

# MCCA

November/December 1988

# Happenings

## Minnesota Community Corrections Association

### Winter Conference Set for February 9th and 10th

The 1989 Winter Conference again features subjects of special interest to corrections workers. Tom Johnson's keynote presentation will be very timely, coinciding with the report of the Task Force on Sexual Violence Against Women, which he chairs. Other subjects include licensing of social workers, the workings of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and drug enforcement officers. The pro and con presentation on probation guidelines is likely to warm up a February audience, as will the concluding panel of community leaders who will answer "Will Politics Kill Community Corrections?" and more... See the

schedule and reservation form inside.

The conference will be held in the pristine woodlands of Wilder Forest. The setting mandates casual comfort and participants are urged to dress accordingly. We will have opportunities to enjoy the groomed cross country ski trails through the woods. Skis and boots are available at Wilder Forest.

Spend the night. You don't have to cut short your enjoyment of the evening at the conference. Plan to spend the night with us at Wilder Forest. For a cost hardly more than the trip back to town, you can forget the drive and relax with use.

### Tom Johnson /Task Force Featured at Conference



Tom Johnson, Hennepin County Attorney, will present the opening address at the eighth annual Winter Conference. Johnson is co-chair of the Attorney General's Task Force on Sexual Violence Against Women. He will discuss the findings and recommendations of the Task Force.

A 1970 graduate of the University of Minnesota law school, Johnson has served as Hennepin County Attorney since 1979. He also serves on Hennepin County task forces on juvenile justice, civil commitment of the mentally ill, burglary prevention and prosecution and youth and drugs.

### Social Worker/Comic to Entertain Thursday Night



If that sounds like a strange combination, this lady has accomplished the amazing transition. The MCCA is pleased to have Merrilyn Belgum to entertain us at the conference. Merrilyn has had a successful career as a social worker, well known in the Twin Cities and the University of Minnesota. She has carved another niche for herself as a popular comedjan, performing at the Guthrie Theater, the World Theater, Dudley Riggs Etc. Comedy Club and two appearances on KTCA "Land of Loons" comedy special. Merrilyn says she has distilled her humor from 41 years as a social worker, mother and wife and is sure to cast new light on our profession. Please plan to stay at the conference Thursday evening to enjoy this very entertaining opportunity.



## Training Focuses on Domestic Abuse and Electronic Surveillance

The monthly training for Wednesday, December 21, 1988, featured Ellen Pence, Director of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project in Duluth. The workshop, **Domestic Abuse: A Cultural Perspective,** examined the context in which battering occurs, with a particular view toward the social conditions which foster violence toward women. Ms. Pence described how family violence is influenced by such factors as the patriarchal nature of American society, class structure and the general levels of violence within our culture.

## Meet the Speakers

**Lt. E. Fontana** (Crack Houses) is a member of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Narcotic Division.

**Mary White** (Social Work Licensing) is Program Director for Continuing Education for the National Association of Social Workers, Minnesota Chapter. She served as coordinator of the NASW Social Work Licensure Project from 1984 to 1987. A 1978 graduate of the University of Minnesota school of social work, White has experience as a researcher with Ramsey County Human Services and NASW and as a planner for the Minnesota Department of Health.

**George T. Ellis** (Sex Offenders) has been Director of Project Pathfinder since September 1986. A certified sex therapist, he received training at the University of Minnesota Program in Human Sexuality. He has prior experience as a psychotherapist at Portland House and Eden Rehabilitation, Inc.

**Stephanie Haider** is a Dakota County Court Services Officer and administrator of the Youth Repay Program. The Program is funded by a Justice Assistance Act grant to operate a unique cooperative effort between the court and community. The program assures that juvenile offenders work to repay their victims and the community.

