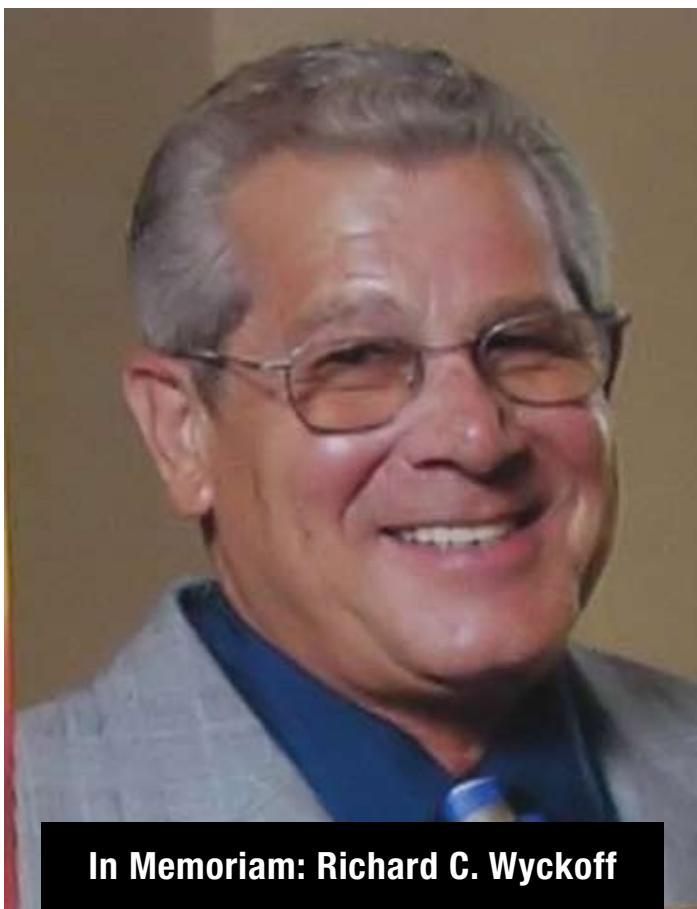


INSIDER

The Magazine of ACFSA, the Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates



In Memoriam: Richard C. Wyckoff



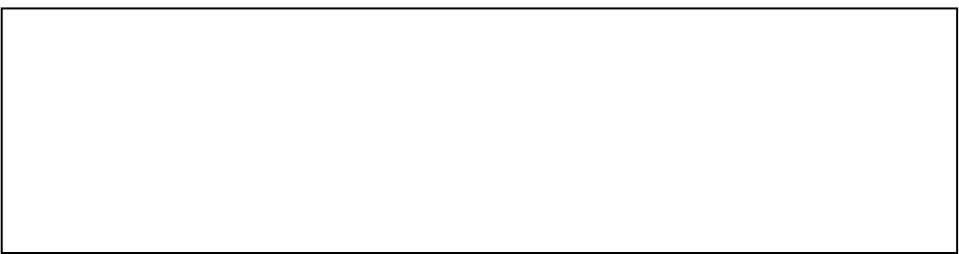
Palau Division of Corrections Experiences Cuts in Many Ways



California Chapter Hosts Successful State Conference

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California Hosts Successful State Conference

Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates Spring 2010



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INSIDER is published quarterly (Spring/March; Summer/June; Fall/September; Winter/December) by the **Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates**, 210 N. Glenoaks Blvd., Suite C, Burbank, CA 91502; Phone: (818) 843-6608, Fax: (818) 843-7423 ▲ website: www.acfsa.org.

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President's Message

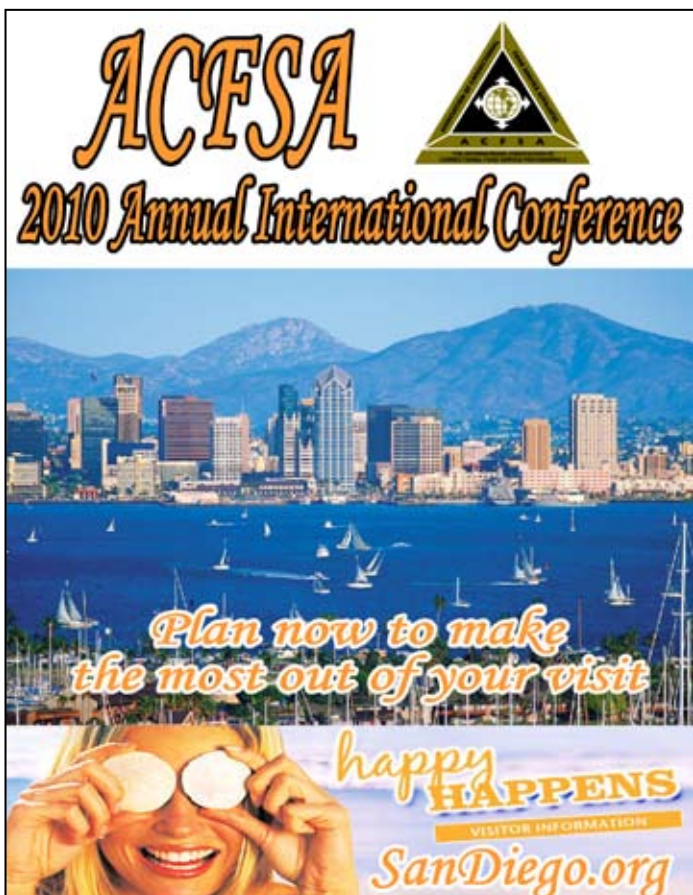
by Jim Hartman, CDM, CFPP

Looking for a Few Good Men and Women!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is looking forward to spring. By the time you get this it will just around the corner. If you haven't started making plans to be in California in August for the International Conference, now would be a great time to start. It is hard to believe that it is a new year because I don't remember where the last one went. Plans are well on the way for a big show and lots of training, and folks getting together and talking about all that has happened since the last conference. If there is anything you would like to see in the way of training let a board member know and we will try and get it on the agenda. I want to encourage all the members to attend, and ask your boss to come also. Bring them and let them



WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN to lead this association into the future. It is very rewarding to be part of the Board and set the course for the association to follow into the future.



see what ACFSA is all about. The more informed your supervisors are about what goes on at these conferences, the more likely they will let you attend. Membership is growing and we need to get the word out to all the food service staff that we would like for them to join and become part of this fine Association. We are just like one big family and still growing.

I always ask for folks to think about stepping up and becoming part of the National Board each year. We are just like the Marines, as we are looking for a few good men, and women to lead this Association into the future. It is very rewarding to be part of the Board and set the course for this Association to follow into the future. Each year we ask and just a few take the offer. This year let's get the ballots full and see some new faces and new ideas come to the table. You, the membership are what make this association so great and keep it moving forward with your new and innovative thinking. So come on and run for one of the offices this year. Check the web site and see what offices are vacant, and which one you might like to be considered for. If you should have any questions just call one of the board members and they will be more than glad to help. Just as you plant new flowers each year and watch them grow we want you to grow with us and be a key part of this fine Association.

In closing, I challenge each of us to stop and think about what we have and about the people who serve and have served to make sure that we can live in freedom and can sleep well at night because they stand guard at home and overseas. When you see a military man or women thank them for what they do. Remember, "Freedom is not Free." ▲



Past President's Message

by *Teddie Mitchell, CCFP*

Looking Ahead

It feels funny, writing a column for the Spring Issue while we just had our “big blizzard” of the season in Wisconsin. But isn't that part of our spirit, always looking ahead, forward to new and exciting times.

In this issue you will find the nomination forms; time to take charge of YOUR Association. Who in your Chapter has Leadership qualities, great ideas and is willing and able to take an active part on the ACFSA board?

As your immediate past president, I serve as chair for the nominating committee. Even though I've had the pleasure of meeting many of our members, I would love to have your input and present the membership with dynamic candidates. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have someone in mind to fill a spot.

This year we elect a vice president-elect /treasurer and a director for Regions I and III. You will find the criteria for these positions in the nomination forms. Our Professional Partners will vote for their candidate in equipment. I would love their input as well.

In an earlier message I wrote about the vegetable garden I started at our work release center, which was inspired by some articles that had appeared in the INSIDER. Now I'm sure that there are lots of other jails and prisons, growing vegetables for inmate consumption. Would you get in touch with me so I can compare notes and learn from you? We have already decided to make the garden larger next year. Scheduling inmate workers to help was difficult because we have a small population in that facility. Frost came early and destroyed our tomato and pepper plants but that is to be expected in Wisconsin. Smaller gardens (and flower beds) are often covered with sheets when a frost is expected; I was tempted but the area to cover was just too large.

And now for a bit of Christmas—my sheriff called me just now. He received notice that a truck from Mississippi had 56 cases of Florida cantaloupe that were refused and he had to dispose of them. I took my food delivery truck to a parking lot where the sheriff helped me load up the cantaloupe. We first stopped at a women's shelter and dropped off several cases, then we went to a food pantry and dropped off 35 cases, the rest is in our cooler.

