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## Correctional Education Association - Wisconsin

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# Research on Manipulatives Earns CEA-Wisconsin Showcase Award

Scott Carey dedicates much of his teaching time at Jackson Correctional Institution to teaching Language Arts to prepare his students for the GED 2014 test. Scott is also pursuing a graduate degree in education from UW-La Crosse. He has focused much of his graduate work on researching a variety of methodologies to address the unique needs of adult learners.

Through his studies and conducting research with his own students, Scott has developed a method of using manipulatives that encourages adult learners to be more engaged in their studies. According to JCI Education Director Emily Propson, "Mr. Carey provides options for other teachers that can be introduced almost immediately with little to no costs and without the need for additional training, materials or curriculum. I feel Scott's work will be valuable to many education professionals, especially correctional educators with limited resources."

In recognition of Scott Carey's effort to provide valuable teaching alternatives for correctional staff, the Executive Board of CEA-Wisconsin is pleased to present him with the 2015 CEA-W Showcase Award. The Board feels that Scott's work involving the effective use of manipulatives with incarcerated learners exemplifies the innovative spirit central to CEA-Wisconsin's Showcase Award!

In his graduate paper, "Manipulatives Increase Spatial Skills of Adult Learners," Scott observed that adult inmate learners taking the GED Writing Skills Test lack spatial skills as evidenced in class, through self-reporting and on test results. He found that incarcerated men perform poorly in class and fail the Writing Skills Test due to inadequate ability to answer questions that require them to mentally move objects in space. Scott concluded that incarcerated adult learners often have little or no schema for what the GED 2014 test requires of them, and traditional educational methods are often not as effective for them.

Historically, the use of manipulatives has proven effective in elementary school math and science instruction. Scott decided to examine whether manipulatives are effective tools for teaching spatial skills to medium-

(continued on page 3)

# Congratulations to the CEA President-Elect !



The national CEA office has announced that Peggy Meyers is the new CEA President-Elect. Peggy will join President Morris Dews, Jr. (Virginia), Vice President Betty Abbott (Wyoming), Secretary Susan Nell (Ohio) and Treasurer Vanessa Bright (Maryland) on the Executive Board.

Peggy has been a member of CEA since 1996. She has been on the CEA-Wisconsin State Chapter Board since 1998 holding the office of State Chapter President from 2002-2005. Peggy served as the CEA Region III Assistant Director from 2007-2009 and Director from 2009-2011. For the past two years, she has held the position of National Vice President. Along with assisting the Wisconsin State Chapter with their annual training day, Peggy was also the over-site chair to the 64<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> Annual CEA Conferences as well as chairperson for the 2006 and 2015 Region III Conference.

Peggy currently works for the Wisconsin Technical College System as the Education Director for Adult Basic Education.

One of her duties is to monitor Adult Education and Family Literacy Act funded jail programs as well as working closely with the Department of Corrections (DOC) State Education Director. Prior to her job at WTCS, Peggy worked 18 years for the Wisconsin DOC with nine of those years teaching at Columbia Correctional Institution and Fox Lake Correctional Institution.

Peggy holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a master's degree in Curriculum and Supervision, receiving both from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She was the 2007 recipient for the Wisconsin Literacy Advocate of the Year award and 2007 Virginia Hart Award, which recognizes outstanding women in state government.

Peggy will get sworn into her new position on Sunday, July 12 at the 70th Annual International Conference and Training Event at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia.

### Executive Officers

President	Laura Reisinger, LVCV
President-Elect	Laurie Jarvis, FVTC/Waushara CJ
Secretary	Sharon Nesemann, WRC
Treasurer	Ray Schlesinger, WCI

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Jail/Detention Center	Willa MacKenzie, WTC/LaCrosse CJ
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Member at Large	Holly Audley, OOS
Member at Large	Vacant

### News Review Staff

Editor	Jerry Bednarowski
Layout & Design	DeNeal Ericksen, REECC
Proofreader	Laura Reisinger, LVCV
Collating/Folding	WRC Vocational Workshop

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.

