



SIWIB NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR BOARD MEMBERS ■ VOL. 4: ISSUE 7: SEPTEMBER 2008

SIWIB COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE

William Armstrong, Chair
e-mail: armstrong@mvn.net

Mary Roe, 1st Vice Chair
e-mail: maga7roe@yahoo.com

Rodney Cabaness, 2nd Vice Chair
e-mail: cabaness@aol.com

John Alongi, 3rd Vice Chair
e-mail: johnr@alongis.com

Michele Rheinecker, 4th Vice Chair
e-mail: michele.rheinecker@cooperindustries.com

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Milton Maxwell, Chair
e-mail: info@siwib.org

Kathy Lively, Vice Chair
e-mail: kathyactively@mantracon.org

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mary Roe, Chair
e-mail: maga7roe@yahoo.com

John Hammack, Vice Chair
hammack@midwest.net

ONE-STOP

Alan Summers, Chair
e-mail: alansummers@illinois.gov

Angela Holmes-Young, Vice Chair
e-mail: a-holmes@aisinil.com

WIA POLICY & PLANNING

Michele Rheinecker, Chair
e-mail: michele.rheinecker@cooperindustries.com

John Alongi, Vice Chair
e-mail: johnr@alongis.com

YOUTH COUNCIL

Tyler Young, Chair
e-mail: tyjr@midwest.net

June Hickey, Vice Chair
e-mail: jhickey@cchs165.jacksn.k12.il.us

Visit our Web site at
www.siwib.org

H.O.P.E Committee's Fourth Annual Bocce Tournament

BY STEPHANIE CASTELLANO

Man-Tra-Con Corporation serves hundreds of individuals every year in job search assistance, education and training. Although most all of our low-income and dislocated workers' needs are funded, emergency situations — *which are not covered by funding* — still arise. To assist our customers with emergency needs, Man-Tra-Con employees developed the Helping Our People with Emergencies (H.O.P.E.) fund.

Man-Tra-Con's H.O.P.E. Committee will be hosting the Fourth Annual Bocce Tournament on Sunday, October 26, 2008, at the Herrinfesta Bocce Courts in Herrin, Illinois. The tournament will include a raffle, a costume contest, local celebrity judges and concessions — *from 2:00 p.m. until the sun goes down!*

As a member of the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board, you have the opportunity to become a sponsor of the bocce tournament. You can sponsor this event in the following ways:

- Donating a prize to be raffled;
- \$100 to become a Corporate/Partner Bocce Court Sponsor — which includes signage inside the pavilion;

- \$100 to sponsor a team of four players to represent your business;
- \$500 Bocce Pavilion Sponsorship — which includes signage inside and outside of the pavilion, mentioned in all media relations, a team of four players and special recognition in the monthly newsletter.

Because so many individuals' lives are still being impacted by lay-offs and dislocation events, your sponsorship of this event will assist in our commitment to the workforce development of southern Illinois. All donations received go directly to the H.O.P.E. fund to help those in need. No staff costs are taken from the H.O.P.E. fund. All donations are tax deductible.

Please register your sponsorship by October 17, 2008. For further information or any other questions, please contact Stephanie Castellano, event coordinator, at 618-998-0970, extension 288. Thank you for your support and participation.

SIWIB News is sponsored by the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board and published monthly by Man-Tra-Con Corporation under a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) grant provided by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). This publication seeks to promote workforce development efforts in Local Workforce Area 25. Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For those who do not use traditional print this information is available electronically. For specific access information please contact (Voice) 618-998-9921, ext. 216, (TTY) 618-998-9602 or nataliecooper@mantracon.org. Please allow two weeks advanced notice for interpreter requests.

Message from Our Chairman...



WILLIAM ARMSTRONG

The SIWIB Annual Meeting was held on September 18, 2008, where we elected our Board Officers for the year. It has been an honor to serve as your Chairman! I greatly appreciate the trust and confidence you have shown me during my current and previous years of service.

