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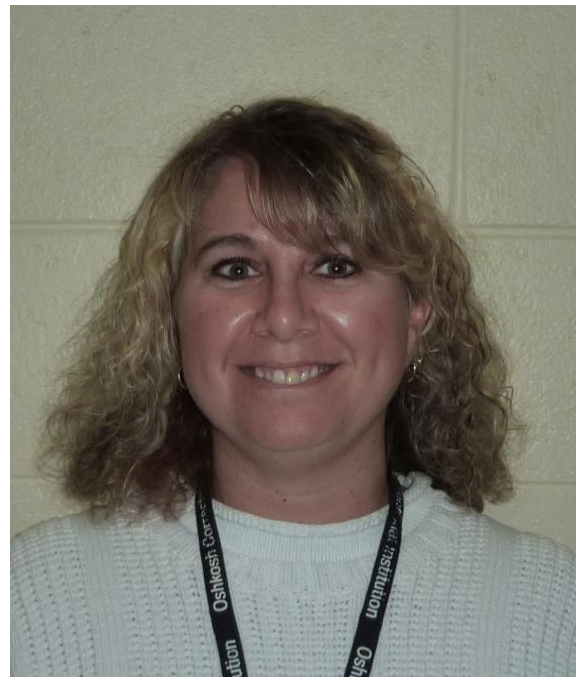
### Inside this Issue

- 1** TEACHER OF THE YEAR HELPS STUDENTS SEE "BIG PICTURE"
- 4** REGION III LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE
- 4** VISIT DEMETER FOUNDATION'S TWITTER FEED
- 4** PDCCI INMATES BUILD SECURITY STATION FOR WSDF
- 5** FAIR SHAKE SETS AMBITIOUS GOALS
- 7** R3 = REVISIT, RECHARGE, RENEW REGION III & IV CEA CONFERENCE
- 10** PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

### Teacher of the Year Helps Students See "Big Picture"

"Without education and learning where would our world be?" That is the question Sheryl Rickerman asked herself when she was still young. The personal philosophy of education has guided Sheryl through her education, experience in industry, and to employment as a vocational teacher at Oshkosh Correctional Institution is: "Education is one of the most important tools that a human being can give themselves."



Sheryl is very happy with that her personal direction led her into the educational field so that she can help teach others. She constantly instills in her students the belief that "knowledge is power" and without knowledge the world becomes a very complicated and difficult place. Sheryl sees the "big picture" and wants her students envision their futures.

In recognition of Sheryl's enthusiasm, dedication and tireless work, the CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is proud to name Sheryl Rickerman as the 2015 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year.

(continued on page 2)

**R<sup>3</sup> = Revisit, Recharge, Renew  
Region III & IV Conference  
Information on Pages 7-9**

(continued from page 1)

Sheryl was hired as the Building Maintenance & Construction instructor in the Moraine Park Technical College Program at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution in April of 2012. She plans and instructs course work in Safety, Blueprints, Plumbing, Carpentry and Electrical for adult male offenders in a medium security setting using various teaching aids and implementation strategies to engage students in active learning. She incorporates hands-on learning projects into the classroom along with individual and group instruction. As part of the curriculum, students build an actual house in Sheryl’s classroom which the students design and construct from the ground up. In addition to her newly-found passion for teaching, she has worked as a part of team in revamping the curriculum used.

Her training and education prior to employment at OSCI has bridged the industrial and educational worlds. Sheryl is a State of Wisconsin Licensed Journeyman Electrician. She holds the following degrees:

- Associate Degree in Computer Integrated Manufacturing  
Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac WI, May 1993
- Associate Degree in Industrial Engineering  
Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac WI, May 1993
- Associate Degree in Applied Science  
Madison Area Technical College, Madison WI, May 2011

Sheryl attained her 5-year certification for teaching in the building trades within 1 1/2 years of her start date at OSCI. She decided to go above and beyond that employment requirement and enroll at University of Wisconsin-Stout. Sheryl started in August 2013, completed 46 college credits, and will graduate May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from UW- Stout with a Bachelor of Science in Career & Technical Education and Training with Magna Cum Laude honors.

