



March/April 2012
Volume 26, Issue 5

Inside this Issue

- 1** TEACHER OF THE YEAR
TEACHES AND LEARNS
EVERY DAY
- 4** CEA-WISCONSIN
TRAINING DAY
- 5** REGISTRATION FORM
CEA-WISCONSIN
TRAINING DAY
- 6** WRC'S WORKSHOP
PROVIDES MEANINGFUL
WORK FOR INMATES
- 7** WRC ADDITION PROVIDES
TREATMENT AND
EDUCATION FOR WOMEN
- 9** FAIR SHAKE AWARDED
WISCONSIN COMMUNITY
FUND GRANT
- 9** SUSAN G. CASPER
- 10** 2011 ANNUAL
TREASURER'S REPORT
- 11** PDCI INMATES CREATE
"LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES"
- 12** PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

Teacher of the Year Teaches and Learns Every Day

Laurie Crescio enjoys teaching "because I enjoy learning; every day as I teach my students, I learn something too." Laurie has been teaching and learning for 34 years, the last 30 at the Waupun Correctional Institution.

Laurie believes, "In our students' cases, education's purpose is to create a mind open to new thoughts, new opinions and new possibilities. Hopefully, it will be open to better jobs, new experiences, and successes in life."

In recognition of Laurie's dedication and countless hours of hard work, the CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is proud to name Laurie Crescio as the 2012 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year.

Currently, Laurie teaches five classes per day of Intermediate and HSED Communications and one course of Moraine Park Technical College Occupational Communication. These courses prepare men to pass the reading and writing portions of the HSED exam and set a foundation for passing other components by strengthening the students' reading, reasoning, and background information.

There are four areas in which Laurie has made noteworthy contributions to the education program at WCI and throughout the correctional system: participation in Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council, coordination of WCI's education computer lab, modification of Moraine Park Technical College's Occupational Communication course materials, and WCI's public service knitting and crochet project.

Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council

Laurie was asked to join the Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council in 2002 and be WCI's representative on the state board. She has served as the Public Relation Leader on the board which promotes literacy efforts among staff, trains inmate peer tutors, and encourages literacy programs in institutions. Since 2002, Laurie has conducted twelve tutor trainings to prepare academic tutors to serve in the school.

Working together with the teachers, the peer tutors have a tremendous impact in assisting students to achieve goals and complete cognitive

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

programming. Last spring she co-facilitated Train the Trainer sessions for ProLiteracy America and Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council to introduce new teachers and staff to the tutoring program and continue the mission in training tutors, keeping records, and promoting literacy. The Wisconsin Institutions Literacy Council tutor training program is now used in seventeen correctional institutions in Wisconsin.

WCI’s Education Computer Lab

Laurie coordinates the operation of WCI’s education computer lab, ensuring that every student and teacher using the lab has access to the programming needed. She trains teachers and staff on how to access and use the applications offered and keeps the system running smoothly.

WCI’s computer lab is part of the much larger DOC ED NET. Documents generated on the computer network may remain in the student’s folder for access in other institutions. A resume or cover letter created at WCI may be accessed at medium or minimum facilities as the offender prepares to reenter society. Academic programming begun at WCI can be continued at successive institutions as the offender progresses through the system.

MPTC’s Occupational Communication Curriculum

Because incarcerated students have restrictions on their computer use, Laurie has spent considerable time modifying MPTC’s Occupational Communication curriculum for use in corrections. Assignments needed to be re-designed to maintain the content while adhering to restrictions imposed by the correctional setting. Additionally, materials were modified to make their usage easier and reflective of the specific needs of the offender population.

Laurie has shared her curriculum modifications with teachers at the Oshkosh and Kettle Moraine Correctional Institutions.

Public Service Program

The Public Service Program at WCI is a gift that keeps on giving. Laurie involves inmates in crocheting afghans, hats and mittens, baby buntings, and ladies’ sweaters to help needy children, unwed mothers, and charity organizations. The project allows the offenders to use their time and talent to give back to the

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 Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: W6443 Old Highway Road Menasha, WI 54952 920-734-5902 jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com</p>
President	Margaret Done, REECC	
President-Elect	Mary Stierna, WRC	
Secretary	Sharon Neseemann, WRC	
Treasurer	Ray Schlesinger, WCI	
Executive Board		
Maximum/Minimum Security	David Chapman, WCI	
Medium Security	Jean Bently-Jones, NLCI	
Juvenile	Janell Lathrop, DJC	
State Agency	Peggy Meyers, WTCS	
Local Educational Agency	Chuck Brendel, MPTC	
Community Corrections	Laurie Jarvis, FVTC/Waushara CJ	
Member at Large	Jerry Bednarowski	
Member at Large	Holly Audley, FLCI	
Member at Large	Laura Reisinger, LVCV	
News Review Staff		
Editor	Jerry Bednarowski	
Layout & Design	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC	
Proofreader	Laura Reisinger, LVCV	
Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop	

community while, in return, gaining self-esteem. In 2001, Laurie's project created over 3500 items for distribution to needy children throughout southeastern Wisconsin.