This fresh fruit will be enjoyed by many people and hopefully make their Christmas, next week, a bit brighter. Of course this could also happen at other times; I once was able to get many cases of canned tomato products that were refused and the truck driver had to somehow dispose of it.

If you've had a similar experience, why not share it with our readers? It would fit well in our “this 'n that” column. ▲

Don't forget to contact me with potential candidates at: 715-526-7952, Teddie.mitchell@co.shawano.wi.us



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Vice President's Message

by Benson Li

Running Your Food Service Operation Like a Business

The future of correctional food service is dependent on the food service management within the institution. Our versatility, innovative thinking, and willingness to think outside of the box will be the catalyst that moves our industry into the future. Members of ACFSA are already changing to meet the demands of increased inmate populations; the “bread and water days” of incarceration are long gone. Creative thinking, changing perceptions and willingness to meet the challenges of the future should be our mission in these challenging times.

Operate your correctional food service operations like a business. Manage your budget efficiently. Develop guidelines for your food cost, labor cost and other nonfood items. Utilize “what if” scenarios or play devil’s advocate. An alternate way may save you money and be more efficient. Managers, walk around and communicate with your front line employees. They are your best resources in these difficult times. Your team’s determination is to do the right thing; the right way is vital to your success. Take pride in your work.

Money is an integral part in corrections, as in all business ventures. We are challenged to eliminate waste and use our budgeted money wisely. Mistakes can be costly, a well run food service program reduces wastes, preserves food, and reduces labor to lower costs. A good food safety program follows the flow of food from purchasing and receiving, to storing, preparation, service, and clean up. Avoid expired products and questionable bargains, and disreputable vendors. Lawsuits for negligence that lead to punitive damages will not help your budget.

ACFSA members collectively have thousands of years of experience. The award winning operators of the year and the employees of the year are prime examples of the professionalism of the organization. Our professional partners provide you with products tailored for the correctional industry standards. My participation in ACFSA enhances my career and personal growth, I am sure it will do the same for you. ▲



ACFSA Needs Your Input

It's that time again!

A few By-Laws changes have been proposed and will be online for your perusal. Please visit the ACFSA website and click on the By-Laws link to view complete details.

This is a vital part of your ACFSA Membership and your participation is welcome and appreciated.

www.ACFSA.org



I received a phone call this morning from a “head hunter”. He wanted to know if I could help him locate someone that would be interested in a management position in a Midwestern state. When asked how he got my name he said he got it from the ACFSA website. When finished with the conversation I began to think about what he said about getting my name from the ACFSA web site. I then thought that what Past President Teddie Mitchell said about an email communication I sent to Region III making a good INSIDER article was correct. So with apologies to Region III and a few minor changes, here it is:

ACFSA’s Future Is in Your Hands

by Phil Atkinson, ACFSA Region III Director

ACFSA is a great and worthwhile organization. We have more dedicated and professional people in this organization than any other I know. We all participate daily in a task that is as important as any other in our institutions. The job we do, if we do it well, is a major contributor to the smooth operation of the organization; when we make a mistake it impacts the entire institution. We are seldom appreciated by those we work with and often derided. Few understand the issues we deal with or the pressures we are under.

(Continued on page 6)



ACFSA's Future is in Your Hands *(continued)*

When I joined ACFSA I found a group of people that does understand what I am doing, understands how I feel and is more than willing to help me get through any issues I might have. A truly great group! There is, however, one thing that bothers me; the number of people I talk to that do not know what ACFSA is or that it even exists. I know that I stumbled upon it on the internet and I have spoken to many people that discovered it the same way. I think this deserves a "Shame on us."

Until three years ago things were not looking good for ACFSA. Membership was declining, we were suffering financially and we had a management company that was not totally honest with us. All of these things have changed. We are financially solid, membership is growing and we have a management company that has us moving in the right direction.

Now comes the hard part...I have a vision for ACFSA. In my mind we should be a group that speaks on the local, state, national and international level for all people in correctional food service. We should be well known as the organization that sets the standard for professionalism and excellence in Correctional Food Service; the place that is searched first for quality leadership. I have a vision of ACFSA leading the process to establish national/international standards for calories and nutrition in corrections. And most importantly I see all of us, as we are and should be, being proud of our membership in ACFSA and desiring to spread the word so that others will want what we have.



I CHALLENGE EVERY MEMBER TO RECRUIT ONE PERSON TO JOIN ACFSA in 2010. If we can do this, ACFSA will grow to almost 1,500 members and will grow to be a true force in corrections.

I challenge every member to recruit one person to join in 2010—just one. If we can do this ACFSA will grow to almost 1500 members; will grow to be a true force in corrections.

I challenge all of you in states that have inactive chapters to make the contacts and begin again. Think outside the box and outside the borders of your state. I can speak to the metamorphosis that occurred in the Wisconsin Chapter. Wisconsin invited the few members from Minnesota to come to a meeting. One thing led to another and they have since re-formed the Wisconsin Chapter into the Northern Lakes Chapter which encompasses members from Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. Membership is up, they are regularly adding new members and participation has been great. It only takes a few people to get excited and involved—the feeling spreads.

Please accept this challenge—take it to heart, make it one of your 2010 goals. Your Board of Directors and the Management Team will help in any way possible. ▲



REMEMBER...

The future of this organization lies in your hands.

In December 1998, I began my career in Correctional Food Service. I left a Mental Health facility, which was operating a cook-chill facility with multiple units. The Blue Ridge Regional Jail Authority (BRRJA) was formed in July 1998, with the same concept of a multiple unit operation and using cook-chill. In the mental health facility where I worked the cook-chill operation was operated using the Blast Chill method. That type of system I was used to and familiar with, but to my surprise BRRJA had chosen to use the Tumble Chill system. Not only had I changed jobs to a new method of feeding but the concept of preparation was different too. I had a little time to learn how the preparation food service operated and to learn the method of operation for the tumble chill because three kitchens were being renovated.

Two buildings were being built from the ground up one would be the hub of the operation and contain the production kitchen. Immediately I called around first I want to learn the procedures are preparing and serving food in corrections. "Surely we didn't give them knives" boy was I naive! I learned quickly not only did we give them knives but we trusted them to feed us also. What a concept? After my initial shock, I still wanted to learn all I could about correctional food.

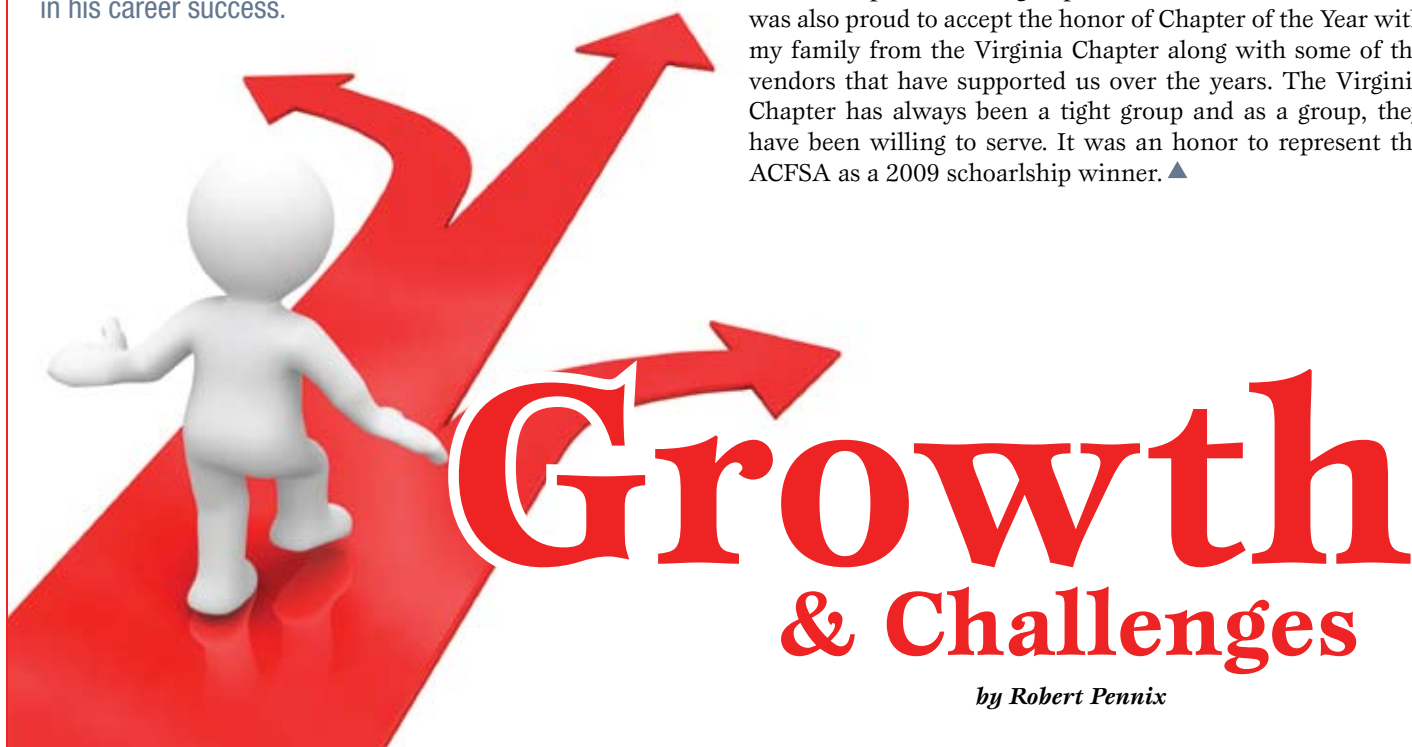
Everyone I talked with said call Lavinia Johnson. Once I contacted Lavinia, she introduced me to the Virginia Chapter of the ACFSA. This group of individuals had a wide variety of experience. Some of them shared the same experiences as I did; they had come into corrections from other types of food services. They were eager to tell me about their experience of entering corrections. This was very helpful. I have called on my associates many times in the past ten years and they have always come through.

