

MSOTA
Annual Meeting Agenda
May 8, 9, 10, 1013
Chico Hot Springs

Wednesday, May 8: Board of Directors Meeting

1:00-2:30 P.M. Meeting of the Board of Directors and Officers

Introduction of Officers, Board Members and others present:

1. **Joel Thompson, Prosecuting Attorney for AG.** Mainly sex offense cases around the state. Hopes to contribute as a conduit between treatment providers and the AG's office. Joel travels the state and provides training and his office acts as a resource to the County Attorneys' office.
2. **Carrie Lindberg,** working with Family Outreach & AWARE Helena towards her LCPC and is serving high risk DD adult sex offenders.
3. **Dawn Handa,** Department of Corrections, Supervisor of P&P out of Great Falls. Working to keep forms and processes uniform between MSOTA members and the DOC
4. **Shawn Abbott,** MSOTA Treasurer and Clinical Treatment Provider from Great Falls, serving surrounding communities
5. **Bob Page,** MSOTA President and Clinical provider from Cascade specializing in Psycho-Sexual Risk Evaluations, other forensic evaluations, and consultations.
6. **Anne Harris,** MSOTA Secretary and Clinical provider from Missoula specializing in treatment and assessment of Intellectually Disabled Sexual Offenders and persons with Problem Sexual Behaviors. Anne works with a trans-disciplinary team through Opportunity Resources in Missoula.
7. **Michael Scolatti,** MSOTA Member at Large, Board is critical to uniting our work and keep membership on track.
8. **Hal Lewis,** MSOTA Member at Large, He is a Youth Treatment Provider from Billings, and sees the Board's role as liaison between MSOTA and the outside professional world. Observes that how the Youth Act works in Ravalli County is different from Big Horn County.
9. **Bo Smelko,** MSOTA Member at Large and provider from Helena primarily does evaluations but also runs a Federal child Porn treatment program. The Board transmits communication between providers and other stake holders across the state.
10. **Andy Hudak,** MSOTA Vice President and treatment provider from Whitefish/Kalispell will do evaluation updates. Works mostly with adults and some adolescents. This is his 30th Anniversary with MSOTA.

Andy: "The Board is essential to help keep the balance of perception for MSOTA members between facilitating or punishing offenders. MSOTA and its standards have evolved greatly since 1983. All of us are hard pressed to have any time to share experiences with each other, there is no slack time now. "

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- Discussion regarding how to educate judges regarding why a treatment provider must be an MSOTA Clinical Provider.
- In special circumstances the client is best matched to a provider who can address their disability or special need. The example was a client affected by autism who might be best served by a specialist in treating autism aspergers to provide behavior change to protect community.
- In 1992 MSOTA was as clear that our standards are one set and the law provides also for “or equivalent” for treatment or evaluation.
- Membership recruitment, need to crack the perception that MSOTA tries to limit membership v s open recruiting.
- Ethics, where when do “common sense” ethics need to be written.

2:30-5:00 General Board Meeting

- Members Present (19): Michael Scolatti, Anne Harris, Andy Hudak, Sandra Heaton, Sam Griffel, Don Bell, Marla North, Bo Smelko, Shawn Abbott, Mike English, Tracy Vaughn, Jeffrey Scogin, Blair Hopkins, Hal Lewis, Jim Myers, Tom Nielson, Charmaine Nicholson, Alice Hougardy, Bob Page
- Board Members Present: Dawn Handa, Carrie Lindberg, Joel Thompson
- Guests: Katherine Flynn from MSP
- Agenda review, introduction of items for Thursday membership meeting
- President’s annual letter:

Hello everyone and welcome to the 5th annual retreat and conference. It seems impossible to believe that it has been 5 years since the inception of the retreat process and I continue to receive positive feedback about its usefulness to our organization. This last year has provided evidence that we continue to increase our communications outside of meetings. I also note that many of you have generated more inquiry and consultation questions related to your cases and other issues relevant to sex offender evaluation and treatment. This consultation process is critical in our continuing education, ethical awareness, and implementation of best practices within our field. I applaud all with the ability and willingness to reach out to colleagues with clinical questions and/or concerns.

