

IN PURSUIT



The Official Communication of The Wisconsin State



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Conference Registration forms
can also be found on our
website at:
www.wicrimestoppers.org

Send Articles to:

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828 Center Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
Fax: 920-459-0205
Email: jwinter@ci.sheboygan.wi.us

President's Message by K. Scott Abrams, CPA, FHFMA

How Did I Get Here?

Can you think back to the last Olympics and the opening ceremonies? Even as you watched the event on television as all the athletes gather from around the world and circle around the track representing their various countries, a chill runs down your spine at the awe and inspiration surrounding the event. The athletes walk purposefully and with pride behind their national flag. They are not only representing themselves, but everyone in their country.

Now I know that I will never participate in the Olympics as an athlete. But I recently participated in a ceremony that gave me as much pride and honor as an Olympic athlete.

Recently, I was elected by the Crime Stoppers USA to serve as one of our three representatives on the Crime Stoppers International (CSI) board of directors. Even though I serve as the Treasurer for Crime Stoppers USA already, I was both honored and humbled to achieve this position. The CSI board of directors is comprised of 15 members whereby three members represent each of the five nation/regions around the world. To sit around the board table and look at the other members from around the world and knowing we are all working towards the same goal in combating crime in our communities is an incredible feeling.

The CSI annual meeting and training conference took place this past November in Bermuda. This small island put on a conference beyond description. Every Crime Stoppers representative in attendance was made to feel like an honored dignitary throughout the entire conference. The views from the hotel were breathtaking since every hotel room had a view of the ocean. There were a wide variety of topics discussed regarding Crime Stoppers around the world and all the conference speakers were superb.

To kick off the week of the conference, there was a spectacular opening ceremony. Due to its British influence, Bermuda invokes much pomp and circumstance in many of their activities. The CSI opening ceremony was no exception! I was honored to participate in the opening ceremony by representing our country. The two other CSI United States representatives were Elaine Cloyd, President of Crime Stoppers USA and Kevin Viney, a Crime Stopper USA board member at large, who is also a member of the Madison Area Crime Stoppers.

The USA flag was the first to enter the auditorium. It was exciting but with a little anxiety that we awaited our entrance. As our country and our names were announced to the audience, we made our entrance. I walked with purpose,

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Crime Doesn't Pay. . .
Solving It Does



We Want Your
Information,
Not Your Name!

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

I walked with pride. I was representing our country and that was representing you, all the other Crime Stoppers in the US. It wasn't the Olympics, but it had to be second best.

As I stepped up to the stage and took my place, I watched with awe as the other countries were introduced and honored in a similar fashion representing their countries as well. It was at that time that I reflected back; how did I get here? I have spent over 25 years on various boards, serving in numerous capacities in almost every imaginable position for Crime Stoppers organizations. And even though there is very hard and meaningful work involved, many long hours required and difficult issues to resolve, it is most gratifying to see that Crime Stoppers has, and is, making a difference around the world. I have received back many times more in gratification than what I have given. I am honored to serve as a Crime Stoppers board member and represent our country.

We have a unique opportunity next year as the Crime Stoppers International annual meeting and training conference is going to be hosted in a Midwestern city. The training conference is set to take place in Des Moines, Iowa on August 6 – 9, 2008. This will provide the opportunity to meet with over 19 different countries involved in Crime Stoppers from around the world. The proximity to our state should make it an easy access to participate in the 2008 CSI event. But if you're interested in attending, you best make your plans soon because the Iowa State Fair is taking place at about the same time and hotel rooms may go fast. Please visit the CSI website at www.c-s-i.org for more information on the conference and accommodations in Des Moines. Let's make sure Wisconsin is well represented next year at the 2008 CSI annual meeting and training conference!

From the Editor

By: John Winter

This message isn't so much from the editor but from all of us on the WSCS Board of Directors. We want to acknowledge all the hard working men and women that volunteer their time to promote crime stoppers in your local community and help make it a safer place. If it weren't for all the positive and dedicated members like yourself, the crime stopper philosophy would never get off the ground.

Volunteers are all special people that are willing to give and take nothing in return. This is the best example we can have during the season of sharing. So as we celebrate this holiday season, I can't think of a better time of year to say on behalf of the entire WSCS Board "Thank You" and we want to wish everyone a warm and safe Christmas and the best for the New Year!

Annual Dues Update

Hopefully everyone noticed that there was no dues request for 2007 from Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers. The reason for that was because of the changes made in the annual conference. One of the things the dues goes towards is the operation of the annual conference and since there was no conference in 2007, your annual dues was waived.

But soon you will be receiving dues notices for 2008. The dues amount will remain the same as previous years, \$50. We are very grateful that all the local boards are prompt in sending in their payments.

We hope to see as many crime stopper members from around the state at our annual conference on April 25 & 26, 2008.



We Need You



Are you dedicated to the philosophy of crime stoppers?

Do you want to help promote crime stoppers?

Would you like working with positive energetic people towards that goal?

Then consider joining the WSCS Board of Directors. Meetings are held approximately six times a year. Some meetings are through a tele-conference call, saving travel time.

