



# THE INFORMER

*Celebrating Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week*

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## History of Probation

John Augustus, a Boston cobbler, is credited as the "Father of Probation." In 1841 he persuaded the Boston Police Court to release an adult drunkard into his custody rather than sending him to prison. His efforts at reforming his first charge were successful, and he soon convinced the court to release other offenders to his supervision.

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## DIRECTIONS



"Thinking Outside The Box", the theme for this year's Probation and Community Service Week is a testament to the creativeness we have demonstrated to keep our standards of excellence, our expectations high and our momentum forward. This has allowed us to think differently, unconventionally and with new perspectives to get the job done.

Through our supervision strategies, proactive intervention, and best practices, you have risen to the occasion without comprising public safety. This without a doubt is one of our shining moments. I am confident that each of you will meet the future challenges with the same approach, while continuing to "work the work".

Stop for a moment and think of the requirements for daily operations... You are driven by caseload size and management, offender needs, community initiatives and the desire to make a difference in the lives of those you serve. Despite dwindling resources, you have balanced your responsibility to hold offenders accountable while providing necessary support to encourage positive life changes to make them productive citizens.

You continued to build upon an idea that derived from modest beginning in 1841 which was the vision of John Augustus, the Father of Probation. Augustus played a vital role in the justice system through offering an alternative to prison which was the beginning of "second chances."

It is evident that then Governor J. Strom Thurmond agreed with this practice and in 1941 validated our existence by signing a letter of law creating our department and function. A copy of this signed letter was presented to all counties and sections in honor of Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week. As a proud member of the criminal justice system, you present the best of the best in your performance, professionalism, and persona. It is indeed my pleasure to dedicate this edition to you!



## How It All Began...

PPP Director Kela Thomas and Director of Special Operations Randy Bumgarner take a look at a copy of the letter signed by then Governor J. Storm Thurmond creating the Department as an entity.

**AIKEN COUNTY**

The Aiken staff celebrated the week by taking time out to enjoy a luncheon at Applebees, a local favorite of the staff.



**LANCASTER COUNTY**

Lancaster County spent the afternoon at Lake Wateree enjoying a shrimp boil and water sports. Here, Agents Jennifer Brice and Ed Lockhart hold on for dear life!



**ANDERSON COUNTY**

It was an afternoon delight for the Anderson County staff as they shared a potluck lunch.

*Celebrating PP&CS Week***RICHLAND COUNTY**

The Richland County staff spent a fun-filled day at Frankie's Fun Park.



They bowled, played laser tag, video games and Putt-Putt.

**BERKELEY COUNTY**

The Berkeley County luncheon was well attended as several agencies from the courthouse were there including two Circuit Court Judges and one family Court Judge.

**History Lesson—Probation**

Traces of probation date back to 437 B.C. However courts in the 1800s had been giving out sentences regardless of background of the defendant. Augustus coined the word "probation" which he derived from the Latin word "probare" which means to prove or to test. Augustus was an

active member of the Washington Total Abstinence Society, was concerned that poor drunks and offenders of petty crimes were receiving mandatory sentences that were not warranted by their backgrounds. He felt that first time offenders could best be rehabilitated if spared the crime hardening experience of a prison sentence.

In 1841, Augustus approached the Boston police court and persuaded them to let a "common drunkard" be left in his care instead of going to prison. The conditions were that a fine needed to be paid and the offender must return before the court in three weeks, the fine was levied at one cent plus court costs, which came to the total of \$3.76. After three weeks of being in Augustus' care, in which Augustus found him a job and made him sign a pledge to stop drinking, the offender and Augustus returned to astonish the court. The offender was completely sober and his appearance and demeanor had drastically improved. However, this first unofficial probation officer did not perform his altruistic work without controversy. His efforts actually were resisted by police, court clerks, and turnkeys who were paid only when offenders were incarcerated. Nonetheless, Augustus continued to "supervise" his offenders. He would select prospective probationers based on age, character and the people and places apt to influence them to make his decision. His practice assumed that most offenders were not dangerous and would respond well to treatment.

*Continued on Page 8*

## Social Networking and Its Impact on Probation and Parole

There are more than 750 million active users on Facebook.

Fifty Percent of active users log onto Facebook every day. The average user has 130 friends.

### Are Our Offenders Using Facebook?

An Associated Press story from Louisville, Kentucky reported that a Probation Officer did not have to look far to find an offender in violation. The offender posted pictures of himself drinking on his Facebook page. One of his conditions required him to remain alcohol-free. Before that, the offender had invited his probation officer to be his friend on Facebook. The offender is now serving two years for drug charges and the probation violation.

