

# MEDI-SOTA NEWS



*A non-profit health care consortium in Southwest and Central Minnesota*

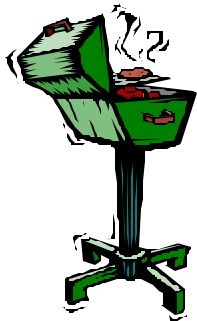
## **2003 Picnic/Planning Retreat**



*Rhonda Loberg and Paul Muraca, with Medi-Sota members and staff at 2003 planning retreat.*

The 2003 Medi-Sota picnic was held on May 21st at Star Lake, near Dent, MN. Many members, guests and sponsors attended the golf event at Thumper Pond Golf Course, with most gathering at George Gerlach's residence for a fine meal and networking to wind up the day. The annual, two-day planning session followed. Paul Muraca, of the American Hospital Association, made a return visit to provide the members with an update of that association's activities. The members also heard presentations from Dennis Miley and

Robin Klemek, from Tri-County Hospital in Wadena, MN. Robin, the Outreach Services Manager at Tri-County Hospital, addressed successful applications in the area of telemedicine. Mr. Miley, CEO at Tri-County Hospital, provided an administrator's perspective in the development of a telehealth network. Since telecommunications will continue to be a high priority in the coming year, these presentations were of great interest to those members in attendance. Rhonda Loberg returned to facilitate the planning session, which concluded on May 23rd. During this session members prepared a strategic work plan to guide the members through another successful year. Medi-Sota members will continue to strive to reach the identified goals and objectives in education, recruitment and retention, networking and member service, cost-savings, telecommunications and organizational development. Keep up the good work, members!



### **~2003 Picnic Sponsors~**

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Health Care Insurance Services  
Midwest Surgical Services



## MJSP (MN Job Skills Partnership) Grant Update

An extension to the grant period has made it possible for additional Medi-Sota students to participate in the rural healthcare supervision and leadership certificate program through the Minnesota West Community & Technical College, tuition free until December 31, 2003. This web-based, 19-credit program includes courses in employment practices, customer service, personnel supervision, leadership, legal compliance, finance, healthcare industry trends and marketing and is available to all employees of Medi-Sota healthcare facilities. Contact the education coordinator at your facility if you want more information regarding this program.

***Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your supervisory and leadership skills at no cost to you!***

## ***Staff Recruitment Corner... Michelle Falling, Staff Recruiter***



***"It's Never too Late to Pursue a Career in Healthcare."***

### **GREETINGS!**

*I hope you have a chance to enjoy the short MN summer season this year. I will be spending most of the season following up on new graduates in the area and further developing relationships with local and regional healthcare program Directors and setting up fall classroom and job fair visits. Now that I have developed a solid base of contacts, I hope to also spend more time on recruiting at the experienced level since we seem to have a number of department management openings among our members. Our web-based recruiting efforts have helped to increase the number of contacts and leads we are receiving across the board. I would encourage you to visit our website ([www.medi-sota.org](http://www.medi-sota.org)) to better understand what our job seekers see on their end. Click on the "Job Opportunities" button on the left and then click on "here" to conduct a search through our recruiters....You will then come to our recruiter-driven career center. This is where Mark and I receive a number of leads to follow up on and add to our growing database. You, as a member, can also access the "Employer Tools" section and enter new jobs that you would like us to fill through the site. All positions posted are sent out to hundreds of healthcare-related websites where job seekers can review positions and connect to our membership. Just a reminder, this is a free service to you unless the lead turns into a successful hire.*

*Also, I have recently completed a "Healthcare Careers" booklet that you should be starting to use as a recruiting tool to encourage your local High School students to consider a career in the profession, as well as attracting your local community members considering a career change. Members should have received an email from me with the booklet attached to a file. (If you did not receive it, and want a copy forwarded to your e-mail address, please contact me.) Print out several copies or save it in your hard drive so that you can easily copy and distribute the information to those you want to attract to the healthcare field. It contains a lot of useful information for those positions identified as shortage areas in the healthcare field. It's never too late to plant that seed!*

## Recruitment News By Mark Roisen

Greetings! Since our last update we have had a family practice physician candidate sign with one of our members! A second candidate, whom has interviewed at several locations, is also near signing. I have had an excellent response to the spring mailing. I am currently working with a very good group of 2<sup>nd</sup> year residents, available beginning February of 2004.

