

From The Desk Of The President



OWSA
Ohio Wardens & Superintendents Association

Greeting's all!

I hope everyone is having a great summer and preparing for a wonderful fall. Let me first start off by saying, "THANK YOU" for a successful training conference in Berlin, Ohio this past May. The evaluations submitted by conference goers held us in the highest regard and we could not have done this without your support. I am thankful OWSA members have volunteered to produce outcome measures for some of the workshops. They are currently working on the measures and will be shared at a later date. I would like to take this time, as well, to recognize OWSA Executive Director, Mark Saunders as the 2012 Terry J. Collins Correctional Excellence Award winner. Mark's career in corrections spans four decades and along the way he has mentored many colleagues. Anyone who knows Mark always has a Mark story. When you see Executive Director Saunders congratulate him on this amazing achievement. I would also like to acknowledge, OWSA member Tracy Tyson-Parker's daughter, Mieshia Parker. Mieshia won the John Dean Scholarship. Mieshia will be a freshman attending The University of Akron in the fall majoring in Psychology. Inside the newsletter you will find a copy of the thank you letter received by Mieshia Parker. I wish Mieshia a prosperous journey as she embarks on her college career.

Members, also, please note that OWSA is in the planning stages of the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents (NAAWS) Conference which will be held on May 29 to June 1, 2013 in Columbus, Ohio, at the Downtown Hilton. Some of the highlights currently scheduled are Sheriff Matt Lutz of Muskingum County and Jack Hannah, of the Columbus Zoo. They will host a workshop titled "Great Animal Escape of 2011" at the Activity Pavilion at the Columbus Zoo. They will go into the events leading up to the escape and capture of 56 exotic animals, and how Sheriff Lutz and his staff managed the incident. Also we have Brigadier General Mark S. Inch of the United States Army as one of the Luncheon Keynote speakers. For all the golfers who could not participate in OWSA Golf Outing in Berlin you have another opportunity scheduled, details will be forthcoming. As you can tell I am very excited about the upcoming conference, but to make this another success we need OWSA member's assistance. If you have any workshop ideas, networking suggestions or conference recommendations please feel free to contact any of your OWSA officers.

Following the steps of immediate past President Banks administration, I will also like to maintain and increase OWSA membership with the additions of the warden assistants, and thru current members reaching out to retirees and other agencies. If you know anyone who is not a member please give their names to an officer and we will send them an application for membership and a copy of the newsletter. We have to be diligent about recruiting new members if we want to share our mission and vision with others.

In closing, I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer spending time with your family and friends. Remember the conference theme from Berlin this year. "Our Work Strengthens All". I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Sincerely

Robert Welch

OWSA President

Meet the 2012 OWSA Officers

By Tina Patrick, OWSA Secretary



Robert Welch, President

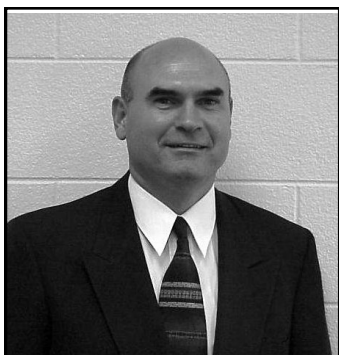
Robert Welch, Jr. has been employed by the State of Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) since August 2000. He is currently the Deputy Warden of Special Services at the Southeastern Correctional Institution. . In the past he has held the positions of Deputy Warden at Franklin Medical Center (August 2011 to January 2012). Medical Administrator at Corrections Medical Center (August 2011 to September 2010). Warden at Toledo Correction Institution (September 2008 to September 2010). Deputy Warden of Operation (December 2007 to September 2008) and Deputy Warden of Special Services (March 2005 to December 2007) at Lebanon Correctional Institution. Administrative Assistant in the Office of Prisons to North Regional Director

(October 2004 to March 2005) and Recovery Services Supervisor at Dayton Correctional Institution (August 2000 to October 2004).

