

# The Grapevine

No. 56

**NAAWS Grapevine Newsletter** 

December, 2013

# 2014 NAAWS Conference—Memphis, TN

Planning is well underway for the 2014 NAAWS conference to be held at the Holiday Inn Select, April 23-26th, 2014 and we are so excited to welcome you back to Memphis, TN.

Registration will begin at 8 AM on April 23rd. At 1PM, we will have our opening ceremony, including local dignitaries. A plenary session will be presented by staff from the American Correctional Association, with the subject of how to prepare for your PREA audit. PREA audits have already begun, so I know you want to be ready when your time comes!

The vendor hall will open with a sponsored reception and at the conclusion, we will load the busses for the President's Reception at the world famous Rendezvous!!! Don't forget, Beale Street is just a short walk from there, and transportation will be provided.

Don't stay out too late, thought, because Thursday will be a very busy day! Breakfast will be provided in the vendor hall and lunch will be provided with a dynamic speaker. Breakout sessions will be the focus of the day, with varied topics relevant to our daily business, including:

- Prison Radicalization
- Sex, Lies, and Videos
- Executive Leadership
- Best practices in re-entry
- Strategies for the new workforce
- Using incident grouping to reduce risk
- Opportunities for legal studies
- Identifying and addressing staff domestic assault
- Enhancing community supervision through a police/correctional partnership

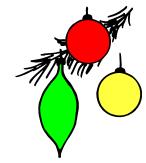
Thursday will also provide an opportunity for you to visit the Memphis City jail, Tennessee department of corrections facility, Shelby County Correction center, or FCI- Memphis. Once you return from

your tour, it will be time to load the busses for Tunica!

Friday morning, following breakfast in the vendor hall, a panel will address strategies for addressing mental health issues in administrative segregation... a very relevant topic at this time! We will finish our Friday morning with a round table discussion on the topic of transformational corrections, with multidisciplinary correctional leaders.

We look forward to welcoming you to Memphis, both for the fellowship and the outstanding training opportunities! Make your room reservations soon at 901-332-1130 by April 1st. The special room rate of \$90 will not be available after that. Early registrations are \$195 and can be paid through the website or mailed to: NAAWS/POBOX 3573/ Dublin, OH 43016

See you in Memphis... we're gonna have a GREAT time!



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Coming event: NAAWS 2014 — See you on Beale Street!

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#### Officers 2013-15 (con't)

Roni Burkes, *Sgt-At-Arms* Ohio

Barbara King, *Sgt-At-Arms* Ohio

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#### Web Site Address:

www.corrections.com/naaws/

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### By Todd Thomas

Wherever you go this time of year, you hear people preparing for the holiday season. It seems that everyone is much more patient, tolerant and forgiving.

I was fortunate enough to spend some time at the Correctional Management Institute of Texas on the campus of Sam Houston State University last week. Doug Dretke and his staff do an outstanding job educating and enabling professional corrections practitioners to stay abreast of current issues and trends in our field. I was given the honor to serve as a facilitator alongside Pat Caruso, former director of the Michigan Department of Corrections, and Harold Clark, former director of corrections for Nebraska and Washington and current director in the Commonwealth of Virginia. I had the opportunity to meet with our 33 new NAAWS members and spend some valuable time in and out of the class room. It was a learning experience for the 33 correctional professionals in attendance from all levels from numerous locations across the United States: myself included.

The presentations were informative and sparked thought-provoking conversations which provided a forum for real solutions. The goal of each presenter was to highlight a good program or best practice, or to share an area or a process that needed improvement. To me, these presenters exceeded that goal. I was thinking how great it would be if every management team at every facility had this type of open communication from the Warden to the line staff and back up the ladder to your office. I am proud and thankful of the relationship that NAAWS has formed with CMI of Texas as well as the leadership that Doug and his team provides. I recommend it to anyone that wants to learn some new techniques or add tools to their "management tool box".

I do want to encourage each member to continue to solicit new members as we head into the New Year, prepare for our meeting at ACA in January, and our Annual Training Conference in April. Warden Cherry Lindamood and her team have put together a full and rich agenda for the NAAWS Conference in Memphis. Pat Keohane continues to coordinate and provide sponsorship opportunities, so please see him at the ACA conference. We appreciate our sponsors and supporters,



and could not provide the services we do without them.

