



MACPOST

Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers

From the President

Summer 2009

Greetings MACPO Members-

The conclusion of MACPO's 52nd annual Spring Conference represents the conclusion of my term as president. I wanted to take my last opportunity to provide a message to MACPO to let the membership know that this past year and the 2009 Spring Conference was a complete success. This success was wholly and completely due to the hard work and determination of the various MACPO committee chairs and their dedicated committee members. On behalf of MACPO, I'd like to extend my appreciation to these folks.



Steve King
MACPO President

Furthermore, I'd like to recognize all the directors and supervisors who allow their corrections professionals the latitude to participate in MACPO committee work. It is my opinion that being involved in professional associations makes an enormous positive impact on career development and tends to lead to a more contented employee. Thank you all for the rolls you play in keeping this organization moving forward.

I'd also like to extend a hearty handshake of congratulations to this years MACPO award recipients. Warren Liepitz captured the 2009 Al Reker Distinguished Service Award, Abe Abrahamson performed beautifully in procuring the Outstanding Performance title, and Village Ranch took home the hardware this year for Excellence in Corrections. Enjoy your moment in the sun award winners-you've earned it.

I'd be remiss if I did not mention that the ballots for President Elect and Secretary have been counted and after throwing out the ones with dangling chads, taking a few ballots home in the trunk of my car, and ignoring some of the absentee ballots, Victors have emerged. Pending any Court of Appeals or Supreme Court action, the 2009-2010 President Elect is Steve Peterson, Waseca County Court Services Director. The position of treasurer stays put for another two year term with Sarah Weikle. Congratulations Steve and Sarah!

Thank you for the wonderful experience of serving as your president. It's been a good run.

Take care.
Steve King

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2009 Al Reker Award

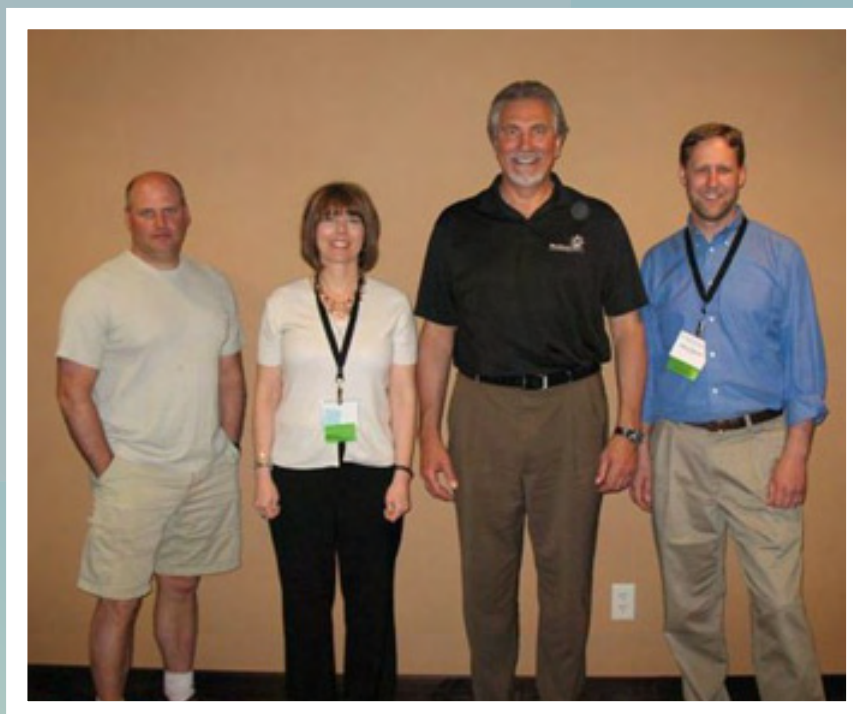


2009 Al Reker Award
Warren Liepitz, Mille Lacs County Court Services Director



2009 Excellence in Corrections Award Village Ranch
Pictured from left to right, Dale Grochow, Scott Bakeberg,
& Bill Salmela

