Education (formerly Vocational Education) has been an integral component of a student’s educational program at Ethan Allen School. Substantial curriculum changes have occurred over these forty plus years, however, the emphasis on providing quality technical education through integrated and experiential learning remains a constant. Today’s labor market depends on increased academic and technical skills coupled with workers having the capacity to adapt as jobs evolve with the introduction of new technologies. Ethan Allen’s Career and Technical Education program continuously works towards educating youth to meet these employment requirements. CTE provides a student the opportunity to explore career clusters and pathways while gaining technical knowledge in preparation for meaningful lifetime employment.

by: Thomas Haack, EAS

Jail Break!

There are only a few days left to register for the Jail Instructor Training Day. The Wisconsin Technical College System and CEA-Wisconsin are partnering to present the Jail Instructor Training Day on Friday, April 25, 2008 at the Pine Ridge Lodge in Wautoma, WI. Featured will be guest speakers, three general sessions, plus plenty of opportunities to meet and share ideas with other jail instructors.

More conference information and the registration form may be found in the January/February issue of this newsletter. If you didn’t keep your old copy, it can be found on the [www.ceawisconsin.org](http://www.ceawisconsin.org) website. The Pine Ridge offers 12 guest rooms at the state rate. More information on the variety of rooms available may be found at [www.pineridgeofwautoma.com](http://www.pineridgeofwautoma.com). If you would like to stay the night or extend your stay for a weekend getaway, contact the Pine Ridge at 920-787-5519 or 866-870-4868. Overflow rooms at the state rate are available at the Super 8 in Wautoma. Please contact Laura at the Super 8 Motel at 920-787-4811 to reserve these rooms.
Oakhill Volunteer Wins Peacemaker Award

A volunteer who works with prisoners at Oakhill Correctional Institution north of Oregon has earned a state award for her efforts. Sarah Quinn was recently named “Peacemaker of the Year” in the under-30 category by the Wisconsin Network of Peace and Justice. She received her award last October at a reception in Racine.

Quinn who lives in Madison, started at Oakhill in 2003 and helps coordinate the Community Connections program, which allows volunteers at Oakhill to teach classes to inmates or form groups like chess or book clubs. Quinn also leads a film group that meets each week to watch movies focusing primarily on issues of social justice.

Quinn said she and other volunteers fill a gap in the state corrections system, which apportions most of its annual $1.1 million budget to security, rather than social programs.

As a result, Quinn, who volunteers about 15 hours per week, said prisoners often aren’t ready to re-enter society when their terms are up. In Oakhill, for example, there are more than 700 inmates – about double the facility’s capacity – but only six social workers, she said. “I see how much need there is,” she said. “The population here is completely marginalized.”

Oakhill inmates spend an average of nine months at the minimum security facility. And during that time, Quinn gets to know some of them well.

Though most of society is “taught to fear prisoners,” Quinn said the truth is far less scary. For the most part, “they’re kind of a fun group of people to work with,” she said.

As part of her nomination, an inmate from Oakhill sent a written appraisal of Quinn. He said she “brings a new perspective on peace to many of us in here who have never experienced it. Sarah instills hope by opening our eyes to greater possibilities, not only as individuals, but collectively by expanding our sense of community.”

by: Seth Jovaag
United Newspaper Group/Oregon Observer
reprinted with permission

Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program Offered

Some teachers working in Wisconsin correctional facilities may qualify for loan forgiveness under a federally subsidized program. The Wisconsin Resource Center recently was granted loan forgiveness status under the program. Dr. Myrna Toney of the Wisconsin Department of Education facilitated the WRC’s addition to the program register. To be placed on the register, the institution must meet criteria as outlined in the program. Dr. Toney assesses institutions and makes decisions to place institutions meeting guidelines on the register kept by the United States Department of Education. Institutions interested in being reviewed need to contact Dr. Toney directly at myrna.toney@dpi.state.wi.us or call (608) 266-2690.