ACFSA 2009 Scholarship Winner, Robert Pennix shares how his involvement in ACFSA has been a driving force in his career success.

In August 1999, I attended my first ACFSA International Conference in the wonderful state of Virginia. Virginia Beach was the first time I got to meet so many people who share a common goal. The goal was and still is to "develop and promote educational programs and networking activities to improve professionalism and provide an opportunity for broadening knowledge." It was my first year in corrections; it was also my first year as a department head, what better place to be then surrounded by a sea of knowledge. I met so many people who helped guide me on this journey. I remember meeting a couple of pioneers in Cook-Chill Correctional Food Service Louise Matthews from San Diego County Sheriff's Office and Richard Higginbotham from King County Correctional Facility in WA. These places seem world away from where I was but they helped me grasp the concept of the Tumble Chill operation and they helped me gain some insight from their past experiences I believe they helped me make my start up in Cook Chill a success.

Over the years I started to attend the conferences sparingly as I became busy with my operation. Although I was a member of the Virginia ACFSA I also started attending the quarterly meetings sparingly. Then at one meeting I attended, Ricky Clark pulled me aside and challenged me to get more involved in the association. I believe that was the best thing someone could have done for me because I became more active. Someone once said to me "Growth and challenges should always be the driving force in one's desire to achieve success."

In July 2009, I was sworn in as the Virginia Chapter President (what a challenge?). Virginia just like the rest of the country has been hit with tough economic times. Just before the show I was called in my Supervisor's office and was told that the budget was cut and I may have to pay for my travel, and the facility would pay for the training. This is the reason why I am grateful to have received a scholarship from the National Chapter to attend the 2009 International Conference The membership from Michigan put on an excellent conference. I was also proud to accept the honor of Chapter of the Year with my family from the Virginia Chapter along with some of the vendors that have supported us over the years. The Virginia Chapter has always been a tight group and as a group, they have been willing to serve. It was an honor to represent the ACFSA as a 2009 scholarship winner. ▲





Surviving Cuts

by Barbara Wakeen, MA, RD, LD, CCHP, CCFP

This fall I had the opportunity to visit the correctional facility in Republic of Palau. If you are not familiar with Palau, it is a group of islands in the Pacific, between Guam and the Philippines, 7 degrees above the equator. It is on the western edge of a vast area known as Micronesia.

I toured the Palau Division of Corrections (DOC) in Koror, Palau and spent time with Chief Julio Ringang, Lietenant Serafin Akiwo and the head cook Justin, who is an inmate. I brought a copy of the CD-HCF *Nutrition and Food Service Management in Correctional Facilities* manual to share with Chief Ringang.

The facility has a population of 97 (males and females) plus those who are on the “6 to 6” program. This is a work-release type of program where the inmates work off-site 6 am to 6 pm and are housed at the facility the remaining time.

The length of stay is usually 6 months or less, some are more depending on the crime. All offenders, regardless of the crime, are housed in this facility. We met one inmate who was a former police officer, and another serving more than one life sentence.

Food Service

Lt. Akiwo escorted us (Randy, my husband and photographer, and I) through the facility and to the kitchen where we met Justin, who was ‘in charge’ of food service. Upon our meeting, he asked excitedly if we were from the health department and seemed somewhat disappointed that we weren’t. Through conversation, I learned Justin (originally from Guam) once



THERE IS NO SET MENU, STANDARDS, OR GUIDELINES. Food offered is what is available and what may be donated; this is usually noodles and canned fish.

worked in Missouri in the 80s for Steak ‘n Ale and Bennigan’s doing pre-prep and working with ‘shelf-life extension’ among other duties. He had also received some dietary training when he worked with RD at the John Knox long term care facility in Missouri. Justin will be there for an extended period and realizes it.

There is no set menu, standards, or guidelines. Food offered is what is available and what may be donated; this is usually noodles and canned fish. When we toured the kitchen we observed Tyson brand, Halal, chicken leg-thigh quarters thawing on the counter.

There were no ovens or fryers. Most cooking was done in two crock-pot type vessels). *(Continued on page 10)*

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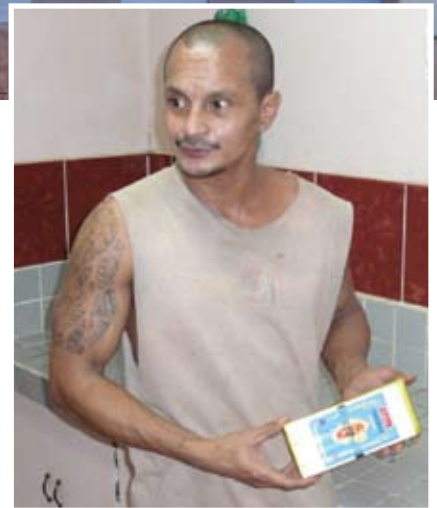
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THERE WERE BUDGET CUTS AT

THE PALAU FACILITY. The once \$3,000/month budget for food and sanitation was cut to \$2,000 for food only and no sanitation supplies. Justin shared that he used his own money once to purchase cleaning supplies.



Three meals per day are served. The typical menu is pancakes (made without eggs) and syrup for breakfast and ramen type or somen noodles with canned tuna, sardines or mackerel for lunch and dinner. Six—6 oz. cans of tuna and three—10 oz. packages of somen noodles feed the population. That's it...no fruit, juice, milk, vegetables, bread or dessert.

The 6-to-6 inmates eat off site. No sack meals are prepared for them to take along. All inmates have the opportunity to purchase some items from outside the facility or their family may bring food and other needed items.

Just as in the US, there were budget cuts at the Palau facility as well. Justin informed us, the once \$3,000/month budget for food and sanitation was cut to \$2,000 for food only and no sanitation supplies. He shared that he used his own money once to purchase cleaning supplies. The current price of rice was \$1,000 for 30-50 lb. bags. He said he used to cook stir-fry, but now there was no vegetables due to the budget cuts.

He also expressed his concern for lacking vitamin C in their diets with the limited funds. When one gets sick, everyone does due to limited hygiene.

Justin voiced that rats are a problem. Some are as “big as cats;” Lieutenant Akiwo concurred. The refrigerator does not store food, but holds pots and pans and is secured with a bungee type hook to prevent rodent entrance.

The chest freezer holds perishable food items. Justin told us, rats climbed in where the (missing) handle would be and ate the mixed vegetables.

At mealtime, inmates bring their own food vessels, usually a plastic container of sorts to receive their meal. They are responsible for washing and storing their own containers as well. No beverages are served. There are no medical or religious diets served. Inmates requiring medical diets are sent to the hospital.

A recent election and change in government brought changes to this correctional environment as well. Previously, there was fresh fish as the prison had its own boat and they caught fish for inmate consumption. There was a prison farm too, but this was closed due to ‘mismanagement,’ according to Justin.

Housing

Inmates are housed 8-10 per cell. There are male, female, juvenile and isolation cells. Juveniles are defined as less than 18 years.

Medical Care

US Navy Seabees provide medical services weekly. Inmates going to the hospital must pay their own hospital bills.

Budget Cuts

Budget cuts are the only kind of cut that takes place here. Inmate workers who work 4 hours or more per day earn 2 hours extra “carving time” or work assignments are shortened.

This facility is also part of a tourist stop where storyboards and jewelry made by inmates are available for purchase. There are two rooms full of storyboard carvings by various inmates.



“ AT MEALTIME, INMATES BRING THEIR OWN FOOD VESSELS. They are responsible for washing and storing their own containers as well. No beverages are served. There are no medical or religious diets served. Inmates requiring medical diets are sent to the hospital.

Storyboards are amazing and beautiful carvings representing one of several Palauan legends. They are various shapes including many types of fish and sea creatures carved of mahogany. They range in price from approximately \$50 to more than a thousand. They are priced high as bartering is anticipated. The inmate who carved the storyboard gets to negotiate the price and keep the money, but has to pay some taxes to the government. Some are sold to gift shops, the local museum and other retail venues.

By now you might be saying, inmates are carving? Yes, they are and they purchase their own carving tools. We observed the carving area where there were many stages of carving and finishing in process.

We observed the inmates making jewelry too. Earrings, bracelets and necklaces made of tortoise shell and/or coral were also available. On weekends these wares are sold in a marketplace.

