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Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

FLCI Boasts Largest Education Program in DOC

The Fox Lake Correctional Institution (FLCI) Education Department is the largest education department in the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. At any one time, the FLCI Education Department is serving about 500 students in the areas of Adult Basic Education (ABE), High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED), Wisconsin Technical College System Vocational Diplomas, and College Correspondence Courses approved by the State of Wisconsin's Educational Approval Board.

The WTCS programs and classes are certified through Moraine Park Technical College and lead to a diploma or certificate in the following areas:

- **Auto Collision Repair & Refinish Technician**
- **Automotive Maintenance Technician**
- **Cabinetmaking / Millwork**
- **Computer Drafting – Mechanical**
- **Custodial Services**
- **Heating / Air Conditioning / Refrigeration**
- **Horticulture**
- **Machine Tool Operator**
- **Masonry / Bricklaying**
- **Office Software Applications**
- **Motorcycle, Marine & Outdoor Power Products Technician**
- **Production & Fabrication Welding**

The programs and classes offered through the Education Department directly support the Wisconsin Department of Corrections mission and vision by providing opportunities for the development of offender skills required to integrate successfully in our communities. From the moment an offender enters the institution through his transfer or release into the community, offenders are provided opportunities to improve their skills. FLCI employs a variety of resources for inmates such as Education Orientation, Assessment & Interviewing, Academic & Vocational programs, Cognitive & Parenting programs, and most recently the Reentry Lab and Curriculum.

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Appleton Art Center to Host Inmate Art Exhibit

December 5 – 20 in Kretzschmar Education Center

Appleton Art Center presents the exhibition *Re-emergence: An Inmate Art Exhibit* from December 5 through December 20 featuring over 30 works of art by Wisconsin inmates. The exhibition will be on view in the art center's Kretzshmar Education Center. The exhibit is a collaborative effort between Appleton Art Center, the Wisconsin Resource Center and the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin.

A special reception for the exhibit is scheduled for Friday, December 12 from 5:00-8:00 pm. The reception will include musical entertainment by the group Acoustic Soup and refreshments. The reception will be free and open to the public.

All works of art will be included in a silent auction with proceeds benefiting Appleton Art Center's new project, *ArtStart: Reaching Disadvantaged Youth*. *ArtStart* is designed to introduce undeserved youth to the arts and provide them with opportunities for participation in creative activities.

For the past four years, offenders at the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) had partnered with the Flying Pig Gallery & Greenspace in Algoma to hold an art exhibit and raise funds for the Kewaunee County Violence Intervention Project. The partnership provided financial support and hope for individuals coping with personal crises. This year the Flying Pig was unable to host the exhibit and the Appleton Art Center stepped in to provide a venue for the exhibit.

WRC provides treatment for correctional inmates with severe mental health and behavioral problems. As part of the treatment process, offenders are encouraged to participate in community service projects. Five years ago, WRC teacher Ken VanMieghem recruited some of his students to produce artwork, which could be used in fundraising events. The project enables the offenders to be involved in an activity intended to benefit the community and helps inmates restore their feelings of self-worth.

Join us on Friday, December 12 to view the artwork and socialize with other correctional educators. Or stop in during regular Appleton Art Center hours between December 5 and 20 to make a bid and support this worthwhile project.

The exhibition coincides with Appleton Art Center's holiday exhibit, *Seasonal Settings: The Holiday Table*, on view in the Dietrich and Reigel Galleries.

Executive Officers		The CEA-W News Review is published by the members of the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin Chapter. The opinions herein are entirely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the executive officers, the Department of Corrections, or the body as a whole.
President	Mary Stierna, WRC	
President-Elect	Cory Anderson, RYOCF	It is our hope that this newsletter will be used to communicate information concerning activities, special events, new directions and policies of CEA-W and DOC.
Secretary	Sharon Nesemann, WRC	
Treasurer	Ray Schlesinger, OCI	
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Medium Security	Conrad Reedy, KMCI	
Minimum Security	Margaret Done, REECC	
Juvenile	Holly Audley, SOGS	
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Local Educational Agency	Chuck Brendel, MPTC	
Community Corrections	Laurie Jarvis, FVTC/Waushara CJ	Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: W6443 Old Highway Road Menasha, WI 54952 920-734-5902 jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com
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Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop	

(continued from page 1)

The 35 teachers and staff working in the Education Department at FLCI are proud of the opportunities provided. Their commitment and professionalism to successful offender integration makes them one of the best Education Departments in the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.

by: Chris Eplett, FLCI

DOC and Moraine Park – A Lasting Partnership in Education

Moraine Park Technical College has been an educational partner with the Department of Corrections (DOC) for 35 years. Moraine Park began certifying vocational programs in 1973 beginning at Fox Lake Correctional Institution. Since its inception, programming at FLCI has grown to 14 different programs with both certificate and diploma options in most. Moraine Park has also expanded its partnership with DOC institutions over the years, adding Waupun in 1973, Taycheedah in 1980, Oshkosh in 1995 and Kettle Moraine in 1998. To date this partnership has served approximately 28,000 students in 17 different programs.