When your institution qualifies, there is a lengthy process teachers are required to follow. That’s right, no free lunch! The justification for the program is to lure highly qualified teachers to work in low income and high need settings for long periods of time. It is an incentive based program for employers to use to encourage potential recruits with student loans to work in a high need area. When a teacher meets program requirements by working in an approved setting, the teacher may apply for loan forgiveness. This will require the institution being on the approved list consecutive to the years teachers apply for loan forgiveness. Amounts forgiven and/or deferred vary but can be several thousand dollars. A teacher must contact their lending institution for an application. Completed applications are returned the lending institutions for review.

by: Rich Norenberg, WRC
Pair Gives Allouez Inmates Opportunities for Change

Educators at correctional institution have 'life-changing' career, teacher says

With rows of desks, colorful bulletin boards and stacks of reference books, Virginia Vanden Branden's classroom hardly stands out from the norm.

But catch a glimpse of "Chicken Soup for the Prisoner's Soul" perched on the blackboard, and it's clear this is no ordinary room.

Vanden Branden has been teaching inmates for 20 years, her recently retired colleague Harriet Schoenebeck for nearly 27. For the past decade, the two have run a program assuming that every prisoner — even the lifers — can make a brighter future for himself.

"They go out of their way to really provide an opportunity for these guys to make some changes in their life, some positive changes," said Warden William Pollard of the Green Bay Correctional Institution. "It's really to make them think about the choices that they have."

It's for these efforts that Vanden Branden and Schoenebeck have been named this year's Everyday Heroes in the category of education. Everyday Heroes are people whose deeds — large and small — make Northeastern Wisconsin a better place to live.

The power of education, even in prison, can't be underestimated, said former warden Daniel Bertrand, who nominated the pair.

"I've seen guys break down crying because they got their GED," Bertrand said. "So proud — and their families were so proud because they accomplished a positive. And once you accomplish a positive, it makes it easier to put another positive on top."

Both Vanden Branden and Schoenebeck were regular classroom teachers before different paths brought them to the Green Bay Correctional Institution.

They started their Challenges and Possibilities program, which focuses on the concepts of personal growth and restorative justice, in 1997 after Vanden Branden started a similar program at the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution.

The 13-week Challenges and Possibilities program brings in speakers, including judges, counselors and clergy, in an attempt to reach inmates during a 13-week program. But perhaps the most powerful element is a three-day session on restorative justice that has inmates facing their victims and for many, finally understanding the impact of their actions.

"It's so life-changing," Schoenebeck said, "because the men will tell you they often never thought of their victims as a human being. ... Once a man realizes what impact his crime has made ... usually the desire comes to not only make that realization, but to try to the best of their ability to repair the harm they've done."

Their work at the prison — a maximum-security institution — is potentially dangerous, and Vanden Branden and Schoenebeck know it. But neither one has ever felt threatened by their students. Both avoid reading inmates' records, preferring to see their students independent of their crimes.

"When a student is admitted, I want to know the (reading) level he came in with," Vanden Branden said, "then I test and begin just the way I would with a student on the street. I don't go into his background. I
News Review  Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin

The pair has provided hope for myriad prisoners, said inmate Sam Terry, a recent Challenges and Possibilities graduate currently serving a 10-year sentence.

"There's some people in here that have like 80 years," said Terry, 30. "They write themselves off. ... But they come in this program, you just see — I'm not saying absolutely 360 (degrees), they're-an-angel type of change — but you see something different inside. You see, like a light comes on, and they have hope.

"You have that feeling of, it ain't over. Even though I'm in here and I may be in for a long time, but I can change. I can be a productive person inside here."

Nomination for Virginia Vanden Branden and Harriet Schoenebeck

I am nominating both Virginia Vanden Branden and Harriet Schoenebeck as co-heroes in the education category.

Both Virginia and Harriet are basic education teachers at the Green Bay Correctional Institution, a maximum security prison. Five days a week, all year long -- prison teachers do not get off in for the summer months – these two teachers educate inmates.

That in itself is great; however, (10) years ago, these two ladies envisioned an educational program that could turn an inmate's life around. The name of this program is Challenges and Possibilities. Both Virginia and Harriet contact people in the community to come to the prison and share their knowledge and experience with inmates. The goal of this program is to educate these men to become better citizens and even leaders. Some inmates who participate in Challenges and Possibilities are serving life sentences. They will never see the other side of the walls. Yet, after participating in this program, these men show positive leadership skills, which they practice when dealing with their peers, staff and family.

We all want a safe community. The men who are released after attending this program become better self-sustaining, law-abiding citizens.

