

Intercom

Official Publication of the California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare And Attendance



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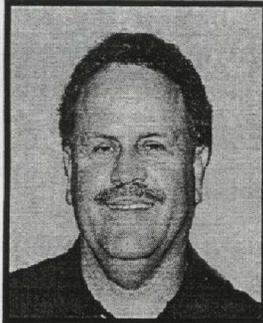


September 2000



CASCWA'S BEST RECOGNIZED AT PALM SPRINGS CONFERENCE 2000

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Rob Gerig
CASCWA State
President**

I am honored to serve as your State President for 2000-2001. My hope is to represent you as effectively as possible in the field of Child Welfare and Attendance and Pupil Personnel Services.

At the Palm Springs Conference in April, 2000, you were presented with a number of objectives that we, as a State Executive Board, hope to accomplish by April, 2001.

First, we plan to develop and distribute a State Directory of CASCWA members. Over a period of years, I have felt this would be an excellent resource for locating colleagues throughout the State when needed. Secondly, we will be moving our membership tracking to a central location (Los Angeles County Office of Education) and creating a database that will generate mailing labels with membership renewal dates included. This will help us eliminate duplicate membership entries and also ensure that members receive benefits for one full year upon joining.

We also plan to issue the second annual CASCWA Publication complete with articles especially relevant to our field of work. The Publication will be provided free to all members and will be available for purchase for non-members.

The enhancement of our web page (CASCWA.org) is another prime objective this year. Some upgrades include "ask an Expert" interactive capability, a listing of universities offering credential programs for Child Welfare and Attendance, job opportunities in the area of CWA and a Legislative screen listing bills of interest including times of committee hearings, testimony, key people to contact, etc., etc.

In the area of legislation, the Executive Board has agreed to identify no more than five (5) bills directly related to CWA work to tract to testify and to lobby in support or opposition.

Though this is an ambitious agenda, I look forward to working with our high-energy executive board to accomplish these objectives. I am fortunate to be sandwiched between the terms of two of the most effective CWA professionals I have ever met (Phil Kauble and Joe Brucia). This gives me great optimism regarding accomplishment of CASCWA for the years ahead.

If you are currently a member, I am asking you to do two things. Get fully involved with your section activities and set a goal to recruit at least one new member to CASCWA this year.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the State Conference in beautiful South Lake Tahoe, April 25, 26, 27, 2001.

Sincerely, Rob Gerig, President, CASCWA



Do you need to contact a CASCWA Officer ?
Do you need information on a CASCWA activity , or on CASCWA ? This might help :

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Cover Pictures :

- * Joe Brucia of San Joaquin Section receives CASCWA's highest award, the Lee Lundberg State CASCWA Service Award .
- * Tad Kitada receives Delta Sierra Service award for Karen Chapman, who could not attend
- * Alan Del Simone and Bay Section honor Sue Chambers
- * Jerry Hime, CASCWA Treasurer receives Southern Section award from Jesse Cherry, making the presentation for Frank Boehler
- * San Joaquin Past President John Bryon presents its award to Phil Swearingen

SAN JOAQUIN SECTION PLANS FOR BASS LAKE CONFERENCE



Bob Pankratz
President, San Joaquin Section

On behalf of the Central San Joaquin members I would like to thank John Bryon for his two years of outstanding leadership. John has infused new blood into our Section, and I know he will continue to support our endeavors.

The San Joaquin Section finished this year strong in March with our "Critical Tools for Challenging Times" workshop in Clovis, attendance at the State

Conference in Palm Springs in April, and our May "End of the Year" Luncheon in Merced.

We are looking forward to the Fall annual Bass Lake Conference on September 29th and 30th. This is a time to focus on new, productive programs and current best practices in the field. Look for registration information soon in your mail!

We have a strong Executive Board this year, with Dennis Wiechman from Sanger serving as Vice President, Tom Neeb from Los Banos as our Secretary, and Phil Swearingen continuing as Treasurer. Together we will provide an active, informative and supportive team for our members.

