

# Okaloosa Walton Association for Young Children



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Newsletter

December 2002

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## Vote!

### It's time to choose your new Board Members

The proposed board for next year is:

**Pres. Elect-Grace Mayo:** Grace has a CDA and is a preschool teacher at The Roane School in Destin.

**Secretary-Contrena Williams:** Contrena is a Family Child Care provider. She runs a contracted child care home. She has her CDA and Associate Degree in Early Childhood

**Treasurer-Patrick Strong:** Patrick is the Director First Valparaiso Child Development Center. He has recently received his Florida CDA Equivalency.

**Membership-Debra Self:** Debra is the Quality Assistance Coordinator of Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services, Inc.

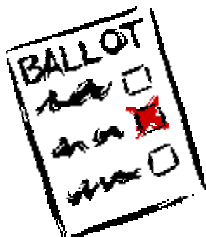
**Member at large:** the board chooses these people. Members at large generally chair association committees.

**Debbie Akos:** Debbie is the Child Services Coordinator Infant/ Toddler Specialist at Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services, Inc.

**Andrew Adams:** Andrew is the Early Childhood Specialist at Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services, Inc.

The ballot is on the inside of this newsletter. Please vote promptly and return to the address printed on the back of the ballot.

You can also email your vote to [www.owayc@hotmail.com](mailto:www.owayc@hotmail.com).



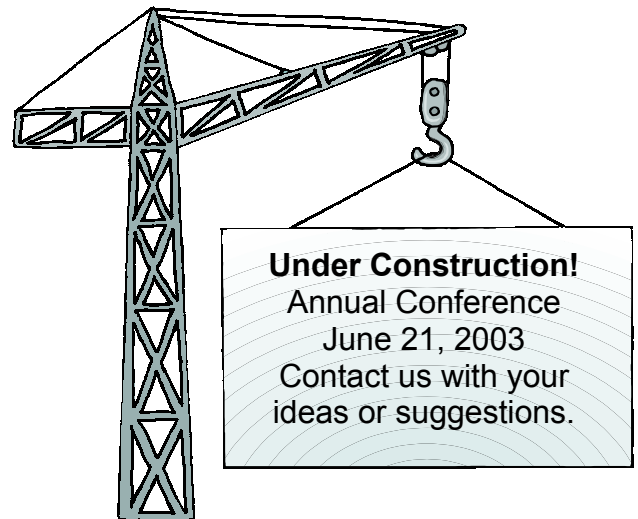
## Annual Celebration

### End of the Year/Welcome to the New Membership Year Get Together Bash

#### "FLYING HIGH with OWAYC"

Everyone is invited to this event and is encouraged to bring their significant other. It will be held on January 17, 2003 at the Home Extension Office on Hollywood BLVD in Fort Walton Beach. The time of the festivities being is 7:30pm. The new board will be announced and the activities for the new membership year will be unveiled

**RSVP by calling 833-9336. If you do not let us know you will be attending, we cannot guarantee you will have food.**



## WEB address for OWAYC

There is a much shorter and easier to remember web address for OWAYC.

The NEW current web address for OWAYC is:  
<http://www.owccs.org/owayc>

You can also email OWAYC at: [owayc@hotmail.com](mailto:owayc@hotmail.com)

## **ALICE STARKEY AND BETTY JO WINSLETTE AWARDS**

**Do you know someone who has shown excellence in the Early Childhood Field? Here is your chance to NOMINATE them to receive recognition for all they have done.** Okaloosa Walton Association for Young Children would like to recognize these individuals who have shown excellence in our field at our Annual Conference.

OWAYC Presents two awards each year:



### **Alice Starkey Memorial Award for Excellence in the Early Childhood Field**

**Description:** awarded in honor of Alice Starkey, who was a pioneer in early childhood education in Okaloosa and Walton County and a charter member and past president of OWAYC.

**Eligibility:** any professional who serves or works on the behalf of young children not yet in kindergarten (child care providers, teachers, administrators, and others who serve children, infant through preschool).

### **Betty Jo Winslette Award for Excellence in Kindergarten Education.**

**Description:** awarded in honor of Betty Jo Winslette, who was a pioneer in kindergarten education in Okaloosa and Walton counties and a long time member and friend of OWAYC.