Woodland Hills Celebrates 100 Years



Kevin Fawcett (Program Coordinator), Lesa Radtke (Custom Liaison),
Richard Quigley (CEO) and Glenn Dallmann (Admissions Coordinator)

2009 MACPO Awards



Outgoing President Recognition Award
Steve King, Mower County Correctional Services Director



2009 Outstanding Performance Award
Abe Abrahamson, Juvenile Probation Unit Supervisor
Wright County Court Services



Outgoing Treasurer Recognition Award
Sarah Weikle, Pine County Probation Officer



PRESIDENT ELECT
Steven Peterson
Waseca County Court Services
Director



TREASURER
Sarah Weikle
Pine County Probation

**2009
ELECTIONS**



2009

October 1, 2009

*8th Annual MACPO
Support Staff Conference*

INCOMING PRESIDENT REMARKS



Welcome to MACPO! This is our 52nd year as an organized group of probation and corrections professionals. Our association is made up of many dedicated people who strive to provide the most cost effective services and "evidence-based practices" possible, especially during these very challenging economic times. One of our primary objectives is to support and utilize services and programs that reduce risk and criminal activity, while enhancing pro-social skill development and long-term behavior change. As a group, we continue to look for more ways to collaborate, educate, and improve our services for the justice system, offenders, victims and the counties and communities that we serve. We look forward to working with many key stakeholders this upcoming year, including probation officers/agents, support staff, administrators, judges, legislators, and many others!

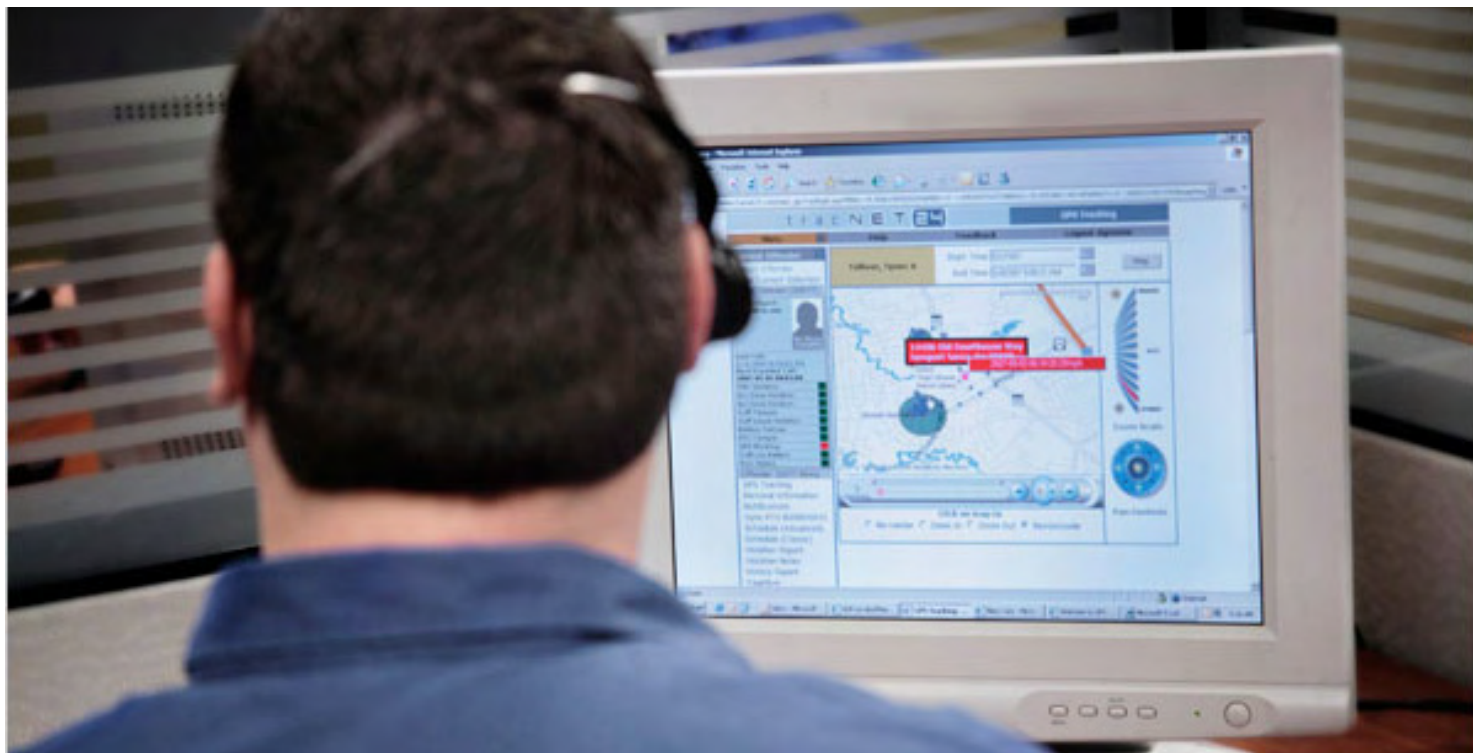
For more information about MACPO, please visit our Web site, or contact one of our officers or representatives.