Programming at the institutions aside from FLCI includes:

- **Kettle Moraine – Bricklaying/Masonry, Cabinet Making, Custodial Services, Office Software Applications, and Welding.**
- **Taycheedah – Building Maintenance and Construction, Dental Lab Technician, and Office Software Applications.**
- **Waupun – Welding, and Building Maintenance and Construction.**
- **Oshkosh – Building Maintenance and Construction.**

All programming that the DOC instructors provide for the students is certified through the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS). Moraine Park and the DOC instructors review the program curriculum with the help of advisory committees, deans and instructors from on-campus programs. Currently, Moraine Park is coordinating the re-writing of the Custodial Services curriculum, bringing together instructors from Columbia, Fox Lake, Kettle Moraine and Stanly Correctional Institutions. This new curriculum will be used by all DOC institutions that offer the Custodial Services program. It will provide the means for seamless student transfers from one institution to another. We are looking at other curriculums to align within the system as well as provide better transferability into vocational and associate degree programs within the WTCS.

In the last year we have expanded options for the institutions to meet the needs of the students. KMCI traditionally only offered certificate programs to their students. Through the efforts of welding instructor George Barber and Education Director Dave Picard, we have added diploma offerings for Welding and Custodial Services. We have also added certificate options for several diploma programs at FLCI. Balancing the vocational needs of the students, while maintaining the integrity of the programs, and the certificates and diplomas that are issued is always the prime objective of our efforts.

DOC instructors must meet certification requirements of the WTCS in order to teach WTCS curriculum. To better serve the DOC instructors, Moraine Park provides certification courses tuition-free. We also help instructors find other options if necessary.

Moraine Park has recognized the importance of supporting its DOC partners in other ways, such as donating equipment to support the educational mission at the institutions. Providing computers, printers, LCD projectors, VCRs and other technical equipment helps to enhance the educational experience of the students and also relieves some of the budgetary strain experienced at the institutions.

While the partnership between the DOC and Moraine Park has been long term, we are always looking for ways to keep it current and effective. The efforts on the part of all parties ensure the hope of employment for the students in the future. The result of providing vocational education for the incarcerated is well-documented. Moraine Park and its DOC partners are proud to be doing their part in this important mission.

by: Chuck Brendel, MPTC

CEA-W Scholarship Winners Hope to Widen Opportunities for Students

For the ninth year CEA-Wisconsin is awarding scholarships to its members. This year, CEA-W is awarding two \$500 scholarships. The CEAW Scholarship Award Program is designed to assist CEA-W members or their spouses/dependents who are pursuing university or technical college degrees in an education or library field.

This year's scholarships go to DeNeal Ericksen and Pamela Richter-Boss.

DeNeal Ericksen

DeNeal Ericksen is a teacher at Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center. She instructs the Office Assistant Technical degree program while providing support with the center's newly re-designed Re-Entry initiative.

DeNeal was on the CEA-Wisconsin Board from 2003 until last May. She served as Minimum Representative, President-Elect, and President.

DeNeal is dedicated to teaching offenders skills necessary to successfully reintegrate into society. She also believes it is important to inform the public of not only the challenges that are faced in educating offenders, but of the important role education plays in the successful re-entry process.

DeNeal will use her scholarship to help pursue a degree at the Ashford University in Iowa. With the completion of her BA/Social Science program, DeNeal hopes to widen her teaching opportunities in corrections and teach the Business Math and both Communications courses required for the Office Assistant Technical degree.

As far back as she can remember, DeNeal has wanted to be a teacher. In May 1985, she put that dream on hold as she received her computer science associate degree. Although she enjoyed working in the computer field for many years, she kept hold of her dream of becoming a teacher.