**Eligibility:** any professional who serves or works on behalf of young children in kindergarten (teachers, administrators, before/after-school programs and others).



### **Nomination Format**

1. General Information About the Nominee (Does NOT have to be an OWAYC member)

**Which Award** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of person you are nominating** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Place of Employment** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Title** \_\_\_\_\_

2. On a separate sheet give a description of professional abilities that demonstrate the nominees concern for young children.
3. On a separate sheet give a description of activities away from the work site that demonstrates the nominees concern for young children.
4. You may attach any letters or information that will indicate evidence of an outstanding commitment the nominee has for young children.
5. Information About The Person Submitting the Nomination ( MUST BE an OWAYC Member)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Please submit to OWAYC, Awards Chairperson, P.O. Box 666 Fort Walton Beach FL 32549  
Or Email to :owayc@hotmail.com

# Okaloosa Walton Association for Young Children Scholarship Application

(You must be a current member in OWAYC to apply)

A scholarship is awarded each semester. The scholarship committee bases its choice on the applicant's need and past service to young children. Please send in your application at least a month before the semester begins.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Type of assistance applying for: \_\_\_\_\_

## Amount of Scholarship is \$200.00

Educational Information (Circle One) High School or GED

Name and address of High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Institutions of Higher Education Attended:	Date Attended	Major	Degree/Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Specific Child Development Courses/Training Completed (Attach additional sheets if needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Please have your current employer (Attach Letter of Recommendation)

Work or Volunteer Experience in Child Care (last two years)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Employment History (Last 2 years)

Dates	Employer	Address	Position
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Professional Development and/or Associations \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Goals: (No less than one half page and no more than one full page- attach to this application)**

Send Completed Application with requested information to:

**OWAYC Scholarship Chairperson**

**PO Box 666**

**Fort Walton Beach, Florida 32549**



Do not write in this space:

Date Application/ Information Received \_\_\_\_\_

Date Application/Information Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Award Date (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

## Association News

### Membership Renewal

To renew your membership or join, you need to contact NAEYC at 1-800- 424-2460 to request an application or down load an application at: [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

You can join on-line or mail in your membership information. Membership applications are available on-line or printable at the Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services, Inc. Education Resource Center in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach.

### The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

NAEYC is the nation's largest and most influential organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of programs for children from birth through third grade.

#### 2003 Annual Conference in Chicago

November 5-8, 2003

Chicago, IL

#### 12th Annual National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development

June 15-18, 2003 in Portland, Oregon

### Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA)

Since 1948 the SECA has brought together preschool, kindergarten, and primary teachers and administrators, caregivers, program directors, and individuals working with and for families, to promote quality care and education for young children.

#### 54th Annual SECA Conference

March 13 - 15, 2003

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

For more information contact:

Brenda Wood

1-800-305-7322

[Bwood@SouthernEarlyChildhood.org](mailto:Bwood@SouthernEarlyChildhood.org)

You can contact SECA at [www.southernearlychildhood.org](http://www.southernearlychildhood.org)

### Early Childhood Association of Florida (ECA of Florida)

The mission of the ECA is to promote the quality of life, learning and care of young children and their families through leadership, advocacy, and professional development of its members.

#### 47th Annual Conference

September 19-20, 2003 at the Radisson Hotel

Universal, Orlando, FL

To learn more about ECA of Florida and the Annual Conference stop by their web site at: [www.ecaoffl.org](http://www.ecaoffl.org)

For local conference and training information visit the Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services, Inc. Training web site at: <http://www.owayc.org/training>

## Win a NAEYC Membership!

The board has voted on having a professional membership certificate. As professionals all members should be able to display proof of their commitment to Early Childhood. The board has approved a contest to design a certificate. All members and non-members are invited to submit and entry. The designs will be judged for presentation, the ability to be reproduced, and impact value. The prize will be an all expense paid membership to NAEYC, SEC A, ECA of Florida and OWAYC for one year!

You may submit your entry via our web site: [www.owayc@hotmail.com](mailto:www.owayc@hotmail.com) or it can be mailed to OWAYC, P.O. Box 666, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549



## Celebrate, Celebrate!

These members were recognized at the Annual Honors Reception for Early Childhood Professionals on November 3, 2002 at Okaloosa Walton Community College. This event is co-sponsored by Okaloosa Walton Community College and OWAYC. This year Okaloosa School Coalition has joined in sponsoring the reception.

