

## DELEGATE'S REPORT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DIVISION MEETING IN WILKES-BARRE, PA

The 56<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Division Annual Meeting was at the Best Western East Mountain Inn & Suites in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania from May 16 – 18, 2008. I attended the division meeting as Presque Isle Chapter's delegate. The theme for the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Division Meeting is *Catch the Spirit* and had the opportunity to learn tips that will help us direct our careers and lead our chapters. The professional development seminars included: "Storm Clouds Over Party Shoes, which was followed by an International workshop by Susan Fenner PhD. on "Succession Planning...Looking at the Here After." The excitement continued with the Friday evening Open House which included a Patriotic Picnic with Groovy Group Dancing.

The Saturday business session started bright and early with the introductions, presentation of colors, etc. and welcomes by all dignitaries from IAAP and Wyoming Valley Chapter and Best Western representatives. The keynote speaker was Julie Sidoni, co-anchor of Newswatch 16, "Are You a Rising Star?" We learned a lot about who you are and that each of us are "rising stars" no matter what we may do. Julie gave an excellent presentation.

There were 97 registered attendees by Saturday morning. Reports of officers and committees were given, after which candidates for office were presented and voted upon. They are Jean Bohinski CPS/CAP, President; Diana Comber, President-Elect; Katherine Hoke CPS/CAP, Vice-President; and Carol Lundgren CPS/CAP, Treasurer. The office of secretary remains vacant. No nominations for this office were received. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact the board. The 2009 meeting will be held in King of Prussia, hosted by the Southeast Council Chapters, and the 2010 meeting will be held at Gettysburg, hosted by the South Central Councils. The Pennsylvania Division theme is "Excellence in Action."

The recognition luncheon ran very smoothly. Attached is a copy of the 2007-2008 Pennsylvania Division Annual Award Winners. Presque Isle Chapter won the Newsletter Award. Special thanks to Cassie St. Denny for a wonderful job with our newsletter. There is a Recruiter of the Year Award and Recruiting Chapter of the Year Award, the chapter receives \$100 and it was won by Montgomery County Chapter with 7 new members. The Recruiter member of the year was Diana Comber who recruited 36 members!

The banquet, "Star Spangled Banquet," was excellent as usual, with entertainment by the David Blight School of Dance.

On Sunday morning, registration was down to 91. Susan Fenner, PhD presented a short presentation, "Succession Planning: Begin with The End in Mind." I have a questionnaire for input that the IAAP Board of Directors has been investigating different value statements for our association and they want our input. I will provide the draft value statements given to us at the meeting and they are asking for our ideas and comments. The Division Officers presented a workshop, "The Office." At the end of the meeting during the "Good of the Order," my "Smiling Faces" video was shown. Everyone enjoyed it and some members asked for copies. I hope to continue this in the future so I took a lot of pictures and hope to get additional ones from other members.

By attending the division meeting I received 5 recertification points towards my CPS designation. All in all, I feel the weekend was a success and one of the best division meetings I have attended. The Wyoming Valley Chapter did an excellent job.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend as your delegate for the Presque Isle Chapter.

Respectfully submitted,

*Maria Carney, CPS, AIS*

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Chapter President