

## Rapid City Career Center receives NASWA award

Reprinted from *The Workforce ATM*

The Mark Sanders Award recognizes a local office/one stop center that has demonstrated, during the previous calendar year, exceptional service to disabled veterans seeking employment assistance.

In 1997, this award was named in honor of Mark Sanders for his distinguished career with the California Employment Development Department and in ICESA (now NASWA) leadership positions. Mark was untiring in his efforts to promote excellence in services to disabled veterans.



This year's recipient is the South Dakota Career Center of Rapid City. The center is a full-service state employment agency with a staff of 40 (22 percent veterans), including a Veterans Employment Team consisting of three veterans program staff. Veterans and disabled veterans receive service from the entire Career Center staff.

The South Dakota Career Center of Rapid City was selected for the Mark Sanders Award for Exceptional Service to Disabled Veterans based on the following factors:

**Innovative Practices and Services:** The Rapid City staff developed work sites at several locations for disabled veterans participating in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Compensated Work Therapy Program. Staff assisted in planning and participated in the VA Homeless Veterans Stand-down on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation, working one-on-one with veterans having disability issues and connecting them with job information and training.

Staff conducted weekly on-site services to disabled veterans in the VA Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program in the VA office on the campus of the National American University and established a satellite center using a laptop computer and telephone modem for full services to approximately 500 VR&E disabled veterans in western South Dakota. The center provided Labor Market Information to entry-level VR&E participants, thereby enhancing successful program completion. The level and depth of cooperation with VR&E program services in western South Dakota was cited as a national model by USDOL Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS).

Facilitated computer training in basic operations and Internet use for non-computer-literate veterans was offered in several locations. Center staff organized and presented Disability Employment Services Workshops for several federal, state and community agencies, thereby improving disability awareness and agency cooperation. Staff also developed and facilitated on-site job search and life skills classes

**Veterans/Continued on page 4.**

## Chapter contest nominations due

Nominations are due Jan. 13 for the South Dakota Chapter Contest in the following IAWP award categories.

Nominations may be submitted online using the submission form available at [www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com), or may be submitted directly to the contact person listed for each award.

Members are encouraged to use the online submission form, which provides space for entering information related to the specific criteria on which each award will be judged.

When the form is completed and submitted online, the information will be sent electronically to the awards chair, and an e-mail acknowledgement will be returned to the sender.

### SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER CONTEST

**Citation Award** - individual

**Citation Award** - group

**International Development Award**

- individual/group

For information about the above awards, contact **Duke Goodell**.

**Specialized Customer Services Award** - individual

**Specialized Customer Services Award** - group

**Award of Merit** - individual

**Award of Merit** - group

For information about the above awards, contact **Denis Leise**.

**Services to Veterans Award** - individual

**Services to Veterans Award** - group

For information about the above awards, contact **Tom Meyer**.

**Retiree Award**

Please have nominations for Retiree Award to **Dennis Coull** by Jan. 11.



International Association of Workforce Professionals

# Messenger

November/December 2005  
Vol. 6, No. 4

### President

Rich Vincent  
Rich.Vincent@state.sd.us

### Communications Chair

Marcia Hultman  
Marcia.Hultman@state.sd.us

### Editor

Jane Husman  
Jane.Husman@state.sd.us  
hjane@nvc.net

### Webmaster

Brenda Luedtke  
bluedtke@clc.tie.net

*South Dakota IAWP Messenger* is published six times a year in May/June, July/August, September/October, November/December, January/February, and March/April. It is made available for viewing online at [www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com). Members who do not have Internet access may request a print copy from editor Jane Husman. All members and workforce development professionals are encouraged to submit news, letters to the editor, or content suggestions to editor Jane Husman. Submissions for publication are due by the Friday closest to the middle of May, July, September, November, January and March.