Dinah Covey  
Chumuckla Coward  
Patricia Ritchie  
Susan Anderson  
Beth Culbreth  
Sheila Fuller  
Sandra Garris  
Libby Gray  
Betty Whobrey

Florida CDA Equivalency  
Florida CDA Equivalency  
Florida CDA Equivalency  
National CDA  
Directors Credential for Florida  
Directors Credential for Florida  
Directors Credential for Florida  
Directors Credential for Florida  
Directors Credential for Florida

We would like to celebrate all of our member's professional accomplishments, but we can't be everywhere at once. So if you or a member you know (but is too shy to spread the news) receives a professional award or acknowledgement call or email the newsletter committee with all the "Who, What, Where and When." You may also email or drop off a disc with a digital picture. We would like to publish in the newsletter all the great little things that happen to our members. Send the information by the dates listed below to the newsletter committee. At this time the board member heading up the newsletter committee is Jane Spotten, Resource Specialist of Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services Education Center. She can be reached at (850) 833-9336 or [jspotten@owccs.org](mailto:jspotten@owccs.org).

The dead line dates for each issue are:

**December 20, 2002 for the January-March 2003**

Any information received after each of these dead lines will be placed in the next issue.

The newsletter committee reserves the right to choose the information they deem appropriate for print.

## Committee, Committee! Which do you want?

You can make a short or long-term commitment on any committee. We welcome any involvement. Please contact the committee chairperson if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

**Education Committee:** Come and help the President-Elect put together the Spring Conference. Help coordinate presenters on sites, plan the programs, present or facilitate at conference.

**Week of the Young Child Committee:** This is the National Association for the Education of Young Children week to recognize the importance of the early years and the teachers who make a great difference. There is national weeklong celebration in the month of April. This year it will be celebrated April 6-12, 2003. The theme this year is “**Children’s Opportunities-Our Responsibilities**”. We need you to come help coordinate activities for that week.

**Hospitality Committee:** Would you like to help everyone feel welcome at the Spring Conference? If you like decorating, sending out thank you notes, finding door prizes, this committee is for you.

**Scholarship/Awards Committee:** If you like to help promote or recognize highly motivated people in our field of Early Childhood, come and help us spend money and hand out plaques.

**Nomination Committee:** We need you help in finding willing and able people to serve on the OWAYC board. If you like finding the best person for the job, this is the committee for you.

**Historian Committee:** If you like taking pictures, putting together a memory album, come join this group.

**Newsletter Committee:** If you like writing, getting the scoop, stuffing envelopes, come help out.

**Membership Committee:** Help us build our membership. Get the word out on all the advantages of belonging to a local affiliate of NAEYC. Make our members feel a part of the team.

**If you would like to serve on any committee,  
please let us know.**

Contact the committee board member at [owayc@hotmail.com](mailto:owayc@hotmail.com) or through our snail mail address:  
OWAYC  
P.O. Box 666  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549

## OWAYC Book Club

Any OWAYC member can facilitate a book club. A group (five to ten people) is formed to read and discuss one of the three books from the NAEYC Catalog. These books have been pre-approved by the Education and Training Coordinator of Child Care Services and the Lead Child Care Licensor at the Department of Children and Families in Fort Walton Beach. You can purchase the books listed below for \$10.00 at the Child Care Services Education Center. A book club should not take more than 3 months after the initial meeting.

### Book Choices:

Much More Than the ABC's; The Early Stages of Reading & Writing (\$7) by Judy A. Schickedanz

Early Violence Prevention; Tools for Teachers of Young Children (\$8) by Ronal G. Staby,

Wendy C. Roedell, Diana Arezzo, and Kate Hendriz

Emergent Curriculum (\$7) by Elizabeth Jones and John Nimmo

### Group Leader/Facilitator: (Receive 10 hours inservice)

Will collect money and order the books needed prior to initial meeting. Will call the participants and inform them about the initial and follow-up meeting (place, time (and schedule for two hours). The group leader will facilitate over the two meetings handing out guidelines and question sheets. The leader will perform administrative duties such as: be sure everyone signs in on Sign-In Sheets, collects completed worksheets, keep minutes on what happens at the meeting (discussions, comments, etc.) and turn in all paperwork to the Education and Training Coordinator at Child Care Services.

