



Message From the Director

By Robyn Wiggins

Is it really the end of the school year already? I don't know if it is because it was my first year as Director, but I feel like this year flew by. We've accomplished so much these past few months.

This year's **Outstanding Adult Students, Instructors, and Staff (OASIS)** Awards ceremony was held May 6th at Grossmont College's Griffin Gate. The location was beautiful, the desserts were scrumptious, the door prizes were impressive, and the award winners were honored in style.

Thank you to all of you who have nominated Teachers, Students, and Staff. Our selection committee made some very difficult decisions but we were thrilled to honor this year's OASIS winners!

Student Award Recipients

- * Eva Armenta
- * Maria Austin
- * Kate Bauer
- * Norma Gomez
- * Patti Hayes
- * Toby Scriba
- * Julio Segundo
- * Kristilla Wynn

Instructor Awards Recipients

- * Mike Bryant
- * Marian Doherty
- * Al Humble
- * Carolina Margarito
- * Nikki Middleton
- * Holly Segni
- * Neda Shukur
- * Kathleen Smith

Staff Awards Recipients

- * Connie Bobof
- * Ramona Brown
- * Susan Roberts-Egley
- * John Scott

Community Partner Award Recipients

- * Rene Hendricks
- * Chrestina Jalil
- * Spencer Nguyen
- * Mike Peterson



The District held their annual Golden Apple Awards Ceremony on Monday, May 2nd. **Calvette Hart** was recognized as the Grossmont Adult Education Golden Apple Award winner for this year. Calvette is dedicated to teaching nursing students! It is truly her passion in life. She has been an instructor at HOC for over 32 years. Her diverse experience in the nursing field and her longtime teaching assignment allow her to be an expert instructor in many programs at HOC. Specifically, Calvette has a deep passion for the history of the nursing profession. She takes every opportunity to share stories of the many nurses that have paved the way and molded the nursing industry to what it is today. The next time you encounter a wonderful nurse, remember there was a dedicated nursing instructor helping them to find their way. In fact, that instructor may have been Ms. Calvette Hart! Please make time to congratulate Calvette on this honor for her dedication to teaching and her students.

Our annual **Community Advisory Committee** meeting was held the evening of April 28th at the Health Occupations Center. In addition to providing the community with a brief overview of the programs we offer, we encourage input on how we can change and adjust what we do, to improve our programs and services. I am very grateful to our supportive community members who take the time to join us and provide us with their valuable input. We also invited students to participate and their input was welcomed and insightful.

A lot has been accomplished this year with our consortium. Our partnership with GCCCD has solidified and we are now working as one unit. The SDERAEC Governing Board has been established and met twice already this year. Transition Specialists have been hired to assist our students transition from Adult School to college or the workforce. A marketing firm has been hired to help with rebranding and advertising.

We are more than just our Consortium! Grossmont Adult School will continue to offer as many Lifelong Learning (enrichment) classes as possible. I feel fortunate that we are able to meet the needs of our community. This is a great time for creativity, opportunity, and potential growth.

As our planning continues and progresses, we will keep you informed. If you have questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to contact me or your Principal.



Foothills Adult Center

By Jeff Meredith



Arlene Pyjar teaches a couple Real Estate classes at Foothills Adult School, California Legal Aspects of Real Estate and Real Estate Practices. In addition to her classes she sells Real Estate for Berkshire Hathaway out of their La Mesa office on Grossmont Summit Drive. A small group of her former students were on hand the other day at Foothills; Arlene likes to bring back her former students that are now out selling Real Estate to meet with her current students. Seven former students were able to make it. These seven former students not only sell Real Estate but they sell out of the same office as Arlene. Arlene shared with me that there were eight more of her former students working out of her office that were not able to be there for the picture.





ECAC Student Council Connections

By Toni Gagliardi and Sheila Davis



Many times people who don't participate in Student Council activities miss the magic that happens at these community-building events. Students learn teamwork, following directions, time management, money handling, leadership skills, and how to make a difference in the community through volunteering.