- ◀ E-mail to [hjane@nvc.net](mailto:hjane@nvc.net) or [Jane.Husman@state.sd.us](mailto:Jane.Husman@state.sd.us)
- ◀ Fax to Jane Husman at (605) 626-2617
- ◀ Mail to Jane Husman  
c/o UI Telephone Claims  
PO Box 4730, Aberdeen, SD 57402-4730
- ◀ Mail to Jane Husman  
2105 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401
- ◀ Phone inquiries/suggestions to (605) 626-2452 ext 4205 or to (605) 725-JANE

## A Message from the President

By Rich Vincent  
SD Chapter President



I hope everyone is doing well entering into our festive and busy holiday time of the year. Here at the Unemployment Insurance Call Center at the DOL in Aberdeen, we are experiencing a high volume of calls and claims. We try to maintain our sanity and get through some pretty hectic days.

The item that I would like to share with all my fellow IAWP members at this time deals with the solicitation for nominations for IAWP awards. The awards that we give out each year are found on our website at [www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com). There is further information on each award on the website for eligibility and criteria. The categories are: **Award of Merit** (for Individuals and Groups), **Citation Award** (for Individuals and Groups), **Professional Practices, Awards for Employee Performance, Retiree of the Year Award, Services to Veterans, Services to People With Disabilities Award, Administrator of the Year Award, and One-Stop Shop Award**. Brenda Luedtke has done a fantastic job putting information on the website with the criteria and nomination form to assist our members with awards information.

The nominations need to be in by Jan. 13, 2006. The IAWP awards cover the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2005. Some are for IAWP members and some are for nonmembers.

In addition to the annual recruitment of members putting in nominations for deserving recipients of these awards, there will also be a committee to submit chapter and individual IAWP nominations to IAWP International. The committee consists of Tom Meyer, Bonnie Zachman, Duke Goodell, Denis Leise, Jane Husman, and myself.

The committee will be traveling to Chamberlain at the end of January. Prior to and during this weekend in January, the committee will spend time preparing your nominations for submission to International by March 1, 2006. There are 10 categories designated as the Big 10, and five other categories for which we would like to submit nominations. Information on these awards can be found at <http://www.iawponline.org/>. At the website under members only there is an IAWP handbook. Chapter 5 discusses specific information on each award, who can be nominated, criteria for nominating, and information on how points are awarded.

The awards that we hand out at our statewide educational conference in Pierre in May will be those that have been submitted by our membership and/or the awards committee recommendations. I highly encourage everyone to take a look at the state and international websites to find the nomination forms and information to submit a nomination. The awards committee can't do the work alone; we need everyone's input to have a successful year of recognizing the hard work that our chapter does in promoting the missions of IAWP.

I am asking everyone to look around and submit deserving individuals for the IAWP awards. We **do** have deserving individuals who need and should be recognized for their hard work and efforts.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and joyous upcoming holiday season.

*Rich*

## Chapter members mourn passing of Duane Spriggs

Duane L. Spriggs passed away on Sunday Oct. 9, in Sioux Falls. He was 75 years of age at the time of his death.

Duane was born at Huron and moved to Sioux Falls with his family, where he was graduated from Cathedral High School. He attended South Dakota State University in Brookings and earned his bachelor's degree from Augustana College.

Duane sold insurance in Sioux Falls and in Houston, Texas, before settling in Sioux Falls.

He worked for the South Dakota Department of Labor from 1968-1978, working as an Interviewer II and a Labor Program Specialist.

During that time, he was actively involved with the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security (IAPES), serving as chapter president and district representative.

Duane enjoyed reading, talking and playing cards. Above all, he cherished his family and the time he was able to spend with them.

Duane was preceded in death by his parents.

## Northern Plains Sub Chapter rings in Christmas season

Northern Plains Sub Chapter members and non-member DOL volunteers helped raise money for the Salvation Army by ringing the bell Dec. 3 at one of the Salvation Army's collection sites in Aberdeen. This was the second consecutive year the sub chapter coordinated this community service effort.

The sub chapter also is serving as the planning committee for the 2005 DOL Christmas party in Aberdeen, scheduled for Dec. 16. The annual Christmas party is open to all Aberdeen DOL and BIT employees, retirees, and their guests.

## Education Update

By Duke Goodell  
SD Chapter Past President  
and Education Co-Chair



A proposal for the education program to be presented in spring 2006 has been turned in to the Department of Labor, anticipating final approval by the South Dakota DOL.

