2004 William Twarog Manager of the Year Awards
Blaine House—October 5, 2004
In Recognition of Outstanding Leadership and Service
to the State of Maine and to the Department of Corrections
Francis J. Westrack, Director of Classification
Frank Westrack has served the department for 18 plus years as Director of Classification. Despite limited bed space and a daily increase in the number of prisoners committed to the department, Frank has maintained a collegial, orderly and efficient process for transferring prisoners within the Department of Corrections’ adult correctional facilities. He has managed the limitations of bed space, which has at times reached crisis levels, with sensitivity for the demands on institutional managers and with understanding, respect and courtesy. For more information see Central Office page —

2004 Employee of the Year Awards
Blaine House—September 21, 2004
In Recognition of Outstanding Service to the State of Maine and to the Department of Corrections
Jeff Morin, Juvenile Program Manager
Jeff Morin, in realizing the importance of rehabilitating juvenile offenders, has piloted the implementation of a collaborative problem-solving plan at our facility. This includes working side by side with staff to develop individualized plans for our Residents, ensuring the implementation of those plans and instituting training sessions for employees. For more information see MVYDC page —
Food for Thought

“Be civil to all; Sociable to many; Familiar with few; Friend to one; Enemy to none.”

Benjamin Franklin

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Facility & Region Newsletter
Contributors & Staff

Diane Lugar, Maine State Prison
Brad Fogg, Maine Correctional Center
Carol Eustis, Bolduc Correctional Facility
Priscilla McLellan, Charleston Correctional Facility
Sgt. Sonny Beal Jr., Downeast Correctional Facility
Ralph Colfer, Central Maine Pre-Release Center
Anthony Winslow, Long Creek Youth Development Center
Priscilla McLellan, Mountain View Youth Development Center
Carol Carlow, Region 1 - Adult Community Corrections
Nancy Downs, Region 2 - Adult Community Corrections
Bud Hall, Region 3 - Adult Community Corrections
Laurie J. Scott, Region 4 - Adult Community Corrections
Kathleen Pressley, Region 1 - Juvenile Community Corrections
Pauline Ayers, Region 2 - Juvenile Community Corrections
Dyana Beckim, Region 3 - Juvenile Community Corrections
Alison B. Smith, Region 4 – Juvenile Community Corrections
Ellis King, Editor, Central Office
Reni Marin, Compilation of articles, Central Office
Dean Darien, MCC Printing and Distribution

If this contributor list is incorrect or changed, please call Ellis King in Central Office at 287-4342 or FAX 287-4370 or E-Mail at Ellis.King@maine.gov

CENTRAL OFFICE

PERSONNEL NEWS

NEW HIRES:
Mike Lyons, PO, R1A 9/13/2004
Barbara Nichols, PO, R1J 9/27/2004
Kerri Dill, CTII, R2J 9/7/2004
Rod Paulette, JCCO, R1J from LCYDC 9/7/2004

Carl McHatten has accepted the position of Director of Classification. Mr. McHatten has worked for the DOC since 1988 at a number of facilities with jobs ranging from a CO to Classification Officer. The last 9 years he has worked at Downeast as a Correctional Program Manager. Carl will be in Central Office full time.

RETIREES AND TRANSFERS TO NEW JOBS:
Randall Hunnewell, PO, R2A 8/31/2004
John Hinkley, CO 9/10/2004
Frank Westrack, CO 9/16/2004
Dennis Nichols, CO
Jane Farmer, CO 10/22/2004

Congratulations go out to Jennifer Michaud who is expecting twin girls in January. On Friday, October 8, 2004 staff in central office gave Jen a baby shower. We were all seeing pink!

Jen is a staff accountant in Augusta. Jen deals mostly with Juvenile Community Corrections but she has also been very helpful to us entering performance measures.

Jen lives in Manchester with her husband Bobby and their 9 year old daughter – Ashley.

Best of luck to Jen and her entire family!
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

VOICES FROM IRAQ
We salute our soldiers (co-workers and Friends) in the global war on Terrorism.