Instead of staff members telling you about it, we are including student quotes from three recent events:

"This is my home....my school."

Natheer, ESL Student

On Saturday, May 7th, 45 students, staff members, and family members participated in our Campus-Clean-Up! Starting at 9:00 am, students raked, swept, and picked up trash in the surrounding areas of El Cajon Adult Center. Volunteers cleaned classroom desks, tables, chairs, bookshelves, and rugs. Participants representing many countries worked side-by-side exhibiting pride for their "home".

"Thank you for selling the books."

Hameed, ESL Student

Our "Buck-A-Book" Student Council fundraiser was a huge success! **Over \$650.00** was collected by selling teacher-donated used and new books to the students! Students enjoyed browsing through cookbooks, novels, grammar books, history books, children's books, and craft

books. It was a learning experience for everyone involved. The proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

"I love it here in America. . .this means so much to me"

Hemen, ESL Student

This special comment was shared by a student as he walked around the football field at El Cajon Valley High School for 4 hours. The Relay for Life walk on May 14th, shows support for: cancer victims, survivors, and their families. Forty-eight students, staff, friends and family members spent time together with team captain, **Toni Gagliardi**, to help find a cure for cancer. There was music, entertainment, food, ceremonies, and lots of time to share together with students and friends. At 9 pm, hundreds of candles were glowing in honor of cancer victims and survivors. We walked together in unity for HOPE and for a CURE. A check for \$2,335.59 will be presented to the American Cancer Society from our El Cajon Adult Student Council.

Click on the Events tab on our website www.elcajonadult.guhds.net for future activities at El Cajon Adult. Our school loves to engage with the community, so feel free to participate.



Health Occupations Center

By Carol Otjens



American Red Cross
The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood!

Spring Semester started with a BANG at HOC! 500 new and excited students started their healthcare training in a variety of fields including EMT, Pharmacy Technician, Veterinary Assisting, Dental Assisting, and many more. They will be participating in their internship components and be ready for the workplace this summer!

Spring blossomed beautifully at Health Occupations Center! HOC Student Council members along with 30 student volunteers coordinated a Campus Clean-up highlighting the campus landscape by trimming and pruning our

greenery, planting new flowers throughout campus, and painting benches in our breezeways.



Not only is HOC looking good but we are doing good deeds for the community as well. HOC sprang into action to brighten the spirits of over a hundred foster children by making and donating Spring Baskets full of festive toys and treats.



A contingency of five faculty members attended “Educating for Careers” conference in Sacramento that has a defined focus on Career Technical Education. Ideas and strategies were brought back to campus on building and sustaining health pathways.

HOC hosted two field trips for GUHSD Health Pathway students. El Cajon Valley High School and Santana High School students toured the campus where they were exposed to our various medical labs, specialized training equipment, and had opportunities to speak with current students about their academic journey. The high school students had hands on experiences learning how to take vitals, looking into microscopes at blood smears, and filling (fake) prescriptions.



In February HOC held our annual Advisory Committee meeting. Over 40 business partners from many healthcare industries from all over the San Diego region attended to support and advise us on our medical programs. They reviewed our curriculum, internship sites, equipment, technology and to ensure we are teaching up to industry standards. We value the relationships with our community members and business partners and want to thank them for their continued support of our students.



AB86: Hard work and many planning meetings are happening to build our collaboration with Grossmont–Cuyamaca Community College District. Our Vocational Nursing Program is working with Grossmont College’s Registered Nursing Program to strengthen the “Step-Up” LVN to RN program. Other HOC programs are looking for ways to connect with Grossmont’s Allied Health specialty programs. This work will allow students a seamless transition from HOC to Grossmont College and thereby increasing student achievement and success.

outstanding example of excellence in support services. **Charlene Bader** and **Toni Gagliardi** received the State Life Membership Award. Both of these ladies are very deserving of this award. Not only have they made their mark on Grossmont Adult School, but their dedication to CCAE and Adult Education in general is an inspiration.