"The inmates who participate in the project like it very much because it keeps their hands and minds busy," Laurie claims. "They enjoy being constantly challenged with new patterns and designs." She adds, "Just because certain men are in prison for crimes committed, that doesn't mean they can't give to others."

The Public Service Program has continued at WCI under the direction of Randy Mueller who uses inmate tutors to teach crocheting skills and pattern reading. The program also is used at the Oshkosh and Kettle Moraine Correctional Institutions.

Other Talents

In addition to all of this, Laurie enjoys painting and crafts. She has designed cups, T-shirts, buttons, murals, banners, and signs for many civic organizations. Her signs grace the entrances to WCI shops and school. She created many items to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the Wisconsin State Prison. And she created the banner for the 1984 Region III CEA Conference held in Madison and the cover for the 2011 Region III & IV CEA Conference program.

Laurie's Philosophy

Laurie believes in collaboration with her students and her fellow teachers. She believes "students will benefit the most if the materials they use are geared to the right level and involve them in generating their own ideas." She achieves this by giving the student a choice between studying a concept in a book, interacting with a computer program, or completing a worksheet packet.

Laurie likens adult students' learning backgrounds to Swiss cheese. "Many adults have gaps or holes in their education. They learn unevenly and often need to go back and fill in the gaps. When we can target the gaps, we can improve the effectiveness of the learning."

Laurie is known for the assistance she provided and the support she has given her fellow educators at WCI. She believes, "We are working together toward the same goals, preparing students not only for obtaining an HSED or technical diploma, but also for a successful lifetime. Education impacts our students' daily lives as they gain reasoning, broader views of life, and understanding of different cultures. Together, we can make a difference."

The CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is pleased to recognize Laurie Crescio as the 2012 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. Laurie will represent Wisconsin at the Region III & IV CEA Conference in Effingham, Illinois on April 23-24.

Mark Your Calendar

- **April 23-24, 2012**
Region III & IV CEA Conference
Keller Convention Center, Effingham, IL
- **May 7, 2012**
CEA-Wisconsin Training Day
Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club, Madison, WI
- **July 29-August 1, 2012**
67th CEA Annual Conference & Training
Crowne Plaza Hotel – Riverfront, St. Paul, MN

CEA-Wisconsin Training Day

May 7, 2012

Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club, Downtown Madison

Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin will hold its 2012 CEA-Wisconsin Training Day on May 7 at the beautiful Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club.

A wide variety of workshops will make this training day an excellent professional development opportunity for educators working in prisons, jails, and detention centers. The Training Day Planning Committee has created a program that includes a wide variety of workshops. Also featured will be vendor displays and a silent auction.

The tentative list of workshops includes:

