

CHAPTER NEWS

CHAPTERS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S LETTER



MARK D. LeMAY

If you are like me, you are more than ready for this winter weather to head back to the Arctic, where it belongs! The cool 50°F (10°C) temps did not chill the excitement at the recent ICRI 2014 Spring Convention held in Reno, NV—nor did it keep the kids out of the resort's pool! Once again, the CAM crew came through and put on a great event at the Peppermill Reno Resort, Spa, and

Casino, complete with outstanding technical sessions, a fun-filled bowling event, a jaw-dropping party at the National Automobile Museum, endless opportunities for networking, and plenty of studious committee work. Kudos to Kelly, Dale, Ken, Naomi, and Alex!

At the Recognition Luncheon held on Thursday, March 20, Dale Regnier proudly announced that a record number of Chapters submitted their Chapter Award Forms for 2013! Nineteen chapters accumulated enough points to qualify as "Outstanding" Chapters. Congratulations to Southwest Florida, Southeast Florida, Rocky Mountain, Quebec, North Texas, New England, Arizona, Metro New York, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, Georgia, Florida West Coast, Florida First Coast, Delaware Valley, Connecticut, Chicago, Carolinas, and Baltimore-Washington Chapters! Greater Cincinnati, Northern California, Pittsburgh, and Central Florida were named as "Excellent" Chapters. Six more Chapters fulfilled the requirement of filling out the Annual Report Form. The Connecticut Chapter was named the "Most Improved Chapter," and the Great Plains Chapter took home the "Chapter of the Year" Award! A hearty pat on the back to all of these prospering chapters! If you do not see the name of your chapter listed herein, consider it a personal invitation for YOU to get involved in YOUR chapter!

At the Inter-Chapter Luncheon and Forum, held on Friday, March 21, Chapter Delegates and other interested attendees were provided with a short course on how to find speakers for meetings simply by navigating through the various resources available on the ICRI website. (By the way—this was a hot topic at the February Regional Chapter Roundtable meeting held in Tampa, FL, after which several of the chapters swapped speaker lists!) As a result, the Chapters Committee will be

creating a standard spreadsheet template, which will be forwarded to each Chapter to help track speakers. Chapters will be encouraged to maintain (and post) this list on their website. The Chapters Committee will attempt to combine the spreadsheets into a master, searchable list that can be accessed anytime on the ICRI website.

After the luncheon, Chapter Delegates and voting committee members gathered for the Chapters Committee meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Adding a recommendation to the Regional Chapter Roundtable Policy Statement, encouraging chapters to send new representatives to the meetings in lieu of those who may have attended previous Roundtable meetings;
- Continuing the use of the newly developed Convention Delegate Registration Form, which will be separate from the general registration form;
- Adding points to the Chapter Award Form for maintaining a speaker spreadsheet list on a chapter's website, and for using the PowerPoint marketing slides for the ICRI Guidelines; and
- Developing guidelines for chapter-sponsored scholarship programs.

And now, for the GREAT news of the day: A group of ICRI members from the Canadian province of British Columbia submitted the necessary paperwork to apply for an ICRI Chapter Charter. After an invigorating and passionate presentation from Brian MacNeil, the Chapters Committee voted unanimously to recommend the approval of the Charter to the ICRI Board of Directors. At the Spring Convention Board Meeting on Saturday, March 22, the British Columbia Chapter was officially chartered! Congratulations to President David Janeway, President-Elect Bob Matharu, Vice President Brian MacNeil, Treasurer Sylvie Mercer, Secretary Brandon Spearman, and to all the interested members who have committed to make this new chapter a success. We will look for great things from you in the coming years!

Needless to say, it was a very stimulating and productive convention. If you have never attended an ICRI convention, why not join us in Kansas City, MO, this fall and see what it's all about? Mark your calendars for November 12-14, 2014, and we will see you there!