Dyana White (Beckim) who works for Juvenile Corrections in the Central Office arrived safely in Baghdad. She wrote:

Good morning, How is everything going these days? I’m here in Baghdad. It has been quiet for the last day or so, which is nice. We usually hear something going on somewhere everyday but never very near by so it’s not a big deal. Security here is really tight. I’m living at the Presidential Palace now the US Embassy. They have little trailer parks on the grounds behind it. The palace is absolutely amazing, you can’t even imagine. I work in a building that is part of the Ministry of Defense, the equivalent of our Pentagon. It is very interesting work and I am glad to be part of the process. Tell everyone I said hi and that I can’t wait to come back. If you need to ask me anything I’m here for ya. Use a different e-mail address though dyana.beckim@us.army.mil I can get that one here at work and it won’t interfere with this one. I’ll stay in touch.

Nice to hear from you Dyana, you are on our minds.

MAINE STATE EMPLOYEES COMBINED CHARITABLE APPEAL
By Jody Breton

Our MSECCA (Maine State Employees Combined Charitable Appeal) campaign is getting under way. The volunteers from the various divisions are doing a great job at getting the word out that we, as State employees, have the opportunity to give back to our communities through the MSECCA campaign. The area representatives are as follows:

MSP – Charlene Gamage
BCF – Sally Kinney, Faron Sawtelle
MCC - Barbara Robertshaw and Linda Rockwell
DCF – James Dolan and Steve Davis
CMPRC – Luisita Smith
LCYDC – Eric Simonds
MVYDC & CCF – Rosalie Morin
Region 1, Adult – Patty Keaney
Region 2, Adult – Connie Barstow
Region 3, Adult – Marsha Booker
Region 4 Adult – Julie Jacobs
Region 1, Juvenile – Mike Mack
Region 2, Juvenile – Cindy Brann
Region 3, Juvenile – Ginger Jackson
Region 4, Juvenile – Dave Barrett
CO – Jody Breton

If for some reason you have not received your MSECCA materials, please contact your representative or me, and we will make sure receive the donor guide and pledge sheets.

For those people that are new to MSECCA, we are given the opportunity to give in three ways – cash, check or payroll deduction. If you chose payroll deduction, the bi-weekly amount doesn’t start getting deducted until January. The amount is spread over 26 payrolls, and the minimum is $1 per pay period. The donor guide has over 500 non-profit agencies for which you can select who receives your contribution, or you can write in any other non-profit, but please add the mailing address. The donor guide is basically people agencies, but you can write in entities such as your local humane society, followed by their mailing address. Please see your representative for more information or contact me at 287-4387.

Thank you for supporting this campaign. Together, we have raised over $125,000 in the past 6 years.
Did You Know?

The following information and statistics were derived from a wide variety of publications that address family violence.

- "Being abused or neglected as a child increases the likelihood of arrest as a juvenile by 53 percent and of arrest for a violent crime as an adult by 38 percent"
- "Fifty-three percent of family abducted children were abducted by their biological father, and 25 percent were abducted by their biological mother"
- "According to estimates from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), there were 691,710 nonfatal violent victimizations committed by current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends of the victims during 2001"
- "Relatives or intimates committed more than 1 in 4 of the murders and 1 in 10 of the incidents of nonlethal violence against persons age 65 or older" Note: In Maine this number is usually 50% or higher.
- "Victims of murder over age 64 were 2 times more likely than victims between ages 12 and 64 to have been killed by relatives or intimates"
- "Arresting batterers was consistently related to reduced subsequent aggression against female intimate partners, although not all comparisons met the standard level of statistical significance"
- "More than 80 percent of victims (84 percent) were abused by a parent or parents. Almost half of child victims (41 percent) were maltreated by just their mother, and one-fifth of victims (19 percent) were maltreated by both their mother and father"
- "Empathy is the single most desirable quality in nurturing parenting. Empathy is the ability to be aware of the needs of others and to value those needs. When empathy is high among family members, abuse is low — the two are essentially incompatible. The Nurturing Parenting Programs seek to develop empathy in all family members"