The program will focus on agency-specific training for new employees and current employees at the Employment Representative level.

An effort was made to develop a two-day training program to be held in conjunction with the 2006 South Dakota Chapter IAWP Educational Conference scheduled May 2-3 in Pierre. Following the initial training in May 2006, we hope to work collaboratively with DOL administration to develop future opportunities for continuing education.

It is hoped that this collaborative effort, over time, will allow us to develop training for competencies that are specific to our agency, career development, and expected changes at the federal and local levels.

In order for South Dakota Chapter IAWP to act as the paid provider offering this training, it was necessary to establish a 501 c 3 corporation which could accept money. The corporation will be called the South Dakota Workforce Professionals Corporation, and it will have the powers to accept and dispense funds for educational and related services.

The Articles of Corporation were scheduled to be filed before the end of November, anticipating approval as a state non-profit. We also expected to have the articles filed with the Internal Revenue Service by the end of November, and we anticipate it will take some time for the IRS to complete their part of our designation as a 501 c 3 corporation.

At this point we are confident that all parts of our efforts will go forward successfully. We thank International IAWP for their faith in our efforts. We also thank South Dakota DOL administration for their collaboration and supportive posture toward the South Dakota Chapter and International IAWP.

Have a great Holiday Season.

**Duke**

**Veterans/**Continued from page 1.  
for disabled veterans at VA facilities, Native American Reservations, and drug and alcohol detoxification centers. Federal Application Workshops for disabled veterans are offered twice yearly. The Career Center of Rapid City provides 4-5 work experience/work study positions each year to disabled veterans with emphasis on job coaching and skills evaluation.

**Rural Outreach Efforts:** The Career Center's veterans program staff is responsible for outreach to disabled veterans in the area of South Dakota west of the Missouri River, an area of 40,000 square miles which includes four Native American Reservations. The veterans program staff members are often referred to disabled veterans in rural areas and must travel over gravel or secondary roads to reach their homes. This often represents the initial service contact for many of these veterans.

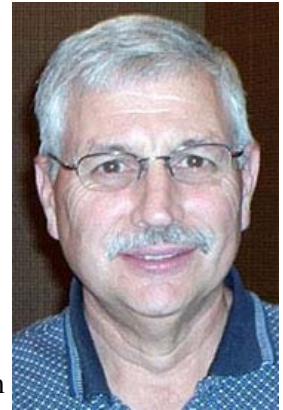
**Unique Multi-agency Approaches:** The Career Center of Rapid City had regular network contact with Federal, State, Tribal Government, education institutions, and community agencies to promote disability awareness and employment and training opportunities. Staff maintained active membership on many boards and committees and was involved with separating/retiring military personnel, both active duty and National Guard/Reserve members, who have disability issues through participation in the Ellsworth Air Force Base Transition Assistance Program (TAP) and the Disabled-TAP (D-TAP) programs. The Center's veterans program staff took the initiative in organizing and establishing a D-TAP program at Ellsworth.

Staff members also present monthly retirement and separation briefings, provide itinerant services and cover disability issues at the Ellsworth Family Support Center for over 50 military members monthly. Center staff participated in American Legion meetings to encourage awareness of disability issues and programs for returning combat veterans. Staff also participated in American Legion Benefits forums with emphasis on disabled veterans, for which they received recognition by the American Legion National Commander. Staff made presentations on disability issues, promoted disability awareness at job fairs, maintained itinerant employment sites for disabled veterans, and coordinated with the Veterans Upward Bound program in Nebraska to extend services to South Dakota, helping disabled veterans receive tutorial assistance in math and English at no cost.

**Noteworthy Accomplishments:** Rapid City Career Center received the 2004 awards from SD Chapter IAWP for outstanding service to veterans, and from Veterans of Foreign Wars for National Employer Service Office Award. The office is working closely with the Ellsworth Family Support Center to identify individuals being released from the military due to a current reduction in force.

## **A Challenge from the Awards Chair for a new fall tradition**

By Denis Leise  
SD Chapter Awards Chair



This is the time of the year we all get real busy with fall work and all the holiday things are just around the corner.

