

# WISCONSIN COUNTY POLICE ASSOCIATION LTD

Issue 2 Volume 7

December 2007



## Executive Director

Robert Wierenga  
Walworth County

## Board of Directors

### President

Chris Gulbrand  
Kewaunee County

### Vice President

John Strese  
Jefferson County

### Secretary

Teri Wegner  
Jefferson County

### Treasurer

Sandra Foote  
Fond du Lac County

### Legislative Director

Timothy Gould  
Price County

### Directors

Dan Greenwood  
Price County

Kim Seipel  
Pepin County

Kevin Kinnard  
Brown County

## *Executive Director's Message*

*Thanksgiving is now past and the Holiday season begins. Christmas just around the corner and then the New Year is upon us. I don't know about you, but I usually take this time of the year to reflect on the past year and begin thinking about the upcoming one. So allow me to reflect on a few things I have been thinking about.*

*For a number of years I have enjoyed reading a monthly magazine that I received free of charge. This past year the delegates of this organization voted to end the current practice and make it a subscription publication. December was the last free publication and in January it goes from a circulation of 94,000 to who knows what! The editor of the publication stated that at times it feels as though they (staff) were caught in the Robert Frost poem: "The woods are lovely, dark and deep. But I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep, and miles to go before I sleep". What a great analogy as I have reflected on the WCPA. We have taken some giant steps in the past few years. We have nearly 2,000 members, our finances are solid and sound and our voice is being heard in Madison, but we still have a long way to go. This year Wood and Waupaca Counties joined with 100% membership, but there are still a number of counties without any membership. We had a great first annual "Lobby Day" but we would love to see more participation in the future. As a board of directors we have to find a way to recruit new interest in serving, and an equitable election process to meet the changes that have been made. Yes we still have a long way to go.*

*Secondly...While I can reflect on great joy that has happened in my life this year... a daughter getting married and another one getting a teachers position just out of school...I know that this time of the year will ring hollow for many. There is no ringing of glad tidings, or joy to the world. Instead there is an emptiness that wounds the spirit and saps the soul of thanksgiving and celebration. My thoughts go out to the families of Frank Fabiano, Leroy Nennig, Mike Shannon, Bruce Williams, and Rick Meyer, and to anyone who has suffered a significant loss - whether relationship, health, or a loved one. May your days be filled with family and friends to help you through this time. I lost my dad this time of the year 30 years ago. It took me quite some time before I could sing "Joy to the World", but I did..... and so can you.*

*Have a Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year*

Bob Wierenga  
Executive Director, WCPA





# GIVING CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

By Chris Gulbrand, WCPA President

Who among us has been recognized for every heroic action they've ever taken - while on or off duty? I venture to say that I can answer that question with two words. No one.

I don't believe anyone becomes a deputy sheriff, corrections officer, court officer or dispatcher with the goal that someday they will be recognized as a hero. It is something that may or may not ever happen.

When it does occur though, our association would like to recognize those persons involved and give credit where credit is due. The executive board has recently updated our recognition awards to be more inclusive and timely. While we still have retained the Wayne Truttman Award for service to the association, the remaining three awards and their parameters are listed below:



## LAW ENFORCEMENT HEROISM AWARD

Awarded to a fellow law enforcement employee whose act of courage has placed his/her life in danger above and beyond the call of duty. There must be some degree of hazard to life and limb to the nominee at the time of the incident.



## MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Awarded to a law enforcement employee whose actions prevent a death or serious injury or performs an act that requires a great deal of courage. There does not have to be any degree of hazard to life or limb to the nominee at the time of the incident.



## LIFE SAVING AWARD

Awarded to law enforcement employees, public safety personnel, or citizens whose actions save the life of a fellow citizen in an emergency.

Nominations for these awards will be accepted quarterly and each nomination will be reviewed by the executive board. Those award nominations that are accepted will be presented to the recipients in a timely manner. Please visit our website at [www.wcpawi.com](http://www.wcpawi.com) for nomination materials and guidelines after December 1, 2007.

As always, stay safe and have a joyous holiday season.

# SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## WCPA 2007 Scholarship Recipients



1. **Adam S. Perkins** - Adam is the son of Scott Perkins who is a member of the Monroe County Sheriff's Department. Adam graduated from Sparta Senior High School and will be attending the University of Wisconsin - Platteville where he will major in criminal justice.