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The archive photograph in this article shows one of the buildings and the vegetable garden of the Maine State Reform School in South Portland in the 1871-1877 era. The adult and the juvenile in the garden photo are unidentified. This facility has had many names throughout the past 150 years and is currently named the “Long Creek Youth Development Center”. It is past and present practice for the incarcerated offenders to help in the cultivation of fruits and vegetables to provide a nutritious addition for the daily meals.

The new “Seeds of Change” gardening program at the Maine State Prison and the Bolduc Correctional Facility is a state of the art horticulture program. This program was featured in the last MDOC newsletter.

If anyone has any old MDOC photographs that they would like to submit to the DOC TALK to use for this section, please contact Ellis King at 287-4342. The photographs may be published but will certainly be returned to the sender.
Correction Education Journeys: From Prison to Society

Lorraine Christensen, Maine Department of Corrections Teacher and Judy Peavey, Caseworker for Volunteers of America presented a workshop at the Maine Adult Education Association (MAEA) Annual Conference that was held recently in South Portland. The workshop focused on the programs offered at the Women’s Unit of the Maine Correctional Center in Windham, Maine and described the dynamic and state-of-the-art educational and skills-building programs underway that help the ladies transition from incarceration back into the community.

Bob Aubrey, Coordinator of the Maine Adult Correctional Education Association hosted the workshop.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS WITHIN THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MEASURING MDOC STAFF INJURIES

The decrease in the number and types of MDOC staff injuries is one measure for assessing the department’s progress in meeting the goals outlined in our strategic plan. This measure specifically addresses Goal D. to ensure a correctional environment in which employees are safe.

MDOC staff injury Information is gathered, on a monthly basis, from each of the MDOC Juvenile and adult correctional facilities on the numbers of injuries, types of injuries, and the location at which the injury occurred. A determination is made for the MDOC staff injuries to identify if each injury was a result of an assault or an illness or accident.

The data and information on the MDOC staff injuries are gathered from the State Workman’s Compensation Reports with input from the MDOC personnel Administrators. The data is used by the MDOC Safety Committee to identify potentially unsafe working conditions as well as by the MDOC Correctional Administrators to help identify possible unsafe staff-offender operating practices. The staff injury data is used by many different people for many different reasons in an effort to ensure a correctional environment in which our employees are safe.

The goal of the Maine Department of Corrections is consistent improvement and the ongoing goal is to continually decrease the number of MDOC staff injuries.

If you would like more information on the MDOC staff injury data contact Ellis King at 287-4342 or e-mail Ellis.King@maine.gov

Above: Lorraine Christensen, Judy Peavey, Bob Aubrey.
Dr. Joe Fitzpatrick discussed the Maine Correctional Center’s Sex Offender Treatment Unit that received federal grant money for three years for an institutional program – 30-bed unit. DOC has contracted with Maine Counseling and Psychotherapy Inc. who has had a presence in Southern Maine on an outpatient basis and is willing to be involved in facility and community. In the next 2-3 months they will evaluate every sex offender in the facilities and prioritize people with a 2-year time window left to serve. The sex offender treatment program will be in a separate housing unit, separate program, based on sentence and risk. The treatment unit will open in January 2005, after program space has been constructed.

Denise Lord discussed the Transition Unit of adult transition team to improve release planning. The Appropriations Committee of the Legislature is proposing to increase the numbers on SCC. The quality of current SCC plans is often inadequate. The greatest increase in the prison population is offenders with sentences 18 months or less. The Transition Unit is an intensive correctional intervention, 3-6 months program, focused on user needs. The prisoners will work with VOA on release plans. The final period of incarceration will be spent on SCC. DOC is targeting low risk offenders.

The next meeting is November 9, 2004.
Just Like Avis – They’ll Try Harder!

