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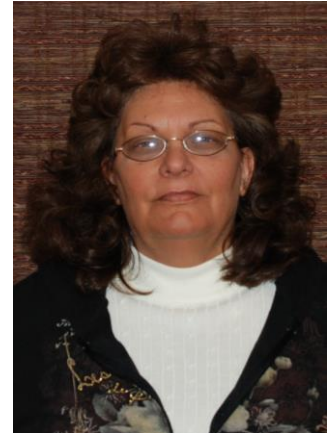
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Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

Teacher of the Year Models Commitment

One important characteristic needed to be successful in the field of correctional education is commitment. Everything DeNeal Ericksen has done since she began teaching in 1999 has shown commitment to her students, co-workers, and community.

In recognition of this commitment, the CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is proud to recognize DeNeal Ericksen of Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center as the 2009 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year.



Since 2002, DeNeal has taught the Technical Degree Office Assistant program at REECC. This program is designed to teach students the skills necessary to work not only in an office setting, but also in a records department or accounting department. The Office Assistant program includes learning word processing, spreadsheet, database, presentation, and publishing software. In addition, the Professional Development class prepares the students to compete and be successful in the work environment. Students learn about being a team player, communication, diversity and character building. The credits earned in the program can be transferred to other colleges and can be used to earn other degrees.

Prior to her employment at REECC, DeNeal had taught at the Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility from 1999 to 2002 and was a Badger States Industries Supervisor from 1992-1999.

Drawing upon her computer skills, DeNeal is responsible for maintaining the education wide-area network. She is one of three EdNet Domain Coordinators which provide training and support to other staff on the education WAN.

With the advent of DOC's increased emphasis on re-entry, DeNeal has worked with other educators and social workers in providing these programs to offenders at REECC.

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Education Opportunities at Oakhill

Oakhill Correctional Institution (OCI) houses almost 700 adult male inmates on a 600-acre tract in Oregon, Wisconsin just seven miles south of Madison. An electrified fence surrounds the minimum-security facility.

OCI's Oakview School offers academic and vocational education programs. On average, 80 students attend Adult Basic Education and GED/HSED classes each month. In 2008, 64 inmates earned their high school credentials. Inmate tutors assisted 225 learners during 2008. All inmates may come to the OCI Learning Center during evenings. Here they can utilize computers to study with educational applications, prepare resumes, and search the state's JobNet for employment possibilities.

Vocational education offerings certified by Madison Area Technical College include horticulture, building services, and computer literacy.

Three times a year graduates of the HSED and vocational programs are honored at a recognition ceremony with family and friends in attendance. State Senators Lena Taylor and Spencer Coggs, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Elizabeth Burmaster, and State Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson have addressed graduates in recent years.

Nineteen inmates earned 129 credits in 43 Incarcerated Youth Offender Program college courses during 2008.

Monthly pre-release guest speakers have presented to inmates on topics such as apprenticeship, financial aid for education, housing, and employment search strategies. OCI stages an annual Career and Transition Fair in February where inmates can meet with representatives from the trades, community service organizations, state agencies, and potential employers.

Community Connections, a locally-based volunteer organization, provides Oakhill inmates with several family-related initiatives.

by: Ray Schessinger, OCI

Executive Officers		<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review CEAW News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: W6443 Old Highway Road Menasha, WI 54952 920-734-5902 jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com</p>
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Layout & Design	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC	
Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop	

Art Besse Earns 2009 Showcase Award

Prior to his retirement in 2003, Art Besse had 41 years of service in the Department of Corrections, Department of Health and Family Services, and Department of Workforce Development. Art started his own consulting firm, Art Besse & Associates LLC in 1992. Drawing on his experience, Art has regularly presented workshops for teachers, social workers, probation and parole agents, and others who work with offenders in reentry programs. His presentations which are tailored to the interests and needs of his audience have always been well attended and proven to be very useful to the workshop participants.

One of Art's most popular workshops is ***Consequences of Having a Criminal Record and Remedies Under the Law***.

Most people including corrections professionals have a limited grasp on the hidden consequences that accompany a criminal conviction. In a state like Wisconsin, the most basic consequences of temporary loss of voting and jury rights along with the permanent loss of gun possession rights and the right to hold public office are fairly well known.

