



ASSOCIATION OF PAROLING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL

APRIL 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

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THINGS TO DO IN 2010

- **Renew APAI Membership**
- **Register for 2010 Annual Training Conference in Savannah, GA, May 16-19, 2010**
- **Donate Silent Auction Item**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is an exciting but busy time at APAI. The 26th Annual Training Conference in beautiful Savannah, Georgia, is just a few short weeks away. The Host committee, APAI staff and Secretariat are hard at work making the final arrangements for this event. The Executive Committee is preparing to give awards to some very deserving colleagues in the field of parole and conditional release, preparing for an election of officers for the upcoming years and helping to assemble an outstanding training agenda. It will be so great to see all my friends from around the nation and the world at this event.

This year's training program promises to be one of the best ever. We have assembled a stellar group of speakers and presenters. We at APAI recognize that many of the jurisdictions in which our members work are experiencing unprecedented financial problems which have made travel difficult to come by. With that in mind, we have made sure that the program and other events are well worth the money.

We have chosen our theme, *Powerful Partnerships; Successful Re-entry in Fiscally Stringent Times*, to specifically address the current economic climate and the demands that are being made on each of us to be much more efficient and

effective. You will find more about the training program elsewhere in this Newsletter and at the APAI website. However, I am particularly excited about our Keynote Address from a pioneer in cost benefit analysis of correctional programs, Steve Aos. I am equally excited to hear from the major players in the arena of providing resources for parole boards and releasing authorities, entities such as the National Institute of Corrections, the National Parole Resource Center, Pew Center on the States, the Urban Institute and The Bureau of Justice Assistance. There will be many concurrent workshops to chose from that will allow participants to tailor their conference experience to their specific needs.

Of equal importance, will be the opportunity to learn and network that exists because of our Regional and Sectional meetings. On Sunday morning, May 16, the Council of Paroling/Releasing Authorities will meet. This group is made up of the Chief Officer or Chair of the Paroling/Releasing Authority members of the Organization and advises the Executive Committee on matters affecting the Association. All members of the Association are assigned to a Region or Section based upon their geographic location. The Regional and Sectional

meetings are scheduled for Sunday afternoon. These sessions, lead by your Regional and Sectional Vice Presidents, will provide an opportunity to share information and ideas about the issues that we all encounter in our work.

I can not close this message without recognizing our many international members who will travel many hours to be with us. International Section Vice President Renee Collette has done an excellent job of garnering support for the conference across the world. We can all learn so much from this section of our organization. We must all be constantly aware of the diverse methods by which release, condition setting and revocation decisions are made and keep open minds to new ideas.

Hope to see you in Savannah,
Warm regards,

2010 APAI ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

It is not too late to register for the 26th APAI Annual Training conference to be held in beautiful Savannah, Georgia May 16- 19, 2010. It will be held at the Hyatt Regency, River Street. The theme of this years conference is Powerful Partnerships; Successful Re-entry in Fiscally Stringent Times. This year's conference will begin with a meeting of the Council of Paroling Releasing Authorities (COPRA) on Sunday Morning followed by Regional and Sections meetings Sunday afternoon. Assignment to a Region or Section of APAI is made based upon the member's geographic location. Consult the APAI Website, www.apaintl.org/en/ab_structure.html for an explanation of your assignment.

The program portion of the agenda will begin Monday morning with opening ceremonies and a Keynote Address from Steve Aos entitled: Be a Crime Fighter and a Penny Pincher: Using

Evidence, Economics, and Portfolios to Re-Tool State Criminal Justice Strategies. Next, Mario Paparozzi, former Chairman of The New Jersey State Parole Board will explain why paroling authorities should be the drivers of correctional practice.

Other general sessions will include enlightening presentations from some of our international guests about how parole is practiced in their country, and what Dr. Edward Latessa's recent research tells us about "what works" in reducing recidivism. We will also hear from Peggy Burke and others about plans for the newly created National Parole Resource Center and from a panel of practitioners about why and how they measure performance.

Numerous concurrent workshops will be presented on topics such as sex offenders, victim's issues, the resources available from the Bureau of Justice

Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the upcoming New Board Member Orientation. Back by popular demand will be FBI Supervisory Agent Lydia Pozzato, talking about Criminal Investigative Analysis (CIA), formerly known as "profiling", of sex offenders.

This programming is specifically designed to give the practitioner the tools to survive in today's world of tight resources and ever increasing expectations. To find out more about his conference go to www.apaintl.org and click on "2010 Annual Training Conference". The last day to register at a reduced rate is April 16, and the last day to make hotel reservations at the guaranteed room rate is April 17.

To demonstrate through embracing APAI's established values that the parole process of the criminal justice system is an essential element for making our society a safer, better place to live.

NEWS OF INTEREST

On April 22nd and 23rd a select group of parole practitioners and corrections personnel from across the country, including many members of APAI, will convene in Washington, DC, at the offices of the Bureau of Justice Assistance. They will be joined by noted researchers, consultants and key stakeholders and funders from private and government organizations in the area of release, condition setting, supervision and revocation.