According the OSCI Education Director Dave Hines, “Sheryl has been exemplary in her enthusiasm to improve instruction within the MPTC Building Maintenance & Construction Program since she started teaching at the Oshkosh Correctional Institution since April of 2012. She has taken a ‘leadership role’ in working with staff from MPTC as well as three other State of Wisconsin correctional facilities offering the same program. Her hands-on experience as a Journeyman Electrician, Electrical Lineman, CAD Designer and personal home improvement projects has given her valuable insight that she shares with her students as well as her peers. Sheryl has defied the odds in breaking down barriers for women in the construction industry and continues to be a role model for all who wish to pursue a career in the building trades.”

<b>Executive Officers</b>		<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-Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.</p> <p>Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: <a href="mailto:jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com">jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com</a></p>
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Dave believes that the addition of Sheryl's innovations and skill set has enhanced the MPTC Building Maintenance & Construction Program providing an improved outlook for future employment for her students upon their release/reentry to the community.



Summarizing her commitment to correctional education, Sheryl says, "I just hope that my students see my passion, my willingness and my love for what I do and know. If they can see and believe what I have to offer, then they will be motivated to learn, grow, give back and be productive members of society."

The CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board is pleased to recognize Sheryl Rickerman as the 2015 Wisconsin Correctional Teacher of the Year. Sheryl will receive a plaque attesting to her achievement and a \$250 stipend. She will be furnished expenses to represent Wisconsin at the Region III & IV CEA Conference at the Madison Concourse Hotel on May 4-5. If she is selected as the Region III Teacher of the Year, Sheryl will be furnished expenses to attend the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual CEA International Conference to be held at the Hyatt Hotel Crystal City in Arlington Virginia on July 12-15, 2015.



## Region III Launches New Website

You are invited to visit CEA Region III's new and improved website at [www.cearegion3.org](http://www.cearegion3.org).

CEA Region III consists of the following six states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Region III is one of the nine regions that make up the National CEA organization. Historically, Region III has had the highest number of memberships in CEA and its members have played a significant role in the national organization's events and activities. Region III has hosted seven national conferences and its members have been quite active in providing assistance to other CEA regions. Region III has the distinguished honor of having 14 members proudly serve as President of the Correctional Education Association.

On the website you will find information about the Region III state Teachers of the Year and National CEA award winners, Region III officers, Region III elections and upcoming conferences. If you have any ideas for information that you would like posted on the Region III website, email [contactus@cearegion3.org](mailto:contactus@cearegion3.org).

## Visit Demeter Foundation's Twitter Feed

The Demeter Foundation, Inc. is an organization based in Madison, Wisconsin who's mission is to advocate for the humane treatment and civil rights of incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women. Their goal is to reduce recidivism and facilitate self-empowerment, healing and strength. It is the Demeter Foundation's belief that holistic education and support can reduce recidivism, save taxpayer money, improve quality of life and offer opportunities for community partnering.



To further the Demeter Foundation's mission, Alice F. Pauser, Executive Director, CEO and Co-Founder, has announced the establishment of a twitter feed for up-to-date news on women in the criminal justice system. The feed was developed and is monitored by Demeter Foundation Board Member Kathryn Weenig who is an expert on social media. You are invited to visit the twitter feed at <https://twitter.com/demeterfound>.

## PDCI Inmates Build Officer Station for WSPF

Prairie du Chien Correctional Institution inmates along with the PDCI Masonry Vocational Instructor Dave Sturzenegger constructed a visiting room officer station for the soon to be completed inmate contact visitation room at Wisconsin Secure Program Facility.

Additionally, they constructed a no-contact station adjoining the officer station so the area can be viewed by staff. This provided the students of the masonry vocational program an opportunity to construct a product for long-term usage and a picture to add to their portfolios for future job interviews.



The masonry program provides a trade skill for inmates which they can apply immediately upon release. Inmates can either obtain a 6-month certificate or a 1-year diploma depending on the length of time in the program.

taken from Wisconsin DOC intranet

# Fair Shake Sets Ambitious Goals

Fair Shake continues to have very ambitious goals for 2015. They have doubled their full time staff so they are doubling their impact! They are always adding entries to their Resource Directory and they encourage volunteers and visitors to send them resources in their area.

The Fair Shake website has bolstered its Employer Page with information about "On The Job" training and apprenticeship grants. A page was added where employers can learn how to safely and smartly "Ban the Box," which is the question on most applications that asks, "Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" The website also added information to the Community Page to enable Fair Shake to participate in this important work.