Art's workshop focuses on the collateral consequences suffered by the man or woman or youth with a criminal record. These consequences may include deportation of aliens including legal aliens; holes in the social safety net including food stamps, AFDC, SSI and Social Security; housing barriers including Section 8, private owner barriers and local government sex offender ordinances; driver's license restrictions including loss of license, CDL, bus driver and hazardous materials restrictions; loss of student financial aid; loss of parental rights; and a myriad of employment related restrictions depending upon the offense of conviction. Also included in the presentation is a discussion of remedies such as record expungement, rehabilitative review, and executive clemency.

In recognition of Art Besse's effort to provide valuable training opportunities for correctional staff, the Executive Board of CEA-Wisconsin is pleased to present him with the 2009 CEA-W Showcase Award.

For being named the recipient of the 2009 Showcase Award, the CEA-W Executive Board will present Art with a \$250 grant to help defray the professional expenses to present a workshop at the 64th Annual CEA Conference in Madison on July 19-22.

Art Exhibit Benefits Disadvantaged Youth

In its first year at the Appleton Art Center, the inmate art exhibit was a resounding success.

Re-Emergence: An Inmate Art Exhibit was a collaborative effort between Appleton Art Center, the Wisconsin Resource Center and the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin.

The exhibition which ran from December 5 through December 20 featured over 30 works of art by Wisconsin Resource Center inmates. According to Marie Marschke, Appleton Art Center Director of Membership and Community Relations, over 150 visitors viewed the exhibit, with 35 interested parties making bids on the artwork. The bids totaled just over \$1100.00.

Proceeds from the silent auction will benefit Appleton Art Center's new program, *ArtStart: Reaching Disadvantaged Youth*. *ArtStart* is designed to introduce undeserved youth to the arts and provide them with opportunities for participation in creative activities. Marie is thrilled to report that seeds from *ArtStart* have already been planted within the community and Art Center staff have already visited their first group of little artists.

The Appleton Art Center, the Wisconsin Resource Center and the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin are looking forward to the opportunity to work together again next year.

(continued from page 1)

In addition to her direct teaching duties, DeNeal has introduced many special learning opportunities at REECC:

MotherRead Program

In November, 2004, DeNeal had the opportunity to attend training for the MotherRead/FatherRead program. Originally begun in a North Carolina women's prison, this program provides a way for inmates to learn about themselves, connect in a more positive way with their children, and to improve their own literacy skills. DeNeal uses MotherRead to make learning fun. Through active story-reading, participants become very familiar with a story, work through many follow-up activities, and are given writing opportunities at their level of ability. They also learn how to model reading skills for their children by making stories come alive not only in how they read the stories, but in the activities based on the stories' themes such as family values and responsibility. The last project students complete in the MotherRead program is to write a storybook -- complete with the mother's artwork. The mother also selects a children's book and records both books on a DVD which is sent to the children.

Julius Is the Baby of the World Presentation

In conjunction with the Racine Public Library's and the Racine Choral Arts Society's celebration of the 75th anniversary of the first preschool storytime in the United States, DeNeal arranged for Kevin Henkes, a Wisconsin children's author, to bring the book *Julius is the Baby of the World* to life for the mothers incarcerated at R. E. Ellsworth Correctional Center. DeNeal used this event as another opportunity to promote family literacy. What made the event so special was that the offenders are able to share it with their children.

Great Escape Book Club

The book club formed by DeNeal and her co-workers at R.E. Ellsworth Correctional Center offers what Superintendent Larry Mahoney called "a legal escape." Since February 2004 when DeNeal helped start the book club, inmates have read one book each month and gathered like any other book club to discuss it. Often the club chooses the same selection as the nearby Racine Reads city-wide program, and when Racine Reads authors make appearances in the area, they are usually invited to REECC too.

Author Quilt

When members of the Great Escape Book Club chose to read a novel by Jennifer Chiaverini, *The Quilter's Apprentice*, DeNeal thought of involving them in the follow-up activity of making a quilt. The idea for the type of quilt came from another Chiaverini book *The Sugar Camp Quilt*.