### Book Club members: (Receive 8 hours inservice)

Book club members agree to attend two meetings of the group and will pay for and read the selected book. They will write down initial thoughts on the topic of the book, following guidelines developed by the Education and Training Coordinator of Child Care Services. After reading the book they will write down their thoughts and how this reading will affect their work with young children.

**For More Information contact Kathy Bostic,  
OWAYC Past President at 833-9336 or e-mail at  
[kbostic@owccs.org](mailto:kbostic@owccs.org)**

Any question? Let us know at [owayc@hotmail.com](mailto:owayc@hotmail.com)

## Board Meeting Open to all Members

The next board meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. on December 12, 2002. We will be meeting at Child Care Services Education Center in Uptown Station, Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. We encourage all members to attend. **Bring a friend!**

Agenda: These items will be discussed-

- Membership Drive
- Certificate Contest
- New Board
- Pot Luck Dinner

## Board Meeting Minutes for November 2002

Donna Love, Secretary, was unable to attend the meeting. Various board members submitted the minutes. Edited by Jane Spotten, Newsletter Chair

November 14, 2002 board meeting was held at the OWCCS Education Center.

### Members in attendance:

- ✓ Terera Gastone- President
- ✓ Beth Culbreth- President Elect
- ✓ Gwen Gregory- SECA representative -ECA of FL
- ✓ Kathy Bostic- Past-President
- ✓ Grace Mayo-Member

### Board Members not in attendance:

- ◆ Kelly Sheiff- Member-at-Large
- ◆ Jane Spotten- Member-at-Large-Newsletter Chair
- ◆ Sandra Garris- Treasurer/Membership
- ◆ Karen Powers- Hospitality

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the president; Terera Gastone.

### 2. Old Business:

Brief highlights of the ECA of FL Conference in September at Orlando.

### 3. Financial Report:

*As of September 30, 2002*

Savings account balance: \$559.88

Checking account balance: \$655.92

### 4. New Business:

- Newsletter- all information will be sent to the Newsletter chair by November 22, 2002
- Nominating Committee and a ballot (send to Newsletter). Vote must be completed by December 31, 2002. Will announce new board at January Pot Luck Dinner.
- January Pot Luck Dinner-Title "Flying High with OWAYC." To be held on January 17, 2003 at the Home Extension Office in FWB at 7:30. If available-Kathy Bostic to secure Extension Office.
- Certificate Contest-let members design membership certificate. The prize is a year's membership to NAEYC, SECA, ECA of FL and OWAYC.

- New ECA of FL website-send information to newsletter about the survey on ECA's new website to encourage members to complete.
- Annual Conference- proposed date of June 21, 2003 to be held at Okaloosa Walton Community College.
- Budget. Discussion of the tentative budget for 2003 was tabled until the next meeting.

5. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting is December 12, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Education Center.



## ECA of FL Survey

ECA of FL has a new website! All members are asked to surf on over and look it over. On the website ECA has included a member survey. They encourage everyone to fill out the survey as soon as possible. If you are not Internet linked, there is an Internet accessible computer available to you at the Child Care Services Education Resource Center in Uptown Station. Call 833-9336 for Center open times and availability of the computer.



## SAD NEWS

This is something I wish I never had to do.

On Friday, November 1, 2002 at 9:45 PM, Tina Hammock was involved in a head-on car collision. She was pronounced died at the scene. Her two children, 15-year old daughter, Rebecca and 10-year old son, Stephen, were Life-Flighted to area hospitals. At last report, Rebecca was treated and released from Baptist Hospital and Stephen is in critical condition in Scared Heart Hospital in Pensacola. He has a brain injury. Her husband, Warren, was not with them at the time of the accident.

Tina has been a member of NAEYC, SECA, ECA of Florida and Okaloosa Walton Association for Young Children for many years. She was the coordinator at the Okaloosa County Comprehensive Head Start's Laurel Hill location.

Tina will be remembered as a dedicated and loved teacher and an active member of the Early Childhood profession.

Tina you will be enormously missed.

