
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION DIVISION OF PRISONS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BULLETIN

Theodis Beck, Secretary of Corrections
Boyd Bennett, Director Division of Prisons
Bonnie Boyette, Chief of Program Services

Volume 8, Issue 5
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Gloria M. Upperman, Director of Educational Services

DIVISION OF PRISONS



Educational Services

Educational Services staff would like to express our
Warmest Wishes for this joyous season.

Happy Holidays!



Youthful Offender Program Conference 2007

The Youthful Offender Program held its 1st annual conference in September at Atlantic Beach, NC. The Honorable Judge Denise Hartsfield, the guest speaker for the event, delivered a powerful message to the attendees.

Program staff from correctional facilities across the state came together with representatives from the North Carolina University System to share ideas about ongoing youth offender programs being offered and future offerings. The networking among the attendees proved to be fruitful for all. It provided all stakeholders an opportunity to understand how all of the links work together to create an effective learning venue for youthful offenders.

Another highlight of the conference was the arousing speech from inmate Americo Rodriguez. He told his story. While incarcerated he used the time to earn three Associate Degrees and will complete his Bachelors Degree in December 2007 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The audience was moved by his perseverance in such adverse circumstances. Educators, overwhelming felt that their efforts in the classrooms were not in vain.

PHOTO GALLERY HIGHLIGHTS



Ken Phillips, Director of Youthful Offender Program



Presentation of plaque to Judge Denise Hartsfield, keynote speaker, by Gloria M. Upperman (l), Director of Educational Services and Bonnie Boyette (r), Chief of Program Services.



Michael Thumm, Superintendent of Orange Correctional Center pictured with Americo Rodriguez, an inmate at Orange Correctional Center.

PHOTO GALLERY HIGHLIGHTS



Speakers Roshanna Parker, Research & Evaluation Analyst & Nicole Sullivan, Manager Office of Research and Planning.



Gloria M. Upperman, Director Educational Services with speaker Dr. John M. McKee, Director of Institute for Social and Educational Research.



Speaker Dr. Susan P. McKee, President/CEO of Pace Learning Systems.

PHOTO GALLERY HIGHLIGHTS



Gloria M. Upperman, Director Educational Services presents Certificate of Appreciation to Americo Rodriguez



Donna Strickland, Processing Assistant YOP working on final details



Emma Brooks, Coordinator Library Services and Toni Williams share a fun moment putting packets together.



Education Staff from NCCIW, Sampson CI, Foothills CI, Polk CI, Western CI, and Morrison CI.



Pictured: Ricky Matthews, Asst. Supt. of Custody and guest speaker Ruth Duncan, Education Specialist II



Ruth Duncan, Education Specialist II YOP and Emma Brooks, Library Coordinator for DOP



ABE Class 2007, Six Foreign Countries
Inmates in the above photo completed the ABE class and graduated to the GED level classes. The six inmates come from five different countries.

HYDE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

On August 30, 2007 Hyde CI held its graduation ceremony for their ABE, GED, and Vocational graduates. The ceremony was dedicated to the memory of Mr. Jimmie Hodges, Administrative Officer from 1996-2007. The guest speaker for the occasion was Ruth Duncan, Education Specialist II, Youthful Offender Program from DOP Educational Services Central Office.

The ABE graduates were from six different foreign countries, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Cuba, Mexico, Columbia and Dominican Republic. Several of the graduates completed vocational courses in welding, horticulture, electrical/electronics, and drafting and design. Instructors from each of the areas presented the graduates with their certificates and diplomas.

The Assistant Superintendent of Custody, Ricky Matthews offered final remarks and refreshments were served.



Class of 2007 Graduates

MORRISON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

Morrison honored 31 employees for their years of service on October 5, 2007. Susan McInnis was honored for 30 years of service as an employee of Morrison Correctional Institution; N.C. Department of Correction. Mike Evers, Special Assistant in grants and programs development to Theodis Beck, Secretary of NCDOC, presented Ms. McInnis her service award as well as the other employees. She was among the 31 employees who were honored with a luncheon for their service. Morrison has a staff of 380 employees in all departments at the facility.