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.

Articles for publication may be submitted to the CEA-W News Review Editor Jerry Bednarowski at: [jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com](mailto:jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com)

-security adult male inmates. Data was collected through surveys, interviews, practice tests, and actual GED Writing Skills Tests.

Results of the study confirmed that “manipulatives have the potential to increase inmates’ academic success. They can act as a bridge from the concrete to the abstract while offering high-interest, low-frustration situations in which learners construct meaning.”

Inmates who used manipulatives showed a 27.8% increase in spatial skills, increased perceived ability, and greater individual gains than participants who did not use manipulatives. Use of manipulatives also resulted in 10% higher scores on the GED Writing Skills Test.

In addition to improving spatial skills and test scores, the use of manipulatives showed other benefits:

- Students liked using manipulatives, showed no frustration and preferred manipulatives to their textbooks.
- Manipulatives increased student interest in the subject content. The students got on task more quickly and spent more time on task.
- The use of manipulatives increased discussion, increased contact time between teacher and student and increased interaction between students.

The study results indicate that “manipulatives are suitable for incarcerated adult learners and have much unexplored potential for writing skills instruction.”

Scott believes, “The potential for manipulatives is rich, they have not been used with adult learners, and incarcerated adult learners can only benefit from their use.” He looks forward to presenting his ideas to a wider audience. To help him pursue this goal, the CEA-W Board is pleased to award Scott a \$500 stipend to help cover expenses for him to present his workshop at the Region III & IV CEA Conference.

Scott’s “Using Manipulatives to Teach Language Arts” presentation is an opportunity for participants to learn how Language Arts manipulatives were developed for teaching writing skills. They will also see how manipulatives were developed to teach active reading as well as the schema and skills necessary for the GED 2014 Extended Response. The target audience is educators teaching the content for the GED 2014 test specifically and educators in general. Participants will be able to walk away with ideas how they can use this method with their students.

The CEA-Wisconsin Executive Board offers the Showcase Award annually to defray the professional expenses for a CEA-W member to share their expertise at the Region III CEA Conference, International CEA Conference, Wisconsin GED/HSED & Adult Literacy Conference, or another professional education or correctional conference of their choosing. The Showcase Award announcement is published each year in the November/December issue of the CEA-W Newsletter.

## Four Members Re-Elected to CEA-W Board

The following CEA-Wisconsin Board members have been re-elected and will continue in their positions for another term.

**Pandora Lobacz – Juvenile Facilities Member**  
**Chuck Brendel – Local Education Agency Member**  
**Willa MacKenzie – Jail/Detention Center Member**  
**Holly Audley – Member-At-Large**

One Member-At-Large position is currently vacant. Because the open position is Member-At-Large, any CEA-Wisconsin member is eligible to fill the position. Anyone who wishes to be considered for serving on the Board may contact Laura Reisinger at [lreisinger@lvcv.org](mailto:lreisinger@lvcv.org)

# Who Gets this Newsletter?

Distribution of the CEA-Wisconsin and Parenting Connection newsletters continues to expand while we are making changes to save paper and postage.

The CEA-Wisconsin Board has decided to email electronic copies of the newsletters to everyone on our distribution list. Paper copies will only be sent to those specially requesting them. If you like to request paper copies email [jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com](mailto:jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com).

We will still make paper copies for distribution at the various conference workshops we present, speaking engagements we do for classes and community groups, and resource fairs where we exhibit.