There is a detailed piece on the NAAWS conference later in this edition of the Grapevine. You can also review on the NAAWS website. Please ask for the NAAWS Suite number when you check in at the desk. We will be open Saturday, Sunday, and Monday afternoon at our usual time 6:00 pm until 12:00 pm. We will have the NAAWS Business Meeting times posted in the room and on the website. There are still some opportunities to get involved in the "Make a Smile Project" that is headed to New York and New Jersey in 2014. Please contact Mel Williams or any of the board members for more information. It is a great opportunity to give back or pay it forward to Hurricane Sandy victims.

I want to challenge each of you to appreciate those that are closest to you: your family, friends, and employees. You, as leaders, have a great responsibility not only to this group but their families as well. I want to remind you of the first two sentences of this message; we need more tolerance and forgiveness year round, not just during the holidays. Also, make sure you are taking time to recharge your batteries so that you do not face roadblocks to your well being. You can not effectively do your job if you do not have a work/ life balance. Invest in yourself and enjoy this holiday season. I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the ACA Conference in January. See you all in Tampa.

Sincerely,
Todd Thomas NAAWS President

# Hospitality Suite

Tampa Marriott Waterside Tampa, Florida

> Ask for NAAWS— Todd Thomas or Gloria Hultz

Saturday, February 1 ~ 6:00 PM-Midnight Sunday, February 2 ~ 6:00 PM-Midnight Monday, February 3 ~ 6:00 PM-Midnight Page 4 The Grapevine

# Joseph P. Meko Named Kentucky's 2013 Warden of the Year

The Kentucky Department of Corrections honored employees across the state at its annual Corrections Awards Luncheon held September 4 in Lexington.

Joseph P. Meko, the Warden at the Little Sandy Correctional

Complex (LSCC) in Sandy Hook, was named "Warden of the Year." He was recognized for the importance he places on his staff, his ability to encourage his employees and for bringing new inmate programs and job opportunities to his institution.

Warden Meko came to the Little Sandy Correctional Complex in September 2007 after a 28-year career with the Federal Bureau of Prisons. In announcing the award, the Department of Corrections noted:

Warden Meko is very competent, knowledgeable and proactive leader. Because of his experience, he is exceptionally mindful of all facets of our institution. He is kept informed by all departments and sees to it they work together so that the institution is running smoothly. Warden Meko accomplishes this

by getting his staff together and talking with them and anticipating possible scenarios. Mr. Meko is approachable and always

makes himself available to the staff. He allows them to make suggestions, give their opinions and follows up with them to make sure policies and procedures are followed. Because he knows the importance of good staff, he encourages them on

a daily basis and rewards them when they go above and beyond the line of duty. He makes sure to meet and welcome all new staff, letting them know what to expect and what to watch out for.

Warden Meko knows how important it is to have productive programs for the inmates housed at the institution. He works with Central Office staff and strives to offer better vocational and educational opportunities for the inmates. He has been instrumental in bringing new inmate job opportunities with Correctional Industries at LSCC, such as upholstery, custom seating and custom wood furniture. The Substance Abuse Program, the Small Engines and Carpentry classes are also examples of other programs that have started at the Little Sandy Correctional

Complex in the past year under Warden Meko's direction.



# GREENPRISONS .ORG

# Sustainability, the New Product Line for Correctional Industry???

Plagued by too many idle inmates, shrinking offender training programs and loss of revenue from abandoned traditional product lines? A new look at the role sustainability could play in your correctional industry operation might be just the answer.

On December 11th, GreenPrisons along with Jen Aholt, CEO of Illinois Correctional Industries, Bill Gross of Illinois Correctional Industries and Rick Rosenblatt of Maryland Correctional Industries participated in a webinar on sustainability in correctional industry hosted by the National Correctional Industry Association (NCIA) and moderated by Wil Heslop.

The webinar was offered by NCIA to encourage correctional industry managers to consider looking at sustainable products and practices as potential ways to rejuvenate currently idle factories.

At GreenPrisons our focus is on the Triple Bottom Line. Specifically, for a sustainability program to make sense in corrections it must make sense financially, it should employee and train inmates and promote an improved environment. Correctional Industries have many of the same goals. Most industry operations must generate revenue to support their operation, industry operation by definition provide training in life skills as well as job skills for offenders and they improve the overall

institutional environment by reducing incidents and providing purpose and structure to an inmate's day.

