



Ever Learning

Volume 14 Number 4

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Branching Out to All

*SDALL is the South Dakota Education and Literacy Resource Center (SDAELRC)
Funded through the South Dakota Department of Labor-Adult Education*

Leadership Grant Funding

South Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning has been the administrator of South Dakota's Adult Education Leadership grant that is used primarily for state professional development. Susan Gunn has been directing this project for SDALL since its beginning in 2000 but has recently announced her resignation from the position effective June 30, 2007. When this happened, I was informed that the state Department of Labor was taking a new direction with those funds.

A new position has been developed at the Department of Labor to assume the duties of the professional development coordinator through the Leadership grant for professional development; so no person will be dislocated due to the change. This position will be located in Pierre beginning about April 1, 2007. The new position will take on the duties Susan Gunn is currently performing. Susan will be working closely with the state to train and mentor the new staff. The new person will also assist Marcia Hess with her other Adult Education responsibilities.

South Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning anxiously awaits the announcement of the new staff person. Board members are eager to build a strong working relationship with the person selected for this position.

Kimberly Olson
SDALL President

WEBSITE TO GET A FACELIFT

www.sdall.org will be getting a facelift in the near future. With the updated look, you will see new and useful information regarding your association. If you have an idea or change you would like included, please submit the information to hollyr.cclc@midconetwork.com. If you have any information on the site that is outdated or needs updated send those changes as well.

Adult Education

New at SD Women's Prison

As we rang in the New Year, we also rang in a new Adult Education schedule with many new offerings for classes. Our program is unique in that we can set whatever kind of schedule we want in order to meet the needs of our students AND our students are always available to work. If an inmate does not have a high school diploma or GED upon entering our facility, they are required to work on while incarcerated.

We inherited the series of KET videos from The Right Turn, as they were able to purchase the new DVD version last summer. I am the only Adult Education teacher for our program and also have so much paperwork to keep up on, so I am always brainstorming and trying new ways to "teach" classes. This month we introduced one-hour classes that meet twice a week studying reading, writing, science, and social studies.

The students will watch one video segment at each class time and are given a packet from the KET workbook that corresponds to the video lesson. They are required to complete it before the next class meets. We incorporate classroom discussion and questions after each lesson and make sure to clarify any parts that students do not understand. We have set up the lessons to run for one month and then plan to run the same classes again in February and March. I have an inmate tutor that is quite helpful.

The response has been very positive and the students enjoy listening to someone other than me. It helps that they feel like they are in "real" school and have homework to turn in and are held accountable for completing it. I have also made it mandatory for those students who have failed a test and cannot seem to "get it" from the books or computer programs. If they want to take a pretest, they must take the class first and complete the work, too. It seems to provide yet one more way to get information to them.

In addition to these new courses being offered, I will have a new Reading group starting in February to incorporate the new strategies that STAR has been teaching us. I am excited to offer this Reading class, but don't look forward to the assessments! I continue to teach a math class every morning with managed enrollment and follow the Number Power series. It is a never-ending class, and I allow new students in at specific points in the class. I currently have 23 students attending daily!

In closing, I just wanted to share with all of you what we are doing in our program and that we have been successful that past few years with at least 10% of our population earning a GED! They are very proud and we have an upcoming graduation in March. Maybe I can share that with you next time.

Christine Christopherson, Lead Teacher
SD Women's Prison

Just for fun.....



Odd tourist attractions and hilarious stops for your next vacation or road trip — Roadside America's favorite places and strange sights suggested by visitors like you!

Enter your state and see what comes up....

<http://www.roadsideamerica.com/index.html>

Adult Education

From Brookings.....

We are going through a transition of sorts, here at the Brookings Area Career Learning Center and I thought I might share it with you.

Although I am not new to the field of Adult Education, I am new to the Brookings Area Career Learning Center. I previously worked in Sioux Falls at the Adult Learning Center located at Southeast Tech, for seven years. I began working in the Brookings Career Learning Center in June, and we have undergone several changes in the few short months that I have been here. We have had some staff changes and have seen an increase of students wanting to obtain their GED, which has seemed to spread the teachers too thin. In talking with people from other sights, we decided we needed to begin implementing some classes as opposed to only one-on-one tutoring. There simply is not enough time in the day to reach all of your students.

Now that I have also participated in the STAR training, it is clear that classes are necessary for proper instruction of the various strategies for STAR. We now have one STAR reading class up and running on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. My Tuesday class has 4 students and the Thursday class has the same 4 students as well as 2 others. On Thursdays I have a group of 5 students coming to study for their GED from the casino in Flandreau. Only 2 of the 5, however need the STAR reading class, so the others are working in a different area during our class time. All of the students coming from Flandreau, however, do need significant help in the area of math, so I am also holding a math class prior to the reading class. Although it would be ideal if my "casino students" could come more than once a week, they do attend school from 8am to 2pm and due to their differing work schedules, could only commit to the one day of the week that they all have off from work.