In February, Fair Shake Founder and Director Sue Kastensen spent several days in Pennsylvania; talking with youth about Fair Shake, presenting the software to administrators in the Department of Corrections' home office, and describing the Fair Shake website and reentry packet to inmates and staff at Camp Hill and also to the Capital Region Reentry Coalition.

In March, Sue made presentations at FCI - Lompoc in Lompoc, CA, Federal Medical Center Rochester, MN, and Minnesota DOC Transition Coalition, Rochester, MN.

In May, Sue will present Fair Shake in South Dakota and Minnesota Federal prisons, and in early June, she'll travel to Idaho to present and discuss Fair Shake with inmates and staff; as the software application will be available in all of the state prisons!

## Fair Shake Software

The Fair Shake software is making its way into institutions around the country. So far the institutions use the software in single locations, but Fair Shake is working on getting it into prison libraries and resource centers this year. The software contains Fair Shake's full Resource Directory, Reentry Packet (including custom builder), exclusive Computer Basics tutorial and much more. It is a complete mirror of Fair Shake's entire website - without access to the internet --- perfect for self-directed learning opportunities and locating resources.

## Reentry Kits

In response to requests from reentry professionals, Parole/Probation Officers and inmates, Fair Shake is putting together kits that can be sent out to institutions across the country. The kits will be used for inmate or staff-led classes, workshops, and reentry discussion groups; as well as for self-directed learning. Fair Shake's goal is to send 250 Reentry Kits this year!

Each kit includes:

- Reentry Packets
- DVD of presentations and worksheets
- DVD with software application
- Guide to create reentry classes, workshops and self-study programs with suggestions for customization
- Worksheets and discussion questions for sections of the packet
- Postcards for inmates to send to family and friends.

The total cost of each kit is \$123.00 and provides materials for up to 30 inmates (that's just \$4/participant) plus free software which would be available for all inmates, not just class participants. The kit also includes a power point, which will soon become a video presentation, for use in class settings and for those unable to attend our in-person presentation. Individual PDF's of the entire packet, as well as worksheets, facilitator notes, and much more are included on the DVD.

## Mobile Office

In 2015, Fair Shake plans to present to inmates, facilitators and reentry professionals, train champions in reentry resource outlets, and speak to family members, college students, citizens and employers. Many who have attended Fair Shake Director Sue Kastensen's presentations have commented that her enthusiasm, positive spirit and motivation are both unique and rare, and that her passion and approachability is an important part of Fair Shake's success. This leads to the conclusion that the best way to introduce Fair Shake is in person.

To make this possible, Fair Shake plans to create a mobile satellite site --- a van that can function as an office, transportation, and home. This would provide a mentally and physically healthy means of travel and also reduce hotel, air fare, and dining expenses.

## Support Fair Shake

If you would like to sponsor one or many Reentry Kits or contribute to the mobile office, please contact Sue or Kristen at 608-634-6363 or visit the donation page at [www.fairshake.net](http://www.fairshake.net).

If you would like to learn more about Fair Shake, Sue Kastensen will be presenting at workshop at the Region III & IV CEA Conference at the Madison Concourse Hotel on May 4-5, 2015.

## Recent Endorsements from the Inside

*I recently came across the Fair Shake Reentry Packets and was amazed on how it was put together. In all my eight years of incarceration, I've never come across so much important, inspirational and relevant information compiled into one packet. From reentry tools, to coping skills, budgeting and book recommendations. You guys are essentially providing us with a blue print to succeed. I would love to see your program offered not only in this institution but all across the state, including juvenile facilities. I believe it could make a big difference and have a positive impact on recidivism. I want to thank you for your detailed research and efforts in helping to better prepare inmates to make a successful transition back into society.*

Tony Lopez, incarcerated in Pennsylvania

*Each member of our class was able to successfully develop a personal Road Map to Reentry (an individual reentry plan) by incorporating the tools and information in the Fair Shake Reentry Packet! It addressed so many of the concerns that men had as they sought to successfully transition as contributing assets to their families, communities and employers.*