Despite what we consider contraband in the US, it was noted that ‘hooch production’ with pineapple was an issue when it was available. Some things never change!

On our second visit to the prison, we met with Chief Ringang and learned he has two children in the US military stationed in the US.

This was an educational and an enlightening experience to see corrections on the other side of the earth, and the talents displayed with pride. ▲



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ACFSA Vendor Review

by J. Kevin O'Brien, CEC

There are many good buys to be made if you talk to your ACFSA vendors, describe your problem and ask for solutions.

Purchasing decisions are getting harder, special buys are not so special anymore, great deals of the past are just that, in the past and there is more pressure on food service staff to do more with less. this is a recipe for disaster, and what I have found is a new appreciation for our ACFSA vendors. All these economic woes caused me to take a close look at our purchasing and to direct our buyers to be very diligent in searching for special buys. Not to steal any proprietary sayings, but instead of that, review the popular insurance company uses, I thought it was time for an ACFSA Vendor Review.



Take time and do an ACFSFA Vendor Review, check out the ACFSFA website and you will be thankful for the time and effort.

We have so many vendors with excellent products made especially for our correctional food service field. All you have to do is look in the back of the 2009 International Conference brochure or on the ACFSFA website for all our vendors. I was thinking that if it is so tough for me to keep costs in line nowadays, it has to be a rough market for all our vendors too and I found out that is true. So there are good buys to be made if you talk to your ACFSFA vendors, describe your problem and ask for solutions. They can be very creative and since they are the experts in their field of buying, we need to take advantage of their expertise. This has proven very true for our facility in recent months.

It takes a little time and there may be some uncertainty, delivery delays while you get a relationship established and new drivers find your facility, but it works out and the payoff will be great in savings and time. Because you can now do one stop shopping with the ACFSFA vendor members. Recently, we picked up substantial savings in meats, pasta, clothing and other items. Some time was spent doing so, but it was very much worth the effort. We all spend time at the vendor show, at the conference, and our commissary staff have lots to do, but nothing is more important in these difficult times than trying our best to control costs. You need to do the Vendor Review of ACFSFA vendor members, that you are not currently using and let them explain how they can solve your specific purchasing problem. Just comparison shopping can be informative and you will find new ideas for the menu, cooking equipment, clothing, tableware, equipment repair and other food service needs.

The last prison closings in our State were partly decided based on cost per prisoner per day for the whole facility. Imagine if food service, which is one of the few departments in the facil-

ity that can affect its own budget by shopping around, could drop even five to ten cents per prisoner per day from our costs. This could make the difference whether we closed at the next go round or possibly lost our job. We need to face the facts that corrections, as we know it, is changing the way prisoners are being released. Intensive education for prisoners in re-entry programs is reducing the population drastically. More prisoners are being released after their minimum sentence is served. In fact, Michigan has a goal of getting down to the 45,000 mark soon. That will be a significant reduction from the "high water mark" of just a few years ago. I will keep you informed of how we are doing.

Other factors affect our food costs and non food costs, such as prisoner transportation, religious diets, special diets and more. All these areas need your ACFSFA Review because our vendors have the answer for you or they will help you solve the problem. It is understood that many of you are under purchasing contracts and don't have flexibility in purchasing. Michigan food service directors complained for many years about this fact when the special buy companies came onto the scene in a big way. Finally, we were able through our central office to get language put into state contracts that allow us to purchase off contracts for exceptional buys. We still have to contact the contract vendor to see if they can match the price, but that is no problem.

We belong to a unique organization, the only one involved in correctional food service in the world, so take advantage of it and if you really think about it, we don't even touch on all the opportunities we could have, to use our association vendors. Take time and do an ACFSFA Vendor Review, check out the ACFSFA website and you will be thankful for the time and effort. Make a New Year's resolution to continue updating your vendors and seeking help and support from the best vendors in the business. Happy New Year! ▲

Kevin O'Brien is the Food Service Director at Ryan/Mound Correctional Facility in Detroit, MI.

Calling All Past Presidents, Past Board Members and Retirees

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

by *Teddie Mitchell*

Are you feeling somewhat left out, bored, perhaps even a bit useless? Would you like to become involved (again)? We can really use your help.

Most of you have worked many years in correctional food service and still have many contacts. Or you have lost contact and would like to renew those bonds. Those of us who are serving on the board and still holding down full time jobs would love to take advantage of your expertise and contacts. It would be great if any of you could work on a committee, make phone calls or recruit new members.

I received a call from Franklin Spielman, one of our presidents in the early '90's. He had a few questions but above all wanted to offer his help! That didn't fall on deaf ears, Franklin. I told you I'd keep your number programmed in my phone and you will hear from me!

He also thought it would be great for past presidents, board members and retirees to have a reunion of sorts at every conference. They may not want to sit in on every break out session but could instead get together and get re-acquainted, talk about "old times", and even help out during the conference.

All you "old timers" (I feel I can use that phrase because I'm almost there) can go to the ACFSA web-site and find each other in the Members Only section. If you have not yet established a password, type in your e-mail address (which should be on file with Headquarters) and you will receive your password in via e-mail. Once you get used to navigating this section, you'll find it more user friendly than the old directory. Members can update their profile at any time and it will be changed immediately; no need to wait a year for the directory to be changed.

So, let Franklin know how much you like his idea and get in touch with him. I am looking forward to seeing lots of "old" faces at our next conference!

I am glad I saved all my Insider magazines. Now I can take a look at what was happening in '94 and beyond. As with portfolios and the stock market, it is up, then down and on the way up again...I am now talking about our membership. ▲

In Memoriam



Richard C. Wyckoff

(1943-2010)

ACFSA Past President

Food Service Administrator NJ State Prison, Rahway

It is with deep sadness and regret that I have to inform my fellow ACFSA members of the death of our friend and past ACFSA President. Richard passed away Sunday January 3, 2010, at age 67, after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

I remember when Richard attended his first ACFSA conference with his mentor, Irene Lippert. (He later was promoted to Irene's position when she retired.) He was so excited and impressed with the Association that he vowed to be an active member and supporter. Little did he realize, and neither did we, that he would be president during some of our most difficult times. While president, he had to make the tough decision to change management companies. That was very courageous and with his leadership, those decisions lead to where we are today. Our Association is much better off today because of Richard and other leaders like him. Richard will be remembered among us for his positive attitude, and his commitment and dedication to ACFSA.

Our prayers and heartfelt thoughts go out to his wife, Carmen and the Wyckoff family. Richard loved life and was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother. Besides his wife, he leaves a legacy of four children, five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two sisters and three brothers.

He would not want us to be saddened by our loss, but instead, to celebrate his life. I don't believe I ever saw him without a smile on his face! A friend gone.....but never forgotten. ▲

Your Editors: *Barbara Holly, CCFP, CDM, CFPP and Chris Althaus*

California Chapter Hosts Successful State Conference

The California Chapter of ACFSA conducted their annual conference on October 18-21, 2009 in San Diego. It was held at the Town and Country Resort which is the same site where the national ACFSA will be held next August 22-26, 2010.

The site was great. It met our needs and provided a wonderful place to network with all our attendees and vendors. It is centrally located, near Hotel Circle. You only have to walk across a foot bridge to find a huge shopping mall. It should be perfect for next year's event.

We started the conference with a golf tournament which was held on the resort property at the River Walk Golf Course.

