Vice President Michael DeHass, MAI, and I recently attended the Appraisal Institute’s regional and national meetings in Austin, TX. There were many discussions that we would like to pass on to our chapter membership.

The Appraisal Institute’s Candidate for Designation Program has started and has seen great results. In 2013, there were 443 new designations in the U.S., and as of 06/30/2014 there have been an additional 428. The number of new Candidates has decreased from 1,218 in 2013 to 672 so far in 2014. The AI is still requesting for designated members to become volunteers for advisor positions, especially for MAI in our region. Requirements for becoming an advisor is simply taking a quick online course. Advisors may receive up to 125 points of AI continuing education credit for volunteering. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

The AI is working on a new certification program for specialties in various aspects of the appraisal profession. Some examples include a certification in appraising green buildings, and for litigation practice. These will supplement a designation. The National Association of Homebuilders and the Appraisal Institute have written a contract that requires an AI designated member that has completed the Valuation of Sustainable Buildings Professional Development Program to complete appraisal work. Please click the link if you would like more information.

http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/education/education-resources/green-building-resources/

The MAI Capstone program has been very popular as well. All 2014 offerings have been sold out, and 2015 is filling up fast as well. If you are a MAI Candidate, and would like to register, please follow the link.


The last thing we discussed at the meetings is the need for donations to AI PAC. If you will take a quick look at the slide below, you will see how AI PAC compares financially to the other key players in our industry.

Our Government Relations Representative, Doug Potts, MAI, has a fundraising challenge for our region. Please see attached pdf for more information. These funds are used by our Government Relations Committee to gain access to politicians and better explain the feelings of the appraisal profession. If the AI is not able to explain how policies will directly impact our profession, someone else, or even possibly no one, will. This leaves decisions on critical issues to politicians who may not have all the pertinent information. Please consider making a donation to the AI PAC to help foster and maintain political relationships. Donations can be made thru the following link:

http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/advocacy/ai-political-action-committee/

Lastly, we do have one seminar scheduled for September 19th. This seminar is being taught by Peter Christensen of LIA Administrators & Insurance Services. If you have not yet registered and are interested in attending, please follow the link.

http://kansasappraisers.org/education.html

Sincerely,
Mark W. Buxton, SRA
REGION 2

THE WORLD SERIES OF CHAPTERS

- Al needs to collect a $60,000 war chest to help political action efforts in the coming year.
- Region 2 has just under 10% of the national membership.
- Region 2's share of the war chest is $5,700.
- The amount needed is less than $3 per person — less than the cost of a good cup of coffee.

Just think of the impact it can have if we do not only meet this goal but exceed it.

What a statement it would send if Region 2 could raise at least $7,000.

Region 2 is well on its way, but we are only beginning in this effort that is sorely needed. This is a long-term effort to maintain and grow the viability of our organization.

See how easy raising the funds could be!

- How about donating $50? We are asking chapter board members to consider this individually.
- How about "phone a friend?" If you got just 1 additional chapter member to pitch in... split the cost to $25 each... we would be there! This is the cost of a moderately priced dinner out! But it would feed so many efforts by the GRC.
- If each chapter meeting attendee could offer up $10, think how much we could raise.
- If each chapter made an appeal to designated chapter members and candidates for only $5 each... we would be there.

Last but not least, in order to spur the fund-raising effort, Region 2 would like to announce:

THE WORLD SERIES OF CHAPTERS.

- Each chapter’s fundraising will be checked against other chapters using the AIPAC website.
- The fundraising deadline will be October 3, 2014... just ahead of the Region 2 meeting.
- Winners will be announced at the Region 2 call.
- The chapter member from all of Region 2’s chapters having the largest total donation will receive a $200 gift card from Region 2.
- The chapter Board whose chapter has the highest average donation (per capita) will receive a $200 gift card from Region 2.
- In the event of an individual or Chapter tie, the gift cards will be split accordingly.

Here is the link to donate to AIPAC:
http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/advocacy/aip-political-action-committee/

Thanks to ALL DONORS TO DATE.

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<th>Rick Godfrey (Green OK Chapter)</th>
<th>Gail Hunyar (Greater St. Louis)</th>
<th>Kerry Jorgenson (Utah)</th>
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