I wish to express a very special "Thank You" to the Executive Committee (Mary Roe, Rodney Cabaness, John Alongi, Michele Rheinecker, Kathy Lively, Milton Maxwell, Alan Summers and Tyler Young Jr.) for their invaluable service and astute leadership. I also extend my congratulations to Mary Roe on her election as Board Chair. I know she will be an excellent Chair and will have an exciting term. I am happy to offer her any assistance I can provide in my new roll as First Vice Chair. I also extend my congratulations to John Alongi, who will serve as Second Vice Chair, to Jim McPhail, who will serve as Third Vice Chair and to Janice McConnaughy, who will serve as Fourth Vice Chair.

Thank you all for your commitment and leadership in serving the people of southern Illinois as SIWIB Board members.

I wish to congratulate Mark Kern and Leo Childers on their retirements: Mark retired from Rend Lake College and Leo retired from St. Mary's Good Samaritan.

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SIWIB COMMITTEE PROJECT OVERVIEW

Board Development Committee

The Board Development Committee met on Monday, August 25th in Du Quoin, Illinois. The committee discussed the Board recertification process and the recertification packet due in Springfield by October 1, 2008. Mr. Rex Cusumano has been nominated to replace Mr. Ed Beck from Jefferson County. Mr. Terance Henry was discussed as a possible nominee to replace Ms. Carole Spurling. Mr. Victor Harris had been nominated to replace Ms. Drake as the IDES representative. Rend Lake College will be contacted about a nomination to replace Mark Kern on the Board as the Carl Perkins representative.

The committee reviewed the September meeting agenda. The committee changed the starting time of the meeting from 5:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to allow more travel time to the meeting locations. The committee agreed the 5:30 p.m. starting time might permit greater attendance at the meetings.

After reviewing a draft of the annual meeting schedule, the committee deleted several conferences and the legislative reception from the schedule. The committee recommends not attending conferences until such time as adequate funding levels are determined to support sending Board members to the conferences again. The committee also authorized CEO Lively to attend any of the conferences she deems necessary and send whatever staff she felt necessary to the conferences, providing funds are available.

One-Stop Committee

The One-Stop Committee met on September 9, 2008, at the Marion Man-Tra-Con office. Natalie Cooper reported traffic has remained steady in the resource rooms. She also announced plans to merge the two offices in Du Quoin into one space in the Family

Opportunity Center. Karen Laws, with IDES, reported the Mt. Vernon resource room has remained busy particularly since all customers visiting the center to file unemployment claims go through the registration process for Illinois workNet.

Cindy Webb indicated 76 of the 81 partner staff registered to take the Certified Illinois workNet Advisor course have successfully completed the program. Roxanne Brewer-Coffey distributed draft documents for the 2008 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). A Consortium of Operators meeting was scheduled for September 15, 2008, to discuss verbiage and partner cost allocations. The final document is due October 15, 2008.

Penny Valentine, with IDES, announced the upcoming statewide Veterans' job fair on November 7, 2008. Man-Tra-Con will have representation in both Marion and Mt. Vernon on this date. Linda Cox, with RLC, announced the Southern Illinois Professional Development Center Conference to be held November 13-14, 2008, in Fairview Heights. Man-Tra-Con representatives will present at this event with focus directed towards career interest inventories.

The next One-Stop Committee meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. in Marion.

WIA Policy & Planning Committee

The WIA Policy & Planning Committee met on Tuesday, August 26, 2008, at the Man-Tra-Con Corporation office in Marion. The committee reviewed participant enrollments, the number of expected graduates and the most popular training programs. The committee was also informed of the incentive grant received based on performance from PY2006. The committee members were informed of upcoming changes, such

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WIA Policy & Planning Committee

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as, DCEO's policy regarding the application process for State Reserve funding (previously known as 1S). Major changes to this policy include: applications will not be allowed unless a dislocation event affects 250 or more workers (formerly 50 or more), no administrative dollars will be received, only a limited number of staff can be charged to the grant, and no facility costs can be charged to the grant. Due to these changes being implemented so quickly, Man-Tra-Con Corporation will be forced to implement a reduction in force within the next few months. Please visit www.SIWIB.org to review the complete minutes of the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2008, at the Marion Man-Tra-Con Corporation office. Phone conferencing will be available.

Youth Council

The Youth Council meeting was held on Wednesday, September 10, 2008, at the Man-Tra-Con Corporation office in Marion. The members were informed that Gina Wallace would not be returning to work. She will be greatly missed and we wish her well.