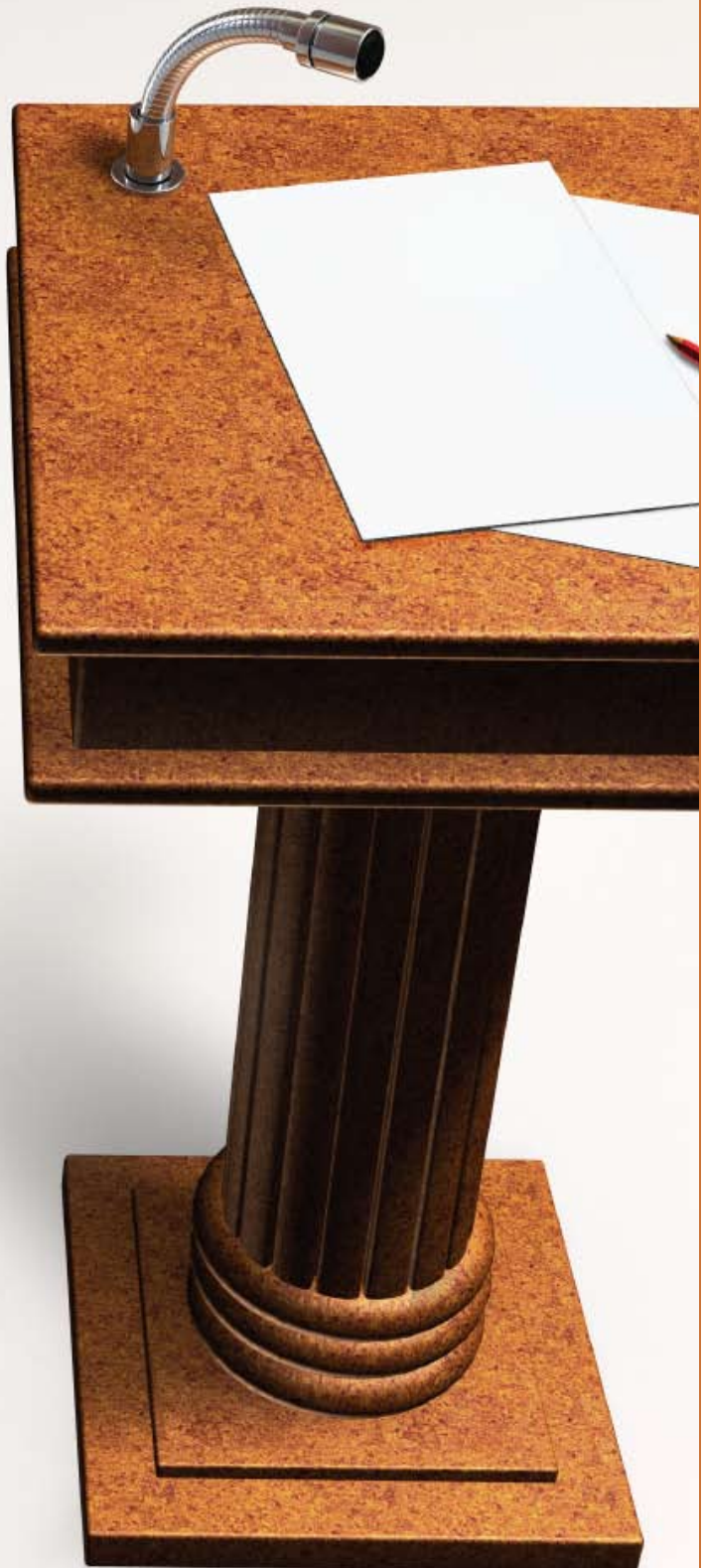
Of course, we had to kick off our conference with the Color Guard from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and a beautiful rendition of the Star Spangled Banner by our favorite, Jennifer Cunningham Klein from CVS Sales. Our first keynote speaker was Mary Fernandez, the Undersecretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She spoke about being prepared for change in these eventful times. Then George Neotti, Warden, RJ Donovan Correctional Facility, CDCR, spoke about how he started as a cook in Food Service and made his way up to being Warden.

Our own Teddie Mitchell, Past President of the ACFSA gave a speech explaining what ACFSA was all about. It was great to have Teddie and Cindy Burns attend our conference. Good effort, ladies!

(Continued on page 16)



Photo cutline for photo above here...



California Hosts Successful State Conference *(continued)*

Major R.J. Beach, Food Service Director, New Orleans, Past ACFSA Board Member delivered his speech on “40 years of Professionalism, 1969-Present.” This speech was well received. It was printed in the Winter issue of INSIDER. It is always great to have Jim Beach at a conference. It wouldn't be the same without him.

Other topics included: How to Purchase with the State of California, Pandemic Influenza, Cost Effective Menu Planning, Dealing with Difficult Employees, and Food Service Training with Custody Staff.

We had 27 supportive vendors at Tuesday's Vendor Show. We appreciate their participation.

Good Source sponsored the Dietitian's Luncheon which was enjoyed by all attendees. We had some nightly receptions for networking. To cap it off, a Vendor Appreciation Banquet held on the 21st floor of the hotel. Thank you's were extended to all who helped with the conference. Sam Venero, President of CC-ACFSA, did a great job putting on the conference. Benson Li swore in the new Board for the California Chapter, with Ray Bullock of San Diego County elected President. Don Perkins, California Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Corcoran, will be President Elect. We have a new Southern Area Regional Director, Ronald Baldwin, Food Service Supervisor, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Dept.... Louis Flores, of San Quentin, continues as Northern Area Regional Director and Jan Wyatt-Lucha, of Marin County remains the Treasurer. Carlos Salazar of CDCR, Corcoran is the secretary. Melissa Hobbie, of Highland Foods and Myron Wiley, of Jones Zylon are the vendor representatives. Laurie Maurino, CDCR Susanville, came off the Board as Past President.

The last day featured a tour of the San Diego Sheriff's Department's 38,000 square foot Cook-Chill Production Center. They provide meal for 8 detention facilities, 4 juvenile facilities and 2 probation satellite schools. This tour will be featured next year too.

We were happy with the success of the conference and look forward to meeting there next year for the International ACFSA Conference 2010. ▲



for Hosting a Wonderful Conference

I want to thank the California Chapter for hosting a wonderful conference in October. The committee put together such an interesting agenda. All of the events at the conference were very well done.

The Town and Country Hotel is great. The best part of every ACFSA conference is socializing with everyone. The hotel has a great bar with pool tables, television, and an outdoor patio. I enjoyed the outdoor terrace outside my guest room. Within a short distance from the hotel, there are many restaurants.

Of course, who can complain about being in San Diego? The weather is perfect. There are so many fun attractions like the beach, the zoo, and shopping. I am looking forward to the International Conference next August. I hope everyone starts now to figure out a way to get there. Bring your family and extend the conference for a fantastic vacation.

Pattie Whitlock
Professional Partner

Way to Go!

by Robert Gauthier, FSLE-9



“Food services as a whole have come a long way, and are ever evolving. It is undeniably the result of efforts made by ACFSA and similar organizations.”

I am Robert Gauthier of Pugsly Correctional Facility located in Kingsly, Michigan. As a first time attendee of the International Conference in Grand Rapids Michigan, I would just like to express how very impressed I was, the great people of this organization put on an outstanding show. While there, I was able to not only meet, but actually sit down and talk to some really interesting people. This conference opened so many doors, and made me realize how many of these extraordinary people are just a mouse click or phone call away. The Breakout Sessions were also fantastic, and I learned so much from the exercises. Who would have thought that a room full of adults could learn so much from playing with Legos? I found the conference so helpful, that I applied for a scholarship to attend the 2010 conference in San Diego. I look forward to the continuing growth and strengthening of the skills that I have been taught. Plus, we have to see if we can get the Canteen girls into those Speedos that they wagered on!

In the Winter 2009 issue of INSIDER Jim Beach made a point that really got me thinking. He was a member for 18 years, but as he put it, golfing and drinking got in the way for the first dozen or so. I want to be an active part of this organization, from now until retirement. Just think of all that can be accomplished if we were all committed to a common goal of progression. Jim Beach has done so much in his active years; I want to use that ambition now. I have and will continue promoting the good name of this organization and am always willing to step up to the plate for her. I know it is difficult for some administrators to see what we are actually accomplishing in our food service, but with the tools I am gaining with the help of this organization, I am hoping

to be that bridge to show the administrators that what we do is vital to the functionality of our correctional facilities.

This past summer, I had the pleasure of working on the Backpack Challenge, it was such a wonderful experience for not only myself, but the inmates who got to give back, and the other members of this organization who put forth so much effort. It was such a great feeling to work with members of our community towards such a worthy cause. The way I see it, any way we can aid these children receive a quality education, there should be no hesitation in doing so. So, when the state challenged our prison to ten backpacks, for a total of 100 backpacks from everyone, I just thought, “Shoot, we can do a hundred ourselves.” And we did. We brought in 87 full backpacks and enough money to buy and fill 13 more. It took months of work, countless calls and visits to local businesses, many Saturdays stuffing bags with my son Travis, for a while it also meant a loss of living space, and it was without a doubt the most rewarding thing I have ever done. I just wanted to thank the organization who allowed me to help give back in such a great way.

I started my food career at the age of 7, standing on an up-turned milk crate at my folk’s restaurant making toast. I remember looking down the line and seeing all the cooks smoking and letting their ashes fall where they may. Nowadays, everything is mandated to ensure cleanliness, right down to labeling soap water. Food services as a whole have come a long way, and are ever evolving, it is undeniably the result of efforts made by ACFSA and similar organizations. Thank you again for allowing me to take part in this progression. ▲



ASSOCIATION OF CORRECTIONAL FOOD SERVICE AFFILIATES

2010 International Conference

August 22-25, 2010
Town & Country Hotel & Resort
San Diego, CA

Mark your calendars now to participate in the annual Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates (ACFSA) international conference and vendors food show. The food show will be held on Tuesday, August 24, 2010 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The site for the food show is at the Town & Country Hotel Convention Center located just minutes from San Diego International Airport in sunny San Diego, California.

ACFSA is an international non-profit organization dedicated to the professional growth of correctional food service employees. This organization was formed in 1969 to enhance, represent and promote the correctional segment of the food service industry. Our members are food service professionals employed in correctional facilities and agencies within federal, state and municipal prison/jail systems. Members are employed within government and commercially operated facilities within the United States, Canada and an expanding international market.

The mission of ACFSA is to encourage standards of excellence and professionalism within its membership that will enhance the food service operations within our correctional system. This will be your chance to meet and greet the decision makers of our industry. You will be able to display your products, in a single showing, to hundreds of people. This will save you the cost of traveling throughout the United States and Canada to display your products. You will also be able to view new items that could enhance your own product line.