What is CCAE, you ask? California Council for Adult Education (CCAЕ) is the primary organization that represents Adult Education with our legislators. CCAE employs a lobbyist whose sole purpose is to be the voice for Adult Ed. Without CCAE, Adult Ed may have lost the battle a couple years ago! Our lobbyist, Dawn Koepke, coordinated efforts throughout the state to keep Adult Ed funded. We have our jobs thanks to CCAE! I hope you consider joining CCAE at the Back to School meeting on August 17th. Every member counts, every voice matters.

The focus at the chapter level is more about us as individuals and the Grossmont team. We offer teacher and student scholarships as well as professional development opportunities. We have social events that you won’t want to miss! (By the way, these events are open to members and non-members alike.)

As the school year comes to a close, I want to express many thanks to our 2015-16 Board: **Jeff Meredith**, president; **Jennifer Owens**, vice president; **Georginne Parisi**, secretary; **Robyn Wiggins**, treasurer; **Marjorie Archibald**, Legislative Rep., **Susie Taylor**, membership; and **Gladys Uri**, member at large.

The Grossmont Chapter Board for 2016-17 will have some new faces.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| President | Vicki Gagliardi |
| Vice President | Position available! |
| Secretary | Georginne Parisi |
| Treasurer | Jeff Meredith |
| Membership | Susie Taylor |
| Leg. Rep. | Marjorie Archibald |
| Social Comm. | Jennifer Brown |
| Member at Large | Sybil Cartwright |



CCAЕ Update
By Vicki Gagliardi



The CCAE State Conference in April was very informative. There were a lot of people, numerous workshops, and some fun events. Several Grossmont Chapter award winners were recognized at the conference. **Ramona Brown** won the Southern Section Excellence in Support Services Award. Ramona always has a smile on her face and helps students, teachers, and coworkers without hesitation. She is an

Stop by our table at the Back to School meeting. You can complete a membership application, buy some raffle tickets for our awesome prizes, or just chat. We'd love to let you know what's happening with CCAE.

Spring Happenings at Steele Canyon Adult Center

By Tim Lindley

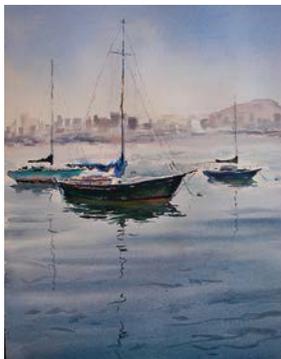


Spring has “sprung” and the students and the staff at Steele Canyon Adult Center are “springing” into action out in the community again.

Drew Bandish teaches art classes for Grossmont Adult School at the La Mesa Adult Enrichment Center. The Dr. William C. Herrick Community Health Care Library in La Mesa hosted its Winter Art Exhibit featuring 24 watercolor paintings by award-winning art instructor Drew Bandish and five of his students. The students include **Susan Hewitt** of Lakeside, **Royce Hinson** of El Cajon, **Lori Lynch** of Lakeside, **Miriam Schippers** of El Cajon, and **Joan Vandenberg** of El Cajon. The exhibit was called “Back Row Group,” a reference to the advanced students who tend to sit in the classroom’s back row.



Drew had 17 students displaying their work at the “The Primo Group Art Show” at the Rancho San Diego Library. The artworks were in all media types including watercolor, acrylics, drawing, and color pencil.



Matt Russo (Correctional Education Program Manager) and **Frank Caramagna** (Culinary Arts Teacher at Las Colinas Detention Re-Entry Facility) were on Channel 8 news in February representing Grossmont Adult School. The news feature was on the Restaurant Class being taught through our Correctional Education Program.



The class teaches inmate students cooking skills, menu planning, purchasing, human resources, food presentation, and serving skills. The class started in August 2014 through Grossmont Adult School role as the educational provider for San Diego County Sheriff jail facilities. The inmate students graduate with a Manage First Restaurant Management Certificate from the National Restaurant Association. A Manage First certificate lets businesses in the food and hospitality industry know that the person is ready to work from day one because they are already trained. There are plans to offer the same CTE class under the consortium in 2016-2017 under Matt’s supervision.

