



## Message From the Director

By Gary Schwartzwald



We have joined with the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District to form a consortium and apply for the AB86 Adult Education Consortium Planning Grant. Our application for the planning grant will be submitted on or before February 24<sup>th</sup> and the funding should begin in early March. Funding is to be utilized for planning the 2015-16 school year when Adult Education, through consortia's, should once again receive direct funding.

We continue to move forward to meet the parameters of Assembly Bill 86, which provides grants to fund and implement regional consortium to provide adults in our region with educational programs and services. It is very unfortunate that AB86 is limiting which Adult Education programs it will fund. AB86 limits funding to the following program areas:

- ABE/GED/HS Diploma
- ESL
- Citizenship
- Adult with Disabilities
- Career Technical Education
- Apprenticeships

Although funding for many program areas will not be provided by the State, we continue to work on our pricing strategies so that Grossmont Adult will continue to offer as many classes, in all areas, as possible. I greatly appreciate your understanding and support through this difficult transition that has been thrust upon us. Teachers and staff have done an outstanding job recruiting students and

explaining our situation. Adult Education in California has and will continue to change. We will work together to keep Grossmont Adult School a model of success in meeting the needs of our community.

To find the latest information regarding AB86, please go to the following link:

<http://ab86.cccco.edu/>

Below I have pasted most of the Adult Ed language from the Governors January budget proposal.

“Adult education consortia plans will be completed by early 2015, and the Administration intends to make an investment in the 2015-16 budget for adult education, including adult education provided in county jails, through a single restricted categorical program. The Administration will continue to work jointly with the State Department of Education and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to complete the adult education consortia plans, while working with the Legislature to ensure that any legislation pertaining to adult education aligns with and supports the planning process currently underway, and provides consistent guidance to the K-12 and community college districts.”

It is reassuring to see that Adult Education was again in the Governors' Budget.

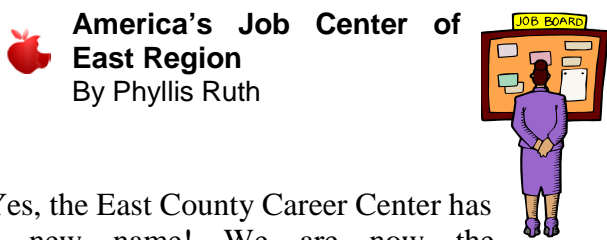


WASC Visiting Committee  
will be here March 24-26

Each year our district has a Golden Apple Award Ceremony. Each site, or program, selects one outstanding teacher. Most high school sites have approximately 100 teachers to choose from. In Adult Education we have over 260 teachers, which makes the selection process very difficult. It is a pleasure and an honor to announce that **the 2013-2014 Adult Education Golden Apple Award winner is Andy Peifer.** Andy has been a teacher at the East County Career Center for 20 years and does an outstanding job teaching the Job Search Workshops and Career Change Workshop. We and they are lucky to have him. We look forward to honoring Andy on April 28th at the Golden Apple Awards Ceremony at West Hills.

Three years ago we began a new tradition. We developed the Outstanding Adult Students, Instructors, and Staff (OASIS) Awards. Last year we had over 150 people join us. This year the recognition ceremony will be on May 2nd at the Ronald Reagan Community Center in El Cajon. Nomination forms will be sent to you in the near future and I hope you take the time to nominate your outstanding students and colleagues. Remember, students are eligible to nominate each other, as well as outstanding staff and instructors. Please join this celebration!!! We will have raffle prizes, fabulous desserts, and awesome awards to hand out. We expect everyone will have a terrific time.

We have had a great first half of the school year and I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter about the many things we have accomplished this year.



Yes, the East County Career Center has a new name! We are now the America's Job Center of East Region. This is because we are a proud partner of the national career center network. The Career Center has been serving East Region for over 35 years and

we are proud of the many success stories coming from our program in support of east county residents that may be unemployed or displaced workers.

A recent customer had lost his job and was without a place to live or any form of transportation. However, he was lucky to get a hand up through our partnership with East County Transitional Living Center. This community-based partner agency organization provided faith, stability, hope and a way of giving back through participation in their work programs.

He also joined the East County Career Center Workforce Investment Act program. He joined our workshops and classes and was motivated to re-enter the workforce. He diligently applied for work and accepted a job as a sign twirler which required hours of traveling on public transportation to get to work. He utilized the bus pass that was provided through our support services and traveled to and from work each day to be on time for his new responsibilities. With the encouragement of his Employment Advisor he recognized there were other opportunities and continued to stay motivated. Today he was accepted into a truck driving training program. The company provides transportation and lodging during this period. Our customer is so excited about his new adventure. He came back to the Career Center to share his good news with the students in the workshops to inspire and let them know that anything is possible if you keep trying and stay motivated.

