



Inkwell

Eau Claire Association of Educators



www.ecteachers.org

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Issue 5

Affiliated with Wisconsin Education Association Council and National Education Association



Important Date:



 Building
 Representative
 Meeting
 January 18,
 2012
 4:30—6:00 PM



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*Best wishes to you and your
Family for a joyous holiday season
and a bright New Year for
Wisconsin!*

*With friendship and love,
FCAE Executive Board*

Ron "Duff" Martin, President

Brian Wiltgen, Vice President

Lynn Verdon, Secretary

Phil Hurlburt, Treasurer

Shirley Ruesch, PR Chair

James Martin, Negotiations Chair

Nick Sirek, PreK-5 Representative

Sue Fulkerson, MS Representative

Pamela Larson, HS Representative

Carol Miller, Office Staff

ECAE PRESIDENT MESSAGE: Standing Strong for Public Education

HOPE

“Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.” Albert Einstein

I have pretty much always been an optimistic person. A person filled with hope and dreams. Even as a small child hope was ever present in my mind and heart.

Looking back on this I actually find that to be somewhat remarkable. I wouldn't say I was surrounded by a lot of hope nor were there dreams to be achieved, but during the holiday season families and individuals all across the world can for a short time hope and dream for better things to come.

I especially liked Christmas because it brought my family together unlike all other days of the year. It was the one time our family would gather—aunts, uncles, cousins, siblings, grandma, and mom. It was pretty rare for all of us to come together, but on Christmas we did. After eating we'd open presents and then the adults would stay up late playing cards and enjoying holiday beverages while we kids played outside, weather permitting.

As the night progressed, each would depart to their own homes. It was usually pretty late and when we got home, we went to bed immediately with the hopes of a visit from jolly old Saint Nick.

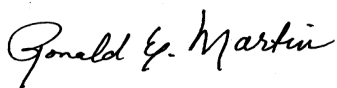
As a child I didn't ask for much from Santa. I had friends and even siblings who would go through the Sear's Christmas Wish Book either circling or writing down all the things they hoped Santa would bring. I enjoyed paging through the Wish Book but didn't find it necessary to circle or make a list. I usually asked for one thing and that's what I set my mind on and all I hoped for.

Now after 43 years of hoping and dreaming on a Christmas wish, I find myself hoping this year to see Wisconsin restored to the great state we were. A place where people got a long regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds, religious affiliations, Packer fan—Viking fan, or political background.

I truly am hopeful that we can recall this governor and elect an individual who values people, public schools, and families. That's what Wisconsin is all about.

I am a person filled with optimism. I know we can and will reclaim Wisconsin. It will take all of us working together. If you haven't participate in the 4X10 plan, I encourage you to do so. Go out and get 10 signatures (or more), donate \$10.00, encourage 10 of your family, friends, neighbors, colleagues to vote and most important, volunteer for 10 hours to help in the recall efforts!

In Solidarity,



Ron “Duff” Martin





DECEMBER DATES

Books Across America Month

Books Across America is an NEA effort to help replenish public school libraries (see [School Tube video](#)). You can donate books by reading a book online - see the [We Give Books web site](#) - and your reading efforts will be converted to book donations to a range of groups.

December 5-9 Inclusive Schools Week

This annual event, sponsored by the [Inclusive Schools Network](#) (ISN), celebrates the progress that schools have made in providing a supportive, quality education to students who are marginalized due to disability, gender, socioeconomic status, cultural heritage, language preference, and other factors. It provides an important opportunity for educators, students, and parents to discuss what else needs to be done to ensure that their schools continue to improve their ability to successfully educate all children.

December 5-11 Computer Science Education Week

In fall 2009, Congress designated the first full week of December as Computer Science Education Week to recognize the transformative role of computing and the need to bolster computer science at all educational levels. See the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) materials at the [CSedweek web site](#) and more educator resources at the [Computer Science Teachers Association web site](#).

December 7 Pearl Harbor Day

On the morning of Sunday, December 7, 1941, the Japanese navy attacked the United States' naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, which resulted in the United States becoming militarily involved in World War II. See [Remembering Pearl Harbor](#) on the National Geographic web site.