Congratulations to Mark Peters and Darren Sandler who participated in the International Arm Wrestling Federation’s Maine State Championships held in Sanford, Me. Participants and teams came from all over New England and there were several world caliber participants.

Darren, a psychiatric social worker, participated in the professional division and finished as a semi-finalist. Mark, a Corrections Officer, competed in the Amateur heavyweight division and took second place. Both have committed themselves to a rigorous training program that will propel them to Champions next year!

From Director to Duffer.

K-9 News

Correctional Investigator Peter Herring, who has spent a great deal of time in revitalizing the K-9 program, has been named K-9 Team Commander. Kenneth Smith has been named as a K-9 handler. Thanks to the efforts of Peter Herring, Steve Lacourse, Jack McGloin, Steve Lemieux and retired K9 Officer Russell Kelley, MCC has continued to maintain its own K-9 training area. Not only does MCC make good use of the area, but 15 local area Police Departments and Region 9 of the US Police Canine Association have been conducting their training at the MCC facility.

N.E.C.C.D. Award Winner

Congratulations to Paryse Thibodeau. She has been selected as the recipient of the New England Conference on Crime and Delinquency’s Angelo R. Musto Award for 2004. This award was presented to Paryse because of her dedication and leadership in and to N.E.C.C.D.

- OVER -
MCC continued

Employees Appreciated and Recognized

Maine Correctional Center continues to move forward and its employees are the reason why! With an ever growing population, averaging 600 per week, and processing over 800 new admissions through mid October, the entire staff is meeting its responsibilities and deserving of recognition. During the week of September 13, MCC administrators served over 240 lunch meals to its employees and contractors. They had a choice of Hamburgers, Cheese burgers, grilled chicken or tuna with all the fixings. With their meal, each one of the employees was given a book bag/back pack with the Correctional Center logo on it.

The Administration also recognized the following employees for outstanding and meritorious service:

Ken Sawyer, Bob Hudson, Jane Hudson, Patrick Scully of PHS, Brian Libby, Rich Dunham, Greg Royer, Steven Morse, Donald Piper, Robert Cobbett, Eileen Mageary of PHS, and Ken Fearon.

Also receiving recognition for their performance in doing intake interviews, initial classification services and placement of over 800 new admissions was the Classification team made up of:


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CHARLESTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PERSONNEL

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<td>Steve Conner</td>
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<td>Pat Stone</td>
<td>December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Paul Saunders</td>
<td>December</td>
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Congratulations to Sgts. John Roberts, Jim Chase and CTI. John Grabofsky who have had perfect attendance from September 03 to September 04.

DOWNNEAST CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

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<td>Doug Cunningham</td>
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<td>John Gilmore</td>
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<td>Danny Ramsdell</td>
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<td>Darlene Preston</td>
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The Downeast Correctional Facility is still going through changes as the paint in the dorms is going up and an overall face lift is still underway. The work crews are fixing the various jobs around grounds in preparation for winter, which could have led to major jobs when the ground was frozen.

- OVER -
DCF continued

Our DOT crew will be running through the winter, weather permitting. Our motor pool is still working hard, doing high quality work on all the vehicles brought in for repair or routine maintenance. Our industries program continues to produce jeans and jean jackets that clothe inmates throughout the DOC; along with doing wonderful furniture restoration.

Our outside Crews have helped built a church and rebuilt what was the old Machias town office along with helping restore the Gates House a local historical building in Machiasport. Through the summer months they worked helping to mow the cemeteries in the local towns.

Working with the local communities, being a good neighbor and a valuable part of this area of Washington County has always been a goal for the Downeast Correctional Facility; this is a goal that we are meeting. Keep up the good work!

I would like to congratulate our new Sergeant… Sergeant Al Devericks, Al was promoted on 8-29-04 and is working very hard in his new capacity.

We also would like to welcome two new hirers Officer Mark Greenlaw and Officer Kristin King; both new officers are working on second shift.

