

D.O.C. RETIREE NEWS

PEOPLE WHO BUILT THE D.O.C. TO THE LOFTY STATURE IT ENJOYED THROUGHOUT THE NATION
FOR CERTAIN RETIRED EMPLOYEES OF THE #1 DEPT.

SINCE 1996

#108 NOVEMBER 2013

WHAT DO OLD PROBATION OFFICERS THINK OF WEARING BULLET PROOF VESTS?

A RECENT STAR TRIB ARTICLE ON 9-16-13
HEADED "MORE TWIN CITIES AREA COUNTIES
REQUIRE BULLET-PROOF VESTS FOR
PROBATION OFFICERS"

THE ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE THAT
**'ANOKA COUNTY NOW REQUIRES ANOKA
COUNTY PROBATION OFFICERS TO WEAR
BULLET RESISTANT VESTS DURING HOME
VISITS WITH SOME OFFENDERS. RAMSEY
COUNTY IS WEIGHING A SIMILAR POLICY.
HENNEPIN COUNTY ALREADY HAS ONE.'**

***I POLED SOME READERS WHO HAD BEEN
PROBATION OFFICERS TO GET THEIR
REACTION:***

I think they have put rehab in the back seat.
It seems they have taken on the theory of the
old Nat'l Jail Assoc. I'm told that part of the new
approach is to let the probationer set his own
goals rather than the Agent telling him what he
has to do to get off the hook. I'm O K with that
with some influence by the Agent I think they
are copying other states that have had trouble, I
think that's a mistake.

I don't believe agents should carry firearms and I
hope an agent is intelligent enough to avoid places
or clients where a bulletproof vest is necessary.

*I'D BE EMBARRASSED TO VISIT A CASE WEARING THE
BULLET PROOF VEST. IT SAYS I FEAR HIM AND CAN'T
TRUST HIM.*

**(THE EDITOR- I RECALL GOING TO A LEGISLATIVE
COMMITTEE HEARING TO OBSERVE DEP.
COMMISSIONER COSTELLO MAKE A PLEA FOR FIELD
AGENTS NOT TO HAVE TO DRIVE STATE CARS WITH A
'STATE SHIELD' ON THE DOOR - TO PROTECT THE
PRIVACY OF THE CLIENTS. HE ACHIEVED THE GOAL.
MAYBE THOSE DAYS ARE OVER.)**

MIKE SMITH'S SOUTHERN MN GROUP MET AT FARIBAUT IN SEPT.



NOW - THAT IS A CORRECTIONS LUNCHEON!
FROM LEFT - LYLE PEARSON JR -STATE INST
MARK SIEMERS - STATE STEVE KLEY -
COUNTY
BOB GIELOW - STATE/COUNTY BRITA
LANGOWSKI-WIFE - TOM LANGOWSKI - STATE

ON THE RIGHT - DICK DEBEAU - COUNTY
JOE COSGROVE - STATE TOM DROBAC STATE
MIKE SMITH - STATE MIKE DOWNEY - STATE
JOE FOX - COUNTY STEVE ULMEN - COUNTY

ST. CLOUD REFORMATORY RETIREES MEET

THE ANNUAL FALL MEETING OF REFORMATORY
RETIREES WAS HELD OCT. 17TH AT THE VFW
POST IN ST. CLOUD. AFTER A SOCIAL HOUR
THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY
CHAIR, DUANE CEKALLA. EACH INTRODUCES
THEMSELVES AND OFFERED HOW MANY YEARS
THEY HAVE BEEN RETIRED. SEVERAL, 30 OR
MORE YEARS! THEY HAVE A 'BOARD OF
DIRECTORS AND A 'TREASURER'. VERY
ORGANIZED!

CAREER AGENT EXAM OPENS

WOW! ARE THINGS DIFFERENT TODAY! THE WHOLE APPLICATION SYSTEM FOR A STATE JOB SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED.

FOR INSTANCE- IF YOU APPLY TO BECOME A CAREER AGENT YOU MUST ADDRESS A FORMAL LETTER OF APPLICATION TO YOUR SUPERVISOR REQUESTING CONSIDERATION FOR THE PROMOTION AND ATTACH THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION-

1) DESCRIBE THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF A CAREER AGENT.