This strategic planning session will set the course for

the National Parole Resource Center that was created last year with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Center is the collaboration between the Center for Effective Policy and APAI. The Center will work closely with the National Institute of Corrections, the Pew Center on the States, the Urban Institute and other organizations and agencies. As previously reported, when up and running, this Center will be a valuable resource for paroling and releasing authorities, providing a website loaded with valuable

information and technical assistance opportunities for US parole boards and releasing authorities.

The National Institute of Corrections will present the Orientation for New Board Members, July 26 -28, 2010 in Aurora, Colorado. The application deadline is April 26, 2010. Interested participants can apply on-line at http://nic.learn.com. You can locate this program under the "Training Catalog" tab of that website. You will find a course description as well as the criteria for

participation. The program number is 10C4501.

The Pew Center on the States has issued a report that indicates that for the first time in 38 years the state prison population in the United States has declined. This is a major development to those of us who work in the fields of corrections and parole. To view this report visit, http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Prison_Count_2010.pdf?n=880

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION, BY RENEE COLLETTE

The International Section of APAI brings together Releasing Authorities from around the world outside of the United States. So it is quite a challenge as you can imagine!

I have had the honour and the pleasure to be the Vice-President of the International Section since 2002. I have been involved with the Association for many years. I served as Vice-President (1998-2000), President (2000-2002), and Immediate Past President (2002-2004). I was appointed Part Time Member of the Quebec Parole Board (a provincial Board) for 3 years before I became the Chairperson (1987-1997) and I served as Member and Executive Vice-Chairperson of the National Parole Board (NPB) of Canada from 1997 until March 16, 2009 when I retired. As the Vice-President of the International Section, I believe it is important for Releasing Authorities to connect with each other and share our practices. I hope to expand APAI's membership, particularly in the international community.

Canada has been a strong member of APAI since its beginning. In fact, Canada was the co-founder of APAI, along with the United States. The National Parole Board of Canada is a very active member and will again this year send a large delegation to the Savannah conference. Bermuda, Hong Kong, Zambia and Portugal were participants at the 2009 Annual Conference in Newport, Rhode Island. As many of you know, the Annual Training conference was held twice outside the United States; in 1990, in

Toronto and in 2000, in Ottawa, both cities in the province of Ontario, Canada. In Ottawa, delegates from 38 countries plus Canada and the United States attended. Since then, the attendance from the International Section at the annual conferences has varied as have the number of international members. Interest in parole and release, as well as, APAI has continued to grow.

The purpose of this portion of the Newsletter is to give the members and partners of the International Section an opportunity to better share and connect. With the collaboration of the membership of this section, I will regularly present news from around the world.

For this issue, I am pleased to pass along information supplied by our colleagues from the Parole Board of New Zealand and its Manager of Administrative Support Service, Alistair Spierling.

New Zealand Parole Board

The New Zealand Parole Board is leading the way with innovative technology designed to make life easier for its members. Since late 2008, all reports and background information on offenders has been provided to members via memory stick. Members simply plug these in to their laptops and have instant and easy access to all the information they need for their considerations. With 95% of hearings held in prisons throughout the country, the memory sticks have eliminated the need to transport large amounts of paper files, reducing the risk of misplacing files and

improving work flow during hearings. Where previously members would require up to 9 suitcases of files for a sitting, they now require only their laptop and a memory stick. And the reduction in paper files has a positive effect on the environment too.

Conference of South Pacific Paroling Authorities:

In October, this year New Zealand will host the third annual conference of the Paroling Authorities in the South Pacific. In October 2009, the conference was held in Adelaide, South Australia. Roturua will be the host in 2010. The conference is the second to be held in New Zealand and will include countries from throughout the South Pacific Region. Invitations have also been extended to the Canadian and United Kingdom Parole Boards to provide a wider perspective on issues.

The Conference theme is "dealing with diversity" and will look at the challenges that face Boards in the South Pacific which consider parole in the context of divergent culture, religious and gender related issues.

Issues that will be discussed include the disproportionate representation of indigenous people within the prison systems. New Zealand's indigenous people (Maori) make up only 15% of the total population and yet represent 52% of the prison population. Other countries in the South Pacific also face a similar experience with their indigenous population. What can be learned from each other's experiences that will

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

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION, CONT.

help improve this situation?

In terms of gender issues, New Zealand's female prison population has increased by 297% since 1986 with the greatest increase being women sentenced for serious offenses. Over the same period the male prison population has only increased by 161%. What are other South Pacific countries experiencing and what can we learn that will help reduce the influx of women inmates?

The conference will be held over four days, 26 - 29 October, and will include delegates from Australia, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, New Caledonia, Fiji, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. If anyone is interested in

attending our October conference to contact: Alistair Spierling, Manager New Zealand Parole Board Administrative Support Services. Email: alistair.spierling@corrections.govt.nz

After working with the Correctional Management Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University for 6 months, the Executive Committee of APAI has decided to continue this wonderful coordination. You can learn more about the Institute and the training opportunities they offer at www.cmitonline.org



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