Robert Pankratz, President.

BAY SECTION "GIVING KIDS THE RIGHT STUFF"



Sue Chambers
President
Bay Section

I am excited and honored to be serving as Bay Section President this year. Bay Section's dedicated and talented executive committee includes, Past President and Scholarship Chairman, Alan Del Simone, Child Welfare and Attendance, West Contra Costa County Schools, Vice President, Audrey Keebler, Student Services Director for Pittsburg Unified School District, Secretary, Darlene Rouke, Alternative Education

Director, John Sweet School District, and Treasurer and not quite retired, Bob Brazil.

Based on last year's Bay Section's Fall Conference evaluations, the executive committee has set three major goals for the 2000-2001 year: 1) increase membership and expand CASCWA's visibility by providing quality training programs 2) provide an on going support network, and increase communications with other agencies 3) reinstate

and fund a scholarship program.

Bay Section has already made strides in accomplishing these goals. On May 26, 2000 at the Stoney Ridge Vineyards, in Livermore, the Bay Section held its annual Spring Luncheon program. Following the installation of officers, Juvenile Court Commissioner, Steve Easton gave an informative presentation on the, "Implications of Proposition 21: Children or Adults". In addition to the regular membership, three new members from the Contra Costa's Sheriff Department attended. The Spring Luncheon was also the kick-off for the scholarship program, which through raffle prizes earned over \$120.

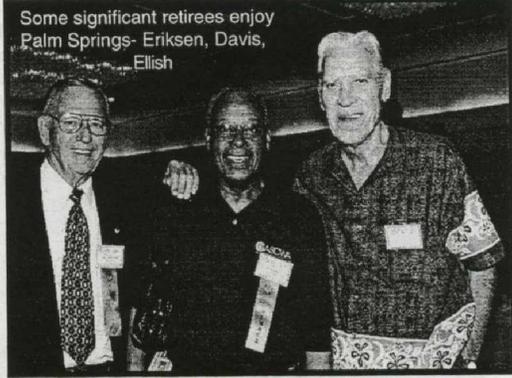
The next major event for Bay Section will be the Fall Conference "Giving Kids the Right Stuff", on Friday, October 27, 2000. Michael Pritchard, humorist, youth activist and PBS host will be the keynote speaker and morning presenter. Drawing on his background as a probation officer, educator and comedian, Pritchard is a motivator for national law enforcement agencies, universities, healthcare and service organizations. Pritchard has a unique ability to reach his audience with his gifts of self-esteem and self-appreciation, which inspires positive change in schools, the workplace and the community.

Also scheduled for the morning is a presentation from Lionel Chatman, Probation Officer for Contra Costa County. Under Challenge Grant II, Lionel has help institute a day treatment program for adolescent females called the "Circle of Care". Lionel will present the results from the first year implementation of this unique program.

Following lunch, and a legislative update, Dr. James E. Shaw will do a presentation from his book "Jack and Jill, Why Do They Kill". Drawing upon his personal interviews with more than 100 children incarcerated for killing other children, Dr. Shaw offers practical advice on how to save our children. The final session "California Now" will present current information and profile problems and support services for youth in the State of California.

If you would like more information regarding our Fall Conference please contact me at (925) 682-8000 ext. 4061 or check the Bay Section Website for information.

Sue Chambers, President



Some significant retirees enjoy Palm Springs- Eriksen, Davis, Elish

SOUTHERN SECTION PRESENTS LILLIE WILSON SCHOLARSHIPS



Frank Boehler
President
Southern Section

Hello, Karen Saunders!" This is only a copy of my fall semester schedule for SAC. Thank you again for considering me in this scholarship. I have been motivated even more to know I have your support. I only hope your organization keeps on doing this awesome work, which means a lot to students out there in need of someone that can believe in them. Signed, Julio Perez

Members of Southern Section had the privilege of meeting Julio at the end of the year luncheon where the Lillie Wilson scholarship winners were recognized. Lillie attended and personally presented the scholarships to each of the recipients. Julio was one of the student recipients of a five hundred dollar scholarship. He is a pleasant young man and quickly won the hearts of all of our members in the room. He has a bright future. Also recognized were: Evelyn "Reina" Campos, Diana Simon, Jessica Martinez and Sayra Cisnero. Please take the time to go to our CASCWA website and not only look at the joy in the faces of the winners, but take the time to look at the CASCWA members who nominated these young people. They are truly unsung heroes in our educational world.