Elections will be held at the April annual conference. If you are interested, please contact Beverly Ghiloni, 715-421-8709, email: bghiloni@co.wood.wi.us

WISCONSIN STATE CRIME STOPPERS CONFERENCE
Ho Chunk Casino & Conference Center – Baraboo, WI
“BACK TO THE BASICS”
APRIL 25 & 26, 2008

Conference Agenda

Friday, April 25, 2007

8:00am – 9:00am	Registration
9:00am – 9:30am	Welcome
9:30am – 12:00pm	Jean Block
12:00pm- 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm – 3:00pm	Jean Block
3:15pm – 4:30pm	Regional Break-Outs.
5:30pm – 6:30pm	Social Hour
6:30pm – ???	Banquet and Silent Auction

Saturday, April 26, 2007

7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast
8:00am – 9:00am	Jean Block
9:00am – 10:00am	Workshop Session One
10:00am – 12:00pm	Workshop Session Two
12:00pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch/Regional Break-Out Wrap-up Annual Meeting and 50/50 Raffle

Workshops

Quick 50
 Tip Taking
 Working with the Media
 Do's and Don't of Crime Stopper Programs

Auction Items Needed

The Wisconsin State Crime Stopper Board asks all member organizations attending the conference to please donate an appropriate auction item(s). We're asking for the value of the item(s) to be approximately \$100. Perhaps it is something that is unique to your city or county and that will help promote your hometown.

The sale of these items will assist WSCS with their continued sponsorship of future conferences.

WISCONSIN STATE CRIME STOPPERS CONFERENCE
Ho Chunk Casino & Conference Center – Baraboo, WI
“BACK TO THE BASICS”
APRIL 25 & 26, 2008

You are invited to attend the 17th Annual Training Conference hosted by the Wisconsin State Crime Stopper Board. This conference will be held at the Ho-Chunk Casino and Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells. The WSCS Board has coordinated speakers that will train attendees and provide information that can be used to improve individual programs and ensure their successes. We will again have the opportunities to network and see what is working for other programs.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Featured Speaker: Jean Block

Jean has served as executive director of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of New Mexico...as campaign director for the United Way of Central New Mexico, as program and development director for a hospital...and as staff, volunteer, Board member and officer for numerous local, regional and national nonprofits.

She has taught fundraising skills to staff and volunteers of nonprofit agencies and organizations for more than 20 years, and has been responsible for raising more than \$50 million. In addition, she helps nonprofits develop and strengthen their Boards. Her mission is to strengthen the base of support for America's worthwhile nonprofit agencies and organizations.

The WSCS board is excited to have Jean speak at our conference. She will be speaking at the conference about fundraising strategies and creating an effective Board of Directors for your Crime Stopper program.

Other Highlights:

- Regional Sessions
- Break Out Workshops include: Quick 50, Tip Taking, Working with the Media, and The Do's and Don'ts of Crime Stopper Programs.
- Annual Board Meeting and Election
- Friday evening banquet and silent auction.

WSCS Board asks that all member organizations attending donate an appropriate auction item. The sale of these items will benefit WSCS and assist with their continued sponsorship of future conferences.

With the central location plus all the activities that the Wisconsin Dells area has and a good price, we hope that those that were not able to attend the past couple years will be again be able to join us in 2008 to renew old friendships and acquaintances.

**WISCONSIN STATE CRIME STOPPERS CONFERENCE
 "BACK TO THE BASICS"
 APRIL 25 & 26, 2008**

WSCS 2008 Conference Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Crime Stopper Affiliate: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Conference Fees

	Prior to April 1st	After April 1st	Total
Full Conference Friday & Saturday Includes Friday Lunch and Banquet Saturday Breakfast and Lunch	\$130	\$145	\$ _____
Friday Conference Only Includes Friday Lunch and Banquet	\$70	\$80	\$ _____
Saturday Conference Only Includes Saturday Breakfast and Lunch	\$65	\$80	\$ _____
Guest Meals			
• Friday Lunch	\$17	---	\$ _____
• Banquet	\$27	---	\$ _____
• Saturday Breakfast	\$11	---	\$ _____
• Saturday Lunch	\$14	---	\$ _____

Make Checks Out to "Wisconsin State Crime Stoppers"

Mail registration and check to:
 Lieutenant Bob Berndt
 LaCrosse Area Crime Stoppers, Inc.
 400 LaCrosse, WI 54601
 Conference questions email to Lt. Berndt at: berndtr@cityoflacrosse.org

Hotel Reservations

Ho Chunk Casino and Conference Center
 S3214 Highway 12, Baraboo, WI 53913
 1-800-746-2486
 Reservations are the responsibility of the attendee.
 Reserve rooms under the Wisconsin State Crime Stopper Conference
 Rooms will be held until April 8, 2008 at the rate of \$65.00.
 Proof of tax exemption can be shown at check-in.

WISCONSIN STATE CRIME STOPPERS, INC.

WISCONSIN STATE CRIME STOPPERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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