



APAI News

a publication of Association of Paroling Authorities International • Fall 2007

MEMBERSHIP TOPS 500 MARK

THE SUCCESS of our mid-year membership sale increased APAI's membership by 77, bringing our total to 514 members, representing 469 members in 52 organizations and 45 individuals. Of the new members, slightly more than one-third joined to take advantage of our annual trainings (See article, page 5.)

Later this Fall, we will be launching our 2008 Membership Campaign. Be sure to respond when your invoice arrives. Process your dues payment by check or online, on or after November 15.

www.apaintl.org/en/join.html

INDEX

Partnership: Website & Newsletter	1
Campaign: 2008 Dues	1
Reform: APAI Elections ...	2
Updated: Constitution and Bylaws	2
Revised: APAI Survey	2
Plan: Louisville News	3
Trainings:	
Chairs	4
Parole/Releasing Authorities.	5
Future: 2008 Calendar	6

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE PARTNERING TO PROVIDE ON-THE-SPOT INFORMATION

WE ARE PLEASED to announce an important shift in this newsletter, the creation of a partnership between APAI News and our website. This change will provide you with important APAI information and updates and help guide you to the wealth of information on our redesigned website.

Beginning with this issue, we will include brief overviews of our activities with link references to our website. There, you can find more in-depth and dynamically complete information.

We will continue to publish this newsletter in print for now, and we hope to transition to email announcements and links that will appear right on your desktop in the future.

We hope you'll let us know what you think by using our handy and convenient Suggestion Box.

www.apaintl.org/en/ab_suggestion_form.html

APAI News You Can Use

APAI Survey Awakens Out of Hibernation

AFTER NEARLY A YEAR of planning, collaboration and revisions, APAI's long-standing survey is about to emerge out of hibernation.

Survey Committee Chair **Cathy McVey**, reported, "[This survey] has been completely reformatted and is poised to be administered online. It will provide comprehensive information and statistics regarding structure, composition, decisional processes, sentencing framework, time credit systems, field supervision, violations and revocation practices and recidivism."

COLLABORATION

APAI's partners include an existing JEHT-funded study at the University of Pennsylvania in the Department of Research on Youth and Social Policy, under the direction of Co-director **Susan Kinnevy, PhD**, and the Public Safety Performance Project of The Pew Charitable Trusts' Center on the States, under the direction of **Adam Gelb**, Project Director, and **Jake Horowitz**, Senior Associate. **John Prevost**, Assistant Director, Research, Evaluation and Technology, Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles, was instrumental in making this collaboration happen.

An executive summary will be available in the Spring of 2008 and a presentation of key findings has been scheduled at our conference in Louisville.

www.apaintl.org/en/members/survey2007.html

2008 ELECTION REFORM HITS APAI

A MAJOR CULTURAL SHIFT in APAI's election system will take place for our 2008 officers elections. Three major changes allow for

- open nominations
- a *One Member - One Vote* system for casting votes
- a voter verification system

HOW IT WILL WORK

Nominations will be invited from the entire membership. Self nominations will be accepted and encouraged.

The Nominating Committee will review potential candidates' credentials prior

to submitting a slate. Successful candidates will submit a form, statement and photo for our website voting pages.

VOTING ONLINE

Voting will commence online in a 3-day period during our Annual Training Conference. Votes may be cast at the conference or from your desktop. Members eligible to vote who do not wish to vote online will be given the opportunity to request a paper ballot.

www.apaintl.org/en/members/vote.html

OFFICIAL APAI DOCUMENTS UNDER REVISION

PRESIDENT LISA HOLLEY APPOINTED a Constitution and Bylaws Committee this Spring to review and revise APAI's official documents. Members of the Committee are: **Garland Hunt, Esq, Chair, Lisa Holley, Jeff Peterson, Elizabeth Robinson, Charles Traugher** and **Karen White**.

Major changes include:

- Removing the repetition that occurred in the Constitution and ByLaws documents, clearly delineating the role for both
- Restructuring our governance model and creating staggered terms for officers
- Determining a committee structure and creating definitions for those roles

MOVING FORWARD

The Executive Committee has reviewed an early draft, and the Committee is in the final stages of draft revisions. Upon completion of the Committee and Executive Committee exchanges, the final documents will be uploaded onto the members' only section of the website for member review. The goal is to call for a members vote on the new documents at the Annual Business Meeting in Louisville next April, at which time the documents, if approved, will become effective.

www.apaintl.org/en/members/const-bylawsreview.html

ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE 2008



DATES

Sunday, April 27 – Wednesday, April 30, 2008 • Louisville

Our flagship hotel is in the heart of Louisville's charming and vibrant downtown area and within close walking distance to many Kentucky Derby pre-events.

