



ASSOCIATION OF PAROLING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL

JULY 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

APAI ELECTS NEW OFFICERS 2

APAI AWARDS 2

2012 INNOVATIVE PRACTICES FORUM 3

THINGS TO DO IN 2012

- **Renew APAI Membership**
- **Serve on an APAI Committee**
- **Convince a colleague to join APAI.**
- **Make plans to attend the 2013 Chairs Meeting and Annual Training Conference in Providence, RI, May 18-22, 2013**

Dear APAI Members,

As I begin my two year term as your President, officially on July 1, 2012, I want to impart just how honored and pleased I am that you have given me the opportunity to lead this vital organization. I've been involved as a member of APAI for almost fifteen years and remain excited and energized to continue, now, as its President.

The role we play as Parole Board Chairs and Releasing Authorities, Board Members, Executive Directors, Hearing Examiners/Officers, Parole Agents, and many other related positions at every stage of the Parole process, is a key factor in the pursuit of public safety and, I would argue, unmatched both nationally and internationally. The time is now for Criminal Justice Systems, government agencies at all levels, and the public, in general, to recognize APAI and our membership as the Vanguard of Parole world-wide.

I pledge to you my best efforts to continue to drive this Association forward just as those before me have done:

- ◆ so that, we are always “at the table” of the highest level of policy making in all matters of parole
- ◆ so that we sustain our vitality by maintaining and expanding our membership and resources
- ◆ so that, we continue to maintain and expand our relationships with key public and private non-profit national and international organizations, training institutes, and criminal justice associations, in that they provide us with the means for policy making, the current state of evidence based practice, and technical assistance for implementation

The APAI Business Plan with its strategic goals and objective is our road-map to offender success. The APAI Executive Committee and I are committed to its' realization; however, we

depend upon you as members to make it happen through our working committees. Please join us in becoming involved, along with your colleagues, on one of several standing committees as listed on our website.

I would like to close by thanking out-going APAI President, Charles Traughber, for his steadfast leadership of APAI over two terms and his personal mentorship. His commitment to the parole process has never wavered over his lengthy career and he is amongst the few who are recognized as the highest contributors to Parole.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Peterson
Association of Paroling
Authorities International
President-Elect

Executive Officer Hearings
and Release
Minnesota Department of
Corrections

APAI ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

At the recent Annual Business Meeting, conducted in conjunction with the APAI Annual Training Conference in Orlando, the election of officers concluded and the results were announced. Pursuant to the APAI Constitution, the offices of President and Treasurer were on the ballot this year.

Jeffrey Peterson, Executive Officer of the Office of Hearings and Release for the Minnesota Department of Corrections was elected to a two year term as President. His office functions as the Department's Releasing and Revocation Authority. President Peterson has worked for the Minnesota Department of Corrections for 39 years beginning in 1973 as a Probation and Parole Agent in Southern Minnesota and then, in Hennepin County covering several metro counties and contiguous rural counties.

In 1986, he was promoted to Community Services District Supervisor and managed the Shakopee, MN District Office for twelve years supervising all the DOC corrections agents within a large district in Central and Southern MN, which included multiple, out-of-state offices.

President Peterson has been a member of the APAI for fifteen years. Prior to his election as President he served as APAI Vice President. Previous to his election as Vice President, he served as APAI's Central Region Vice President.

David R. Blumberg, Chair of the Maryland Parole Commission, was elected to a two year term as Treasurer. Treasurer Blumberg was appointed to the Maryland Parole Commission in 2003 and was appointed Chair in 2004. He was reappointed Chair in 2010.

Prior to being appointed a Commissioner he worked many years in Corrections as a Correctional Librarian. He has served in a multitude of civic and professional organizations.

Treasurer Blumberg has been an active APAI member for many years and is a strong advocate for increased training opportunities. He also serves on the Professional Development Committee. In 2011, Blumberg was appointed by then APAI President Charles Traugher to fill an unexpired term of Treasurer.

Upon taking office President Peterson appointed **Rissie Owens**, Chair of the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles to his unexpired term as Vice President of APAI. She will serve until the Annual Meeting in 2013. Vice President Owens previously served as Chair

of the Council of Paroling/Releasing Authorities (COPRA) and before that, as Southern Regional Vice President.

These three, along with **Jeralita "Jeri" Costa** of Washington State, who serves as Secretary of APAI, make up the elected officers of our organization.

Former President **Charles Traugher** will continue to serve the Association as Immediate Past President.