Wayne Read, incarcerated in Wisconsin

*I believe that Fair Shake offers an incredible opportunity to our field staff, institutional agents as well as our ASCRA (Assessment, Sanctioning and Community Resource Agents) that facilitate groups such as "Life Skills" at our District Offices through the Commonwealth. I find the information within your guide to be a "one stop resource" comparing it to group material I have compiled over the last fifteen years working with offenders. Thank you for the opportunity to encourage so many who are incarcerated but yet to help so many that are employed in this field that need to see it more so from the offender's perspective.*

an Institution Parole and Probation Agent in Pennsylvania

## Mark Your Calendar

**Region III & IV CEA Conference & Training Day**

**May 4-5, 2015**

**The Madison Concourse Hotel & Governor's Club  
Madison, WI**

# $R^3 = \text{Revisit, Recharge, Renew}$

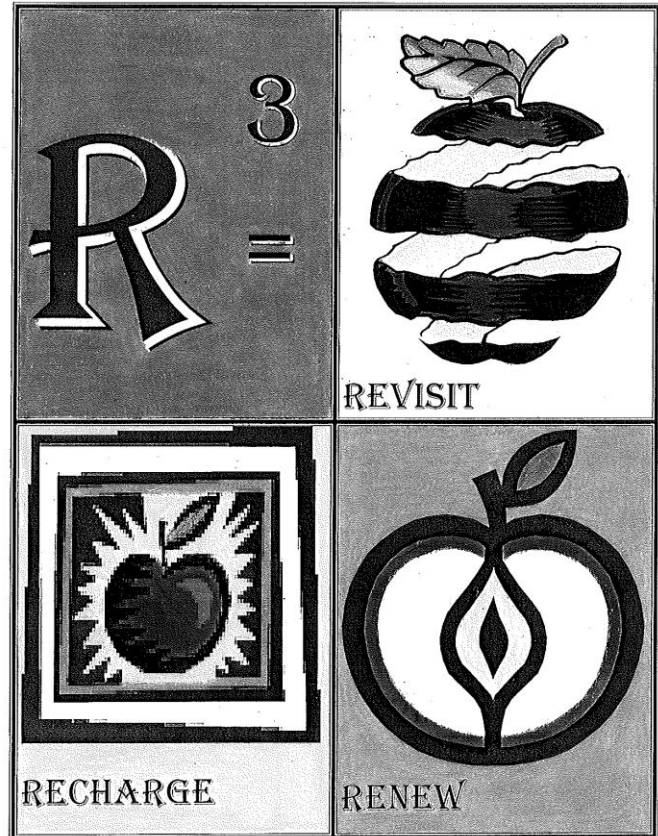
## Region III & IV CEA Training Conference

The CEA-Wisconsin is pleased to host the 2015 Region III & IV CEA Training Conference. Make plans to join us to “Revisit, Recharge, Renew” at the beautiful Madison Concourse Hotel on May 4-5, 2015.

$R^3 = \text{Revisit, Recharge, Renew}$  conference participants will be coming from the Region III states of Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, and Michigan as well as Region IV that includes Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

The regional Teacher of the Year interviews will be conducted on Sunday May 3.  $R^3 = \text{Revisit, Recharge, Renew}$  general sessions are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, May 4-5.

The Conference Planning Committee is working hard to make this conference an excellent professional development opportunity. They have assembled an interesting array of workshops focusing on reentry resources, brief intervention tools, professional development/support, math instructional methods, juveniles, workforce readiness, literacy, GED/HSED preparation, parenting and special education. They also are including special sessions specifically for county jail instructors, librarians and guidance counselors. Vendor displays, regional meetings and a silent auction will round out the conference activities.



Below is a list of the  $R^3 = \text{Revisit, Recharge, Renew}$  conference workshops. Complete workshop descriptions and the conference registration form are posted on the [www.ceawisconsin.org](http://www.ceawisconsin.org) website. Click on “Conference Details”

In past years at CEA-Wisconsin Training Day, some participants elected to arrive early and enjoy the beautiful Madison Concourse Hotel. The Madison Concourse Hotel has agreed to offer rooms at conference rates for May 3, 4 & 5. You may choose from a single room for \$70 or a double room for \$110. A block of rooms will be held at these rates until April 8, 2015.

So mark your calendar and make plans to join us to “Revisit, Recharge, Renew” at this dynamic conference. Register today! Hope to see you in Madison in May!