2) DEFINE THE PRIMARY DIFFERENCES OF THE AGENT CLASSES.

THEN- DEFINE THE SKILLS KNOWLEDGES AND ABILITIES TO PERFORM SUCCESSFULLY IN THE CAREER CLASS.

AND- DESCRIBE YOUR PERSONAL STRENGTHS, ETC ETC

AND - DESCRIBE YOUR PERSONAL WEAKNESSES ETC ETC

WOW! AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU ARE RETIRED!? WHEW,

THE WHOLE APPLICATION SYSTEM FOR A JOB HAS CHANGED.

THE STATE USES 'RESUME BUILDER' TO APPLY FOR POSITIONS. APPLY TO

www.careers.state.mn.us

WHICH SEEMS TO INDICATE YOU HAVE TO BE ON A COMPUTER (NOTE THAT, ORV PUNG, HAROLD HANSEN, COL. NEMEC, AND OTHERS.)

DID YOU RETIRE AFTER JUNE 30TH, 2013?

DAVE KORTE WRITES YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR 3% RETROACTIVE PAY FOR ANY SALARY AND /OR SEVERANCE PAY YOU RECEIVED AFTER JUNE 30TH. SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST OR E-MAIL YOUR FINANCE SECTION YOU RETIRED FROM.

DONATIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

WM MCRAE DAVE GUSTAFSON
TERRY AROLA RICK THOMTON
CYNTHIA MCLAGEN JOE CORONA
GREG CARLSON DAVE CORBO

(THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!)

BILL NELSON 'HANGS IT UP' WITH VOA
AFTER 38 YEARS AS DIRECTOR OF THE 'CORRECTIONS DIVISION' OF 'VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA', BILL NELSON HAS 'HUNG IT UP'. BILL STARTED IN CORRECTIONS IN 1963, FRESH OUT OF COLLEGE AS A COUNTY PROBATION OFFICER IN ALBERT LEA (FREEBORN COUNTY) (AS IT HAPPENS I WAS HIS STATE SUPERVISOR). IN 1965 HE WENT TO GRAD SCHOOL IN MICHIGAN AND GOT HIS MSW. 1968 TO 1973 HE WAS A GROUP HOME SUPERVISOR WITH THE D.O.C. 1973 TO '74 - ASST. DIRECTOR OF 'DE NOVA' - 1974 TO APRIL 2012 - DIRECTOR OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA. HE TAUGHT CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES AT BROWN COLLEGE FOR MANY YEARS.

BELOW IS COPY OF AN ARTICLE WE HAD ON HIM BACK IN 2006! WOW! 50 YEARS IN CORRECTIONS! CAN ANYONE BEAT THAT?

D.O.C RETIREE NEWS - SEPT. 2006

BILL NELSON OF VOL. OF AMERICA

BILL STARTED WITH CORRECTIONS BACK IN THE 60'S AS A COUNTY PROBATION OFFICER AT FREEBORN COUNTY (ALBERT LEA). I WAS HIS STATE SUPERVISOR - OH, HE WAS YOUNG! - 22, I THINK. FROM THERE, I THINK HE BECAME A GROUP HOME SUPERVISOR FOR THE DOC.

HE APPARENTLY JOINED THE VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA FOR CORRECTIONAL PROGRAMS.

BILL REPORTS HE HAS HAD AN EVENTFUL YEAR.

"I'M 65 AND NO SIGN OF SLOWING UP. IN JUNE I WAS INVITED TO PRESENT AN ACADEMIC PAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF STOCKHOLM- DID SO AND TURNED IT IN FOR JOURNAL PUBLICATION. IN NOVEMBER, I WILL BE SPEAKING IN BOSTON TO ASSIST IN RE-VAMPING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE APPROACH TO STREET PROSTITUTION... RECENTLY BALTIMORE (MONTGOMERY COUNTY) APPROACHED ME INDICATING THAT MY HALFWAY HOUSE WAS IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF TEN IN THE COUNTRY REPRESENTING 'BEST PRACTICES'...I HAVE BEEN DOING PART-TIME COLLEGE TEACHING IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDIES...