In 1992, DeNeal took the path unknown into corrections! As a Badger State Industries Supervisor, she operated a Data Processing industry at Racine Correctional Institution and Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center. It was during this time that DeNeal realized she was teaching . . . teaching computer skills to inmate workers. But she wanted more. When the opportunity arrived, she grabbed it! In 2000, DeNeal started teaching at the Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility and finally had the career she dreamed of.

What continues to motivate DeNeal is her students. Seeing their growth, their excitement in learning something new, their development into a person are the fuel of her motivation.

DeNeal models the belief that improving oneself can positively affect those around you. By continuing her education she is reinforcing her belief "If you want to change the world, start with yourself."

Pamela Richter-Boss

Pamela Richter-Boss is pursuing a PhD in Education with an emphasis in Special Education because her life is encompassed by special education personally and in her occupational environment. She has always been interested in and amazed by the learning process. This results from her own struggles to learn and find successful strategies as a student with a learning disability (LD).

As a special education teacher at Southern Oaks Girls School, Pamela wants to make an impact in the juvenile corrections field and in special education by assuming increasing levels of responsibility and building effective gender specific programming. Working in juvenile corrections, Pamela's educational philosophy has been: "Anyone has the ability to succeed and every student has strengths that open the doors for success." She feels that once her students learn that they have strengths and the ability to succeed, they have more confidence that they can turn their lives around and live as productive members of society.

As a community service, Pamela wants to influence and support college students with learning disabilities at local colleges and universities. Pamela feels college can be an exciting time to learn and grow, but it can also bring new challenges to the college student with LD. She would like to provide guidance and instruction on new strategies at this educational level.

By developing into a scholar practitioner, Pamela hopes to make a greater impact in students' lives. She hopes to develop programming which helps special education students succeed in the institution, transition into the community, and be more productive in society.

In earning her advance degree, Pamela hopes to be a stronger voice in the field of gender specific programming by informing others and advocating for incarcerated youth. Girls in juvenile corrections are often the victims of abuse prior to their committing offense. She wants to be an agent of change to help them survive and improve their lives.

After Pamela completed her master's degree, she went on to earn a Mentoring for the Initial Educator Certificate. In 2007, she was selected to participate in the Wisconsin DOC Leadership Training Series. With the completion of the program, Pamela has been encouraged to take more leadership roles in tasks and events within the school and volunteer work in the community.

Call for Nominations

During March, the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin will be conducting its annual election for Executive Board Members.

Nominations are being accepted for the following offices:

- ✓ **Minimum Security**
- ✓ **Juvenile Facilities**
- ✓ **Local Education Agency**
- ✓ **Community Corrections**
- ✓ **Member-At-Large**

Any CEAW member is eligible to run for office. All officers and board members serve two-year terms. Nominations are to be sent to:

Conrad Reedy
Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution
PO Box 31
Plymouth, WI 53071
Phone: (920) 526-3244 ext. 303
Email: conrad.reedy@wisconsin.gov

Nominations must be received by **February 2, 2009**. Newly elected members will assume their offices at the May 2009 Executive Board Meeting

Former Packer Speaks at Stanley Inmates' Graduation

Former Green Bay Packer LeRoy Butler recalls that as a youth, he was with a friend who got caught stealing from a store. Although Butler wasn't involved in the theft, he was taken to the police station, and had to wait for his mother to pick him up.

"When I saw the disappointment on her face - that's worse than any whipping I ever got," Butler said. "That's when it hit me, that being scared is good. And I never got in that position again."

Butler, who was a defensive back for the Packers from 1990 to 2001, spoke at Friday's graduation ceremony for 20 inmates at Stanley Correctional Institution. The inmates earned high school equivalency degrees and vocational degrees through the prison's Windy Meadows School program. About 150 people, including prison staff and inmates' family members, attended the ceremony.

Butler said he has spoken at about 30 correctional facilities across the country. He said having a degree will open up new opportunities for the inmates. "It's a difference-maker in a lot of these guys' lives," Butler said.

Rick Raemisch, secretary of the Department of Corrections, praised the men for working hard to get a degree. "For many, it's the biggest accomplishment they've had in their life," Raemisch said. "It's about opening doors instead of shutting doors. And there's probably no tougher place to get an education than in prison. It's a strange place to have a celebration, but it's a celebration nonetheless."

Raemisch said that nearly all inmates return to their home area when they are released from prison. He sees a value in having the men become educated and be ready to contribute to society. "Those that go back (home) angry, come back to us in a very short period of time," Raemisch said.