December 10 Human Rights Day

The anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—a document establishing a common standard for human achievement for all peoples and nations, rooted in the values of freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect, and shared responsibility. [Learn more about Human Rights Day](#). See also the [United Nations Human Rights web site](#).

December 15 Bill of Rights Adoption Day

The Bill of Rights is the name by which the first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution are known. Introduced in 1789 as a series of articles, they came into effect on December 15, 1791, after ratification by three-fourths of the States. For resources, see [Bill of Rights Institute](#).

December 16 Boston Tea Party Anniversary

The Boston Tea Party was a direct action by colonists in Boston against the British government. On December 16, 1773, after officials in Boston refused to return three shiploads of taxed tea to Britain, a group of colonists boarded the ships and destroyed the tea by throwing it into Boston Harbor. See the [Boston Tea Party Historical Society](#).

December 17 Anniversary of Wright Brothers' Flight

The Wright Brothers forever changed human travel at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903, with their heavier-than-air powered flight, which traveled 120 feet. [See resources on the Wright Brothers](#).

On the morning of **December 20-28 Hanukkah Hanukkah**, the Jewish Festival of Lights, commemorates the Maccabees military victory over the Greek Syrians and the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem. The festival is observed by the lighting of a special candelabrum, the Menorah, one additional light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. See [Chanukah resources](#).

December 22 Winter Solstice The winter solstice occurs exactly when the Earth's axial tilt is farthest away from the sun. It is the shortest day and longest night. The seasonal significance of the Winter Solstice is in the reversal of the gradual lengthening of nights and shortening of days. There are two winter solstices: winter in the northern hemisphere and winter in the southern hemisphere. Remember that the winter solstice here is the summer solstice there.

December 25 Christmas

Christmas is an annual holiday celebrated on December 25 that commemorates the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. In Christianity, Christmas marks the beginning of the larger season of Christmastide, which lasts twelve days. Traditions include the sending of cards, decorating with poinsettias and a Christmas tree, singing Christmas carols, and giving gifts.

December 26 Disbanding of Soviet Union

On December 26, 1991, the Soviet Union was officially disbanded, breaking up into fifteen constituent parts, thereby ending the world's largest and most influential communist state, leaving People's Republic of China to that position.

December 26-January 1 Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is an African-American holiday based on the agricultural celebration of Africa called “the first fruits” celebrations, which celebrate the times of harvest, gathering, reverence, commemoration of the past, recommitment to cultural ideals, and celebration of the good. Kwanzaa is celebrated annually December 26-January 1. Learn more about [Kwanzaa](#).

December 31 New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve is December 31, the final day of the Gregorian year and the day before New Year's Day. In modern Western practice, New Year's Eve is celebrated with parties and social gatherings marking the passing of one year into the next, at midnight.



SOME THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- * Walker has spent \$800,000 in television ads to convince the public how successful his actions have been. Really? Where? How? Who?
- * The Walker Administration has admitted they are not going to meet the 250,000 jobs they promised during their term.
- * Wisconsin was last in job growth last month. We actually lost 9,700 jobs.
- * The Department of Workforce Development said that the number of manufacturing and construction jobs lost "is disturbing"
- * This could be the last Christmas when 65,000 people, including 30,000 children, are on BadgerCare if it is not stopped.
- * The cuts to BadgerCare will result in a couple hundred thousand more paying more, up to 10% more, who will not be able to afford it and will lose it.
- * A quarter of the corporate tax base in the budget could prevent anyone from losing BadgerCare.
- * We are at the one year anniversary of losing the high speed rail and losing 13,000 jobs; however, we have learned that the rail will be built but will not go through Madison or Eau Claire.
- * Eau Claire has lost untold revenue because the high speed rail will not be going through our community.
- * GOP is going to be suing to have the new District maps put in place for the elections because they have not been able to pass it in the legislature. They want the Senate districts line to become effective immediately, but the Assembly district lines effective in a year. If the Assembly lines were redrawn now, there would be 10 Representatives who would have to move now to stay in their own district.
- * The Administration has determined that a Tech College ID cannot be used as a voter ID, but the college student ID will be accepted. This affects 400,000 students.
- * The Walker Administration has recently introduced a constitutional amendment to define a "person" as the moment of fertilization. This was introduced in Mississippi and was defeated.
- * Free Speech? How much does that cost? The Walker Administration just passed a new policy that if a group wants to demonstrate, they must apply at least three days before the event, then they will have to pay \$50 per hour, per Capitol police officer with no limit, or they could be required to put a deposit down.