I DON'T SEE RETIREMENT ON THE HORIZON... I THINK YOU AND I AGREED SOME TIME AGO THIS FIELD WAS SO DARN INTERESTING!"

(WELL, YES, BUT THERE IS LIFE AFTER CORRECTIONS).

**D.O.C. LUNCHEONS
HELD REGULARLY AT PERKINS
RESTAURANT 694 & LEXINGTON AT
NOON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE
MONTH - YOU'RE WELCOME TO
ATTEND.**

SEPT. 25 - ATTENDING - PAT BERGLAND, TOM FOSTER, MYRON JOHNSON, LOIS GELBMANN, BOB NELSON & BETTY JEAN ELHOLM. BETTY SAYS, 'MYRON WAS LEAVING THE NEXT WEEK FOR FLORIDA. SMALL GROUP BUT INTERESTING CHATTER'.

OCT, 30 - ATTENDING = DEL & LORRIE LEAF, BOB NELSON, LOIS GELBMANN, ARDYS HEILIG, PAT BERGLUND AND BETTY JEAN ELHOLM.



TIDBITS



DENNY HANSON AND WIFE, HELEN CELEBRATED THEIR 60TH ANNIVERSARY ON SEPT. 21 WITH A BIG PARTY AT THE SANDSTONE GOLF COURSE WITH MANY FRIENDS. (THEY WERE MARRIED EXACTLY ONE YEAR LATER TO THE DATE FROM MY WIFE AND I! AND JACK YOUNG & ADELLE HAVE THE SAME DATE!)

DAVE CORBO, RETIRED FROM STILLWATER PRISON SAYS, "WE GO TO MAZATLAN MEXICO FOR 3 WEEKS EVERY FEBRUARY...ALSO THIS COMING WINTER WE MAY GET TO ARIZONA FOR A MONTH OR SO. WE HAVE OUR HOME UP FOR SALE AND IF IT SELLS WE WILL MOVE BACK TO HUDSON OR RIVER FALLS AND GET A TOWNHOME. (WAIT A MINUTE, DOES JAN GO ALONG?)

RICK THOMTON REPORTS THAT CURT GEATZ RETIRED STATE AGENT FROM THIEF RIVER FALLS DIED AT 76. IN SEPTEMBER 2013. RICK SAYS CURT WAS A SPECIAL PERSON WHO HELPED MANY OFFENDERS FIND THEIR WAY TO A BETTER WAY OF LIFE. CURT STARTED WITH THE D.O.C. AS AN AGENT IN 1966 AND RETIRED IN 2002 AT 65.

TAI SHIGAKI - MANY OF YOU OLDTIMERS RECALL TAI AS THE 'TRAINING DIRECTOR' OR MY ASST. PERSONNEL DIRECTOR IN CENTRAL OFFICE. TAI HAD MARRIED (FOR THE FIRST TIME!) HER OLD FRIEND, SPENCER PARSONS, A BAPTIST MINISTER. SHE WAS 86 AND HE 88. NOW SHE WROTE AND TOLD ME HER HUSBAND HAS PASSED AWAY. TAI SAYS THEY HAD 6 YEARS TOGETHER AND 'EVERY DAY WAS A GIFT'. SHE LIVES IN WORCHESTER, MASS.

MILT EDMAN- IS AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE FROM TEEN YEARS. HE'S FROM DULUTH & I FOUND HIM AS A COUNTY WELFARE WORKER IN WINDOM AND RECRUITED HIM FOR THE DYC AGENT JOB THERE. ABOUT 1962. HE LEFT FOR A BETTER PAYING CASEWORKER POSITION WITH THE FEDS AT MARION ILL. AND RETIRED FROM THEM IN CALIF.

LIVES NOW IN SACRAMENTO. TELLS ME HE IS FIGHTING CANCER! HANG ON MILT!

