



Minnesota Wireless Connection

The official newsletter for the Minnesota State Wireless Association

Volume One, Issue Two
4th Quarter 2009

MNSWA 1st Annual Golf Tournament July 2009

The first annual MNSWA golf tournament at Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids, Minnesota was a driving success this past July with approximately 107 registered golfers and several more attendees of the luncheon following golf. The event was a scramble-style tournament with prizes and sponsor giveaways at several holes. No one was able to claim the big prize at the \$5,000 hole-in-one, but several

golfers walked away happy with a slew of prizes at the luncheon, including a Wii

gaming set, golf clubs, golf bags and several other prizes.

A networking happy hour was held the night before at Majors Sports Bar and Grill in Bloomington. About 60 members of MNSWA attended the event. See more photos on page two.



The Buell Consulting team swings away at Bunker Hills Golf Course

Inside this issue:

PCIA at the American Planning Association conference –Minneapolis	2
Regulatory Updates	3
MNSWA Mission Statement	4
MNSWA Holiday Party	4

MNSWA donates \$5,000 to Second Harvest Heartland from proceeds of its First Annual Golf Tournament.

For a second time since MNSWA was formed, a large donation to Second Harvest Heartland (SHH) has been delivered. MNSWA President, Mark Holm, presented a check for \$5,000 to Carla Johnson of SHH in October from proceeds of the 1st Annual Golf Tournament. According to Ms. Johnson, the timing of this donation couldn't be better due to food needs of people during the upcoming holiday season, and the ongoing stress on families due to the lingering economic recession. SHH is the largest food bank operation in



MNSWA President Mark Holm presents a check to Second Harvest's Carla Johnson

the state of Minnesota and the 4th largest in the Feeding America organization nationwide. SHH has delivered over 49 million pounds of food over the past

year. Their goal for next year is 55 million pounds, with the hope to achieve 100 million pounds in the next decade. One of the achievements of SHH is their efficiency of donated funds. Of every dollar donated to SHH, 94 cents goes directly to operations, and only 6 cents used for management and marketing. The SHH mission is "Ending Hunger through Community Partnerships", a lofty, but crucial goal. In addition to providing meals directly to people in need, SHH is also working on educating those in need of the various charitable and government based programs avail-

(Continued on page 2)

MNSWA 1st Annual Golf Tournament and Networking event



Rachel Arkema and Mike O'Rourke heading to the next hole.



Lindsey Johnson, Shawna Grieger and Jessica Thompson of Vertical Limit offering up snacks and beverages to golfers.



Elizabeth Erbes of Central States Towers watches over the Hole-in-One prize



Kari Nelson, Anne Deeb, Mary Julius and Cora Kalukuta from Verizon at the MNSWA happy hour



John Landwehr, Ross Royer, Mike Bultsma and Chris Mallon at the MNSWA happy hour



Larry Louk, Mike Owens and Trevor Wood from SSC along with Mike O'Rourke from Clearwire at the MNSWA happy hour

APA Conference Draws 4,300 Municipal Planners to Minnesota

PCIA Advocates Collocation by Right

Last April, Minneapolis played host to the annual conference of the American Planning Association (APA). The APA represents the professional planning community through advocacy and education. They focus on a variety of issues ranging from land use and public works to housing and "green" initiatives. This year's conference attracted 4,300 planners. Representatives of PCIA – The Wireless Infrastructure Association were also there in force as part of their overarching strategy to connect with intergovernmental groups and promote balanced approaches to land use controls governing wireless telecommunications facilities.

The municipal planners are an important constituency for PCIA and others concerned with the planning, deployment, and management of wireless networks

and the underlying enabling infrastructure. Typically, planners are members of a municipality's professional staff and have varying degrees of influence over the policies, process, and regulatory instruments (i.e., zoning ordinances) that govern the deployment of wireless facilities. Planners review and evaluate applications then make recommendations to the elected body. Their recommendations usually weigh heavily in the board's decision to approve individual applications. Their input can also serve as an important determinant in the board's decision to revise ordinances or impose other measures, such as moratoria.

As an exhibitor at this year's APA Show, PCIA had the opportunity to interact with many of the delegates, promoting PCIA's model ordinance (www.pcia.com) and

encouraging the adoption of a by-right regime for collocation. PCIA also offered its assistance and that of local state wireless associations during master plan or ordinance

(Continued on page 4)

Second Harvest Heartland

(Continued from page 1)

able to them to meet all of their meal needs. Based on research completed in 2007, SHH believes there is a gap of 12% of the meal assistance needed in Minnesota (or about 125 million meals). SHH is trying to close this gap.