This program was the incentive for Virginia and Harried to start on (a) 2 ½ year mission. They developed the idea of having the inmates write and participate in a movie entitled, "You don't want to live in my house." Those ladies put in hundreds of hours of time beyond their regular school day. Hours that could have been spent with family and friends (were) used on this mission to help the men produce a movie to deter young people from crime.

This video won national acclaim and has been seen by thousands of youth, youth who – going through this movie – took a second look at the negative direction they were going. Youth who chose not to reside at the Green Bay Correctional Institution.

Virginia and Harriet have the energy and passion usually reserved for the young. These "well-seasoned" ladies have been two bright stars in my career in GBCI. It is well beyond time they received the recognition they so deserve – heroes.

Daniel Bertrand, former warden, Green Bay Correctional Institution
by Kelly McBride, Green Bay Press-Gazette
reprinted with permission

Tutor Resource

Looking for a good website with ideas and literacy tools to use? Last month’s Winnebago County Literacy Council newsletter suggests this website. Check out http://www.thinkfinity.org/home.aspx.
Correctional Education Association – Wisconsin State Conference
May 5, 2008
Osthoff Resort, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

The CEAW Executive Board is pleased to announce that its 2008 one-day CEA-Wisconsin State Conference will be held on Monday, May 5. The site for the conference is again the beautiful Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake.

The Conference Planning Committee has constructed a program for the conference that includes workshops focusing on re-entry, literacy, special education, county jails, post-secondary education, parenting, and other areas. Also featured will be vendor displays and a silent auction.

The Osthoff Resort has agreed to offer rooms at state rates for May 6 & 7. You may choose from a single room for $62, a double for $82, a one-bedroom suite with a sofa-sleeper for $82, or a two-bedroom suite for $124. All rooms have beautiful lakeside or woodland views. A block of rooms will be held at these rates until April 5, 2008.

Conference Schedule at a Glance:

Sunday, May 4th
- 5:30-6:30 pm Pre-Registration
- 7:00-10:30 pm Hospitality Room

Monday, May 5th
- 7:00-8:30 Registration / Continental Breakfast
- 8:30-8:50 Welcome
- 9:00-10:15 Session 1 Workshops
  1. The CEA Website: New and Improved
  2. Bright Spots
  3. New Directions: A Roadmap to Prison Life and Beyond
  4. Dealing with Difficult Readers
  5. Volunteers Enhancing Your Institution’s Education Program
- 10:30-11:45 Session 2 Workshops
  1. Gangs in the DOC
  2. Re-Entry: A Bridge to Success
  3. Bad Actors and Key Grips: Developing an Inmate Drama Group
  4. Family as a Key to Re-Entry
- 11:45-12:45 Lunch /CEAW Teacher of the Year
- 1:00-2:15 Session 3 Workshops
  1. Gangs in the DOC (Repeat of Session 2 Workshop)
  2. Re-Entry: A Bridge to Success (Repeat of Session 2 Workshop)
  3. Extra, Extra Read All About It…Suggestions for Teaching Incarcerated Parents
2:30-3:45  
**Session 3 Workshops**

1. How to Write a 5 Paragraph GED Essay
2. Inviting Convicts to College
3. Re-Entry: Evidenced Based Practices
4. Zumba

**Silent Auction Hours: 7:30-2:25. Items may be picked-up after 3:45.**

**Conference Workshop Descriptions**

**The CEA Website: New and Improved**

Presenters:  
*Denise Justice,* Assistant Superintendent, Ohio Central School System, and President-Elect for the Correctional Education Association.  
*David Webb,* Director of Outreach Programs, Ashland University, and Director of CEA Region III as well as Technical Editor of the Journal of Correctional Education.

This workshop will provide a look at the new and improved CEA website. Come and learn more about this valuable resource for correctional educators and CEA members. Information will be shared about the resources available and how the website can be used as a tool for correctional educators in their career. Feedback will be solicited for ways to continue to improve the website as well.

**Bright Spots**

Presenter:  
*Elynor Kimmel,* Instructor at Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program

Our students have two big voids: Background knowledge and things to talk about. During our off-task time, we offer fodder to fill these voids. This workshop suggests short, engaging activities for beginning and ending sessions, and for breaks from focused study. The activities aim to stimulate creative thinking, fuel healthy interaction, expand life skill concepts, build vocabulary, and encourage further research.