The CEA-Wisconsin Board sees the newsletters, not only as a benefit to CEA members, but also as a means to:

- Promote the value of correctional education with government agencies and the public
- Provide a vehicle for educators to stay informed about developments in correctional education
- Provide an avenue for correctional educators to share ideas with their colleagues
- Recruit new CEA members

Each bi-monthly issue of the CEA-Wisconsin and Parenting Connection newsletters are emailed to over 700 people interested in correctional education and prison parenting programs including:

- Division of Adult Institutions teachers, guidance counselors, librarians and education directors
- Division of Juvenile Services teachers, guidance counselors, librarians and education directors
- County jail teachers, volunteers and administrators
- Wisconsin Technical College System and Department of Public Instruction teachers who work in county jails and detention centers
- Wisconsin Resource Center and Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center teachers, guidance counselors, librarians and education directors
- Department of Corrections Central Office staff
- Wisconsin individuals and organizations providing services for incarcerated parents and their children
- National individuals and organizations providing services for incarcerated parents and their children
- Literacy organization staff and volunteers

Both the CEA-Wisconsin and Parenting Connection newsletters are also posted on these websites:

- [www.ceawisconsin.org](http://www.ceawisconsin.org)
- [www.ceanational.org](http://www.ceanational.org)
- [www.fairshake.net](http://www.fairshake.net)

If you know of others who would be interested in receiving the CEA-Wisconsin and Parenting Connection newsletters, send their names and email addresses to: [jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com](mailto:jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com).

## Mark Your Calendar

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

# CEA-Wisconsin 2015 Scholarship Program

**Again this year CEA-Wisconsin will award a \$1,000 scholarship to a CEA-Wisconsin member or a member's spouse or dependent.**

**Purpose:** The CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Award Program is designed to assist CEA-W members or their spouses/dependents that are pursuing a degree at an accredited university or technical college.

**Scholarships Details:** CEA-Wisconsin endows a scholarship of \$1,000. The scholarship will be awarded to a CEA-W member who is furthering his/her education in the education or library services field or a CEA-W member's spouse or dependent who is pursuing a university or technical college degree in any field. The recipient must provide verification of enrollment in an accredited university or technical college.

## **Eligibility:**

- Applicant must be a current CEA-W member, member's spouse, or member's dependent.
- Applicant must be pursuing (full or part-time) a graduate, undergraduate, or technical degree at an accredited university or technical college.
- Applicant must be entering his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, senior year, or graduate school. First year students must have been officially accepted by the college/university they plan to attend.
- Past winners are not eligible.

**Application:** Applicants must complete the application form that can be found on the [www.ceawisconsin.org](http://www.ceawisconsin.org) website, provide all required attachments, and submit the entire package to the address below no later than July 1, 2015. Incomplete or late application packages will not be accepted for consideration.

**Selection:** The scholarship recipients will be selected by the CEA-Wisconsin Board. Criteria for selection will include academic record, financial need, as well as school, community, or association activities. Recipients will be notified in writing.

**For more information contact:**



**Holly Audley**  
**CEA-Wisconsin Scholarship Committee**  
**Office of the Secretary/Reentry Unit**  
**Wisconsin Department of Corrections**  
**3099 East Washington Avenue**  
**Madison, WI 53704**  
**608-240-5022**  
[holly.audley@wisconsin.gov](mailto:holly.audley@wisconsin.gov)

# 2015 Friends of Correctional Education 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 facility's education program, submit his/her name to the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin for the "Friends of Correctional Education Award."

Nominees cannot be employed by the Department of Corrections, Department of Health and Family Services, or a county jail.

To nominate a Friend of Correctional Education, send his/her name, a description of the contribution to correctional education (250 words or less), the institution(s) where the Friend of Correctional Education made his/her contribution and the nominator's name to:

**Laura Reisinger**  
**600 Wolske Bay Road**  
**Menomonie, WI 54751**  
**715-232-9143**  
[lreisinger@lvcv.org](mailto:lreisinger@lvcv.org)

**Submission Deadline is: July 1, 2015**

## Thanks to Our Exhibitors

CEA-Wisconsin Board wishes to thank the exhibitors who participated in the CEA Region III/IV Training Conference. Their participation not only allowed the educators attending the conference to learn about the latest materials and technology available to correctional instructors, but also helped support CEA-Wisconsin initiatives to strengthen literacy, high school equivalency, vocational training, and treatment programs which improve the juvenile and adult offenders' chances of successfully reintegrating into society upon release from incarceration, and thereby creating safer communities.

