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CEMA - GRAM

June 2007

Volume 14, Issue 7

Officers 2007-2008

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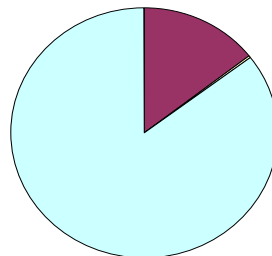
VP-David Bilmes Treasurer—Sewell Pruchnik

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD 2006-2007

Mission

- ◆ CEMA is committed to excellence in education by ensuring that students are active readers and effective users of ideas and information to become life-long learners.
- ◆ The Association provides leadership, professional development, publicity, networking and support to the Connecticut school library community.
- ◆ CEMA supports licensed, highly qualified library media specialists and fully funded library programs in all K-12 schools.
- ◆ CEMA promotes collaboration between classroom teachers, library media specialists, administrators, and curriculum specialists for the benefit of student achievement especially in information literacy and technology literacy.
- ◆ CEMA serves as a cooperative agency bringing together the profession, the State Department of Education, regional associations, national associations, and the general public.

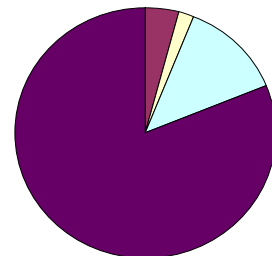
CEMA Income 06-07



Income 06-07

\$76,940 - professional development, mainly the conference,
 \$15,825 -dues
 \$117- Bank Interest
\$92, 882 TOTAL

CEMA Expenses 06-07



Expenses 06-07

\$76,358 - Prof Dev/Programming Team, mainly on the conference
 \$11,960 - Executive Team,
 \$3910 - Advocacy/Public Relations Team
 \$836 - Community/Membership Team.
\$95, 508 TOTAL

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COMMUNITY / MEMBERSHIP TEAM

GOAL: Actively pursue full participation by the entire school library media specialist community, as well as other information literacy and technology literacy educators.

OBJECTIVES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS 06 - 07

Publicize the benefits of being a CEMA member.

IP2 Grants were awarded to library media specialists Jan Brown and Lori Patrick with teachers Nancy White, Mary Sell and Linda Acheson and also to Director of Learning Resources and Technology Carol Weinschel and teacher Linda Maggi.

The Carolyn Biega O'Neill Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Jenn Cirino.

Engage in a membership campaign to attract new members and encourage members to renew their memberships.

There are 508 active members in CEMA, 15 are lifetime members, but there are 803 certified LMS in CT. Instead of a membership drive in June, CEMA hopes to increase membership by offering membership as part of the Joint CEMA-CECA Conference registration.

Encourage the school library media specialist community, as well as other information literacy and technology literacy educators to apply for membership as part of conference registration.

Registration for Conference 07 includes membership in both CEMA and CECA. You don't need to be a member of either organization to register. If you have a multi-year membership in CEMA, your expiration date will be extended by one year.

Establish successful communication with the university educational preparatory program.

Kate Candido, as SCSU liaison this year, posted pertinent CEMA information on the library science student listserv, SCALA. She also created a listserv, using Google Groups, of many of the school media students. Kate communicated with the two school media professors detailing what she was doing and why.

Reach out to classroom teachers, administrators, curriculum specialists, the State Department of Education, regional educational service centers and other constituencies who affect the quality of school library media programs.

The Liaison Program

Anne Weimann created distribution lists of people who volunteered to share information from the President with people in their district, especially library media specialists who may not be members of CEMA and teachers who may want to attend the conference or workshops.

PLEASE BE SURE THAT ANNE WEIMANN, aweimann@snet.net HAS YOUR CORRECT, PREFERRED E-MAIL ADDRESS.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

If you want to read a wonderful story about Jean Lowery, follow this link:

http://www.newhavenindependent.org/archives/2007/04/_what_does_an_i.php

Jean Lowery, library media specialist at Bishop Woods Elementary School in New Haven, encouraged Christopher Walker, a student at her school, to participate in a competition organized by LaunchQuest to do an experiment with kids involving space flight. Jean knew that Christopher wanted to be an astronaut. Jean is going to White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico with Christopher to help him launch his prize-winning science experiment involving the effect of space travel on small batteries.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/PROGRAMMING TEAM

GOAL: Encourage greater participation in CEMA's programs by developing relevant programming presented in a variety of formats in unique locations and offering those programs to a larger audience of both CEMA members and members of professional organizations who share CEMA's interests.

