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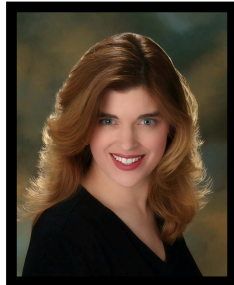
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LITERACY AWARDS

Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

2006 Teacher of the Year Is a One-Woman Show

With a supporting cast up the highway at Lakeshore Technical College (LTC), Sharon Abel is the “whole show” when you look at adult educational programming at the Sheboygan County Detention Center (Jail). Of the counties fortunate enough to have on-site educational offerings for adult inmates, methods of delivery vary. In Sheboygan County, the method is Sharon Abel.



Since 1991, LTC has employed Sharon Abel to provide Adult Basic Education to the incarcerated population in Sheboygan County. Sharon delivers General Education Development Certificate/High School Equivalency Diploma preparation, basic skills review, college preparation services, and much more to approximately 200 offenders each year.

In recognition of Sharon’s commitment to bring quality education to her students, her efforts to expand programming beyond traditional classroom instruction, and her advocacy of the important role that education plays in the future success of those incarcerated in our penal system, the Executive Board of CEAW is proud to honor Sharon Abel as the 2006 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year.

Sharon is employed by Lakeshore Technical College. Sharon’s Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Secondary Education English and a Minor in Business is from Northern Michigan University. In 1998, Sharon received an M.S. Degree in Career & Technical Studies from University of Wisconsin-Stout. Since then, she has earned an additional 32 graduate credits with emphases in Behavior Management and Financial/Economic Literacy.

(continued on page 4)

HOW TO JOIN

Let us know you (please Print)

Name _____
 Title _____
 Institution _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State Zip _____
 Country _____
 Daytime Phone _____
 Email _____
 Referred by _____
 Membership Number _____
 Age _____

- 18-34 35-49
- 50-64 65+

Please select the following category that best describes your position (check only one):

- Administrator Teacher
- Librarian Counselor
- Student Volunteer
- Support Staff Researcher/
Evaluator
- Retiree

What is the highest degree that you have earned?

- High School/GED Associates
- Bachelors Masters/Doctorate

What type of facility do you work in?

- Jail/Detention center Prison
- Community Corrections
(halfway house/probation/parole)

What type of offenders do you work with (check all that apply)?

- Adult Juvenile
- Male Female

Who is responsible for funding or staffing your education programs in your facility?

- State or local department of correction
- State or local department of education
- Local college or university
- Private Company
- None of the above (please describe)

Who operates your facility?

- Local/County State
- Federal Private

Please select one of the following areas that best describes what area of correctional education you are involved with:

- Basic Education/GED Post-secondary
- Special Education Art
- English as a second language Vocational Ed/
Workforce develop
- Lifeskills/Health/Parenting/Substance Abuse, etc Religious
- Administration
- Other

Membership Type

- Individual *
 - \$55/yr \$99/2 yr
 - \$143/3 yr \$237/5 yr
- Student/Volunteer/Retiree, \$35/yr
- Clerical/Instructional Support Staff, \$25/yr
- Subscription, \$55/yr
- Institutional/Library Membership, \$95/yr
- Corporate Membership, \$285/yr
- Lifetime Membership, \$1000; payable @ \$100/yr

*Membership is available at multiyear rates for individual members only.

Special Interest Group Membership

CEA Members can enroll in one SIG for free. Additional SIG memberships are \$5 each.

- Research, Evaluation and Training
- Community Corrections
- Vocational Education
- Special Education
- Juvenile Education
- Post-secondary
- Female Offenders
- Friends of CEA
- Literacy
- Prison Arts
- Librarians
- International
- Counselors
- Legislative
- Jails
- ESL

Payment can be made by purchase order, check, or credit card (MasterCard/Visa/AmEx/Discover) & payroll deduction.