I see the fall as a chance to enjoy the great outdoors with a few hunting trips with my sons. It has been a Leise tradition to get together each fall and spend some quality time together. We reflect on how things have gone so far as to our hunting experiences.

My boys do a lot of bow hunting, so always have good stories to share whether antelope hunting in western South Dakota or whitetail deer hunting around southeast Nebraska.

That is kind of what I am hoping all IAWP members will do this fall. There are great stories to tell about our fellow co-workers and partners in our support agencies. Let's hear those stories.

While you are telling the story, put it into the form of a nomination for one of the award categories for IAWP. We have an excellent workforce, and we need to let others know what we do and how well we do it. Your nomination can lead to some real positive recognition for individuals and groups who have accomplished so much.

The awards committee is determined to get the word out. Take a look at the website. Both the state and national websites have lots of guidelines to make it easy to do the nomination.

One thing we have seen is how important documentation is in order to get recognition for what the nominees have done. I have been mentioning this in past letters to the newsletter. Ask co-workers for ideas or check with your managers for information.

The committee will work on the finer details of the nominations but we need YOU to get things started. Take the time to submit a nomination. I am not going into all the potential awards here as they will be detailed in other parts of this newsletter.

My goal is to get several nominations in all the areas. For that I need you to step to the plate and get it done. We have great stories to share about each other and our excellent work. Now take the time to JUST DO IT!

*Denis*

## Iowans participate in workforce development exchange

Contributed by Elsie A. Lewis  
Workforce Advisor & Business Services  
Iowa Workforce Development

Elsie Lewis believes the largest contribution made by Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) staffers during a fall visit to Nigeria was to underscore that Nigerians should entertain a new workforce philosophy — a philosophy in which people see themselves, not the government, as the primary creators of jobs and a strong economy in their country.

Elsie was one of three IWD staffers who traveled to the West African nation of Nigeria in October. Mike Lewis, her husband, also played a pivotal role in the group by providing a firsthand model for private entrepreneurship.

This visit was the third and last phase of a U.S. State Department-funded exchange. IWD's role was to provide Nigerians with technical assistance as they develop and evaluate their country's workforce initiatives.

Rounding out IWD'S group was Jeff Nall, the agency's policy and information division administrator, and Mike Witt of Region 9.

Bob Anderson of Iowa Resources for International Service (IRIS), Ames, also was an integral leader among the American visitors to Nigeria. IRIS is devoted to peace and cultural understanding among nations.

A second major theme emphasized by the Americans, said Elsie, was the team concept — teamwork in business, in building an economy, and in a dual religious culture. Nigerians, she said, are very self-reliant people whose outlook tends to emphasize individual effort. Both Anderson and the IWD team wanted to bring forward the team concept.

Elsie and Mike saw compelling contrasts in a country where the transition from agricultural to industrial/technological society is picking up speed, and it's all happening in a fledgling democracy.

They experienced consistent 110 degree heat, and saw budding computer cafes where no food is served — only access to computers. They noticed garden yams measuring a yard long, very appreciative people, and government guards with machine guns who appear regularly along the highways. No one, they noted, was allowed to photograph the latter. While Nigerians appear poised to create a middle class, Elsie said, the current structure reflects largely poor and rich.

All of these incredible contrasts and bursting developments, the couple noted, are within the exciting context of a population that created a constitution in 1999 and held a landmark national election in 2003.

Nigeria is the 7th largest producer of oil in the world and its other natural resources include fertile land, gold, diamonds, and natural gas. It is 60 percent Muslim and 40 percent Christian. The average life expectancy is 50. It is located on Africa's Atlantic shore and has 135 million people.