There is significant planning involved in setting up these classes, but I can already see the benefits of not only helping several students at once, but actually "teaching" my students as opposed to just tutoring them. I have also begun working on a schedule to implement more classes, both in the STAR reading area and other subjects as well. I do feel that eventually our learning center will run more smoothly, particularly when we are so busy.

Although I am somewhat new to this type of instruction, I would suggest that anyone interested in trying the small group classes, should. I figure, what have we got to loose. As time progresses we can continue to alter our schedule as needed, and for now, this is the way our center is moving. I would like to thank Becki Lemke from the Cornerstones Career Learning Center in Huron. Their program began class some time ago and she has been very supportive to us as we take the steps necessary to begin our transition.

submitted by Leslea Dobbs



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CLC of the Black Hills Holds Winter GED Graduation

The Career Learning Center of the Black Hills held its semi-annual graduation ceremony on Friday, January 12, 2007, at Dakota Middle School in Rapid City. Thirty of the 57 graduates were in attendance. After a welcome by CLC Director Gloria Pluimer, Renee Peterson introduced the graduate speakers and noted that this was the 30th ceremony conducted for our GED graduates. Graduate speakers Olivia Mobley and Jennifer Poynter are both single mothers who spoke of dropping out of school at a young age, but were determined to make better lives for themselves and their children. Both Olivia and Jennifer made the decision to return to school to earn their GED Certificates, and both women plan to pursue further education. Graduates Olivia Mobley, Jennifer Poynter and Virginia Roy were inducted into the National Adult Education Honor Society and each was presented with a certificate and pin from the organization. Renee Peterson also recognized the top scorers among the graduates, those students who had achieved scores of 700 or better or a perfect score of 800 on any test. Renee Peterson and Candy Hamilton presented each student with a congratulatory letter from the AEL staff. A reception for the graduates and their friends and families was held by Altrusa International of Rapid City following the ceremony.

submitted by Carol Kluk



NAEHS honorees
Olivia Mobley, Jennifer Poynter
and Virginia Hansen

Adult Education

Northwest Area School Adult Education

Janet Jorgensen, director of the Northwest Area Schools Adult Education program, announced that Adult Education Learning classes are in progress in Lemmon. The classes, under the direction of Charlotte Kvale, are being held in the City Council meeting room from 4 pm-6:30 pm every Tuesday night and will continue until mid-May.

Kvale explained that classes can be used towards credit for your GED (to earn the equivalent of a high school diploma) or if you want to upgrade your skills, i.e. need assistance in reading or math. "Your level is assessed before you start and your progress is monitored at intervals as you are going through the course. You could be 90 years old and attend classes," Kvale stressed, speaking about the qualifications to enter the program. "If you are school age, however, you must not be enrolled in public K-12."

The Adult Education Learning classes instruct the basic learning skills such as writing, reading, social studies, science, and math. "The program offers help in learning skills you need," Kvale explained. "You can also gain self-esteem and improve your employment possibilities."

According to Kvale, you can enter classes anytime due to the rotating door schedule. The program offers a plan for getting your GED or if you just want a "boost" in your educational skills, i.e. reading, writing and math; even if you have already received your traditional high school diploma, you are welcome to come to see if you qualify as a student. This may help you in your present employment or marketability for a new job. You can "check it out" and not feel obligated to attend. There is no charge for the classes.

For more information on Adult Educational Learning classes, contact Charlotte Kvale at 605-374-3523 or Janet Jorgensen at 605-788-2259.



Charlotte is new to the NORTHWEST AREA SCHOOLS Education Staff and based at the Lemmon site. Students can come from Bison/Prairie City, along the southern border of North Dakota, Thunder Hawk and Meadow. There can be many miles involved in attending each session. With this in mind, Charlotte is developing an instruction plan that encourages structured lesson plans for at home and as well as one to one contact, which will monitor and assist this type of long distant student. Long distance makes for resourceful techniques.

As this is the first year that she has been an AEL educator, Charlotte has found the state trainings and regional coaching sessions very useful for her as well as the student. (This is the teacher learning to be a better teacher.) Charlotte uses a combination of instruction. The first portion of the weekly class is in group activities of reading and reading strategies; ex. popcorn reading strategy is enjoyed by the students. This easily moves into the vocabulary portion of the lesson where the students compose a reaction to the article or passage by adding his/her statement and the end results in a group summary to the article or passage. A vocabulary list is encouraged to be used at work or home during the week. One young lady commented " I like to use unfamiliar words at work" so this is a natural assignment for her. After the reading session, Charlotte includes mathematic skills or do individualized skill learning on an one on one where needed basis.



