



2010 Illinois Division Annual Meeting Northwest Suburban Chapter Report

Northwest Suburban Chapter focused this year on offering programs on topics that would provide professional development for our members and guests.

The chapter continues to meet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Northbrook and we have been very pleased with the quality of service received, particularly considering our relatively small size. We have guaranteed a minimum of 10 dinners and are not charged for the meeting space. Meetings begin with networking, followed by dinner. The program follows dinner, and runs 45 minutes to an hour, depending on the speaker. Very brief business meetings follow the speaker. We were able to reduce the cost of our dinner meeting by ordering from the hotel's lunch menu (still plenty of food), reducing the cost to \$21 for members or \$24 for non-members, with a program-only option at \$10 for those that don't wish to come for dinner.

We continue to keep the business portion of the meeting to the minimum. Except for business that requires a vote by the membership (such as voting for officers, bylaws amendments, or business to be discussed at IDAM), business meetings generally consist of announcements about upcoming chapter, division and international events.

Celia Wilk did a great job this year as Program Committee Chair to get input on topics of interest to members, then locate and make arrangements for speakers, all at no cost to the chapter. She made extensive use of the Free Speech network of speakers. Topics this year included:

- Making it Click – Michael Hirsch, Robert Half International
- Self Defense for Admins – Dewoun Hayes, CAP
- Waste Reduction in the Workplace – Mary Allen, Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County
- Effective Business Communications – Linda Lampe, Allstate Financial
- How to Make a Presentation Without Passing Out – Jerilyn Willin
- Throw Out the Baby with the Bathwater (how to make the annual performance review process less dysfunctional) – Dianne Michaels, SerendipityHR
- Togas, Tights, and Ties: 2,500 Years of Business Advice in 30 Minutes – Wayne Turmel, Achis Marketing
- Navigating Retirement's Changing Landscape – Patrick Callaghan, Morgan Stanley
- Managing Stress in Your Life – Dr. Brady Schuyler, Physical Health and Wellness Center

We applied for and were granted recertification points for four of our programs, and expect to be granted recertification points for the May and June programs.

Northwest Suburban began the year with 25 members, with about half of our members regularly attending meetings, and as of February we are at 28 members. We continue to invite potential new members to our chapter meetings, particularly from the large area employers such as Kraft and American Family Insurance.

Chapter Secretary Valerie Meccia did a great job again this year with our chapter newsletter, condensing the format to two pages and featuring a professional development article each month.

Treasurer Trish Harlan was the welcoming face again this year that greeted all of our members and guests at each chapter meeting. She handled all of the arrangements for each of the chapter meetings, was our liaison with the hotel for the meetings, and kept the chapter's financial records in good order.

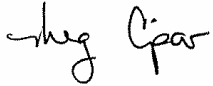
POWER
of
Commitment
Northwest Suburban Chapter

We still struggle to get volunteers to serve as officers or on committees. The chapter Nominating Committee (Eileen Holz and Colleen Gaca CAP) contacted each of our members in February and, as of this point, we do not have any members willing to serve as president or treasurer. One member has indicated an interest in serving as vice president. Many members are feeling stretched, as we are all being asked to take on more responsibilities at work. We will continue to explore possibilities, including job-sharing for these positions. However, if we're not able to find members willing to step up and take on these leadership roles, we'll need to discuss the possibility of disbandment. This would certainly be a shame, after more than 50 years as a chapter.

Northwest Suburban will move into the IAAP Web Community, probably next year, as our subscription with the current web host expires.

I served as the Chapter Delegate to the 2009 International Convention, and the chapter will send a delegate to the 2010 Annual Meeting in Boston.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meg Cipar". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Meg Cipar CPS
2009-2010 President
Northwest Suburban Chapter
Illinois Division IAAP