"The internet cafes are the newest and hottest link to the outside world for Nigerians," said Elsie. "We visited five or six different cafes. They were always crowded with

youth searching the web. The fees vary per café ranging from \$200-400 Naira per hour (about \$2.15 per hour). The cafes are individually owned and business is beginning to boom in this area. One downfall for the cafes is a lack of consistent electrical power. We visited a site where a team of Nigerians had purchased a piece of land and were in the process of installing a solar power system to open larger internet café. "

"Because almost 70 percent of Nigeria's labor force is engaged in agriculture," Elsie said, "many people will need new skills to sell themselves and support themselves in Nigeria's developing economy." The citizens the U.S. group met responded quickly to different insights, strategies and new opportunities, which bodes well for Nigeria, said the couple. The state of Taraba is developing a local Jalingo Employment House - a government program that largely mirrors that of IWD, said Elsie. The Employment House offers computer training, farming techniques and entrepreneurial approaches for independent business people. "Investment in workforce training and development is a critical need throughout Africa," she noted.

### Nominations due Jan. 13 for IAWP International Development Award - Individual/Group

The International Development Award recognizes an individual or group's outstanding commitments to and achievements in IAWP's international development.

An individual nominee must be a member of IAWP. If two or more individuals working on the same project are nominated as a group, at least 2/3 of those in the group must be members of IAWP. The activity or performance to be considered must have started, ended or been ongoing during the calendar year 2005.

An individual or group nominee should have significant achievements in one or more of the following areas:

**Advancing IAWP's Objectives** - The activities and accomplishments furthered IAWP and IAWP International Development objectives.

**Education** - Educational opportunities increased for non-US chapter members or perspective members. Or, US members or potential members were educated on IAWP International Development or international Workforce Development issues.

**Non-US Chapter Membership** - The activities or accomplishments caused a growth in a non-US chapter's membership.

**International IAWP Awareness** - International awareness of IAWP was increased through a formal presentation, using the IAWP ambassador program, to a non-US government or workforce development official(s).

**Continuity of Relationship/Activity** - Activities were part of a long-term relationship.

**Nomination form: [www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com)  
Contact: Duke Goodell**



## Notes from Retirees

By Dennis Coull  
SD Chapter Retiree Chair

It was good to hear from several retirees in the last few weeks.

**Ray Dorn** retired from DOL in 1983. (It doesn't seem that long ago, Ray!) For the next 10 years, he was the director of personnel and public relations for the Brookings Hospital/Brookview Manor. From 1993 to 2001, Ray was a self-employed consultant in the human resources field. And, in 2001, he retired for good. Yeah, right! He still serves on some boards in the Brookings community, works with

some service clubs, and still finds time to do some traveling and volunteer work. One of his volunteer organizations is the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) where he works with the county sheriff's department, putting a stop to crime in the county. He also has a partner in the crime stopping business: retiree **Larry Hult**, former manager of the Brookings Career Center. (And I'll bet you all thought the Dynamic Duo was Batman and Robin.) -DC

**Sandy Dosch** retired but it just doesn't seem that way to her. Maybe that is because she still works for DOL -- the United States DOL now -- and still works in the same building. For the past year, she has been a veterans' employment assistant, working for Earl Schultz with the USDOL. After 26 years with South Dakota DOL, she is looking forward to many years to come with the USDOL. Sandy's husband, Terry, has been teaching and coaching for 26 years, 21 of which have been with Roncalli Catholic School System in Aberdeen. They have two children, an 18-year-old daughter, and a 14-year-old son. Both attend Roncalli. Life is good in Aberdeen! -DC

## Nominations due Jan. 11 for Retiree of the Year

By Dennis Coull  
SD Chapter Retiree Chair

It is time for you to start putting together your nomination for Retiree of the Year for 2005. Do you know of a retiree whom you could nominate for this award? The Retiree Award recognizes continued outstanding commitment to IAWP objectives following retirement. The nominee should have achievements in one or more of the following areas:

1. Advancing IAWP objectives.
2. Education: activities that further IAWP educational opportunities.
3. Membership: furthering IAWP recruitment and retention.
4. Legislative: furthering the legislative efforts for workforce programs.
5. Communications within the organization.
6. Non-dues income: ways to increase funding.
7. Mentoring: working with other Chapter leaders.
8. Community: activities that further the member's local community.

All of the information you need to make a nomination is located on the state IAWP web page at [www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com). Or, I can send you the nomination forms if you are unable to do that via the web page.

Please get your nominations to me by Jan. 11, 2006. Give me a call or an e-mail if you have questions about these nominations, or if you would like some help putting the nomination together.