**Kevin Burke** (Non-Imprisonment Guidelines) has been a judge of the Hennepin County District Court since 1984. He has prior legal experience with the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office, Legal Aid to Minnesota Prisoners (L.A.M.P.) and private practice. Judge

**Electronic Surveillance** will be the subject of the training on January 25, 1989. (Note the change in dates). Bruce Clendenen, Director of Development for Reentry Services, Inc., will describe the latest technology in electronic monitoring services which are being developed to cope with the overcrowding in prisons and jails.

**Training sessions are held at Wilder CAP, 666 Marshall Avenue, St. Paul, from 10:00 AM to noon. Please register in advance by calling Reentry Services at 292-1466.**

Burke has been chair of the State Board of Public Defense since 1984 and was a



member of the Metropolitan Council Criminal Justice Advisory Committee from 1977 to 1984.

**Randy Kelly** (Non-Imprisonment Guidelines) is a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives from District 67A. He serves as Chair of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee and has been outspoken on matters concerning corrections.

**Steve Edmundson** is manager of Toxiscan, a private laboratory which contracts with a number of private organizations to provide drug screening urinalyses and blood tests.

**Mark K. Shields** (Role of the BCA) has been Superintendent of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension since Octo-

## Genesis Welcomes New Staff

**Weida Jackson** recently assumed the position of Manager of Children's Services at Genesis II For Women. Ms. Jackson relocated to the Twin Cities from Covington, Kentucky, where she had done extensive work with Child Protection. Ms. Jackson has also had previous experience in the nonprofit community. She developed and implemented an agency called Reach Out and Touch in Cincinnati, Ohio. The agency worked with economically disadvantaged people through counseling, job placement and advocacy. Weida's interests include football (she's a die hard Vikings fan!), aerobics and community volunteer work. Because of her strong interest in and commitment to women's issues and the needs of children, Weida promises to be an asset to the Genesis program.

ber 1987. A former St. Paul police officer, he served from 1978 to 1987 as Executive Director of the Minne-



Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training. Shields received a Master of Arts degree in education from St. Thomas College and doctoral coursework at the University of Minnesota. As a law enforcement administrator, he has developed innovative programs for licensing police, education of police and recruiting minorities.

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**We Want You to Know**



**By Laura Sissala, MCCA President**

This issue contains our conference information. For those who have joined us in the past, the information is anxiously awaited. For those of you who have not been our guests/participants, I encourage you to seriously browse the list of our presenters. You will find quality presenters speaking on a variety of timely and of-the-moment topics. Our conference chairperson, Bruce Clendenen, has sought to provide professional training issues in a relaxing setting. The philosophy of our annual winter conference is a respite in our busy lives, a comfortable jeans-and-tee-shirt setting with stimulating speakers and current topics affecting community corrections and its related treatment personnel. Join us. We're on the cutting edge — with you!

A postscript: For those who scrutinize our illustrious publication, you will note something missing, a phone number designated for MCCA. A short while back, as a cost-saving measure, we gave up our designated line at Wilder CAP. Now to relieve some of the subsequent confusion (as that line was not always answered) your contact phone number will be mine - The President's! 926-9808. I do encourage those with questions about training, though, to contact the number referred to in the training flyers.

**MINNESOTA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION**  
666 Marshall Avenue  
St.Paul, MN. 55104

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK ROLE: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS SHOWN IS:

	INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP	_____ \$15
_____ HOME	PROGRAM MEMBERSHIP	_____ \$120
_____ WORK	STUDENT/VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP	_____ \$10

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCCA

## Eleven Nominees Vie for Board of Directors

Eleven members have announced their candidacy for the MCCA Board of Directors. MCCA members are urged to vote for the Board of Directors by using the ballot included in this issue. All ballots must be received in the MCCA office by January 16, 1989.

Candidates for the six positions include six incumbents and five "new" candidates. Following are brief resumes of the nominees.

**Pete Batterman** has worked in Corrections for 19 years which included three years in Municipal Court in Chicago. For the past 15 years he has been a Probation Officer with the Hennepin County Felony Division. Pete has been an MCA member for over 10 years and has served on MCCA's Board for the past year.

