



NCETA TODAY

North Carolina Employment and Training Association

From the Desk of the President

I hope all of you have the dates of April 9-11 marked on your calendars and are planning to be at the NCETA annual conference in Asheville.

In reviewing the evaluations from last year we have taken your suggestions and planned an exciting agenda. My special thanks go to Elaine Miller and the members of the Planning Committee and every one else who has worked so hard in planning this conference. At the conference last year, we had a Focus group for young professionals and as a result of that meeting, we now have a Young Professionals Ad Hoc Committee which has been working with the Board of Directors and have some special activities planned for the conference. The committee was formed to encourage the younger workers in the Workforce Development field to get involved. Developing our young professionals through involvement with NCETA is the perfect place to teach them the skills they need to become leaders of the future.

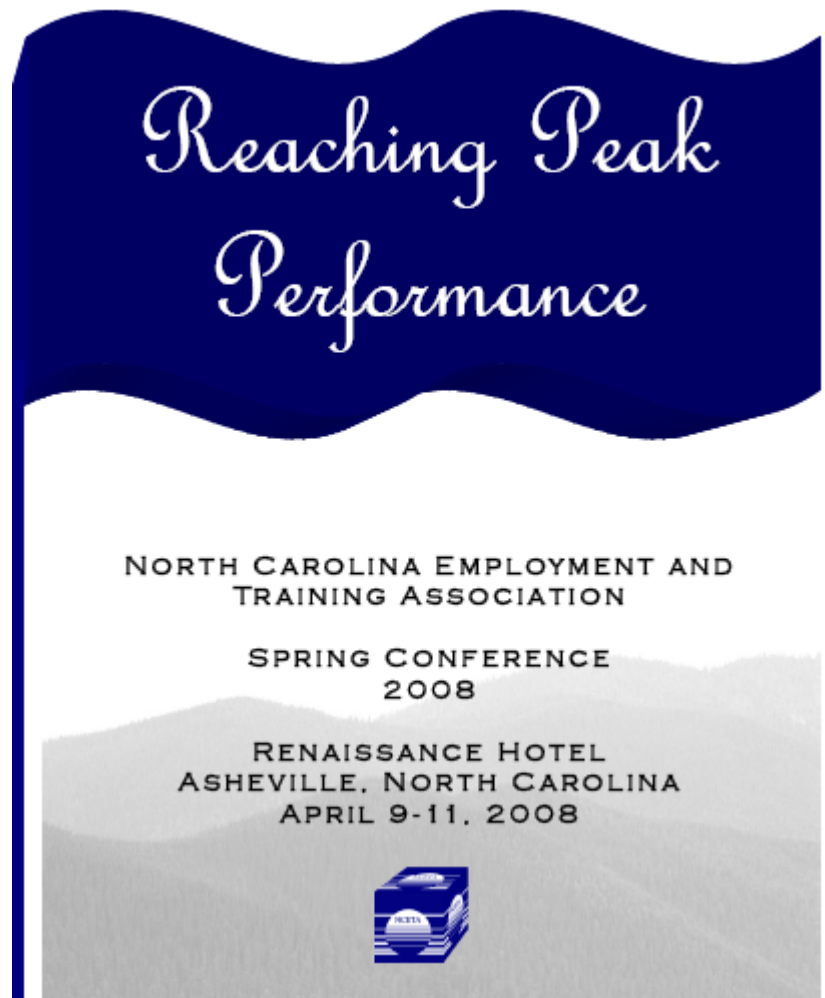
We will be voting for new officers and members of the Board this year. Make sure you have paid your membership dues so you can vote. It is important that we have a strong Board to lead NCETA as we tackle the challenges of the competitive Workforce of the future.

I would like to take a moment to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve as the President of NCETA. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent this Association for the past four years. I have worked with a wonderful group of people. Thanks for your support.

Janice Scarborough
President



**Visit the NCETA
website at
www.nceta.org
for conference
brochure and
registration form**



The agenda includes workshops focusing on regionalism, engaging youth, NC's Career Readiness Certificate, workplace culture, helping ex-offenders, creating effective teams, apprenticeships, managing your career, and technology up-dates.

Invited speakers and workshop presenters include: Constance Pritchard, Peggy Collins, Steve Parese, Mary Ann Lawrence, Anne Adams, Frank Lengel, Ralph Mitchell, Bob Knight and others.