- ❖ **Civics Roundtable**
Presenter: Jen Simpson, Waupun Correctional Institution
- ❖ **Creative Writing – Discovering Talent, Building Community, Changing Perspectives**
Presenter: Mary Riordan, Literacy Volunteers of Chippewa Valley
- ❖ **Exploring Success: What They Don't Teach in Pre-Release Programs and SHOULD!**
Presenter: Mitchell Frank, Wisconsin Resource Center
- ❖ **Fair Shake: Utilizing Web-Based Reentry Tools**
Presenter: Sue Kastensen, Fair Shake
- ❖ **5.09 HSED: Providing an Opportunity for Success**
Presenters: Mary Knox & Sharon Neemann, Wisconsin Resource Center & Ray Schlesinger, Waupun Correctional Institution
- ❖ **Free? Where? Finding Freeware and Web Resources for the ELL Classroom**
Presenter: Karlyn Ehrhardt, Fox Valley Technical College
- ❖ **How Much of the Constitution Should Be Included in an HSED Civics Classroom?**
Presenter: James Gilles, Jackson Correctional Institution
- ❖ **Latino/Hispanic Culture, Criminal Tendencies & Outgrowing Presence in Corrections**
Presenter: Myra Sanchez, Rock County Sheriff's Department
- ❖ **Make Math Really Add Up (Finally!)**
Presenter: Bob Khouri, Wisconsin Technical College System Foundation
- ❖ **Parenting Roundtable: Sharing Ideas and Resources**
Presenters: Jerry Bednarowski, CEA-Wisconsin & Barb Rasmussen, Racine Correctional Institution
- ❖ **Reading Matters**
Presenter: Cheri Wontor, Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility
- ❖ **Reintegrating Inmates One at a Time**
Presenters: Yezlin Kelly & Stormy Mercadel, Aro Behavioral Health
- ❖ **Trauma Informed Care**
Presenter: Tamara Oman, Wisconsin Resource Center
- ❖ **Universal Design for Instruction – Curb Cuts for Learning**
Presenters: Diane Host & Mary Heinrichs, Madison College
- ❖ **Using Current Topics and Stories in the ELL Classroom**
Presenter: Catherine Berth, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
- ❖ **Using Personal Experiences to Increase Student Reflections on Holistic Assessments**
Presenter: James Svitavsky, Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution

A complete conference program will soon be available on the www.ceawisconsin website.

Registration Form

CEA-Wisconsin Training Day

May 7, 2012

The Madison Concourse Hotel, Madison WI

Registration Information	
Name:	Title:
Name as you would like it to appear on nametag:	
Mailing Address:	Organization:
City:	e-mail:
State & Zip:	Phone:

Please register by April 8, 2012

Registration Fees

Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and breaks.		
CEA Member Price	\$30.00	\$
Day of Conference	\$40.00	
Non-Member Price	\$95.00	\$
Day of Conference	\$105.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian meal <input type="checkbox"/> Special accommodations: _____		

Payment Information

A \$10 administrative fee will be charged for cancellations after April 8, 2012.

Registration questions:

Phone: (920) 324-5571 ext. 1305 or e-mail: Raphael.Schlesinger@wisconsin.gov

Send payment with registration form to:

Ray Schlesinger
CEA-Wisconsin
824 Christianson Avenue
Madison, WI 53714-1105

Payment options:

Check(s): payable to CEA-W for conference price

Purchase order no.: _____

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

Lodging Information

The Madison Concourse Hotel

To reserve rooms call The Madison Concourse Hotel at 1-800-356-8293 and say you are attending the CEA-W Training Session. Web: www.concoursehotel.com. The Concourse is a non-smoking facility. Please have tax exempt documentation with you upon registration.

Hotel rooms are available at the following cost:

- ❖ House rooms
 - Single occupancy: \$70.00/night
 - Double occupancy: \$110.00/night

WRC's Vocational Workshop Provides Meaningful Work for Inmates



WRC Vocational Workshop instructors Dan Smithback, Tom Mohelnitzky, Sara Werner, and Sarah Beahm

The CEA-W News Review and Parenting Connection newsletters are printed and folded at the Wisconsin Resource Center. Inmates who work in the Vocational Workshop at WRC are instrumental in preparing the newsletters for CEA-W members.

The Vocational Workshop is one of WRC's Multi-Disciplinary Treatment Programs. It is designed to teach hands-on job skills to a select group of inmates at WRC. The Vocational Workshop focuses on involving three types of inmates; developmentally disabled, mentally ill and those within six months of release to the community who are in general population status. Currently, teachers and Recreation Therapists facilitate the project.

It is the ambition of the Vocational Workshop Program to provide the inmate worker with hands on skills to ensure a better opportunity to receive gainful employment upon leaving WRC, and also to improve their work behaviors, safety, interpersonal skills and communication. These skills include: staying on task, performing repetitive tasks, multi-tasking, maintaining professional attitudes towards peers and supervisors, being punctual, demonstrating good hygiene and appearance, working independently, seeking assistance, appropriately responding to feedback and criticism, maintaining a positive attitude toward work activities, completing work accurately and timely, following instructions, completing tasks in a deadline period, demonstrating knowledge of safety and policies and demonstrating safe judgment with equipment and materials.

