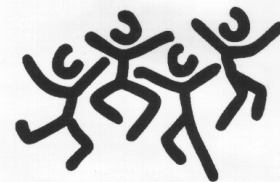


GOAEYC Newsletter

Golden Corridor Association for the Education of Young Children
(an affiliate of NAEYC)



P.O. Box 3213, Barrington, IL 60011

www.GOAEYC.org



November, 2005

President's Message by Juli Chandler

Have you heard? The State of Illinois is considering a Preschool For All program. What is it? In the current proposal, it is an initiative to "insure that all Illinois children have the opportunity to grow up well-prepared for success in the school and life....create new services that provide voluntary, high-quality preschool to 3- and 4-year-olds....also support a range of early learning opportunities for at-risk children between birth and age three."

Many states have similar programs, however, in Illinois the sights have been set very high. This will hopefully be an opportunity for children whose parents cannot afford quality programs to now be able to pick the program they feel best suits their family needs. What will this mean to you, the early child care provider and teacher? This is where I need to encourage you to stay informed and be prepared for what may be coming. In the current proposals, teachers working with the 3- and 4-year olds will need teacher certification. Now may be the time to think about going back to school and getting that certificate. Hopefully, when the final plan is put into effect, there will be assistance for everyone, families, teachers and programs. Be informed as discussions take place. Know what is being proposed. Look at your program and at yourself to be in the right place when families are looking to sign up.

Preschool For All can be right for everyone, if we are prepared! I encourage you to seek information by attending meetings and visiting websites. Let your legislators know how you feel. Ounce of Prevention presented the information session I attended. Visit their website www.ounceofprevention.com for more information.

It is with mixed emotions that I present this last message as president and a board member of GoAEYC. I hope to see you in the field. Please continue to achieve the highest quality you can for yourself and for the children whose lives you touch. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

People on the board:

- ☺ Juli Chandler, President
- ☺ Terese Amidei, President Elect, Treasurer
- ☺ Michele' Robinson, Vice President of Prof. Dev.
- ☺ Carol Allar, Vice President of Organizational Dev.
- ☺ Martha Westerberg, Secretary
- ☺ Molly Babu, Membership
- ☺ Members at Large:
Forgh Ganjbakhsh, Sharyl Robin, Colleen Scheitz, Brian Michalski, Linda Wywialowski, Karla Berra, Denise Tenyer

Election Results!

The following members were elected to the GoAEYC board for the 2006-2007 term:

Vice President - Professional Development:	Colleen Scheitz
Treasurer:	Karla Berra
Membership:	Molly Babu
Members at Large:	Linda Hermes, Jeanne Neifert, Brian Michalski, Michele' Robinson



Congratulations! We have a great board that is working for all of you and for the children and families of Northwest Cook and Lake Counties. Check our web site at GOAEYC.org for bios on each of these dedicated people.

Family Child Care News by Linda Hermes

SEIU and Family Child Care

Illinois Gov. Blagoavich signed an Executive Order giving family child care providers who receive Child Care Assistance Funds the right to collective bargaining and with this the right to choose a collective bargaining agent. SEIU 880 was the only union on the ballot and became the sole bargaining agent for FCC providers who receive child care assistance funds. SEIU currently charges \$18 a month to belong to the union. If a family child care provider receives Child Care Assistance Funds and is not a member of SEIU, a 'fair share percentage' will be automatically deducted from each provider's monthly child care assistance checks. This fair share amount has not been determined. Those family child care providers receiving Child Care Assistance Funds who are concerned about this loss of funding for their programs should contact the Governor and legislators to make their concerns known.

BOOK REVIEW by Amy Vandament, Manager, the Book Vine for Children

***Hey, Little Ant-* Written by Phillip and Hannah Hoose,
Illustrated by Debbie Tilley**



How often do you think about the life of the wayward insect on your picnic blanket? Do you consider that this creature has a family to feed and life to get on to after feasting on the crumbs of your cherry pie? The text of this book is a dialog between a pleading ant and a child who is itching to squish him with his sneaker. Bold illustrations successfully depict the difference in size and perspective between the child and the ant. Every other double-page spread poses the child, making statements about the ant's meager size and insignificance. The ant, in turn, proposes ways to appeal to the child's sensibilities. In the end, the reader must decide what they would do- to squish or not to squish. This book provides timely material on the differences and similarities we face in our daily lives. An excellent choice for discussion for many age groups- even adult.