Also thanks go out to Christy Cunningham for volunteering her services which have helped our business staff a great deal.

LONG CREEK YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Here is a picture and description of the painting which has been chosen to hang in the Capitol Bldg. in Augusta…thought you may want to include it in your "news" from Long Creek publications. Many thanks. Brady, Long Creek Youth Development Center. An 18 x 24” painting by a teen girl being held at

Long Creek is now on display in the Capitol Bldg. in Augusta until November 19th, 2004. It is part of the Maine Excellence in Education Program offering gallery space for one piece of artwork from every high school in the state of Maine. Title: INCARCERATION

Description of painting: This painting has two parts. One half signifies the depression that inmates feel while being incarcerated. The other half shows us what lies outside these walls – the part that a lot of these kids lose sight of. They stop remembering the good things that are out in the world and still available to them. Kids allow the depression to take over and they become complaisant. I painted a positive vision of the future in my painting because I never want to lose HOPE.
LYCDS WELCOMES
BRIAN BARRY AND TOM TARR
FROM DRAGON PRODUCTS.
By Peg Emerson @LYCDC

So you think that cement and concrete is a dry subject? Where does Portland Cement come from? How does Rome tie in to all this?

I'm glad you asked! The Roman's used concrete in BC (before Christ). They built Adrian's Villa, which is still standing today, among other buildings.

The "recipe" for cement was reinvented in 1824 by Joseph Aspdin and named "Portland Cement". The ties to "Portland" are the Isles off Great Britain, not Portland, Maine or Portland, Oregon.

Luckily, Carpentry has been studying about cement and concrete and they were lucky enough to have two guest speakers from Dragon Products come in on October 8th.

Brian Barry and his boss, Tom Tarr, were kind enough to come in with a PowerPoint presentation and the ingredients of concrete in PAPER cups (no glass containers in here!). They were impressed with the knowledge already learned by the Carpentry students, and gave a fabulous presentation, answered questions and discussed employment with the students.

We can’t forget the food! Chocolate milk and donuts were kindly provided by the kitchen for a break in the presentation.

We thank Dragon Products for allowing Brain and Tom to take time out to come see us. The presentation was very interesting and informative.

P.S. For those that do not know, cement is an ingredient in concrete.
EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Jeff Morin, Juvenile Program Manager, C Unit for MVYDC was invited to the Blaine House to receive this year’s award for the Department of Corrections Employee of the Year Award! Governor John Baldacci presented awards to the outstanding members of each department in state government. This year, each region/facility nominated one person from their ranks for the award, and Commission Magnusson determined the final choice. Jeff’s work on the Performance Based Standards, and his unit’s involvement in piloting the Ross Greene “Collaborative Problem Solving” behavior management program were instrumental in the selection of Jeff receiving this award. Jeff is truly an advocate for our resident programming and continually demonstrates the work ethic and commitment required to, not only create, but also maintain the high level of programming and services at Mountain View.

Associate Commissioner Stoodley also took opportunity during the annual juvenile corrections conference in Bethel to introduce Jeff to everyone there as the most outstanding employee in the DOC for 2004. Congratulations Jeff!! We are very proud of you and your accomplishments.

NEW WAREHOUSE WITH A MOUNTAIN VIEW

Warehouse Superintendent David Richards has the most beautiful office view on the hill. The panoramic view of Mt. Katahdin and the various mountain ranges are just like a post card. The support services (warehouse/motor pool) building was constructed shortly after the Mountain View Youth Development Center construction, but left unfinished and vacant due to funding issues. It has taken over two years to properly furnish the warehouse/storeroom area, utilizing the Surplus Property Program for over half of those pieces of equipment and furniture.
According to David Lovejoy, Deputy Superintendent Support Services, “we saved thousands of dollars by utilizing the Surplus Program. I can’t emphasize enough just how much I do through them to help out with the budget concerns. The new warehouse is almost a dream come true for many people within the facility, because it really affects several departments. With its unloading area, all in-coming supplies for both MVYDC and CCF will be delivered to the warehouse to be redistributed to appropriate areas or placed in storage in the new storeroom area. This new set-up will be much more efficient and effective for everyone involved, all under one roof with plenty of room. I really want to say “Thank You” to all staff and inmate work crews involved in making this happen, because this was a “team project”. When totally completed, the building will incorporate the motor vehicle repair shop.

