

Professional Perspectives of the 2014 International Appraisers Conference in Savannah, GA

The American Society of Appraisers had a highly successful **International Appraisers Conferences** this past September. The conference was held in downtown Savannah, Georgia, a beautiful city with rich history, vast shopping areas, waterfront charms, and other attractions for everyone to enjoy.

The conference brought together valuation specialists from a variety of disciplines including real property, personal property, machinery and technical specialties, gems and jewelry, and business valuation. This year's speakers came from equally diverse backgrounds including private fee appraisal offices, government offices, and large corporate accounting offices and financial service firms.

Real Property Committee Meeting

The Real Property Committee (RPC) met on Sunday and discussed a variety of contemporary and challenging issues facing its members and the real estate appraisal profession. Discussions included membership recruitment and retention, education, and our financial solvency. Education focused on future classes currently being developed by the *Alliance for Valuation Education*, as well as international and on-line opportunities.

Professional Networking Opportunities

- *Get-Acquainted Welcome Reception.* Sunday night our members had an opportunity to meet and network with other ASA members at the ASA's Get-Acquainted Welcome Reception. This was a very well attended event and a natural segue from the RPC meeting.
- *ASA Educational Foundation Auction.* Monday night the ASA held its annual auction. This was well attended and the auction items for bid (silent auction) were tremendous.
- *President's Networking Reception.* Also on Monday night following the auction was a reception and an opportunity to meet with our current and past International Presidents. These leaders were easy to spot in their red jackets.

Real Property Committee Discipline Education

The Real Property Committee provided a diverse mixture of real property programming at the conference including. Education opportunities included

- *Best Practices* with Ernest Demba, FASA.
- *Real Property Appraisal Report Review* with Roger Durkin, FASA
- *Allocating Components in Going Concern Valuations* with Robert Schlegel, FASA and Deane Wilson, ASA (and one word to describe this program ... "Fantastic!")
- *Contemporary Ad Valorem Property Tax Issues* with Thomas Countryman, Paul Bidwell, ASA, MAI, SRA, CCIM and Micheal R. Lohmeier, FASA, MMAO(4), MAI, SRA, RES

In all our members were able to earn up to 18 hours of continuing education credit!!!

2014 ASA Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony took place on Monday afternoon. This annual event recognizes and honors the achievements of ASA members, volunteers, chapters and staff. The following awards were presented:

- Life Member: W. David Snook, FASA; Alan Iannacito, ASA; and Paul Giroux, ASA
- Examiner of the Year: Micheal R. Lohmeier, FASA
- College of Fellows Member: J. Michael Hill Jr., FASA; Edith Yeomans, FASA
- Jerry F. Larkins Award: Lee P. Hackett, FASA
- Sylvia Wade Olson Award: Todd J. Paradis
- Best Chapter Mentor Program: Los Angeles Chapter
- Best Chapter Newsletter: Los Angeles Chapter
- Best Chapter PR Program: Chicago Chapter
- Best Chapter Website: Los Angeles Chapter
- Outstanding Chapter Education Event: Houston Chapter
- Outstanding Chapter of the Year: Chicago

Including committee and board meetings, as well as other discipline education opportunities, our ASA members had three to six days of education and professional networking opportunities available to them. The following are a few of the photographs from the conference.



(It to rt) Jim Hirt, ASA CEO, Micheal Lohmeier, FASA and J. Mark Penny, ASA



(It to rt) Micheal Lohmeier, FASA, Mike Pratt, ASA, Lee Hackett, FASA, and Ron Prat, ASA



Speaker Ernest Demba, FASA lecturing to a full class on Best Practices



Speaker Joseph Cornell, ASA lecturing to a full class on Appraising Firearms.



Went next door to City Hall and met Savannah's Clerk (l to r) Clerk Dyanne Reese, Micheal Lohmeier, FASA, Kirsten Sieloff, ASA, and Ron Prat, ASA



Micheal Lohmeier, FASA presented by International President Gary Smith with award for Examiner of the Year



David Snook, FASA presented by International President Gary Smith with Life Member



Lee Hackett, FASA presented by International President Gary Smith with Jerry F. Larkins Award



Micheal Lohmeier, FASA and Mike Pratt, ASA discussing ASA business



Conference Speaker Paul Bidwell, ASA, MAI, SRA, CCIM focusing on the conversations at the Awards Ceremony



And our conference was full of world class entertainment!!

For additional information and photographs of the conference go to the American Society of Appraisers' website at www.appraisers.org and its Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/asaappraisers>. Other chapters which had members present also took plenty of photographs including the Detroit Chapter at <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanSocietyOfAppraisersDetroitChapter>.

I hope to see you all at our **2015 International Appraisers Conference** which will be held in **Las Vegas, Nevada** from **09/14/2014 to 09/17/2014** (with discipline committee meetings held the day prior). This will be a conference you won't want to miss so go ahead and block those dates out on your calendar.



About the Author

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