In addition to learning a variety of job skills in this program, the workers are given a real sense of having a job as they would in the community. They complete an application, participate in an interview, receive a tour and participate in a two week trial period prior to beginning their training in the workshop. They use real time sheets and are responsible for recording their own hours of work. Some are given leadership opportunities to mentor other workers. They earn pay raises and need to attend as their schedules indicate. The inmates work 5 to 20 hours per week

There are several different projects that the inmates work on. One is a long time community service project that works with local schools. The workers prepare General Mills box tops, soup labels and milk caps for area schools. School representatives drop off the box tops and labels to be cut and sorted, and

the milk caps to be washed and sorted. The schools then pick up their items. The schools are grateful for the help and the workers have an opportunity to contribute back to the community.

The workers also perform in house services such as laminating projects, preparing booklets, preparing various paper projects for classrooms, stuffing and sealing envelopes, folding the CEA-W newsletters, hanging posters, shredding paper, cleaning yoga mats, and making popcorn. They also do laundry, washing and drying cleaning rags for the fitness rooms and Leisure Center, and laundering the drying towels for the Therapeutic Services kitchen.

The Vocational Workshop is a partnership with Goodwill Industries of North Central Wisconsin. In the past, the Goodwill Books Project and the GoodWipers project were a big part of the Vocational Workshop. These projects are not running at this time due to a lack of community donations to Goodwill, but the partnership still exists and Goodwill is exploring new opportunities for the WRC Vocational Workshop. Goodwill delivered as much as 3000 pounds of donated books per week to WRC. The inmate workers sorted the books dividing them among trash, salvage, children's books, novels, fiction, and non-fiction, textbooks, reference books, cooking and craft books, etc.

To begin, each individual book was wiped clean. Next, the worker determined what the appropriate price was for a book and priced it accordingly. Books were then packaged according to categories. Each full shipment was tallied by the inmates recording how many books were completed and what the price was. When the process was completed, Goodwill picked up the books, and put them on their store shelves. It was an amazing process, and the inmate workers had a lot of enthusiasm for the project. Throughout the process, they had the opportunity to work with a variety of machinery.

Good Wipers was another training of the Vocational workshop. The inmate workers prepared donated terry cloth products by utilizing washers and dryers. Wipers were then folded and packaged for return to Goodwill, The final process of the GoodWipers involved Goodwill cutting them to size and selling them to stores and various companies.

At WRC, the inmates have been given a great opportunity to gain meaningful work experience and positive reinforcement while they receive treatment and prepare for community reintegration.

by: Mary Stierna, WRC

WRC Addition Provides Treatment and Education for Women

The Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) opened in 1983, accepting male inmates who had mental illnesses or had difficulty functioning in a traditional DOC facility. In September of 2008, plans were drawn up for a Women's treatment facility to be added to the Wisconsin Resource Center. In March of 2010, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the site just south of the existing WRC building. By the time the ribbon cutting ceremony was held in August of 2011, the facility had been named the Wisconsin Women's Resource Center (WWRC). In September of 2011, the first women began to arrive from Taycheedah Correctional Institution.

The 45-bed facility has three separate units, each with a different purpose. All units are numbered at WRC, and the tradition carried over to the women's facility. Units 20, 21 and 22 each have a distinct function.

Unit 20 is the Moderate Acuity Unit, and its mission is to provide a wide variety of interdisciplinary treatment to women with psychiatric symptoms and maladaptive personality features in order to decrease their difficulties and improve their overall functioning. The unit houses a maximum 23 offenders. It (continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

consists of women in general population and segregation statuses who transferred from the High Acuity Unit after exhibiting reduced risk for self-harm and harm to others, as well as women who transfer directly from Taycheedah Correctional Institution. Residents of this unit participate in on- and off-unit programming. All cells are single-occupancy and have sinks and toilets.

Unit 21 is the Specialized Treatment Unit and its mission is to provide interdisciplinary treatment to address a combination of trauma symptoms and maladaptive personality features with the goal of increasing participants' skills and improving their interpersonal functioning prior to returning to Taycheedah Correctional Institution (TCI) and subsequently the community. The unit houses an intensive treatment program for 10 women utilizing a modified therapeutic community. The program lasts 25 weeks and the 10 participants begin and complete the program at the same time. Upon their return to TCI, a new group will arrive to begin a new 25 weeks of programming. Staff and program participants emphasize core values of safety, choice, collaboration, and empowerment in the unit structure, programming, and their interactions. All cells are single-occupancy and have sinks and toilets.