DAVE AND CREW

In viewing the Maine Arts Magazine summer issue, it was delightful to see a familiar looking large black and white photo entitled “Zebra” created by a MVYDC student. This artwork is part of the second installment of the Maine Youth Excellence in Art Project celebrating the work of student artists from every school in Maine by exhibiting the artwork in several installments around the state capitol complex. Our appreciation goes to First Lady Baldacci and others for placing Maine’s young artist in the forefront of the capitol.

"Race" results for Greg Locsin's bike race mentioned in the last issue of DocTalk: "There were seven finishers, I was last but that was because I let a kid with asthma go ahead so he wouldn't be last. I won the senior class, being the only senior. Next closest (in age) was 40-ish and then the other five were 15-17 years old. 188 miles in 12.47 hours total time in saddle. Lost bearing in one bike, had spare, and was in 3-bike crash with minimal gravel rash. Will be building a new, lighter, faster bike specifically for next year's 'official' race." Great work, Greg, and whatta guy!!!
Since the last DocTalk went to print, there are no new personnel changes in Region 4 Adults to report!!! That's gotta be a record!!!

Scott Lewis is still deployed in Iraq but doing well. He hopes to get home in February of next year. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

I have recently found out that Don Muth and Greg Locsin are both members of the Single Action Shooting Society!! For those of you who are not "in the know" (such as myself), the Single Action Shooting Society is an international organization created to preserve and promote the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting. SASS endorses regional matches conducted by affiliated clubs, and members share a common interest in preserving the history of the Old West and competitive shooting. Cowboy Action Shooting is the fastest growing outdoor shooting sport in the country. Attracting competitors from around the world, it's not only a sport that tests the shooters' accuracy but also a forum that brings back the days of the Old West in a veritable celebration of the cowboy lifestyle. SASS has over 60,000 members and is represented in all fifty states and 18 foreign countries. If you ever find yourself at one of these events, look up "Old Mildew" (Don) and "Aroostook Ranger" (Greg).

My husband and I vacationed last week in Waymart, Pennsylvania (outside of Scranton), visiting my in-laws who are the resident hosts at the Ladore Camp, Conference, and Retreat Center, a Salvation Army-owned retreat nestled amidst 1,400 acres of beauty and where swans, ducks, turtles, and heron call the 265-acre Ladore Lake home. The foliage was breathtaking (and I'll be scrapbooking 8 rolls of film to prove it!!), and it was so peaceful driving around the camp grounds watching deer graze nearby, waiting for flocks of wild turkeys to mosey on outta the road, and then driving to a waterfall and just sitting on the bench next to it, surrounded by nothing but peacefulness and tranquility. We sat around a fireplace during the evenings downstairs from our room, the perfect ending to each day. I hated to leave, and being quite the homebody, that's quite a stretch for me. The Center is open year round, and I'm thinking Christmas at Ladore would be another breathtaking vacation. I couldn't quite get away from work, though . . . the Waymart Male Correctional Institute was in full view right up the mountain from the Lodge, sitting in the middle of a row of windmills. The windmills were beautiful, but every time I looked up at them, I was reminded of work! Oh well ... I'm still willing to go back!

Candice Kiefer's husband, Louis, ran the Mount Desert Marathon (26.2 miles) on 10/17 on behalf of his employees at the Bar Harbor Inn from Jamaica whose families suffered damages as a result of hurricane Ivan. Contributions estimated $7000. Great job, Lou!!! This is an amazing accomplishment for Lou as he was involved in a serious motorcycle accident a while back and is lucky to be running at all let alone 26.2 miles!!!! We're thankful not only for his dedication to his employees but also for his recovery as well!