Thanks for your work with this.

**Dennis Coull**  
111 New York St  
Rapid City SD 57701  
(605) 355-3543  
[dennis.coull@state.sd.us](mailto:dennis.coull@state.sd.us)

It sounds like life is also good in Hot Springs. **Dorothy Kaiser** enjoyed her 57<sup>th</sup> class reunion and a family reunion this summer. Nothing like a good family reunion to discover that you have a second cousin living three blocks from you. Dorothy's oldest grandson Toby will be getting married in December and then moving to Arizona. So, you know what that means. That means both of Dorothy's children, her four grandkids, and her two great-grandkids will be home for Christmas and the wedding. Enjoy them while they are home Dorothy. What a blessing!

-DC

You know that you are about to become a senior adult when you walk with your head held high because you're trying to get used to your bi/trifocals. -DC

### More Notes.../

Continued on page 7.

## More Notes from Retirees/

Continued from Page 6.

And, speaking of Hot Springs, it sounds like **Connie Benson** has not had much to do this summer. That is if you don't count the camping, golfing, yard work, and care of the grandchildren. In fact, it sounds like Connie has figured out how to do the yard work. She turned that all over to hubby John. (Does he hire out to other homes in the Hills, Connie?) They spent a lot of time at Hart Ranch this summer, as John had federal jury duty obligations through August. They do miss their three grandchildren in California! That sounds like a trip will be planned for California soon. -DC

**Billy Febuary**, a.k.a. Mr. January, or Mr. Valentine, is also twice retired. First from South Dakota DOL, as manager of the Huron local office, and then from the California Workforce Council. Bill's wife, Carol, retired about a year ago, so that does give them a little more time for travel. However, Bill's hobby keeps him very busy. He does coin and currency appraisals. He gets quite a bit of that business, so it is hard to schedule travel. Bill is also still quite involved with his church. -DC

This column reported in the September newsletter that **Nadene Bamsey** had retired, and she and **Roger** planned to travel. Well, Nadene's travels now consist of the trip from her home to the Box Elder Job Corps Center and return. Nadene accepted a part-time position at the center, helping to place former enrollees into jobs. (Because that is a part-time job, it should not interfere too much with travel for them.) Now, that should be right up her ally, right? Congratulations on the new job, Nadene. -DC

**Marilyn Huntley** and hubby Roger just returned from a great fall trip to the east coast. It was a New England Fall Foliage History Tour. The bus tour took them through 21 states in 18 days. The tour included Herbert Hoover's home, Colonial Williamsburg, Shaker Village, Mount Vernon, Monticello; and, in Washington, D.C., the Arlington National Cemetery, the Smithsonian, Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, a tour of the Capitol building and many of the memorials. In Philadelphia they visited Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. In New York City, they visited Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty, Ground Zero, saw a Broadway Show and went to the top of the Empire State Building. (Marilyn didn't mention seeing King Kong there). They also visited Plymouth Rock, toured the Mayflower II and did a tour of the beautiful fall foliage in New England. They spent some time in Canada, saw Niagara Falls, and the Henry Ford Museum. Then returned home. They had a great trip. Although Marilyn didn't mention this, I would assume that they would have some pictures of where they went. It sounds like a great trip. Thanks, Marilyn. -DC

And then there is **Phyllis O'Conner**. Phyllis made the front cover and the feature story of the first issue of a new magazine in the Black Hills called *Black Hills Faces*. There is an excellent story about Phyllis in that magazine. That story and the accompanying pictures cover almost all of Phyllis's 93 years, including her 26 years working for South Dakota Job Service in Rapid City, and her activities in the 30-plus years since she "retired". She still remains a very active swimmer and tennis player.

