

BOARD REPORT



Northeast Region Board Meeting – November 3, 2012

DATE: October 19, 2012
TO: Northeast Region Board of Directors
FROM: Jim Grucella CSI
SUBJECT: Report of Buffalo/WNY Chapter

A. Report Summary

1. Under the leadership of President Kevin Mahoney, the Buffalo Chapter seems to be doing OK. Our meetings are successful and as we have no external means of raising revenue, continue to add some much needed funds, through admission charges for non-members, to keep our Chapter solvent. While our printed newsletter, the SCOPE contains ads, they pretty much merely offset the costs of printing and mailing. Members are taking recruitment seriously. While we have great support from Chapter Chairs and Officers it is still difficult to interest people in becoming new officers and chairs.

B. The Report

1. Summary of activities since last report: The Buffalo Chapter continues to have a very successful luncheon meeting agenda with attendance of between 45 and 55 people of which 20 to 25 are members. Out of this we hope to garner additional members which amounted to 10 more this September. Our June meeting found is at the Historically Restored Hotel Lafayette, designed by Louise Bithune, for a tour and dinner at their American Grill. We have had new member step up to head up the Membership Committee and take over some of the thankless duties of registration. Still looking to fill the Vice President's position. Many of the other officers and committee chairs are headed up by old salts such as Jim Grucella. The Awards Committee, chaired by Phil Lechner has committed to applying for Region and institute awards.
2. Status of current programs: Program Chair, Ted Czajkowski continues to provide excellent programs that draw many architects and specifiers from outside of the CSI. Our November program is a concerted effort to provide an opportunity for architects and engineers to add up to 3 Learning Units to their portfolio for this year. This is traditionally a good draw for our Chapter. A Board meeting is

scheduled for Late October to discuss filling out the balance of the membership meetings, Christmas and our June Awards Program.

3. Problem areas: Finding individuals to step up to volunteer for positions as officers or committee chairs. Difficulty in balancing the importance of meeting attendance as an inexpensive cost for non-members and no-charge for members without creating a feeling where members feel that they are subsidizing the non-members.
4. Success stories: Ten new members, solvency, great meeting attendance, by-laws approved by the Institute due to Al Oberst's persistence, tax exempt waiver complete with Al and Deb Siener's direction, an active certification program under Kevin O'Bierne and dedicated committee chairs and officers. Although my personal preference is evening meetings, it seems the luncheon meetings have been a success for attaining attendees. Evenings seem to have become a protected personal time.
5. Schedule of activities prior to next Board Meeting: Last minute Learning Units Seminar, Membership Christmas Dinner, monthly membership meetings and the June Awards Dinner.
6. Changes in Chapter Membership since last report: Due to a concerted effort by our new Membership Chair, Brad Vaillancourt, Certification Chair, Kevin O'Beirne and other Buffalo personnel, we have added 10 new members: four Professional Members, one Student Member and five Emerging Professional Members.

C. Best Practices to share with the Region

1. NONE

Respectfully submitted;

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END OF REPORT

Cc: Region Secretary