### Thanks to:

#### **Adult Education Specialists**

Ann Beeson

#### **edumentum, Inc.**

Paul Osen

#### **EnergizerOlsen Presentations**

Carl Olsen

#### **ETS HiSET**

Douglas Garcia

#### **GED Testing Service**

Scott Salesses

#### **GreyStone Educational Materials**

Ted Harms

#### **Houghton Mifflin Harcourt**

#### **Publisher/Steck Vaughn**

Jayne Schultz

#### **LexisNexis – Legal & Professional**

Suzannah Ciernia

#### **McGraw-Hill Education/Contemporary**

Dan Helms

#### **New Readers Press**

Ann Beeson

# Computer Numerical Control Program Provides Job Training to Offenders

The Department of Corrections (DOC) is involved in an innovative program to train offenders to become Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine operators.

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) awarded the Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) a Wisconsin Fast Forward grant to offer a 14-week, 14-credit CNC technical education certificate program for DOC inmates and offenders under Division of Community Corrections supervision in Region 3 (Milwaukee).

MATC is providing instruction at its downtown campus to about 50 participants over the course of two years. Participants from the institutions are required to be within 18 months of release from incarceration and have a minimum of 12 months of DCC supervision after release.

DOC Deputy Secretary Dede Morgan, DWD Secretary Reggie Newson as well as MATC President Vicki Martin gathered with other government and community stakeholders at the training site on March 23 to tour the facility and discuss the program with staff and participants.

Inmates involved with the program are attending classes between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. (448 total program hours), and many are also working in the community during first or second shift. The current group includes 5 participants from Felmers O. Chaney Correctional Center and 6 participants from the Marshall E. Sherrer Correctional Center. Future groups will be comprised of individuals on DCC supervision in Region 3, as well as a group of inmates from the Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center.

Graduates will be linked with employers as well as the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board and other community agencies to support transition to permanent employment or enrollment in the MATC Technical Diploma program.

taken from DOC Intranet

## County Jail Directory Helps Teachers Network

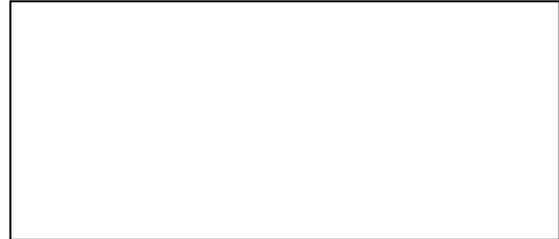
Teachers and volunteers working in jails and detention centers often express the concern of being isolated and unable to communicate with their peers working in similar settings. To remedy this situation, in April 2008, the Correctional Education Association-Wisconsin gathered contact information on teachers, education coordinators, and volunteers working in jails and detention centers and created the *Directory of Education Programs in Wisconsin's County Jails and Juvenile Detention Centers*.

Since its original publication, the Directory has been updated annually and is posted on the [www.ceawisconsin.org](http://www.ceawisconsin.org) website. Updates of the Directory are emailed to each person listed in it as changes occur.

The Directory contains information on 140 staff and volunteers working in 58 Wisconsin county jails and detention centers. CEA-Wisconsin hopes this Directory will enable teachers and volunteers to contact their colleagues working in other facilities to ask questions, share ideas, and pool resources.

If you would like to be included in this Directory or know of other teachers or volunteers who could be included, contact Jerry Bednarowski at [jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com](mailto:jerrybednarowski@new.rr.com). Also contact Jerry with any corrections, questions, or suggestions.

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



## President's Message

“No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.”  
— Hal Borland

For most of us, we are patiently waiting for spring to return ... again. Whether it is outside (watching the landscapes turn green and blossoms of growth appear) or inside (finally cleaning out that drawer or closet), we all seem compelled to brush off and sweep out the doldrums of winter.

As correctional educators, we meet most of our students during their “winter.” We all experience different kinds of winter, but never doubt that we all do. During those difficult times, it is especially hard to remember that spring will come again. So like the tender new shoots, we need to give ourselves the time and understanding to grow strong again.

Now it is your turn to renew your spring!

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

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