WHY RECALL SCOTT WALKER?

- * Unprecedented attack on working families-stripping bargaining rights of 175,000 workers.
- * Consolidated power in the Governor's office, including stripping legislative oversight of health care programs.
- * Widespread cronyism, including replacing dozens of civil service positions with Walker's own political appointees and awarding high-paying state jobs to family members of big donors.
- * Raised taxes on seniors and working families by \$70 million, while giving \$2 billion in tax cuts to corporations and the rich.
- * Slashed \$1.6 billion from public schools while handing \$35 million for private school vouchers in Milwaukee County.
- * Tuition hikes for college and massive cuts to the University of Wisconsin (\$316 million) and tech college (30% reduction) systems.
- * Devastating cuts to health care: \$500 million cut from Medical Assistance, including BadgerCare, cut programs that help seniors and people with disabilities stay in their homes by \$284 million.
- * Passed the most restrictive Voter ID law in the nation, disenfranchising tens of thousands of voters, including students, minorities and the elderly.
- * He misled us. When he says he is doing what he said he was going to do, that is a lie. He never said if you elect me, he would sacrifice working families. He never said if you elect me, he would sacrifice children in need. He never said if you elect me, I will reward my political cronies with positions and contracts. He never said if you elect me, I will find my political cronies families positions in the administration and state agencies.
- * We cannot trust him. (submitted by Brian Wiltgen)

REMINDER 4X10 Plan

1. Collect 10 recall signatures to be completed and turned in as soon as possible to the United Wisconsin Office.
2. Raise or donate \$10.00
3. Reach out to 10 voters (friends, family, neighbors).
4. Give 10 hours of time.

Upcoming Events



January

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| January 4 | Executive Board Meeting |
| January 9 | School Board Meeting |
| January 18 | BR Meeting |
| January 23 | No School for Students |
| January 23 | School Board Meeting |

February

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| February 1 | Executive Board Meeting |
| February 6 | School Board Meeting |
| February 15 | BR Meeting |
| February 20 | No School for Students |
| February 20 | School Board Meeting |

March

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| March 5 | School Board Meeting |
| March 7 | Executive Board Meeting |
| March 14 | BR Meeting |
| March 19 | Start of Spring Break |

ECAE Holiday Office Hours

Closed—December 23 (Duff is at South all day)
Closed—December 26 and December 30

Office will be open: December 27-29, 2011



Professional Development Opportunities - PI-34 Licensure

Saturday, December 17
9:00 to Noon

PDP Writing Workshop for Initial Educators



This workshop offers participants hands-on step by step guidance for writing a Professional Development Plan (PDP). Participants will learn how to register with the QEI website in order to use the online template for recording their work. The presenters are trained PDP reviewers who have a lot of experience with the PDP process. We will offer two sessions: AM: 9:00 to noon and PM: 1:00-4:00 (afternoon session will only be offered if needed).

Register by email Ron Martin
(martinr@weac.org)



Retirement Planning Session

When: Wednesday,
December 7th

Where: Ramada Inn
Convention Center
(downtown)

Time: 4:30 to 6:00 PM

RSVP: Ron Martin
(martinr@weac.org)

2012 ELECTIONS

Positions open on the ECAE Executive Board for the Spring Elections are

- ◆ Negotiations Chair
- ◆ Secretary
- ◆ PreK-5 Level Representative



Contact Ron Martin if you are interested in learning more about each position. Nominations are due to the ECAE office by March 14, 2012.

Cleaning closets or garages?
Looking for a bargain?

BARGAIN BLITZ

List your items in the
Inkwell Bargain Blitz!

Deadline for submitting your ads is the **20th of each month**. Sorry, no personal ads.
Send items to Shirl Ruesch at: sruesch@ecasd.k12.wi.us Please e-mail me when ad has been fulfilled. Thanks.