Attending the program was Rep. Melanie Wade Goodwin (D-Richmond), Sherry Byrd, Coordinator Richmond Community College for programs, members of Morrison Community Resource Council Linda Clifton, Louise Deaton, Kenneth Melvin, Ed Ormsby, and Patricia Peele.



SERVICE

AWARDS

30 Years
Susan McInnis

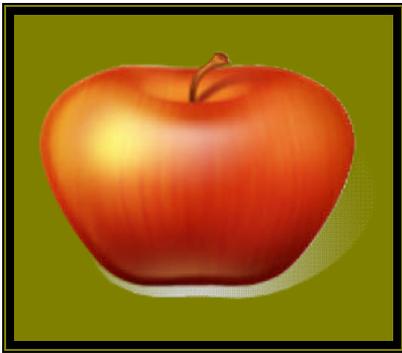
25 Years
Robert Duke Lynn Summers Jr.

20 Years
Howard Darnell Marilyn Richardson

15 Years
Michael Graham Elisha Jones
John McNeill Robert Mohn

10 Years
Lashawn Anderson Marcia Aycoth
Jan Baker Nancy Cloninger
Alexander Cole Terry Covington
Thomas Criscoe Calvin Fulks
Lorenzo Gomez Keltys Jimmerson
Gerald Langford Diane Moore
Selisa Scott

5 Years
Spotswood Bowers Jr. Renatta Clevenger
Mia Dixon Jonah Hoskins
Evander Hunt Robert Payne
Andrew Stogner Robert Walker Jr.
Pamela Williams



“GOLDEN APPLE SCHOOL”

During the ceremony, the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching named Morrison as a Golden Apple School for the second consecutive year for its support of the center for teachers. Dee Grantham, alumni coordinator for N.C. Center for the Advancement of Teaching presented the award to Morrison Correctional Institute. Principal Marty Wase accepted the award on behalf of the institution.

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Editor’s note: Apologizes for a misprint in the last issue, Instructors Bruce Holmes and Jay Watson are with Richmond Community College and not Robeson Community College.



Richmond Community College Office Practices Instructor, Bruce Holmes, Education Director, Marty Wase , Asst. Defensive Coach Don Johnson, Richmond Community College ESL Instructor, Jay Watson



Cross Curriculum Instruction

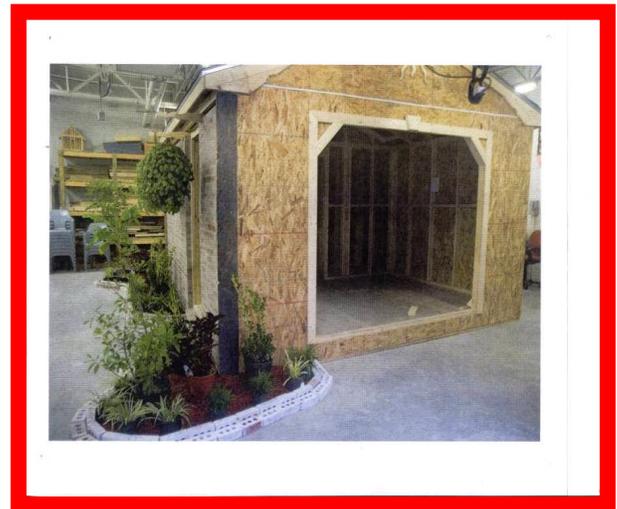
According to an article written by Ben Casey, Pamlico Community College is embracing cross curriculum instruction. The concept is apart of the Quality Enhancement Program at Southwestern Community College.

However, cross curriculum instruction is not limited to the academic programs as Michael Quinn, a carpenter instructor at Pamlico Correctional Institution. He reported that inmates constructing a special-use building employed carpentry, masonry, and horticulture skills for the project.

The students created their own designs for a motorcycle storage and workshop facility, and voted on the most intriguing of the designs. They used their own blueprints which were photo copied for them. All facets of the project which included the floor systems, window installations, roofing systems, exterior walls, flashing and asphalt shingles were constructed according to local code. The idea, according to Quinn, is to give the students the experience and knowledge with which they can walk onto a job site and be successful.