If you wish to send a card or a monetary gift you need to contact Principal Diane Kelley at the Laurel Hill School by calling 850-652-4111

# Okaloosa Walton Association for Young Children Board Ballot

**Check off your choice or fill in another name and vote for that person**

- Fold ballot so that the address is visible and tape closed, place a stamp in appropriate place and mail. Or you can drop off ballots at The Roane School or the Education Resource Center in Uptown Station.

**Please return ballot by DECEMBER 31, 2002**

## ***Vote for one in each category:***

**President Elect:** The President Elect is in charge of planning and implementing the Annual Conference. They are required to attend board meetings. This is considered "on the job" training for the President's position they will fill next year.

Grace Mayo: Grace has a CDA and is a preschool teacher at The Roane School in Destin.

Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary:** The Secretary attends meetings and takes minutes, then submits them to the Newsletter Committee for publication.

Contrena Williams: Contrena is a Family Child Care provider. She runs a contracted child care home. She has her CDA and Associate Degree in Early Childhood

Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer keeps track of the monies coming in and out of the association savings and checking accounts. The Treasurer deposits monies received from NAEYC membership, workshops, conferences, book club and other association enterprises and makes financial reports at board meetings.

**Patrick Strong:** Patrick is the Director First Valparaiso Child Development Center. He has recently received his Florida CDA Equivalency.

Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

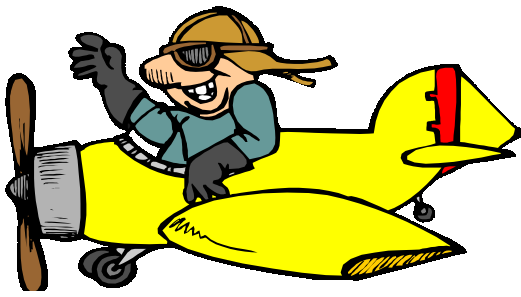
**Membership:** The Membership person assists people in submitting membership applications to NAEYC, down loads membership rosters from NAEYC, encourages people to join, reports to newsletter staff of members accomplishments and reports membership issues at board meetings.

**Debra Self:** Debra is the Quality Assistance Coordinator of Okaloosa Walton Child Care Services, Inc.

Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

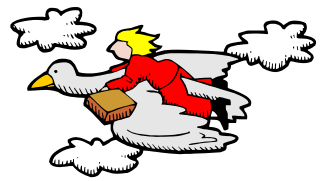
Place  
stamp  
here

OWAYC  
P.O. Box 666  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549



# FLYING HIGH with OWAYC

## ANNUAL GET TOGETHER BASH

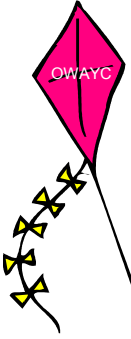
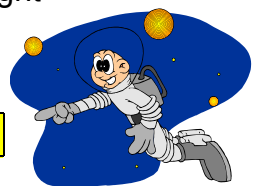


Friday  
January 17, 2003  
7:30pm till ???

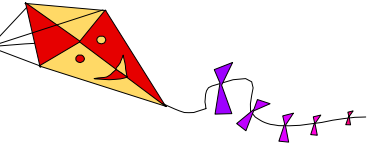
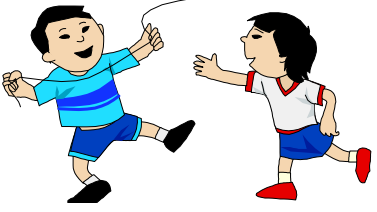


The Home Extension Office  
Hollywood Boulevard  
Fort Walton Beach

(Coming from the direction of the mall, the extension office is just past Gulf Power on the left. Coming from Beal Parkway direction, the extension office is on the right across from the VW dealership before Gulf Power.)



Hor'douvers & soft drinks!



Bring your significant other and make a date of the evening!



Okaloosa Walton Association for  
Young Children  
P.O. Box 666  
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549

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Fold



Fold



Fold



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## **Now you can contact OWAYC On Line**

Check out the web page and let us know what you think.  
The current web address for OWAYC is:

<http://www.owccs.org/owayc.htm>

You can also email OWAYC at: [owayc@hotmail.com](mailto:owayc@hotmail.com)