**Raeone Buckman** started with Project Remand in October of 1988 as Executive Director. Prior to that, Raeone was Director for the St. Paul Youth Service Bureau for four years and for four years was the Assistant Director for the Bridge for Runaway Youth. She has worked for non-profits a total of 12 years and serves on the Board for Leadership St. Paul.

**Denis Doege** started working for the Minnesota Department of Corrections in 1967, working both with juveniles and adults as a P.O. and in supervisory capacities. Denis has been the Director of the Work Release Program for the Department of Corrections since 1976. He also is the Manager of the DOC's Alternative Program Unit. He has served on MCCA's Board since September.

**George Ellis** has been the Director of

Pathfinder for the past two years. Prior to that, he was at the University of Minnesota, Human Sexuality Program. George is certified as a sexuality therapist, Gestalt therapist and bioenergetic therapist and is also a licensed psychologist. He has worked with correctional clients at Eden House and Portland House. Currently he has a private practice in Minneapolis.

**Carol Sturm Feltl** is a probation officer with Hennepin county felony probation and has worked with adult probationers for the last 12 years. She was employed by the State of Minnesota, DoC from 1966 to 1980 and until 1976 worked with juveniles both at Lino Lakes and on parole in Hennepin County. She is a member of MCA and has been on the Board of MCCA for the past two years.

**Chuck Jakway** has been the Special Services Director at MCF-Lino Lakes since January of 1987. Prior to this he was a caseworker at MCF-LL from 1978 to 1986. He also has worked for the Department of Economic Security and for Vista, New York City Department of Corrections. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Minneapolis Communications Center and MCA.

**Rod Johnson** is Director of the Wilder Community Assistance Program. He has also worked as a School Social Worker, Assistant Director of Bremer House, Corrections Agent and Institution Caseworker with the DOC. He has been on the MCCA Board of Directors since 1981 and has served as President.

**Sid Lewis** has been the Director of Anishinabe Longhouse, a halfway house

for American Indian offenders since 1987. He is also a program development, management and evaluation consultant for non-profit organizations on a regional and national basis. Sid has served both as Executive Director and as Adult Education Director of the Heart of the Earth Survival School. Additionally, he has several years of experience in education in administrative positions.

**Anne McDiarmid** is the Program Director of Reentry Metro a residential program for female offenders. She has previous experience as a Ramsey County Probation Officer. After obtaining her law degree, she worked at the State Public Defender's Office. She is active in women's issues and in community corrections. Anne has been on MCCA's Board for the past two years and is currently Secretary.

**Laura Sissala** is currently the President of MCCA and has served as Vice-President. She has been the Program Director of REM-Lyndale for seven years and currently supervises eight other facilities. She has been a member of the Board of Directors for four years.

**Jerry Soma** is the Assistant Director of Anoka County Community Corrections Department having worked in Corrections in Anoka County for 23 years. He has worked with juveniles as a P.O., with adolescents at Lino Lakes in the residential detention facility and with Work Release clients. He has operated the DWI and C.D. programs in the jail. Jerry has been on the Board for Alexander House and has been a member of MCA for many years.

## DOC Cuts Residential Time for Releasees

The Department of Corrections has requested its contract community re-entry facilities to substantially reduce the time in placement for mandated offenders.

Resident time in facilities such as 180 Degrees and Reentry has been three to four months; DOC has requested that this time be reduced to 60 days so that more offenders can be served. Most re-entry facilities currently are operating at capacity, often with a significant waiting list.

Among their clients, 180 Degrees serves men in the outpatient phase of the Lino Lakes Transitional Sex Offender Program (TSOP). These men participate

in the program at 180 Degrees for four months after leaving Lino Lakes. Tom Zoet, 180 Degrees' Director, says things are "up in the air" right now as to the effect of the proposed changes on this phase of TSOP.