THEME

THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

Educational Programs will focus on topics related to Parole Boards/Releasing Authorities in collaboration and partnerships with a myriad of state, federal and international institutions and agencies as well as with each other.

RESERVATIONS

Important Information: Due to our Annual Training Conference's close proximity to the Kentucky Derby festivities, it is vital that registrants reserve early! Some hotels only honor blocks as long as they are available, and will cut off availability at the group rate once the block is filled. Our block of rooms will only be held through Friday, March 7. We have contracted for the government rate of \$94/night. Reserve Early! Reserve Now! Be sure to mention that you are with the APAI Group if you call. Our code is built into the URL.

☞ <http://marriott.com/sdflm?groupCode=apaapaa&app=resvlink>

☞ 800-228-9290 (national) or 502-627-5045 (local)

REGIONAL MEETINGS EXTENDED

Our members have requested and we have responded! Regional meetings have been extended to a 3-hour block of time on Sunday, April 27, from 1:00 - 4:00pm. Regional VPs will post topics on our website prior to the meetings. See our website for other related conference activities prior to booking your travel.

☞ www.apaintl.org/en/tr_atc.html

SILENT AUCTION

Start thinking now of items you can donate to our popular Silent Auction.

☞ www.apaintl.org/en/auction.html – Coming this Spring!

WHY ATTEND?

Our Annual Conference provides you with your annual opportunity to network with your colleagues and is packed with general and small-group training sessions that will give you vital information and tools to take back to your parole and releasing authorities. Can you afford *not* to be there?

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

☞ About the Conference & Full Schedule: www.apaintl.org/en/tr_atc.html

☞ About Louisville: www.gotolouisville.com/content.aspx?id=498

CHAIRS MEET IN THE WINDY CITY

THIRTY FIVE PAROLE BOARDS/ RELEASING AUTHORITIES were represented at the 19th Annual Chairs Meeting in Chicago, September 27 - 29. Also in attendance were representatives of NIC and the JEHT Foundation. Length of service of the Chairs ranged from 2 months to 35+ years. **Cranston Mitchell**, Vice Chair of the U.S. Parole Commission, facilitated the meeting.

All registrants were given the opportunity to submit topics for discussion in advance of the meeting. Some of the topics discussed were:

- Prison Crowding and Public Safety
- Managing Offenders in the Community
- Risk Assessments
- Evidence-based Principles and Practices
- Reentry
- Parole Legislation
- Authorities of Parole/Releasing Authorities
- Video Conference Hearings
- Standards

While procedures differ for each parole/releasing authority, the issues leaders face are the same. "The Chairs' meeting has become a traditional gathering place for learning from one another's experiences. 'Veteran' as well as newer chairs have let me know how much they appreciate and learn from the experience, and that they find a degree of comfort knowing that they are not alone," stated Mitchell.

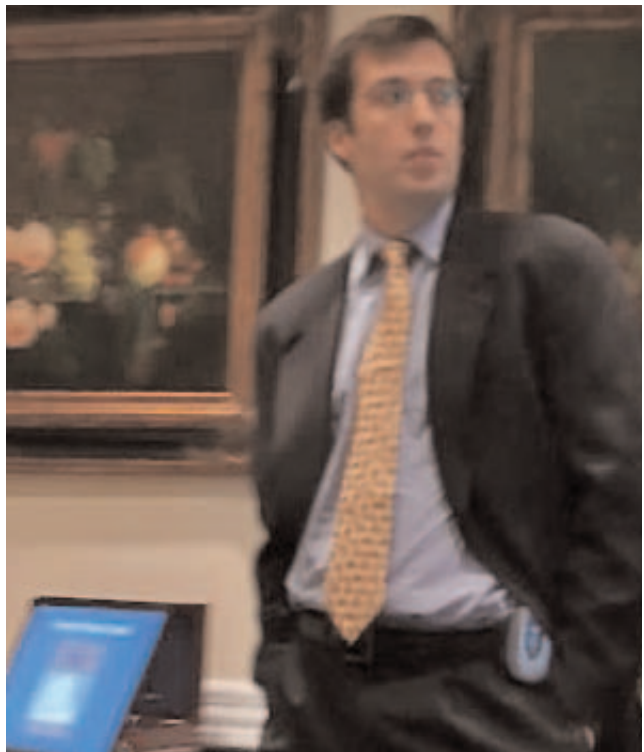
EXPERT AND ENRICHMENT TOPICS

In addition to those identified group discussion topics, the following presenters included:

- **Marty Boyer**, Media Consultant, who discussed Media Strategies and Crisis Management
- **Mike Thompson**, Director, Council of State Government's Justice Center, who gave an Update of Resources, Research Findings and Partnership Opportunities.
- **Catherine McVey**, APAI's Chair of the Council of Chairs and **Jake Horowitz**, Senior Associate, Public Safety Performance Project of The Pew Charitable Trusts' Center on the States, who co-presented on APAI's partnership on the 2007 Survey. (See related article, page 2.)