Michael Jarman, 19, of Marinette was among the 20 graduates Friday. Jarman, who has been in the Stanley prison since February, completed eight courses to finish his high school degree. Wearing his maroon graduation gown, he posed for pictures with his mother and girlfriend. His mother, Ann Hoheneder, kept wiping tears from her eyes.

"Unspeakable. I'm really proud," Hoheneder said. "He knows how I felt, that education was always needed. And he did it. I'm ecstatic."

Jarman said he has two years left to complete his sentence, but is eligible for early release. "I'm very proud of myself," Jarman said.

Butler's keynote speech kept the crowd laughing as he told stories about playing pranks on former teammates Reggie White and Brett Favre, and he recalled how he started the now-famous "Lambeau Leap" in 1993 after scoring his first-ever NFL touchdown.

But even more, Butler stressed his humble beginnings growing up in an impoverished area of Florida. He stressed how much he had to overcome - including being in a wheelchair, and then wearing leg braces



Former Green Bay Packer LeRoy Butler congratulated David Strickland after the Stanley Correctional Institution inmate became a vocational graduate of Windy Meadows School at the prison. --- Staff photo by Dan Reiland

as a child - to eventually become a four-time Pro Bowl selection and to help the Packers win a Super Bowl title.

"Crime was accepted," Butler said. "It was a way of life. Kids didn't go to school. Their role models were the drug dealers, and the guys with the biggest house."

What is important for these inmates, Butler said, is to rely on a network of friends and family so they don't repeat their mistakes and wind up back in prison. "Imagine if I didn't have the support system I had, like my mother and my sister," Butler said. "It's the family support - it's one of the biggest things."

Raemisch said he enjoys attending inmate graduation ceremonies across the state; he typically attends half a dozen each year. "We've seen a few tears here today, but it's a different kind," Raemisch said. "They are tears of joy."

Raemisch thanked the staff and teachers who work with the inmates, and he asked the graduates to remember the lessons they had been taught. "Don't fail them," Raemisch told the graduates. "They've put all their faith in you."

Stanley Correctional Institution Warden Brad Hompe echoed Raemisch's comments that family and a support network are invaluable for the inmates. "Obviously, this is a very important moment for these gentlemen," Hompe said. "It's obvious that it is very important for us, as a society, to have you get your degrees, and not come back and visit us again."

Raemisch said that this was the third time Butler has spoken at a correctional institution ceremony in Wisconsin. "He's been a wonderful ally for us," Raemisch said. "He's jumped in with both feet."

by: Chris Vetter
Eau Claire Leader Telegram
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Consequences of a Criminal Record Seminar

Social Workers, Workforce Development Professionals, Teachers, Employers, Landlords and others who work with ex-offenders or their families, need up-to-date knowledge of the restrictions that can be imposed as well as the remedies that can assist an ex-offender in overcoming barriers to re-entry.

Family Connections of Wisconsin, Inc. is sponsoring full-day seminars on *The Consequences of a Criminal Record in Wisconsin and the Remedies Under the Law*. The seminars will provide: the latest in re-entry information; the legal basis for restrictions on employment, housing and other rights; the legal remedies to obtain financial, educational and housing services; and the strategies to expunge or correct a criminal record. Presenters are retired DOC employee Art Besse and attorney Iris Christenson.

Remaining seminars to be held are:

Thursday, November 13, 2008
Learning Center, Portage County Business Park
Stevens Point, WI

Wednesday, December 3, 2008
State Bar Center
Madison, WI

For registration information, call Art Besse at (608) 831-8129 or email artbesse@netzero.net

Correction

In our announcement of the Friends of Correctional Education award winners in the September/October issue of this newsletter, the name of one of the winners was misspelled. One of the award winners is Anne Staton. Sorry about the mistake, Anne.

Correctional Education Association 2009 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Purpose:

The Correctional Education Association of Wisconsin (CEA-W), in cooperation with the International Correctional Education Association, has established the TEACHER OF THE YEAR award to recognize outstanding educational contributions by a teacher in a correctional facility.

Who Is Eligible:

To be eligible, the teacher must:

- spend at least 51% of his/her work time in classroom instruction
- have taught in correctional facilities a minimum of two years
- have demonstrated leadership qualities and be active in promoting improvements in correctional education
- have demonstrated devotion to the teaching profession as evidenced by a willingness to work beyond his/her job description
- have been an active member of CEA for the past one year

Teachers who were nominated previous years, but were not selected as the CEA-W TEACHER OF THE YEAR may be re-nominated.