In September of 2010, Chester gang rivalries resulted in the shooting of four. Two died from their wounds. These shootings resulted in a joint investigation involving SLED, Chester Sheriff's Office and the Chester County PPP Office. Former Chester County AIC Katherine Moore aided with the investigation and provided intelligence gathered from supervising several of the suspects involved. Many of these suspects were found to have Facebook pages. Information gathered from Facebook revealed gang affiliation, alias's and names of associates. Six arrests were made in connection with the shootings. One of the suspects was on active supervision.

The most recent success story comes out of assisting the Richland County office with an investigation. A sex offender who was prohibited from using the internet was found to have an active Facebook page. When his wall page was examined it was determined that he had recent Facebook activity. There were pictures of him with his girlfriend, who is also on probation, and her minor children. He has been arrested and is awaiting a violation hearing.

Facebook investigations have also been conducted to assist with locating absconded offenders, offender gang activity and having prohibited contact with victims or minors. Some of these investigations have been aided by the use of an undercover Facebook identity. Not all of our offenders are as clueless as the Kentucky man who asked his Probation Officer to be his Facebook friend. They may be more likely to "friend" my Facebook account.

Most of our offenders are likely using Facebook for its intended purposes of keeping up with friends and family. There are some, however, that may be using it for more illicit purposes. How do we go about finding out what these offenders are up to?



Our ITSS section in its continuing endeavor to protect our network from viruses and unwanted intrusions has blocked social networking sites. I have been provided off-network access to assist the field with researching offenders' activities on the Internet and social networking sites. I have assisted in several investigations since being given access to these sites.

If you have reason to believe one of your offenders is using Facebook or one of the other social networking sites in violation of his conditions of supervision or in an effort to conduct further criminal activities please forward the information to me, Mitch Tucker, Program Coordinator, Sex Offender Management Programs.

*Submitted by Mitch Tucker, Field Programs*

### PP&CS Week at Central



The Central Office staff celebrated PP&CS Week with their annual Cans for Cones Ice Cream Social and Food Drive. Director Kela Thomas was on hand to enjoy the sweet treat while donating to Harvest Hope Food Bank.

*Celebrating PP&CS Week*



**SPARTANBURG COUNTY**

The Spartanburg staff enjoyed a buffet luncheon at the office, complete with sandwiches and delicious homemade desserts.

**GREENVILLE COUNTY**

The Greenville staff was joined by 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court Judge Robin Stilwell and Regional Director Robert Mitchell.



**HORRY COUNTY**

Horry County's outing was held at the Osaka Japanese Steak House on Monday. Tuesday, they had shrimp and grits with sliced tomatoes and Italian bread; Wednesday, pound cake and homemade ice-cream. Thursday, they feasted on homemade biscuits and sausage gravy. What a way to enjoy the week!



## Making A Difference

Charleston County Agent Jeff Rillorta was conducting a home visit when he was greeted by an elderly gentleman. Also at the residence were a woman and three small children. The home did not have any air conditioning or fans. On the day of the home visit, the heat index exceeded 100 degrees in Charleston. Agent Rillorta noticed the unbearable condition of the home and felt compelled to assist this family in need. He immediately went to a local retail store, purchased a fan for the family at his own expense, and returned to the home with the generous gift. As noted by the family, they were extremely appreciative and thankful for his kindness. Upon returning to the office, Agent Rillorta shared his experience with the offender's family. AIC Mitchell Ray expressed that the entire Charleston office is very proud of him, but not surprised by his actions. Agent Rillorta has been with the Department over ten years. His selfless act exemplifies the Department's vision of becoming a catalyst for positive change in the lives of our offenders. This holistic approach to supervision is to be applauded.

*Submitted by Assistant AIC Derek Brown*



## 2011 SC Criminal Justice Training Conference



### “Joining Forces for a Brighter Future”

**November 8-11, 2011**  
**Marriott at Grande Dunes**  
**Myrtle Beach, SC**  
**Register online at [scppa.net](http://scppa.net)**



*This year the South Carolina Correctional Association (SCCA), South Carolina Probation and Parole Association (SCPPA) and the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association (SCLEOA) have forged an alliance that promises to offer one of the most diverse, high-quality, and affordable professional criminal justice training conferences ever held in the state.*

*The conference will offer multiple professional training tracks focusing on the latest investigative techniques, information technology, correctional strategies, and evidenced-based practices. It will feature the profession's best exhibitors and vendors, a opening reception, an awards banquet, activities, door prizes, a silent auction, and many social events.*

## APPPA Training Institute



Over 500 community corrections professionals gathered for the American Probation and Parole Association's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Institute on July 24 - 27, 2011 in Chicago, Illinois. The Department was represented at the conference by Field Operations Program Coordinators Allison Avinger and Angie Salley.