OBJECTIVES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS 06 - 07

Determine relevant programming by creating an interactive electronic survey of the program interests of members.

Participants in Conference 06 evaluated the conference by responding to a survey in Survey Monkey

Encourage greater participation in CEMA programs by developing programs in a variety of formats in alternative and unique locations.

FALL FESTIVALS

In an effort to make the Fall Festival more accessible to a wider range of members, regional Fall Festivals were planned for the fall of 2006 instead of holding just one event at a central location. Due to the difficulty of planning such events during summer vacation, when many members were unavailable to help, and due to difficulty in publicizing the events in the fall, the overall results were a disappointment. Only two were actually held, in Region 1 and Region 5. The Region 1 event, held in Kent and organized by Barbara Borque and Joan Temple, was a success and featured a well-received guest speaker, illustrator Doron Ben Ami. The Region 5 event, organized by Elizabeth Dalton, Jeanne Lawrence, Arlene Herens, Paula Daitzman and Nancy Goss, had to cancel its speaker at the last minute due to a poor turnout, but still had a successful gathering in Hamden. Unsuccessful attempts were made to plan Fall Festivals in two other regions.

CEMA CONFERENCE

Irene Kwidzinski did an outstanding job in organizing the CEMA Conference 2006 in Cromwell. Approximately 500 persons attended the event, which featured a keynote address by AASL president-elect Sara Kelly Johns, as well as presentations by Lois Lowery. For the first time, attendees were asked to indicate ahead of time which workshops they planned to attend so sessions could be scheduled in appropriate-sized rooms. Another innovation was the pre-conference, which for the first time consisted of a forum for Connecticut authors, combined with the presentation of CEMA awards.

Contact "big name" speakers who appeal to a larger audience of both CEMA members and members of professional organizations who share CEMA's interests.

Continue to work collaboratively with the professional development staff with the RESCs, CLC and consultants in the State Dept of Ed.

Develop programs that promote collaboration between classroom teachers, library media specialists, administrators, and curriculum specialists.

Three successful and well-attended professional development sessions were held throughout the winter and spring. The feedback from the many CEMA members who attended the AASL Fall Forum in Rhode Island was that the 2006-07 professional development should focus on assessment and tie in to the standardized tests.

The first workshop, held in January at Platt Tech in Milford, was Differentiated Instruction in the Library Media Center, facilitated by Gail Krois. Approximately 30 people attended this session and gave Gail rave reviews. Kristina Elias-Staron received similar reviews from most of the approximately 35 attendees at her March 3 workshop in South Windsor on linking CMT and CAPT test strands to the state Information and Technology Literacy Framework.

The culminating activity was full-day workshop on April 30 in Cromwell, Developing and Assessing Collaborative Lessons Directly Related to Connecticut Standardized Test Strands. This exciting workshop brought together over 150 library media specialists and classroom teachers. Audrey Church of Longwood University was the keynote speaker, and the conference also featured grade-specific presentations and breakout sessions.

Also in April, Rachel Tonucci organized a Region 2 roundtable for high school library media specialists in West Hartford. This, too, was well-attended and considered a success.

ADVOCACY/PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM

GOAL: Make effective and timely connections using print and electronic communications with Connecticut school library media specialists and inform the general public about issues related to our profession.

OBJECTIVES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS 06 - 07

Improve communication with members to better inform them of association activities and issues related to our profession and to develop an understanding of their needs.

CEMA-GRAM

Hedy Siegel resigned as editor of CEMA-gram after many years of exemplary, dedicated service. Hedy will be hard to replace. CEMA-gram is available electronically by going to the members-only section of the web site. Members are notified by e-mail when the CEMA-gram is ready. CEMA-gram will be published after each Board meeting. By publishing CEMA-gram electronically, the association has saved money on printing and postage.

Inform new and prospective teachers of the roles of school library media specialists.

CEMA and iCONN Work Together

- Bill Sullivan, iCONN, and Janet Roche, CEMA, shared an exhibit booth at the CEA New Teachers Conference in March to promote CEMA and iCONN.
- There will be a panel presentation at the CEMA/CECA Conference 07 on using iCONN and hopefully this panel will agree to present at the CEA Summer Leadership Conference as well as the 08 New Teacher's Conference.
- State Librarian Kendall Wiggin will also present at the CEMA/CECA Conference 07 on using primary resources available in iCONN.
- For those of you collaborating with science teachers to prepare students for the CMT and CAPT, check the CEMA web site for the chart that matches iCONN resources with the embedded performance tasks for Science on the State Department of Education web site.
- iCONN staff are going to contact the 15 colleges and universities with teacher preparation programs to ensure that iCONN is part of the curriculum for new teachers.