Nomination Process:

Other than the members of the CEA-W Board, anyone may submit a nomination for TEACHER OF THE YEAR. The nomination may be a colleague or the teacher him or herself. The nomination deadline is **January 2, 2009**.

Qualities To Be Considered:

- Teaching excellence
- Classroom and program innovation
- Professional development activities
- Ability to serve as a representative for correctional education in the state of Wisconsin



Awards:

The CEA-W TEACHER OF THE YEAR will receive a plaque attesting to his or her achievement. He/she will be furnished expenses to compete against winners from five other Midwestern States at the Region III & IV CEA Conference to be held in Ames, Iowa on May 5-9, 2009.

HURRY!!! Phone, fax, or mail your nomination by **January 2, 2009** to:

Mike Breszee
CEAW Awards & Recognition Committee
Waupun Correctional Institution
PO Box 351
Waupun, WI 53963-0351
Phone: (920) 324-5571 option 6 ext. 1389 Fax (920) 324-7250
E-mail: michael.breszee@wisconsin.gov

CEA-W Showcase Award

Would you like to present a workshop on your program, classroom activities, or special area of interest? The Wisconsin chapter of the Correctional Education Association would like to help.

The CEA-W Executive Board is offering a \$250 grant to help defray the professional expenses for a CEA-W member to present a workshop at the Region III & IV CEA Conference in Ames, Iowa on May 5-9, 2009, the International CEA Conference in Madison on July 19-22, the Wisconsin GED/HSED & Adult Literacy Conference in October 2009, or some other professional education or correctional conference.

Your presentation may be on an existing program that has been effective, a new innovative program, creative classroom activities, unique instructional methods, or a special project.

To be eligible for consideration, you must be an active CEA member, submit a proposal outlining the workshop you wish to present, and submit a statement of support from your supervisor.

Your proposal should include:

- ❖ Title of presentation
- ❖ Intended audience
- ❖ Presentation description (200 words or less)

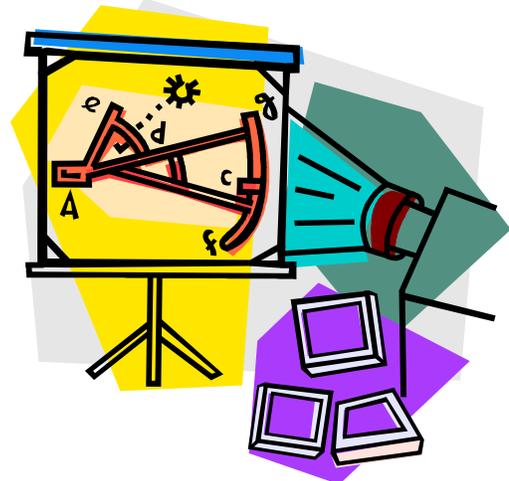
The CEA-W Board will review the proposals received and select the proposal to receive the \$250 grant.

Entries will be evaluated on:

- ❖ Relevance to the needs of correctional students
- ❖ Creativity
- ❖ Effectiveness of program or techniques
- ❖ Potential to be used in other settings
- ❖ Interest to conference attendees

The deadline for submission of your proposal is January 2, 2009. Submit your proposal to:

Holly Audley
Education Director
Southern Oaks Girls School
21425B Spring Street
Union Grove, WI 53182
holly.audley@wisconsin.gov



President's Message

I have really enjoyed meeting CEA members around the State of Wisconsin. There are so many wonderful things happening in correctional education here. We have such creative and dedicated teachers working in our institutions. I was able to meet many great teachers at the GED/HSED and Adult Literacy Conference in Appleton. I want to thank all of the CEA members that presented workshops and shared their ideas with other educators. CEA-W provided 11 workshops at the conference. They were all very well attended and many people made appointments to let me know what a great job the presenters did!

We will have an excellent opportunity to showcase the great things we do here in Wisconsin in July at the CEA Annual conference to be held in Madison. Mark your calendars! Help promote this conference! The annual conferences are incredible and with it being held right here in Wisconsin, it is an opportunity you do not want to miss!

Also, in this newsletter is the form to nominate an outstanding teacher for the Teacher of the Year award. Send in your nominations for a co-worker that you feel deserves the recognition!

by: Mary Stierna

**CEA-Wisconsin News Review
Sharon Neemann, CEAW Secretary
Wisconsin Resource Center
P.O. Box 16
Winnebago, WI 54985**