*"Too often we give our children answers to remember,
rather than problems to solve." — Roger Lewin*

Resources for Teachers and Families by Toni Rey

As a family therapist and parenting consultant I am happy to share some information that I hope will be helpful to many of you.

I believe strongly that the most important years in a child's development are the early ones. As a result I often speak to day care providers since I believe their influence on the child is tremendous. Discipline and normal child development are the 2 most popular topics I speak on, and also those that raise the most questions during parenting consultations.

Over the years I have used Jean Illsley Clarke's books, Growing Up Again, and Self Esteem, A Family Affair both with the parents with whom I consult as well as with my psychotherapy clients. It is often very therapeutic to determine where one is stuck developmentally, and this can help one to work through the feeling of being "stuck".

Now I want to share a new book by Jean Clarke called How Much Is Enough? I've just started reading it and I believe it shares good insights into why so many children, toddlers to teens, are being overindulged these days. Many of us struggle with giving our children things, perhaps because we feel guilty that we have so little time with them. This often also leads to the situation of parents who confuse discipline with punishment. Since "discipline " is education, and teaching a child the rules (what is expected), how to follow the rules, and then positively reinforcing appropriate behavior, this can be a very time consuming task. Time limited parents often skip right to the positive reinforcements, and fail to take the other steps, or just "do it" for their children.

Toni Rey, LCSW, taught elementary grades, special education and gifted classes for over 20 years before beginning her work as a psychotherapist. She is a GoAEYC member.

Membership Update by Carol Allar

Do you ever wonder where your money goes?
Check the following breakdown to see how your money is being spent!

Affiliate Type	Affiliate Name	Comprehensive	Regular	Student
Local	Golden Corridor AEYC	\$12	\$12	\$9
State	Illinois AEYC	\$17	\$17	\$0
Region	Midwest AEYC	\$1	\$1	\$1
National	NAEYC	\$60	\$25	\$25
Total Dues		\$90	\$55	\$35

Classroom Activities by Katie Collar

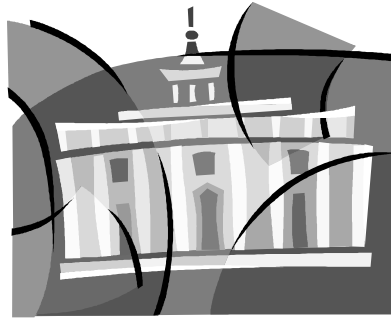
As I sit down to write this article the leaves have turned to a golden brown, the air is crisp and clean and the flocks of birds are gathering on the rooftops. It is hard to think about the winter doldrums but they will be here before you know it. How can we make the wintertime more fun? Especially on those days when we can't stay outside for extended periods of time playing in the snow? Listed below are just a few ideas that have been done in classrooms during the wintertime months. Have fun!



- Fill up your water table with snow instead of water. What can the children do with it? Have mittens and gloves available along with small containers. Can the children create shapes, balls and ovals using the snow? Or, put out watercolors and paintbrushes for the children to use. As the snow melts they can use the water to help paint their snow a rainbow of colors.
- Blow bubbles outside in the winter. You will have to experiment with this a bit. The weather can be very cold outside but it must be moist as well. The bubbles react differently in this type of weather. Try it and see.
- Create a feely box. Put a variety of items into a large box. Seal it up but make an opening just large enough for a child to place their hand into. Now the child puts on a pair of mittens. They reach into the box and feel for an item. They must guess what the item is before they pull it out of the box. You can also have a paper next to the box with picture clues as to what is hidden inside the box.
- Go on a mitten/glove scavenger hunt in your classroom. All of those mismatched gloves and mittens that are hanging around can be used for this game. Before the children arrive hide a multitude of gloves around your classroom for the children to locate. Make some obvious to find but make others difficult.
- Have you ever really looked at individual snowflakes? Each one is unique from the rest. An easy way to do this is to laminate a small piece of black or very dark blue construction paper or poster board. Place them in the refrigerator or the freezer for a few hours. Bring them out and take them outside with the children when it is snowing. The children can catch the snowflakes on their boards and because the board is cold the snowflake won't melt immediately.
- Have the children predict how long it will take for a container of snow to melt. Write down their predictions and then periodically watch it for the next few hours. Was anyone close?
- Allow children to paint snow outside. Give them each a small container of water with food coloring and let them paint the snow outside.