**New Directions: A Roadmap to Prison Life and Beyond**

Presenters:  
*Rick Phillips,* Security Director at Dodge Correctional Institution.  
*Cari Taylor,* Deputy Warden at Jackson Correctional Institution

This film explains what happens to a person when a judge sentences a person to prison. It details all of the issues an inmate may face. It provides ways that a person can use their time incarcerated in a positive way in an effort to turn their life around. The film is geared to answer questions for inmates, their family/friends, the general public and correctional staff.

**Dealing with Difficult Readers**

Presenter:  
*Mary Dahl,* Teacher at Green Bay Correctional Institution
  *Becky Palmer,* Teacher at Green Bay Correctional Institution

As a special education teacher of 35 years, I have had to learn some very specific reading techniques to help the dyslexic reader better to be able to decode words. In this workshop I will explain and demonstrate various techniques that I have learned to help teach syllabication rules, decode multisyllable words and building meaning. I will also share materials that I have found to be useful.

**Volunteers Enhancing Your Institution’s Education Program**

Presenter:  
*Sarah Quinn,* Volunteer Coordinator, Community Connections

In this workshop you will learn about various family, re-entry, and general literacy and educational programming developed, coordinated, and facilitated by Community Connections volunteers working at Oakhill Correctional Institution. Discussion will include practices for collaboration with community volunteer organizations within your education department.
Gangs in the DOC
Presenters: Two instructors from Gang Security Consultants
This workshop will identify some of the current gangs that we deal with today in the DOC. It will cover issues regarding gang statistics, types of gangs, gang identifiers, (signs, symbols, clothing, tattoos, graffiti), gang initiation practices, backgrounds on well known street and prison gangs, types of strategies used to deal with gangs and what participants can do to assist with the gang problem both at home and at their worksites.

Re-Entry: A Bridge to Success
Presenters: Kim Koeck, Education Director at Redgranite Correctional Institution Cari Taylor, Deputy Warden at Jackson Correctional Institution Karen Simon, Social Worker at Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution Margaret Carpenter, Education Director, Department of Corrections
This workshop will discuss the Department of Corrections reentry initiative, its history and development. We will present the 10 modules and the portfolio. We will brainstorm ways to help sites facilitate the delivery of the 10 modules.

Bad Actors and Key Grips: Developing an Inmate Drama Group
Presenters: Neal Gleason, Teacher at Wisconsin Resource Center Ken VanMieghem, Teacher at the Wisconsin Resource Center and 2007 Region III Teacher of the Year.
Are you a frustrated actor? Would you really rather direct? We have facilitated an inmate drama group since 2003. In this workshop we will outline how the Wisconsin Resource Center’s Drama Group works, its benefits to participants and teachers, and suggestions for starting such a group. We will also perform some of our original work.

Extra, Extra Read All About It….Suggestions for Teaching Incarcerated Parents
Presenters: Mary Dahl, Teacher at Green Bay Correctional Institution Randy Scott, Teacher at New Lisbon Correctional Institution
The Department of Corrections has been trying a new parenting program called Inside/Out Dads. Some institutions were fortunate to be able to attend a workshop put on by the publishers of the Long Distance Dads Program. We are presently instructors of parenting and have utilized Inside/Out Dads and Families in Focus materials. Our presentation will include suggestions and ideas on how to utilize the two programs. The goals of the programs are to keep incarcerated fathers connected with their children and to assist them with re-integration back into the family structure. It also covers the requirements for the Re-Entry program. Randy will also introduce his United Through Reading Program that encourages incarcerated fathers to maintain contact with their children. Join us for a discussion and idea exchange as we share our experiences of the programs.

How to Write a 5 Paragraph GED Essay
Presenter: Barbara Wulfers, Teacher Stanley Correctional Institution and CEA Literacy SIG Chairperson
How to write a 5 paragraph GED essay from reading the prompt to a completed essay.

Inviting Convicts to College
Presenter: Dr. Stephen C. Richards, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
The Inviting Convicts to College Program prepares prisoner-students to make an informed decision about
enrolling in a college or university upon their release from prison. As a non-credit “college preparatory program” costs are low, and incarcerated students learn the academic skills they will need to succeed in college. Our ultimate goal is to prepare prisoners to attend college reducing the likelihood of their return to prison.