Mr. Jerry Hime, LACOE, was awarded the distinguished CASCWA Southern Section Service Award at the State Conference, Palm Springs, California, in April. Before the finishing touches were being put on the "State Conference", Jerry was already teaming up with our President-Elect, Betty Folsom, Riverside County Office of Education, to prepare for our fall, "Risky Business" Conference. Mark your calendar for Thursday, November 16, 2000. **SAVE THE DATE!** Jerry and Betty are busy preparing a full one-day program for our members. The conference will be held at the Ontario Marriott Hotel next to the airport. The facilities are fabulous, but space may be limited to the first one hundred and fifty attendees. Information will soon be available on the website and a CASCWA Connection will be sent to all Southern Section members.

If you haven't already done so, check out the pictures on the CASCWA website from the April State Conference. They are great and bring back so many good memories. Southern Section is looking forward to the efforts of Debbie Morris and our friends in the Delta Section as they plan the next State Conference scheduled for April at Lake Tahoe.

We are grateful to our Past State President, Mr. Phil Kauble, LACOE, and to our current State President, Mr. Rob Gerig, for committing to publish "CASCWA 2001". I have had the privilege of writing an article to supplement the great effort of Joe Brucia in the area of Search and

Seizure. The materials contained in these publications are relevant to all of our members and should be placed in the hands of school administrators throughout the state.

In closing, I wish to thank Southern Section's strong 283 members. You are CASCWA. As your president, I welcome your thoughts. Please e-mail me at: frankb@orangeusd.k12.ca.us and I hope that 2000-01 will be a great year for you and your efforts.

Frank Boehler, President

DELTA SIERRA MAKES PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR APRIL TAHOE CONFERENCE



Debbie Morris
President
Delta Sierra Section

As we welcome in the 2000-2001 school year, I send warm greetings from the entire Delta Sierra Section. I look forward to serving as the Section President as Delta Sierra has wonderful members and I have an outstanding group of Board Members. Among them include: President Elect, Joe Taylor (Sacramento County Office of Education), Vice President, Matt Collier (Elk Grove Unified School District), Secretary, Ted Hobbs (Lake Tahoe Unified School District),

Treasurer, May Powell (Stockton Unified School District), Special Projects, Tad Kitada (Placer County Office of Education), RichDavis (Retired Member), and Lee Wood, immediate past President (Butte County Office of Education). In an effort to expand the Section's reach, the Board is recruiting two Members At Large from the Northern part of the State and look forward to introducing them to you in our next publication.

Delta Sierra would like to take this opportunity to thank Lee Wood from Butte County Office of Education who forged this last year as President and guided the Delta Sierra Section through a successful Fall Conference in sunny South Lake Tahoe. As any incoming President knows, the path is much easier to follow when a talented person has paved it. Thanks to Lee's dedication and hard work, coupled with a caring group of board members and an incredible cast of Section members, the Delta Sierra Section will be one to watch this year.

The Section honored Karen Chapman at the 99-00 State Conference in Palm Springs with the "Outstanding Service Award" for the Delta Sierra Section. Karen has worked many years with CASCWA and has been the driving force behind keeping all of us up to date and current with Section members. Anyone who has ever been to a Delta Sierra Section workshop or conference has seen Karen. She has been the one making sure everything is organized and that we are all registered (among a million other tasks). Karen's support to CASCWA in general and to the Delta

Sierra Section specifically is certainly worthy of this award. Congratulations!

