



April 2018

Greetings from NECA President:

I want to share two of my favorite events in March and April. One is March Madness Final 4 in San Antonio and second is ACA/NECA Conference in Atlanta.

Regarding Madness, Warren Buffett offered 1 million dollars to anyone with a perfect bracket. No one predicted a # 16 seed from Baltimore would knock off the # 1 seed in the University of Virginia. Another interesting story is the 98 year old nun Sister Jean who prayed and advised Loyola to the Final 4.

The next exciting event will be in Atlanta 26-29 April. I still invite you and encourage you to attend all the events scheduled at our luncheon, reception and professional development training. We will be welcoming our recently elected officers including: Lynn Downie, President, Kimberly Key President Elect, Governing Council, Seneka Arrington, and Trustees, Cheryl West, Lisa Fulton, Kelly Holiday, Catherine Eaton, and Sujata Ives. We welcome and invite them to add to the continued value and professional service offered by NECA.

Of particular interest in Atlanta will be the exciting Professional Development Institute, luncheon, and welcome reception. The PDI luncheon will be held on April 26, noon-4, followed by the Opening Reception 6-8 pm with partners Jobs Hopkins University & Maryland Counseling Association; Live entertainment with Dr. Paul of Season 2015 of NBC's VOICE.

Thanks again to Dr Kay Brawley for all that she has done in preparation for our upcoming conference. Thanks Lynn for putting out another outstanding newsletter to all NECA members. Thanks John for your continued outstanding support to NECA. See y'all soon in Atlanta, but first have to get to the Alamo Dome for the Final 4.

Thanks,

Grey

NECA Reception, April 26, 2018

With Johns Hopkins University Counseling Center and the Maryland Counseling Association

Professor Jeff Addicott NECA Professional Development Institute Keynote Speaker:

Counseling Needs Resulting from the War on Terror

Registration for this PDI is \$60, including lunch, and will be held in the Omni South Tower Atrium Terrace, Pine Room. Register here: [PayPal](#) or on the NECA [Website](#).

April 26, 2018, Omni Hotel, North Tower Ballroom A, 6:00—8:00 PM: Partnership Reception, back by popular demand, with Johns Hopkins University Counseling Center and the Maryland Counseling Association.

Entertainment, Dr. Paul of the 2015 Season of Voice

NECA General Membership Meeting/Meet the New Trustees - 8:30-9:30 North Tower N6 - Forsythia.

In this Issue:

From the President , including **reminders about NECA's Professional Development Institute** in Atlanta, April 26, 2018 and ACA Conference Reception details, April 26, 2018

Do You Want to be Safe, or Extraordinary? *Michael Lazarchick*

Summer 2018—*Youth Engagement Leadership Development Conference, July 30-31, 2018—Call for Proposals.*

Reminder attachments:

NECA Seminar overview ACA Conference, Atlanta, April 2018

GCDF Certification Course details

YELD Certification Course details

Spring 2019—Seminar at Sea

[Unsubscribe from NECA News](#)

If you have previously unsubscribed but still got this email, please contact me directly: lynn.c.downie@gmail.com. There were some problems with recording details last month.



April 2018

Do you want to be Safe or Extraordinary?

By Dr. Michael Lazarchick

The Mainstream has been defined as the ideas, attitudes, or activities that are regarded as normal or conventional. Synonyms include conformity, common and ordinary. How often have you espoused moderation in behavior, the avoidance of extremes as the most prudent approach to life? Most of us feel uncomfortable in the presence of someone who looks very different that we do or someone who expresses ideas that are very foreign to our way of thinking. Indeed, we each have personal comfort zones, places we like to be, things we like to do and groups of “like minded” individuals with whom to exchange ideas and help us confirm that our beliefs are true and valid. The decisions we make concerning the sources of our information determine the evolution of these beliefs and our understanding of the universe. For example, allgeneralizationsarefalse.com displays a chart with media bias from a liberal progressive view to a more conservative delivery of information. I was not surprised to find the Huffington Post and MSNBC in “hyper-partisan liberal”, nor the Dredge Report and Fox News in “hyper-partisan conservative.” There also appears to be more distortion of the truth the farther we move away from the mainstream into the fringe if we believe factcheck.org, from the Annenberg Public Policy Center, which seems to be working hard to be the closest to middle of the mainstream.