A Big Thanks again to all of our

GOLD Sponsors:

- American Tower
- General Dynamics
- MN Tower
- Pinnacle Engineering
- T-Mobile Towers

SILVER Sponsors:

- Buell Consulting
- Primus
- Selective Site Consultants
- WT Engineering

BRONZE Sponsors:

- Black & Veatch
- Hall Institute
- Howard R. Green
- Insite
- Terra
- Terracon Consultants, Inc.
- Ulteig
- Vertical Limits

Current Regulatory Notes

- The City of Lake Elmo lifted their moratorium, and adopted a new Wireless Telecommunication ordinance in November. The new ordinance provides for new communication towers up to 150 feet in height if certain newly-outlined requirements are met. Collocation on existing towers and rooftops are encouraged, and are permitted through administrative review.
- The City of Crystal amended their wireless telecommunications ordinance placing new restrictions on the types of properties allowed for placement of wireless communication towers along with new setback requirements. The primary change related to tower siting is the elimination of public parks as possible locations.
- The City of Minnetonka amended their wireless

MNSWA Officers and Directors:

- * President: Mark Holm
- * Vice President: Michael O'Rourke
- * Treasurer: Jason Hall
- * Secretary: Mitch Sadoff
- * Director: Laura Halpenny
- * Director: Bill Buell
- * Director: Kari Nelson
- * Director: Bill Ogilvie

MNSWA Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs:

- * Membership: Elizabeth Erbes
Rob Menees
- * Public Relations: Steve Carlson
Peter Burke
- * Regulatory: Aaron Evans
- * Education: Rob Menees
Max Thompson
- * Event Planning: Amy Dresch
Pat Conlin

telecommunications ordinance to simplify the zoning process for antenna collocations on existing towers, rooftops and other existing structures. Such collocations meeting certain design requirements can now be approved via administrative review, avoiding a lengthy public hearing process.

- The City of Arden Hills amended their Antenna code in August placing a

maximum tower height at 75 feet in any district, and establishing a priority list of acceptable districts for tower siting.

- Please contact us at info@mnstatewireless.org if you know of any current municipality considering modifying its zoning code in this regard.



Minnesota Wireless Connection
Volume 1, Issue 2

Send submissions to:
Steve Carlson
steve@carlsonharrington.com

We reserve full editorial control copyright over all submissions. Submission is not a guarantee that material will be printed.



Check in at www.mnstatewireless.org/Events.htm for updates to any upcoming MNSWA events

MNSWA Mission Statement

The Minnesota State Wireless Association is a nonprofit business association comprised of members from all sectors of the wireless industry whose objective is the promotion and advancement of the industry by means of education, awareness and charitable giving. Our mission is to be a helpful source of balanced advice and information for anyone working on matters impacting the wireless industry in Minnesota. We are a unified voice in state and local legislative matters affecting the wireless industry. We also promote positive community awareness about the vital role that wireless networks play in society today.

Find us on the Web at:
www.mnstatewireless.org
Send queries to:
info@mnstatewireless.org

MNSWA Annual Holiday Event January 21st

MNSWA will be hosting the first annual Holiday Party on January 21st, 2010. Kick off the new year with a great social outing at Dave and Busters Restaurant in Maple Grove, MN (located at 11780 Fountains Way). The event kicks off with cocktails and appetizers at 5:30PM, with a Pool Tournament starting at 6:00PM.

Visit the MNSWA web site to register and for any updates to the event at: www.mnstatewireless.org.

APA Conference

(Continued from page 2)

revisions. In fact, one delegate from Virginia was so impressed with the work of PCIA and the state wireless associations that he decided to join the Virginia Wireless Association's regulatory committee!

This year, the topic that invited the most commentary at the PCIA booth was the broadband component of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) economic stimulus bill. At the time, the two federal agencies responsible for issuing and managing the

funds were hard at work developing the funding rules. Not surprisingly, this process spawned much speculation and debate. It will be interesting to see how the conversation has evolved during the next APA annual conference, scheduled for April 2010 in New Orleans.

PCIA - The Wireless Infrastructure Association is the principal U.S. trade association representing the companies that make up the wireless telecommunications infrastructure industry. Its members include the carriers, network providers, tower companies, site managers, and professional services firms that enable and support the industry.