

FORUM

Minnesota Corrections Association



Your Association Newsletter

Volume 30, No. 5 October 2008

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Find out where is Corrections headed in the Legislature.

Education & Training

Check out with the Educ. & Trng. Comm. has been up to..

Golf Tournament

See what all the fun was about.

Corrections Timeline

See where we've been. Our History. (separate pdf)

President's Corner

Terryl Arola, MCA President



I hope you are planning to join us at MCA's Training Institute at the DECC in Duluth at the end of the month. It is not too late to come and register onsite. Just look at what is happening!

- MCA celebrates its 75th birthday
- Past President's Breakfast with over 20 retirees registered.

- Over 50 students registered.
- Three keynote sessions with over 160 public attendees paying a small fee to hear our big name speakers.
- 20 great training sessions
- 50+ vendors at the resource fair
- Ride-a-long opportunities with St Louis and Carlton County probation departments.
- Tours at Duluth Bethel and Woodland Hills, as well as, MCF-Moose Lake & Willow River on your way home on Friday.
- Presentation of Student Scholarships
- Recognition of our MCA Award Winners
- Network opportunities at evening activities including a Tuesday night kickoff at the Dubh Linn Pub; hospitality night and a band at Grandma's Sports Garden.

I hope you will stay with us to the very end of the Institute on Friday. We are giving away 14 gas cards worth \$ 75 each to those who turn in their Institute badge and are present to win. If you turn in your evaluation form, you will get an extra chance to win!

It is very important to recognize our big sponsors whom without many of our special activities could not take place. They are: 180 Degrees, Alpha Human Services, BI Incorporated, Clarinda Academy, Concordia University, Duluth Bethel, Hoffmann Center, Midwest Monitoring, Prairie Lakes Youth Program, MCF-Togo, Woodland Hills, and YSI-Elmore Academy.

On a different note, we have been fortunate to have had Alison Schaub working for MCA as our Administrative Manager since June 2005. Her organizational skills have been a big asset to our organization. However, she has given notice that she will not be renewing her contract with us for 2009. As a result, we have posted an RFP for a new Association Manager. The complete RFP can be found in the Forum. It is our goal to have someone new hired to transition with Alison before the end of the year.

The MCA Executive Board, with input from others, spent some time evaluating exactly what type of position we wanted to advertise for. We looked at an executive director, the administrative/association manager, secretariat services, or combination thereof. In the end we decided to stay with the association manager position.

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MCA Website...www.mn-ca.org

Find additional information about the corrections industry, MCA programs and events, employment opportunities, and much more.

2008 MCA Board

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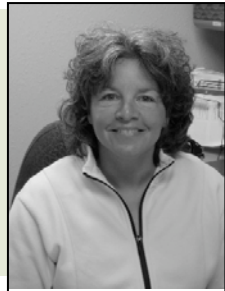
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MCA Forum is published six times a year by the Min-
nesota Corrections Association, a non-profit profes-
sional association incorporated in Minnesota.



Legislative Affairs

Cal Saari, Legislative Chair and Liaison

As this issue of the Forum reaches you all, the Fall Institute committee members are busy putting the finishing touches on the program content for our three day conference. Thursday's program will feature two presentations involving legislative affairs. First in the morning session, we are pleased to present John Tuma, a well known and respected lobbyist and former legislator, who will present "Legislation 101". This is your opportunity to get a first hand look at the legislative process and how an idea is written into "bill" form and follow how it progresses through the legislative chambers until it reaches final legislative approval and becomes law. This is an excellent opportunity for those who wish to have a better understanding of the legislative process, and even a good refresher course for those of you who have that interest in legislative activity. Then that same afternoon, the Legislative Committee is proud to present a Legislative Update Workshop, which will include a brief presentation by Guy Gambill and Brock Hunter, representing the Veteran's Initiative Center, talking about the new legislation that mandates a mental health assessment for all veteran's who are going through the court system. We will also be presenting the MCA 2009 Legislative Agenda to our membership for your comments as we work to prepare the final document for presentation to our elected officials. Finally, we will conclude that workshop with a presentation by several legislators who will then form a panel to respond to your questions and comments. It should be another interesting afternoon on legislative affairs.

As we work to prepare our legislative agenda, our eyes and ears are on the economic status of our state, anxiously awaiting the economic forecast later this fall, which certainly will impact the legislative agenda in 2009. We know from the almost daily dismal economic news we're hearing from around the country, that we can anticipate another government deficiency in January. The majority of those "in the know" are now projecting a deficit of at least \$ 2 billion in

Minnesota, and some pessimists are even suggesting the shortfall may exceed \$ 3 billion. With those kinds of numbers being tossed around, it's pretty obvious we can expect another difficult and challenging year to start the new biennium. Therefore, our priority will be to provide our legislators with the best information we can on our needs in Corrections and the impact of any cuts in existing programming, and work with them to minimize the loss of any programming.

At the same time, tough economic times do become a window of opportunity in other ways. It encourages us to reach

A special thank you is extended to Midwest Monitoring for their sponsorship of the lanyards for our 75th MCA conference.