The masonry class taught by Alfred Collins, bricked the exterior walls and Lou Powell's horticulture class provided the landscaping designs. The objective of the vocational instructors is to give the students the best well-rounded learning experience.

Pamlico Community College's work at the correctional institution benefits not only the inmates, but society as well. Clark Dimond, Dean of Institutional Advancement, said it best, "All across the state community colleges play such an important role behind prison walls."



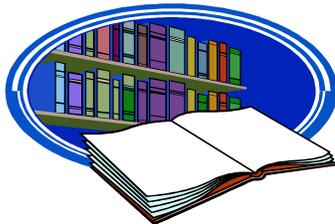
A Work In Progress

Congratulations are also extended to Ms. Lawanna Johnson for successfully completing all requirements to hold the distinct recognition and credentials of a National Board Certified Teacher. Her diligence and tenacity even earned her ratings of 100% in some of the designated performance categories. Ms. Johnson is indeed a positive reflection of the education profession. Her willingness to be of service to students and staff is only hampered by the lack of an opportunity to serve. Ms. Johnson was recognized and received an award from the N. C. Dept. of Public Instruction for the 2006 Exceptional Children Teacher of Excellence recognition.



Ms. Lawanna Johnson

The Polk school staff is very proud of the success of Ms. Barnett and Ms. Johnson and is pleased that they are members of their team.



The Librarian at Polk Correctional Institution, Ms. Vivian Gill, assisted by the Principal, Mr. John McKoy planned and coordinated a tour for the Special Libraries Association. The tour consisted of twenty eight students of the organization from schools of Library Science from North Carolina Central University and the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

The participants SLA president, Ms. Season Hughes, responded with thanks for such a wonderful and educational opportunity for the SLA. Other comments included, " It was their most successful event of this year and is being discussed in glowing terms and that this was a great experience that many of our students were both looking forward to and enjoyed."

Also, expressed was that this was truly a unique experience and that the School and Library staff provided a wonderful program overview and demonstration of the Library that was very informative and had hopes of working with Polk Correctional staff in the future.



Finished Project

During this quarter Pamlico CI has started our first Re-upholstery class. This class is part of an apprenticeship program approved by the Department of Labor. Once the students complete the classroom portion here at Pamlico they become eligible to transfer to Piedmont CI to complete the 4000 hours of on the job training. They have 17 students enrolled and all are doing well in the class. All seventeen students are expected to complete the course. The next class will begin on January 7, 2008.

The requirements for the class are as follows:

- 3 to 6 years remaining on their sentence
- Health grade 1 or 2 with minimal limitations
- 6 months infraction free
- must have a GED/Diploma
- must be willing to sign an agreement to complete the program

Referrals are welcomed from any medium custody facility and they can be e-mailed directly to Thomas Midgette.

The vocational instructors at Pamlico CI have collaboratively worked together to give the students the unique opportunity to practice what they have learned in the classroom. The Carpentry class constructed a building in their shop. The Masonry class bricked in the building and the Horticulture class provided landscaping.

Pamlico CI is planning to add an Advanced Carpentry class to their program structure in the near future.



WESTERN CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

Superintendent Barbara Belas thanked the following educational faculty and staff for their years of dedicated service to Western Youth Institution.



From left to right: Nancy Yancey-ESP Teacher-15 years, Dr. Steve Moody-Education Director-III-5-years, and Genevieve Lomeyer-Education Correction Officer-5 years.

NORTH CAROLINA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN

On November 20, 2007, the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, (NCCIW), held an elaborate gala to recognize its graduates. This All School Graduation showcased not only its graduates, who transitioned into better opportunities, but also some of their most marketable skills, as the Horticulture class, lead by Mr. Dan Clower, created one of its more decorative backdrops. Like prior commencement ceremonies, the number of completions derived from various academic and vocational program areas. These specific programs, offered through Johnston and Wake Technical Community Colleges operate in partnership with the Department of Correction, and are directed by the Principal, Dr. Valerie Villines and Program Director, Mr. Marcus Wall. Since the 2006-2007, NCCIW academic season begin, some two hundred and sixty-four (264) inmates earned either a certificate or a diploma.