Respectfully,

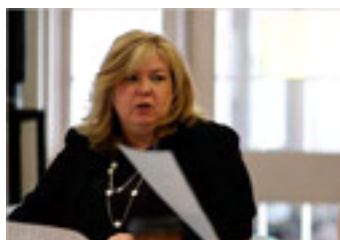
John A. Klavins, MS
MACPO President
Court Services Director (Carver
County, MN)

More States Use GPS to Track Abusers

By ARIANA GREEN



NEWBURYPORT, Mass. — When Theresa, a 51-year-old mother of two living near this coastal town, filed for a restraining order against her husband, she thought it would help put an end to the beatings, death threats and stalking that had tormented her family for years.



Kelly Dunne, associate director of the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center in Newburyport, Mass., has helped cities decide which domestic violence cases should be recommended for GPS monitoring. She won the order, but her husband, Joel, a West Point graduate with a master's degree who police reports say hid 17 guns in their home, did not seem to care. He violated the restraining order three times, she said.

CJ Gunther for The New York Times

“He’d come to our child’s school and beat both of us up in front of everyone,” Theresa said.

In Massachusetts, where about one-quarter of restraining orders are violated each year, according to the state’s probation office, a recent law has expanded the use of global positioning devices to include domestic abusers and stalkers who have violated orders of protection. A judge ordered Joel to wear a Global Positioning System monitor, alerting law enforcement officials if he went near his wife’s house, her work or their children’s school.

“It was the first time I could turn my house alarm off and feel O.K.,” said Theresa, who has since been divorced and who insisted that only her first name be used, to protect her children’s privacy.

Twelve other states have passed similar legislation — most recently, Indiana this week — and about 5,000 domestic abusers are being tracked nationwide, said George Drake, who oversees Colorado’s Electronic Monitoring Resource Center, which gathers data from equipment vendors.

But the path to the system’s widespread use has been bumpy. It is still hard to protect families who live in rural areas or where there are not enough police officers to respond quickly. With the economic downturn, states have cut money for training the police and judges in GPS use, and some places with legislation in place say they cannot afford it.

It is up to a judge, in cases of extreme violence, to decide whether to order its use before trial, as a condition of bail or as a sentence. That has led to complaints by the American Civil Liberties Union and others of too much leeway for judges.

“Until they know how GPS can be used and how successful it can be, judges are reluctant to order it because it’s unfamiliar,” said Judge Peter Doyle of Newburyport District Court. “Without seminars and convincing presentations, I wouldn’t have been comfortable ordering it.”

The scope of stalking was revealed in a study released by the Justice Department in January, which found that 3.4 million people had been subjected to stalking over a one-year period. As this week’s fatal shooting of a Wesleyan University student showed — the victim, Johanna Justin-Jinich, 21, told the authorities two years ago that the suspect, Stephen P. Morgan, had repeatedly sent harassing e-mail messages — stalking often includes sending threats online and lurking outside homes, offices and schools. Often the only way victims can prove that they are being stalked, experts say, is through new technologies like GPS.