Prior to Robert working at ODRC, he worked at the following agencies:

- City of Dayton, Police Department, Human Rehabilitation Center; Social Service Technician (July 1999 to August 2000)
- Montgomery County, Common Pleas Court; Chemical Abuse Counselor (April 1997 to July 1999)
- Ohio River Valley Halfway House, Dayton Facility; Correction Program Director, (September 1995 to April 1997)
- Montgomery County, Common Pleas Court; Chemical Abuse/ Mental Health Specialist (April 1994 to September 1995)
- Montgomery County Common Pleas Court; Probation Officer/ Senior Probation Officer (February 1990 to April 1994)

Robert has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice (1989) and a Master of Science Degree (1995) from the University of Dayton. Additionally, he is a Licensed Social Worker (LSW) and a Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor (LICDC). Robert is also a member to the following organizations: American Correctional Association (ACA), Ohio Correctional and Court Services Association (OCCSA), Ohio Warden and Superintendent Association (OWSA); National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ), Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Theta Lambda Chapter and Prince Hall Mason, Harmony Lodge #77.



MARK SAUNDERS, Executive Director

Spanning four decades and 35 years, Mark Saunders began his corrections career on the walk line of the Biggs Field Army Stockade on Fort Bliss, Texas in 1977. He progressed through the supervisory ranks, and then on to Military Police Investigations and later the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) before leaving the Army. After a brief stint as a counselor with the El Paso Probation Department at the Court Residential Treatment Center in El Paso, Texas, Mark relocated back home to Ohio where he started work with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections as a Classification Specialist.

Meet the Officers continued

After holding several positions in the Ohio DRC, including unit manager, deputy warden, and regional assistant, Mark was appointed as Warden. Subsequently, he served as warden of four different Ohio prisons, and the Rusafa Prison in Baghdad, Iraq, before he retired from Ohio DRC in 2009.

Mark's first post-retirement job was with the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections in Louisville, KY, where he served as the operations administrator of the facility. He left that position for his current post as Vice President of the Nakamoto Group, Inc, where he directs the annual inspection program on behalf of the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, for all the facilities in the United States that house illegal immigrants.

In 2011, Mark was appointed as the Executive Director of the Ohio Wardens and Superintendents' Association, and continues to serve in that capacity as well. A graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso, Mark has served on a number of international corrections missions to destinations such as Iraq, South Africa, Germany, and Mexico. In addition to his role with OWSA, he serves and has served on a number of Boards and Committees of professional associations, including ACA, NABCJ, NCIA, NAAWS, OCCSA, and AJA. Mark has received several awards through the course of his career, to include the Joe Janesz Correctional Achievement Award from the Ohio Correctional and Court Services Association, the Medal of Valor from the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents, and the Terry J. Collins Correctional Excellence Award from the Ohio Wardens and Superintendents' Association.



Ed Banks, Past President

Ed currently serves as Warden of the Noble Correctional Institution in Caldwell, Ohio. Ed started his career with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in 1994 as a correction officer at the Trumbull Correctional Institution. Following a transfer to Belmont Correctional Institution Ed was promoted to the rank of correction lieutenant in 1997 where he remained until being promoted to Correctional Captain in January of 2000. In 2003 Banks assumed the role of Acting Chief of Security a rank that was held until being promoted in October of 2005 to Deputy Warden, Ed served as both Administration Deputy and Special Services Deputy prior to being appointed Warden of the Hocking Correctional Facility in November of 2008. In August of 2009, Ed transferred his service to serve as Warden for the Noble Correctional Institution. In addition to his role with OWSA, Ed serves as 2nd Vice president of NAAWS.

Meet the Officers continued



Jay Forshey, President Elect

Jay Forshey currently serves as Deputy Warden of Operations at the Noble Correctional Institution (NCI). Jay started his career with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) in 1995 as a Storekeeper Supervisor at Belmont Correctional Institution (BeCI). Jay was promoted and has served in many positions in ODRC (BeCI, Correctional Warden Assistant, Business Administrator 3, Deputy Warden of Administration, Deputy Warden of Special Services, Deputy Warden of Operations and at NCI, Labor Relations Officer and

Deputy Warden of Special Services. Jay has an Associate's Degree in Criminology from Belmont College located in St. Clairsville, Ohio and a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership and Development from Wheeling Jesuit University located in Wheeling, WV. Jay is a member of the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents, American Correctional Association, Ohio Correctional and Court Service Association, and the Ohio Wardens and Superintendents Association, where he is currently an Officer.