Members reviewed the contractor's reports, and enrollment numbers. Members also reviewed the PY07 performance measures and reviewed and set goals for the PY08 measures. The committee was informed that the PY07 Youth Earnings Change measure was not met. This measure no longer exists under the PY08 common measures so it is unclear how DCEO will respond. Please visit www.SIWIB.org to review the complete minutes of the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 8, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. in Marion. There will be a brief presentation of the Adult Ed program and how the youth providers can better utilize the existing GED services in our area. ■

Spotlight On...

BOARD MEMBER ANGELA HOLMES-YOUNG

Angela Holmes-Young is the Section Manager of Human Development at Aisin Mfg. Illinois, LLC. She was the first local hire by Aisin as they prepared for their company's start of production. She and her staff have been responsible for the hiring of over 700 employees since 2002. Angela has been with Aisin for over six years and has served in many capacities including human resources, safety, environmental and general administration. She currently manages several departments for Aisin including the Training group, Benefits Administration, Payroll and is responsible for all public and community relations.



PHOTO BY THERESA SMITH

Angela Holmes-Young

Angela is married and lives with her husband, Jack Young and their seven month old son, David, in Carterville. Angela is originally from Galva, Illinois but has made southern Illinois her home for over 10 years.

Angela is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Workforce Education and Development at Southern Illinois University – Carbondale. Angela serves the community on the Marion Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, REDCO's Advisory Board and the Southern Illinois Workforce Investment Board. Angela has volunteered her time and service to the community as a member of the SIWIB since August 2003. Angela currently serves as the Vice Chair of the One-Stop Committee. ■

Message from Our Chair

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I'm sure we all hope they will both enjoy their retirement to the fullest. Leo will continue to lend his wisdom and sage advice as a member of the Business and Economic Development Committee.

I thank Carole Spurling for her service as a business member of the Board. Carole has notified us of her resignation. Business and family demands no longer permit her the time to devote to the Board.

We have several new individuals to add to the Board: Rex Cusumano, owner of Cusumano & Sons, has been nominated as a business representative from Jefferson County — replacing Ed Beck; Terance Henry, owner of Southern Illinois Small Business Solutions, has been nominated as a business representative from Williamson County —



**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**

3000 W. DeYoung Street, Suite 800B
Marion, IL 62959

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Additional information about SIWIB initiatives and board members can be found on our web site at www.siwib.org.

Message from Our Chairman

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replacing Carole Spurling; Victor Harris, the Murphysboro IDES Office Manager, has been nominated as our Illinois Department of Employment Security partner representative — replacing Patricia Drake; and, Charley Holstein, the Interim President of Rend Lake College, has been nominated as our Carl Perkins partner representative — replacing Mark Kern. Let's welcome our new members!

Due to WIA rescissions recently incorporated into our Local Workforce Plan, recent changes in the definition of administrative costs, and Board Development Committee suggestions, a reduction in the cost of Board expenses has been recommended. I ask you to help our efforts to reduce expenses by printing your meeting materials, which are emailed to you prior to each meeting. Doing so will definitely aid in reducing administrative expenses! If you are unable to open or print any documents, please contact Bob Hopkins or your committee liaison for assistance. With the possible exception of the December meeting, future meetings will be conducted without a meal. Attendance at national, state and regional conferences will be rigorously curtailed as noted on the annual meeting schedule. In addition, due to the high cost of gasoline, telecommunications equipment for conference calling will be provided at most meetings for your convenience. Prior to meetings, please notify staff of your intent to participate by telephone.

Lastly, please remember to submit your mileage forms, as this is the end of the quarter. With the increase in gas prices our mileage rate increased to \$.58 per mile effective August 2, 2008.

The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) begins another round of Board recertification on October 1st. The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) requires the Board to undergo re-certification every two years. Thank you for completing the required forms. Your assistance as always is greatly appreciated! ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 8, 2008

Youth Council
4:00 p.m. at the
One-Stop Business
& Employment Center in
Marion, Illinois

OCTOBER 21, 2008

One-Stop Committee
8:00 a.m. at the
One-Stop Business
& Employment Center in
Marion, Illinois

OCTOBER 28, 2008

**WIA Policy & Planning
Committee**
4:30 p.m. at the
One-Stop Business
& Employment Center in
Marion, Illinois