This is just one of many success stories happening at the America's Job Center East Region. Please let family or friends know we are here to help anyone who is out of work and looking for new adventures. We are located at 924 East Main Street and all services are free.



Call us at 619-590-3950.



**WASC Update**  
By Jennifer Owens



Here are the words you have all been waiting to hear: The report is done!! Not only is it done, but it is already printed and has been mailed to the members of the visiting committee. Remember the visit is **March 24-26, 2014!!**

Before the visit there will be a mandatory accreditation meeting on **March 6<sup>th</sup>**! To accommodate everyone's schedule, we will have three meeting times. You only need to attend one meeting (unless you're super excited about accreditation and want to attend more than one). The times on the 6<sup>th</sup> will be **1:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., or 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held in **Room 6 at El Cajon Adult Center.**

Once again, as always, thank you for your support, encouragement, and contributions during this process. Just because the report is printed doesn't end the opportunity for you to contribute. You are always welcome to email me with any thoughts or ideas. Remember, from this time forward, accreditation will be an ongoing process and your participation is always encouraged.

See you on **March 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., or 6:00 p.m.** at **El Cajon Adult Center!**

Grossmont Adult School Important Dates	
Date	Event
Feb 14	Lincoln's birthday ( <b>NOTE:</b> This is different than the high schools!)
Feb 17	President's holiday
Feb 26	Spring registration
Mar 6	All Staff WASC meeting
Mar 17	Spring classes begin
Mar 24-26	WASC Visitation
Apr 7-18	Spring Break
April 24-26	CCAIE State Conference
April 28	Golden Apple Awards Ceremony
May 2	OASIS Awards Ceremony
June 6	Spring classes end

**Mission Statement**

The mission of Grossmont Adult School is to enrich the lives of our community members by providing high quality, affordable, lifelong educational opportunities; fulfilling personal, academic, and workplace goals for an increasingly diverse population.

**Schoolwide Learner Outcomes (SLOs)**

**Self-Directed Lifelong Learners who:**

- Demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning
- Acquire knowledge and skills appropriate to their stage of life
- Seek continuing academic, career training, and/or employment opportunities
- Utilize critical thinking and problem-solving skills

**Effective Communicators who:**

- Express oneself in a variety of social, academic, and workplace settings
- Utilize technology and social media to communicate effectively
- Develop an increased understanding of and appreciation for our diverse community

**Productive, Involved Citizens, Parents, and Workers who:**

- Achieve personal, academic, and workplace goals
- Participate in civic activities to contribute to the wellbeing of the community



WASC Visiting Committee will be here March 24-26



**HOC Celebrates Vocational Nursing Graduates**  
By Carol Otjens



Recently, the Health Occupations Center celebrated the graduation of 26 students in the Vocational Nursing program, “Class 60”. They have completed 18 months of rigorous classroom instruction, campus lab simulations, and clinical rotations at hospitals and clinics across the county. The event commemorated their hard work, many achievements in the medical field, and passion for the nursing field. The audience was full of proud supporters as the students took their Nurse’s Oath.



Many of these students are planning to continue their journey as Registered Nurses while others will find their special niche as Licensed Vocational Nurses. Whichever road they choose, we know they will help many patients and touch many lives. We are always happy to support a student’s journey in healthcare education. Congratulations everyone.



**Community Involvement Through Volunteerism**  
By Robyn Wiggins



El Cajon Adult School students ended the year with a very successful food drive. Students donated hundreds of non-perishable food items for our local food banks and the Salvation Army. Students feel this is one way they can give back to the community that gives them so much.



Students are now collecting small new items such as crayons, coloring books, puzzles, etc. for our local children that are in the hospital. These items are made into “Jared Boxes” and donated to our local hospitals. Last year students were able to donate 65 boxes and the goal for this year is 75!

Next on the agenda is a Campus Clean-Up hosted by our student council. Students are excited to get our campus sparkling clean for the upcoming WASC visit. It’s a great family event and again, gives our students the opportunity to give back.

We’ve hit the ground running this New Year with new student testing and enroll up to 300 students per month. The office staff does an amazing job at meeting the needs of our students.

El Cajon Adult Center proctored adult CAHSEE testing this month and tested students in English and in Math. This is a joint effort to help out El Cajon Valley High School and better serve our students as well.