Hopefully many of you participated in the survey of CEMA members for your opinion on using iCONN.

Improve electronic communications.

CASL-L—Our new list serv

Distribution List of Members

Many thanks to Anne Weimann, Administrative Secretary, for creating distribution lists of all members so that CEMA can publicize events and association news to members and gather member input.

EXECUTIVE TEAM

GOAL: Provide visionary and responsive leadership committed to maintaining a flexible, effective organization that fulfills its mission.

OBJECTIVES / ACCOMPLISHMENTS 06 - 07

Participate in AASL programs such as the AASL Vision Summit, and AASL Affiliate Assembly that position CEMA to proactively address issues and anticipate trends in our profession.

David Bilmes represented our association at the AASL Vision Summit in December. David and the other participants tried to answer: What will our jobs be like in the year 2020 especially with the amazing advances in technology?

AASL proposed amendments to the Reauthorization of NCLB.

AASL Fall Forum in Rhode Island was about "Assessing Student Learning in the School Library Media Center."

Seek the opinion of Board members through a variety of formats such as Board meetings, surveys, and e-mail.

SURVEYS

The Board used Survey Monkey to gather input from members about:

Revisions in the Constitution, Changing The Name of CEMA, Approving the Strategic Plan, Issues Facing the Board, Reauthorization of NCLB, Workshop Attendance, Conference 06 Evaluation, Ballot for Officers 07-08

Assess the flexibility and effectiveness of CEMA on a regular basis and respond appropriately.

Constitutional Revisions

The Constitution was revised to reflect the restructuring of the Board and the increased use of technology for communications and productivity. The revised Constitution is available on the website.

Vice-President Intern

The Vice-President Intern assists the Vice-President, learns about the association, and is on the slate for VP and then President. The Board hopes that this position will provide preparation for leadership.

Assess the strategic plan on a regular basis and respond appropriately.

The publication in 2006 by the State Department of Education of the Information Literacy and Technology Literacy Framework prompted CEMA to formulate a strategic plan. The CEMA Board of Directors looked at past strategic plans of CEMA and present strategic plans of state associations and AASL, until finally, a strategic plan was created by the Board and approved by the membership. The achievement of each goal will move CEMA toward fulfillment of its mission. Objectives provide actions on how CEMA will accomplish its goals.

GOOD-BY AND HELLO: CHANGES IN BOARD MEMBERSHIP

CEMA relies upon volunteers to fulfill its mission. During 2006-2007 several Board members resigned. These people deserve thanks for their service:

Julie Hulten served as both the Finance chair of the committee that creates the budget and as the Grants chair of the committee that selects recipients of grants. Julie helped Ellen Speirs prepare the 07-08 budget.

Lois Garrison chaired the committee who selected the recipients of Awards

Marilyn Hoitt served as both the Intellectual Freedom chair and the Nutmeg Book chair

Bob Hibson served as the Legislation co-chair

CHANGES IN BOARD MEMBERSHIP, CONTINUED

Tricia Colonese served as the Membership chair after previously serving as the liaison with Fairfield University

Bonnie Symansky served as the Public Relations chair

Donna Norige was Membership chair and Region 3 Rep

Pam Berardino was Region 6 Rep

Kate Candido graduated from SCSU and resigned as the liaison between CEMA and SCSU but remained on the Board to continue helping with CEUs.

Cathy Andronik will resign in June 07, after managing the Grants program for 06-07.

Katrina Palazzolo, Rebecca Cochrane (past president) and Dianne Kimball (past president) will resign in November, 2007 after planning the first Joint CEMA-CECA Conference 07. Dianne, Katrina and Rebecca have met with CECA representatives and planned a great conference!

Katrina Palazzolo

Katrina has worked tirelessly to arrange top-notch presenters for the conference. She has served on the Board for the past few years, always volunteering to do what needs to be done such as: host a workshop, represent CEMA at NEEMA, or look into a blog. We will miss her enthusiasm.

Rebecca Cochrane

Rebecca is balancing the demands of a job, a new baby and conference co-chair. Rebecca is a past President. Thank you Rebecca for taking on the difficult task of planning the first joint conference and for your past service to CEMA.

