



## AMC Leadership and Research/Development Committee

Redesign      Skill Development      Leadership

---

Wednesday, June 29, 2011: 1:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday, February 11, 2011: 7:45 a.m. – 11:45 p.m.  
AMC Board Room – [125 Charles Avenue](#), St. Paul, Minnesota  
Facilitators: Toni Smith and Kim Boyce

---

## AGENDA

### Wednesday, June 29 - 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm

- 1:00 p.m.**      **Welcome/Introductions** – *Futures Co-Chairs: Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson and Renville County Recorder Gail Miller*
- 1:15 p.m.**      **“REALLY Understanding MAGIC Act and What it Would Mean in County Government”**  
Learning and discussing MAGIC options with county government staff/leaders: Tim Houle, Crow Wing Co. Administrator; Nathan Burkett, Todd Co. Administrator; Tim Walsh, Scott Co. Community Services Director; and moderator: Joe Mathews, AMC Policy Analyst
- REDESIGN SEGMENT**
- Leaders in county government have been talking a lot about MAGIC but if you were asked to explain what it was and how it would work in counties, could you do it? Panel members will make MAGIC come to life and FUTURES members will be able to articulate the potential of this legislation.
  - The group will also discuss the possible role AMC and FUTURES may have in assisting counties/regional efforts in reviewing their business plans for change?
- 3:15 p.m.**      **Break**
- 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**      **“Core Elements of Critical Thinking” - Kim Boyce**  
In order to be thinking effectively and critical, it is important to practice some core elements that are aligned with critical thinking.
- SKILL DEVELOPMENT SEGMENT**
- Kim will discuss the eight elements of how to critically assess something being presented by a speaker or writer. Ideally one would apply all eight elements when assessing something presented for consideration or action.
- 4:30 -5:00 p.m.**      **“FUTURES” – Creating Sustainability**  
Review the appointment process, leadership roles, topic selection and financial sustainability. Committee input on these items for further discussion by AMC board of directors.

5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

Light Dinner

5:45 p.m.

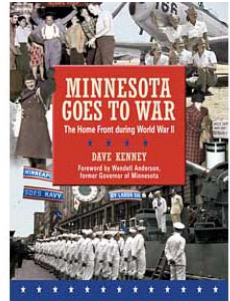
“MINNESOTA GOES TO WAR” – Dave Kenney

**LEADERSHIP  
SEGMENT**



We are excited to have Dave Kenney, a freelance Minnesota writer who specializes in Minnesota history, as the evening speaker at FUTURES. Dave through commentary and photos will share the leadership story Minnesotans experienced during World War II on the home front in communities throughout the state.

With original research including photographs, letters, and interviews with veterans and their families, Dave Kenney honors Minnesotans who faced war with equal amounts of determination and dread, courage and fear, in places as far away as the Pacific and Europe and as close as our hometowns.



**Book Review of Mr. Kenney’s book, “Minnesota Goes to War” from Senator McCarthy:**

"World War II was a war that the American people willingly accepted, dedicated themselves to, at home and on the front, and celebrated together its end. In his book, Mr. Kenney has captured this spirit as it was embraced by the people of Minnesota."

--U.S. Senator Eugene McCarthy

**We will be doing a random drawing for two of Mr. Kenney’s books after his presentation so make sure you make arrangements to stay until the end of the program.**

7:30 p.m.

Adjourn

**Thursday, June 30 - 7:45 a.m. -11:45 a.m.**

7:45 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m.

**Welcome - Futures Co-Chairs: Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson and Renville County Recorder Gail Miller**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

**“CaringBridge: Entrepreneurism and Innovation” - Sona Mehring – CaringBridge Founder**



We know many of you have used the CaringBridge website with family and friends. At FUTURES programs we are continually seeking examples of innovation and we are excited to have Sona Mehring, founder of CaringBridge, share her story. This is a wonderful example of using entrepreneurial spirit to help families throughout the world. Below is an excerpt written by Ariel Schwartz, Fast Company website, giving you a glimpse of Ms. Mehring’s background.

*“Before there was Facebook, MySpace, or Tumblr, there was [CaringBridge](#), an online community that serves up free, easy-to-create websites for people dealing with health crises. CaringBridge was created in 1997 after friends of founder and computer scientist Sona Mehring had a premature baby.*

*“They asked me to call everyone. Instead I created a website,” she says. For the first five years, CaringBridge was just a side project for Mehring, who was a webpage designer by trade. But eventually the site started growing fast enough that Mehring decided to make it her main career. Now the site, which allows users to create patient care journals, guestbooks, and photo galleries, has more than 7 million registered users. The whole thing is free -- Mehring runs it as a nonprofit and solicits charitable donations. “It has been a very strong financial model,” she says.*

*Next up for Mehring: integrating the site with Facebook and other social networks, and “ensuring that we’re early adopters of technology.” Considering her track record, that shouldn’t be difficult. —[Ariel Schwartz](#)*

9:30 – 9:40 a.m.

Break

9:40 a.m.

“Transitioning from County Commissioner to State Legislator”



Senator Gary Dahms



Representative Kurt Daudt (*Invited*)

A freshman Senator and freshman Representative, who served as county commissioners in Redwood and Isanti Counties, will share their perspective on transitioning from county government to state government policy development. Both Senator Gary Dahms and Representative Kurt Daudt, served in the majority party and were very active in supporting county legislative initiatives.

10:45 a.m.

**UPDATE ON MINNESOTA REDESIGN EFFORTS** – *Ryan O’Connor and Patricia Coldwell, AMC Policy Analysts*

Learn more about how Minnesota REDESIGN efforts are moving forward. Hear about feedback from presentations in other states on Minnesota’s redesign efforts—questions, observations, common challenges.

11:15 a.m.

**AMC Board Strategic Planning**

Input from FUTURES members on the key areas that will be discussed at the 2011 AMC Board of Directors strategic planning workshop in August. The input will be used as part of the data gathering for the planning seminar.

12:00 p.m.

**Adjourn – Lunch on Your Own**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FALL FUTURES MEETING**  
**Thursday and Friday, November 3 and 4, 2011**  
**AMC**  
**125 Charles Avenue, St. Paul, MN**