Re-Entry, Evidenced Based Practices
Presenter:  *Gregory T. Williams*, Assistant Executive Director, Wisconsin Community Services

In order to reduce recidivism and to promote public safety, programs should be designed around research regarding what works in corrections. The general principles which have been identified to guide program development are:

2. The NEED Principle (WHAT). Programming should target crime producing needs.
3. The TREATMENT Principle (HOW). Programming should focus on behavioral issues.

Zumba
Presenter:  *Cory Anderson*, Teacher at Racine Youthful Offender Facility and Certified Fitness Instructor.

Zumba combines high energy and motivating music with unique moves and combinations that allow the Zumba participants to dance away their worries. It is based on the principle that a workout should be “FUN AND EASY TO DO” allowing Zumba participants to stick to the Zumba Fitness program and achieve long-term health benefits. Zumba is a “feel-happy” workout that is great for both the body and the mind.

Family as a Key to Re-entry
Presenters:  *Laurie Bibo*, Executive Director, Family Connections of WI, Inc.
*Art Besse*, President, Art Besse Associates, LLC
*Brooke Wardle*, Program Assistant, Family Connections of WI, Inc.
*Alon Andrews*, Program Assistant, Family Connections of WI, Inc.

Family Connections is a volunteer driven, non-state funded organization whose mission is to foster reintegration by strengthening the ties between children and their incarcerated parents. Our primary programs at this time are centered on transportation and literacy, both allowing the children and parents to communicate, given different situations. We are currently operating at Taycheedah and Burke Correctional facilities with plans for expansion.

For more information, please feel free to contact DeNeal Ericksen at deneal.ericksen@wisconsin.gov

Lodging Information
To reserve rooms call The Osthoff Resort at 1-800-876-3399 and say you are attending the CEAW State Conference.  Web: [www.osthoff.com](http://www.osthoff.com)  The Osthoff is a non-smoking facility. Please have tax exempt documentation with you upon registration.

Resort rooms are available at the following cost:
- **House rooms (bedroom/mini-kitchen/dining area/bathroom)**
  - Single occupancy: $62.00/night
  - Double occupancy: $82.00/night
- **Two- and Three-bedroom suites are available starting at $124.00/night**
Registration Form

CEA-Wisconsin State Conference
May 5, 2008  Osthoff Resort, Elkhart Lake, WI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worksite:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-mail:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; Zip:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Early registration deadline: April 18, 2008

Registration Fees
Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and break refreshments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CEA Member Price</th>
<th>Non-Member Price (see NOTE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>$80.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☐ Vegetarian meal  ☐ Special accommodations: ________________________

Payment Information
A $10 administrative fee will be charged for cancellations after April 18, 2008.

NOTE: Non-CEA members who would like to join CEA and pay the member rate can join on CEA’s website www.ceanational.org. Otherwise, non-CEA members should make a $25 payment to CEAW to attend the conference, and a separate $55 payment for annual membership payable to CEA.

Send payment with registration form to:  Ray Schlesinger  CEA Wisconsin  824 Christianson Avenue  Madison WI 53714-1105

Payment options:
Check(s): payable to CEAW for conference price payable to CEA for new membership

Purchase order no.: ______________

Sorry we are unable to accept credit cards or P-cards

Registration questions:  Phone: (608) 835-3101 or  e-mail: Raphael.Schlesinger@wisconsin.gov

Workshops Sessions
Please indicate your preference in each time slot to help us plan the conference.

9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.
☐ Volunteers Enhancing Your Institution’s Education Program
☐ Bright Spots (Jail Literacy Program)
☐ Dealing with Difficult Readers
☐ New Directions: A Roadmap to Prison Life and Beyond
☐ CEA Website Resource

10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
☐ Gangs in the DOC
☐ “Bad Actors” & Key Grips: Developing an Inmate Drama Group
☐ Re-Entry: A Bridge to Success
☐ Family as a Key to Re-Entry

1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
☐ Gangs in the DOC (repeat of 10:30 session)
☐ Extra, Extra, Read All About It
☐ Re-Entry: A Bridge to Success (repeat of 10:30 session)

2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
☐ Inviting Convicts to College
☐ How to Write a Five Paragraph GED Essay
☐ Re-Entry: Evidence-Based Practices
☐ “Zumba” Fitness & Stress Reduction
Education Director David Haines Retires

Oshkosh Correctional Institution Education Director David Haines will be retiring from state service on March 28, 2008 following 32+ years of state service. David began his career in state service as a teacher at Winnebago Mental Health Institution in 1976. He has held a number of positions in the correctional educational field to include Teacher positions at the Wisconsin Resource Center and a Teacher Supervisor at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution. He has been the Education Director at OSCI since 1996.

