



2006; the Year in Review — Focus on Members

The AJA History Committee will have a record to document when it reflects back on 2006 at AJA. This was the year that AJA had three executive directors—fortunately, not at the same time. AJA's former Executive Director, Steve Ingley, retired from AJA after 18 years on the staff; 14 of which were at the helm. But AJA did not miss a beat in pressing on to support our members.

This is because long-time AJA employee, Sheryl Ebersole, was appointed as Interim Executive Director. She performed masterfully during the nearly six months that she served in this capacity while the AJA Search Committee and Board sought to hire a new executive director.

After an intense national search and interview process, the board offered the position to me, and I was honored to accept. Having spent the previous 20 years making a career in corrections-related member associations, I was excited to bring to AJA my passion for serving the professionals working in this field.

In the months since my first day at AJA, I have come to appreciate even more what a truly amazing team we have working daily to support your needs as AJA members! The staff, board of directors, trainers, regional seminar and conference hosts, committee members and many other volunteers have allowed me the luxury of being able to explore the internal and external operations and climate

of AJA with confidence. It was clear very early on that AJA is a well-established organization with an infrastructure extending across the country that can sustain our mission throughout intense transition.

AJA's vision statement is *Supporting Individuals Working in Our Nation's Jails*. If you have been a member of AJA for any length of time, I am confident that you are already experiencing this in action.

For those of you who may not be familiar with AJA, our association strives to work with

all jails, and in the community, to band together all those concerned with or interested in the care of persons awaiting trial, serving sentences, or otherwise locally confined, to improve the conditions and systems under which such persons are detained.

AJA is committed to the values of safety, integrity, security, humane treatment, and industry professionalism. These values are embedded in our training and certification programs for jail personnel. We are dedicated to furthering the

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Assets—2006	
Current Assets	
Cash	\$ 245,973
Cash—Designated by Board for Scholarships	4,454
Investments	457,502
Accounts Receivable	256,032
Prepaid Expenses	42,318
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,006,279
Property and Equipment	
Land	\$ 143,813
Building and Improvements	\$ 970,497
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 255,934
Vehicles	\$ 33,450
	\$ 1,403,694
Accumulated Depreciation	(342,241)
	\$ 1,061,453
Other Assets	
Loan Origination Costs	\$ 33,077
Total Assets	\$ 2,100,809
Liabilities and Net Assets—2006	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 32,969
Deferred Revenue	\$ 371,126
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	\$ 14,733
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 418,828
Long-Term Debt, Less Current Maturities	\$ 679,274
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,098,102
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$ 1,002,707
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,100,809

► Executive Director's Remarks

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interests of our membership for the betterment of society.

AJA takes its responsibility seriously as the national voice and leader for jail personnel. In fact, in updating the Association's Strategic Plan in late 2006, the board of directors rated enhancing AJA's legislative program as its top priority among the 15 key strategic objectives.

Additionally, the board places extremely high priority on focusing our efforts on being a customer-driven member service organization. In the coming months and years, AJA will be

engaging current and potential members in identifying, developing and enhancing our member services. In the meantime, please know that AJA is solidly positioned to carry forward into the future on your behalf.

I will close by sharing with you the results of AJA's annual independent audit. The firm of Smith, Elliott, Kearns & Company concluded its 2006 year-end audit of AJA's books and review of our operations. For the fifth consecutive year, they gave AJA a clean bill of health and had no recommendations to offer as to changes in

operations or accounting policies. A summary of the balance sheet figures are provided for your review here.

GWYN SMITH-INGLEY
Executive Director
American Jail Association