## Excitement Aplenty!

By Jeff Meredith



Thursday, January 23, 2014 was a very big day for 15 students from the East County Transitional Living Center who received their GED certificates in front of a large crowd of supporters. **Jeff Meredith**, Foothills Adult School Principal; and **Gary Schwartzwald**, Grossmont Adult School Director; **Theresa Kemper**, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services; and **Catherine Martin**, Director of Fund-Raising/Public Affairs were on hand along with GED prep teacher, **Georgine Parisi**, to present the students with their certificates. This is not a program that we can take all of the credit for. ECTLC takes these people off the streets and provides a stable living environment along with the use of a classroom for the students. East County Posse pays for the cost of the GED test for each one of the students. This is a wonderful example of what a dedicated teacher and three outside groups can accomplish working with each other.



2013 was a phenomenal year for the GED. We tested 2,332 students and had 1,665 students pass the GED last year (71.4% passing rate). As many of you know we are now up and running with our computer lab dedicated to GED testing. Our first student is scheduled to take the online version of the GED Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>.



## Steele Canyon Adult Center

By Tim Lindley



It is past the halfway point in another school year as the students and staff at Steele Canyon Adult Center are staying very active in their classes and the community this past summer and fall.

**Drew Bandish** (Art teacher at La Mesa Enrichment Center) this past summer in June had a student from his Watercolor class display her work at the San Diego Watercolor Society art show. The student took home a third place prize for her efforts. Additionally, Drew this past December had four students from his Watercolor class display their work at the San Diego Watercolor Society art show. The four students took home a first place, honorable mention, juror's commendation, and best theme prizes for their efforts. Then in January he reported three more winning efforts at the San Diego Watercolor Society art show with an honorable mention award and two juror's commendations. Good job Drew!

**Carol Lockwood** (Ceramics teacher at La Mesa Enrichment Center) got some good news from the San Diego County Fair this past summer for the Steele Canyon Adult Center students. Her Ceramic students received six awards for their projects including three first place ribbons; one second place ribbon; three third place ribbons; and one honorable mention award. The Ceramic class students had another great showing this year at the fair under Carol's expert guidance.

**Susan Kauffman** (Tole Arts teacher at La Mesa Enrichment Center and Media Quilts teacher at Steele Canyon Adult Center) had students from both classes win awards at the San Diego County fair this past summer. One Tole Art student received an honorable mention award. While her Media Quilt students won an honorable mention award and one third place ribbon. Way to go Susan!

**Margaret Tyler's** Spinning classes at Steele Canyon Adult Center were a "goldmine" for San Diego County Fair awards this summer. Her students won ten first place awards, six second and third place ribbons, and seven honorable mention awards. In addition, two of her students won San Diego Creative Weaver's Guild awards. Margaret was awarded a special Certificate of Award by the fair for outstanding work with her students. What a summer for our spinning students and Margaret – we are proud of you all!

In **Pat Andersen's** Quilting class at Steele Canyon, the class is using their completed projects for charity this past fall. One of her students completed a quilt to donate to an aspiring Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout is collecting quilts and blankets and other items to give to foster care children. One student earned thousands of dollars for medical expenses for a family member by making a beautiful "Circle of Hope" quilt. Several students made tote bags for cancer patients at Kaiser Hospital and soldier quilts which are donated to Balboa Hospital. In addition, students made pet beds to donate to the Human Society and stuff them with left-over scraps of fabric and batting. These are just a few examples of the quilting for charity that goes on in many of our Grossmont Adult School quilting classes. Quilting provides a way to give back to our families and our communities. Great job Pat!

**Daphne Miller** (Walking Exercise Class at Grossmont Center through Steele Canyon Adult Center) last fall had a special event for her students. She arranged for a guest speaker to present to her class. Dr. Michael Mantell (Senior Fitness Consultant for Behavioral Sciences) talked to her students to talk about wellness facilities, programs, and services for adults over 50. Dr. Mantell is on the American Council for Exercise. He is also the author of the book "Don't Sweat The Small Stuff: P.S. It's All Small Stuff". Sounds like a very interesting day in Daphne's class.

We have a television star in our Correctional Education Program. Recently I was watching the PBS program "Ken Kramer's About San Diego" and I saw our very own **Mike Bryant** (Commercial Janitorial instructor at East Mesa Detention Facility) on the program. They featured Mike and his very unique and historic bottle collection. Our staff has many hidden talents!