Card Number: _____

Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____

Fill out this form and send to: CEA, 4380 Forbes Blvd., Lanham, MD 20706

Tel: 800.783.1232 Fax: 301.918.1846 Web: www.ceanational.org Email: ceaoffice@aol.com

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	Peggy Meyers, SCI	
President Elect	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC	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	Barb Rasmussen, RCCI	
Treasurer	Mike Breszee, WCI	Articles for publication may be submitted to CEAW Secretary Barb Rasmussen at Racine Correctional Institution, 2019 Wisconsin Street, Sturtevant, WI 53177-0900, barbara.rasmussen@doc.state.wi.us or CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com
Executive Board		
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Medium Security	Conrad Reedy, KMCI	
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Layout & Design	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC	
Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop	

Dynamic Workshops to Highlight Region III & IV CEA Conference

In addition to Keynote Speaker LeRoy Bulter and Luncheon Speaker Cay Villars, the Region III & IV CEA Conference will feature thirty workshops designed to address the interests and needs of conference participants. Five sessions will be scheduled in each of the six conference program workshop slots to give conference attendees opportunity to select topics that are the most relevant to their needs. Workshop presenters hail from Wisconsin, Ohio, Minnesota, and Australia.

The **tentative** workshop schedule is as follows:

Thursday, May 11 10:45-12:00

- Drug Endangered Children
- Kids Learning, Living & Coping in a Large Urban Jail
- Gearing Classroom Instruction for Success in the Workplace & Community
- Storytelling as a Teaching Strategy
- Community Partners: Imagine Your Community as a Partner in Meeting Inmates' Needs

Thursday, May 11 1:45-3:00

- Beginning a One-Stop Job Center within Razor Wire
- Culturally Diverse? – Check Out the Library!
- Best Practices in Correctional Education: What Works to Get the Inside Out?
- BRICK – Breaking Down the Walls to Reality through Intervention & Counseling for Kids
- Parenting Education for Men: Formal & Informal Programs Provided by Volunteers

Thursday, May 11 3:30-4:45

- Restorative Justice Downunder
- Strengthening Family Bonds with Family Literacy & Aunt Mary's Storybook Projects
- Working from the Inside Out: Using the Body to Help Change Minds

- Jail Forum
- Shakespeare Project at Racine Correctional Institution

Friday, May 12 8:15-9:30

- Expanding the Circle: A Curriculum to Support American Indian Youth in Transition
- The First Years Last Forever
- Conducting an Inmate Job Fair
- Essential Strategies for Math
- Deepening ADR Skills: Working with Victim/Survivors of Violence or Great Harm

Friday, May 12 9:45-11:00

- How to Be a Great Boss: Tips for Improving Your Leadership Style
- CEA Membership Benefits
- ABLE MINDS: Unlocking the Writing Talents of Inmates through Self-Discovery
- The National Center for Correctional Education and Research
- Diversity Circles: Facing the Challenge of Racism & Race Relations

Friday, May 12 11:15-12:30

- Improving the View of the Future from the Inside
- Five Steps for Successful GED Writing
- Are Formal Education & Employment Necessary/Sufficient Condition for Living Crime-Free?
- Library Workshop
- Vocational Education & Prison Industries – A Natural Partnership

2006 Teacher of the Year (continued)

Since her employment with LTC began over 14 years ago, Sharon Abel has continued to expand the educational offerings at the Sheboygan County Detention Center. In addition to basic literacy and GED/HSED instruction, Sharon has introduced learning activities that emphasize financial/economic, family, and computer literacy. Her efforts give inmates the opportunity to develop the fundamental tools needed to obtain, retain, and upgrade employment. Sharon helps her students gain a sense of self-worth and confidence necessary to live an alternative lifestyle to their criminal past.

Aware of the great need for recreational and informational reading materials to supplement the instruction she was providing, in 1998, Sharon Abel along with Huber Law Officer Roy Kluss acted on their own and on behalf of the inmates to create a partnership with the fiscal agent Eastern Shores Library System in an effort to obtain a \$5000 grant for library materials from the Sheboygan County Crime Prevention Fund. Each year, Sharon has written a grant request to continue funding the library project. Sharon and volunteer Sue Mathews order the books which are sent to Sharon who recruits the assistance of Correctional and Maintenance staff to disburse the books through Sheboygan County's various jail facilities: adult male, adult female, and juvenile housing units; lobbies, waiting areas, and visiting rooms.

After seven years of funding, the Sheboygan County Crime Prevention Fund was dissolved and Sharon is now pursuing other methods of obtaining library materials for the inmate library. Recently she recruited another volunteer to help receive "gently" used materials and cash donations to purchase new materials.