All of the instructors are an asset to our NWAS program as they are innovative, caring and professional

reprinted from The Dakota Herald
submitted by Janet Jorgensen



ESL



It is state legislature time again and along with that comes a wonderful opportunity for our EI Civics students to learn how state government works. Missy Slaathaug, our EI Civics teacher at The Right Turn, spends most of January each year walking students through the legislative process. This involves tracking bills as they go through the various steps toward becoming a law or not. Students review daily newspaper articles and television reports about various bills. Missy uses this media to familiarize students with new vocabulary words. A visit to the Capitol allows students to observe committee meetings and Senate and House sessions. Students meet the legislators from this district and hear about issues they feel are important.

In this photo, Missy is reviewing a proposed bill on a brand inspection fee increase to Elizabeth Zanin. It was an opportunity to discuss how the livestock industry affects our state and what terms like “per head” mean. Since Elizabeth and her husband own a local Mexican restaurant, this helps her understand how agriculture affects other businesses. You may have seen Elizabeth’s photo on the front page of our local newspaper, The Capital Journal, where she was modeling a gown that she planned to wear to the Governor’s Inaugural Ball. It is very rewarding to work with students like Elizabeth who really get excited about all aspects of our government and want to get involved.

submitted by Sue Carlisle

The Right Turn

Pierre



Cornerstones Career Learning Center’s ESL

Cornerstones Career Learning Center has been a leader in Managed Enrollment classroom setting. Recently, their ESL program has developed a Managed Enrollment program where students sign-up for classes scheduled around individualized 6 week courses. For six weeks, students have the opportunity to attend Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in a 2 hour afternoon or night class. Students are required to attend 30 hours of class time to pass the course. Six week courses include: Workplace Skills, Community Living, Health, Consumer Economics, House/Home/Family, and Time/Money/Calendar. After completing the 6 week course, students can enjoy a 2 week break. During that break, Cornerstones’ instructors have taught 2 week “Mini-Courses” for new enrollees to learn the alphabet, numbers, basic greetings, commands, activities, and weather. There are many benefits for both students and instructors.

- ESL students can meet personal goals set in the particular area of study, and have the feeling of accomplishment when completing a course.
- ESL students know what do expect from lessons within a particular course.
- ESL students learn the material at a concentrated level.
- ESL students learn responsibility by committing to a class schedule.
- After 30 hours of instruction, many students are ready to gain an EFL level.
- Instructors can easily plan lessons by following the curriculum in the particular course.
- Instructors can follow the curriculum from beginning to end with out class time interruptions of enrolling new students at different levels.
- Sometimes overwhelming—but still important—grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary skills can be instructed throughout the specified course without the feeling of a strict grammar lesson.
- Multi-level lessons can be utilized by following curriculum at different levels (many series of student books and workbooks follow the same lessons within chapters).

submitter by Jill Luque

Cornerstones CLC



The Multi-Cultural Christmas Tree

submitted by **Laura Smith Hill**

This winter, the Refugee and Immigration Center of Lutheran Social Services was chosen to represent the diverse cultures of South Dakota at the Capitol building in Pierre. And what more beautiful and glorious way to do it than on a Christmas tree!



Even though our students hail from various religious backgrounds, many of which wouldn't use the notorious tree at home, all our students participated in sharing their stories, languages and artwork to decorate the 16 foot tree.

Students donated Asian New Year decorations, greeting cards, crocheted crafts and origami birds. Teachers facilitated classroom projects to create hundreds of decorations. One project was adorning small craft stockings with their own creative expressions. Another was writing on red and green half sheets of paper; students wrote in response to teacher prompts such as: "I like South Dakota because..."

Those were strung together with small flags and maps as garland. Some decorations donned their own national languages. More advanced students wrote and typed out short autobiographies.



Here is a sampling of our students' writing, showing a range of English language abilities.

- ❖ In South Dakota I like the people. – El Salvador
- ❖ I LIKE SOUTH DAKOTA BECAUSE OF THE SAFETY AND THE PEACE. – Brazil
- ❖ Icame to Amerea becose I weant freedam South Dakta is good. - Ethiopia
- ❖ I like South Dakota because it has fresh air and good water. I like South Dakota I can make many good friends. – Ukraine
- ❖ Dear Sir, I would like to introduce myself, My name is Celina, I am Sudanese, I arrived in Sioux Falls, SD on July 17/06, and I like Sioux falls, SD. Because it is a safe place, I don't have problems with any one, and I'm not afraid of any thing like in my own country, I'm not afraid of any thing like in my own country, always afraid of security at anytime I may be caught, and not freedom, But in Sioux falls SD I got a freedom of living, pray, and walking without fear. Thank you for giving me this opportunity for writing.