Dianne Kimball

As President, Dianne reached out to new teachers by having the first CEMA Booth at the CEA New Teacher's Conference. Dianne also encouraged MLS students at SCSU to become members. She revived CEMA-L to include discussion threads. Perhaps Dianne's most important work was to initiate thinking about strategic planning. Dianne analyzed our association and suggested ways CEMA can be more effective in serving its members.

CEMA tasks that are time-consuming, require special talent and are important to CEMA

CEMA appreciates all those people who volunteer to work for CEMA on behalf of the library media specialists in Connecticut, but some tasks are extremely time-consuming, require special talents or the willingness to learn a new skill. The CEMA-gram and the CEMA web site, in addition to our CEMA-L listserv, are important to CEMA because they are the main vehicles for communication among CEMA members. Therefore, CEMA extends special thanks to Hedy Siegel and Judy Savage for making it possible to publicize events, spread the word about interesting accomplishments by library media specialists, and explain the structure of the organization.

Hedy Siegel, dedicated editor of CEMA-gram

For eleven years, from 1996 to 2007, Hedy Siegel served as editor of our association's newspaper-- CEMA-gram. To begin her service, Hedy served on the Publications Committee, becoming Editor in 1996. There's so much that goes into producing a newsletter every month, the countless e-mails to contributors, waiting for responses, the editing, and the layouts. All who contributed or distributed the CEMA-gram found working with Hedy to be a pleasure. Hedy completed the newsletter as soon as possible after the Board meetings since she knew the members looked forward to receiving it. She worked tirelessly to provide an easy to read and interesting newsletter that kept members informed of CEMA's activities and news of importance to library media specialists. Each issue produced by Hedy was professional, usually letter perfect and done in an extraordinary short period of time. She personally delivered the printed CEMA-grams to Anne Weimann for mailing to CEMA members. Hedy cheerfully did it all and took great pride in each CEMA-gram published.

In grateful recognition of her gifts of time and talent as editor of the CEMA-gram, eleven years of volunteer service, production of a professional and interesting newsletter, adherence to deadlines and willingness to work cheerfully with many different contributors, the members of CEMA thank HEDY SIEGEL for her outstanding service to the association.

Judy Savage, Conference Chair, Past President, Webmaster

Judy Savage's first position on the Board was School Library Media Month Chair. She became Conference Chair for two years, President for two years and then Past President for two years. While President she edited a special 25th anniversary edition of the CEMA Update in December 2001. She also worked with the IRS on the Association's tax status as a non-profit. As Past President she served on the Publicity Committee which produced the SLMM placemats. As if all these contributions to CEMA were not enough, Judy created and maintained our extensive web site for many years. Judy worked tirelessly to keep the site up to date. Once she decided to resign from the Board, Judy worked with new webmaster, Jenn Cirino, to make it easier for Jenn to maintain the web site. All of us thank Judy for her long and dedicated service on the CEMA Board and for her unique and lasting accomplishments for CEMA. We wish her continued success in the future!

Thanks to all of these volunteers for contributing their time, energy, and talents to CEMA and best wishes to all as they move on to other endeavors in their professional and personal lives.

New members or new duties on the Board for 06-07

Gayle Bogel is the liaison with CLA and editor of Knowledge Quest.

Audrey Daigneault is the Region 6 rep.

Elizabeth Dalton and Diane Strumello are Region 4 reps.

David Bilmes is Vice-President. David planned three successful workshops in Spring, 2007.

Chris Barlow, Sue Eblen and Katrina Palazzolo agreed to represent CEMA at NEEMA Board meetings.

Martha Djang creates the fliers and manages registration for workshops.

Denise Kennedy is on the Advocacy and Public Relations Team.

Ellen Speirs prepares the budgets as Finance Director.

Jenn Cirino is our new web master.

Shelley Stedman is on the Professional Development and Programming Team.

Lisa Lavoie is a virtual Board member who implements the Mentoring Matters program.

Rachel Tonucci and Jill Dailey are Region 2 reps.

Leslie Poulos is Region 3 rep and administrator of the Awards program.

FALL FESTIVAL 07

Meet at the Baci Grill in Cromwell on October 10

Come to Fall Festival and socialize with colleagues. Bring a library media specialist new to the profession. We will hold a brief annual meeting about the budget and slate of officers. We will present awards for 2006-2007 and have a speaker.

When: Wednesday, October 10, 5 pm-7 pm

Where: The Baci Grill, Rt 372, Cromwell, CT

\$15.00 per person, cash bar, hot appetizers

UPDATES ON THE WEBSITE

As we move forward and change our organization's name from CEMA to CASL, the website as well will be updated to reflect this transformation. ACES will no longer be hosting our site, but instead our host server will be through the EsoSoft Corporation.