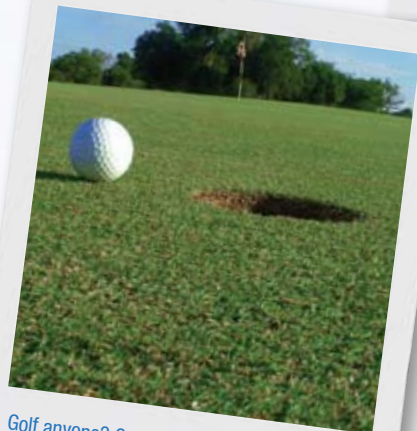
On Sunday, August 22, 2010, come and join our golf tournament or tour the great attractions nearby, such as Old Town, Seaport Village, the San Diego Zoo, Sea World, etc. On the last day of the conference you also have a chance to tours the central production kitchen of the San Diego Sheriff's Department, one of the best cook chill kitchens among the correctional facilities in the country.

I look forward to seeing you in August of 2010 in San Diego, California.

Sincerely,

Ray Bullock

Ray Bullock
ACFSA 2010 Conference Committee
San Diego County Sheriff
619-661-2802
Raymond.Bullock@sdsheriff.org



Golf anyone? On Sunday, August 22, plan on joining our golf tournament.



While in San Diego, tour the famous Seaport Village, where you can shop, eat and enjoy outdoor entertainment.

Save the Date!

August 22 - 25, 2010

The
2010 Annual International Conference



Town & Country

*Hotel & Resort
San Diego, California*



For More Information Visit
www.ACFSA.org
or call (818)843-6608

ACFSA 2010 Annual International Training Conference & Expo

August 22-26, 2010 • Town & Country Hotel & Resort • San Diego, California



Name _____

Nickname for Badge _____ First ACFSA Conference? (circle) Yes No

Position _____

Facility/Company _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (MANDATORY) _____

Contact Phone (MANDATORY) _____

Phone for publication (OPTIONAL) _____

Guest Name _____

Guest Name _____

Guest Name _____

REGISTRATION FEES				
Number of Attendees	Type of Registration	Registering Before <i>July 30, 2010</i>	Registering After <i>July 30, 2010</i>	Amount Due
	ACFSA MEMBER	\$195	\$225	
	ACFSA NON-MEMBER	\$275	\$300	
	GUESTS (INCLUDES FRIENDS, RELATIVES ONLY)	\$110	\$130	
	ACFSA PROFESSIONAL PARTNER REGISTRATION *	\$250*	\$275*	
	NON-MEMBER VENDOR REGISTRATION *	\$375*	\$400*	
	MARKET RESEARCH FEE - ALLOWS ACCESS TO VENDOR SHOW FOR (VENDOR) ATTENDEES *	\$150*	\$175*	
	ONE DAY MEMBER AND NON-MEMBER (FOODSERVICE EMPLOYEES ONLY) PLEASE SPECIFY DATE:	\$70	\$95	
	VENDOR SHOW ONLY (FOODSERVICE EMPLOYEES ONLY)	\$25♦	\$30♦	
	SANITATION CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS NATNL REGISTRY OF FOOD SAFETY PROFESSIONALS CLASS INCLUDES BOOK AND ALL MATERIALS	\$40	\$40	
	SANITATION RECERTIFICATION PROGRAMS NATNL REGISTRY OF FOOD SAFETY PROFESSIONALS CLASS INCLUDES BOOK AND ALL MATERIALS	\$40	\$40	
TOTAL DUE (FULL PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM)				

♦ - IF THERE ARE FIVE OR MORE ATTENDEES FROM THE SAME FACILITY ATTENDING CONFERENCE, THEY WILL RECEIVE A 25% DISCOUNT. THIS DISCOUNT APPLIES ONLY TO FOODSERVICE PROFESSIONALS ATTENDING THE VENDOR SHOW

* - ONLY VENDORS WHO WORK FOR COMPANIES THAT HAVE NEVER ATTENDED OR EXHIBITED AT AN ACFSA CONFERENCE MAY ENTER VENDOR SHOW. **ABSOLUTELY NO SOLICITATION** WILL BE ALLOWED FROM ANY TYPE OF PERSON, COMPANY OR PUBLICATION. THOSE CAUGHT WILL BE ESCORTED FROM THE SHOW OR CONFERENCE WITH NO REFUND GIVEN.

CANCELLATIONS
CANCELLATIONS REQUESTED IN WRITING TO ACFSA WILL BE GIVEN A FULL REFUND IF RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE JULY 16, 2010. CANCELLATIONS RECEIVED AFTER JULY 16, 2010 & NO-SHOWS WILL NOT BE REFUNDED.

REGISTRATION
REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2010 AT 1:00 P.M. BADGES, PROGRAMS AND OTHER MATERIALS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THAT TIME. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT NO CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT.

PLEASE NOTIFY ACFSA OF ANY SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS. SEND THIS INFORMATION WITH REGISTRATION AND WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR NEEDS.

QUESTIONS? (818)843-6608
WWW.ACFSA.ORG

PAYMENT INFORMATION - If paying with a check, make payable to ACFSA. Check # _____

Send Payment to: **ACFSA, 210 N. Glenoaks Blvd., Suite C, Burbank, CA 91502**

Those paying with Credit Card, Fill in information below and **FAX to (818)843-7423**

Credit Card Number _____ Expires _____ V-Code _____

Billing Address _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Name on Card _____ Signature of Cardholder _____

***Vice President-Elect/Treasurer
Region 1 Director ● Region 3 Director***

I/We Nominate _____

as a candidate for office of _____

The Candidate has read the Job Description for which the individual has applied and is willing to accept these responsibilities upon election.

Candidate's Name _____

Candidate's Title _____

Agency/Institution Address _____

Work Phone _____ *FAX* _____

Home Phone _____ *Email* _____

◆ QUALIFICATIONS

For Vice President-Elect/Treasurer

Currently a Member of ACFSA in Good Standing for three (3) years: Yes No

For Regional Director: Currently an ACFSA member in Good Standing for one (1) year: Yes No

Date Joined (Month/Year) _____

◆ OFFICES HELD

International Board of Directors

Office Held _____ *Year* _____

Chapter Officer

Office Held _____ *Year* _____

Nominator's Name _____

Nominator's Signature _____ *Date* _____

Contact Phone _____ *Email* _____

Please submit application with a picture of candidate and a 100 word summary to appear on ballot. Summaries of more than 100 words will be edited down to 100 words.

No faxes will be accepted.

Candidate will also be required to follow campaign guidelines.

**SEE
BACK
SIDE**



Position _____ *Year* _____

Please submit application with a picture of candidate and a 100 word summary to appear on ballot. Summaries of more than 100 words will be edited down to 100 words. Candidate will also be required to follow campaign guidelines.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I HAVE REVIEWED THE REQUIREMENTS WITH THE CANDIDATE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ACFSA OFFICE OF _____

WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE AMOUNT OF TIME INVOLVED, THE TIME REQUIRED AWAY FROM THE JOB SITE, AND THAT IT WILL BE CONSIDERED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

I AM SUPPORTIVE OF THIS ENDEAVOR.

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR _____

TITLE OF SUPERVISOR _____

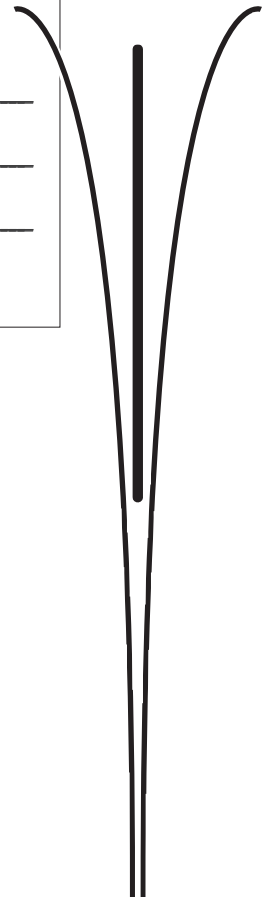
DATE _____



Return to:

*Jon Nichols
ACFSA
210 N. Glenoaks Blvd. Ste C
Burbank, CA 91502
or fax to ACFSA (818) 843-7423*

Due by April 24, 2010



Equipment

Partner Representative

I/We Nominate _____

as a candidate for office of Professional Partner Representative

The Candidate has read the Job Description for which the individual has applied and is willing to accept these responsibilities upon election.

Candidate's Name _____

Candidate's Title _____

Company Address _____

Work Phone _____ *FAX* _____

Home Phone _____ *Email* _____

◆ ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Currently Professional Partner of ACFSA in Good Standing for one (1) year: *Yes* *No*

Date Joined (Month/Year) _____

Has served one complete term as:

- International Professional Partner Liaison Year* _____
- Regional Professional Partner Liaison Year* _____
- State Professional Partner Liaison* *Year* _____
- International Committee Chair* *Year* _____



Nominator's Name _____

Nominator's Signature _____ *Date* _____

Contact Phone _____ *Email* _____

Please submit application with a picture of candidate and a 100 word summary to appear on ballot. Summaries of more than 100 words will be edited down to 100 words.

No faxes will be accepted.

Candidate will also be required to follow campaign guidelines.