Left: Renée Collette, Executive Vice Chairperson, National Parole Board, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, takes a moment to review some documents. Right: Steve Powers, Chair, Oregon Board of Parole and Post Prison Supervision, and Cathy McVey, Chair, Penna Board of Probation and Parole, listen to a group discussion. McVey also serves as Chair of APAI's Council of Chairs and is currently chairing APAI's Survey Committee.



Mike Thompson, Director, Council of State Government's Justice Center.

CHAIRS' MEETING TO CELEBRATE 20TH YEAR IN '08

*By popular request,
the meeting will be held in Chicago.*

www.apaintl.org/en/tr_chair_meet.html

THREE TRAININGS HELD THIS FALL IN CHARLOTTE

A PAI HAS BEEN PLEASED TO PARTNER with Center for Effective Public Policy (CEPP) to present three trainings this fall. All trainings were held in Charlotte, NC. APAI and CEPP wish to thank the JEHT Foundation for their generous funding of these seminars.

INITIAL TRAINING AIMED AT NEW PB MEMBERS

The New Parole Board Training was held September 18 - 20 and attracted 24 parole board members with experience ranging from two months to two years.

Topics covered were: Policy and Guiding Principles; Legal Issues; Release Decision Making; Impact Hearings and File Reviews; Supervision Issues Specific to New Board Members; and The Leadership Challenge. Many of the topics were peppered with small group break-out discussions.

In addition to facilitators **Paul Herman** and **Richard Stroker**, CEPP Senior Managers, this group was privileged to have a presentation by risk analysis expert, **James Austin, PhD**, on "The Value of Risk and Other Assessments and their Practical Application to Work." (See information about upcoming audio conference, page 6.)

24 ATTEND EXPERIENCED GROUP TRAINING

A group of 24 with experience ranging from two - 27 years attended the Experienced Parole Board Training, October 16 - 18. Of this group, six held the title of chair, deputy/vice chair or past chair. Herman and Stroker co-facilitated.

Topics included: Local Practices; Increasing Capacity through Collaboration; Evidence-based Practice; Reentry and Transition; Effective Communication; Risk Assessment, Risk Management and Parole Guidelines; Supervision; Identifying Problems and Developing Best Solutions; and The Leadership Challenge.

A seminar series featured issues related to Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Sex Offenders with **Mark Stringer**, Director, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Missouri Department of Mental Health.

THIRD TRAINING TO FOLLOW

At presstime, the newest offering, a training for Key Staff of Parole/Releasing Authorities, had not yet occurred. Seventeen are anticipated to be in attendance at this mid-November training.



From Left, Top to Bottom, Registrants taking New or Experienced Training: Pam Lombardini (MA-New), Fred Alvarez (IA-New), Pat Turpin (KY-Exp), Patricia McDaniel (CT-Exp), Randy Gentry (IN-Exp), Maurice Silva (NV-Exp) and Joey Stanton (KY-New). Far Right: Richard Stroker and Paul Herman, co-facilitators for all three trainings, confer on training materials.



Association of Paroling Authorities International
233 Canterbury Drive • Wallingford PA 19086 • USA

APAI is the recognized voice for the highest professional standards of responsible parole practices.

WHAT'S IN OUR FUTURE?

2008 APAI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| November | 2008 APAI Dues Statements sent to all members. <i>Watch your mailboxes!</i> |
| January 10 | Audio Conference: <i>Risk Analysis for Paroling/Releasing Authorities: Facts, Myths and Trends</i> with James Austin, PhD.
North American Time Zones for Call: 4:00pm Atlantic • 3:00pm Eastern • 2:00pm Central • 1:00pm Mountain • 12:00pm Pacific
<i>Look for more information online and in your mailboxes soon!</i>
www.apaintl.org/en/tr_audio.html |
| February 3 | Call for Nominations for Executive Committee Opens Online |
| April 27 | Online Ballot Box Opens at 12:01am Eastern Time Zone |
| April 29 | Online Ballot Box Closes at 5:30pm Central Time Zone
www.apaintl.org/en/members/vote.html |
| April 27 - 30 | Annual Training Conference Convenes in Louisville, KY |

Contributors to this newsletter:

Contribution to Articles: Catherine McVey, Cranston Mitchell, Jeff Peterson

Proofreaders: Lisa Holley, Jeff Peterson, Marilyn Scafe, Patricia Turpin

Editor: Bea Leopold, Interim Executive Director. Send comments and suggestions for future articles to BLEopold@APAIIntl.org