Sell: Six acres in Ingram, WI. Located by 1000's of acres of public land. Driveway, turn around and electricity already installed. Email Jeff for more information. jbowe2@ecasd.k12.wi.us

Sell: Bauer Vapor X60 Size 8 hockey skates. Very good condition. Purchased Nov., 2010 and worn for two months. Paid \$700.00 will sell for \$200.00. E-mail sayers@ecasd.k12.wi.us or call 715-839-9727.

Sell: Minolta Maxxum 5D, excellent condition, includes camera 18-70 lens, strap, battery, charger, USB cord, owner's manual, two chips. \$245.00 Call 715-878-4316 or e-mail jankerg@centurytel.net More information at <http://www.steves-digicams.com/camera-reviews/konika/minolta-maxxum-5d-slr-review.html>

Offering: Private lessons to a small number of students this school year (maximum of 5). If interested, contact Bruce Hering for more information at home e-mail: heringba@gmail.com

Offering: Private art lessons to elementary students in your home for the student who can't get enough art. I have been doing this for about 7 years. Offering single student or group lessons. Work in a variety of art media, learn about artists, time periods, etc. For more information call Julie at 715-577-8503 or e-mail at jschaller@ecasd.k12.wi.us

Offering: Private piano or flute lessons at my home. If you are interested or would like more information, please call Nancy Wendt, 715-874-6141.

Sell: Things Bruce Hering has that he doesn't need anymore: 6' Halex Air Hockey Table (with paddles and 6 pucks) Craigslist price: \$50. ECASD price \$35. E-Swat Cyber Police 6' Tall by 3' wide vintage old-school stand-up arcade game. Ebay price: \$300. ECASD price: \$99.

"American Idol" style microphone, used TWICE, like new. Online price (new): \$179. Craigslist: \$99. ECASD price: \$79. Contact via email at heringba@gmail.com

Sell: Cabin with 30 acres for sale. Located in the upper peninsula near Paradise, MI (the blueberry capital). Cabin has two bedrooms, electric heat and also a great wood stove. It's five minutes from Lake Superior and great walking beaches near Whitefish Point. (Edmund Fitzgerald) There is a pond on the land that has nesting cranes every year. Contact Bill Simon wsimon@ecasd.k12.wi.us 852-5295. Priced right now at \$69,900.

Send ad items to Shirl Ruesch at: sruesch@ecasd.k12.wi.us
Please e-mail me when ad has been fulfilled.

Experienced house cleaning by retired teacher who understands your stress. Enjoy more time with your family and friends. Nine or twelve months per year. Reasonable rate. Call Sybelle at 715-832-0829.

Need Painting done? Call the women who paint! Interior/exterior. Experienced. Efficient. Call Gretchen at 715-833-8089 or email gbeckstrom@ecasd.k12.wi.us

Sell: Three bedroom ranch on the Northside of Eau Claire. Two baths, gas fireplace, hardwood floors in kitchen and dining rooms. \$132,500. Call 715-497-9525



Sell: 2851 Neptune Court, Eau Claire, Wisconsin 4-bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home on cul-de-sac with two connecting decks. Roof with 30-year shingles was replaced in 2007 and concrete driveway with side pad in 2008. The four-season room has a built in sound system, can lighting, gas fireplace, wood floors and cathedral wood ceiling with French doors to access room from kitchen area. There is also a built-in wood fireplace in the lower-level 24'x12'4" family room. Gas forced air furnace and Central air conditioning. Included with house: refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, washer, dryer, garage heater, leather furniture (lower level), two stereo systems and a 60" TV. Asking \$169,000 Contact: Gary, Cell: (715)864-1900. Home: (715)832-9448



Sell: Walkout ranch with large bonus room on 100ft. of lake frontage with low bank and sandy beach. Screen porch, hardwood floors, first floor laundry with heated tile floor, exercise room, 2 fireplaces (one gas), gentle sloping yard to lake front. 3 car garage. Majority of home was updated between 2007 and 2009. Four bedrooms, 3 baths, Eau Claire Schools. Contact: mcfarlane@charter.net



Want: Looking for a duplex, condo or small house to rent with two bedrooms. Call 715-497-9525. Odelia McLaughlin or e-mail omcloughlin@ecasd.k12.wi.us

Reclaim Wisconsin
Recall  WALKER