In that book, the women from a little town in Pennsylvania in 1849 make a quilt to raise funds for a new town library. They wrote their favorite authors and sent along a scrap of muslin for them to sign that would be used in the quilt. Like the characters in the book, the book club members wanted to make their quilt for a good cause.

Following their example, REECC book club members contacted the famous and the very famous for the project. Over 35 squares bearing authors' signatures were gathered. Among them are David Baldacci, Sue Grafton, Judy Blume, Scott Turow, Paul Fleischman and Bill Cosby. Also contributing were Racine County's own Jane Hamilton and Journal Times' director of photography Mark Hertzberg.

More than 65 members of the club read the quilt book while 35 women sewed the squares, green border and the yellow sash between the squares. The quilt was raffled and the proceeds donated to Cops 'N Kids Reading Center, the Racine Public Library and the Racine Literacy Council.

Mothers' Fair

On Tuesday, February 24, 2004, DeNeal helped organize a Mothers' Fair at Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center. It was a huge success with over 150 offenders attending and 21 exhibitors providing information. The offenders received information regarding nutrition, pre-release planning, family

services, post secondary educational opportunities, and women's health issues. In addition, information was provided about abuse issues, parental discipline and communication, school success, the Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentoring program and Social Security issues for women.

Offenders also had the opportunity to attend various breakout sessions including: Dental Health for Children; Do It Yourself Pre-Release Planning; Parenting Is Forever; Mental Health in Children, and many more. These interactive sessions gave a comprehensive look at issues facing today's female offenders.

Mother/Child Fair

DeNeal also planned and implemented a Mother/Child Fair where mothers constructed activity booths based on books they chose. Children were then invited to the center to participate with their mothers in the various activities in the booths. Mothers used skills learned in the MotherRead program by reading the stories to the children and creating activities based on the various themes of the books.

Helping Hands

Helping Hands provides offenders an opportunity to give back to the community by creating Teddy bears, activity books/packets, quilts, blankets, etc. for children at Wisconsin's Children's Hospital-Milwaukee.

REECC Offender Newsletter: Inside News

Each month DeNeal works with 5-6 offenders to create a newsletter for offenders at the Correctional Center. Various articles on building positive character, parenting advice, nutrition advice, center announcements and various activities such as crossword and other puzzles make-up the newsletter. All offenders in the center receive a copy.

REECC Library Fundraisers

Since December 2005, REECC has partnered with Barnes & Noble Booksellers to hold their annual book voucher fundraiser. The book voucher fundraiser allowed REECC to earn a portion of the day's sales. In addition to the voucher program, REECC staff and offenders spend twelve hours at Barnes & Noble wrapping Christmas gifts. The offenders obtain community service hours for their participation. Between the vouchers and tips from the gift wrapping, the money raised goes to purchasing books for the REECC library, book club, and MotherRead program.

DeNeal believes that special projects like these keeps the mothers active in their children's lives while they are incarcerated and helps the mother make a successful re-entry into their lives upon release. DeNeal feels that projects like this are an important part of reintegration. They emphasize that offenders should start thinking past themselves and give back to the community.

Besides being an exceptional teacher at Ellsworth Correctional Center, DeNeal has been an advocate of correctional education on the state and national level. DeNeal has been a CEA-Wisconsin board member for six years, serving as Minimum Representative, President-Elect, and President. She has served on planning committees and presented various workshops at state, regional, and international conferences.

In the community, DeNeal has served as an adjunct instructor for the Computer Science Department at Gateway Technical College and a member of the Racine Reads Committee.

DeNeal believes that "Improving oneself can positively affect those around you." She has modeled this belief by continuing her own education and using what she learned and experienced to be a better teacher, co-worker, and community member.

The CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is pleased to recognize DeNeal Ericksen as the 2009 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. DeNeal will represent Wisconsin at the Region III & IV CEA Conference in Ames, Iowa on May 6-8.

At Madison's Metro High, Teaching Is Only Part of the Job



Anderson (right) and Chavez seek to ensure that kids leave Metro in a better space than when they arrived.