Position _____ *Year* _____

Please submit application with a picture of candidate and a 100 word summary to appear on ballot. Summaries of more than 100 words will be edited down to 100 words. Candidate will also be required to follow campaign guidelines.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I HAVE REVIEWED THE REQUIREMENTS WITH THE CANDIDATE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ACFSA OFFICE OF _____

WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE AMOUNT OF TIME INVOLVED, THE TIME REQUIRED AWAY FROM THE JOB SITE, AND THAT IT WILL BE CONSIDERED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

I AM SUPPORTIVE OF THIS ENDEAVOR.

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISOR _____

TITLE OF SUPERVISOR _____

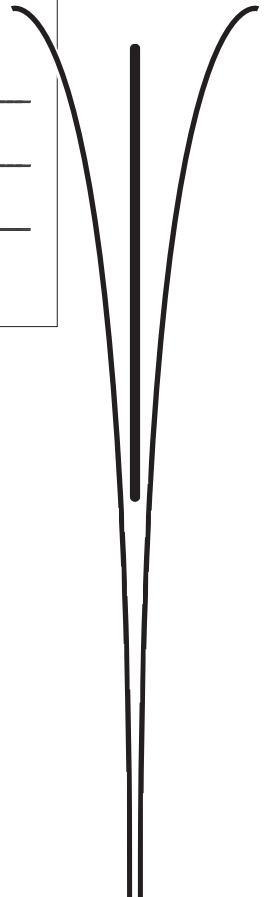
DATE _____



Return to:

*Jon Nichols
ACFSA
210 N. Glenoaks Blvd. Ste C
Burbank, CA 91502
or fax to ACFSA (818) 843-7423*

Due by April 24, 2010



Qualifications for Officers for the Board of Directors

I. A candidate for the office of Vice President-Elect/Treasurer:

- A. Shall have served for one complete year (prior to the return date on the nomination form) as a member of the International Board of Directors, Chapter President, or International Chairperson.
- B. Shall be a foodservice or institutional member in good standing (dues paid for one year).
- C. Shall have been a member of the ACFSA for three consecutive years including the year of election.
- D. Must have a completed nomination form submitted by the due date specified.
- E. Must provide credentials as well as written permission from their superior to accept the position.
- F. Must be willing to accept the position if elected.

II. A candidate for the office of Regional Director:

- A. Shall be a foodservice or institutional member in good standing (dues paid for one year).
- B. Shall be currently holding or shall have previously held office at a chapter, state, regional or international level or shall have served as International Chairperson.
- C. Must have a completed nomination form submitted by the due date specified.
- D. Must provide credentials as well as written permission from their superior to accept the position.
- E. Must be willing to accept the position if elected.

III. A candidate for the office of Professional Partner Representative:

- A. Shall be a professional partner or associate professional partner whose membership has been in active status for one year prior to the return date on the nomination form.
- B. Shall have served at least one term as Regional Professional Partner (Vendor Liaison), State Professional Partner (Vendor Liaison), International Professional Partner (Vendor Liaison) or International Committee Chair.
- C. Must have a completed nomination form submitted by the date specified.
- D. Must be willing to accept the position if elected.

◆ Job descriptions are available upon request from any member of the Board.

Nomination and Election Procedure

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure governing nomination and international ACFSA elections.

I. Nominations

- A. Nominations are according to ACFSA by-laws.
- B. Nomination forms (enclosure) will be sent to the Vice President and forwarded to the Chair of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee consists of the Past President and the Regional Directors.
- C. Nominations will be reviewed for eligibility by the committee. In the event that there are not two qualified candidates for each office, the committee will work to find qualified candidates to submit to the Board of Directors for review.
- D. The Past President will forward an official list of candidates to the Vice President.

II. Ballots

- A. Ballots will be prepared by the Vice President and sent out by the designated date.

B. All current members of the ACFSA will be mailed a ballot. Foodservice or institutional members will receive a ballot for Executive Officers and Regional Director positions. Professional Partners will receive a ballot for Professional Partner Representatives.

C. All ballots will be on letterhead and checked off of a list of eligible respondents. No photocopies are permitted.

D. Elections will be conducted by secret ballot.

E. Ballots are to be returned in a sealed single inside envelope by the designated date. The outside envelope will be required to have a legible signature or symbol and a printed name on the outside. This is essential in order to verify those who have voted.

F. The signatures on the outside envelope of the ballot will be validated by the Vice President.

G. The envelopes will be given to an independent person/company selected by the Board of Directors for counting. The person/company will present an official tabulation to the Past President and the Vice President.

III. Announcement of Results

A. The official results will be sent to the President and the President will notify the rest of the Board of Directors.

B. The President will send an official letter to the winning candidate and the candidate's sponsor. Letters also will be sent to the other candidates.

C. Official results will be announced at the International Conference.

IV. Candidates are to follow Campaign Policy Guidelines

V. Time Frames

February: Nomination forms appear.

April 24: Completed Nomination Forms are to be postmarked by midnight.

May 1: An official ballot will be mailed to each voting member in good standing (dues paid on May 1).

June 1: All ballots must be returned to the Vice President.

June 15: All Candidates are notified of results via phone or fax by the President. The President will send a letter of congratulations to the winners and their supervisors and letters to the other candidates thanking them for running for the office. The Board of Directors will be notified of election results

August: International Conference. The Chair of the Nominations Committee will announce the official results at the beginning of the conference. Officers will be installed at the international banquet and the new Board will convene at the next official meeting of the Board.

VI. Offices

This year we are seeking nominations for:

Vice President-Elect/Treasurer, Region I Director & Region III Director and Equipment Partner Representative.

Campaign Guidelines

The purpose of this policy is to set forth guidelines and Association procedures under which the Association of Food Service Affiliates will monitor campaigns of persons nominated for International and Chapter Offices.

I. The Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates cannot support candidates for State, Regional or International Offices.

A. Association funds cannot be utilized to purchase postage or supplies to support candidates.

B. ACFSA International or Chapter letterhead or a copy of the letterhead cannot be utilized in support of candidates.

II. Personal recommendations on personal stationary, using personal finances, are acceptable. Current Board of Directors members on the chapter or international level are not to use their Board title in personal recommendations.



REGION I REPORT

by Carol Thomas

This is a joyous time of the year. Please take a moment to be thankful for all you have and offer a hand to someone in need.

The Virginia Chapter had a meeting on October 23rd at Richmond Restaurant Services, hosted by Forrest Gibbs and his son Forrest, they have been members of the Virginia Chapter for as long as I can remember. I want to take a moment to thank them for their support. The next Virginia Chapter meeting is scheduled for January 29th.

I sent out a short questionnaire to see if there was interest in having a Region 1 meeting. Unfortunately, it appears that we may not get a Region 1 meeting off the ground in 2010. I want to thank everyone for their timely responses. There were some great suggestions for training topics, I will pass that information along to Ray Bullock and maybe he can look at adding them to the International ACFSA Conference.

The regional email list is being updated as necessary and I am sending messages out to keep the region abreast of upcoming activities. I want to continue to challenge all our membership to spread the word about ACFSA. We are a strong organization and our strength is in our membership and the commitment we have to ACFSA.

I am very interested in talking with members. If you need me, I am here. Call me at 804-784-6882 or email me at Carol.Thomas@vadoc.virginia.gov ▲



REGION II REPORT

by Frank Shelton

Wow! Time fly's. As I write this its Christmas time and if you are anything like me you've been busy busy busy!

Here in Region II we've been talking setting up State and Regional meeting, but nothing firm on that yet. Personally I want to get to work on a several of our states that need strengthening (as if we all couldn't use some growth!). I'll be contacting a few of you to gather some thoughts and info on that shortly, so watch your e-mail.

Along those lines, at the last International Conference and during our regional meeting we discussed the possibility of running a District Meeting concurrent with another related group (War-

den's Conference? Etc.) and I'd like to further explore that idea. Maybe a cost saving opportunity there, and the possibility of added content and speakers. Open to suggestions there, so lets here them.

Looking forward to some exciting times ahead for ACFSA and already planning the trip to San Diego next fall. You need to plan on making this trip too. There is something very much to gain for yourself and your facility at these conferences. The sharing of experiences and all the new information makes the trip extremely worthwhile. And the great vendor show is icing on the cake! If you need me to write your Warden (or whoever) an excuse just let me know. Lets get this ACFSA show on the road and plan NOW. ▲



REGION III REPORT

by Phil Atkinson

The Ontario / Michigan joint conference will not be able to take place—budgetary issues for our friends to the north will not allow it. They are hoping that things will improve for 2011.

Michigan will be holding a spring conference. I don't have any dates yet but will let you know just as soon as I find out.

Northern Lakes in partnership with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office presented a seminar in January at the Hennepin County Adult Detention Center in Minneapolis. Presenter for the seminar was Carrie Hill, a Minneapolis attorney who has had extensive experience working with the U.S. 8th Circuit Court. Her expertise is in religious practices, religious diets and special diets in general.

I have had contact with people in the southern part of the Region regarding reforming a chapter along the lines of Northern Lakes. We'll keep you posted.