Congratulations to Phyllis for her influence and her example in the Rapid City community! -DC

**Vi Salles** says hello from Hot Springs. Their summer was filled with granddaughter from Portland, Ore., camping and gardening. Granddaughter Emily kept busy with swimming lessons, volleyball and gymnastics. (She must have gotten her energy from Grandma Vi.) The garden was a masterpiece until a hailstorm on Aug. 10. Their home survived the hail, but the garden didn't. Vi and her family are enjoying good health, and are involved with bowling and their church. They enjoy life and take life as it comes. Like others have said, it sounds like life is good in Hot Springs. -DC

I just visited with **Paul Rehfuss** from Yankton. He and his wife have had a busy year. They moved to a different location in Yankton. Paul had some surgery last spring, with the follow up treatment after the surgery. (He missed the state IAWP conference in Watertown last spring as a result of that surgery.) He and his wife then had a trip to Minnesota, and were planning a trip to Washington, D.C., over the Thanksgiving holiday. He also mentioned that in March 2005, he and **Bob Titus** and Roger and **Marilyn Huntley** helped **Pete Hanson** celebrate his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday in Yankton. -DC

Thanks to each of you who took the time to write and let us know what is going on in your life. Keep in touch. Until next time. -DC

**Dennis Coull**  
(605) 355-3543  
dennis.coull@state.sd.us

# Nominations due Jan. 13 for these IAWP awards for members and non-members

## Citation Award - individual Citation Award - group

The IAWP Citation Award is one of the highest honors IAWP presents to individuals or groups to recognize those who made outstanding contributions to IAWP or to workforce development programs.

The nominees must be from a private sector or non-governmental nonprofit organization, and must not be employed by a workforce development entity. They may be members or non-members of IAWP.

Activities supporting the nomination must have occurred during the calendar year 2005.

One or more of the following achievements is required for the Citation Award:

**Promoting Legislation** - Performed outstanding work in promoting legislation to improve and strengthen workforce development programs, or for the welfare of workforce development personnel.

**Specialized Customer Services** - Displayed a great interest and performed outstanding services in specialized customer fields, including, but not limited to, vocational training, welfare-to-work, people with disabilities, unemployment insurance/compensation, and youth.

**Health and Working Conditions** - Demonstrated outstanding leadership in the improvement of health and working conditions for workers in general, or for those in workforce development programs.

**Professional Advancement** - Performed outstanding service in connection with an educational or related program directed toward professional advancement or improved professional competency of staff in workforce development programs.

**Community Awareness** - Performed outstanding work in encouraging either employers or potential customer groups to use workforce development services, thus enhancing the relationship between workforce development services providers and the community.

**Contact: Duke Goodell**

## Services to Veterans – individual Services to Veterans – group

To recognize those who have done the most to assist veterans and promote interest in their rights in the workplace.

To recognize an outstanding, innovative program of awareness and furthering of veterans' interests and rights in the workforce.

Any nominee for the individual award must be a veteran. Individual and group nominees may be either members or non-members of IAWP.

Any activities cited in support of the nomination must have occurred during the calendar year 2005.

One or more of the following achievements should apply to the Veterans Services Award nominees:

**Specialized Needs Awareness** - Successfully engaged audiences in a productive examination of the workforce development issues relevant to veterans to include TAP training and veterans employability skills workshops.

**Resource Promotion** - Performed outstanding work in encouraging either employers or potential client groups to use workforce development services, thus enhancing the relationship between workforce development providers and the community.

**Employment Opportunity** - Demonstrated leadership on issues or programs that had substantial impact on the improvement of working opportunities or working conditions for veterans.

**Customer Services/Outreach** - Demonstrated exceptional and outstanding services for the betterment of veterans groups including homeless veterans and special disabled veterans.

**Partnering** - Collaborated with veterans' service and/or other organizations to take action on critical issues concerning workforce development and veterans.

**Contact: Tom Meyer**

**For more information and online nomination form go to  
[www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com)**

## **Nominations due Jan. 13 for Award of Merit (members only) and Specialized Customer Services Award**

### **Award of Merit - individual Award of Merit - group**

The Award of Merit recognizes outstanding service or achievements, beyond normal expectations or job requirements, which benefit IAWP and the workforce development field.

An individual nominee must be a member of IAWP. At least 2/3 of any group being nominated must be members of IAWP.

The major part of the activity or performance supporting the nomination must have occurred during the calendar year 2005.