Nominations for Board Members and Officers

Your NCETA Board of Directors consists of officers and six representatives from the West, Piedmont, and East who each serve two-year terms. Also, on the board are Liaison members from Department of Public Instruction, Division of Workforce Development, Workforce Development Training Center, Employment Security Commission, Vocational Rehabilitation, Community College System, Division of Social Services, Department of Labor, and Division of Aging.

Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) are current members in good standing who have served at least one year on the board of directors. The nomination committee is currently seeking nominees to serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested or know someone who is interested, please submit the enclosed Officer Nomination Form (one form for each nomination) by fax to 828.659.8733 or e-mail to jbroome@joblink.mcdowell.cc.nc.us before **March 7, 2008**. For more information, contact Jerry Broome at 828.659.6001 ext.102.

Representative nominees must be current members of NCETA in good standing for a period of at least one year and must be employed in the geographic region that they represent. Individuals who are nominated must agree to have his/her name placed in nomination. Listed below are the current board members and their respective terms of office.

<u>WESTERN</u>		<u>PIEDMONT</u>		<u>EASTERN</u>	
Ruby Greene	2006-2008	Denise Day	2006-2008	Larry Chance	2006-2008
Vacant	2006-2008	Martha Cranford	2006-2008	Teresa Triplett	2006-2008
Jerry Broome	2006-2008	Bob Witchger	2006-2008	Helen Clark	2006-2008
Jim Clay	2007-2009	Mose Dorsey	2007-2009	Tyrone Williams	2007-2009
Ellen Westbrook	2007-2009	Harold Smith	2007-2009	John Foriest	2007-2009
Julie Thompson	2007-2009	Linda Parker	2007-2009	Richard Darden	2007-2009

Current board members are eligible for re-election. If you wish to nominate someone, or yourself, to serve on the board, please **fax** or **email** a nomination form before **March 28th** to your regional representative as listed below:

Jerry Broome, Western (Local Areas of A, B, C, D, E, F) at 828.659.8733;
jbroome@joblink.mcdowell.cc.nc.us

Linda Parker, Piedmont (Local Areas of G,H,I,J,K,M,N) at 336.629.1290
lparker@regionalalcs.org

Tyrone Williams, Eastern (Local Areas of L,Q,R,P,O) at 252.355.9075
tyrone.williams@ncmail.net

During the Regional Caucus on April 9, 2008, at the annual conference in Asheville, **three board members from each region** will be elected. Please submit your nominations before **March 28**.



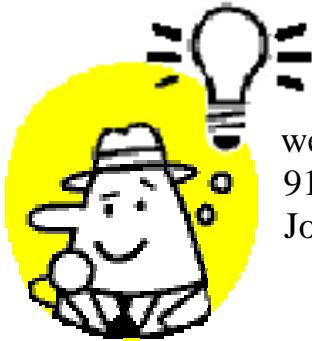
NCETA Young Professionals Ad Hoc Committee

The NCETA Young Professionals ad hoc committee was formed in response to an expressed need among the organization for a voice to represent the younger workers in the workforce system. Four volunteers came forward to take on the task of giving those younger workers that voice. Martha Barefoot, Stephanie Brown, Nattalie Castro, and Katie Hursey began their mission when they met with the NCETA Board at their meeting in Southern Pines this winter. They will make their debut with their involvement with the planning of several activities at the 2008 NCETA Conference in Asheville. They are excited about putting a face on the younger workforce professional and look forward to helping others find a way to get involved!



from left to right: Katie Hursey, Nattalie Castro, Stephanie Brown, and Martha Barefoot

Katie Caudill Hursey is the Director of the Montgomery County JobLink Career Center; Nattalie Castro is the Lead Employment Specialist for the Beaufort County JobLink in Region Q; Stephanie Brown is Workforce Development Fiscal Coordinator for the Western Piedmont Council of Governments; and Martha Barefoot is Training Coordinator with the NC Workforce Development Training Center in Raleigh.



Please send ideas, articles and news for the NCETA newsletter at any time. Contributions from members are needed and welcomed. You may email them to ttriplett@sccnc.edu; fax to 910.642.5658., or mail to Teresa Triplett, Columbus County JobLink Career Center, P. O. Box 151, Whiteville, NC 28472.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 2008 IS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONAL MONTH

Workforce Development



I am a Professional

Recognize a Workforce Development Professional!