Newburyport, a city of 17,000 about 35 miles north of Boston, has been a testing ground for some of the most effective training programs in preventing domestic abuse.

Kelly Dunne, associate director of the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center here, has helped seven other cities follow the model of the Greater Newburyport High Risk Response Team, which brings together police officers, district attorneys, probation officers and others to decide which domestic violence cases should be recommended for GPS monitoring. Last year, her group trained over 1,000 advocates, prosecutors and officials from other states, alerting them to the danger signs in offenders’ behavior.

Experts say the program can help save lives. Domestic-violence-related homicides increased 300 percent in Massachusetts from 2005 to 2007, according to Jane Doe Inc., the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, while in Newburyport, where a High Risk Team was in place, there were no such homicides in that period.

“Using GPS monitoring to enforce an order of protection makes the order more than just a piece of paper,” said Diane Rosenfeld, a lecturer at Harvard Law School and a longtime advocate of using GPS in domestic abuse cases. “It’s a way of making the criminal justice system treat domestic violence as potentially serious. By detecting any escalation in the behavior of a batterer, GPS can prevent these unnecessary tragedies.”

Ms. Rosenfeld’s research found that about one quarter of women who were killed by their domestic abusers already had restraining orders.

Alexis A. Moore, 34, founder of Survivors in Action, a nonprofit organization for crime victims, said that her former partner had violated a restraining order more than 30 times over four years, but that she had no way of proving it. She said he had slashed her tires, lurked outside her home and harassed her online. She said California lawmakers had told her there was no money to pay for GPS monitoring where she lives, although legislation allowed for it.

“My stalker continues to make a game of getting away with restraining order violations — because he can,” Ms. Moore said.

In Massachusetts, about 100 people accused of domestic abuse are monitored by GPS. They are charged \$8 a day for a cellphone-like device that clips to a belt, an ankle bracelet and a home charger. Their movements are monitored by three control centers, and if they break an “exclusion zone” around the victim or her children, the police are notified.

Tracey Mutz, 43, who works in sales in Louisiana, said she was raped at gunpoint by her former boyfriend, a sheriff’s deputy who is currently on GPS monitoring while awaiting trial. “I don’t think GPS is enough to keep us safe,” Ms. Mutz said. “Five women have come out in public about his abuse.”

Violent abusers can always remove their GPS monitors, as Theresa’s former husband did in Massachusetts.

After being a fugitive for eight months, Joel was caught and began a yearlong prison sentence in March. Theresa, who now has a permanent restraining order, said she wanted GPS monitoring ordered for him when he is released.

“I’m hoping next time that he will be too scared of being caught to take it off,” she said.

Higher Alcohol Taxes, Less Drinking

By ERIC NAGOURNEY

Higher taxes on alcohol can do more than add cash to ailing government budgets. A new study reports “statistically overwhelming evidence” that raising taxes also reduces the level of drinking.

Effects of Beverage Alcohol Price and Tax Levels on Drinking: A Meta-analysis of 1003 Estimates From 112 Studies (Addiction) The lead author, Alexander C. Wagenaar of the University of Florida, said the reduction in drinking had been found throughout the population, among social drinkers and problem drinkers alike. The analysis, in the February issue of the journal Addiction, is a review of more than 110 studies on the subject.

As prices go up, the study found, people become less likely to drink. And when they do drink, they drink less. The findings were true for teenagers as well as adults.

Although studies have found that moderate drinking can have beneficial health effects, other research has shown that reducing overall drinking has a broader social benefit, Dr. Wagenaar said. “Areas that drink more have higher rates of a wide range of problems (e.g., injuries and chronic health problems and deaths),” he wrote in an e-mail message.



He disagreed with critics of alcohol taxes who say they are unfair to people who drink reasonably. Nondrinkers and light drinkers, he said, in effect subsidize heavier drinkers because costs related to alcohol use are reflected in various things, like car insurance and health care.

