

The MAJPS Gazette

Summer 2005

A Publication of the Minnesota Association of Jail Programs and Services

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

MAJPS Members:

Many members of MAJPS set their clocks by the spring conference. It is an annual event that sticks out in a person's mind when it is well done. This year's conference was one of those for me. The keynote speakers on both days were excellent. Each of the training sessions was well done, and the networking activity component at the end of the Wednesday session was exceptional. I've been attending MAJPS conferences since 1985, back when Dr. Tom Reid sponsored the conference through the Minnesota State Jail Resource Center; this conference was one of my favorites.

MAJPS as an organization is sound and moving forward. Each member has access to information through the updated web site. They can access the executive board members quickly, get event information, and receive a newsletter at the click of a mouse.

We know programming throughout the State of Minnesota is well respected in other states. I talked with a program coordinator from Iowa who appreciated our web site and asked for more information about programming in our state. Also, a group from Wisconsin inquired about our organization. They were from the east central part of the state.

The year ahead is looking bright. The executive board is working on the Fall and Spring conferences, having identified the location and date of the fall with a tentative date for the spring. The fall conference is scheduled for October 5, 2005 and the focus is transitioning from jail. The committee is always looking for volunteers to help with the conference, speakers, or both. If you know anyone interested, please email or call me.

We are half way through the year. It is always a busy year in the business of helping people get their lives together. In the all the time I've been the Program Director I have never been bored. I am always challenged, and I am always in the process of learning something new. With that thought, work hard, keep your focus, and always remember to smile. See you in the fall.

Phil Draskowski

Goodbye to Lance Woltman!

We would like to extend our best wishes and deepest gratitude to Lance Woltman. Lance has accepted a position in Arizona as a patrol officer. He has served on the MAJPS Board for 4+ years and will be missed greatly by those of us who have come to appreciate his hard work and dedication to the Association. Those of us on the board will miss his sense of humor, as there has not been a meeting yet that has not included his wit. The meetings tend to get off track every once in a while, but we have enjoyed those moments. Thanks Lance, and good luck!

Spring Conference 2005

What a SUCCESS! From the comments we heard up in Mahanomen to the comments on the Conference Surveys, this was one of the best conferences we've had in some time. Topics and speakers were on the mark as far as jail programs are concerned, the accommodations were great and the social activity night was great fun. Thanks to Jen Pfeifer for all of her hard work and planning; thanks to Dave Kieke for the activity night; and a special thanks to those of you who lent your time to help put on a great conference. We have already begun planning for 2006, and hope we can live up to this year! If anyone is interested in helping to plan the 2006 event, please contact any of the board members. We are especially looking for social planners. This is something that we would like to continue to help members get to know each other, which helps all of us do a better job.

Here are some pictures of the conference. We hope to do more photography as we get better at it. If anyone has any photos that they may have taken and would like to share, please forward them to me.



Fall Conference 2005

The fall conference is going to be held on **Wednesday October 5, 2005** in **Goodhue County**. Goodhue County (Red Wing) Program Director Janet Barber has graciously volunteered her County facilities as host for this event. The conference will run from **0800 – 1200** hours with optional lunch afterwards. The theme that we are working on is transitioning inmates to the outside world after they are released from jail. We will have speakers discussing topics relating to housing, employment and parenting. Please mark this date on your calendars.

An event coming up that you may be interested in:

**“Clearing the Path for Girls and Women:
A Call for Action”**

**11th National Workshop on Adult &
Juvenile Female Offenders**

October 15 – 19, 2005

**Marriott Airport Hotel
Bloomington, Minnesota
(across from the Mall of America)**

**Co-Sponsored by
The Minnesota Department of Corrections &
the Association on Programs for Female Offenders**

**For More Information See Our Web Site:
www.ajfo.org**

New Logo!

We are looking for an artistic individual(s) to come up with a new logo for the association. We feel that our current logo needs a makeover. If you have the artistic talent, see what you can come up with and submit your ideas to the board. We will then have a contest to select the best one. Looking for creativity and professionalism all in one package! Use your inmates if you can, it would be a good project for them and there are definitely some talented artists in our jails.

SPRING CONFERENCE 2006

Another date to put on your calendars: **April 26-27, 2006**

These are the days of the 2006 MAJPS Spring Conference. The conference will be held at the Willmar (Kandiyohi County) Holiday Inn and Conference Center. We are already looking forward to next years' conference. We are currently putting together the agenda and will publish the topics of discussion the next newsletter.

Interesting Facts and Figures

In April of this year, the Bureau of Justice Statistics released the incarceration statistics for midyear 2004. The report stated that at that time, the Nation's prisons and jails incarcerated 2,131,180 persons. Prisoners in the custody of the 50 states and the Federal system accounted for two-thirds of the incarcerated population. The other third were held in local jails, not including persons in community based programs.

Minnesota does well as a state. We are the second lowest in the category of incarceration rate per 100,000 residents with 169 compared to Louisiana at number 1 with 814. While we have a low incarceration rate, we had the highest increase in growth of prison population with a 13.2% increase. These numbers represent prison growth and not jail growth.

To get the full report, go to the Bureau of Justice Statistics web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs.

Another event to keep in mind for your inmates:

From the Council on Crime and Justice

Come and be a part of the
"Families in Focus"
Parenting Class for ex-Felons

At the Council on Crime and Justice

822 South 3rd Street (next to Metrodome)

Thursday Evenings
Sept. 15th thru Dec. 8 2005
5:30pm – 8:00pm

A series of family education classes designed to promote and increase family interactions.

Gain insights into different parenting styles
Learn parenting approaches that are successful

Topics covered in the class include:

Positive discipline
Children's development and self-esteem
Breaking generational patterns of abuse
Handling anger as a parent
Ideas for connecting with your children

The program includes dinner from 5:50 to 6:00 pm
Bus tokens are available to assist with transportation

To register or for additional information, call Kelly Nelson at (612) 348-7874, ext. 200

Meet the Board



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