

Maryland



Voice of the Chesapeake

Volume 20

Issue 5

September – October 2009

President's Message

I hope you've all been enjoying the Fall season and are looking forward to the holidays. It has been a very busy time for all of us in Workforce Development and Unemployment Insurance over the past year and hope that we truly are making a difference for the people we serve.



A reminder that the District IV Institute will be hosted by the D.C.

Chapter and our International President, Daniel Hays, on Friday, November 20, 2009 at the Frances Perkins Building (Department of Labor Headquarters in Washington). Daniel has put together an exciting agenda for the day including presentations on What's Happening in Congress; the impact of the global recession in Japan and the Republic of China; bullying in the workplace; and an update on programs that serve our nation's veterans. Additionally, State Agency Administrators from our District IV states

will provide updates on the latest happenings within their agencies; an ETA representative will provide an update on the Administration's vision and goals for the workplace system; and Daniel (our

International President) will provide an update on what is happening in IAWP as well as provide insights on our upcoming International Conference in Greenville, S.C. next June. There will also be a District IV business meeting. I hope you will be able to attend this exciting day. If you plan to come the day before, there will be an evening tour (on November 19) of Washington onboard a charter coach. More information on registering for the Institute is found later in this newsletter.

Remember, that all Maryland IAWP members will have a fifty percent discount on dues this year. Please send your dues to our Treasurer, Faye Stauch. Membership information can be found on our website or in this newsletter.

Sue Gallagher and I attended and presented the IAWP International Runner-Up Award for Specialized Customer Service to the Susquehanna Workforce Investment Board and the Fort Monmouth, NJ One-Stop Center on October 23, 2009. Susquehanna and Fort Monmouth were recognized for the outstanding services they have been providing to personnel assigned to Fort Monmouth, NJ (both on and off the Post) as they begin transitioning to Aberdeen, MD as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure legislation. Congratulations to Susquehanna and the Maryland DLLR Fort Monmouth, NJ One-Stop President's Message (continued on page 2)

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Center for winning this ver prestigious award and special thanks to our Awards Chair, Sue Gallagher for preparing and submitting the award nomination package to the IAWP International Awards Committee.

I hope that those of you who attended the Raising the Bar Conference at Turf Valley had a great experience. Our Chapter donated a Basket of Joy for one of the Door Prizes. Remember that November is Veterans Month. When you have the opportunity, thank them for serving our Country. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and I look forward to seeing you all at the District IV Conference.

Bob Pelletier, President

MD IAWP Welcomes Back an Old Friend!

You may notice an old/new name on the list of Maryland IAWP officers. Faye Stauch, former *Voice of the Chesapeake* Editor for Maryland IAWP, has stepped up to the plate to handle the duties of Chapter Treasurer. Faye has been a member of IAWP since 1994. She joined the Executive Board as Legislative Chair in 1998-99, and became our Communications Chair, responsible for the newsletter and other correspondence, in 2001.

Faye began her career with DLLR in Unemployment Insurance in 1991, and transferred to Job Service in 1994. In 2005 Faye accepted a position with the Washington County Department of Social Services (DHR) as JobReady Center Trainer, working with TCA applicants to assist them to obtain and retain employment. In 2006 she became involved with DHR's Non-Custodial Parent Employment Program, in which non-custodial parents are court-ordered to attend DSS's Job Center and secure employment in order to pay child support.

When Faye left DLLR in 2005 she resigned from her position as Newsletter Editor to focus on her new duties and new Department. Now that she knows the ropes she is ready to resume an

active role in our organization. We are happy to have Faye back, and she feels the same way. "I did miss involvement with IAWP and my buddies!"

Submitted by Sue Gallagher, Awards Chair

Message to UI Staff

This really tells the story as to how busy UI has been.

What has UI been doing in the past 12 months? You've seen the unemployment rate climb from the middle 4's to the middle 7's.....

You took 402,279 new/additional claims versus 218,993 for 2007 [up 83.7%] and versus 260,459 [up 54.5%] for the same 12-month period last year.

You rendered over 300,000 non-monetary determinations.

You paid out over \$ONE BILLION(!!!) in regular benefits versus \$633M in CY 2008 and a "mere" \$433M in CY 2007.

You detected over \$30M in new overpayments and collected over \$22M in existing overpayments.

You have passed a dozen USDOL, OIG, State Legislative and Internal audits with high marks.

You have responded to over 14,000 constituent e-mails and letters.

You issued over 3 MILLION weeks of benefits to Marylanders who desperately needed money to sustain their families and communities.

You serviced over 142,000 employer accounts, opened 18,000 new accounts, conducted over 2500 audits and collected over \$425M in taxes.

The above figures do not include the 70,720 initial claims you took for EUC, or the \$414,000,000 in EUC benefits paid.

