

Wow! What a great weekend this has been? I hope that you have all discovered your admin power and have taken out your tools – sharpened them up – or maybe picked-up some new ones to take back and use to revamp your career. Please join me in showing appreciation to Greenspoint Area Chapter members and others who have worked so hard to make this weekend truly wonderful. Thank you.

On July 1 the Texas-Louisiana Division will begin its 60th year. And well...things, they are a changing. Three years ago IAAP began the Pathways to Excellence Program and many of you in this room have worked hard to earn Member of Excellence, Chapter of Excellence and are on the way to earning those distinctions for the third year in a row as is the division – but – beginning in July – the new and improved COE and DOE programs will roll out. There will now be 8 criteria for chapters and divisions and all 8 are mandatory. The new criteria will require chapters to work toward the IAAP mission of “Enhancing the success of career-minded administrative professionals by providing opportunities for growth through education, community building and leadership development” - and charges each division with oversight of the chapters – assisting and ensuring that they adhere to the mission. In turn, chapters are required to equip their members to qualify for Member of Excellence. The new program will require accountability and teamwork. Details will be posted on the headquarters web site in the coming days along with information on webinars explaining the new criteria. The Member of Excellence program remains much the same.

The division will hold the first leadership training, for 2011-2012 in late August. It will be hosted by NETAC (North East Texas Area Council) and will be held in Fort Worth. We also plan to conduct them in Houston, New Orleans and San Antonio area. The dates are to be determined. Due to the requirements change in the COE program – we also plan to begin the transition to hold them in the spring so that new officers for the 2012-2013 year can get a head-start on their year. One more leadership training opportunity for 2010-2011 will be held in Tyler in June.

Additionally this year, I would like for us, as a division, to focus on membership retention as well as recruitment. While we are seeing new members join, we are not keeping tenured members. I am challenging the division membership committee and the chapter's membership committee to look for new ways to add that personal touch so that our members will know that they are important and that we want them involved.

The division plans to again offer the BINGO prize and the division presidents' award. The requirements for these will be tweaked to reflect the new Pathways programs and will be communicated to you after July 1.

Each chapter will be assigned a board contact. She is there to assist your chapter to reach its goals. She will be your mentor. Be sure to take advantage of her knowledge and expertise; let her know of any issues, problems or challenges you are facing. Incoming Presidents and officers, each Friday, you will receive an email from her outlining important information that your chapter members need to know. We ask that you or a member of your team disseminate that information to your members. Your

board contact or any division officer is available to present a program to your chapter. I hope that you will choose to take advantage of this opportunity to provide your members with an educational program and the opportunity to earn recertification points.

After July 1, an incoming President's CD will be distributed to each incoming President.

Remember to submit the delegate/alternate/proxy forms for the International Education Forum and Annual meeting to be held July 23-28 in Montreal, Quebec Canada. New this year the delegate/alternate/proxy information is all on one form. The form can be e-mailed, faxed or mailed to the international headquarters. Headquarters must receive the form by July 4.

I will attend the 2011 Education Forum and Annual meeting as your division delegate and Tina Wiggins, CPS/CAP will be attending as the alternate.

In April I attended the Incoming Division President's Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. At the conference I met with international officers and 33 other incoming division presidents. We networked, shared ideas on how we can best serve our members, played a little and learned a lot. At the conference, International President Elect, Tamara Goodall, CPS/CAP introduced the 2011-2012 international theme "Making the Leap to Remarkable". I thought to myself, we at T-L started down the road to remarkable last year in Amarillo and we will continue down that road

because it never ends. Right? But then I decided to reflect a little more and did a word study on leap and remarkable.

To Leap means to spring free from, or as if from, the ground, to pass abruptly from one state or topic – or as in the game of leap frog or in military strategy to advance by keeping one or a group in action as you advance the other one or group forward.

The word remarkable is the worth of being, or likely to be, noticed – to be uncommon or extra-ordinary, noticeable, outstanding.

What this means to me is that IAAP is building on the solid foundation of the past and is using that foundation to spring away from old ways of doing business that, while valid and good at one time, is beginning to hold us back. Our challenge is to transition into a new way of doing business that will be uncommon, outstanding, extra-ordinary, and well, remarkable! And I think that we can do it.

I would like to thank some very special people in the audience. My team-mates for the year, Michelle, Frances, Tina and Bonnie, thanks for your friendship, passion and purpose; my Las Colinas chapter members, thanks for your belief in me, my past leaders and mentors, Elaine Harrison, Jackie Potts, Vickie Osborne, Anne McHenry, Dortha, Suzanne, Donna, Sara McMillan, Barbary Wyatt, I have learned so much. I would also like to thank you the members for your cooperation and support and, most of all, my “Husband of Excellence”, Ray Flowers your support and encouragement in me is truly remarkable. I love you.

I am honored that you have chosen me to service as your division president this coming year. I am looking forward to working with you all as together we make the leap to remarkable.