Drawing on her own past experience as a Literacy Council tutor, Sharon and other LTC personnel have partnered with the Literacy Council of Sheboygan County to solicit volunteers to come into the Detention Center to assist inmates in improving their reading skills. The tutor initiative has provided an inter-generational experience for her students and has enhanced instruction.

Sharon Abel has been an outstanding advocate for correctional education. She has published articles on the subject in professional journals and presented workshops at state and national conferences. Recent in-services and conferences Sharon has presented at or participated in include: Association of Community College Trustees National Leadership Congress, Sheboygan County Leadership Institute, Sheboygan County Hispanic Resource Fair, Wisconsin GED/HSED & Adult Literacy Conference, and National Institute on Financial & Economic Literacy. To promote community awareness, Sharon has spoken about correctional education before the Sheboygan Bar Association, the Sheboygan City Council, other local agencies and a group of State Senators and Representatives.

Sharon's energy and leadership abilities have enabled her to forge the partnerships necessary to implement a unique educational program at the Sheboygan County Detention Center. In addition to working with her colleagues at Lakeshore Technical College, she routinely teams with staff at Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department, Sheboygan County Job

Center, Eastern Shores Library System, the Literacy Council of Sheboygan County, Good News Jail & Prison Ministry, and local K-12 schools. Daily she works with Jail Administrator John Scholke and Huber Law Officer Roy Kluss to coordinate the education program with other jail functions. Judges, Probation/Parole Officers, Public Defenders and District Attorneys are some of Sharon's biggest fans, realizing the impact her work has on her students and the community.

But most of all, her students appreciate the energy and excitement Sharon brings to everything she does. Comments like "Sharon is a very understanding and caring instructor that really cares," "Sharon is the easiest person to talk to and does a terrific job teaching," "She instilled in me a desire to do the best I could do," and "She gave me a feeling of self-worth and is one of the main reasons I am now a productive citizen in the community" are commonly heard.

Sharon's educational philosophy can be summed-up by the charge written on her classroom board: "Enter to learn; Go forth to serve." Sharon puts this charge into action.

The CEAW Executive Board is pleased to recognize Sharon Abel's accomplishments and invite her to represent Wisconsin at the Region III Teacher of the Year selection to be held at the Region III & IV CEA Conference in Wisconsin Dells on May 10.

Reserve a Copy of The LeRoy Butler Story



The Keynote Speaker at the Region III & IV CEA Conference, LeRoy Butler, will have autographed copies of his autobiography for sale at the conference. Proceeds from the sales will go to LeRoy's foundation which supports breast-cancer research. You may reserve a copy of the book by checking the box and including payment with your conference registration form. Remaining copies of the book will also be for sale at the conference.

The LeRoy Butler Story ... from Wheelchair to the Lambeau Leap tells the unique story of the former Green Bay Packer. From a childhood of health problems and growing up in the projects of Jacksonville, Florida, Butler made it as a high school and college football All-American and became a football hero with the Green Bay Packers, winning Superbowl XXXI.

You will enjoy LeRoy's inspirational story and the quotes from his colleagues and coaches, including: Ron Wolf, Reggie White, Mike Holmgren, Bobby Bowden, and Howie Long – to mention just a few.

Creative Crocheters at KMCI



Inmates at Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution learn the rewards of hard work and the spirit of giving by participating in the Restorative Justice Crochet Program called Creative Crocheters. They crochet a variety of items which are then donated to non-profit agencies for distribution to the disadvantaged.

Approximately 20 men participate in the program. They meet twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 12:45pm to 1:35pm. In addition to class time, the men spend countless hours in their housing unit productively, and artfully practicing their crochet skills.

The rewards to the inmates are numerous, and include but are not limited to:

- the development of patience and perseverance, the enhancement of thought skills
- the intensification of focus, better eye & hand coordination
- creative expression
- an increase in self-esteem from the knowledge that they are helping others

A variety of crocheted articles are displayed three to four times a year in the school hallway display case. The display is designed and executed by the inmates, and follows a seasonal theme. The most recent display was a Christmas theme of red, white, and green crocheted articles on a white background, and adorned with downy snow.

Some of the program participants, and staff chose to write their names on a Christmas star to hang in the display case. We received many favorable comments. One person stated, "It's a real morale booster for inmates and staff."