Your donation is greatly appreciated.

deep into our wealth of expertise and knowledge in order to present new innovative approaches for consideration by our legislative leaders. We all know there are ways available to possibly generate new dollars in order to maintain essential programming and we need to be ready to encourage our leadership to take that initiative as needed. Look for more details on this situation in the next newsletter as we get closer to the start of the next Session in January. Please feel free to contact us with your comments and questions, and why not consider joining the Legislative Committee and become involved in the process. Look for more info on the MCA website. See you at the Fall Institute in Duluth!

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An Association Manager should be able to take over activities soon after appointment and deal with our conference planning, money-handling, accounting, registration, and similar issues without much direction. This role should effectively facilitate goal setting and future planning including membership recruitment and revenue generating ideas. They should be able to manage volunteers and attend committees to coordinate activities. They may also lobby and have that knowledge and network. We recognize that this individual may not have knowledge of corrections coming in but we are putting a greater priority on managing our association business. We have a large membership and put on a huge training event. Although we have many wonderful volunteers they are usually working full-time with the generosity of their agency's time, we need the continuity of a staff person to keep records, provide vision, and follow things through to the end.

Please get the word out. The more people who know the greater chance we will find the right person(s) for us. If you have questions and/or concerns don't hesitate to contact me.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Duluth!

Education and Training Committee

Terry Fawcett, Chair

Greetings! As your new Chair of the Education & Training Committee, I am excited to report some new training opportunities being worked on. As most are aware, MCA and MACPO have agreed to discontinue the joint winter conference as had been scheduled in previous years. Therefore, the focus has shifted to offering two regional trainings throughout the state that will enable staff from all over to attend. These trainings will begin in January, 2009 and will run in January and March of each year. The first training will be on Gender-Specific Programming for Women/Girls and will be offered through Amicus. This will be held at the St. Peter Community Center. More information will be

available at the MCA Winter Institute and via the website in the coming months.

The committee is also looking at the Regional Rep. positions in an effort to further clarify their roles and responsibilities, and is in beginning discussions with Amicus regarding their statewide correctional surveys around training and the potential for a Statewide Training Academy.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank former Chair Mark Koetke for all of his hard work and wish him the best of luck in the future. The committee is comprised of the following and is always looking for new members:

Terry Fawcett (Chair)
 Jill Hady (Brown County)
 Jon Rowe (D.O.C.)
 Karla Henrichs (Blue Earth County)
 Nancy Johnson (D.O.C.)
 Rebecca Lothert (D.O.C...Regional Rep.)
 Robyn Schauer (Blue Earth County)
 Sarah Eischens (D.O.C.)
 Wade Erickson (D.O.C....Regional Rep.)
 Jeff Passeri (Arrowhead Regional Corrections...Regional Rep.)
 Phil Drobnick (Arrowhead Regional Corrections)
 Amber Myers (DFO....Regional Rep.)
 Jamie Pogatchnik (Arrowhead Regional Corrections)
 Peter Zielke (Hennepin County Sheriff's Dept.)



2008 Golf Tournament

The 18th Annual MCA Golf Tournament was held at Pebble Creek Golf Club in Becker, MN, on 9/15/08. This year's tournament included 13 teams with a total of 51 participants. The winning team posted a score of 62 (-10) that included the following: Ryan Felker, Kyle Prall, Ron Gallo, and Joe Gallo. Congratulations!!!

During the course of the tournament there were also individual prize contest holes that included the following winners: Longest Drive Women, Tanya Parks; Longest Putt Men, Terry O'Neill; Closest to the Pin Men, Dave Wiles; Longest Drive Men, Joe Gallo; Longest Putt Women, Brenda Wood; Closest to the Pin Women, Tammi Solarz. Thank you to all those individuals who participated and we are looking forward to next year.



Congratulations on your 75th Anniversary MCA

On behalf of the MACPO membership, I'd like to congratulate The Minnesota Corrections Association on their 75th anniversary. MCA's commitment to the corrections field is appreciated by your many members as well as all other current and former corrections professionals throughout Minnesota. MCA's leadership on training and legislative efforts has undeniably helped advance Minnesota corrections to its current prominent standing nationally. Through the years MCA and MACPO have built and continually maintain cooperative efforts aimed at advancing the corrections profession. This cooperation has been to the benefit of both organizations, as well as the citizens of Minnesota by way of enhanced public safety. Congratulations MCA. We wish you continued success and significance in all your future endeavors.

Steve King, MACPO President

2008 Proposed Bylaw Change

ARTICLE I. Membership

F. Lifetime memberships will be available **to individuals** upon retirement **from employment in the field of corrections** ~~of active member~~. The one time fee will be recommended by the Board of Directors to membership. The membership will determine the fee by majority vote. Lifetime members shall enjoy full membership privileges with the following modifications:

- 1) Lifetime members will be given the same Institute fee arrangements as students. ~~Meals and~~ **E**ntertainment will be at an extra cost. ~~Meals and~~ **E**ntertainment will be at an extra cost.
- 2) Lifetime members who are active committee members will be permitted free conference registration. ~~Meals and~~ **E**ntertainment will be at extra cost.