This past fall the San Diego Union Tribune did a feature article based on the CTE programs within our Grossmont Adult School Correctional Education Program in the San Diego County Sheriff's detention facilities. The article centered on the Culinary Arts Bakery Occupations classes housed at the East Mesa Detention Facility. The classes are taught by **Irene Fombon** and **Maria Gonzales**. They represented Grossmont Adult School and Correctional Education Program very well in the article. Great job by Irene and Maria!

This past January the Culinary Arts Bakery Occupations classes were also the subject of a feature segment on several local news programs. The news programs included channel 5 FOX, channel 6 CW, channel 7 NBC, channel 8 CBS, and channel 10 ABC. This was a big day for Grossmont Adult School, the Correctional Education Program CTE classes, and of course, **Irene Fombon**, instructor; **Maria Gonzales**, instructor; and **Robert Vander Kamp**, Inmate Services Division Manager of the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. All of them along with their students did a good job on camera.

**Danny Ceballos** (Correctional Education Program) teaches Construction Trades at the East Mesa Detention Facility. Danny received a special honor in the fall. He was recognized by the San Diego Sheriff's Department Inmate Welfare Committee and presented a Letter of Appreciation for outstanding service in planning and completing a special construction project at the East Mesa Detention Facility. Another fine effort by our Correctional Education Program CTE's teachers and classes – excellent work Danny!

**Mona Sturges** is the Correctional Education Program's Computer Graphics teacher at both the Las Colinas Detention Facility and the East Mesa Detention Facility. Mona received a distinguished professional honor in the form of a grant from the Arts Council of the Commonwealth Council for Arts and the Culture of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariannas to make a documentary of an arts education project for the elementary school in Rota, Spain. The program is a series of classroom workshops for elementary schools and a workshop for educators and artists in Saipan. She will be gone approximately a month leaving at the end of February. This is quite an item of note not only for Mona, but also our CTE program in the Correctional Education Program



**CCAIE Update**  
By Vicki Gagliardi



Our CCAIE Chapter helps students and teachers throughout the year. We award a scholarship to a deserving high school graduate, pay GED testing fees for students in need, and award classroom scholarship grants to teachers. This is made possible for the most part by our See's Candy fundraiser in February. Each center office will have candy for sale until Valentine's Day. Gladys Uri is quite the salesperson at Foothills and plans to reopen the fundraising efforts in the spring (around Easter time). Everyone knows someone that would love a gift of chocolate. Buy one, two, or ten and support our Chapter! Your past and current support is very much appreciated.

There were 62 CCAIE members and guests in attendance at our Fourth Annual Winter Social in December. We enjoyed good company, good food, silly games, almost-nice gifts, and a special visit from the jolly man himself. (Even Santa is a CCAIE member!) Everyone had a wonderful time and we hope you will attend next year!

I hope you are looking forward to the CCAIE State Conference being held April 24-26. It's right here in our back yard at the Bahia Hotel Resort! Scholarship applications for one-day registration fees were submitted and approved by our board for **Pat Andersen, Marjorie Archibald, Charlene Bader, Elisia Cresap, Toni Gagliardi, Alan Humble, Jennifer Owens, and Michelle Schauder**. There is still time to register for the conference. The early bird registration fees have been extended to February 21. The topic for this year's conference is "Adult Education—Uncharted Waters" and will shed some light on the changes occurring with Adult Education throughout the state. There will be workshops on the new GED test, AB86 and consortia planning (that's the new face of Adult Ed), ESL, topics for classified employees, and many more you won't want to miss. A state awards luncheon will be held Friday and there will be a dinner dance that evening held aboard one of the paddle boats as it tours the bay. Additional awards will be presented at the Saturday brunch and shhhh. . .there's a chance you may know some of the honorees!

We are planning our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual fundraiser at one of the local restaurants. We are hoping for a late February or early March date. You have to eat, right? I hope you will bring your friends and family to the restaurant and help our chapter with our fundraising efforts! We'll post a flyer in each of the Adult Center offices as soon as the plans are finalized. I hope to see you there.

The CCAIE organization as a whole has been instrumental in working with the legislators to continue funding Adult Ed. Although the face of Adult Ed is changing, without your CCAIE membership Adult Ed would not exist in the K-12 setting. We all would have lost our jobs! CCAIE was one of the few organizations fighting for Adult Ed. If you are a member, you saved Adult Ed. I owe my job to you. THANK YOU! If you are not a member yet, I encourage you to join. Growing our membership provides a bigger voice in Sacramento. Next time we may not be so lucky.