Every member participating in the physician recruitment program has received email updates with lists of these candidates. I have forwarded CVs on to many of our members and am working to schedule several site visits in July and August.

I redesigned the Opportunities Booklet cover for the new Spring/Summer update, which was ready for the MAFP Spring refresher. I also developed a packet of information that I include in a new glossy folder, which I mail out to all new prospective candidates. This new material is being well received and many candidates are also going to our web site to access links to individual member's home pages.

With the addition of our web postings and new/targeted direct mailings, we are beginning to see the pool of available candidates' increase in number. I hope everyone has a great summer!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments or to report changes on your community profile or



## Education Corner

by Carol Gerlach

Forty educational sessions have once again been offered during this fiscal year. Attendance at most of the sessions has been tremendous with attendance for the 2002-03 year surpassing 1200 students. Classes have been offered for physical therapy, occupational therapy, radiology, business office, dietary, housekeeping, laundry and maintenance, as well as the nursing staff. Three of the nursing workshops were offered for American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) credit. The approval of these 3 classes has started the application process to become a provider of ANCC approved classes.

The process of setting up classes for late summer and fall has started. The directors of nursing and the education coordinators have submitted ideas for the fall classes. As the other Medi-Sota ancillary groups meet, they are surveyed as well for workshop ideas that would benefit their work areas. In addition to nursing workshops, 12 workshops are scheduled for the ancillary departments each year.

Comprehensive Advanced Life Support (CALS) classes have continued to be offered both spring and fall. This year we will also be adding Advanced Life Support Obstetrics (ALSO). The first session of the ALSO class will be held in Marshall on August 25 & 26. For more information on these and other educational issues contact me at [education@medi-sota.org](mailto:education@medi-sota.org).

TRUSTEE CONFERENCE UPDATE .....The 2003 Trustee Conference was a huge success! Evaluations reflected a positive response to Dr. Zimmerman's programs, MHA participation and networking opportunities, as well as the accommodations and location. A special thank you to those sponsors not included in our December issue goes out to ***HomMed, Minnesota Elevator, Onvoy and Parallel Technologies, Inc.***

The following members were voted into office at the Annual Medi-Sota Meeting in February, 2003:

President: Frank Lawatsch, Benson  
Vice Pres.: Jim Schulte, Redwood Falls  
Secretary: Kirk Stensrud, Hendricks  
Treasurer: Mark Paulson, Appleton



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## Current Membership

Appleton Municipal Hospital and Home  
Sibley Medical Center, Arlington  
Swift-County Benson Hospital  
Sioux Valley Canby Campus  
Johnson Memorial Health Services, Dawson  
Glencoe Regional Health Services  
Graceville Health Center  
Granite Falls Municipal Hospital and Manor  
Hendricks Community Hospital & Home  
Divine Providence Health Center, Ivanhoe  
Meeker County Memorial Hospital, Litchfield  
Madelia Community Hospital  
Madison Lutheran Home, Inc.  
Weiner Memorial Medical Center, Marshall  
Chippewa County-Montevideo Hospital  
Renville County Hospital, Olivia  
Ortonville Area Health Services  
Paynesville Area Health Care Systems  
Pipestone County Medical Center  
Redwood Area Hospital  
Murray County Memorial Hospital, Slayton  
Sleepy Eye Municipal Hospital  
Tracy Area Medical Services  
Tyler Healthcare Center



## **Medi-Sota Meeting Schedule**

*(Second Half 2003)*

July 30 Home Health Care Mgrs.  
July 30 Dietary Managers  
Aug. 6 Medi-Sota Board Meeting  
Aug. 6 Lab Mgrs.-Quarterly Meeting  
Aug. 13 Education Coord., Litchfield  
Sept. 3 Medi-Sota Board Meeting  
Sept. 3 Nursing Administrators  
Sept. 9 Occupational/Physical Therapists  
Sept. 24 Business Office Managers  
Sept. 24 Billing Department  
Oct. 1 Medi-Sota Board Meeting  
Oct. 29 Medical Records  
Oct. 29 HomeCare Managers  
Nov. 5 Medi-Sota Board Meeting  
Nov. 5 Nursing Administrators  
Nov. 5 Lab Mgrs.-Quarterly Meeting  
Nov. 12 Education Coord., Willmar  
Dec. 3 Medi-Sota Board Meeting