Jeff Noble, Sergeant at Arms

Jeff currently serves at the Deputy Warden of Operations at London Correctional Institution. His career began in 1986 as a Corrections Officer at Pickaway Correctional Institution. He has served as Case Manager (PCI/MACI), Unit Manager (MACI), Unit Management Administrator (PCI), Wardens Assistant (PCI), and Deputy Warden. He received an Associate Degree in Law Enforcement Technology, a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, and a Master's degree in Political Science from Ohio University. He has also completed the Ohio Certified Public Manager's Program.



Todd Mizer, Treasurer

Todd has been employed with Oakview Juvenile Residential Center since its opening in 1994. Currently, as Deputy Director, Todd oversees the development, implementations, and evaluations of daily operations along with Treatment programming. He is a graduate of Mount Union College with a Bachelor's Degree in education.

Meet the Officers continued



Tina currently serves as the Regional Administrator for the Adult Parole Authority in the Cincinnati Region. Tina began her career with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction as a Parole Officer in the Offender Background Investigation unit in the Cleveland Region in 1994. She transferred to the Lima Region in 1995 and assumed an offender caseload within a supervision unit. In 2003 Tina was promoted to Administrative Assistant to the Regional Administrator for the Lima Region. In 2009 Tina was promoted to her current position. Tina started with OWSA as an advisory board member. She accepted her nomination to serve as the secretary for OWSA. She is also representing OWSA by serving on the NAAWS national conference planning committee.

OWSA

We are looking to make improvements to our organizational website. Please visit us at OWSA.org.

Send website recommendations to ed.banks@odrc.state.oh.us

Executive Director's Report

By Mark Saunders, OWSA Executive

OWSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

AUGUST 2012

The Association is moving forward with two major initiatives. The NAAWS 2013 planning is well under way, under the leadership of Wardens Ed Banks and Ernie Moore. Recently added to the conference agenda is the excursion on Friday, May 31 to the Columbus Zoo to watch the presentation from Sheriff Matt Lutz and Jack Hannah, have a meal, and explore some of the Number One Zoo in the Land! Other events include the Scioto Downs Racino Derby Night, a Welcome Reception, a full Exhibit Hall, and many great speakers/programs.

The other major initiative is the new partnership with the jail administrators from around the state. They have invited me to present to them at their next meeting, in hopes of forging a partnership that will both grow the OWSA membership and assist them with their periodic meetings. We believe we have resources that can benefit them. I look forward to providing you with a full report on how this progresses in our next newsletter.

President Welch has asked me to prepare a brief training for the new OWSA Officers to provide them with an historical perspective of the Association, as well as the expectations that are part of being an OWSA Officer. This session will precede the next full OWSA Board Meeting. If any of you have any suggestions for the content of this training, I would greatly appreciate hearing from you.

As always, I value your input. Please contact me at mark@nakamotogroup.com or 240.315.8459 at any time I may be of service.

Women in Corrections

Women in Corrections



The Women in Corrections (WIC) committee was developed here at Lorain Correctional Institution as a branch of the EEO committee which focuses on issues women are faced with while working in a male dominated environment. Through education, mentorship programs, philanthropy work, and workshops, the organization assists in the development of positive self-esteem and growth on topics pertaining to women's health, finance and professionalism.

WIC recognized that sometimes the outside issues would lead to females quitting or being terminated. WIC began a conference series title "Women Empowering Women" that served as an avenue to deal directly with problems or concerns that are unique to women as well as provide the opportunity to enhance personal and professional development.

Today, WIC members continue to mentor female employees who work within the institution. They provide an open dialogue to address those "gray" areas. WIC also provides guidance; shares effective management tools, and help build confidence for female employees. WIC works hard with females to overcome obstacles in life and/or work that ultimately will help retain employment at LorCI.