This last year we have been using static and dynamic risk assessment instruments in evaluations as requirements in order to further standardize our approach to recommending a level of risk or tier designation. I believe that this has limited the use of “clinical judgment” and has thereby improved our consistency. However, I have also been notified on several occasions that some evaluators are not as consistent as they should be in terms of interpretation of the risk factors on these instruments. This is a primary example of how useful the consultation process is when there are any questions about interpretation of the risk factors in specific cases.

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Our financial profile continues to be strong as members pay the increased amount for dues set two years ago. This is enabling us to reach out for higher caliber presenters for the Friday trainings. As you know, this year we have been able to secure the presentation of Dr. Gerry Blasingame who will present research on treatment of DD offenders. Next year, I plan to implement the process of charging outside participants in the Friday training as an additional financial benefit to us. As we continue to set the foundation for these trainings and they become more popular, I believe that a minimal charge will be acceptable especially since we provide the CEUs.

I continue to appreciate the honor of presidency and welcome any and all constructive comments about MSOTA and what we stand for. As ethics committee chair, I will continue to review new ideas for enhancing the process of screening and responding to concerns and complaints. Thank you for a great year.

Robert N. Page, Ed.D.

President, MSOTA

- Discussion about covering the cost of rooms for board members (including officers) at retreats as a gratis for their work. Maybe 50% of room costs for committee chair people as well?
 - The discussions lead to the organization covering the cost of Board Members Rooms. Leaving
 - **Motion to pay up to \$1,200 per retreat to cover the cost of Board Members Rooms Motion was Moved, Seconded and Failed**
 - It was discussed to develop a proposal to cover the room costs of Officers and Committee Chairs.
- Discussion and review of latest Supervisors and Chaperones contract ideas.
 - Anne discussed development of DD standards for supervision
 - Bo and Shawn have models from different states
 - The matter was turned over to the Standards Committee to research and respond
 - Supervisors may be held civilly responsible for a client's misbehavior.
 - Offenders are ultimately responsibility for following their rules
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Thursday, May 9: General Membership Meeting and Training

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7:30-8:00 Continental Breakfast in the Conference Center

8:00-9:00 A.M. Introductions

- Members Present (19): Michael Scolatti, Anne Harris, Andy Hudak, Sandra Heaton, Sam Griffel, Don Bell, Marla North, Bo Smelko, Shawn Abbott, Mike English, Tracy Vaughn, Jeffrey Scogin, Blair Hopkins, Hal Lewis, Jim Myers, Tom Nielson, Charmaine Nicholson, Alice Hougardy, Bob Page, Krista Smelko, Brenda Erdelyi, Tracy Vaughn, Michelle Davis, Drew Shoening, Mike Sullivan
- Board Members Present: Dawn Handa, Carrie Lindberg, Joel Thompson
- Guests: Katherine Flynn from MSP

- Reading of minutes from Fall 2012 meeting, minutes were moved, seconded and Passed
- Update on current status of our goals, mission, philosophy were discussed and there were no modifications.

9:00-9:30 A.M. Officer Reports

- President:
 - Next Summer we might charge fees for attending the Friday Retreat trainings for non-MSOTA members
- Vice President:
 - No report
- Treasurer
 - Checking Balance: \$9,427.07
 - Savings Balance: \$2,414.95
 - There was a discussion of the cost of MSOTA paying for the cost of lodging for Board members, officers, and committee chairs.
 - We are planning on getting the “square” credit card reader so that members can pay their dues by credit card.
 - Dues are payable now.

- Secretary
 - The web page

9:30-11:00 A.M. Committee Breakouts 30 Minute Committee breakout followed by a presentation from each committee to present updates and progress that improves service performance/delivery with offenders for community safety (least restrictive environments)

Ethics

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- **Chair: Bob Page;** Members: Mike English, Sandy Heaton, Nina Wendt, Jim Meyers, Jeffrey Scogin, Gwen Farnsworth, Chuck Newell, Christa Smelko
- Mission: Provide consultation services, investigations and resolutions surrounding ethical issues and complaints involving MSOTA members