Message to UI Staff (continued on page 3)

Message to UI Staff (continued from page 2)

The above figures do not include the FAC's \$25 payments totaling 3,398,985 weeks and \$85,000,000.

The above figures do not include the 2000+ Federal and Military claims.

The above figures do not include the almost one million [!] inquiry calls from claimants and employers.

The above figures do not include the thousands of "PIN resets", address changes and other items necessary to maintain the flow of tax and benefits.

The grand total of payments under all programs exceeds One and Half BILLION Dollars [\$1,500,000,000] !!!!!.

Despite the above, you have managed to surpass most Federal requirements for timeliness in both payments of benefits and collection of UI taxes.

As we approach our "busy season" in a tough economic year for many, you can look back on 2008 and 2009 and know that you have done an amazing job in helping Maryland's UI system serve its citizens in an exemplary fashion.
Submitted by Sharon Mike, International Chair

IAWP Awards Program – Call for Nominations

Each year IAWP recognizes outstanding local achievement in the field of workforce development. At IAWP's annual International Educational Conference, held in June, individuals and groups from across the country are awarded for outstanding activities that promote or enhance workforce development or IAWP itself. The International's Awards Ceremony is the result of an ongoing process that begins locally, promoting excellence and identifying worthy candidates. IAWP's 2008 award winners included the Susquehanna Workforce Network in Maryland (see article).

Maryland IAWP is soliciting nominations for the IAWP Awards Program to recognize outstanding, innovative projects or programs that occurred in 2009. Nominees selected from Maryland will be recognized at the Maryland IAWP Educational Institute and will be submitted for nomination for the International awards. Is there an individual or group doing an outstanding, innovative job on behalf of workforce development and/or IAWP? Let us know about it. Specific award categories include Award of Merit, Services to Veterans, Specialized Customer Service, Unemployment Insurance, Retiree, and International Development. If you would like to suggest someone for a nomination, contact Sue Gallagher, Awards Chair, at 410-987-3890 x241, sgallagher@aawdc.org as soon as possible, but no later than January 15, 2010.

Submitted by Sue Gallagher, Awards Chair

MD Transition Centers in New Jersey Honored in South Dakota

The IAWP Awards ceremony held at the International Conference in Rapid City, SD this June included a Maryland group among the honorees. The Susquehanna Workforce Network, representing Harford and Cecil Counties, received the second place group award for Specialized Customer Services.

This award recognizes services to targeted groups of job seekers. These groups typically include traditionally underserved populations, such as persons with disabilities, youth, and offenders. The Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) legislation of 2005 has created a new group of workers who face unique career-related challenges – BRAC-impacted workers. Two large Department of Defense installations are slated to move to Maryland by 2011. The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) will move 4,000 positions from northern Virginia to Fort Meade, Maryland. Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, will move 5,000 positions to Aberdeen Proving Ground in Harford County, Maryland.
Center Honored (continued on page 4)

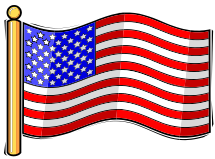
Center Honored (continued from page 3)

The DISA move may have a smaller impact on the affected workers, since the two sites are only about thirty miles apart. The Fort Monmouth move, however, involves a distance of 150 miles, making a daily commute impossible. The initial expectation was that most workers would opt to give up their jobs rather than move, either through resignation or retirement. This would result in a need for those workers to find new employment in New Jersey, while at the same time the new installation at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) would be challenged to find new workers in Maryland with the skills and experience needed to fulfill its mission.

Maryland had a better idea. The Susquehanna Workforce Network, along with the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, established two Maryland One-Stop Career Centers in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, to serve the workers and families affected by this BRAC decision. The goal of establishing these One-Stops was to provide services and information to these individuals so that they would decide to make the move to Maryland. The One-Stops, designated as the Fort Monmouth Transition Centers, opened in March of 2008. The Centers have been instrumental in increasing the number of Fort Monmouth employees who indicate they plan to make the move to Maryland.

Congratulations to the Susquehanna Workforce Network!

Submitted by Sue Gallagher, Awards Chair



**Veteran
Report**

In-State Tuition News

A portion of the Higher Education Opportunity Act that was signed into law on August 14, 2008 went into effect on July 1, 2009. This allows active duty members in the armed forces and their spouses or dependent children to receive in-state tuition if they have been stationed in a

state for more than 30 days. It also allows the individual to keep the in-state tuition rates as long as they are continuously enrolled in that institution of higher learning, even if the service member is reassigned outside the state. For more details and helpful resources that may help you claim this benefit, please visit: <http://cs.mhf.dod.mil/content/dav/mhf/QOL-Library/MHF/252863.html>.