The Institute provided a remarkable opportunity to learn about Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) that have been implemented nationwide. For the past year, the Field Programs section has been working diligently to research and contact other states to get information about the management of their programs. During the conference, we met some of the contacts made and networked with others.

The Institute presenters and practitioners discussed the importance of using EBP tools and gave the newest strategies in community corrections. Topics of discussion included initiatives to reduce recidivism, create more efficient work practices, and measure results effectively. "Collaboration" and "Community" were key contributing factors for the success of the programs and initiatives. In addition, the benefits of using social media were emphasized as a way to promote agency missions and increase community involvement and information sharing.

Of particular interest were the workshops involving implementation of motivational interviewing, changing from a Probation Officer (P.O.) to a Community Supervision Officer (C.S.O.), gang reentry strategies, automated reporting strategies, EBP initiatives, education and job skills programming, and morale and leadership. Other workshops included updates on alcohol monitoring and providing appropriate offender referral sources. The information from these workshops will be instrumental in developing training protocols for staff here at PPP.

The Resource Expo at the Institute contained over 60 vendors who presented their products, services and technologies in areas such as assessment tools, case management services, electronic supervision, offender payment services, automated reporting, and cognitive behavioral and treatment services. We saw demonstrations in automated reporting via telephone, kiosks, or web solutions. Easier options were demonstrated to pay through automation such as mobile app technology and local retail stores. Surveillance and monitoring device vendors were there to present the most updated technology in GPS, voice biometrics, and alcohol monitoring devices. We also viewed the multiple assessment tools, evidence based curriculum, and on-site drug testing devices.

The knowledge and materials (brochures, slideshows and training handouts) obtained from the Institute will enhance current supervision strategies and assist with creating new programs and initiatives that will increase the success of the offender. The Institute provided documented evidence that proves that the Department is on target and can make a difference and positive impact in offenders' lives.

Membership in a professional organization strengthens your professional as well as personal growth. We encourage you to become involved the many law enforcement organizations and participate in training opportunities whenever possible.

*Submitted by Allison Avinger and Angie Salley*

### 2011 Open Enrollment for Insurances

During the 2011 Open Enrollment, October 1-31, eligible employees may make any changes to their benefits, including health, dental and vision. Read all about your options in *The Insurance Advantage*, which you should receive around October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**EMPLOYEE INSURANCE  
PROGRAM**

## Food to Raise HDL Cholesterol



Cholesterol is a major risk for cardiovascular conditions such as stroke, heart disease and heart attack, reports the American Heart Association. However, not all cholesterol is created equal. Excessive amounts of low-density lipoprotein, or LDL, cholesterol can contribute to heart disease by developing deposits within arterial walls. According to John Hopkins School of Public Health, high-density lipoprotein, also known as HDL, cholesterol limits heart disease risk by preventing LDL buildup. HDL, known as "good" cholesterol, increases with the consumption of healthy foods.

### Niacin-Rich Foods

According to MayoClinic.com, niacin can improve HDL levels by up to 35 percent. Foods with beneficial amounts of niacin include poultry and lean meat. In addition to being rich in niacin, fatty fish, such as sardines, tuna, salmon and trout, as well as nuts, such as almonds, pecans and walnuts, are good sources of polyunsaturated fats, note researchers at John Hopkins University. Polyunsaturated fats are known to improve HDL levels.

### Healthy Fats

In addition to being found in nuts and fish, healthy fats are also in oils, such as soy, olive and canola. The American Heart Association explains that monounsaturated fats, also known as "good fats," help to elevate HDL levels and lower LDL levels. Besides raising HDL cholesterol levels and preventing the risk of cardiovascular diseases, polyunsaturated fats also provide body fuel for exercise, which contributes to weight loss and good health.

### Alcohol in Moderation

Much speculation has surrounded claims that drinking alcohol in moderation decreases risk of heart disease. The clinically known effect of alcohol is a small elevation in HDL cholesterol, states the American Heart Association. Harvard School of Public Health and MayoClinic.com report the benefits of moderate drinking at one glass daily for women and two for men. The health benefits of alcohol can also be found in grapes. Although a daily drink may raise HDL levels, it is best to consult with a physician when considering this choice.