Let us know about Workforce Development Professionals who exemplify the diverse talents that drive the workforce development system in North Carolina by sending us a brief description (100 words or less) and a photo.

Send to ekurzer@ncommerce.com.

Submissions will be posted on www.ncwdpmonth.com.

TIPS FOR ORGANIZERS

- Use the Proposed Resolution to draft a resolution to be passed by your WD Board, County Commissioners, and City Council
- Organize brown bag lunches with professional development speakers
- Offer special recognition of staff at regularly scheduled staff meetings
- Host recognition breakfast or luncheon
- Provide snacks/refreshments at the office and JobLink Career Centers
- Print certificates of recognition for staff
- Arrange for staff photo in JLCC shirts and send to website for posting
- Arrange for peer to peer recognition
- Form WDP Month committee to plan these activities!
- Posters will be available in April for all JobLink Career Centers and Partners.
- Our logo will be provided to Local Workforce Area Directors for use with correspondence and any recognition items.

Sponsored by:
North Carolina Commission on Workforce Development
North Carolina Society for Human Resource Management



Vocational Rehabilitation All-Stars Awards



Receiving awards at the sixth annual 'VR All-Stars' presentation were: (left to right), Wilmington Counselor Rachel Towns, Forest City Business Relations Representative Jackie Godlock, and Boone Manager Connie Barnette. New DHHS Secretary Dempsey Benton and Assistant Secretary Jackie Sheppard were on hand to hear some very gracious and inspiring acceptance remarks from the three recipients.



Members News

After 30 years of service, **David Prince** has decided to retire from the NC Division of Social Services where he served as the Food and Nutrition Services Employment and Training Program Coordinator. David will transition into a new career as a funeral director with his family's funeral home. He is a 2005 graduate of Fayetteville Tech Community College Funeral Service program and received his funeral director's license in September 2007.

At the Winter meeting of the NCETA Board of Directors, **Barry Edwards** was voted a life-time NCETA membership. Barry is a 32-year veteran of service to the State of North Carolina, 28 of which were dedicated to workforce development. At his retirement from State service in September of 2003, he was Chief of Planning and Policy Development in the Commerce Department's Division of Employment and Training. In that capacity, his planning and policy development expertise was critical to the Division's administration and management of Workforce Investment Act funding in excess of \$200 million.

Following retirement, Barry served nearly four years as support staff for North Carolina's Workforce Development Directors' Council, representing and furthering the interests of the statewide local workforce system. Today, he practices retirement and continues to do some workforce development consulting. Friends say that this photo shows how much he is enjoying retirement.



Brenda Williamson, Vocational Rehabilitation board representative, and Sylvia Jones, past president, comparing notes on their new grandchildren. Sylvia's new granddaughter is in Japan and Brenda's new grandson is in Kansas City, Missouri.




COMMERCE ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA

January 23, 2008 - **GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES NORTH CAROLINA RANKED THIRD-BEST STATE FOR BUSINESS.** Gov. Mike Easley today announced that North Carolina has been named the state with the third-best business climate by *Chief Executive* magazine, a trade publication for top corporate executives.

The *Chief Executive* ranking is the latest in a string of accolades for the state. North Carolina has also been cited by *Site Selection* magazine as the state with the top business climate six of the last seven years and first in the Southeast in attracting new industrial plants; by the accounting firm Ernst & Young for having the lowest business tax burden in the nation; by *Forbes Magazine* as the third best state for business; and by Development Counsellors International as having the second-most favorable business climate among the 50 states.

“These rankings confirm that North Carolina is the place to be,” said Easley. “Corporate executives know our state is listening to them and we know what they need to succeed. We are investing in education to provide a skilled workforce, making regulation and permit procedures clear and reasonable and offering a low state and local tax burden. All these, plus our outstanding quality of life, make our state the top choice for companies looking to grow.”

Chief Executive's “Best & Worst States” survey was conducted earlier this month. It asked 605 top executives to evaluate their states on a broad range of issues including proximity to resources, regulation, tax policies, education, quality of living and infrastructure. North Carolina received an “A-” for its superior living environment and a “B+” both for its taxation and regulation policies and workforce quality.