In the spirit of awards, the Section is proud to announce the winner of the 99-00 Rich Davis Scholarship. Coming to us from Sturs Lawson Continuation High School in Stockton, Cristina D. Sorno was awarded a \$500 scholarship to be used towards her higher education. All applications received tell stories of individuals who have overcome extreme difficulties in the pursuit of an education. Along the way, these individuals have "rediscovered" what is important to them and often do so while supporting families of their own. While only one award was given, it is an honor every year to read these heart-warming tales of struggles and successes and it helps to remind all of us that we have played a part in touching someone's life, whether we see it or not.

It is my personal philosophy that we are each only as good to each other, as we are to ourselves. The more we can take care of ourselves, the better we become to the people we work with. In that spirit, the Delta Sierra Section will be preparing for a fall conference (tentative date is October 6, 2000) to be held in Sacramento and is very proud to announce the theme for our 2000-2001 State Conference is, "U Getting Connected". Back in South Lake Tahoe by popular demand on April 25, 26, 27, 2001, this year's state conference promises to be one where each of us will leave feeling "re-connected" to this profession and to the children and families we work with. This Board is dedicated to filling the conference with information and strategies to use with children, families, and your co-workers, all in an effort to remind us why we got into this profession in the first place. I am very passionate about the work we do and believe that we do make a difference through what we give to others. I am looking forward to this upcoming year as the President of the Delta Sierra Section and as a member of CASCWA.

"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle"

Debbie Morris, President, Delta Sierra Section

JOE BRUCIA'S WEB TOUR



Joe

Have you bookmarked CASCWA's Research Portal yet? The shortcut is <http://www.muhsd.k12.ca.us/cwa/cascwa> New to the WEB page are "Ask an Expert,"

"Legal Updates," expanded school resource officer links, pupil personnel service credential information, email addresses for state

legislators and new CWA district

WEB sites. Our goal is to list all the new district CWA sites. We have recently added San Francisco Unified and two WEB pages from San Juan Unified. District sites are important, as they are the source for samples of CWA related procedures, policies, forms and booklets. Using

"cut and paste" it's an easy way to acquire and modify your district (don't forget to give the source credit). If CWA office has a WEB site (and have something to show let us know. You can e-mail your district address using CASCWA Research Portal.

We are happy to announce that both our site and John Burton's are recommended on the new Police Training Video entitled COPS & SCHOOLS. All police officers view this video as part of their POST certified training.

Our research portal is only a resource if you use it. Try answering the following questions to see how adept you are in using the site. Of course, the answers are all on the web site. It's an open book quiz that requires you to use the site to find the answers. Get eight right and you are an official "Portal Immortal"!

1. The San Juan Unified CWA WEB page contains two major sections. What are they?
2. Which district(s) WEB page contains a School Safety Plan template?
3. The "Specialist" newsletter has how many editions?
4. Under the Legislative Information Section you can find a complete listing of new education bills. Which county office is the source of this listing?
5. What is a "Shark Bite"?
6. "Keep Schools Safe" is produced by which two national agencies?
7. Name three CASCWA officers that "Ask an Expert" is addressed to?
8. The next Executive Board meeting locations are in the Executive Board Minutes. Where is the location of the next meeting?
9. Pictures of the Palm Springs conference activities can be retrieved from INTERCOM Online, CASCWA Research Portal, and Southern Section's WEB page. Can you find them?
10. What is Southern Section's "CASCWA Connection"?
11. Bonus question!!! Which district WEB site contains a nice informational article on knives in schools?

So far, for 2000-2001 we've been lucky enough to be invited to three different county staff development conferences. Our CASCWA Research Portal is the topic. Little by little, the word is getting out -- "The CASCWA Research Portal is a great resource for CWA information!"



Karen Saunders installs new officers

LEGISLATION

CASCWA'S LEGISLATION CHAIRMAN HOPES FOR SARB FUNDING



Joe Taylor

It's a waiting game. Here around the end of July all of us interested in various bills relating to Child Welfare and Attendance are anxiously waiting. The Senate and Assembly committees have met to consider various bills. Many bills didn't survive these Committees and were axed. Some bills passed through Committees and are awaiting final Legislative approval on the Floor or have been sent to the Governor's desk for signature. The legislature is

currently on recess (as I write) and reconvenes on August 7, 2000. Final Committees meet throughout August and the Governor has until September 30 to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature.