The 21st Century is clearly in the Information Age, the period in human history characterized by the shift from the Industrial Revolution economy to an economy based on Information Technology. We are bombarded continually with messages from radio, television, magazines, newspapers, social media delivered to a growing number on personal smart phones evolving dramatically, along with other such computerized devices. As “educated” professionals specializing in workforce development, employment and career development, part of our job with those we serve is to help them understand information sources and the built-in bias or marketing for some type of specific gain.

In *Working Ahead, Moving Forward™*, NECA’s GCDF Training, we explore ideas from all different directions, quite often from opposing points of view. The inspiration for this article actually comes from discussions about the interconnected evolving world economy and understanding the trends which are creating opportunities which do not yet exist. We cover the mainstream “normal” tools and techniques because it is “prudent,” but challenge our students to consider concepts from the fringe. We understand that moderation, conformity and being ordinary are Safe and that is just fine for the mainstream. But some practitioners and their clients want to be Extraordinary. They want to know the value of becoming Change Agents who embrace the intricacies of Healthy Risk Taking.

Dr. Lazarchick's pedagogical style of instruction is highly interactive and inclusive ... Course participants will be enriched by his decades of experience and by his uncanny ability to translate complex theories into every day, adaptable best practices. ~ Monica Sykes

Michael Lazarchick is NECA’s Lead Instructor working with a Cadre of Experts, delivering a diversity of perspectives in a completely on-line training approved by the Center for Credentialing and Education. With a reputation for expanding student consciousness, *Working Ahead, Moving Forward™*, transcends contemporary career development thought in the exploration of 21st tool and techniques, exploring Wellness in the Workplace, the ongoing evolution of the world economy and viable practices that actually help people find worthwhile employment and make a decent amount of money.

Michael will be presenting *Wellness at Work & Play: Experiencing Rejuvenation* at the ACA Conference in Atlantic. Moving the audience well beyond Western Medicine, participants will experience a holistic experiential exploration of thoughts, sounds and movements, that stretch out to the fringes of eastern and western traditions of healing.



YELD

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ONLINE FACILITATOR CERTIFICATION

1st Annual Y E L D Conference

July 30-31, 2018

Dothan Leadership Institute
Chesnee, South Carolina

Call for Proposals

Theme

YELD C.A.R.E.S.

Collaboration, Action, Responsiveness, Empowerment & Strategic Solutions

Collaboration, Action, Responsiveness, Empowerment & Strategic Solutions. Priority selection will be given to submissions that address

- a) professional development topics for youth facilitators/trainers;
- b) solution oriented strategies for positive youth development, and
- c) responsive model youth programs in operation or an innovative design.

[Submit Proposal Online](#)

Sign up to be among the first to be invited to attend this NEW conference. We will send registration information once presentation list is finalized. Cost of \$150 per person, with 50% discount for presenters. Ask for group discount information if more than two individuals from the same organization wish to attend.

[Conference information form link.](#)

National Employment Counseling Association – A Division of the American Counseling Association



NECA Executive Committee Retreat, Sunday, July 29, 2018
Dothan Leadership Institute, Chesnee, SC



REMINDER: April 2018

NECA-Sponsored Workshops During ACA Atlanta: April 26-29, 2018

Friday, April 27, 8:00 am - 8:30 am

NECA Featured Session: Program ID #512, 3rd Floor, Poster Area 12

NECA's Extraordinary GCDF Certification Training: Shows You a Reflection of Your Life?

30-Minute Poster Session—*Michael C. Lazarchick, Seneca Arrington*

The National Employment Counseling Association's, completely on line GCDF (Global Career Development Facilitator) Training provides resources and knowledge that will ultimately help graduates perform at a higher level of functioning. Students who fully engage often have transformative experiences. Working Ahead, Moving Forward presents a diversity of wisdom shared by classmates and instructors. Students receive state-of-the-art tools and techniques resulting in a higher level of consciousness and more success with those they serve.

Friday, April 27, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Program ID #183, Room A406

Wellness at Work and Play: Experiencing Rejuvenation

90-Minute Education Session, Advanced—*Michael C. Lazarchick*

Using thoughts from Eastern and Western traditions, this workshop will explore the interplay of body, mind and spirit, through sound, physical movements and visual stimulation. We will identify sources of toxins in our environment and various elixirs and methods the body uses to heal. We will experience techniques that foster wellness and elicit rejuvenation. Dress comfortably. Expect to have fun. Powerful short meditations, a little qi gong, yoga and some surprises are on this path that ends with you feeling energized.