Women in Corrections

The local committee also performs philanthropy work for our local stakeholders such as the Blessing House, Genesis House, Women's Heart Health, Susan G. Kolmen Breast Cancer, etc. Over the past several years our committee in conjunction with GCI & NePRC hosted conferences which grew from 75 attendees to 250. We are pulling back the reins on the conferences and getting back to what we were originally designed to do and that is to mentor women. Hosting another conference is not out of the question in the future of course!

Women in Corrections is a non-profit organization dedicated as a forum for women working in the correctional field. Through educational, mentorship programs, philanthropy work, and workshops, the organization assists in the development of positive self-esteem and growth on topics pertaining to women's health, finance and professionalism. With this support, our members can enrich their personal and professional lives while also offering assistance to local charities.

To carry out the mission of the local committee, committee members will:

Determine and carry out the charitable and educational agenda of the members of WIC; provide or conduct training conferences, programs and educational events relating to women's issues; and provide support directly and indirectly to functions and activities where charitable or educational need is demonstrated.

Empowerment includes the following, or similar, capabilities:-

- The ability to make decisions about personal/collective circumstances
- The ability to access information and resources for decision-making
- Ability to consider a range of options from which to choose (not just yes/no, either/or.)
- Ability to exercise assertiveness in collective decision making
- Having positive-thinking about the ability to make change
- Ability to learn and access skills for improving personal/collective circumstance.
- Ability to inform others' perceptions though exchange, education and engagement.
- Involving in the growth process and changes that is never ending and self-initiated
- Increasing one's positive self-image and overcoming stigma

WIC developed a one day Women's Conference titled "Women Empowering Women" that especially focused on issues directly related to women working in the field of corrections.

We believe the approach of dealing directly with issues women working in the field of corrections are faced with will assist the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in maintaining a diverse workforce as well as increase female employee retention.

Nearly 100 attendees from Central Office, various Adult Parole Authority (APA) Regions, Northeast Pre-Release Center (NEPRC), Trumbull Correctional Institution (TCI), Grafton Correctional Institution (GCI) and LorCI gathered for a day of inspiration and motivation. Workshop presenters touched on various aspects that women working in corrections face from self esteem, stress and life balance and promoting yourself positively. Deputy Warden Kim Brown-Ware, gave a resounding lecture of hope, determination and inspired the attendees to maintain their femininity and self confidence in a male dominated environment.

The one day conference ended with an open panel discussion which included Wardens, Deputy Wardens and the 2006 Correction Officer of the Year, Karen Willingham. Positive feedback was received from conference attendees. The Lorain Correctional Institution Women In Corrections Committee is in the planning stages for this year's conference and looking forward to another successful conference.

We believe the approach of dealing directly with issues women working in the field of corrections are faced with will assist the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction in maintaining a diverse workforce as well as increase female employee retention.

Letter from ODRC Director, Gary Mohr



October 1, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Over the course of the last 19 months, the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) has undergone significant change and we've achieved a number of noteworthy accomplishments. Our offender recidivism rate is at an all time low of 31.2%, our offender population is at low levels not seen since 2007 and we have taken significant steps toward reducing violence within our prisons. As our agency vision and mission has changed, we must change our organizational structure in order to meet the guiding principles of reducing crime in Ohio and reducing recidivism among those we touch.

Over the course of the past several weeks ODRC staff have been involved in discussions on how best to organize our agency in order to more efficiently achieve our mission. The primary focus of our re-organizational change is to create a structure that improves performance and capitalizes on the strengths of the agency. All modern organizations are faced with challenges associated with the rapidly changing environment.

Organizational leadership scholars and practitioners all agree that two primary characteristics of effective organizations are efficiency and adaptability. In our redesign, we envision the implementation of an efficient system that allows us to better prepare offenders through deconstructing the historic boundaries between prison and community supervision. The ODRC model will build a seamless continuum of supervision that begins in the institutional environment and continues into the community. We will accomplish this in part by decentralizing resources in order for management to be responsive to concerns of staff and needs of inmates, which is the mission of our unit management approach.

Decentralization of both prison and parole operations provides for creative approaches for the delivery of services and innovative problem solving. Adaptability is fostered by the implementation of new methods and technologies that guide us toward the overall mission of the agency.

