Call for 2013 Conference Committee Members

MGS is pleased that Chris Morrisette (St. Croix Hospice) has agreed to be the 2013 MGS Conference Chair, and Jessica Waks (Bluestone Physician Services) will be the Co-Chair for 2013. They have organized a joint meeting of the 2012 and 2013 Committees to hear the summary of the 2012 evaluations, to debrief about the 2012 Conference outcomes, and then to begin the planning for the 2013 Conference. The meeting will be Tuesday, July 24th at 9:00 am at Ecumen Home Office, 3530 Lexington Avenue North, Shoreview, MN 55126. We hope you will be able to attend for this important meeting. Please RSVP to Lyn Schroeder at mgs@mngero.org or by telephone at 952 829 5937 ext 3.

Kids and Aging: Minnesota’s first ©LEGO© Robotics League

MGS and High Tech Kids are joining forces to support the FIRST ©LEGO© Robotics League of Minnesota in its 2012-2013 theme of “Senior Solutions”. Students aged 9 to 14 years will research the field of aging and develop innovative solutions to keep seniors independent, engaged and connected. With High Tech Kids (www.hightechkids.org ), the Minnesota Gerontological Society will be organizing workshops this fall in the Twin Cities metro area, in Duluth and in Rochester. We invite you to be part of a panel in one of the workshops, and/or to provide the venue for a workshop. We are looking for 10-15 people willing to help. The 2012 workshops will be designed to get the students to think about the aging process and the challenges which seniors face as they age. They will work in their teams to develop innovative solutions that will improve the quality of life for seniors. The workshops will also highlight interesting and exciting careers in the aging field, opening windows on opportunities as they think about their future careers. Contact ecarlson@mngero.org for more information.

MGS/MAGEC Webinar – What’s Different about LGBT Aging?

Wednesday, August 8, Noon – 1:00

Whether you know it or not, LGBT elders are probably part of your client census. Learn about the unique issues facing this population, and how these impact their willingness to seek out services with Marsha Berry, trainer for Training to Serve. This session will outline issues of LGBT aging, increase service provider awareness about the diversity of sexual orientations and gender identities among their senior clients, and identify actions you can take to make your practice, and organization, more LGBT culturally competent.
**LGBT Aging Symposium**  
Friday, October 5  
MGS is partnering with Greater Twin Cities United Way, PFund Foundation, Training to Serve, GLBT Generations, OutFront Minnesota, and the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging to hold a research symposium on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender aging. Dr. Karen Fredericksen-Goldsen from Washington University and Dr. Brian de Vries from UCSF will provide an overview of two monumental national studies on LGBT aging. In early 2012, 700 people responded to a local LGBT needs assessment survey which asked questions about LGBT status, utilization and perception of aging services, and caregiving roles. This study replicated one conducted 10 years ago. Results of this study will also be presented. More information will be sent to MGS members as it becomes available.

**The Aging Network – Helping Older Adults Live Well at Home Today Webinar**  
Tuesday, July 24, 12 Noon – 1:00  
This webinar will describe the services and roles of Minnesota's seven Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) and their local service networks that help older adults recover from acute illness, manage chronic conditions and prevent injurious falls. The webinar will highlight Area Agencies’ experience developing evidence-based chronic disease management services and will feature lessons learned in the Return to Community Program where Community Living Specialists assist seniors to successfully transition home following a nursing home stay. It will also include an overview of the Senior LinkAge Line® services with examples that highlight assistance to older adults and family caregivers following hospitalization, and some new partnerships with health care providers. Register online at [http://bit.ly/RARE072412](http://bit.ly/RARE072412) by July 19, 2012.

**MGS Board Member Rajean Moone selected as Health and Aging Policy Fellow**  
MGS Board Member Rajean Moone, Ph.D. was selected as a 2012-2013 Health and Aging Policy Fellow. The Health and Aging Policy Fellows Program is a unique opportunity for professionals in health and aging to receive the experience and skills necessary to make a positive contribution to the development and implementation of health policies that affect older Americans. The program is directed by Harold Alan Pincus, MD, Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University (in collaboration with the American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship Program) and made possible by support of The Atlantic Philanthropies. Rajean’s project is to investigate the complexities and interconnectedness of aging service funding from public and private sources. Currently Rajean manages the Maximizing Independence goal at Greater Twin Cities United Way and provides independent consultation in aging and disability services.

**New Structures for New Times: Leadership for a Strong Nonprofit Sector**  
Tuesday, July 31, 2012 from 7:15 AM to 12:00 Noon  
Minneapolis Hilton  
Join Greater Twin Cities United Way for a free leadership conference on strategies to maintain our strong nonprofit sector in the challenging decade ahead, in view of declining government funds and increasing need. This conference will include the release of a new study by MAP for Nonprofits and Wilder Research on success factors in nonprofit mergers; a panel discussion by nonprofits and business leaders; and breakout sessions on restructuring strategies that may help to sustain the work of nonprofits in our communities. Register at [http://uwjulyforum-eivtefrnd.eventbrite.com/](http://uwjulyforum-eivtefrnd.eventbrite.com/)
**Culture, Health and Aging: Working with Diverse Adults - A new online course for Fall 2012!**

A new 3-credit class focus on culturally competent care of diverse older adults. Students gain foundational understanding of cultural and health trends of older adults, and develop their own understanding of the importance of culturally competent and effective work with diverse older populations. This course will count toward the Aging Studies Certificate and the Gerontology minor. Instructor: Hee Yun Lee is an associate professor at the University of Minnesota School of Social Work, as well as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. For more information about the course, contact Dr. Lee at: hylee@umn.edu

**Report on How Prepared State and Local Workers are for Retirement**

Boston College’s Center for Retirement Research tested the hypothesis that state-local workers have more than sufficient money for retirement. The report shows that households with long-career state-local employees fall short of the target replacement rate of 80 percent of pre-retirement earnings. The author suggests that this is because employees who leave state-local employment claim an immediate benefit. The report claims that most households with a state-local worker contain a person employed in the private sector, which offers considerably lower replacement rates. View the full report at http://www.globalaging.org/pension/us/2011/how%20prepared.pdf

**National Association of Area Agencies on Aging report highlights state-level data about AAAs**

n4a released individual state reports highlighting data from the 2010 Annual AAA Survey that assesses the evolving role of the Aging Network in a balanced long-term care system. These reports are intended to be one source of information for benchmarking and strategic planning for the Aging Network. n4a is currently conducting a mini-survey on AAA connections to the healthcare community. View Minnesota’s report at http://www.scripps.muohio.edu/sites/scripps.muohio.edu/files/documents/State%20Report_Minnesota_Sep.pdf

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The Minnesota Gerontological Society (MGS) offers this free Bulletin to its members. To submit items contact mgs@mngero.org. Inclusion in the newsletter does not necessarily mean endorsement by MGS staff or Board. MGS’ Bulletin is compiled by Rajean P. Moone, PHD and edited by MGS staff Lyn Schroeder and Elaine Carlson.