Deb Anderson makes an observation about her students: "These kids just aren't very good criminals." She's hoping they decide, with her help, not to seek careers in the field.

Anderson is a teacher at Metro High, a little-known school run out of the Dane County jail. Her students, some as young as 14, are serving time for crimes including car theft, driving without a license, shoplifting, robbery, gang activity, sexual assault and even murder.

"We get kids who are so low when they come here they feel that they don't count," says Anderson. "We teach them that they are a valuable person, and not to let anyone make them believe differently. They want someone to sit down with them and listen to what they have to say."

One of her students, who we'll call Sam, committed a string of felony robberies after a fight with his mother. Anderson recognized that Sam had learning and emotional disabilities; he needed a teacher more than he needed to be locked up.

With Anderson's encouragement, Sam became an avid reader, which helped improve his self-confidence as well as to pass the time during the 10 months he spent in jail. And with the credits he earned at Metro High, he was able to graduate from his home school of Monona Grove.

Sam, who turned 18 during his incarceration, now works for Operation Fresh Start, a nonprofit that trains at-risk young people to build homes. Anderson helped get Sam in the program.

Sam's aunt says Anderson "saw that he had potential and gave him a quiet place to study. She was very accessible to the family and communicated with Sam's mom and me. Sam looked at Deb as a mentor and trusted her."

Metro High, part of the Madison Metropolitan School District, began in 1996 with Anderson as its first teacher. Anderson had been a special education teacher at La Follette for 14 years.

The school usually has between 15 and 20 students at any one time. The school's budget — \$191,195 in 2008-09 — is covered by local dollars but fully reimbursed by the state.

"Metro High provides another opportunity for learning for students," says Nancy Yoder, who oversees alternative education for the Madison school district. "It helps to rekindle the enthusiasm and get the spark of interest back with an eye to future."

In Wisconsin, anyone who has reached the age of 17 is considered an adult by the criminal justice system, and kids as young as 14 can be waived into adult court, depending on the severity of the crime. But Wisconsin has compulsory school attendance through age 18 or high school graduation, regardless of where the child lays his or her head at night. And so juveniles in adult jail, like those in juvenile institutions, must go to school. Metro High provides this mandated service for young people in jail here.

While Metro High's students may not be clamoring to get in, they usually benefit from the experience. Anderson and fellow teacher Tina Chavez do more than teach reading, writing and arithmetic. They are advocates for their charges, helping them navigate their way through legal and family services systems.

Chavez has been teaching at Metro High since 1998. She was one of Anderson's former student teachers at La Follette.

"The academics are important," says Chavez. "But who the kids are and how they are going to function in the world are most important."

Anderson and Chavez test each student on his or her first day of class. Then they seek to identify realistic educational goals and vocational options.

Many of the students are bipolar, suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome, Asperger's disorder, or are mentally ill. Helping develop the social skills needed to get along with other people is a part of the daily curriculum.

"Jail is a temporary holding facility; no one stays here forever," says Anderson. "It is our responsibility to ensure that kids leave Metro in a better space than when they arrived. They make better neighbors that way."

Metro High classes consist of four to six students each. Two or three sessions are taught per day. A sheriff's deputy escorts Anderson's students from their cells to the narrow rectangular classroom located on the seventh floor of the City-County Building.

The classroom, with a view of Lake Monona, is stocked with computers, books and maps. On the walls are photos taken by Anderson of current and former students wearing the cap and gown from their high school graduation.

Anderson worries about possible budget cuts — especially during the summer months, when school is not mandated. She hopes school officials remember "there is no difference for our captive audience" during these months.

Many students are anxious about their legal situations. Anderson and Chavez counsel them on handling stress, including preparing them for going to prison.

The caring doesn't end when the kids leave jail. Anderson and Chavez give students their phone numbers in case they need direction and also to provide "Miss Deb" and "Miss Tina" with updates on their progress in the real world.