Letter from ODRC Director, Gary Mohr

In Ohio, new methods have been implemented to move us toward success. One such method is the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS). ORAS now guides and informs the assessment of offenders' risk and needs. Ohio is on the cutting edge in its reliance on ORAS for use in assisting decision makers in better assessing offenders' risk profiles. It will help guide staff more effectively in a manner that reduces recidivism. Over time, the use of ORAS will contribute to improvements in the use of predictive risk assessment tools, increased public safety and more successful community re-entry pathways for offenders in DRC.

Another innovative approach is exemplified in the creation of the Justice Reinvestment Officer (JRO) positions within the agency. The JROs provide an example of the blended institution-community approach designed to provide a continuity of services for offenders, and effective information sharing for optimum staff supervision of offenders.

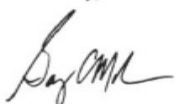
The JROs serve as liaisons between the courts and DRC. In this role, the JRO's provide credible information to the court of common pleas to identify suitable offenders for supervised release including judicial release, transitional control, and provisions within recently passed legislation designed to divert non-violent, first time offenders to more suitable community programming options. Through these and other approaches, ODRC is moving toward maximizing available resources in order to create an organizational design that eliminates the bureaucratic barriers to efficiency.

ODRC will be restructured into four regions. These regions will be developed similar to business units, fully supported with existing resources to operate. They will blend together prison operations and the Division of Parole and Community Services. This is the next logical step to truly dissolving the lines between prison and the community. Each of these regions will also include a number of satellite offices for staff. This new structure will also result in a much smaller blueprint at our Operations Support Center.

We envision that through a coordinated, structured approach to the management of the complex systems that comprise ODRC, we will reshape the organization into one well-suited for the current environment.

I do not foresee this reorganization resulting in job loss; however, I do foresee the opportunity for ODRC to serve as a model for bureaucratic reorganization to ensure that we are able to accomplish our vision and mission.

Sincerely,



Gary Mohr
Director

NAAWS Conference Returns to Ohio

By Ed Banks, OWSA Past President

NAAWS Returns to Ohio for 2013 Training Conference

The officers and members of OWSA are excited that the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents (NAAWS) has selected Ohio to host their 2013 training conference. The 2013 event will be held in Columbus at the newly constructed Hilton Downtown, May 29-June 1, 2013. Ernie Moore and Ed Banks have been selected as the conference co-chairpersons and have already begun work with the conference planning committee. The committee is focused on setting a strong training agenda complimented with event packed networking opportunities. Sticking with OWSA's commitment to quality training with directly linked measurable performance outcomes, conference attendees will attend workshops focused on current correctional issues from across the country. Ohio has a history of raising the bar for conferences held in our home state and the 2013 event will surely live up to these standards. Ohio's signature hospitality and "red carpet" treatment has conference goers from across the nation already excited to return to the Buckeye state in 2013. With that, the conference planning committee is challenging our members to not only mark their calendars for the event but to also begin marketing our conference with your colleagues and correctional partners. It is our vision that a large Ohio contingency will assist in ensuring that our national partners are properly greeted and afforded the opportunity to learn more about Ohio's "mold breaking" approach to corrections.

Early agenda events include the return of Sheriff Matt Lutz from Muskingum County - this time partnered with nationally known Jack Hanna to provide attendees with a firsthand account of the response, control and recovery of the exotic animal escape in Muskingum County. To add extra excitement to this keynote address, the presentation will take place in Hanna's backyard, the Columbus Zoo. Following the interactive and intriguing presentation, attendees will enjoy an evening dinner on the grounds of the Zoo prior to returning to the host hotel. Other events include a vendor reception and a night at the races as attendees will be transported off grounds to the nearby Scioto Downs for dinner and networking.

The training agenda which is still being confirmed includes correctional experts from literally all over the map while also allowing representatives from our host state to showcase Ohio's correctional excellence from various standpoints. The event also provides a national audience for local facilities to showcase their operations through scheduled facility tours. Opening ceremonies will see a host of Ohio leaders addressing attendees and providing encouragement to our field.