I am holding vigil for two bills of personal interest that would have a significant impact on Child Welfare and Attendance. These are Senate Bill 278 by Karnette and Assembly Bill 42 by Zettel. Both Senator Betty Karnette and Assemblywoman Charlene Zettel are very supportive of education and Child Welfare and Attendance issues. SB 278 has been amended so many times from when it was originally introduced last year, it now has an entirely different focus. In its current state, SB 278 would establish a \$250,000 grant program for activities related to school attendance review boards (SARB's). Specifically, this bill: Establishes a grant program to be administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Authorizes county offices of education to apply for grant funds, Requires grant funds to be used exclusively to train school districts to establish local SARB's, provide funds to school districts to maintain existing local SARB's and provide funds to the counties to maintain or establish county SARB's and appropriate \$250,000 from the General Fund. SB 278 made it through several Senate Committees and later Assembly Committees with the support of public testimonials from various CASCWA members. The Bill finally made it to the Appropriations Committee and is currently in the Appropriations Suspense file. Any bill that has a monetary value attached will go into this Appropriations Suspense file. To date this bill has remained in the Suspense file and the general consensus from Capital insiders is that it will probably remain there and not make it to the Governor's desk. The main reason for this is the amount of the Bill is a really insignificant amount.

AB 42 would provide for easier access to student records by judges and probation officers under specific conditions, and adds a representative of the health care profession to county, local and state school attendance review boards (SARB's).

This bill has made it through several Assembly and Senate Committees also with support from CASCWA members in public testimonials. To date this Bill is awaiting approval of the Assembly and is expected to be sent on to the Governor's desk for signature.

There are other bills that have made it past Senate and Assembly Committees that are of interest to CASCWA. We hope

that some of these bills will be successfully signed into law by the Governor.

CASCWA will continue to utilize its statewide resources for the support of legislation that benefits our organization and the arena of Child Welfare and Attendance. Meanwhile the wait continues...

In another area relating to legislation, I am currently a member of the California State School Attendance Review Board. In 1987 the California Legislature amended Education Code 48325 to establish the State SARB. The State SARB meets quarterly at the State Department of Education.

Recently I was appointed chair of a subcommittee to make recommendations on how to improve communication between the State SARB and the California Legislature. My subcommittee which included Rob Gerig, Sacramento City Unified School District and Tad Kitada, Placer County Office of Education was given to task to determine ways to bring the State SARB into a more definitive and active relationship with the Legislature. All of us on the subcommittee and also members of the State SARB were well aware of many examples where direct communication and interaction between the State SARB and the Legislature may have resulted in the passing of key bills both in the Assembly and in the Senate.

Our subcommittee, after brainstorming many ideas, decided that the key to getting the State SARB more interactive with the Legislature was severely hindered by limitations of the State SARB itself. The legislation that established the State SARB was created during a time of government fiscal restraint. The legislation gave the State SARB clear directions on how to establish school attendance review board policies and procedures but without any designated resources to carry out these policies and procedures. As a result the State SARB currently exists as a committee of the State Department of Education with no resources to carry out its tasks that were intended by the legislation. The State Department of Education does provide some resources for the State SARB but not even a minimum of what is needed to carry out statewide policies and procedures. In order to have the resources necessary to carry out the policies and procedures of the State SARB our subcommittee came up with a proposal. This proposal will be presented at the next State SARB meeting in August 2000. The proposal is to have a bill sponsored in the legislature that would add language to the current State SARB legislation that would provide the necessary resources for the State SARB to carry out its policies and procedures statewide. With the resources provided the State SARB can effectively provide the services needed to meet the intent of the original legislation and to interact directly with the State Legislature.