Charlie is now the proud owner of his very own piece of paradise having purchased a camp on the lake. We don't see much of him now since it's bird season and all, and I'm still trying to decide if that's a good thing or a bad thing. *smile*

That's the scoop in our region for now. I hope everyone is enjoying these beautiful autumn days, and don't forget to get out and vote!!!

 september/october 2004/page 13
We spent three days at our retreat at the Jordan Hotel in Bethel for the first time in three years. The weather was spectacular and the changing colors in the leaves were magnificent. It is always nice to socialize with people that we rarely see and take the opportunity to catch up. I think it is safe to say that most of us had a very nice time.

David Clock missed it as well as he was on his moose hunting trip. I must add that he was very successful and came back with a huge moose.

Andrew Moore missed our retreat as he was on his honeymoon in Hawaii.

Kelli and Rick have announced that they are going to have another baby. Their daughter, Emma, is six months old and they have six other children besides her, so I expect they will be very busy next year. They are both very excited. The baby is due in early April.

Christopher Libby has transferred to our Region from Region Two and is handling the caseload previously held by Roy Curtis. We have hired Rod Paulette as a JCCO, formerly a JFOS at Long Creek, and he began covering the Cumberland, Falmouth, Yarmouth area. He will transfer to the caseload in York County in November and Kelli will temporarily carry the Cumberland, Falmouth, Yarmouth area in addition to her Portland girls. Pam Richards has left the Mental Health Coordinator position to work in an acting capacity at Long Creek and Janice Teasenfitz is in the acting capacity in our office.

We had a joint staff meeting with Region Two on August 20th for MDEA training for all staff, which was presented in a very straight forward manner. It was certainly very informative and the instructors were extremely skilled. We had a chocolate cook-off following the meeting and Jay Pennell won first place for his Robert Redford cake.

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Bob Lancaster is holding Chris Libby's baby at the conference in Bethel. Kathy "We hope that's a clean diaper Bob!"

We are all eagerly awaiting the updated version of CORIS and hope it will be more accommodating to our needs.

We have several interns working with the JCCO’s and they are doing a great job and the officers seem to enjoy the extra help.

We are sad to see the end of summer but the fall is, to me at least, the most gorgeous time of the year. Let’s hope we have a mild winter and that spring won’t be too far away.
Managers and line staff from both Youth Development Centers and Juvenile Field Services were brought together for a retreat at the Sunday River Resort from September 28-October 1 under the theme of “ONE TEAM”. Commissioner Magnusson made the opening remarks on the 29th and was well received by all. By the way, it was his birthday that day and he was quite surprised we all knew it! Associate Commissioners Denise Lord and Barry Stoodley were also on hand to lead off the conference.

There were some distinguished presenters throughout the first two days of the conference who provided information on topics such as Performance Based Standards, FST, MST, Reentry, Case planning and Best Practices/Effective Interventions.

On Friday, staff was able to choose the training sessions they wished to attend. Those included: 1) **Collaborative Problem Solving** (Dr. J. Stuart Ablon) 2) **Introduction to Gangs** (Jason Greenlaw and Jeff Morin of MVYDC) 3) **Drugs and Drug Identification** (Jon Richards and Lowell Woodman of Maine Drug Enforcement) 4) **Introduction to PowerPoint** (Tova Starbird-Devos) and 5) **Behavioral Health Issues** (led by Colin O’Neil and his staff). Each session was offered twice so people had the opportunity to attend two different tracks. All the trainers received excellent evaluations. Our deepest appreciation is given to them for their hard work and enthusiasm for their particular area of expertise.

In the wrap up, staff said they liked the idea of selecting training topics and hope it will be expanded next time.