Zoet says while the current mood is toward demanding more treatment for sex offenders, there are a number of problems to be faced. No one wants a halfway house in their neighborhood, much less one for sex offenders. Zoet does not foresee any new ones opening up. A more likely growth area may be outpatient treatment, but where will the money come from? In-

stitutions can add staff for sex offender education, but will this be effective?

The "just desserts" model cannot mandate treatment. This means either a two track system of sentencing (legally possible?) or going back to indeterminate sentencing (unlikely) if we are to start mandating treatment. Most agree that piling up years in prison for sex offenders won't help. This creates a bed crunch with fewer people served. Everyone gets eventually, even the "hard-core." Do we want to "warehouse" them at huge expense, with no specific treatment?

## Task Force Urges Greater Control Over Sex Offenders

Attorney General, Skip Humphrey, called for a Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence Against Women after the sexually related murders of a few local women this spring and summer. He requested proposal of specific measures to increase control over violent and repeat sexual offenders, looking at a long-term approach to preventing sexual violence and an evaluation of the adequacy and need for services for victims of sexual assault.

Four in-depth briefings were held, and public testimony was heard in Moorhead, Rochester, Duluth, Marshall, and Minneapolis. Oral and written testimony was given by victims' lawyers, and other professionals. Smaller working groups focused on specific policy questions. Members of the task force were drawn from state and city government, crime victim therapists, (no cops) sexual violence program directors, people in the judicial system and others who work with sexual assault victims.

The task force outlined three guiding principles underlying their recommendations:

1. Intervention by the juvenile justice system and punishment by the criminal justice system must reflect the fact that every sexual assault is a serious, violent crime.

2. Public safety requires that treatment and supervision be provided for sex offenders in a way which will maximize the likelihood that they will change their behavior so that they no longer pose a danger to the public.

3. The most serious consequences must be provided for the most dangerous offenders. Long term incapacitation must be available for untreated sexual predators who pose a continuing danger to the public.

A summary of recommendations of the task force are as follows:

- Increase the presumptive guideline sentences for sex offenses committed with force or coercion. Increase guideline sentences for repeat offenders by giving more weight to prior crimes against the person.

- Permit judges to sentence sex offenders up to the statutory maximum if the judge finds that the offender used aggra-

vated violence, is a repeat or patterned sex offender or that he has committed additional crimes after participating in sex offender treatment.

- Structure sentences for violent and repeat sex offenders so they can be placed on long-term supervision after release from prison and so that they will serve extended prison sentences if they fail to make satisfactory progress in treatment.

- Permit indeterminate commitment for the convicted sex offenders who pose the greatest danger to society.

- Provide gradual reentry to society from prison through residential programs and provide specialized supervision by corrections agents trained to work with sex offenders to reduce the likelihood that sex offenders will commit new crimes after they are released.

- Provide sex offender specific treatment in prison and on supervised release so that offenders who deserve punishment will be exposed to treatment to change their behavior before they are released to the community.

- Prosecute adolescent sex offenders through the juvenile justice system and certify older, violent offenders for adult prosecution to provide serious consequences for juvenile sex offenses and leverage for treatment.

- Provide intensive sex offender treatment to juvenile offenders and to sex offenders on probation to prevent escalating violence and repeat rape.

- Provide orders for protection to prevent sexual assault within relationships and improve evidence collection to prosecute marital rape.

- Use new technologies, such as DNA fingerprinting and electronic surveillance, to increase the degree of control over sex offenders in the most cost-effective manner.

Juvenile offenders were addressed in a separate category. Based on research and testimony indicating that prosecution of juvenile sex offenses is necessary to assure complete investigation, demonstrate the seriousness of the offending behavior, hold the offender accountable, evaluate the need of treatment, facilitate entry into a motivation for treatment, etc. Research indicates that many juvenile sex offenders go on to become adult rapists.

The most violent rapists and (those) most likely to repeat their crimes also began their criminal careers in adolescence and had their first convictions before the age of 21.

Recommendations for juvenile offenders include:

- Certify older juvenile offenders who commit violent sexual assaults and are not amenable to treatment or not controllable in juvenile facilities for adult prosecution.