Source: <http://www.livestrong.com/article/280912-food-to-raise-your-hdl-cholesterol-level/>

## History Lesson—Parole

*Continued from p. 3*

Although probation began in the United States in 1841, parole in the United States was not introduced until 1876 by Brockway Zebulon, an American who ran the Elmira penitentiary in New York. He adopted the parole philosophy as a way to reduce jail overcrowding and at the same time as a way to rehabilitate prisoners by encouraging them to win their way out of prison through good behavior. The development of the parole structure Zebulon used is attributed to Alexander Maconochie, head of a British prison off the coast of Australia. In March 1840, Maconochie took up duties as commandant of the penal settlement at Norfolk Island and applied his penal principles. Convicts were awarded 'marks' to encourage effort and thrift. Sentences were served in stages, each increasing in responsibility. Cruel punishments and degrading conditions were reduced, and convicts' sense of dignity was respected. Maconochie's two basic principles of penology were:

- ◆ as cruelty debases both the victim and society, punishment should not be vindictive but should aim at the reform of the convict to observe social constraints, and
- ◆ a convict's imprisonment should consist of task, not time sentences, with release depending on the performance of a measurable amount of labor.

Source: *American Probation and Parole Association*

## New Hires: July 2011

Melissa Downs  
Meredith Wise

Dorchester  
Aiken

## CODE

### Connecting Our Deployed Employees

By Jodi Gallman, Director  
Office of Executive Programs and Public Policy

Ricky and Tim are still on active duty and would love to hear from you. Let's take a moment and send them words of continued encouragement.

Ricky Padgett  
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Tim Williams  
[james.t.williams@usmc.mil](mailto:james.t.williams@usmc.mil)

Stay Connected

South Carolina  
Department of  
Probation, Parole and  
Pardon Services

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Office of Executive Programs  
Newsletter Editor*

Arnise N. Moultrie  
*Office of Executive Programs  
-Grants Management  
Newsletter Designer*

### AGENCY MISSION

To **prepare** offenders under our supervision toward becoming productive members of the community;

to **provide** assistance to the victims of crimes, the courts and the Parole Board; and

to **protect** public trust and safety.

### AGENCY MOTTO

PREPARE, PROVIDE AND PROTECT

## Mark Your Calendars for These Upcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month and throughout the year, the Department plays a vital role in the fight against addiction. We join voices to educate the public about addiction, steps to recovery and the importance of treatment. As we strive to continue to make a positive impact in the community, we celebrate those who are on the road to recovery.



### OCTOBER

Annually, SCDPPPS collaborates in the national thrust to raise awareness about the effects of domestic violence. The rights of victims must be protected while providing public safety. During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we recommit to ending violence in our homes, communities, state and country.

### NOVEMBER

The Department will participate with "Families Helping Families" campaign. This annual effort reaches out to families of limited resources to extend a helping hand. With our contributions, the holiday season for these families will be more enjoyable.



## PPP Book Nook

The PPP Book Nook is designed to bring you thought-provoking, inspiring, and motivating books that can encourage you to reach new heights in your professional and personal life. You are encouraged to submit books for review that we may share in future issues of *The Informer*. Enjoy!

### *The Ant and the Elephant: Leadership For the Self*

by Vince Poscente

*The Ant and the Elephant* is an entertaining parable to help you unleash the massive power of human potential. It's goal is to demonstrate how we can unite the powerful forces of conscious and subconscious thought to reach our peak performance levels as individuals and as leaders.

In this book, renowned business consultant, Vincent Poscente, weaves a clever parable around profound concepts that can have an immediate impact on your life and the lives of those around you. Using a mix of wit and wisdom, Poscente shows us how to focus on and redirect our subconscious mind in order to accomplish the goals we strive to achieve.

In order to explain the relationship between the conscious and sub-conscious mind in an entertaining fashion, Poscente uses the story of Adir the ant and Elgo the Elephant. The story itself is fun to read, and the wisdom he wishes to impart is woven into the story. There is a pause after each chapter, with bullet points to help you understand the principles covered within the chapter and realize how they apply to you and how they can transform your life. Using the lessons of Adir the ant, you will learn how to:

- ◆ Clarify your vision.
- ◆ Commit to cultivating positive dominant thoughts.
- ◆ Consistently focus on performance.
- ◆ Strengthen confidence.
- ◆ Control the response to any situation.

Although the story is simple and enjoyable reading, it stays in your mind and the concepts taught in the book, when applied, will change your life forever.

Source: Google Books, <http://books.google.com>