For more information on CAP and CAP's Wounded Service Members Initiative (WSM), please visit www.tricare.mil/cap/wsm. Elisa M. Gonzalez, Training and Outreach Coordinator, Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP) Visit us online at www.tricare.mil/cap
Submitted by Zella Brown, Vet Rep

2009 State of Maryland Veteran Conference

The State of Maryland Veterans Workforce Representatives **will convene at** a much needed Veterans Conference this November 2009.

This conference will provide an update on Priority of Service, America's Heroes at Work, the New GI Bill, Best Practices, Enhancing Customer Service (a six step process), WTOC, Realifelines, Post Traumatic Stress, Women Veterans Updates, Servicing the Ex-Offender, BRAC and an open forum for questions and answers.

Submitted by Zella Brown, Vet Rep

IAWP Maryland Chapter Early Bird 2010 Membership Drive!

Act now and join before December 31, 2009, and you can take 50% off the cost of your membership!

Visitors from the People's Republic of China Tour MontgomeryWorks



"Barbara Rodriguez (LEA) and Bob Pelletier (LVER) hosted a visit to

MontgomeryWorks for 25 officials (including Mayors, County Executives, and Department Heads) from Taichou City, Jianssa Province, People's Republic of China, on October 29, 2009. These officials are on a three-week training program in U.S. government functions hosted by the University of Maryland in cooperation with Federal and Maryland government agencies.

Barbara and Bob presented an overview of MontgomeryWorks and the Veterans program and the visitors obtained much information on

the programs and services we provide to jobseekers. Many questions were asked and responded to through the interpreter. All left with a great appreciation of our organization.

Submitted by Bob Pelletier

District IV Institute

The District IV Institute will be held at the USDOL – Frances Perkins Building two blocks from the Capitol Building.

There will be an opportunity to participate in a twilight tour of the monuments on Thursday night, and an agenda packed with excellent speakers on Friday. You are guaranteed to

come away from this Institute re-invigorated and ready to get back in the trenches.

Accommodations for this meeting are:

Hilton Garden Inn,
Arlington Courthouse Plaza
1333 North Courthouse Road
Arlington, VA 22201

(conveniently located on the Orange Line for easy access to downtown DC) Room Rate is \$119 plus tax.

The group code is IAWP

Reservations can be made by calling 1-877-782-9444 or online at

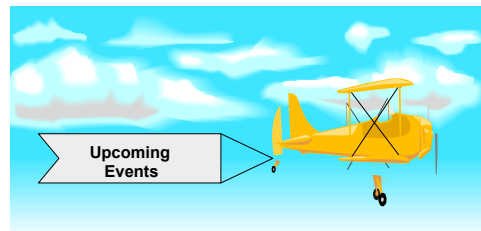
www.arlingtoncourthouse.gardeninn.com

Reservations must be made by October 29, 2009 to guarantee room rate.

The registration form and tentative agenda for the District IV Conference are attached to this newsletter.

See you in D.C.

- Keith Ribnick, DC Chapter President



Raising the Bar

Turf Valley
Ellicott City, MD
November 5 – 6, 2009

District IV Fall Conference

Hilton Garden Inn
Arlington, VA
Friday, November 20, 2009

Deadline for Membership Registration

December 31, 2009



International Association of Workforce Professionals

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION
January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Job Title: _____

Office Location: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Division: ___ UI ___ DWDAL ___ Admin ___ WIA Partner ___ Other

Dues:

___ \$30.00 (DLLR-Grade 12 & below) ___ \$50.00 (DLLR-Grade 13 & Up)

Discount Price of \$15.00

Discount Price of \$25.00

___ \$21.00 (Retirees)

___ \$50.00 Partners (outside of DLLR)

Discount Price of \$10.50

Discount Price of \$25.00

(Hurry: Special Pricing Ends December 31, 2009)

I've been a member of IAWP since _____ (year).

Sponsor: _____

Mail to: Faye Stauch

Maryland IAWP

18531 Kent Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740

*****Make check payable to: MARYLAND IAWP *****

Notice: *Due to IRS section 6033 requirements, IAWP*

estimates the nondeductible portion of your membership dues allocable to lobbying is ten percent

Website: www.iawpmaryland.org

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Voice of the Chesapeake is the newsletter of the Maryland Chapter of International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP). 2009-2010 Chapter President is Robert Pelletier. Denise Carey edits *Voice of the Chesapeake*. Articles should be submitted by the 15th of the month to Denise Carey, *Voice of the Chesapeake* Editor, DLLR, Anne Arundel One-Stop Career Center, 7480 Baltimore-Annapolis Boulevard, Suite 100, Glen Burnie, MD 21061 or dcarey@dllr.state.md.us.

Maryland IAWP website - www.iawpmaryland.org