- Prosecute juveniles from the age of ten through majority who commit a sexual assault which would be a crime if committed by an adult through juvenile delinquency petitions if they are not appropriate for certification.

- Charge juvenile delinquency petitions to reflect that the underlying case involves sexual offense behavior.

- Involve law enforcement in all cases where juvenile sex offenses are reported, even if the initial report is made to a social service agency.

Testimony given reported that treatment of juveniles is believed to be more effective than treatment of adult offenders. Serious juvenile offenders may need 3-4 years of treatment; older juveniles often refuse to cooperate with treatment or supervision, knowing that juvenile court jurisdiction ends when they turn 19.

Recommendations included a sexual health assessment of each juvenile by an independent multidisciplinary team, sex offender specific treatment programs for juveniles, dispositions allowing movement to more or less intensive programs, supervision by juvenile corrections agents with specialized sex offender training, extension of treatment time to be effective, and extension of juvenile court jurisdiction to the age of 25 over offenses which if committed by an adult would be a felony sex offense. Further recommendations included out of home placements for juveniles with non-cooperating families and court jurisdiction over family therapy. The task force further recommended that all juvenile felony sexual offense records be retained into adulthood and used as prior offenses for later adult trials.

Recommendations for treatment recognized the choices forced on judges

**DOC Cuts ...** Continued from page 4

"How do we prioritize limited resources?" Zoet asks. "Especially with adults. We can't do everything for everyone. We need to look at the whole range of sex offenders who we might change. We can't legislate have-to's if the resources aren't available."

Any legislative changes will not be felt in the community for four or five years. Those sentenced now fall under the old guidelines which will follow them through their remaining time.

Juvenile programs such as PHASE are not directly affected by the new DOC guidelines. PHASE is a juvenile sex offender program funded by county money and insurance payments. Treatment is limited by extensions okayed by the payors. Ruth Mathews, a therapist at PHASE, feels most of the juveniles served are able to get adequate treatment through this system. Educational assessment is the first phase, including intake, individual and family sessions, and covers about eight weeks. The treatment program after that takes approximately six months.

**Task Force ...** Continued from page 5

toward either treatment or punishment. The task force stressed sex offender specific programs be increased within the prisons from the 50-bed status now seen. Peer groups and residential programs, after release, should be set up for illiterate and disabled, and the minority and culturally sensitive. DOC should track offenders on a longitudinal study to assess efficacy of treatment, supervision, and recidivism rate and provide annual reports. The task force encouraged a continuum of less restrictive settings and conditions for offenders based on treatment participation, and ready access to incarceration for treatment failures. A strong recommendation was made to "redefine the scope of the psychopathic" personality commitment statute so it permits indeterminate confinement for individuals who are irresponsible for conduct which poses a danger to others. Indeterminate civil commitment was recommended for offenders posing a continuing danger but without the "psychopathic personality."

## Happenings

A publication of the Minnesota Community Corrections Association, 666 Marshall Ave., St. Paul, MN. 55104

The opinions expressed in the Happenings are those of the contributing writers. Readers are encouraged to respond to the content of this newsletter and to write on topics of interest to its readers. The staff reserves the right to edit submitted articles. Copy deadline is the 15th of odd-numbered months. **Members of the newsletter committee are:**

Anne McDiarmid, Reentry Metro  
Dale Fisher, Hennepin Co. Felony Probation  
LeRoy Felder, Wilder CAP  
Laura Ross, Genesis II For Women  
Marge Jambor, Ramsey County Community Corrections  
Tim Peterson, Ramsey County Community Corrections  
Pete Batterman, Hennepin County Felony Probation

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**MINNESOTA COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION**  
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(Voting by members only)

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1989 ROBERT H. THE ROBINSON SERVICE AWARD  
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Name of Nominee:

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Return to MOCA, 666 Marshall, St. Paul, MN 55104 by January 16,  
1989.