2. **Amanda Jo Wickman** - Amanda is the daughter of Kevin Wickman who is a member of the Brown County Sheriff's Department. Amanda graduated from Oconto High School and will be attending the University of Wisconsin - Marinette where she will begin studying for a career in veterinary medicine.



3. **Ashley E. McCambridge** - Ashley is the daughter of John McCambridge who is a member of the Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department. Ashley graduated from Kewaunee High School and will be attending Judson College where she will be studying Cinematography.



4. **Brooke A. Lamb** - Brooke is the daughter of Sandra Foote who is a member of the Fond du lac County Sheriff's Department. Brooke graduated from the Horace Mann High School. She will be attending Ripon College with a career choice in psychology.



5 **Luke J. Titus** - Luke is the son of Carrie Gossen who is a member of the Door County Sheriff's Department. Luke graduated from Southern Door High School and will be attending the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. He will be studying Atmospheric Science, Nuclear Physics, and Engineering.



6. **Michael R. Vis** - Michael is the son of Dennis Vis who is a member of the Fond du lac County Sheriff's Department. Michael graduated from Campbellsport High School and will be attending the University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh where he will be studying criminal justice.



7. **Molly L. Cornelius** - Molly is the daughter of David Cornelius who is a member of the Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department. Molly graduated from Algoma High School and is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point where she will be studying Public Relations.



8. **Peter C. Capoyianes** - Peter is the son of C.P. Capoyianes who is a member of the Fond du lac County Sheriff's Department. Peter graduated from Fond du lac High School and is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin - Fond du lac and studying Communication and Administration.



9. **Tori G. Fink** - Tori is the daughter of Mick Fink who is a member of the Fond du lac County Sheriff's Department. Tori graduated from Horace Mann High School and will be attending Southwest Minnesota State University where she will be studying Biology.

**Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients!  
Good luck in your continuing educational endeavors.**

## TEN GOALS WORTH PURSUING

As the New Year approaches many of us will again set a goal that we will try to obtain in the coming year. If you haven't already chose a goal take a look at one of these.

- 1 Personal development:** the single best investment any of us can ever make is in our own growth and development. The accumulation of knowledge means everything to your future.
- 2 Excellent physical health:** your body impacts everything you do. Take good care of it through proper nourishment, exercise, and rest.
- 3 Rest, Relaxation and Renewal:** we must take care of ourselves without feeling guilty.
- 4 Building a loving family:** family is the emotional core of our lives. We should make constant deposits into everyone's emotional bank account.
- 5 Intimate relations with your friends:** surround yourself with nourishing friends. Share yourself with them and let them share themselves with you.
- 6 Involvement in your community:** the definition of a life well lived must include a commitment to serving others.
- 7 Excellence in your work:** Develop a reputation for excellence. A sincere commitment to excellence is a noble goal.
- 8 Financial freedom:** Money is important. Exercise wisdom in all your financial dealings.
- 9 A comfortable, loving home:** the single biggest investment most of us will ever make should be comfortable and lined with love.
- 10 Peace of mind:** there is no substitute for peace of mind. Everything you do either supports it, or takes away from it.

*Gary Ryan Blair is President of the "GoalsGuy". He helps business owners, corporate executives and sales professionals manage their time, set their priorities, and stay focused so they can achieve their goals, grow their business, and be more successful. Gary can be reached for speaking at 877-462-5748 or by sending an e-mail to Gary@GoalsGuy.com*

## WCPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT

### "UNDER THE DOME" Ramie Leonard



Governor Doyle signed the 2007 - 09 budget and used fewer vetoes than in the past. Under the bill, taxes and fees will go up \$763.2 million over the biennium. Some of the Governor's vetoes include a levy limit on technical colleges and loosening the limit on local governments, as well as a three-tier liquor distribution system. The Wisconsin Medical Society announced earlier this week that it will file a lawsuit to stop a \$200 million transfer from the Patients Compensation Fund.

Members of the Legislature reached an agreement and recommended passage (7-1) with Senator Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) being the only no vote. Both houses passed the bill. In a budget year such as this the conference committee is the last opportunity members have to make an amendment to the budget bill. An amendment was offered addressing the Kenosha- Racine-Milwaukee commuter rail funding, but it failed on a 4-4 vote.