The purpose of our website, as before, will be to provide a portal through which our members (and anyone connected with our mission) can access information about CEMA. Furthermore, the site will be used:

- to publicize our activities;
- to provide a record of CEMA's mission through the strategic plan;
- to archive CEMA and CASL grams, agendas, and minutes;
- to offer a list of available

jobs in our field, and to provide a rich depository of resources for librarians to use to enhance their jobs.

Users will mainly access the website at the beginning of the month if they have:

- a question about what will be discussed at the next Board meeting- held the first Wednesday of certain months
- to peruse the minutes of previous Board meetings (posted after approved at the next Board meeting)
- to read the online CASL-gram,
- and to browse through each "Website of the Month."

Furthermore, people will access the site when they are thinking about attending an event to obtain infor-

mation regarding said event,

- to nominate Award winners and discover who has won,
- and to learn about special opportunities and services that are available to Connecticut librarians.

This summer, the website will be fully redesigned to improve usability and to reflect our changing mission that promotes technology literacy and our emphasis on deeper collaboration that new technology now provides. With this in mind, we will be conducting a survey in the upcoming weeks to integrate our members' comments and suggestions about the content of the website. Since the website is ultimately meant to serve members, we intend to incorporate and highlight the elements that that our users actually want and feel will best serve their needs.

OUR NEW LIST SERV CASL-L

CEMA-L is no longer a viable listserv. Please subscribe to our new listserv by sending an email to:

Casl-l-join@mylist.net

Leave the subject blank

Do not include a signature

Type in the message:

Subscribe CASL-L yourfirstname yourlastname

A moderator has to approve your subscription, so you may have to wait a few days. Be sure **join** is in the e-mail address to which you send your request to become a member, otherwise your request to subscribe is posted and sent to all members of the list serv.

The CEMA-gram is the official newsletter of the Connecticut Educational Media Association. Subscriptions are included as a benefit of membership in CEMA. Submissions should be emailed to the President of CEMA: Janet Roche:

rochefamily1023@comcast.net. CEMA-gram is available electronically at the Members-Only section of the CEMA web site: <http://www.ctcema.org>

CEMA—Connecticut Educational Media Association, 25 Elmwood Ave., Trumbull, CT 06611-3594

REGISTRATION FORM

CECA/CEMA

PO Box 31

Bethlehem, CT 06751-0031

Joint Conference 2007

Connecticut Convention Center

October 23, 2007

Preparing Students For The Conceptual Age: A Regional Conference for 21st Century Learners**Send form with Check or PO payable to:**

CECA/CEMA

PO Box 31

Bethlehem, CT 06751-0031

OR

Fax Form with PO to: 860-274-5633

Multiple forms may be paid by one check or PO

For a Conference Schedule & List of presentations:www.ceca-ct.org or www.ctcema.org**Membership in CECA & CEMA**

Complimentary memberships included!

(Not attending the conference?)

Membership renewals on the web)

To Receive CEUs:

Complete CEU/Evaluation Form at Conference

Must attend 4 sessions & Keynotes

Must include SS# & Home Address

Return the Form, to the Registrar

Before leaving the Conference

Questions?

Check Registration FAQs

www.CECAInfo.org**Contact the Registrar (Rick Wood)**Conference2007@CECAInfo.org

Fax: 860-274-5633

Home Phone: 860-274-7372

Registration Confirmation and ALL Conference**Communications will be sent to this EMAIL Address****

Email address _____

Preferred Email Format: html text

Name _____

Home Address: (Required for mailing CEU certificate)

Street address _____

Town, State, Zip _____

School or Business: (Used for Conference name tag)

School or Business Name _____

School or Business Street _____

Town, State, Zip _____

Preferred Mailing: Home School / Business**Preferred Phone** _____**Conference Fees-Includes CECA & CEMA Memberships**

Early Fee ~ Postmarked or Faxed by 9/21/2007 \$200

Late Fee ~ Postmarked or Faxed by 10/12/2007 \$245

Register at the door on 10/23/2007 \$275

Refunds:

Request for refund minus \$25 processing fee MUST be

Postmarked, faxed, or emailed

To the Registrar by 10/12/2007.

****Note:**

Avoid losing your confirmation & updates as SPAM:

Ask your system administrator to WhiteList:

Conference2007@CECAInfo.orgNews@CEDCAInfo.org

Add both addresses to your address book