Welcome to Asheville, recently named the happiest city in the United States

Welcome to Asheville, recently named the happiest city in the United States. For those of you not familiar with the “Paris of the South”, the 2008 NCETA Conference will give you a great opportunity to get to know the city. We have made a list of 10 things to do in Asheville that are within walking distance of the Renaissance Hotel where the conference will be held. So grab a city map at the registration table and put on your walking shoes.

1. Start out by heading over to **Pack Square**, the symbolic center of Asheville. There you will see the Vance Monument honoring native son and Civil War Governor Zebulon Vance. There are also buildings in a variety of architectural styles dating from the 1890's to 1980. If your timing is right you might catch a drumming circle.
2. Next, walk across the Square to **Pack Place**, an Education, Science and Arts Center to visit the Asheville Arts Museum and view the history of Asheville through the photographs and models that line the hallways. At the Pack Place Information desk, ask for an Urban Trail Map(See Number 9).
3. When you leave Pack Place walk down Biltmore Avenue to the **Blue Spiral 1 Gallery** for Southern Fine Arts + Crafts. The gallery features the works of Southeastern artists in spacious, elegant surroundings.
4. By this time you may need a sugar boost so cross the street and go up to the **Mast General Store**. The store has great casual clothes, outdoor gear and supplies, and best of all bins and bins of penny candy in the back.
5. If you're ready to head back to the Renaissance now, visit the **Old Kentucky Home boarding house** on your way. Home of author **Thomas Wolfe** and memorialized in his novel "Look Homeward Angel", the boarding house and Thomas Wolfe Memorial are right next door to the Renaissance.
6. When you're ready for a longer walk, go to 1 Page Avenue and take a stroll through **The Grove Arcade**, the architectural jewel of Asheville. A giant market built in 1929, the Arcade was beautifully restored to its former grandeur several years ago. There you'll find a variety of restaurants, boutiques and even an outdoor market. Stop at True Confections for the best caramel cheesecake in the universe.
7. On your return, browse the shops on Battery Park Avenue and Wall Street. Stop in at the historic **Flat Iron Building** and get a cup of coffee at the World Coffee Café. A week later and you could sip that coffee on balconies atop the building that have beautiful views of the mountains.
8. Now that you're re-energized from that caffeine go over to **Woolworth's Walk** at 25 Haywood Street. A former Woolworth store from 1938, the Walk showcases over 150 artists and recently resurrected the original soda fountain.
9. If you love history and art, walk the 1.7 mile Urban Trail which tells Asheville's history in 30 stops each with public sculptures that function as landmarks along the trail. The trail begins and ends at Pack Place and you can get a map at the Pack Place Information Desk. You can walk the whole trail or refer to the map as you pass the various sculptures throughout the downtown area.
10. Along about sundown.... We wish you could be here in the summer for Shindig on the Green which is held on Saturday evenings and features unique performances of hundreds of the best traditional musicians and dancers from across Western North Carolina. But there's lots of great music to enjoy year round in downtown Asheville so check out the schedules for The Grey Eagle, The Orange Peel, Stella Blue, Jack of the Woods Pub, and the Diane Wortham Theatre. Google each one to get their website addresses.

**We hope you all have a great time in Asheville enjoying the conference,
as well as the great surroundings.**



Latest Workforce Development News from Partner Agencies

NC Dept. of Labor – will begin effort to include Career Readiness Certificates in apprenticeships; developing apprenticeships in inmate correctional programs and working with College of the Albemarle to develop apprenticeships in boatbuilding trades.

ESC – developing Employee Services Institute for new managers; WIA/TAA work group has started meeting to improve coordination of services

Community Colleges – Dr. Scott Ralls will become new president on April 1, 2008; over 11,000 CRCs have been issued, 46 colleges now awarding and business partners include Energizer, Campbell Soup, Wal-Mart and Burt's Bees.

Division of Workforce Development – restructuring is now complete; state has received waiver to use 9 “Common Measures” for WIA performance; federal rescission could cost NC over \$2.7 million.

Vocational Rehabilitation – in ffy2007, 6271 consumers were successfully employed; av. weekly earnings went from \$42 to \$292 after achieving employment.

Division. of Aging – development of 4 year state plan in progress; Demsey Benton is new Secretary.

NC Workforce Development Training Center – lots of new classes including Essential Workplace Skills and Case Notes Training; always looking for new ideas