Our subcommittee has already had preliminary discussions with staff from Senator Betty Karnette and Assemblywoman Charlene Zettel about sponsoring this legislation in the next Session of the Legislature. Results of these discussions have been positive. We would like to know your thoughts as CASCWA members. You can e-mail me at jtaylor@sac-co.k12.ca.us or write to me care of the Sacramento County Office of Education. You can also send an e-mail to me at the CASCWA web site at www.cascwa.org and click on the Ask a CWA Expert in the CASCWA Research Portal.

DAVIS APPOINTS JOHN GILROY AS BOARD OF EDUCATION DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Governor Gray davis has appointed long time friend and supporter of CASCWA John Gilroy to the vacant position of Deputy Executive Director on the State Board of Education.

Gilroy has been administrative specialist for the California Department of Education since 1999. From 1998 to 1999 he served as deputy general counsel for the CDE ; for 10 years prior to that he was a consultant to the department.

From 1984 to 1987 Gilroy had a private law practice with an emphasis on business and education issues. He earned his BA from San Francisco state University, and his juris Doctorate from McGeorge School of law.

John has been a long time participant in CASCWA activities, and has frequently made presentations to CASCWA conferences at all levels.

His appointment to this position is encouraging to workers in CWA ; he will not be a representative of CASCWA, of course, but his presence can assure us that there will be a knowledgeable person to provide accurate and meaningful input to the Board.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LOCKYER DESCRIBES NEW SCHOOL SAFETY TOOL FOR CRISIS RESPONSE

During the tragic shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado last year, no one was readily available who knew how to turn off the sprinkler system. As a result, hallways quickly filled with water, making it difficult to escape.

Parents, relatives and news crews rushed to the scene. The roads couldn't handle the traffic. Even the ambulances had a hard time getting through. So many cell phones were being used in the area that the cell site became overloaded and shut down.

I believe it is critical that California schools use what was learned from these and other problems that occurred during recent school tragedies throughout the nation. These lessons are included in a new crisis response planning tool, the Crisis Response Box- Partnering for Safe Schools, designed to help schools prepare for a rapid and effective response to a critical incident on campus. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin and I unveiled this school safety tool in April to coincide with the one-year anniversary of the Columbine incident.

By springing to action before a major incident on campus occurs, schools should be better able to respond effectively to a crisis, and hopefully, prevent future tragedies.

The Crisis Response Box is the result of a study that I commissioned, in partnership with the Superintendent, to examine current best practices in preventing and responding to school emergencies. An accompanying guide includes valuable suggestions for schools and law enforcement, working together, such as: develop a plan to avoid traffic congestion during an emergency; call the local Federal Aviation Authority office to control air space because helicopter noise can hamper emergency procedures; train at least two people to turn off the sprinkler system; specify email procedures as an alternative to cellular phones in the event that the cellular phone site shuts down; and if the perpetrators are inside, shut down satellite feed for the school's cable television system so that the perpetrators cannot view the whereabouts of the S W AT team by tuning into live coverage of the scene on the outside. Crisis Response Box materials were mailed in May to more than 8,330 individual K-12 schools; more than 1,000 school district offices and county offices of education; and more than 750 law enforcement leaders, including sheriffs, chiefs of police, chief probation officers and school district police throughout California. In addition, California's private schools were notified of how to access the planning guide from my office's Web page. The Crisis Response Box was developed by the Safe Schools Task Force, which the Superintendent and I appointed last February, and which is comprised of 23 representatives of education, law enforcement, community groups and youth. By law, schools in California are required to develop and implement comprehensive school safety plans. While most schools have developed these plans, the Task Force discovered that there wasn't an integrated system in place to ensure that a coordinated and effective response to a serious incident on a school campus occurs. This box will help ensure that such a system is in place throughout California. I encourage any community leader who is interested in the most current critical school safety issues to download the *CRISIS RESPONSE BOX- PARTNERING FOR SAFE SCHOOLS* from <http://caag.state.ca.us/cvpc/crisisresponse.pdf> For additional information, please contact my Crime and Violence Prevention Center, 1300 I St, Suite1150, Sacramento, CA 95814 916-324-7863