To date, Dave Haines has assisted in facilitating and meeting the educational needs programming of thousands of offenders in the areas of special education, adult basic education, vocational programming and college level courses. While in his current position at OSCI, Dave has been instrumental in the development and modification of institution vocational certificate programming in the areas of Braille Transcription, Data Entry, Food Service, Institution Food Production, Horticulture, Building Maintenance and Care, Data Entry and Microsoft Office.

Dave has served on a number of Department Committees and workgroups to include the Department of Corrections Education Management Council. He has worked and partnered with Community organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and the Swan Corporation to assist in construction of housing for low income families. Dave has also assisted in partnering the OSCI Horticulture program with the local food pantries to distribute produce from the institution garden project to needy families in the community.

He also established and maintained professional relationships with a number of universities and educational agencies through out the state to include Fox Valley Technical College, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and Moraine Park Technical College. Through those partnerships, programs such as Breaking Barriers with Books and the Offender to College Program are being offered to inmates at OSCI.

Dave has been an instrumental part of the OSCI administration since 1987. He will be missed, but not forgotten. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dave and recognize his numerous contributions and accomplishments during the course of his career and wish him well in his retirement.

by: Judy P. Smith, OSCI Warden

sNO’ DAY

Everyone living in southwestern Wisconsin will remember yesterday. MAJOR WINTER STORM !!! RECORD BREAKING SNOWFALL !!! Students and teachers alike listened to the radio, the TV or checked their computer screens. YES !!! SNOW DAY !!! School teachers snapped off their alarm clocks.... tech college instructors started making pancakes....university professors curled up with their novels. But....then there’s us....Correctional educators.

Of course we have heard all the jokes, but willingly chuckle along when friends and family ask us, “So, are YOUR students snowed in? or, “Do YOU get a snow day......Are the busses running on time?” Soon, though, we are faced with making the decision. Our students in the jails have very limited classroom hours and look forward to this time all week long. Naturally, safety first. If you cannot drive safely to work, stay home. But if you live close to the jail, have four-wheel drive, or know the snow will be cleaned up by the late afternoon, the decision is made. NO SNOW DAY. I call the sNO’ Days.

As I open up my classroom, albeit a bit late, all it takes is one smiling student’s comment to make my day. “Hey…!!! I didn’t think you’d make it because of the snow!” I pretend to look out the “windows” in the concrete walls. “Where?”, I ask. “I don’t see any sNO”!

by: Gretchen Aveni
Moraine Park Technical College/Washington County Jail
President’s Message

This is my last message to you as your CEA-W President. I have enjoyed these years representing you, the greatest group of educators anywhere! Our chapter has grown to be the third largest state chapter in the nation. I’ve seen the sharing of information, ideas, programs, and knowledge between our members. Be it through emails, personally, or by the presenting of workshops, this type of networking is priceless. In addition to all this, members have taken advantage of the increase in benefits being offered to them through the numerous conferences, seminars, and awards, all of which are invaluable to members’ professional development.

Many of you receiving this newsletter will be attending the CEA-W State Conference on May 5. You will not be disappointed in this year’s conference. Your CEA-W board listened to your suggestions and comments and we have planned a fantastic conference for you. This year our National President, Denise Justice, and our Regional Director, Dave Webb, will be joining us at the conference. In addition, Bill Delaney, Jackie Moss, Holly Wilson, and Judith Blackman from the New Orleans’ Parish Jail will be joining us at our conference. They will also be touring Racine Correctional Institution and R.E. Ellsworth Correctional Center on Tuesday and Wednesday.

I know your new president, Mary Stierna, as well as the other board members, will continue to provide professional development opportunities for you. I look forward to seeing many of you at future activities, especially next year at the 64th Annual CEA Conference in Madison. Last, but just as important, I would like to thank the CEA-W board for their support and dedication. I enjoyed working with you on all of our endeavors. In addition, I would like to thank you, the members, for your support. Thank you!

-- DeNeal Ericksen

CEA-Wisconsin News Review
Barb Rasmussen, CEAW Secretary
Racine Correctional Institution/Belle Venture School
2019 Wisconsin Street
Sturtevant, WI 53177-0900