

News & Views

July 2012

Volume 8, Issue 1

Coming Up

- August 17 — MEE closed for annual consumer/staff awards picnic.
- September 3 — MEE closed for Labor Day.
- September 28 — MEE closed for staff training.

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Board names new director Joesten hired to lead organization

MALCOLM EATON Enterprises' Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Chief Financial Officer Craig Joesten assumed the additional responsibilities of Executive Director on July 18.

"The Board of Directors is excited about hiring a CFO/ Executive Director of Craig's caliber and expects to see Craig and the management team working to identify new opportunities for the organization," said Bobbi Dykstra, Board of Directors President.

Joesten replaces Interim Executive Director Tom Klemm, who resigned July 17. The board wishes Tom well and thanks him for his



New Executive Director/CFO Craig Joesten takes a break in his office at MALCOLM EATON Enterprises.

contributions to the organization.

Joesten's goals are twofold. First and foremost, he is focused on ensuring that MALCOLM EATON continues to provide the best possible service to our consumers. That has always been our priority and Craig shares that vision. Second, he is determined to improve the organization's

financial strength. Signs of growth in the latter area are starting to show already with state receivables at their lowest levels in years. He is committed to seeing MALCOLM EATON Enterprises succeed and grow.

Tim Cook, manufacturing manager, also has new responsibilities. He has been named

SEE BOARD PAGE 3

A fresh look at operations

What's best, finances now focus of MEE

To say I haven't been busy since starting at MALCOLM EATON Enterprises on May 28 is an understatement of epic proportions.

Although I had worked with city government and for-profit businesses, I had not previously been employed in the true not-for-profit sector and was eager to put my skills to use for an organization that I had long admired but admittedly was not overly familiar with. Talk about a crash course!

The staff and board members at MALCOLM EATON have graciously answered my questions and the steep learning curve gets markedly gentler daily. I now grasp the programs and the talented management team is there for support when needed.

By early July, the accounting department had already completed



It All Adds Up
Craig Joesten

the budget for next year and I had undertaken an exhaustive review of the organization's finances. The results pointed to one major conclusion: MALCOLM EATON must increase revenue while continuing to provide the quality services to our consumers for which we are known.

We were completing a strategy document that outlined a new direction for the organization when the interim director departed. When I was asked to assume the role of executive director as well as CFO, I accepted knowing we have a challenge ahead of us but it is a task that we can complete.

All of us at MALCOLM EATON are embracing a new, fresh way of operating the organization that melds care of the consumers first and foremost with business operations. What does that mean? Expect to see:

- Re-examination of processes used to serve our consumers. If we can do it better, we will.
- Continued investments in our buildings and transportation systems. We recently renovated two consumer restrooms and bought a vehicle to transport consumers.
- Focus on generating income from new areas such as grants and increased production revenue.

We are excited about all of these items and much more. For instance, MALCOLM [SEE FRESH LOOK PAGE 3](#)

Fresh look at operations

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EATON is seeing improvements in its financial picture. Our fiscal year started July 1 with our lines of credit at the lowest level in years. Plus, state receivables were at their lowest amount in a few years, which means that we are finally receiving more money from the state of

Illinois in a month than we are billing to them! That is a huge achievement!!! Don't get me wrong, the state still owes us \$1.1 million and we will prosper despite that. Stay tuned.



May and June were busy also at MALCOLM EATON

due to our largest fund-raisers, the Pork Chop Dinner & Car Show and Golf 'N Games. Thank you to all who attended and sponsored these highly successful events this year! The dinner and show produced record proceeds while Golf 'N Games featured record numbers of Chicken Little Drop tickets sold.

Board hires director

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Programs/Production Manager and will direct all programmatic, manufacturing and transportation operations of the organization. This includes the Developmental Training,



Cook

Community Employment and residential programs. Jason Withrow and Brian Babcock will continue to

directly manage their respective programs with Tim's oversight plus we will be seeking a manufacturing coordinator to assume Tim's current duties.

Joesten, who joined MALCOLM EATON

Enterprises in late May, had formerly served as finance director for the City of Freeport. He spent a good deal of his career in the surety and insurance industries. In addition, he teaches several accounting, finance and business classes at Columbia College in Freeport and Crystal Lake and has served as an instructor at several other schools. He holds a master's of business administration degree in finance/accounting from Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio, and bachelor's of science degrees from the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio, and Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. Cook has worked for

MALCOLM EATON for more than 20 years, serving in many capacities ranging from providing administrative and clinical support for several vocational services to being responsible for the organizations's manufacturing operations and transportation systems. Cook holds a bachelor of arts degree in sociology, with a minor in art education from Winona State University in Winona, MN. He also began his master's studies at DePaul University in Chicago and has finished the first two years of the program, earning a Community Rehabilitation Program Administration Certificate of Completion.



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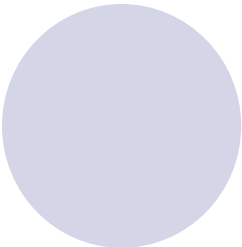
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Record number of campers enroll at XXSC

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A record 18 youth are attending Xtreme Xpeditions Summer Camp this year. The camp, sponsored by MALCOLM EATON Enterprises in collaboration with Freeport School District 145, is for youth ages 12 to 21 with disabilities.

The teens meet at Freeport High School and have been journeying to the SportsPlex as time and weather permits for outdoor activities.

“We have been trying

to replicate a traditional summer camp experience,” said Paula Schedler, camp coordinator.

Thanks to a grant from the Freeport Community Foundation’s Youth Advisory Council, the campers traveled to the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in Dubuque, Iowa, the Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home & Visitors Center in Dixon and the Burpee Museum of Natural History in Rockford.

The youth also have participated in a variety of activities including swimming, scrapbooking, and trips to the fair, a dairy farm and the Freeport Fire Department.

New this year was a cookout for families, campers and staff that started the season in June. Camp ends in early August.

Schedler thanked several donors and many parents who have provided supplies for camp. A full camp wish list is at www.malcolmeaton.org.