See you
at the
Back to School
meeting

August 17th



Bill Moberly (Correctional Education Program CTE instructor at the East Mesa Detention Re-Entry Facility – Landscaping class) teaches a class called the CIVICS program. CIVICS stands for Community Involved Inmate Crew Services. Bill's class not only receives classroom instruction in the areas of landscaping, horticulture, and agriculture, but also uses that knowledge to complete landscaping projects at local parks in collaboration with the San Diego County Department of Parks & Recreation. This winter Bill's class received the "Outstanding County Team Member Award 2015" from the San Diego County Department of Parks & Recreation. A job well done Bill!!



Gary MacDonald (Steele Canyon Adult Center CTE instructor for the Sports Officiating/Track Starters class) proudly reported that a student in his class (Nick Norris) was named "Sports Official of the Year" by the San Diego Hall of Champions Sports Official Advisory Committee. Another great community award for Grossmont Adult School and its staff and students – congratulations Gary.

Margaret Tyler's Spinning classes competed for the 5th year in the International Back to Back Wool Challenge in April. Margaret's group was the reigning national record holders. The activity of this contest is to blade shear a sheep (no power shears), spin and ply a yarn with wool directly off the sheep and hand knit a full sized, long sleeved pullover sweater. This year the Steele Canyon Adult Center based team

raised a fundraising a total of over \$2700 to benefit Sharp Chula Vista Cancer Center. The event had news coverage from four local news stations. Another great way for the community to see Grossmont Adult School students in action – great job Margaret!!



ECCC 3rd Quarter Employee
By Steve Niemeyer



We are pleased to announce **Danell Lyons** as the Career Center Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of the 2015-16 school year. Danell is one of our Employment Advisors and works on the Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) program.

This program, which is funded by the County of San Diego, is designed to help people find and keep employment. This program is operating at all of the County career centers, and provides employers with wage reimbursement for six months when they hire an ESE candidate. Danell has done such a great job with placing clients that our Career Center is the shining star in the network. Even with the fact that we only have one full-time person dedicated to the ESE program, she is outperforming other career centers in the region that have multiple employees assigned to ESE.

Danell is worthy of this recognition, and we are very fortunate to have her as part on our Career Center team!



WASC Update

By Jennifer Owens

It has been a busy school year. With so many new and exciting changes happening in adult education our accreditation efforts are continually evolving. Not only are we moving forward with the items we identified in our WASC Self-Study Report and outlined in our Action Plan, but we have begun working with the consortium PACs to create a comprehensive system to efficiently serve our students and ensure that student learning is happening. As the WASC process is governed by a continual cycle of self-evaluation, it is the perfect vehicle to oversee the implementation of new changes that are geared to ensuring student success.

This summer we will continue to gather the data and information we need to write our Mid-Cycle Report. It is always exciting to document the progress we have made since our WASC Self-Study Report two years ago. On behalf of the WASC committees, thank you for participating in the student surveys, PLCs, various meetings, and all of the numerous things you do to serve our students. Thank you for an amazing school year!! I will see you on August 17th at Back to School Night when I get to share with you our progress on our WASC Accreditation Mid-Cycle Report. Have a wonderful summer!!

Grossmont Adult School Important Dates	
Date	Event
June 17	Summer schedule is bulk mailed
June 21	Summer registration begins
July 4	Independence Day Observation
July 5	Summer session begins
July 16	Super Saturday
Aug 5	Summer session ends
Aug 12	Fall schedule is bulk mailed
Aug 16	Fall registration begins
Aug 17	Back-to-School meeting
Aug 22	Fall/Term 1 classes begin
Sept 5	Labor Day Observation
Oct 14	Term 1 classes end
Oct 17	Term 2 classes begin
Nov 11	Veterans' Day Observation
Nov 21-25	Thanksgiving recess
Dec 16	Fall/Term 2 classes end
Dec 19-Jan 6	Winter recess
Jan 9	Spring/Term 3 classes begin