Woodland Hills Adds Mental Health Program, Facilities

[Duluth, MN] Woodland Hills is proud to celebrate its centennial year with the opening of a mental health residential program for adolescents, and will open the doors to its new residential wing later this spring. The private non-profit agency, known for its award-winning behavioral modification programs, has added certification as a mental health services provider to expand its continuum of care for youth.

“Children come to our programs with a variety of serious and treatable mental health issues, including depression, anxiety, mood disorders and disturbance of conduct,” explained Mary Steiner, Director of Residential Services. “The mental health certification and programming will provide mental health services necessary to better meet the increasingly complicated needs of our communities’ children.”



The new program is available to girls at this time and will expand to include a program for boys this spring. Woodland Hills has been providing outpatient mental health services through its day treatment program since 2004.

To accommodate the new residential programs, Woodland Hills is adding a new girls-only residential wing to its main campus building. Construction began last May and will be completed later this spring.

Contact Cindy Finch 728-7500 x115 cfinch@woodlandhills.org.

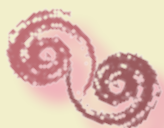
MACPO's 52nd Annual Spring Conference

May 20th and May 21st, 2009

Breezy Point Resort









Announcements and Training



<http://www.corrections.com/>

Today, Corrections.com is the single most recognizable brand on-line for the global community of corrections. Award-winning daily news is at the core of our business, with the most comprehensive database of vendor intelligence in corrections.



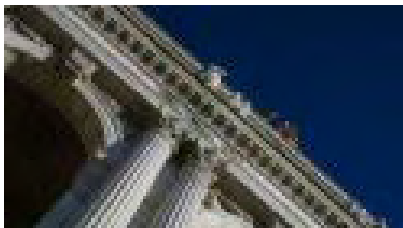
<http://www.appa-net.org>

To serve, challenge and empower our members and constituents by educating, communicating and training; advocating and influencing; acting as a resource and conduit for information, ideas and support; developing standards and models; and collaborating with other disciplines.



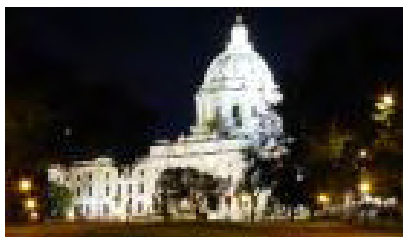
<http://www.mncorrections.org/mjps>

To hold offenders accountable and offer opportunities for change while restoring justice for victims and contributing to a safer Minnesota



CAPITAL DAY February 18th 9:00 AM.

Watch the web site for further details.



Mn Jail Programs & Services Conference

October 8, 2009 Wright County



MCA Fall Conference

October 28 - 29, 2009 St Cloud

Links and Laughs



In Memoriam

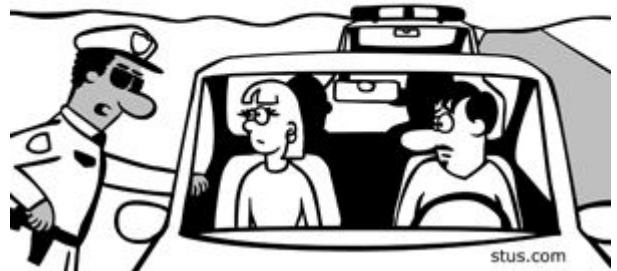
With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed last week. Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The



Hokey Pokey", died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in. And then the trouble started..

Wearing a ski mask and carrying a gun, a thief burst into the bank one day. Aiming his gun at the guard, the thief yelled, "FREEZE, MOTHER-STICKERS, THIS IS A ****-UP!" For a moment, everyone was silent. Then the snickers started. The guard completely lost it and doubled over laughing. It probably saved his life, because he'd been about to draw his gun. He couldn't have drawn and fired before the thief got him. The would-be thief ran away and is still at large.

In the future, I recommend
EITHER speeding OR carrying giant
handguns sticking out of your purse.
Doing BOTH is just plain stupid.