### Workshops Sessions

- **Job Ready/Life Ready: Coaching Behind the Wall**  
*Alisa Smedley, Reentry Employment Coordinator, Montgomery County (MD) Correctional Facility*
- **10 Proven Strategies to Help Offenders Become Experts on Themselves**  
*David Murray, Training Consultant, WhyTry*
- **Teaching Mathematical Reasoning: The GED Test**  
*Scott Salesses, State Relationship Manager, GED Testing Service*

- **The LINCS CoP: An Online Community of Practice for Correctional Educators**  
*Heather Erwin, LINCS Subject Matter Expert*
- **Carey Guides – BITs (Brief Interview Tools) Overview**  
*Kari Ryan, Social Services Director, Fox Lake Correctional Institution*  
*Martha Stacker, Corrections Program Supervisor – Wisconsin Community Corrections System*
- **STAR (Student Achievement in Reading): Implementation Strategies and Solutions**  
*Mark Kearns, STAR Trainer, Project STAR and Wisconsin Technical College System*  
*Posy Thurow, STAR Trainer, Project STAR and Wisconsin Technical College System*
- **LexisNexis Electronic Law Library Tutorial/E-Filing**  
*James C. Mattise, Corrections Account Executive, LexisNexis*  
*Kevin M. Taylor, Esq., National Account Manager for Corrections, LexisNexis*  
*Nevin Webster, Librarian, Waupun Correctional Institution*
- **Fitness for Re-entry Professionals**  
*Alisa Smedley, Reentry Employment Coordinator, Montgomery County (MD) Correctional Facility*
- **Infographics: Developing a Critical Mindset Toward Data**  
*Pam Meader, Professional Development Specialist, LINCS*
- **U.S. Survey of Educators in Juvenile Justice Settings: Identifying Professional Development and Supports Needed**  
*Heidi Cate, Superintendent, Integrity Educational Services*
- **Learning to Achieve: Workforce Preparation Strategies**  
*Laura Reisinger, Dunn County Coordinator, Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley*
- **Education = Employment**  
*Shannon Sims, Mockingbird Education*
- **Designing Curricula for Work-based ESL Classes**  
*Miriam Burt, Adult ESL Content Specialist, Center for Applied Linguistics*
- **Wisconsin State Law Library: Resources for DOC Librarians**  
*Lisa M. Winkler, Outreach Librarian, Wisconsin Supreme Court/Wisconsin State Law Library*
- **Activities that Teach Diversity**  
*Carl “Energizer” Olson, Owner of Energizer Olson LLC*
- **The Grow Academy: Juvenile Development through Green Education**  
*Nicki Laudolft, Director, The Grow Academy (Wisconsin Department of Corrections)*  
*Jonathan Davis, Teacher, The Grow Academy (Wisconsin Department of Corrections)*  
*Jennica Skoug, Goodman Youth Farm Manager, Community GroundWorks*  
*Joe Muellenberg, Horticulture Coordinator, University of Wisconsin - Extension*
- **Had Enough? Mindfulness Practices for Correctional Educators**  
*Laura Reisinger, Dunn County Coordinator, Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley*
- **Algebra Skillastics**  
*Della Morris, GED Teacher, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections*
- **Cataloging Standards in EOS/EOS Round Table**  
*Thomas Maloney, Library Services Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Corrections*  
*Dorothy Holzman, Librarian, Chippewa Valley Correctional Treatment Facility*
- **Activities that Teach Character**  
*Carl “Energizer” Olson, Owner of Energizer Olson LLC*
- **GED and HSED in Wisconsin**  
*Beth Lewis, GED/HSED Administrator, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*  
*Scott Salesses, State Relationship Manager, GED Testing Service*  
*Jane Bledsoe, Product Marketing, GED Testing Service*
- **Using Manipulatives to Teach Active Reading: A Report**  
*Scott R. Carey, Teacher, Jackson Correctional Institution*
- **Wisconsin Retirement System Benefits for New and Mid-Career Employees**  
*Elisabeth M. Davis, Trust Fund Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds*
- **Taking the Pain Out of Data Analytics**  
*Dr. Anna Graf Williams, President, Learnovation, LLC*