"I believe that each of us is where we're meant to be," says Anderson. "For whatever reason. I am constantly humbled by what I learn from the kids."

by: Jill Carlson
The Isthmus
Reprinted with permission

Learn All About CEA-Wisconsin at:

www.ceawisconsin.org

To join CEA go to:

www.ceanational.org

Kenneth Haynes' Best Days at Oakhill

Ken Haynes first came to Oakhill Correctional Institution's Recognition Ceremony four years ago and returns on a regular basis as a volunteer for the Read to Me program. The following article published in the Capitol City newspaper on December 25 is Ken's perspective on how volunteering at OCI touched his life.



One nice thing about best days is that they often pop up when they are least expected. They are the veritable silver linings in clouds. They force us to smile and feel hopeful on days when we feel like we'll never smile again.

I'd like to tell you about one such day. It was about four years ago. I was working in the Dane County Executive's Office. It was a great job and a very stressful job. Maybe part of the stress came from the fact that I often try to make everything come out right for the Universe and all the people in it. An impossible undertaking and not necessarily altruistic because delving into the problems of others is often an excuse for avoiding the things we have to deal with in our own lives. In any event, on the day I want to tell you about I was assigned to give a congratulatory speech on behalf of the county executive. The speech was to be given at the Oakhill Correctional Institution.

These occasions provided me the opportunity to speak from my heart. I avoid prepared notes whenever possible. I am often reminded on 1990 when I was doing some consulting work for a foundation that continues to be devoted to children and their families. I was to spend three days with some heavy-duty judges, university professors and juvenile justice wizards at a fancy mountain retreat in Salt Lake City, Utah. I was more than a little intimidated at the prospect, so I tried to gather additional information right up to the last minute. I went to the home of a person I know and respect who had worked with institutionalized delinquent boys for several decades. My intention was to pick his brain for every last morsel of information to supplement my experience as a survivor of New York City housing projects and later as a city of Madison police officer. My friend looked at me quizzically as I tried to extract every scintilla of juvenile justice wisdom from him. He looked at me and said, "You know everything you need to know." His words had a profound effect on me and taught me that sometimes the challenge is not to merely accumulate more information but to find a way to relax and let your wisdom bubble to the surface.

I drove south on Park Street past the neighborhoods where I had spent many wonderful and tumultuous years. I drove past the library and the Kohl's food store. My memory tried to recall all the different businesses that had come and gone from the Villager Mall. Then I continued south past the entrance to the Beltline to the MM exit to Oregon, then took an immediate right to drive the short distance to Oakhill. I had the disquieting thought that maybe South Park Street fed the institutions that were represented by Oakhill. I drove past the grounds of the Sprite Program, the Oregon Prison Farm and finally drove up the long and winding driveway that led to Oakhill. The wide-open fields stretched out in contrast to the fences that were adorned with concertina-razor-wire that marked the entrance to the central administration building. I checked in and met the inmate who would drive me to the building on campus where I would give my speech. My driver arrived. He was enormous, twice as wide as I am and I'm no lightweight myself. I had to laugh. His vehicle was an enclosed golf cart. I commented, "Nice ride" to which he responded, "Yeah. I put it on every morning."

I walked into the large room where the speech was to be given. I was to congratulate about two hundred men for having recently graduated from programs such as horticulture, building trades and culinary arts. Some had recently completed GED and HSED requirements. I remembered what my friend had told me: that I knew everything I needed to know. Here's what I told them:

"I'm here today without any prepared words and I am here with the understanding that one difference between you and me is that I happened to turn left instead of right on a given day. Another very

significant difference is that I can walk through the front door and leave this place whenever I please. You can't and that freedom and lack of it marks a huge difference. Now here's the speech.

I want to congratulate each and every one of you. I know that's what you expect me to say, but the real deal is that I mean it. I'm talking to you straight from my heart and I have no reason to tell you anything other than what I see as the truth. And the beauty of it is that anything I say that has the possibility of having truth attached to it comes from someplace inside of me and it will resonate or vibrate in me the same way it will in you. As I already mentioned, I am free to leave this place whenever I choose. I am obligated to ask myself what I plan to do with my freedom. Thank you for keeping me honest.