To Maintain A Healthy Level Of Insanity

1. At Lunch Time, Sit In Your Parked Car With Sunglasses on and point a Hair Dryer At Passing Cars. See If They Slow Down.
2. Page Yourself Over The Intercom. Don't Disguise Your Voice!
3. Every Time Someone Asks You To Do Something, ask If They Want Fries with that.
4. Put Decaf In The Coffee Maker For 3 Weeks . Once Everyone has Gotten Over Their Caffeine Addictions, Switch to espresso.

The Committees

Training and Education Committee

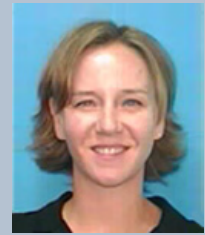
Thank you to everyone who attended MACPO's 52nd Annual Spring Conference at Breezy Point Resort. Despite the decline in attendance, the conference was a huge success!! I would also like to thank Stephen King, with a ph, for his wonderful leadership and humor he brought to MACPO as our President.

MACPO will be holding our Eighth Annual Support Staff Conference on October 1, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, St. Cloud. Please continue to check the web site for more information. Our 53rd Annual Spring Conference will be held on May 26-28, 2010. We look forward to seeing you at the conferences!!

I have had the pleasure of working with the same group of dedicated committee members for several years. It has been an honor and privilege getting to know all of you. You made my job as committee chair easy. Thank you to each of you for all that you do for MACPO. This organization would not be the same without you!! This next month, Jason VandeKamp from Isanti County, will be taking over for me as the Training and Education Committee Co-Chair. I am confident that Jason will continue to do an excellent job as he has proven year and year as a committee member.

The Training and Education Committee is always looking for more volunteers. If interested, please contact either Neal or Jason. The meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month and generally at the DOC Central Office.

Robyn Schauer, Blue Earth County Corrections.



Robyn Schauer
Blue Earth County
Probation

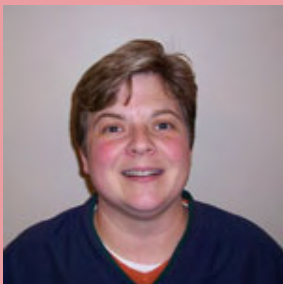


Neal Huemoeller
Wright County Probation

Membership Committee 2008 Winter Report

Greetings MACPO Members. Our Committee wants to thank all of you who attended our Spring conference. The two day venue was very busy, but most of us had a chance to spend some time "relaxing and catching up" with our friends from across the state. So much work goes into this conference that trying to thank people individually for contributing their time and talents to MACPO means we will inevitably miss someone. However, I would be remiss if I did not thank Debbie Wiome and Rachel Miller for their work on registration and clothing sales. They have this whole registration thing figured out! Also, we are losing Brown Counties own, Lynette Wellman. Lynette has served us well as a member of our committee. Once again, thank you.

Of course, the primary purpose of having a Membership Committee is to build MACPO's membership. We had a somewhat smaller Conference turnout this year and that is concerning in that it may result in some members not renewing their membership. Please give consideration to membership in MACPO.



Jill Arbeiter
Co-Chair

The makeup of the Membership Committee changes from year to year, and we always welcome new members and fresh ideas. Please give Jill or Chuck a call if you are interested in joining our committee.



Charles Kitzman
Co-Chair

Legislative Committee Report

As you know by now, this past legislative session was very confusing and contentious. At the time of this writing, Governor Pawlenty has not yet announced how he will address the remaining budget deficit. His un-allotment plans will not be announced until mid to late June. We can, however, expect that serious cuts will be made to local government aid.

In other budget areas, we know what our cuts will be. We can expect DOC grants to at least be frozen at the FY08 & 09 levels and certain pass through grants were eliminated. Our CPO Reimbursement will be reduced from the FY 08 & 09 funding levels which will result in an even lower reimbursement rate than the record low amount of 36.19% in FY 09.