I would like to close this with a quote from Thomas Paine. I think it is particularly appropriate in these trying times:

"Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; it is dearness only that gives everything its value."

As always, if I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me. ▲



REGION IV REPORT

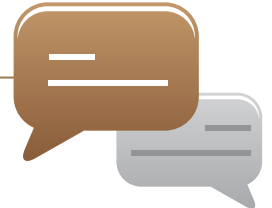
by Laurie Maurino, RD

As I write this on December 9, it was minus fourteen degrees when I came to work. The ground is covered with about 6 inches of snow, the roads have snow and ice. We were greeted with broken pipes, spewing water and frozen gates. We are expecting a high of ten degrees today. The electrical and heating systems are both struggling with these temperatures. The Main Warehouse flooded. Our employees are calling off because their pipes are frozen and they can't take a shower. We know how to have a good time up here. Yes, it does get that cold in California. The northern and southern parts of the state are completely different!

There should be an article in this issue about our state conference. It was successful and we all enjoyed it. Otherwise, in our region, we have hopes of starting state chapters in two different areas. We would like to start one in the Oregon/ Washington area and also in New Mexico. If anyone is interested, please contact me at laurie.maurino@cdcr.ca.gov

We are in the process of planning the 2010 International Conference in San Diego, August 22-26. It is looking to be a great conference held in a spot with lots of things to do in the near vicinity. Make a vacation out of it! Bring the family. We look forward to seeing you there. ▲

Chapter Chatter



VIRGINIA

by Linda Shear

The Virginia Chapter quarterly meeting was held on October 23, 2009 at Richmond Restaurant Service. The meeting was well attended by both vendor and institutional members. We took a tour of the warehouse and saw the very impressive updated computerized inventory management system.

New business included a discussion about the sale of ads for our quarterly newsletter and the possibility of a Region I Conference next spring. We also got started on our Virginia peanut fundraiser.

Due to budget cuts, DOC facilities continue to close down. Two of our members, Julie Hobbs and Kathy Hooley, were displaced when their institution shut its doors, but they've both landed on their feet and continue to have jobs.

To ACFSA members from the VA ACFSA members, happy holidays and a wonderful peaceful happy new year! ▲

We Need to Hear from You!

As of late, we have received very few Chapter and Regional Reports for the INSIDER. It's important that members hear from you to learn about chapter activities and other happenings in corrections food services.

I urge you to take a few moments to share your expertise with your fellow ACFSA members. Not only is it fun to see your name in print, there is even a greater satisfaction in knowing that you have touched someone else with your story or helped them to achieve greater success.

So get writing! Please submit articles to:

Lavinia Johnson: laviniajohnson@aol.com

Barbara Holly: barbaraholly@bellsouth.net

Jon Nichols: jonnichols@acfsa.org



Executive Director's Message

by Jon Nichols

Life Finds a Way

It is springtime. In spring, there is rejuvenation. Even following the harshest of winters, to borrow a favorite phrase from the story Jurassic Park, "Life finds a way." Flowers poke their way through the ebbing patches of snow in spite of the chill to give us hope that something special is coming.

My normal ritual at this time of year is to think about baseball and the idea that my team, along with twenty-nine others, will start fresh. It truly is the best time of the year for all baseball fans as every team is dead even and hope springs eternal. The possibilities are seemingly endless. The future is bright.

Well, it all got me to thinking about the possibilities for ACFSA. Spring is the time for ACFSA members to start thinking about the future of the Association and more importantly their role in it. The main reason professionals join an Association is to gain an edge in an increasingly competitive job market through networking with peers, staying current on the latest trends and in many cases providing the impetus for positive change within a particular industry. The collective ideas and hard work by our membership can be a game-changer within the industry of Correctional Food Service.

This spring, ACFSA's future is looking extremely bright. Our current President, Jim Hartman is followed by equally formidable talent in current Vice-President, Benson Li of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and Vice-President Elect, Christopher Gendreau of the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. Of course, these Board Members are supported by Past-President's Teddie Mitchell and Ricky Clark (currently Acting Treasurer); Secretary, Robin Sherman; Regional Director's Carol Thomas, Frank Shelton, Phil Atkinson and Laurie Maurino; and Professional Partner Representatives Pattie Whitlock and David Jacobs.

All of the current Board Members were at this very point in springtime's past. Each was faced with the decision about whether to run for office as the feeling of possibility grew within. Each of them took that step to lead the Association into the future by sharing their ideas, expertise and enthusiasm. Each of them will share their subsequent experience as an ACFSA Leader if you ask and convey how rewarding and fulfilling the journey has been. I am sure that you will agree with me that they have done, and continue to do an outstanding job.

So, that brings me back to the present and your potential. Do you feel the possibility that the season holds? Do you have the motivation and desire to do something special for your career and for the betterment of ACFSA?

Your Association needs you to step up to the plate and keep this rally going. Your contribution need not be a Home Run. The moment simply calls for you to take that chance. To be willing to sacrifice some of your time for ACFSA in an effort to increase the lead that your current and previous Board Member "teammates" have given you as a Correctional Food Service Professional. It's time for you to shape the future of the Association with your ideas, expertise and enthusiasm. You are the future of ACFSA, and the future sure looks exceptionally bright! ▲



DO YOU FEEL THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE SEASON HOLDS? Do you have the motivation and desire to do something special for your career and for the betterment of ACFSA?

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2009-2010



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New ACSFA Members

New Members As of November 1, 2009



FOOD SERVICE PROFESSIONAL

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Ronda Walters
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Grand Rapids, MI

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ACFSA CHALLENGE

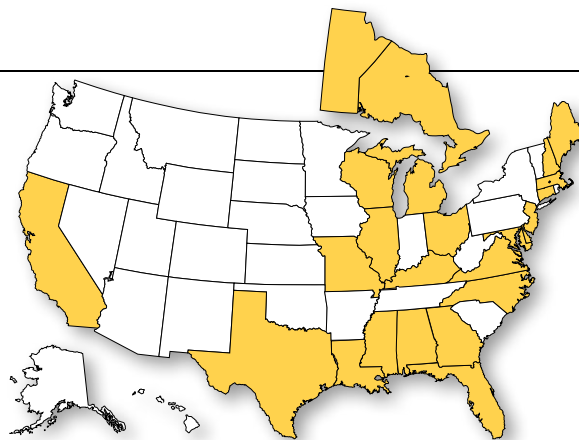
**ACFSA is requesting that all Members make a commitment
to recruit at least one new Member this year!**

You know what a great value ACFSA is and what an asset Membership is to your Professional development, so why not spread the good word to your friends and colleagues in the Correctional Food Service Industry? Information and Registration forms are available on the ACFSA website.

www.ACFSA.org

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Collin County Sheriff's Office

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James Johnston, CCFP, CDM,
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Chris Gendreau, CCFP, CFSM
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Yvette Knox*
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Call ACFSA Headquarters if you want contact information for any of these individuals
(818) 843-6608



* Chapter President

ACFSA Regions

If you are an ACFSA member from outside the United States and do not know what ACFSA region you are in, call the Headquarters office for answers at (818) 843-6608.

Region I

Connecticut	New Hampshire	Vermont
Delaware	New Jersey	Virginia
Maine	New York	Washington DC
Maryland	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Massachusetts	Rhode Island	

Region III

Eastern Canada	Michigan	Ohio
Illinois	Minnesota	South Dakota
Indiana	Missouri	Wisconsin
Iowa	Nebraska	
Kansas	North Dakota	

Region II

Alabama	Louisiana	Tennessee
Arkansas	Mississippi	Texas
Florida	North Carolina	Virgin Islands
Georgia	Oklahoma	
Kentucky	South Carolina	

Region IV

Western Canada	Hawaii	Oregon
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Inside INSIDER

► *INSIDER* Editors: **Barbara Holly, CCFP, CDM, CFPP** and **Chris Althaus**

INSIDER is published four times annually by the Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates.

The Fall issue mails in September, the Winter issue mails in December, the Spring issue reaches your mailbox in March, and the Summer issue will arrive in June. We welcome any suggestions or articles for future issues.

Editorial Statement and Procedure

The mission of the Association of Correctional Food Service Affiliates (ACFSA) is to develop and promote educational programs and networking activities to improve professionalism and provide an opportunity for broadening knowledge.

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To submit an article for the Summer 2010 Issue:

1. Please send via e-mail by March 15, 2010 to:
ACFSA—INSIDER
Barbara Holly, e-mail: barbaraholly@bellsouth.net or
Chris Althaus, e-mail: Christine.Althaus@wisconsin.gov
2. ACFSA does not guarantee that submitted articles will be published. Articles may be edited, and placement is determined by the editor.
3. You may also include a photograph, simple graphics, charts, or pictures that you think may be useful to the article.
4. If you have submitted or will submit the article to other publications, please notify us at the time of submission of the publication name, editor, and phone number.

Letters to the Editor

Please email your articles and/or comments to Christine: Christine.Althaus@wisconsin.gov or Barbara: barbaraholly@bellsouth.net. Please specify that you are contacting us regarding the "Letters to the Editor" column. We reserve the right to edit submissions.



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