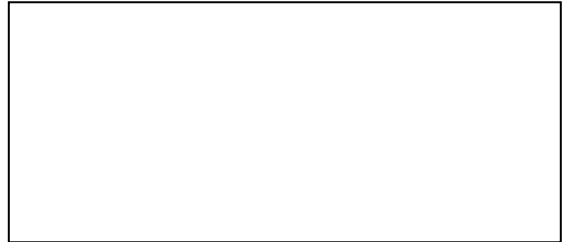
- **Addressing the Needs of Students with Learning Disabilities/Challenges in Corrections Classrooms**  
*Heather Erwin, LINCS Subject Matter Expert, LINCS*
- **Algebra is Evil or How I Learned to Love Unknowns**  
*Ray Schlesinger, Teacher, Waupun Correctional Institution*
- **No Books! No Problem! Creative Solutions for Teaching Science**  
*Lori Koenig, ABE/MOS Teacher, Stanley Correctional Institution*
- **WISCAT/ILL Resources/BadgerLink Tutorial**  
*Christine Barth, Interlibrary Loan Coordinator, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction – Resources for Libraries & Lifelong Learning*  
*Vickie Long, WISCAT Outreach & Technical Support, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction – Resources for Libraries & Lifelong Learning*  
*Kara Ripley, BadgerLink Librarian, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*
- **Closing the Skill GAP with Career Portfolios**  
*Dr. Anna Graf Williams, President, Learnovation, LLC*
- **Shaking Things Up: New Tools for Reentry**  
*Sue Kastensen, Founder and Director, Fair Shake*
- **When is A Newton Not a Cookie Redux: Math for the Science Test Revisited**  
*Ray Schlesinger, Teacher, Waupun Correctional Institution*
- **Make GED Math “Add Up” for Incarcerated Learners**  
*Bob Khouri, Instructional Specialist, Wisconsin Technical College System Foundation, Inc.*
- **ETS High School Equivalency Testing (HiSET) Program**  
*Douglas Garcia, Director – ETS HiSET Program, Educational Testing Service*
- **Using Manipulatives to Construct an Extended Response Schema: A Report**  
*Scott R. Carey, Teacher, Jackson Correctional Institution*
- **Impact Teaching**  
*Carl “Energizer” Olson, Owner of Energizer Olson LLC*
- **Manipulating Students: Using Manipulatives in the Corrections Classroom**  
*Christine Roberts, Teacher, Waupun Correctional Institution*
- **Issues in Guidance and Counseling in Correctional Institutions**  
*Amy E. Woolf, Guidance Counselor, Oshkosh Correctional Institution*  
*Barbara R. Wulfers, Guidance Counselor, Waupun Correctional Institution*  
*Elizabeth J. Adams-Hoag, OOA-Education Dept., Jackson Correctional Institution*  
*LaVonne S. Morgan, Guidance Counselor, Fox Lake Correctional Institution*
- **Starting an Educational Program in a Behavioral Health Unit**  
*James A. Svitavsky, Teacher, Waupun Correctional Institution*
- **Jail Round Table**  
*Willa MacKenzie, County Jail Teacher, Western Technical College/La Crosse County Jail*

Register today for a great professional development experience for correctional educators! Hope to see you at the Madison Concourse Hotel!

## Mark Your Calendar

**70th Correctional Education Association  
International Conference & Training Event  
July 12-15, 2015  
Hyatt Hotel Crystal City  
Arlington, VA**

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



## President's Message

I thought I would start this column by looking up the definitions of each word from our training conference theme (Revisit, Recharge, Renew). Then I noticed that they all have in common the same prefix – re. I found the following definition of that prefix from an interesting website created to learn and remember words: membean.com. Given their last example, I couldn't resist including it.

“One primary meaning of the prefix **re-** is “again.” For instance, when you **rearrange** the furniture in a room, you arrange it “again” into a different configuration. A marathon runner can become **rejuvenated** or etymologically made young “again” by sleeping and eating after a long race. When a teacher **recapitulates** something she's just taught, she goes over it “again” by summarizing it.

Another meaning of the prefix **re-** is “back.” For instance, when you **reject** a plan, you throw it “back.” When you **reduce** the amount of money you spend, you lead it “back” to a smaller amount. When light **reflects** off a surface, it bends “back.” When you are **returning** home from an outing, you are turning “back” home. And when a criminal **reverts** to being good again, he turns “back” to morally upright behavior.”

*Laura*  
[lreisinger@lvcv.org](mailto:lreisinger@lvcv.org)

**To join CEA go to: [www.ceanational.org](http://www.ceanational.org)**