The majority of the new corrections laws are contained in HF 1301, the Omnibus Safety Policy bill, signed on 5-11-09. Included are revisions in both the CCA A&D law and the 244.19 A&D law which clarify the A&Ds as having statewide jurisdiction. Also included is the establishment of an Evidenced Based Practices Policy Team and a Workgroup on Impaired Driving Offenders.

Most of the funding for courts, corrections, and public safety is found in SF 802, the Omnibus Public Safety Finance bill, signed on 5-15-09. Short term offenders will no longer be sent to county jails which should result in a local savings to many counties. As part of an extensive courts funding package, debt collection services will be used and court fees and surcharges have been revised. Fees for Chemical Use Assessments will now be paid directly by the defendant to the agency providing the service. The courts will now not be able to order imprisonment as sanction for failing to pay a fine.

The MACPO Legislative Committee will be taking a couple months off prior to beginning our activities for the 2010 session which starts on February 4, 2010. We have been discussing working on a "probation officer package". This package would include securing additional funding for our CPO reimbursement, continuing our work with AMC on improving funding for probation services statewide, following up on our probation officer search authority bill, reviewing current A&D language, and exploring language regarding fleeing from a probation officer and assault on a probation officer.



Lana Bjorgum
Itaska County Probation
MACPO Legislative
Committee Chair



Steven Paquay
Chisago County Probation
MACPO Legislative
Committee Chair

We will also continue to work on our "Option 60" early retirement initiative. We made great progress on this year with the completion of an actuarial study by PERA which was funded by MACPO and AFSCME. As a result of this study, we learned that an increase in our personal PERA contribution of only 3.4% would allow retirement at either age 60 or after 30 years of employment. This option should be of great interest to our younger members. We plan to discuss this option with the affected parties prior to seeking the drafting of a bill for the upcoming session.

Have a great summer!
Steve Paquay

Treasurer's Report

Hats off to the Training and Education Committee for putting on a great conference!!! MACPO continues to be financially stable. It is the end of our fiscal year so there is a lot of work to be done by myself and our accountant.

It is also the end of my two year term; however it is the beginning of a new one as well. I'd like to thank the MACPO members for allowing me to serve in this position for a second term.

ACCOUNT BALANCES:

Checking Balance	\$14,061.25
Waddell and Reed Money Market Acct	\$18,532.68
Affinity Plus Certificate Of Deposit	\$28,513.80
Waddell and Reed Bond Fund	\$10,693.47
TOTAL OF ALL ACCOUNTS	\$71,801.20



Sarah Weikle
Pine County Court Services

Communications Report

The Spring Conference was, once again, a wonderful training event thanks to the efforts of the Training and Education Committee. A special thank you to Robyn Schauer who is stepping down as co-chair of the committee. Her years of service are to be commended. Stepping up to the plate as co-chair is Jason Vandekamp. Also a huge thanks to the great vendors for displaying their programs and hosting many activities. The conference would not be complete without you all.

Congratulations to Al Reker Award winner Warren Liepitz for your years of leadership. Other awards went to Abe Abrahamson ,2009 Outstanding Performance winner, Sarah Weikle for Outstanding Treasurer and The Village Ranch for Excellence in Corrections. Also congratulations to election winners, Steven Peterson of Waseca County who is our President Elect and to Sarah Weikle for her reelection as Treasurer.

Special recognition for Woodland Hills celebrating 100 years of service.

And finally a special thanks to outgoing President Steve King for his stewardship in office.

Thanks also to Sue Clark from Isant County for her work on the Communications Committee.

Have a great summer.

Anne Riley



Communication Committee Co-chair



Christopher Maas
Sherburne County
Court Services

Summer is here and the 52nd Annual MACPO Spring Conference was a success. I hope that everyone had a good time and enjoyed the quality training that was available. The MACPO web site has pictures from all of the speakers, vendors and the award winners. I would personally like to congratulate Warren Liepitz, Village Ranch, and Abe Abrahamson for their dedication to the field of probation. A big thanks to Steve King as the outgoing president. Please feel free to let me know if you would like anything added to the web site. You can contact me at Christopher.Maas@co.sherburne.mn.us or 763-241-2819.