MIKE SMITH REPORTS ON SOME OF HIS RETIREES DOWN IN THE FARIBAULT MANKATO AREA:

TOM DROBAC HAS BEEN SAILING THE CARIBBEAN WITH FRIENDS THE LAST TWO SUMMERS IN A RENTED 30 FOOT SAILBOAT.

STEVE KLEY AND WIFE ARE GOING ON A 15 DAY TOUR OF EUROPE. IN THE PAST THEY HAVE VOLUNTEERED AS GUIDES IN GRAND CANYON NAT'L PARK.

BOB GIELOW AND WIFE ARE SAILING TO ZAGREB, THEN ON TO SLOVENIA AND CROATIA. AFTER THAT TO ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND. (THEY DO A LOT OF TRAVELING!)

LYLE PEARSON JR PLANS ON SITTING IN A TREE STAND, STUDYING THE DEER.

MARK SIEMERS AND WIFE ARE WINTERING IN INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FL AT NAVARRE.

JOE COSGROVE AND WIFE WILL ALSO BE DOWN AT NAVARRE BEACH WITH THEIR TRAVEL TRAILER.

DICK DEBEAU AND WIFE ARE TRAVELING TO VIET NAM, THEN ON TO CAMBODIA AND THAILAND.

**SCOTT INDEHAR,
RETIRED FROM THE PRISON
PASSED AWAY SEPT 12TH. 32 YEARS AS A
CORRECTIONAL OFFICER.**

**THE 'D.O.C. RETIREE NEWSLETTER APPEARS
EVERY OTHER MONTH- AS LONG AS I CAN
KEEP IT GOING. GREAT RETIREMENT HOBBY!
BEST WISHES FROM THE OLD PERSONNEL
DIRECTOR.**

**I SURE APPRECIATE YOUR NEWS AND E-MAILS
AND CONTRIBUTIONS.**

**I ENCOURAGE YOU TO 'SHARE' THE RETIREE
NEWS. ONLY A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF OLD
RETIREES RECEIVE IT. I'M NOT LOOKING TO
INCREASE THE READERSHIP. I HAVE 127 ON
THE MAILING LIST NOW - STAMPS/ PRINTING
AND ENVELOPES, INK CARTRIDGES - LOTS OF
MISC. COSTS - SO I TRY TO KEEP IT DOWN.
THERE MUST BE THOUSANDS OF D.O.C.
RETIREES - I JUST CAN'T SERVE THEM ALL.
BUT, IT IS A WONDERFUL RETIREMENT
HOBBY!**

**RETURN ADDRESS-
TED SPENCER
17969 DEEP WOODS DR
NEVIS MN 56467**

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Phone 218-732-7083**

MCF BRAINERD?

**DO YOU RECALL - LIKE ME - THAT SOME DOC
STAFFER WAS NAMED (ABOUT 1990) TO BE THE
WARDEN AT (APPARENTLY EXPECTED MCF
BRAINERD- THE OLD STATE HOSPITAL)?
MAYBE MY MEMORY IS SLIPPING A COG BUT I
WONDERED - WAS THE D.O.C. READY TO TAKE
OVER THE BRAINERD STATE HOSPITAL?**

**I DROVE BY THE HOSPITAL LAST MONTH
AND NOTICED ALL THE NICE BUILDINGS
-STILL STANDING.**

**I HAVE LEARNED SINCE FROM BILL MCRAE,
LONGTIME WARDEN OF MCF-STCLOUD - THAT
HE HAD BEEN ON A COMMITTEE APPOINTED
BY COMMISSIONER ORVILE PUNG, TO STUDY
THE TWO AVAILABLE SITES - FARIBAULT AND
BRAINERD. AND FARIBAULT HAD BEEN
RECOMMENDED!**

**BRAINERD IS TO HAVE ITS BUILDINGS TORN
DOWN AND THE LAND GIVEN TO THE CITY OF
BRAINERD - BUT NOT YET! SOME BUILDINGS
ARE STILL STANDING!**

**NOW, WHO WAS DESIGNATED TO BE THE
WARDEN OF BRAINERD? HELP ME OUT! THE
POOR GUY!**
