



Missouri Addiction Counselors Association

## The MACA Newsletter

July 2020

### President's Corner

### Spring Conference

By Tracy Sovar, President

Hello Everyone, we sure missed seeing everyone in April. We are still looking into the October Conference, how we might have it. We are researching hybrid virtual conference and just virtual. The board will be meeting via Zoom on August 14th to make a decision. I pray everyone is safe and staying strong!

If you have any questions, would like to volunteer to help with a committee, please contact me any time, either email, phone or in person! Any suggestions, comments or ideas are wanted and appreciated!

Kelly will be resigning her position as executive secretary, we are sad to see her go! Good luck in Grad school Kelly and with the new business!

The executive secretary position we will need resumes sent to [maca@socket.net](mailto:maca@socket.net) At this time it will be a voluntary position. Requirements are knowledge of computers windows programs, word, spreadsheet, quickbooks, good communication skills, along with being a member of MACA in good standing for 2 years!

We are also losing our vendor Representative Stephen George at the end of the year. This position will be open to those that maybe interested. You must be a member in good standing to be on the board for 2 years!

Also the executive board elections will be coming up in October you will be receiving nominations ballots via email. If you have changed your email or prefer US Postal Service Mail please email [maca@socket.net](mailto:maca@socket.net) to let us know any changes!

I hope to get to see you all soon! Remember our 50th anniversary of MACA this coming year 2021!

My 50th birthday is this year, September 1st!!!!

Thank you for being a member and renewing those memberships during these hard times! MACA appreciates you!

It is my hope that we will send put a consent contact to everyone soon as possible after the August 14th meeting and let you know what to expect for October 2020 Fall Conference!

Respectfully your President,

Tracy Sovar, CRADC  
573-533-0598  
[tsovarmadac@gmail.com](mailto:tsovarmadac@gmail.com)  
[Maca@socket.net](mailto:Maca@socket.net)

## Conference Committee Update

By Charles T. Maguire

**Came to believe! This past June I realized that 39 year ago, when I was at my lowest point in life that God reached out to me and said I need you. I need you to be a beacon of light and help show others how to escape the dark world of addiction. As I became sober and began my journey of recovery and I sought out others in recovery as mentors and met some wonderful people who gave their time to me and helped me learn how to help others. I was lead to work at a treatment center in Springfield Missouri in 1983...and worked, went to school and studied to hone my skills and in October of 1988 became a Certified Addiction Counselor. I left that treatment center in 1990 as their Director and started my own company working with the Courts and helping address addiction issues in the Criminal Justice field, often an area were the clients are somewhat resistant.**

**Over the years I have worked to pass on my knowledge to others through training sessions on how to prepare for certification (which has changed greatly over the years) and provide personal guidance to those new in the field and also contributing to the Certification Board my services as an Ethics Investigator. I have been part of positive changes within the Court system in getting the Courts to motivate defendants to recovery. As my time starts to come to a close, I can honestly look back and say with some certainty that I have answered God's calling for me and I pray that those who are new in their career in the field of addiction that some find the same calling and dedication that I found to be so rewarding. Invest in your field, invest in your co-workers and invest in others who share your passion. Finally get involved, the first step is a simple as joining MACA and be willing to learn and willing to give.**

Sincerely,

**Charles T. Maguire  
Conference Committee Chairperson**

**In Memory Of**  
By Lavern Blackorby

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**I'm Very Happy to announce that there has been not deaths reported to me at this point. With all that is going on in everyone's life at this time we don't need any additional issues in our lives.**

**I do want to extend to all MACA members as well attendees to share with your friends and peers, if you know of any birth's, weddings or wedding anniversary, sobriety anniversary, graduation, or death of a member of the counseling friends and family, or any other hard working member of the counseling field, please let either Tracy Sovar or myself know and we will share it with all in the next quarterly newsletter.**

**I would like to also take just a moment to thank all of you all who were planning on attended the Spring Conference, and a very special thanks to the presenters, and our sponsors. It was with a lot of sadness that we were forced to cancel the Spring conference, but it with the greatest concern for each and everyone's safety and well-being that we made the choice to put every ones heath safety first. To all those who were planning on attending I hope to see you in October. Providing we are able to have the conference and Not put anyone at risk, of contracting the disease.**

**Please keep in mind that you are the reason we are able to and why we have these conferences. MACA has strived from our conception going on 49 years ago to provide an affordable, educational, and fun learning experience for all who attend. I would encourage each of you to bring a friend or co worker with you to the Fall Conference which may be held October 9, 10 & 11, 2020 at the Inn at Grand Glaze Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. PRVIDING there is improvement in the disease and the control /management of it so we can hold the conference**

**We will put postings up once the decision is made about the Fall Conference. If we are unable to hold it I will try to get a posting up as soon as possible announcing the next conference dates.**

**If you have problems getting signed up for the conference or need information please feel free to contact MACA Office at (417) 554-1412 or email [maca@socket.net](mailto:maca@socket.net), Web: [missouriaddictioncounselors.org](http://missouriaddictioncounselors.org) or Tracy Sovar at (573) 533-0598. Hope to see you all at the Fall Conference. Lavern Blackorby CRAADC, SQP-R MACA Newsletter**

**Hope to see you all at the Spring Conference.  
Lavern Blackorby CRAADC, SQP-R  
MACA Newsletter**

## **You Are Invited to Send in Articles**

Individuals wishing to write and have their article posted in the MACA newsletter are welcome to send your article to myself [lblackorby@pfh.org](mailto:lblackorby@pfh.org) and cc the same article to Tracy Sovar at [maca@socket.net](mailto:maca@socket.net). We also welcome articles on Wellness relating to physical and or Mental Health issues. All articles will need to be submitted prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month ending the quarter. All articles will be considered and screened for appropriateness.

Thank you,  
Lavern Blackorby



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## **SMART START: CONNECTION**

**News, products, and really useful information**

### **2019 Review: Several States Passed Stronger Ignition Interlock Laws**

New Jersey and Kentucky were two of the biggest success stories for passing tougher Ignition Interlock Device laws last year.

Several states - including Idaho, Oklahoma and Texas - also made major strides. This year's goals are even more ambitious. Here's how it affects you.

**[Tell Me More](#)**



**Client Portal Helps Your  
Clients Manage Costs**

We want to make life as simple as possible for your DUI clients. Our exclusive Client Portal makes it easy for them to track their IID accounts.

Available online or as an app, it's a convenient way for clients to make payments, update account info, and access FAQs and training.

[\*\*See Client Portal\*\*](#)



## **Kentucky TV Station Trusts Smart Start**

Starting in July, first-time DUI offenders in Kentucky can use an IID to shorten their license suspensions.

WLEX-TV in Lexington chose Smart Start to explain how an IID works, and how the new law will affect DUI offenders.

[\*\*Watch  
the  
Video\*\*](#)