Unit 22 is the High Acuity Unit and its mission is to reduce symptoms of serious mental illness or severe behavioral instability, which threatens the safety of the offender or others, via focused therapeutic interventions, stabilization of psychotropic medication, and behavior management. The unit houses a working population of 10 offenders. It consists of women in general population and segregation statuses. Some offenders remain for short-term stabilization and return to Taycheedah Correctional Institution, while others progress to the Moderate Acuity Unit for more in-depth programming after exhibiting improved behavioral and/or psychiatric stability and reduced risk for self-harm and harm to others. All cells are single-occupancy cells with sinks and toilets. Most programming is conducted on the High Acuity Unit, although women can progress to day programming off the unit to help their transition to the Moderate Acuity Unit.

The units were designed with light and color in mind. The dayrooms are painted in soothing soft colors, with windows that allow natural sunlight in. The flooring has some colorful squares that break up the institutional feel. Although still a prison, the units have a feel of a mental health treatment facility.

There are two teachers who work in WWRC, currently one position is vacant. The teachers work closely with Recreation Therapists, Social Workers and Psychological Associates to deliver groups and classes. The treatment programs are evidence-based and specifically designed for female offenders to address trauma informed and gender specific needs.

Karen Kapocius is the teacher at WWRC and she co-facilitates two of the groups offered, Thinking for a Change and Applying Wellness and Recovery Everyday (AWARE). She offers a variety of classes to the women including Journaling and Book Club 1 & 2 and she helps the women publish a newsletter called *WWRC Sunrise*. She teaches a class called Prepare Yourself that focuses on social skills based on the Prepare Curriculum by Arnold Goldstein. Karen offers a Goal Lab for those students who want to work on remedial academic skills and for those working on HSED test preparation. In addition, she offers 1-to-1 or small group sessions on the High Acute Unit, offering classes such as Challenge Thinking, Creative Writing and Reading.

WWRC has its own gym, fitness rooms, and kitchen and servery areas. There is a shared services area, which houses the barber and dentist. Male and female inmates utilize the same barber and dentist, but at different times and the two populations never meet.

WWRC held its first Recognition Ceremony on March 1st, recognizing those women who have completed programs or other goals.

by: Mary Stierna, WRC

Fair Shake Awarded Wisconsin Community Fund Grant

Fair Shake Founder and Director Sue Kastensen is pleased to share some terrific news! The Wisconsin Community Fund has awarded Fair Shake a grant to begin its work building the Areas of Study certification program. The tag line for the program is "Change, not Charity." It is Fair Shake's intention to create lasting change. The Wisconsin Community Fund raises money and gives it to groups that are too new, too small or too controversial for mainstream funders.

Fair Shake also wishes to thank Dr. Bronner's Magic Soaps and Cosmic Egg Studios for their continued support in 2012, and they are also deeply grateful for the private funders who support their work as well! As advertised in Fair Shake's new brochure, its "Ready for Release" pages are now available on its www.fairshake.net website. Presently they have created two documents: "Preparing for Release" and "First Week." They also list several state and city reentry guides as well!

Sue was invited to participate in the 2012 Viterbo Humanities Symposium: Heroes – Hope and Help. Of course, she used the event as an opportunity to get the word out about reentry ideas and connect with students and the public.

Fair Shake is excited to participate in several Correctional Education Association events this year. Sue has submitted proposals to present workshops at the CEA-W State Training Day, Region III & IV CEA Conference, and International CEA Conference. Fair Shake's Areas of Study program is being developed in consideration of the possibility of working with these correctional teachers around the country.



Susan G. Casper

March 15, 1959 – February 26, 2012

Susan Casper, a teacher for the last six years at Oshkosh Correctional Institution, died on February 26, 2012.

Susan had been a CEA member since starting with corrections. For the last five years Susan served on the CEA-W Creativity Contest committee. Susan loved the written word. She received her MFA in English from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. She was a staff writer for Night Sights and Sounds and she published a collection of poems called Morphine, or I'll Jump.

As a teacher at OSCI, Susan served as the Incarcerated Individual Program site coordinator. Under her supervision OSCI was the first site, nationwide, to have a student graduate with their Associates Degree through the IIP program. Susan also served on the IIP Steering Committee and in 2010 served as the Interim Vocational Education Coordinator.

Before teaching for the DOC Susan taught for 18 years in a variety of places including: Fox Valley Technical College, Sylvan Learning Center, Lakeland College, Neenah Joint School District, Brillion Public School District, Kaukauna High School, and Stevens Point Area Senior High School.

