



December 2004

Winter Issue

From the Desk of the President

MAJPS Members:

This year is coming rapidly to a close and winter is here. Instantly conflicting thoughts float through my consciousness. I like winter and the first couple of snows but February, in my reckoning, you could move the whole month to the equator on a tropical island and life would be fine.

Jail life is definitely no tropical island but it is usually warm, dry, and you get a free meal. Enough ice breaking, lets get down to what you are interested in reading about, namely, the state or condition of our organization. Recent functions like the Fall Conference was a success. Dave Kieke planned, organized, and hosted the conference at the Benton County jail. It was originally planned for the Stearns County Jail but they declined due to remodeling of their training room. You'll find more on the conference later in the newsletter. Dave did an excellent job on the conference.

The MAJPS website information is updated. The best way I found to access it on the web is through a search engine. Once you get to your preferred search engine like GOOGLE just type in MAJPS. Click on it and the web page opens up to: About Us, Board, Events, Links, Membership, Minutes, Newsletter, Resources, and Training. When you get a chance, check it out. If you have any feedback or a way to improve the site please let me know.

The Spring Conference planning is near completion. In this newsletter there is variety of information about the conference. The syllabus is established but not in stone. If you have a speaker you believe to be perfect for the conference, do not hesitate to give us a call.

Jennifer Pfeifer of the Executive Committee has poured vast amounts of time and energy into putting it together. I believe it is shaping up to be another great MAJPS conference. I'm looking forward to it already.

A year ending, it happens nowadays more rapidly than ever. Life seems to speed up every year. Every one I talk to can relate. I hope your year was a prosperous one with lots of goals accomplished. May all of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope to see you in the spring at the Conference. Till then, work hard and do well.

Phil

Upcoming Events

Dates and places to put on your calendar:

2005 Spring Conference:

13-14 April 2005

Shooting Star Event Center

777 SE Casino Road

Mahnomen, MN

Topics on the agenda:

Cinda Lutz – DEA; Meth

Programs Discussion panels

FBI – Posse Comitatus in MN

Women Offenders

Mental Health issues

Dennis Gilbertson -

Day Break and Offender jobs

gangs-updates, issues not

presented last year.

Cognitive Skills

****There will be a complete criteria w/times coming at the end of the month.**



Estimated drive times from various cities:

Duluth – 2.5 hours

St. Cloud – 3 hours

Minneapolis – 4.5 hours

Rochester – 6 hours

Fargo – 70 minutes

Fall Conference Update

The 2004 Fall Conference was held in Benton County on October 13. The conference was well attended and we had some interesting speakers. The topics were Cognitive Therapy Skills and Stress Management. Conference attendees agreed that both topics were of interest to our needs and would like to see more at future events. Thanks to all who attended and a special thanks to Dave Kieke, Mary Herman and the Benton County Sheriff's Department for hosting.

Very Important Parent

We have had a program in place at Dakota County for about 8 years now that reminds us how important the Holiday Season is for families. The **VIP** program allows inmates a chance to connect with families, especially their children, during a time when it is extremely hard for them to be in jail.



We set up a Christmas backdrop (created by inmates) in the Programs area, put a chair and some wrapped gifts in front, and videotape inmates reading to their kids. The guys who it really hits home to the hardest are the ones who think they are tough and can handle it.

We charge \$4.00 for a VHS tape and postage. For those inmates who are indigent, I have had Correctional Deputies donate, and I have also been able to use some funds from my Recreational Fund.

This has been a very popular program, and is very fulfilling for all involved, including me.

Newsletter Items

I am still looking for items to put in the newsletter. If you have any good ideas about programs, recreation, volunteers, etc., please send them my way. Thanks. Loren

Don't forget the small things...

A 21 year-old man from Ohio who is currently serving in Iraq wrote this article. I found it in *Field and Stream*. He was writing about his childhood days of hunting with his Dad and his favorite dogs and how they loved being able to just pick up and go enjoy the outdoors whenever they wanted. The last paragraph ends like this..."as we neared the top of the hill, a warm glow came from a window of the house, and smoke rose from the chimney. Let the dogs run, Dad said, and we began the walk home. Inside we shed our cold, wet clothing, sat by the fireplace, and enjoyed some hot chocolate as we cleaned our guns."

"As I write this I am not at home doing the things I love. I'm manning the .50-caliber machine gun atop a six-wheel-drive tactical truck, working on combat radios, and hauling 5,000-gallon fuel tankers across the dangerous roads of Iraq. Many others have also given up freedoms and learned the hard way not to take the small things for granted: the chance to walk mountain trails, to smell the fresh air, to pick up a bow or fly rod and head outside. Many of us will experience these everyday things again. But some never will. For their sake, don't forget the small things."

As we go about our daily routines and have the ability to enjoy the "small things", let's not forget those who are serving our country all over the world and especially those in the war zones. Also keep in mind those who were so affected by the earthquake and tsunamis and how so many of them will not ever again be able to enjoy what they had.

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Resource Officer - Open

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2005 Spring Training Registration Form
MAJPS Spring Conference April 13-14, 2005

Shooting Star Casino and Event Center
777 SE Casino Road
Mahnomen, MN
1-800-453-7827

Room Rate is \$49.99/night

Make sure you specify you are with MAJPS when you make your reservations.

Reserve your rooms as soon as possible.

Members are responsible for their own reservations.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Facility: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Fax: _____

Fee Enclosed: _____

Member conference fee: **\$50.00** Nonmembers fee: **\$75.00**
(Conference fee is separate from membership dues).

If you have not paid your MAJPS membership dues for 2005, you may include the \$15.00 membership along with your conference fee. The fees are per person.

Return Registration Form with Payment to Lance Woltman.

Membership Application

Membership Includes:

- Reduced admission to the MAJPS sponsored 2 day Spring Training Conference
- Free admission to the MAJPS sponsored 1 day Fall Training Conference
- Networking opportunities with other corrections and program professionals
- Resource sharing with other facilities
- Program specific training opportunities
- Quarterly Newsletter

Name: _____

Title: _____

Facility: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone/Fax: _____

Email: _____

Yearly Membership Fee - **\$15.00**

Membership year is January 1st to December 31st

Checks should be made out to MAJPS

{No Purchase Orders}

Return membership applications with payment to:

Lance Woltman

Rice County Jail

118 NW 3rd

Faribault, MN 55021