By: Cheryl Edwards, KMCI

Meet the Candidates

This month CEAW members will be receiving a ballot to vote for CEAW Board members. In order for you to know more about the potential Board members, each candidate was asked to submit a short bio. Here are the offices up for election and the candidates:

Secretary

Barb Rasmussen – Barb has been a teacher at Racine Correctional Institution for over 14 years and currently teaches ESL and Parenting classes. She has been a CEA member for 10 years and has served as the Secretary since 2001. She was Wisconsin Teacher of the Year in 2000.



Treasurer

Mike Breszee – Mike is a veteran of 32 years in correctional education where he has been both a teacher and an administrator. He is a charter member of CEAW which means he has been a member since the mid 1980's. Currently, he is teaching HSED Science and Health as well as Vocational related classes at Waupun Correctional Institution. Mike has served on the Executive Board for over 10 years. Previously, Mike has served as the President of CEAW and has been the state CEAW treasurer for the past 4 years. In addition, Mike was the first CEAW state Teacher of the Year in 1986. Mike wishes to continue his involvement in this organization and would like your continued support in his re-election efforts.

Maximum Security Representative

Linda Kozlowski – Linda filled the Maximum Security Representative position in March 2005 and is serving on the CEA Region III and IV Conference Planning Committee as the Vendor Chairperson. She has been a member of CEA for eight years and would like the honor of being reelected Maximum Representative for the next two-year term. Linda currently teaches Pre-GED and GED classes at CCI in all five core areas.

Medium Security Representative

Conrad Reedy – Conrad has been honored to serve on CEAW Board since 1994 and the Creativity Contest Committee for 5 years. Conrad is a Vietnam Veteran, Wisconsin employee since 1969, winner of the University Founders Award for Excellence in 1986; and DOC KMCI librarian since 1990. Conrad is a frequent facilitator at corrections conferences, member of the KMCI Gang Task Force, Stock Market Simulation instructor, and member of assorted scholarship committees for over 30 years.

State Agency Representative

Julie Lidbury - Currently, Julie is the DOC special education coordinator. Her academic history includes undergraduate work in psychology and behavioral disabilities at UW-Madison, an MBA from UW-Madison's School of Business, additional graduate work at the UW Lafollette Institute, and completion of the graduate school psychology program at UW-Whitewater. She joined DOC in 2002 as a school psychologist.

At-Large Representative/Newsletter Editor

Jerry Bednarowski – Jerry has recently retired after 30 years as a teacher at WCI, Guidance Counselor and teacher at FLCI, and Education Director at WRC. He has been a member of CEAW Board and Editor of the CEAW newsletter since the state chapter was founded in 1986. Last year, he helped establish the Parenting Special Interest Group and serves as the national Chair. He has served on the planning committees for many CEA, GED/HSED & Adult Literacy, and WCA Conferences.

Friends of Correctional Education 2006 Award

Do you know someone who has been noteworthy in their support of correctional education?

This person may be a volunteer who contributes time and effort to an education program, a community agency employee who has presented special workshops, a business person who has donated funds or materials to make programs more effective, or an advocate of correctional education in some way. If such person has contributed to your institution's education program, submit his/her name to the Correctional Education Association for the "Friend of Wisconsin Correctional Education Award."

Nominees cannot be employed by the Department of Corrections.

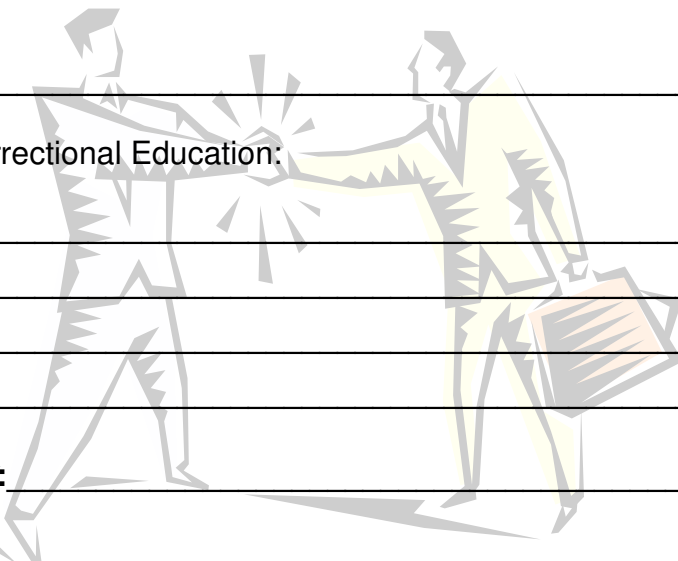
Friends of Correctional Education Entry Form