The nature of the compromise budget left winners and losers. Once either house receives the conference committee report members must vote up or down and cannot offer amendments on the floor. Many members, both republican and democrat, were steamed about the inclusion of a \$1.00 cigarette tax and \$200 million raid on the Patients Compensation Fund. Not included in the compromise were a few non-starters for republicans including a hospital assessment, an oil franchise fee, and combined reporting. Democrats got BadgerCare Plus, close to 2/3 funding for K12, the Wisconsin Covenant Plan, and reauthorization of the Stewardship Fund. Democrats dropped their Healthy Wisconsin Plan early into conference committee negotiations. Although a sales tax exemption for temporary help services was included in various offers and counter-offers, the language was not included in the final product.

It was clear from the start that Speaker Huebsch (R-West Salem) would need democrat votes to move this bill out of his house; the Assembly passed the bill (60-39) with 23 republicans and 37 democrats voting yes. Of the 23 republican votes, six members who signed the Americans for Tax Reform Taxpayer Protection Pledge during their campaigns voted for the budget including: Reps Wood, Suder, Friske, Hanh, Hines, and Musser. The Senate passed the bill along party lines (18-15) and caucused immediately after the vote. The nature of the caucus meeting was to discuss Senate Majority Leader Robson's leadership abilities. Many senate democrats felt left out of the negotiating process and felt that Senator Robson gave too much negotiating power to Governor Doyle during the process.

In the end democrats felt that under different leadership many more of their priorities would have made it through the budget process. Governor Doyle established his support for Robson. However the caucus voted to remove Robson and replaced her with Senator Russ Decker, the co-chair of the finance and a member of the conference committee. Many insiders feel that Senator Decker has more muscle and would have held out longer, getting more priorities for the democrats.

Senator Decker appointed Senator Mark Miller (D-Monona) to co-chair the Joint Finance Committee with republican appointee Representative Kitty Rhoades (R-Hudson). Senator Bob Jauch (D-Poplar) was removed from the committee. Senator Jauch was vocally supportive of ousted Senator Majority Leader Senator Robson. Senator Decker then added Senator Julie Lassa (D-Stevens Point) and Senator Judy Robson (D-Beloit) to the committee. Senator Jauch will chair the newly formed Senate Committee on Tax Fairness and Family Prosperity.

AB 52 passed the Senate in late August. This bill relates to the quarantine requirement for law enforcement dogs. The bill will go to the Governor's office for his approval. The WCPA has actively been involved in helping the passage of this bill with testimony coming from several WCPA members who are canine handlers.

In mid-November an inmate at the Waupun Correctional Institute took a dental hygienist hostage and some members of the legislature are saying that the unfortunate situation highlights the need for protective status for all employees working in the prison system. AB354 was introduced earlier this year to address the issue, but county jailers were not part of the equation. Some law enforcement groups have gone on record opposing the bill for that reason alone; however, the situation, as unfortunate as it was gives the WCPA and other enforcement groups an opportunity to continue to pursue protective status for county jailers. Representatives of law enforcement groups, including the WCPA, have met with members of the legislature to talk about strategy to get protective status for county jailers, but a bill has not yet been introduced. Many members feel that the usual bill, which has been introduced session after session isn't going to go anywhere and would like to look at other options, including requiring that protective status be a mandatory subject of bargaining. However, that also has problems as some of the larger unions are opposed to "watering" down the language that has been introduced in previous sessions.

WCPA  
P.O. Box 764  
Delavan, WI 53115

PRSR FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
DELAVAN, WI  
PERMIT NO. 307

# Act Now!

## Registration Membership

If you received this newsletter you are already a member of the WCPA Ltd. Please feel free to pass this on to a non-member when you are done with it. If you are not a member of the Wisconsin County Police Association, all you have to do is fill out this application. Membership is open to any employee of a Wisconsin Sheriff's Department. Your application entitles you to a lifetime membership as long as you are employed. There are no membership dues!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County of Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Beneficiary (for life insurance) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Wisconsin County Police Association, Ltd.  
P.O. Box 764, Delavan, WI 53115

\_\_\_\_\_ Email

Wisconsin County Police Association, Ltd. **Membership Application**