2007 MVAEA CONFERENCE HOSTED BY MINNESOTA

**Practical Thinking:
Addressing the Changing Ecology
of Adult Education**

April 18 - April 20, 2007

HOTEL INFORMATION:

**Ramada Inn Airport at the Mall of America
2300 East American Blvd.
Bloomington, MN 55425
Telephone: (952) 854-3411**

**Visit Hotel Website [Ramada Inn Airport at the Mall of America](#)
Additional Links for area attractions available at the hotel website.**

**For Conference updates watch the Conference page
and Happenings in the Valley.**

<http://www.mvaea.com/index.html>

18th Annual Leadership Academy

**Theme: Collaborative Innovation: Working Together to
Bring Out the Best Solutions
and the Best in Each Other**

**Wednesday, April 18, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Ramada Inn Convention Center in Bloomington, MN**



MVAEA Scholarship Application
Due February 23, 2007

South Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning will be offering six \$500 scholarships to individuals interested in attending the Missouri Valley Adult Education Association 2007 Conference "Practical Thinking: Addressing the Changing Ecology of Adult Education". Up to \$3,000 in scholarships will be awarded based on committee recommendation. No applications will be accepted after February 23, 2007. Award winners will be notified by February 28, 2007.

Check out the MVAEA Website for full conference details.
<http://www.mvaea.com/index.html>

Send applications to:

Renee Peterson
Career Learning Center of the Black Hills
730 East Watertown Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
Phone 605-394-5120
Fax 605-394-6083
rpeterson@clc.tie.net

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Representing: _____

Recipient will be required to submit article to the Everlearning Newsletter.

In a word narrative of 200 words or less describe how attending this conference would help you in the work you do with AEL. Attach additional pages as needed.



COABE Conference

Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Learning

Commission on Adult Basic Education National Conference

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

March 25, 2007 Pre-Conference Sessions

March 26 - 28, 2007 Plenary and Breakout Sessions

The 2007 COABE Conference will be held in historic Philadelphia.

Every year, Philadelphia plays host to millions of business travelers, individuals, couples, and families who come to sample our city's unique blend of history and progress!

The Conference Planning Committee is busy developing meaningful professional development activities and planning exciting off site events

For more information visit:
<http://www.coabe2007.org/joomla/>

Registration Rates

PreConference: Half-day - \$50 Full-day - \$100

Conference: Register By:		COABE	COABE
		or PAACE Member Rate	or PAACE Member Rate:
Early Bird	March 2, 2007	\$275	\$350
Regular Rate	March 24, 2007	\$325	\$400

Print registration or register online at:
<http://www.proliteracy.org/external/coabe07/>



COABE Scholarship Application
Due February 23, 2007

South Dakota Association for Lifelong Learning will be offering a \$1,000 scholarship to an individual interested in attending the COABE 2007 Conference "*Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Learning*" to be held in Philadelphia. Scholarship will be awarded based on committee recommendation. No applications will be accepted after February 23, 2007. Award winners will be notified by February 28, 2007.

For more information visit:
<http://www.coabe2007.org/joomla/>

Send applications to:

Renee Peterson
Career Learning Center of the Black Hills
730 East Watertown Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
Phone 605-394-5120
Fax 605-394-6083
rpeterson@clc.tie.net

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Representing: _____

Recipient will be required to submit article to the Everlearning Newsletter.

In a word narrative of 200 words or less describe how attending this conference would help you in the work you do with AEL. Attach additional pages as needed.

People, Places and Events



February 15-16	AEL Directors Meeting, Chamberlain
March 1	STAR Cyber Chat 11:00
March 1-3	SD Ass for the Education of Young Children/ Soaring Over the Rainbow to Early Success, Aberdeen
March 2	WIA RFP Due, Pierre
March 6	GED Graduation, Mitchell
March 8	GED Graduation, Huron
March 25 - 28	COABE Conference, Philadelphia, PA
April 18 - 20	MVAEA Conference, Bloomington MN

Back to Where I Was

Work with long documents in MS Word?

Ever find yourself editing a large document, jumping from location to location, only to realize that you should have done just one more thing at the last editing spot?

How annoying is that? To have to go back through the document and find that exact position again.

Well, wait! What if we could return with nothing more than a quick key combination, with no searching at all? Interested?

Yep, I thought you might be, so let's take a look at what Word has to offer for this dilemma.

Next time you need to go back to your last point of editing, simply use Shift + F5.

(Actually, Shift + F5 will take you back to the previous three points of editing and then if used again, it will return you to where you started).

I just love a shortcut through those long documents, don't you?!

submitted by Jeff Myers
Cornerstones CLC

FYI -Check out this website:
<http://www.nrsweb.org/>

Ever Learning

"Ever learning" shall strive to provide a consistent means of communication between the providers of services to adults and their families, with updates on statewide literacy, adult and community education programs, policies, news, latest technologies, organization activities and upcoming events.

Web page - www.sdall.org

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