A special thank you during a standing ovation was given to Bill Francis (JCCO Region 4) who recently returned from an extended tour of duty in Saudi. Barry personally congratulated him and thanked him for his service and sacrifice. Welcome home Bill. Another staff member, Dyana (Beckim) White, (Administrative Assistant) who has just left for an extended tour in Iraq, was given a heartfelt send off and special thanks for her upcoming service and sacrifice. Good luck Dyana. Stay safe. You’re in our thoughts and prayers.

Thursday night was capped off with a dance complete with door prizes and several dance contests. Everyone who attended had a great time!
A great deal of hard work went into planning the conference and making sure everything went off without a hitch. Thanks to everyone, especially Perry Ayotte & Cynthia Brann, for making this year’s conference a memorable one.

A special thank you to Commissioner Magnusson and Associate Commissioner Stoodley for making this conference happen, all your hard work was very well appreciated!
Behavioral Health Issues Class
Collaborative Problem Solving
Introduction to PowerPoint
Drugs and Drug Identification
Introduction to Gangs
Team Building – One Team
Sue Colson and her husband Greg spent a weekend in Louden, N.H. They are both avid Nascar fans. We all know Sue's favorite driver is Tony Stewart. She actually has a tee shirt with his picture on it!

Dave and Nancy Barrett have completely re-modeled their home. They've opened up a wall and extended their living space. A new garage was built, along with a new roof, chimney and siding. A new deck is planned for next Spring. Nancy said she loves the outcome but would not recommend having an "extreme make-over" like they did while you're actually living in the home. Their dog Sammy, welcomed all the construction men but could do without all the hammering and noise. Last time I saw Sammy, she was eating sirloin steak! Ask Dave if she'll eat real dog food now.......

Speaking of puppies, Josh Ashe has a new puppy he named Morgan. As we all know, Josh is an avid hunter. Morgan is a pointer, I'm told. He's being trained to hunt birds. Morgan will have his "bird hunting initiation" this Fall when Josh goes on his hunting trip.

Shawn and Lynne Nelson are proud grandparents for the first time. Joseph Thomas was born on September 9th, weighing in at 6 lbs. 3 oz., 19 inches long. You won't find two prouder grandparents. Shawn has already made a baby seat for the back of his tractor!

We recently celebrated Chris Ross's 50th birthday. You'd never know she passed into "my" decade, as she keeps herself fit and trim. Chris continues to share her delicious vegetables with us all. I'm going to miss those fresh tomatoes, cucers, zucchini's and peppers. They make a great stir fry!

In the last DOC TALK I wrote, I had mentioned that Roxann Austin and Mary Jones were covering the vacant case load of part of Hancock and Washington Counties. We now have "good news" on that subject. Our newest colleague is John Bennoch. He comes to us from MVYDC. John fits in perfectly in Reg. IV. Mary and Roxann, along with the rest of us say: "WELCOME" John!
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

More "good news". Bill Francis, Gary Sancfacon, Julie Leavitt and Kelly Lizotte are being given, by Day I, their "Making A Difference Award" at their annual meeting on Nov. 18th, in Portland. Bill, Gary, Julie and Kelly have the highest level of participation in the substance abuse network program. They work with mentoring and other programs to help kids with substance abuse issues. Congratulations you guys!

Speaking about our Aroostook County colleagues, I e-mailed Bill Francis as I heard he bought a new Harley. Sure enough, while he was overseas he ordered one through the Military Overseas Exchange Program. Harley-Davidson is a participating manufacturer. Bill's wife, Mary-beth, loves to ride, so that works out perfect for them both. Bill said he's already put on 5,000 miles just this past summer. I understand that he rode the Harley to the Bethel conference and gave Sue Colson and Donna Miles a ride. Donna enjoyed it so much she is going to try and talk her husband into buying one! Bill said he was glad to be back home. He reports that Carolyn Chandler, keeps everyone on the "straight and narrow path"! We all know how respected Carolyn is and how hard she works for everyone.

Realizing that it will be closer to Dec. by the time you are reading this article, I would like to wish you all a happy holiday season.

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Thomas Paine 1776
(revised 2004)