Saturday, April 28, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

NECA Featured Session: Program ID #321, Room A401

Take A.I.M: Developing Youth-Contextual Themes and Commonalities—with Dr. Cheryl West

90-Minute Education Session—*Cheryl West, Michael C. Lazarchick, Grey H. Edwards, Jr.*

This session will explore a philosophical framework for youth engagement and development. Using this framework, participants will examine contextual themes and commonalities. Attendees will explore the dynamic between the philosophical framework and transformative learning. Based on research and evidence-based program models, strategies for promoting positive behavior and program outcomes will be provided.

Sunday, April 29, 7:30 am - 8:30 am

NECA Featured Session: Program ID #376, Room A409

Your Reasoning Impacts Job Success: Understanding Reasoning Abilities for Successful Employment and Personal Happiness

60-Minute Education Session—*Kay Brawley*

Reasoning abilities matter to job success and happiness. The history of testing for reasoning abilities began in 1920, and some employers, especially the military, employ it for job placement purposes. There are 10 basic reasoning abilities that can be tested by the Highlands Battery. A quick test of your abilities will be provided during session. Stories of clients who experienced success and failure will be shared as examples of these abilities.

Attention NECA members! Please remember to renew your membership online.

Not a member? Register online.
www.employmentcounseling.org



Working Ahead, Moving Forward™ is a 100% online Global Career Development Facilitator curriculum created by Dr. Kay Brawley of the National Employment Counseling Association and Dr. Roberta Neault of Life Strategies, Ltd. Students have 24 hour, 7 days a week access to a substantial learning opportunity which leads to the internationally recognized **GCDF Certification** under the auspices of the Center for Credentialing and Education (CCE). Graduates send a clear message about expertise and competence to potential employers and customers.

If you work in a career development setting or help people find worthwhile employment, our training will dramatically increase your effectiveness. NECA uses a team of instructors to facilitate rich discussions, delivering a comprehensive, cost effective experience in just 14 weeks without travel and lodging costs!

Registration Fee for 120-Hour Course: \$1000
Register Online at the [NECA Website](#)



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ONLINE FACILITATOR CERTIFICATION

The Process: The Youth Engagement and Leadership Development (YELD) Facilitator On-Line is an innovative process for professional development. The course focuses on competencies that promote youth self-awareness, personal leadership, healthy behavior, and skills employers identify as essential.

“Nothing is more important than having the best skills for helping our youth learn the ropes for personal success, and for being ready to address positively the demands of our society as young adults.” Dr. Kay Brawley/NECA

Become certified today! www.yeldfacilitator.com <https://www.yeld.online/>

REMINDER:



2019 SEMINAR AT SEA SET SAIL FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

The National Employment Counseling Association is offering a seminar at sea:

Spring Break Career-Readiness Seminar for collegiate Juniors and Seniors

MARCH 11- 17, 2019

- Available to college students ages 21 and up who are in their junior or senior year of undergraduate studies;
- Topics: networking, mock interviews, job search techniques, dress for success, internships, & business dining etiquette;
- Ports of Call: Cienfuegos and Havana, Cuba (2 days) & Grand Cayman (1 day);
- Seminars: 2 days at sea sponsored by National Employment Counseling Association.

**You will cruise from MIAMI aboard Royal Caribbean's
Empress of the Seas – BEST OF CUBA.**

Also, you can be among the first to explore a place where yesterday lives today. Take the unique opportunity to get to know fascinating local culture while discovering the timeless sights and sounds of nostalgic Cuba while visiting the ports of Havana and Cienfuegos. Take a ride in a classic car through the historic *Malecón*. Explore the classic architecture of Old Havana, mingle with locals and partake of the *cafecito* ritual at Café Marina. Dance to live salsa at the famed Cabaret Tropicana Night Club, and catch a Latin jazz act at Jazz Café. Come seek a place untouched by time.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, contact **Dr. Kay Brawley, NECA**
Professional Director: kbrawley@mindspring.com

or

President Elect, Lynn Downie: lynn.c.downie@gmail.com

TO RESERVE YOUR CABIN, PLEASE CONTACT:

PAM QUILLIAN – Vacation Specialist

DreamVacations

386-760-8532 or Toll Free 877-241-7473

p.quillian@dreamvacations.com