Legislative

- **Chair: Andy Hudak;** Members: Karen Baumann, Sam Griffel, Mike Sullivan Bo Smelko, Brenda Erdelyi
- Mission: To improve community safety through education and legislation by coordinating with state government and other stake holders to influence public policy
- Report on the Legislative Session:
 - Andy feels that this was the least contentious session in years
 - The Adam Walsh Act provisions as modified by the Montana legislature
 - Rejecting residential restrictions
 - HB 237: The bill was a reaction to homicides in Great Falls, as a preemptive strike against persons who failed to keep a known offender from children charging them the Felony Criminal Endangerment,
 - Was modified to include language, “pursuant to a court order”
 - Bo commented that a county attorney was “shocked” to see MSOTA standing up for victims. Realization that other parts of the system do not perceive our mission is primarily to provide community safety.
 - Discussion to add victim treatment component to our mission membership. When introducing ourselves to legislators the first component of our service to label is our mission for community and victim safety.
 - Mike Sullivan: We need to give the victim and community protection more than lip service.
 - Bo suggestion that MSOTA members can benefit from attending victim impact trainings.
 - Andy: Need to take what does pass the legislature
 - The Bill had very little to do with Sex Offenders, more to do with domestic violence victims and perpetrators.
 - The issue of statutory rape bill went nowhere.
 - Andy expressed frustration over the lack of response from the membership when he sends out legislative alerts. He needs the feedback from membership to feel supported while in Helena.
 - Anne offered to help fast response to helping with talking point and distribution to membership from the secretary position.

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Membership

- **Chair: Chris Nordstrom**, Members: Charmaine Nicholson, Fred Lemons, Chris Quigley, Shawn Abbott, Karen Bauman, Tracy Vaughn
- **Mission:** To assess the competency of applicants for Clinical and Associate memberships according to MSOTA membership criteria
 - The new Membership oral and written tests have been written and are in use.
 - Only three members responded to the committee's call for new
 - Newest Clinical Members: Tom Nielson, Alice Hougardy
 - Encouragement to increase Associate Membership
 - Development of a document for Supervisors to sign agreeing to supervise clinical candidates
 - Ratio of 1 hour of supervision for 20 hours of client contact.

Education/Public Affairs

- **Chair: Marla North**, Members: Don Bell, Blair Hopkins, Ann Headley
- UPDATE MISSION AND PURPOSE: METHODS OF REACHING OUT TO PUBLIC AND STATE OFFICIALS/ORGANIZATIONS
- Blair will work on a fact sheet of definitions and descriptions of treatment/assessment components
 - For distribution to consumers: judges, attorneys, POs etc.
 - Media: anything released from DOC must be approved by DOC official.
 - Drew will draw something up for education systems for things like internet sexual issues, sex before age 16,
 - A previously distributed poster defining statutory rape was uniformly rejected by the
 - Distribution may be best through student associations
 - OPI may be consulted again, last effort was in 2008 or 2009
 - Krista will take ideas developed by the committee to curriculum developer at OPI
 - The MSOTA brochure
 - Suggestions for presenters: Michael Seto for ICAC, presenters for risk assessment.

Standards

- **Co-Chairs: Bo Smelko and Mike Scolotti**; Members: Anne Harris, Jean Keiley, Gwen Farnsworth, Don Bell, Drew Schoening
- **Mission:** Establish and update standards for evaluation and treatment to promote the professional and effective delivery of services to sexual offenders and the community.
- Motion to include the following in the MSOTA Standards for treatment of adults and juveniles

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- “Every MSOTA program should have a written contract to establish the qualifications and parameters for an approved Chaperone/Supervisor as deemed appropriate on a case by case basis. MSOTA members may draw from a variety of sources to develop their specific individualized contracts.”
- Moved seconded and Passed

- Motion to add the following to the MSOTA all four standards
 - “When and individual is asking to be reconsidered for Tier Designation a new complete full Psycho-Sexual Risk Evaluation must be done. A minimum of 1 year must have passed since the most recent Psycho-Sexual Risk Evaluation was completed.”
 - The motion was moved, seconded, and passed.