Susan had a positive impact on many people and will be missed.

by: Margaret Done, CEA-W President

2011 Annual Treasurer's Report

Where does the Wisconsin chapter of CEA get the money to fund the services it provides to correctional educators? How does CEA-Wisconsin spend its money?

In the spirit of transparency, CEA-W Treasurer Ray Schlesinger has submitted this *Annual Report* for publication in this newsletter.

As you can see, the largest source of revenue for CEA-W and its largest expense are the conferences and workshops that CEA-W sponsors. The CEA-W Board's goal for most conferences and workshops is to have the registration and vendor fees cover most of the conference expenses, but often CEA-W does not "break even" and ends up covering some additional conference expenses from other revenue sources.

The other major source of revenue is the Silent Auctions CEA-W conducts at CEA Conferences and the Wisconsin GED/HSED & Adult Literacy Conference. The Silent Auctions fund the majority of CEA-W's initiatives, including printing and postage relating to the *CEA-W* and *Parenting Connection* newsletters and Creativity Contest booklet, Teacher of the Year expenses, other awards, scholarships, and member dues rebates.

CEA dues that members pay go to supporting National and Region III CEA operations. Usually CEA-Wisconsin does not receive any cut from the membership dues revenue.

If you have any questions or comments relating to the *2011 Annual Treasurer's Report*, contact Ray at raphael.schlesinger@wisconsin.gov.

2011 Annual Treasurer's Report - Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

Revenues

Silent auction proceeds	\$2,185.00
Credit union accounts dividends	97.74
Summit Credit Union gift	10.00
Merchandise sales	276.00
Vendor fees	975.00
Regional Conference registrations	10,935.00
Regional Conference other income	547.50
	<hr/>
	\$15,026.24

Expenses

Scholarships	\$1,000.00
Membership dues rebates	370.00
Conference expenses for members	195.00
Printing	884.70
Facility rental and food service	7,756.15
Postage	191.49
Plaque	6.26
Website	99.95
Paper stock and office supplies	402.06
Conference co-payment to CEA Region III	2,371.56
Silent auction expenses	63.99
State conference registration refunds	10.00
	<hr/>

	\$13,351.16
Assets	
Cash deposits at credit unions	\$8,818.84
Certificate of deposit	<u>6,949.44</u>
	\$15,768.28

submitted by Ray Schlesinger, CEA-W Treasurer

Learn All About CEA-Wisconsin at:
www.ceawisconsin.org

PDCI Inmates Create "Little Free Libraries"

A DOC pilot program at Prairie du Chien Correctional Institution (PDCI) is helping promote reading and literacy in Wisconsin communities. Last month, DOC Secretary Gary Hamblin and PDCI Warden Gary Boughton officially presented inmate-crafted library book boxes to the non-profit group the Little Free Library Project for installation in some cities and villages. The DOC effort is part of a statewide Read to Lead Initiative to promote literacy.

The donation is the result of a pilot program between the DOC and the Little Free Library Project to promote reading opportunities for children and literacy for adults. PDCI has a Buildings, Maintenance and Construction vocational program through Southwest Technical College which integrated the construction of the Little Free Library boxes into its curriculum.

"Our partnership with the Little Free Library Project helps promote reading as well as literacy and job skills among our inmate population," said Secretary Hamblin. "The pilot program takes donated lumber and produces not only more reading opportunities in communities, but valuable woodworking skills for our offenders that they can use later to secure employment. It's a positive program for everyone involved."

The Little Free Library Project receives donated boxes and places them in community spots throughout Wisconsin and other states. The inmate-created boxes are decorated with different themes and will be set up in the small Richland County village of Boaz as well as in Kimberly, Madison and Milwaukee. The location of the fifth library box has yet to be decided.

At the presentation Secretary Hamblin said since the pilot project at PDCI has been successful, DOC will explore setting up similar efforts at other institutions to help promote reading opportunities in more Wisconsin communities.

For more information about the Little Free Library Project, visit www.littlefreelibrary.org .

taken from: DOC website

For past issues of the CEA-W newsletter
go to : www.ceawisconsin.org

President's Message

It's hard to think spring is almost here as I shovel my driveway, removing the heavy, wet snow. Even though we have seen a mild winter this year, I long to see the colors of spring. With spring come a new beginning, fresh starts, and renewal.

I hope you will join us for some professional renewal on May 7th at our CEA-W Training Day in Madison. The registration form is in this issue and we have lots of great presentations lined up for you to attend.

Margaret
margaret.done@wisconsin.gov

To join CEA go to: www.ceanational.org

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

