



NRA - VEWAA Bulletin

Spring 2006



VEWAA is a
division of NRA

Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment Association

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VEWAA President's Message

by Paige Tidwell, MRC, CRC, CVE

This is a very challenging time in the field of rehabilitation and evaluation, but a time rich with opportunity. It makes me think of driving down an unknown road but continuing the journey, just to see "what's around the bend." The closing of the RSA offices, the potential downgrading of the RSA Commissioner, and the lack of reauthorization of the WIA Act has been disheartening, to say the least. However, the challenge that we all must embrace is to treat this as an opportunity to make positive change, to uphold the integrity of our profession, and to unite in serving those in need of our skills.

Facing this challenge can be overwhelming. However, becoming involved in your state chapter or division is a great first step. Accepting a leadership role is even more valuable and rewarding! Through leadership roles one can learn to make a positive difference, meet tremendously talented professionals who share the same passion for their work, and gain invaluable experience. If you haven't done so already, please join VEWAA and become actively involved! Volunteer for a leadership position. Share your expertise. Share your passion. By taking ownership of your profession, you stand up for our consumers and show the world that what we do truly makes a difference.

Cash Stipend for VEWAA State Chapters!

I wanted to take this time to remind our state chapters that VEWAA is continuing to offer a \$500.00 stipend to help reorganize VEWAA state divisions. As of February 2006 VEWAA had 362 members, and we are still growing strong! Do you belong to an active state division? Are you interested in starting or reorganizing your state division? If your state division meets the criteria listed below, your division could be eligible for a \$500.00 stipend. State divisions that have already taken advantage of this offering are Alabama and North Carolina.

Criteria:

1. You must submit a list of your Executive Board including: President, President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Board Members at Large, along with addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses.
2. You must submit a list of goals for the year and stated intent for the use of the \$500.00 stipend.

If anyone is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please forward the requested information to me:

Paige Tidwell
GDOL/Vocational Rehabilitation Services
125 Athens West Parkway
Athens, GA 30606
(706) 354-3900
E-mail paige.tidwell@dol.state.ga.us

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Presidents' Reception

Last year at the NRA Conference in Alexandria, VEWAA held a social to honor our past Presidents. The event was held Friday night during the conference and all conference attendees were invited to celebrate with us. This was one of the most memorable events of my 20+ years as a Vocational Evaluator. We were so very blessed to have in attendance our very first president, Dr. Paul Hoffman and his wife Mary Ann as well as other Past Presidents, including Dr. Juliet Fried, Dr. Randal Elston and Dr. Madan Kundu. Much to Dr. Kundu's surprise, he was receiving the "Paul R. Hoffman Award" and he found out by surprise that night from Dr. Hoffman. That was an incredible moment to experience and describing it will never do it justice. Those of us who experienced it will never forget it. I only wish more Past Presidents could have attended as VEWAA is rich in history and our Presidents are well accomplished and are leaders in our profession. The split from NRA several years ago was devastating to our profession and I can only hope that Vocational Evaluators and Work Adjustment Professionals will one day unite to continue to advance OUR professions.

Susan Scott, VEWAA Past President

VEWAA Presidents

- 1968 Paul R. Hoffman
- 1969 Henry Mitzner
- 1970 Stanley Crow
- 1971 Robert Couch
- 1972 Gordon Keyte
- 1973 Charles Smolkin
- 1974 Thomas Gaines
- 1975 Arnold Sax (Deceased)
- 1976 Richard Erickson
- 1977 Jack Sink
- 1978 Richard Baker
- 1979 Paul Meyer
- 1980 Walt Pruitt
- 1981 Robert Davis
- 1982 Randall McDaniel
- 1983 Stephen Thomas
- 1984 Gary Sigmon
- 1985 Marsha Anderson
- 1986 Doug Seiler
- 1987 Rock Weldon
- 1988 Jane Ruff
- 1989 Stan Ridgeway
- 1990 Randy Gray
- 1991 Frank Puckett
- 1992 Deborah Nolte (Deceased)
- 1993 Jeff Peterson
- 1994 Mike Rubin (Deceased)
- 1995 Juliet Fried
- 1996 Pam LeConte
- 1997 Lynn Dowd
- 1998 Martha Stokes
- 1999 Randal Elston
- 2000 Nancy Scott
- 2001
- 2002 Daryel Prust
- 2003 Daryel Prust
- 2004 Madan Kundu
- 2005 Susan Scott

Dr. Hoffman's Response to Award

Dear Susan,

I went to the mail box yesterday and had my day made with the very kind letter from you. I am saving it in the scrap book on my professional life. Mary Ann and I really enjoyed the VEWAA event from meeting you, past presidents, old friends, and making new friends. It was a great evening for us and we are so glad we made the trip. I won't forget Mandan's reaction either—it was priceless.