11:00-12:00 P.M

- **Presentation by our guru Andrew Hudak: Differences in treatment approaches and how they impact efficacy. The issue of “cure” and “curative factors” in TX Clarification and victim issues.**
- Andy asked for feedback from the membership on what clinical members hear that their clients want to include in their clarification letters
 - Jim M a statement from offender to victim, “I don’t know how what I did affected you, I want to know.”
 - Mike E: Works with all clients whether or not there is a reconnection with family
 - Court ordered “no contact with the victim” limits contact “unless approved by....”
 - Shawn lets some victim therapists know that meeting with the offender is an option, but this happens rarely.
- In the “old days” we borrowed concepts from CD work, “well you know I can reoffend anytime”
 - Andy works with clients to say, “Well theoretically I could reoffend at any time, but here are the commitments I have made, my safety plan, and how I changed.”
 - What does community hear, or victims hear from the “I’m always an offender” statement?
 - Nina asks clients when disclosing offense, to include that they are in treatment and the progress they made
- Adult Pornography
 - What are the issues? Andy finds himself in a position to create a frame for different types of mistakes. Big mistakes affect deviance. “any media that has the impact of supporting deviant behavior, for example women’s underwear is legal but can support a deviant cycle.”
 - Marla, in the old days her group supported use of “Playboys” but her

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groups rejected the idea in the same vein and alcohol or drugs and from the objectification of women.

- Alice had clients using the Sports Illustrated “swim suit” edition. Talking about the objectification of women increased awareness and increased self monitoring
- Client feedback on their view and/or arousal in reaction to media is another clinical measure of recovery.
- If presence to a particular substance or media does not trigger deviant cycle then

12:00-1:30 P.M. Interactive lunch and discussion about specialties, treatment philosophies, and best practices models for sex offender evaluations and treatment. Cost for Lunch for Non-MSOTA Attendees is \$10.00

1:30-2:15 P.M. Old Business:

- - Review preferred risk assessment instruments (static and dynamic specific instruments) and discussion about standardizing use of specific instruments for each population group. Discussion about how the Matrix can be used with certain populations where other instruments cannot.
 - Discussion about the different member types and recruitment efforts. Is there a place for another type of membership for outside professionals (probation and parole officers for example) other than associate?

2:15-3:00 P.M. New Business:

- How are we perceived by outside officials (defenders and prosecutors, P&P, etc.) and what can we do to enhance our status and purpose within the system?
- Dates and locations for summer and fall meetings:
 - Summer 2013 Friday August 9, 1:00 PM Bob’s place
 - Fall 2013 October 18th 11:00 AM Missoula, Michelle, Brenda, and Gwen location TBA
- Case Reviews/Peer Feedback: Discussion about specific cases and outcomes.

3:00-4:00 ICAC Presented by Brian Fisher, Helena Police Dept.

- Detective Bryan Fischer, Helena PD
- Cell phone – 406.461.4636
- Office – 406.444.1476
- E-mail – bfischer@helenamt.gov or Bfischer@mt.gov

4:00 – 5:00PM Update: Probation and Parole, Dawn Handa

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**Friday May 10: Dr. Gerry Blasingame on Treating DD and other
Special Needs Sexual Offenders**

Gerry D. Blasingame is the Executive and Clinical Director of a program dedicated to the treatment of developmentally disabled offenders. He is an accomplished presenter regarding many forms of family violence. Blasingame has been treating children, teens and adults impacted by family violence since 1985. He has presented numerous trainings on the treatment of mainstream and developmentally delayed clients.

7:30-8:00 Complimentary Continental Breakfast in Conference Center

8:00-12:00

- Offensive Behavior vs. Offending Behavior
 1. Paraphillias among Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and Borderline Intellectual Functioning
- Therapeutic Culture & Managing Sexual Offenders
- Communication with Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Borderline Intellectual Functioning
- Assessment & Evaluation of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and Borderline Intellectual Functioning who have Sexual Behavior Problems

**12:00-1:00 Buffet Lunch and Topic Breakout Tables. Lunch Cost for Non-MSOTA
Members is \$6.00**

1:00-3:00 Treatment of DD Offenders Continued

- Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Tailored for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Borderline Intellectual Functioning who have Sexual Behavior Problems
- And of course some case histories and Q&A.

3:00-4:00 Conference Closing Activities

- Networking lists distribution
- Regional organizing
- Conference Assessment

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- Future planning
- Closure