While many sustainability programs (e.g.: recycling) generate revenue, institutions are frequently not in a position to recover and retain the funds, unless there is specific legislation allowing them to do so. Industries are in the perfect position to retain this revenue for the institution thus providing incentive for additional cost saving and resource generation through sustainability.

If you missed the webinar it is archived on the GreenPrisons website at http://www.GreenPrisons.org or from NCIA. If you would like to learn how sustainability can help your institution save a different kind of "green" contact Tommy Norris at Tommy@GreenPrisons.org



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# NAAWS 2014 Training Conference APRIL 2014, Wednesday 23rd -Friday 25th

HOLIDAY INN SELECT, AIRPORT HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER
2240 DEMOCRAT ROAD
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
PHONE # (901) 332-1130
Room rate \$90.00 per night (by April 1)

Registrations: \$195.00 per attendee Contact and Registration Coordinator: Gail Heller, NAAWS Executive Treasurer PO Box 3573

Dublin, Ohio 43016 Phone # (614) 889-5300

E-Mail gheller214@columbus.rr.com

Vendor Coordinator: \$650.00 per booth, with 2 free registrations.

Contact for vendors:

Patrick Keohane, NAAWS Vendor Coordinator

714 Meramec Lane Nixa, Missouri 65714

Phone # 417 725-8328 Cell # 417 459-9494

Fax # 417 724-1491 E-Mail pat.keohane@att.net

## **Conference At A Glance**

#### Wednesday, April 23, 2014

8am – 1pm Registration 1pm – 3pm Welcome Plenary Session

3pm Vendor Hall Ribbon Cutting

3pm – 5pm Vendor Reception
530pm Depart for Rendezvous
6pm President's Reception

Thursday, April 24, 2014

7am – 830am Continental Breakfast in vendor hall

815am-945am Breakout sessions

945am-10am Break

#### Thursday, April 24, 2014 (continued)

10am-1130am Breakout sessions
1130am-1pm Luncheon with speaker
115pm-245pm Breakout sessions

3pm-5pm Facility Tours/Vendor Hall Open 530pm Depart for Tunica or Beale Street

Friday, April 25, 2014

7am – 830am Continental Breakfast in vendor hall

830am – 10am Plenary Session

10am – 1015am Break

1015am – 1145am Panel Discussion

1145am – 12pm Closing





## Please Note:

All conference registrations should be directed to NAAWS TREASURER, Gail Heller, 7996 Stokemont CT., Dublin, OH 43016, 614-736-9676, gheller214@ columbus.rr.com, OR to NAAWS, PO Box 3573, Dublin, OH 43016.

Questions regarding the conference can be directed to CONFERENCE CHAIR, C. Lindamood, 731-433-9500, OR to Executive Director Gloria Hultz, 813-473-3836, 415 Skycrest Lane, Plant City, FL 33565, ghultz@tampabay.rr.com.

We expect to mail a separate informational tri-fold on the conference in the near future. Page 6 The Grapevine



# 1st Teen Leadership Miami Pilot

After 18 years of working with children of prisoners and taking them to meet their parents in your facilities. We can only imagine what an insurmountable a task your job can be. SVC has begun a pilot program in Miami for the teens of some of your prisoners, Teen Leadership Miami. The program is tri-fold.

We initiated with Miami Phase I, a summer program that was a huge success. By the time Teen Leadership Miami's summer graduation came around our LEADERS (as we named them on the first day) learned the benefits of teamwork and became a support network for each other.

Tinkerbell has been working with the MISTERS for 12 years to bring reliable mentors and counselors to our children in Anderson, South Carolina and now in Miami. We would like to specially thank the CALL ME MISTERS, who drove all the way down from South Carolina to assist us for 2 months. They played a vital role in creating our first group of LEADERS.

After Teen Leadership Miami's summer program graduation, our team had the pleasure of having a sit down with the MISTERS. This was their first visit out of South Carolina and although they we have worked with them before they were faced with the challenges that comes with implementing a new program in a completely foreign environment. The students arrived, and were rough, tough, confrontational and angry. One of the MISTERS Devin Washington described them as even refusing to speak or saying as little as possible to answer questions. But through consistent communication, role playing and round table discussions we were able to set the groundwork for the team that these LEADERS become.

