

President's Message

Here is an update on the current activities of the MASCA Board. In case you missed it, MASCA sponsored a one day conference on the topic of Re-entry in Newtown, Pennsylvania, in October. There were criminal justice professionals in attendance from five of the eight MASCA jurisdictions. The conference was a huge success and although we didn't charge a registration fee, the facility we used was "sold out". MASCA has already made plans to hold another one day conference next fall, probably in the state of New York.

The membership drive that started in October has resulted in over 100 new members for MASCA! Thanks to everyone who joined (and it is not too late to join if you missed the membership drive). Special thanks and congratulations to our winners in the new member drawings:

1st Prize – Charles Locke – Adams County Juvenile Probation (2 nights Trump Towers)

2nd Prize – Rhoda Williams – Connecticut Probation (MP3 player)

3rd Prize – Dan Lombardo – Volunteers of America Delaware Valley (golf shirts)

MASCA sponsored a team for the "Polar Bear Plunge" into the Chesapeake Bay to raise money for the Special Olympics. The MASCA "Blue Gills" raised \$940.00 for this worthy cause by splashing in the cold water on January 30, 2010, amid some snowy conditions. The Blue Gills say they want to do it again next year (at least most of them say that!). Congratulations to the team for a successful plunge.

The Board continues to work on the Strategic Plan. The goal is to present it to the general membership at the Conference in Atlantic City in June.

And finally the Board continues to prepare for our 72nd Annual Conference and Training Institute. The conference planning committee has put together an impressive line-up of speakers and workshops on a variety of topics. The location is the Trump Towers in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The dates of the conference are June 6 through June 9, 2010, and Trump Towers has given us a great hotel rate of \$70.00 per night, plus taxes. After seeing all of the snow and ice that has hit our region this winter, being at the beach in June sounds real appealing to me. The networking and training opportunities along with the setting make this a conference that you should not miss.

I hope the remaining weeks of winter are kind to everyone and look forward to seeing you in Atlantic City in June.

Henry