Also, upon taking office, President Peterson appointed **Connie Bisbee**, Chair of the Nevada Parole Commission, as Western Regional Vice - President, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Barbara LeMaitre.

Please extend your full support and cooperation as these officers lead our organization.

APAI AWARDS

Each year APAI recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of parole, re-entry and community corrections with four awards that are presented in conjunction with the Annual Training Conference. The award winners this year represented an especially deserving group of professionals.

Judge Sir David

Carruthers, was this year's recipient of the Ben Bear Award. Judge Carruthers practiced law for many years before being appointed to various judicial offices in New Zealand, including Chief District Court Judge from which he retired in 2005. He was appointed Chairperson the New Zealand Board in July of 2005 a post he held until June of this year.

He led the Board through important challenges and changes. He modernized it administratively, gave members better tools and put a strong emphasis on their training and professional development. He also reached out to the community as he recognized that there was a need to sell the Board's work.

He is an outspoken

supporter of parole and of restorative justice and a much sought after international speaker.

Charles Traugher was this year recipient of the Vincent O'Leary Award. Charles has served on the Tennessee Board of Parole for over 40 years, a large part of that time as its Chair. He has also serve APAI for the past

APAI AWARDS, CONT.

four years as its President and held various offices before that. No one supports parole and the work of APAI as much as Charles Traugher.

He has steered the Tennessee Board through many changes and is never hesitant to improve his agencies operations through innovative and promising practices.

He has also seen APAI through a multitude of challenges dealing with changes in personnel and shrinking budgets.

Kermit Humphreys was awarded one of two APAI President's Awards bestowed by President Charles Traugher. Kermit is a Correctional Program Specialist at the National Institute of Corrections where he has served for

27 years.

The award was given to Kermit because of his pioneering work in parole and because of the significant contribution he has made to the field and his support of APAI.

In his time at NIC he has worked on a number of initiatives, including the Interstate Compact, Parole Decision-making and Revocation. The Transition from Prison to Community (TPC) Initiative is Humphries's latest endeavor and aims to incorporate systems collaboration from parole, the courts, prisons, and a host of community services to improve offender outcomes.

Edward Reilly was awarded the second Presidents Award given by

President Traugher this year. Ed is the former Chair of the US Parole Commission and has been an active supporter of APAI for many years. He currently serves as North Eastern Regional Vice President.

Ed first entered public service back in Leavenworth Kansas at the age of 26 when he was appointed to the Kansas House of Representatives. He followed this with seven consecutive elections to the Kansas Senate.

Ed has served on numerous Board and Commissions such as the Advisory Boards of the United States Sentencing Commission and the National Institute of Corrections. He remained an ardent supporter of

APAI even after his retirement from USPC.

Dr. Regina Shearn was awarded the Community Service Award for her work with the Florida International University Corrections Transition Program in Miami.

The purpose of this counseling-transition practicum is to provide the long-term offender, who is within two to three years of work release, parole, or completing his sentence, and preparing to reintegrate into the community, with a forum for post-survival skills and the meaningful dialogue and interaction necessary for their successful return to the community.

APAI congratulates all of these very deserving award winners.

2012 INNOVATIVE PRACTICES FORUM

At the 2012 APAI Annual Training Conference in Orlando, Florida, the Florida Parole Commission sponsored and produced a very informative roundtable discussion that included descriptions of several innovative practices that have been developed and are currently being utilized in several jurisdictions across the United States and the world. In keeping with the conference theme of *Practicing Smart Justice: Innovative Practices in Parole*, participants at the conference presented brief snippets about what they are doing "back

home' to improve the way in which they do business and provide better and more economical services to their constituencies.

This session also served to introduce some of the upcoming workshops to assist participants in deciding which to attend over the remainder of the conference. Participants were also encouraged to continue informal discussions throughout conference to gain more information about specific topics.

Thanks to Jack deRemer, Director of

Operations, Florida Parole Commission for producing this Forum and to Jeralita "Jeri" Costa, APAI Secretary, for facilitating it.

For those who were not able to attend, below are the topics discussed and the contact information for those participants who discussed them is on page 4. For more information you can also visit the APAI website at <http://www.apaintl.org/resources/documents/InnovativePracticesHandoutNotes.pdf>

2012 INNOVATIVE PRACTICES FORUM, CONT FROM PAGE 3

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[APAI has a BLOG!!!](#)

Make sure and check out the [APAI Blog](#) with up-to-date articles and news from around the world!

www.apaintl.blogspot.com

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