To put it in the words of MISTER Washington, "6800 miles and 45 days later, I sat and wrote some reflections on the Leadership Camp. Were there challenges? Definitely. But at the end of the day communication is what helped the students and the staff lay the groundwork for a good team of leaders and the activities that will undoubtedly follow.



Above is MISTER Devin Washington and MISTER James Griffin with one of SVC's LEADERS Mia Smoak.

We have now moved on to Phase II. For the next 9 months the LEADERS will plan and participate in monthly community service activities. Such as volunteering at a local hospital and collaborating with Big Brother Big Sister.

Teen Leadership Miami Phase III will culminate with the fall 2014 opening of Clothes Off My Back, an eco-conscious thrift shop that raises money to assist children of prisoners. Our goals are to provide options beyond high school where our youth will learn job skill training, receive assistance with technical schools and college applications as well as scholarship research. SVC will be that consistent presence for them to explore their options until they become LEADERS in their community.

Last but not least stay tuned for news on the 2nd Annual Children of Incarcerated Parents Symposium, coming back next year! Please visit our website www.silentvictimsofcrime. org to keep yourselves abreast on the latest news and events!

THANK YOU for your continued support and being a platform for us to raise awareness as we grow and are better able to give these LEADERS a fighting chance.

Sincerely,

Brittney Daniels
National Programs Coordinator
Silent Victims of Crime
305.469.5205
brittney@SilentVictimsOfCrime.org
VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.SilentVictimsOfCrime.org
NEW! Please like us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/
SilentVictimsOfCrime?ref=hl

#### P.S.

#### SOME OF OUR PROGRAMS:

Bonding Visitation a collaboration with The Service Network for Children of Inmates over 450 children are taken to visit their parent(s) at 12 correctional facilities in Miami-Dade county.
-http://www.childrenofinmates.org/FamilyVisits.aspx

Call Me MISTER Summer Camp our annual summer camp taught by the MISTERS, who have partnered with us for 12 years. They provide our youth positive male role-models, educators and counselors.

-http://www.clemson.edu/hehd/departments/education/research/callmemister/

Teen Leadership Miami a year round leadership program that allows our kids to be a support network for one another while learning how to work as a team, set and implement goals, are introduced to the benefits of giving back to society and becoming leaders in their communities.

-http://www.silentvictimsofcrime.org/teenleadershipprogram.html

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## From the desk of ...

# The Executive Director

#### Gloria Hultz

Well, winter is definitely here. I hope everyone had a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!

Hope all is going well for you and yours. We are very busy at NAAWS. We are in the process of gathering applications for our Warden of the Year and Medal of Valor nominations. On Sunday, February 2, 2014, we will meet in the NAAWS suite for the selection of these honors. Board of Directors and current officers are asked to be at this meeting. We are looking at a start time of 10 am.

Plans are well underway and contracts have been signed for our Memphis Conference in April. This is going to be another great training session and I know all will enjoy the program we have slated. We had great success with our fall Sam Houston Program and we are looking forward to another full program in the spring.

As you can see, even though we only get to see each other maybe three times a year, we are very busy and always have our membership's interest on our agenda.

Please encourage your staff to become part of NAAWS and become part of the experience of our changing and trying times.

## DEADLINE FOR THE WARDEN OF THE YEAR and MEDAL OF VALOR NOMINATIONS

**JANUARY 13th, 2014** 

Selection Comittee Meets: Sunday, February 2 at 10:00 AM in NAAWS Hospitality Suite

## Please Note:

The official address of the organization is now:

NAAWS PO Box 3573 Dublin, OH 43016

This change was necessitated due to the fact that mail forwarding from the last post office had become "spotty".



NAAWS P.O. Box 3573 Dublin, OH 43016



#### **Editor's Note**

Check your mailing label. It now contains important information. Immediately behind your name is the year and month your membership expires. DON'T FORGET... We are strong because of our numbers; please keep your membership current. We also lose membership because members fail to notify us or the post office of changes of address. Remember to notify NAAWS on your next move. Stay in touch!





North American Association of Wardens & Superintendents

# **Membership Application**

Name		
Title		
Address		
City/State/Zip		
Phone	Fax	E–Mail
Please remit check or mone  ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal for one year	y order, payable to NAAWS in the of 1 year (\$25 US) 2 years (\$45 US) 3 years (\$65 US)	amount of: (check one)  Send to:  NAAWS  P.O. Box 3573  Dublin, OH 43016