I congratulate you because you confronted a fear and moved beyond it. Maybe it was the fear of not being able to read and you danced around that hole in your life for years and then admitted to yourself that being a non-reader was getting in the way of a lot of the things you wanted to do. Things like being able to write letters to your kids and other loved ones. Things like being able to read books to your kids when you get out. I don't pretend to know what motivated you but the fact of the matter is that you were honest about something that was missing in your life, you figured out how to make up the deficit, you sought the help you needed to do what you had to do, and you put in the time and study and frustration that's part of learning anything — and you prevailed. So I congratulate you because you prevailed when confronted with what all human beings are faced with time and time again. And you prevailed because you stared your fear in the face and walked through it step by step.

We all arrive at places in our lives where there are essentially two choices. We can do the thing we're in the habit of doing — good, bad or indifferent— and realize the same result over and over. For example, if you throw a ball against the same spot on a wall, time and time again, the ball is likely to return in the same way. If you lashed out the last time you got frustrated and you ended up in jail, that can hardly be a surprise since you ended up in jail the time before that when you responded the same way when your frustration level was pushed to the wall. So what you have all done is to equip yourselves with new tools to deal with the old stuff that smacks us upside the head repeatedly as long as we live. You've decided to throw the ball at a different spot on the wall of life to ensure that it doesn't come back to you in the same place in the same way.

And by reminding you of these things, I'm challenging myself to take an honest look at and deal with the things that I do over and over with the result being that I realize the same limiting, unsatisfying results over and over again. Complaining about these things is useless. At best, the practice puts you in the company of people who are stuck in the same place who lack the courage or foresight to do what has to be done which is to stand in front of that scary threshold, take a deep breath, then step into a world that is beyond anything you've ever known. When I walk through the gates when I leave this place, I'll have to ask myself what things hold me back from realizing whatever it is I say I want to have in my life. For example, I can come up with one thousand reasons why money continues to be a problem for me. Doesn't seem to matter if I live in a small apartment or a big house. Doesn't seem to matter if I earn a small salary or a big one. I've adopted a way of dealing with or avoiding money that gives money permission to avoid me. I throw the ball at the same spot on the same wall in this regard. Money represents only one of the thresholds that I need to cross in this life. There are many others, but I believe the beauty is that many of these things are connected in ways that defy the faulty logic I apply to many things out of habit.

So I left Oakhill with my head swirling in a good way. I was reminded of the responsibility that comes with freedom, the freedom to walk through prison doors in both directions. Now, the challenge before me is larger and more ominous than ever before. How do I balance power with humility with the understanding that balance is essential? At least it is to me. I don't serve anyone properly, and certainly not myself, by making myself smaller than I am. And on the other hand it is imperative, to me, to not become the kind of person I detest — a person who is drunk with their own power. Even the best days are laced with the essential question which gently coerces us to define which star we are in the constellation of life.

Jail Instructor Training Day - Jail Break Two!

Pine Ridge Lodge, Wautoma, WI --- April 23-24, 2009

There are only a few days left to register for the second annual Jail Instructor Training Day. The Wisconsin Technical College System and CEA-Wisconsin are partnering to present the Jail Instructor Training Day on Friday, April 24, 2009 at the Pine Ridge Lodge in Wautoma, WI. Two general sessions will be featured. In General Session 1, **Joseph Marchese**, Emergency Planning Consultant will present *Surviving Crisis Situations*. General Session 2 will be *Recognizing Mental Illness and Strategies that Encourage Student Cooperation and Learning*, presented by **Rich Norenberg**, Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), Teacher and Social Worker. Plenty of time will be set aside in the conference schedule for Round Table Discussion Groups to allow opportunities to meet and share ideas with other jail instructors.

New this year on Thursday evening preceding the conference is the **Night Owl-Special Sneak Peek**. Those arriving on the evening before the conference may tour Waushara County Jail with George Peterman, Waushara County Jail Administrator. The tour will be followed by a Pizza Party at Christiano's with a Welcome to Waushara County by Sheriff Dave Peterson and a Meet and Greet

After the conference on Saturday, April 25 the **Jail Break Marathon** benefiting Waushara County Crime Stoppers will be held. For more information on the marathon, go to <http://www.jailbreakmarathon.com/>

More conference information 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 website. To register for the conference go to the WTCS website: <https://www.SignUp4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=CLIE97E>

The Pine Ridge has 10 guest rooms at the state rate. More information on the variety of rooms available may be found at 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 or lower are available at either the Super 8 or Americinn in Wautoma. To reserve a room contact: Super 8 Wautoma, www.super8.com, 920-787-4811 or Americinn-Wautoma, www.americinn.com, 920-787-5050.