Name:

Contribution to Correctional Education:

Nominator's Name:

Institution:



Deadline: June 1, 2006

Submit your entry to:
Mike Breszee
CEAW Awards and Recognition
Waupun Correctional Institution
PO Box 351
Waupun, WI 53963-0351

Phone: (920) 324-1147 Fax: (920) 324-7250
Email: michael.breszee@doc.state.wi.us



First-Ever Governor's Financial Literacy Awards Announced

The Financial Literacy program taught by Lori Koenig at the Stanley Correctional Institution was one of the first-ever winners of the Governor's Financial Literacy Award selected by the Governor's Council on Financial Literacy (GCFL).

Eleven individuals and five organizations will receive the 2006 awards which were created to recognize excellence in increasing financial literacy among Wisconsin citizens.

The honorees were selected by the GCFL based on nominations received from the Council's Awards Committee. The evaluation of nominees was based on four criteria: innovative implementation, demonstrated measurable results, collaboration with partners and scope—either statewide or having the potential to be statewide or focused to need-based groups.

Winners of individual awards include:

- Karla Cornell-Weyley and Connie Blackman, Information Studies Teachers (joint nomination), River Bluff Middle School, Stoughton, WI
- Ricardo Diaz, Executive Director, United Community Center, Milwaukee, WI
- Jim Guenther, president, *Economics Wisconsin*, Milwaukee, WI
- **Lori Koenig, Financial Literacy Teacher, Stanley Correctional Institution, Stanley, WI**
- Jodi Owens, Consultant, Financial Education and Economic Development, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Madison, WI
- Dr. Mark Schug, Director, Center for Economic Education, UW-Milwaukee
- Dr. Thomas Scullen, Superintendent, Appleton Area School District, Appleton, WI
- Deloris Sims, CEO, Legacy Bank, Milwaukee, WI
- Sharon Waukau, Purchasing Manager, Menominee Tribal Enterprises, Neopit, WI
- William Wilcox, President, CBM Credit Education Foundation, Inc., Madison, WI

Winners of organizational awards include:

- Asset Builders of America, Inc., Madison, WI
- Precision Information Systems LLC, Madison, WI
- Wisconsin Bankers Association Personal Economics Program, Madison, WI
- Wisconsin Credit Union League (REAL Solutions program), Pewaukee WI
- Wisconsin Jumpstart Coalition on Personal and Economic Education for Youth, Madison, WI

"Congratulations to each of these distinguished individuals and organizations," said Governor Jim Doyle. "Their hard work to promote financial education has made Wisconsin the recognized national leader when it comes to financial literacy. They richly deserve this honor for their sustained, enthusiastic commitment and I thank the Council for recognizing them. I also encourage them to continue their efforts to improve financial literacy in Wisconsin," added Governor Doyle.

The social and economic costs of financial ignorance are great. Money problems are the leading cause of divorce and a leading cause of suicides. Stress caused by money worries among workers results in low morale, low productivity, theft, fighting, absenteeism, tardiness and other problems that hurt the bottom line of employers and ultimately the economy.

Today's youth appear to be following in their parents' financial footsteps. In a nationwide study conducted in 2004 by the National Jumpstart Coalition (NJC), Wisconsin 12th graders achieved an average score of 54.7 percent on a test of their financial knowledge. While it was above the national average of 52.3 percent, the score remains an "F" on any grading scale. The NJC will release the results of a new nationwide survey in April.

Governor Doyle created the Governor's Council on Financial Literacy in early 2005 to advise him on how to improve the financial literacy of Wisconsin's citizens. First Lady Jessica Doyle is the Honorary Chair of the Council.

For more information about the Governor's Financial Literacy Award contact David Mancl, Director, Office of Financial Literacy at 608-261-9540 or email him at david.mancl@dfi.state.wi.us.

CEA-Wisconsin News Review
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