

Official Newsletter of the Rochester Chapter* International Association of Administrative Professionals

Upcoming Events:

June 11, 2009—Bingo!

Location: Flamingo Bingo
Highway 52 N

Program: Early Bird Games: 6:30
Regular Bingo : 7:00

End-of-year Social

Rochester Fest Parade

Meeting Location TBD

6:15 pm Parade

2008-2009 Chapter Officers

President

Laura Zacharda-Jones CPS/CAP

President Elect

Michele Altman

Secretary

Brenda Longman

Treasurer

Naomi Goll

2nd Year Board Member

Mary Claire Hachmeister

1st Year Board Member

Brenda Phillips

Laura's Letter by Laura Zacharda-Jones

I can't believe my year as Chapter President is ending! When I look back at our accomplishments and challenges, I realize how happy I am to be a part of this group.

Our year began on a rocky road and after the initial shock of reassigned roles and loss of some members, we hunkered down and got down to business. I thank you all for the support you gave me this last year—I couldn't have hung in there without you!

As I participated in Division Board/Chapter President conference calls throughout the year, I learned very quickly that the challenges facing the Rochester chapter are also beating on the doors of most other chapters in the Division. I believe these challenges are facing the organization as a whole. It is during times like these that we have to re-evaluate our priorities in life and unfortunately, many members have had to relinquish their IAAP memberships in the shuffle of life. In a matter of one week, our Division lost more than 15 members. The economic situation has a huge impact.

Our chapter is no different. We have lost members who just couldn't justify the expense of renewing. I hope in the future, they will remember the value of IAAP and we will see them all again. I know we would welcome them with open arms!

In looking at the achievements of the year, we have some great ones!

- Val King was elected to the International Board as the Northwest District Director in New Orleans in July of 2008.
- Ramona Galloway obtained her CAP certification. Way to go Ramona!
- Carol Graumann Matz recertified. Congrats Carol!
- Members stepped up to serve when needed.
 - Naomi moved from Director-at-Large to the Treasurer position to keep us going. Thank you Naomi!
 - Michele Altman stepped up to serve as President-Elect and what a great job she's done!
 - Brenda Phillips signed on to fill Naomi's spot as Director-at-Large. Her experience is such a benefit on the Board!
- Our biggest accomplishment is the success of the Annual Meeting! What a fabulous weekend we had.

I truly have been blessed to work with such a great team. Thank you all.

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Dates to Remember

- June 13, 2009 —Leadership Training—St. Cloud
- June 18, 2009—Board Meeting—Holiday Inn South
- July 26-29, 2009—International Education Forum and Annual Meeting—Minneapolis, MN



Web Update



The new Web Community is up and running. The Rochester site is still www.iaap-rochester.org. Brenda Longman is scheduled to attend a class at the International Education Forum and Annual Meeting (EFAM) and will bring back some good tips for us all. In the mean time, here are a few things to know.

1. Make sure to sign into the new community forum. You'll find access to a great deal of information is at your fingertips.
2. Create/update your bio. Every member has a bio shell. Take some time to fill in some of the details about yourself and that will help others get to know you!
3. You have all been added to the Rochester eGroup and there are already a couple of message there for you to read. I know the e-mail can often become overwhelming. As your President, it was hard to know when to and not to e-mail something. This eGroup will be a great benefit to Brenda as she can post things on-line any time and it is there for members to read when they have the time.
4. One thing I have loved already is that I get e-mails in the Community. I can e-mail my friend Darlene who I met at International last year in New Orleans. She's going to be in Minneapolis in July and we've already made plans to spend some time together. The amazing thing about this is that NONE of the e-mails ever hit my work e-mail.

There will be more news and more training but I encourage each of you to sign on and take a look around. I think you'll like what you find!

Proposed International Dues Increase—Weight the Value—Share YOUR Thoughts

Members who were able to attend the annual meeting in May were fortunate to hear how Incoming Division President Joan Gatzmeyer was able to break down the proposed increase into what seems to most to be a logical approach; noting that the total annual dues (including Division and Chapter Dues) will be about 45¢ per working day.

It is commonly agreed that the current economic situation facing many at this time contributes significantly to the unpopularity of this proposal although most can see the explanation as reasonable and justified.

Please remember that as our Delegate to the International Education Forum and Annual Meeting, it is important that Brenda Longman have a full understanding of where our chapter's membership stands on the proposed increase. We did discuss this at the June chapter meeting but as many members were unable to attend, I encourage every one to let Brenda know your thoughts on the increase.



Our chapter has elected to send Brenda as our uninstructed delegate which allows Brenda the opportunity to vote as she thinks will best serve our members. However, it will be a big help to her to know your thoughts as she listens to what I expect will be a rather exciting discussion at the business meeting. Keep in mind:

- IAAP, although a not-for-profit organization, IS a business
- Headquarters facility needs to be maintained to project a professional image
- Up-to-date technology does not come cheap
- The economic changes affecting us all, is also having a significant impact on membership renewals and participation in events that generate income for IAAP

2009 IAAP MN-ND-SD Division Annual Meeting May 15-17, 2009



Pictured:

Top row: Linda O'Sullivan, Antony Newman, group attending seminar

Center: Rochester Chapter members in attendance at the Banquet

Bottom row: 2008-09 Division Executive Board, 2009-10 Division Executive Board, 2008-09 Division Committee Chairs