



**November 2008**

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**Presidents Message**

**We are half-way through the second quarter of the 2008-2009 year and the holidays are approaching... a time to be grateful and give thanks ...**

You can make thankfulness an everyday habit. It's a skill that will benefit you throughout the year. Begin by keeping a gratitude journal in which you write down the positives. Think of all the good things that happened because something bad happened first and focus on what you have, rather than what you don't.

Think about people you've known that have made you thankful for their existence and people who have made life hard for you and what you accomplished because of them.

Think about the animals that have given you joy and the places that make you smile.

Remember that hard times make good times sweeter and keep in mind that obstacles and challenges not only make you stronger, but they force you to explore outside of the comfortable routine that you've settled into. Be thankful for the opportunities that they provide.

Giving thanks is a powerful tool that can dramatically improve your life and the lives of those around you. Start by embracing gratitude's special day, and then make it a habit!

An attitude of gratitude spreads like ripples from a tossed pebble, benefitting all it touches.

I am thankful for the friendships I have made, the people I have met and the experiences I have had in IAAP. I am also grateful to be able to put "Excellence in Action" in everything I do.

What are you grateful for this season?

Yours in service,  
Diana Kengel CPS/CAP  
2008-09 Michigan Division President

**Michigan Division Annual Meeting 2009**  
Shanty Creek Resort, May 15-16

Join other members who have volunteered to help plan our 60th annual meeting and anniversary celebration! Click [here](#) to see what you can do.

### **Pathways to Excellence**

#### **Chapter of Excellence and Division of Excellence criteria # 13**

The Avery Great Results Chapter Achievement Awards program forms are now available under Members' Place, Division/Chapter Resources at [www.iaapnet.org](http://www.iaapnet.org). Even though the forms aren't due to headquarters until February 1, you'll want to review the application and gather the information in the coming months.

#### **Chapter of Excellence criteria # 19**

Chapter strategic plans are due to our Division President by December 31.

#### **Member of Excellence criteria # 3**

The Division Board invites you to submit an article to be published in a future edition of the High Speed Connections. Send your article to [commsecretary@iaapmichigan.org](mailto:commsecretary@iaapmichigan.org). You can also achieve this criteria by participating in the International, Webmaster, Division and/or Chapter Forums so ask a question or provide an answer to an already posted topic. Share your knowledge with your fellow association members.

## **Committee News**

### **Audit**

The Division Board recognizes the passing of Linda Ray, Sandy Shores Chapter, and appreciates her service to the Division as the 2008-09 Audit Team Leader. Before Linda's accident, she performed a complete audit of the Division's 2007-08 financial records including those from MDAM 2008. We sincerely appreciate her assistance and her dedication to IAAP, the Division and the Sandy Shores Chapter. Linda was a vibrant member of IAAP and will certainly be missed.

The Division Board has approved the appointment of Karen Herman, Macomb Chapter, to the Audit Team Leader position for the remainder of the 2008-09 IAAP year.

### **Bylaws and Standing Rules**

Chapter Leaders, have you looked at your Bylaws and Standing Rules recently? Do you know when you need to be doing certain activities to be in compliance with those bylaws? Bylaws and Standing Rules govern many of the activities we can and need to do throughout the year. Be sure you know your Chapter and Division bylaws, refer to them often and are complying with them. Members too, should be aware of the guidelines that our bylaws provide and they can help the Chapter and Division leaders "stay on track" to ensure that the Chapter is a "Chapter of Excellence" and the Division is a "Division of Excellence."

### **Newsletter/Website Awards**

All Chapters are encouraged to review the guidelines for the Newsletter and Website Awards. Questions can be directed to Robin Hutchisson, Division Team Leader, and guidelines can be found on the Division website in the Member's Only area.

### **Nominations**

Nominations for the 2009-2010 Michigan Division Board are underway. Questions can be answered by Shari deBeauclair, Division Team Leader, and forms can be found on the Division website in the Member's Only area.

### **RTF**

November is RTF month and Karen Kohn CPS/CAP, RTF Committee Appointee for the Great Lakes District and Kelly Reggio CAP, RTF Trustee, want you to know that a new 2008 RTF PowerPoint presentation is available on-line for your Chapter and Division Meetings. Click [here](#) to go to the presentation.

You can learn more about the Trust by clicking [here](#). Show your support by participating in the Della's Dollar

fundraiser, purchasing RTF holiday cards and by joining the Family of Givers.

#### **Website**

The Michigan Division Website Team has been diligently working on a viable Sponsorship Package to be used by all chapters. This package's primary purpose is to help finance your IAAP Chapter Community Based Website. Please click [here](#) to read a letter from Jan Gualin CPS/CAP, Michigan Division Website Team Leader.

#### **Michigan Division Update**

Appointment of a new Team Leader - see Committee News - Audit

#### **Chapter News from Around the Division**

***Would you like to see your chapter or member news/information listed here? Article submission deadline for High Speed Connections is the 7th of each month. Contact Newsletter Editor, Michigan Division Communication Secretary, Ann Henkel at [commsecretary@iaapmichigan.org](mailto:commsecretary@iaapmichigan.org)***