An individual or group nominee should have significant achievements in one or more of the following areas:

**Advancing IAWP's Objectives** - The nominee must have demonstrated accomplishments that resulted in advancing the objectives of IAWP. Accomplishments may be demonstrated by the results the individual or group achieved in the leadership role and/or positions (not restricted to chapters) such as board members, committees, forums, teams, special projects and initiatives. The accomplishments should be above and beyond the normal expected duties and accomplishments of the IAWP leadership position held.

#### **Promoting Workforce Development Programs or Initiatives -**

1. The results of the nominee's efforts to enhance the awareness, knowledge, skills, and/or performance of workforce development professionals (e.g., increased productivity; impact on performance; impact on research, development; advancement of workforce development theories; cost savings; etc.).

2. Leadership displayed in furthering the understanding and/or practice of workforce development programs or initiatives.

**Contact: Denis Leise**

### **Specialized Customer Services**

- individual

### **Specialized Customer Services**

- individual

To recognize an outstanding, innovative program of awareness, and further a specialized segment of the workforce, including, but not limited to, vocational rehabilitation, welfare-to-work, people with disabilities, and youth.

Nominees may be IAWP members or non-members. Activities supporting the nomination must have occurred during the calendar year 2005.

One or more of the following achievements is required for the Specialized Customer Services Award.

**Specialized Customer Services Awareness** - Successfully engaged audiences in a productive examination of the workforce development issues relevant to the customer needs.

**Resource Promotion** - Performed outstanding work in encouraging either employers or potential customer groups to use workforce development services, thus enhancing the relationship between workforce development providers and the community.

**Employment Opportunity** - Demonstrated outstanding leadership on issues or programs that had substantial impact on the improvement of working opportunities or working conditions for customer groups.

**Partnering** - Collaborated with an organization or appropriate audience to take action on critical issues concerning workforce development for customer groups.

**Customer Services** - Demonstrated exceptional devotion and performed outstanding services for the betterment of customer groups (including lifestyle services).

**Contact: Denis Leise**

**For more information  
and to complete online nomination form  
go to [www.iawp-sd.com](http://www.iawp-sd.com)**

# **President Hill urges IAWP members to support safe havens for victims of domestic violence**

By Thelma M. Hill

IAWP International President

Although it is important to educate an abused individual about changing long-term attitudes about domestic violence, finding a safe haven from the abuser is an immediate and lifesaving concern. There is, however, not enough room at the shelters across the United States to provide the safe haven being sought by the many individuals experiencing domestic abuse.

In most cases, when an abused individual finally leaves home and seeks a safe haven, she/he believes death is imminent or the lives of his/her children are endangered. Even though he/she does not know where will be his/her final destination, he or she leaves because there is no other reasonable and safe alternative. Many of the abused individuals arrive at havens only with the clothes on their backs. What anguish the operators of the havens must go through when they turn these most needy individuals away, because there is no available room.

Across the United States, as well as in other countries, the need for safe havens often surpasses the availability.

## **What can we as IAWP members do to help remedy this situation?**

- 1) We can financially support, in any amount, the existing safe havens in our communities, towns, cities or states. Such support may help the existing havens to expand to accommodate more domestic violence victims; or
- 2) We can advocate and financially support the plans to build additional safe havens in our communities, towns, cities or states. For example, in Raleigh, N.C., the completion of Heaven's Home is in need of advocacy and donations. Carrie E. Devine is the Executive Director of Heaven's Home, and she may be contacted at (919) 859-5552 or [cdevine803@aol.com](mailto:cdevine803@aol.com).

I encourage each and every IAWP member to find it in his/her heart to commit to eradicating the lack of safe havens for victims of domestic violence. In deciding to act now, please be guided by the following spiritual thought:

Luke presents Jesus returning to Nazareth where He had been reared. He enters the synagogue and reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah: "the spirit of the Lord is upon me ... sent to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives... release to prisoners... to announce a year of favor." Jesus would desire to release individuals held captive by the fear and shame resulting from abuse and violence. Would Jesus want a spouse or children to be held as prisoners in their own homes? How tragic that so many might be in need of liberty from acts of violence right in their own homes. What responsibility do we have to speak up and help bring such glad tidings to those in need?

*Thelma*