This celebration, in particular, was exceptional as it was accented by large numbers of completions. The General Education Program (GED) earns special prestige this graduation period for producing some one hundred and eleven (111) graduates. Thirty-three (33) of them were able to participate in this ceremony. The Computer Information Technology (CIT) class, a seven hundred (700) contact hour, college credited, certificated class, operated through Wake Technical Community College yielded four (4) graduates. The Small Business and Horticulture classes, also through Wake Technical Community College, produced twelve (12) and thirteen (13) graduates respectively. The Manicuring and Cosmetology classes both offered through Johnston Community College produced fourteen (14) manicuring graduates and ten (10) cosmetology graduates. Having completed the cosmetology program here at NCCIW, these graduates are now eligible to apply for licensure through the NC State Board of Cosmetology. The Culinary Arts class, another Wake Technical Community College offering, graduated six (6). The North Carolina Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program, which includes the North Carolina Travel and Tourism and Dental Laboratory Programs, collectively produced four (4) graduates.

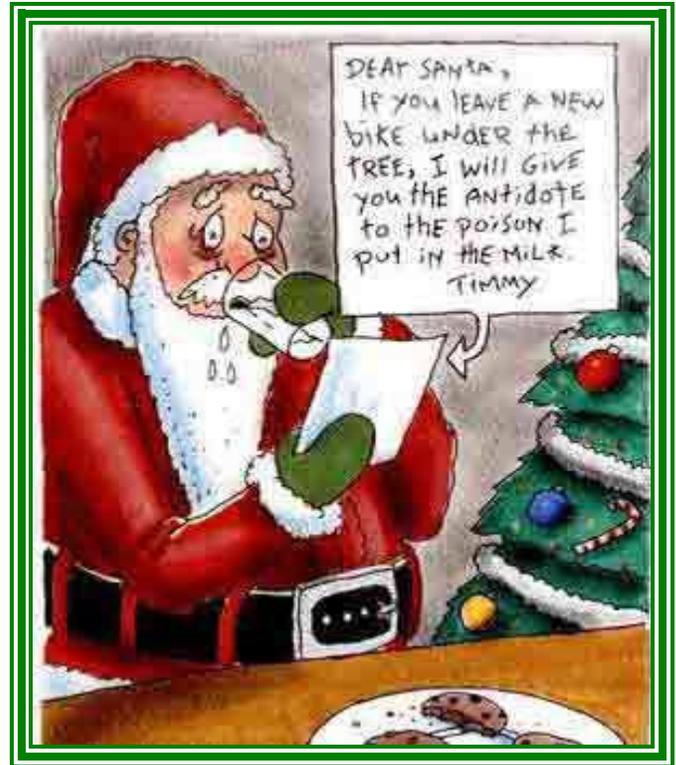
The graduates, on this day, were granted the distinct honor of having, the Reverend M. Lamont Cooper, Pastor of the New Millennium Revival Center in Raleigh, NC, as the guest speaker. This year's theme, "Celebrate Your Success, Dream, of your Future, Reach for the Stars" was emphasized as Pastor Cooper, focused on these thoughts: "Never stop striving to be better", "Make your mark on this world," and "even though it's alright to celebrate your accomplishments today, don't rest on your victories." He recapped his speech with this thought: "You've always possessed what it takes within you, so never stop climbing, dreaming and achieving."

Warden, Annie Harvey in her closing remarks, congratulated the graduates for their accomplishments and inspired the entire audience by her reflection of how far the graduates had come. She evoked a sense of accomplishment in all of the staff when she had everyone enact a Paradigm shift. To do this she asked each one of us to rise and shift positions, and as each person rose, we all imagined emerging from the old person and stepping into a new and improved person, all while thinking, "We are no longer that old person, in that old place, but new and better person." As all of us began to feel the pride rise up from within, she urged all who came to see the graduates and who had supported the graduates during their journey, to stand and be recognized.

The final charge, and the seal of approval, was given to the graduates by Dr. Valerie Villines. She challenged the graduates not to rest, but to continue challenging themselves.

Submitted by: Gretchen Harvey

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Editor's Note: Please submit your articles, news, or quotes by February 27, 2008. Thanks Ruth Duncan