Tapping Our Renewable Energy

Region III & IV Correctional Education Association Conference

Ames, Iowa --- May 6-8, 2009

Conference Highlights

Wednesday: Opening Session with **Terry Sallis**, Transition Support Specialist of Spectrum Resources, Newton, Iowa and **Denise Justice**, National CEA President

Thursday: Teacher Of The Year Luncheon; Karaoke by "Just Push Play" in the evening

Friday: Closing brunch with **Dan Gable**, motivational speaker, Gold Medal Olympian wrestler, two time NCAA champion athlete at Iowa State, and Iowa Hawkeyes coach with 15 National Championships; Region IV business meeting

Plus!: Over 20 breakout sessions are planned for Wednesday and Thursday.

Registration & Hotel Information

Conference Registration Fees

\$140 member fee (by April 17)

\$60 individual CEA membership—new or renewal

\$200 non-member fee (by April 17)

\$75 members for Wed. or Thurs. only

\$100 non-members for Wed. or Thurs. only

\$40 Friday only

\$25 non-refundable late fee (after April 17)

Gateway Hotel and Conference Center

2100 Green Hills Drive
Ames, Iowa 50014
(US Highway 30-exit 146)
1-800-367-2637 or direct 1-515-292-8600

Conference rates:

\$106 for Superior Double or King room
\$116 for Executive King
\$126 for Executive Jr. Suite
A limited number of rooms are available at these conference prices. Make your reservations early.

To register for the conference, go to the www.ceanational.org website. Click on "Conferences," then "Upcoming Events." For more information, contact Carol Magoon at cmagoon@dhs.state.ia.us.



64th Annual CEA Conference

Concourse Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin --- July 19-21, 2009

Call for Presenters

You may still submit a proposal to present at the 64th Annual CEA Conference. The deadline for presentation proposals is Wednesday, April 15. All presenters must register for the conference. Full and one-day registrations are available. Address all inquiries about presenting to Barbara Wulfers, Program Chair, at barbara.wulfers@wisconsin.gov.

Registration & Hotel Information**Full Registration before June 1, 2009:**

\$298 for CEA Members
\$353 for Non-Members
\$265 for CEA Retiree or CEA Student

Full Registration after June 1, 2009:

\$358 for CEA Members
\$413 for Non-Members
\$325 for CEA Retiree or CEA Student

One Day Registration:

Monday: \$160 for CEA Members, \$215 for Non-Members
Tuesday: \$125 for CEA Members \$180 for Non-Members

The Madison Concourse Hotel

1 West Dayton Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
1-800-356-8293

www.concoursehotel.com

Room Rates

Concourse Level:
Single \$ 95.00 Double \$105.00
Governor's Level:
Single \$159.00 Double \$169.00
Reservation cut off date: June 18, 2009

All registration materials are on the National website: www.ceanational.org. Open to the home page and look at the yellow column (Hot Topics) on the left. Click on "64th Annual Conference." Everything is there.

When making hotel reservations, please identify that you are a part of the Correctional Education Association Conference.

President's Message

Congratulations to DeNeal Erickson! She has been selected as the CEA-Wisconsin Teacher of the Year. DeNeal will be going the Region III and IV CEA Conference in Ames, Iowa to compete for the Region III Teacher of the Year title. DeNeal has represented Wisconsin well over the years as a CEA-W President and board member and as a speaker at conferences and in the community. She is always promoting correctional education. She is also the Hospitality chair for the 64th Annual CEA Conference being held in Madison in July. Good luck DeNeal, you will do a great job representing Wisconsin in Iowa in May!

With warmer weather right around the corner, my thoughts focus on the July conference quite often. The planning committees are working hard to make the conference a great experience for everyone. Conference information and registration materials are available on the www.ceanational.org website. Visit the website often for updates on the conference. I hope all Wisconsin members have the opportunity to attend!

Mary Stierna

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