The planning committee wishes to thank our agency leaders for their early commitment and support of the 2013 NAAWS conference. At this time, we ask that each of you begin marketing and promoting attendance May 29 through June 1, 2013. You will undoubtedly hear a lot more about this conference as agenda items become confirmed and the dates draw nearer. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions, questions or recommendations feel free to contact your conference chairpersons. We look forward to seeing in Columbus!





**Annual Training Conference
Columbus, Ohio
May 29-June 1, 2013**



**PRESENTING
SHERIFF MATT LUTZ &
ANIMAL EXPERT, JACK HANNA
At THE COLUMBUS ZOO**



Muskingum County Sheriff, Matt Lutz and Internationally Renowned Animal Expert, Zoologist and Director Emeritus of the Columbus Zoo, Jack Hanna describe the events leading up to the escape and capture of 56 exotic animals, including 18 Bengal Tigers, and how the incident and the ensuing media frenzy were handled.

FRIDAY, MAY 31st

Conference attendees will enjoy dinner and the presentation at the Columbus Zoo Pavilion. Afterwards attendees are free to explore the number one zoo in America, The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium!



SPECIAL EVENTS

NAAWS GOLF OUTING

The Phoenix Golf Links, Columbus, Ohio

Wednesday, May 29th 11:00a.m.

Shotgun, Three Person Scramble. Entry fee includes Golf, Golf cart, food, beverages and prizes.

* Entry fee not included in registration costs

Contact Mark Saunders

Phone: 240-315-8459 mark@nakamotogroup.com



THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE RACES



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Or by mail using the form below sent to:

OWSA

NAAWS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

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- Email _____

Registration fees include Luncheon,

Hospitality, Vendor Exhibit Hall, All events,
 Membership to NAAWS (for 1st time members)
 195.00

Special Rate for those currently serving in
 the Military
 125.00

Additional Ticket for Spouse/Guest
 (all events)
 100.00

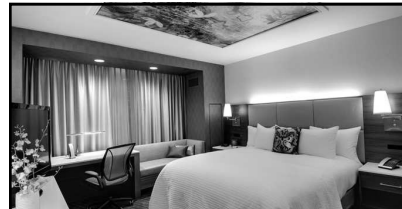
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REGISTRATION CONTACT

Ed.Banks@odrc.state.oh.us , Ernie.Moore@odrc.state.oh.us

Jay.Forshey@odrc.state.oh.us

2012 John Dean Scholarship Winner
MiEshia Parker
Daughter of Tracy Tyson-Parker



It is my deepest regret that I am not able to say this in person, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ohio Wardens and Superintendents Association for awarding me the John Dean Scholarship. It is greatly appreciated. The money that I have been awarded will definitely help me on my college endeavors at the University of Akron where I will major in Psychology.

It is with great honor that I accept this award, for Mr. John Dean is a name that I have heard on numerous occasions throughout my household, especially when my parents speak about how they met and how Mr. Dean was instrumental in them being together. My parents have always spoken highly of him. I have had the pleasure to meet him and his family. Currently Mr. Dean's daughter Courtney is a Debutante committee member of the Mount Hermon Baptist Church where I am a Debutante in training. Courtney exemplifies the same great characteristics in which her father also had.

In the memory of John Dean and on behalf of my parents, I would like to say thank you again and that winning this scholarship means more to me than just being awarded an amount of money in order to help pay for my education. I feel incredibly special because I have won an award which was created in the honor of a great man. Not many people can say that they have known the person in which the scholarship was created in memory of but I can. Although I did not know him as well as my parents or some of you may have, I still had the opportunity to be in the presence of an amazing individual such as Mr. John Dean and that is a blessing in itself.

With tremendous gratitude,

MiEshia Parker

2012 OWSA Training Conference





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OWSA

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Ohio Wardens and Superintendents Association (OWSA) is a non profit organization that represents Wardens, Superintendents, and other top level prison administrators in Ohio. The primary purpose, interests and the concerns of the Association and its membership is to insure that the community is protected through incarceration and commitment of offenders and to carry out the mandate of the sentencing courts by providing safe, humane places for staff to work and for offenders to serve their sentences, insuring the protection of those basic civil rights guaranteed by the constitution.

Mark Your Calendar

NAAWS
Annual Training Conference
May 29-June 1, 2013

Columbus, Ohio