Yes, winter is on its way but it can be a fun time with children even if you are stuck indoors!

Advocating for Young Children by Denise Tenyer



It was great to see and speak with all of you at our conference on October 1st. When I spoke with you during our Resource Breakfast meeting I discussed how public policy and advocacy are two areas that each one of us are uniquely qualified for. As early childhood educators you have firsthand knowledge and experience in how our state and federal policies affect young children.

Together we can put our expertise, knowledge and dedication to children to work. It is critical that we speak out about the important needs and issues of children and their families.

Thank you to all who gave me their email addresses to become part of our Public Policy Urgent Action Alert. I will be in contact shortly with you to keep you updated and informed about current public policy news and events. For those of you unable to attend our conference, this Urgent Action Alert is a new GOAEYC Public Policy feature that will notify all interested individuals via email of any pending or pressing early childhood care and/or education issues.

These emails are a call for you to make a difference and take action. They may encourage you to contact your state or local representatives. They may inform you of recent bills that just passed and the impact they may have on the families and children you serve. If you have not yet signed up for our Urgent Action Alert, please do so by sending me your name and email address. If you would like, please also let me know the ways in which you serve the early childhood community.

Right now, as this newsletter goes to press, our website- www.GOAEYC.org- is undergoing construction and redesign. Please watch for our new and improved site to make its debut soon! For now- you can contact me and sign up via email at Learning-Trek@aol.com. I look forward to working with you to help make a difference in the lives of the children and families we serve! Remember: Be the change you wish to see in the world....
-Denise Tenyer



Thanks to all of you who attended our conference on Saturday, October 1. We had over 350 child care providers who attended 45 different workshops! We can't wait to start working on next year's conference - hope to see you there!



More Information...

Scholarship money is available!

By Linda Wywialowski

GOAEYC has set aside funds to support its members in pursuing professional development. If you are a Student, Classroom Teacher or Center Director AND a member of GOAEYC, you may be eligible for financial support of up to \$500.

- Funds are available for the Opening Minds Conference in January.
- Call Linda at (847) 991-1030 to receive an application.

Calendar of Events by Sharyl Robin
Call (847) 640-9590 for more information or to register for any of these workshops.

Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorder	Weds., Nov. 30	Holy Family Hospital	Des Plaines
CPR and First Aid	Sat., Dec. 10	Children's Home and Aid Society	Arlington Heights
GoAEYC board meeting	Wed., Jan. 11	Children's Home and Aid Society	Arlington Heights
Lillian Katz Presentation	Thurs., Jan. 12	Alexian Bros. Hospital	Elk Grove Village
Winter Wonderland	Wed., Jan. 18	Children's World	Schaumburg
Bringing Stories To Life	Tues., Jan 24	Kiddie Junction	Des Plaines
Blocks and Dramatic Play	Mon., Feb. 13	Buffalo Grove Park District	Buffalo Grove
Wheels on the Bus	Sat., March 11	TBA	TBA

Job Board (edited by Fran Huen)

- A Plus Day School, Lead Teachers and Assistant Teachers for Mt. Prospect and Palatine locations. Contact Leanne Harkins at Lharkinsoffice@aol.com or (847) 358-8380.
- All American Children, Teacher for Des Plaines school. Contact Joanne Heyden at (847) 699-0883.
- Barrington Park District, Preschool Teacher. Contact Kathleen Walker at cmbarpark@aol.com or (847) 381-0687.
- Bright Horizons Family Solutions, ECE Teacher for Crystal Lake location. Contact Diane Pahl at dpahl@brighthorizons.com or (815) 444-7844.
- Sonshine Preschool, Assistant Teacher for Prospect Hts. school. Contact Barb Orze at (847) 520-1116.
- The Big Barn Preschool, Lead Teacher / Assistant Director for Schaumburg school. Contact Pam Allcorn at thebigbarnpreschool@comcast.net.