I am enclosing a picture of Tony Langton from the 1970 UW-Stout Year Book that I thought you might enjoy but he might hit me with a wet bean bag if he knew I was sending it. There are other people from my staff that you may have met or heard of—Dr. Walter Pruitt (he wrote the text book on voc. eval.), Dr. Arnold Sax (first director of the Materials Development Center), Ronald Fry (second director of MDC), and Dr. Donald Brolin (he went to the Univ. of Missouri to head up its program). In the bottom right hand corner is Henry Redkey, Mr. Vocational Rehabilitation himself. He was a driving force behind the 1950's Vocational Rehabilitation Act. He came to teach for three years at Stout after retiring from the government. He was greatly loved and respected by students. When he reitred from us the students gave him a saw spray painted in gold with the words (Thanks for help to build our lives."

If there is any way or anything I can do to help you and VEWAA please call on me. I am glad to see the energy you are putting into it and I know Mandan will to. I am sorry for not offering to help in writing the history but there are reasons why I am not the best person for that task. However, if I can be of any other assistance let me know. I will look forward to 2007 when NRA and VEWAA come to Tucson. If I can help in preparing things on this end please call on me.

Mary Ann loved your letter too and says hello. She was very impressed with meeting you.

Sincerely,
Paul R. Hoffman



VEWAA Service Award Nominations

The VEWAA Service Award is presented annually to a VEWAA member who has made a significant contribution to the organization. This service could have been provided during the past year, or over several years. Only VEWAA members may nominate candidates for this award and more than one person can receive this award each year.

Paul R. Hoffman Award

The Paul R. Hoffman Award is given in recognition of innovation and creativity in service to persons with disabilities through professional or technical achievements in vocational education or work adjustment. A VEWAA member may nominate a member or a non-member for this award.

Nominations for either of these awards should include the following:

1. Name, address, & telephone number of person making the nomination.
2. The nominee's name, address, telephone number, job title, & place of employment.
3. A narrative explanation of the nominee's contribution or service to VEWAA & to the field of vocational evaluation or work adjustment.

Nominations are to be sent to:

Susan Scott
Sink & Assoc. Inc.
2500 W. Broad St.
Ste. 307
Athens, GA 30606
redasue@msn.com

Deadline Sept. 30, 2006

Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment Association Code of Ethics

The Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment Association is a professional organization dedicated to service to society. This service is predicated on a basic belief in the intrinsic worth, dignity and potential of each individual human being. Respect for this belief shall guide the member's professional conduct.

Responsibility: The member's primary responsibility is to the individual served. The member shall be continuously aware of the relationship between responsibilities to the individuals served, to the profession and to the employer. The member shall encourage and expect ethical and competent behavior from colleagues, whether or not they are members of this association, and shall attempt to rectify behavior which is contradictory. The member owes loyalty to the organization where employed and shall utilize this Code of Ethics to influence the day-to-day activities of the organization.

Professional Competence: The member shall demonstrate competency gained through education and experience with particular emphasis on the utilization of vocational evaluation and adjustment procedures, the understanding and interpretation of information acquired during the rehabilitation process, knowledge of the world of work, and familiarity with studies of human behavior.

Confidentiality: The member shall respect the privacy of the individual served and shall safeguard all information and materials obtained during the rehabilitation process. The member shall inform the individual served, or the individual's agent, about the purpose of any professional service being contemplated; information generated during the administration of such services shall only be communicated to those with an essential need to know as part of the rehabilitation process. The individual served shall be made aware of who is in receipt of such information. If such information is used in teaching, research or writing, the identity of the individual served shall be protected.

Interprofessional Relationships: The member shall be cognizant of relationships to other professional personnel involved in the rehabilitation process and shall be aware that the welfare of individuals receiving services depends on the capacity of all professional personnel to integrate their efforts. As part of this awareness, the member shall avoid practicing in areas not within the member's professional competence. Likewise, the member shall assist other professional personnel in understanding this role and shall be prepared to respond when others seek assistance.

Publications: The member shall communicate through publications or other appropriate means, such as seminars, information the member believes will contribute to the existing fund of knowledge. In such instances, the member shall adequately acknowledge the contributions of all individuals or organizations.

Consultation: The member may accept consulting assignments, and, shall insure competency in all areas related to such assignments. Information regarding either the organization or individuals served shall be regarded as confidential and shall not be used for unethical purposes or personal advantage. The member shall receive appropriate employer sanction prior to accepting consultative assignments.

Re-adopted April 27, 2006



NRA-VEWAA
215 White Horse Pike
Berlin, NJ 08009

HEPHAESTUS
HANDICAPPED GOD OF
CRAFTSMEN

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT VEWAA'S WEBSITE!

Here you can find our mission statement and vision, the latest Board meeting minutes, contact information, and helpful links!

www.vewaa.net