



Professional Perspectives from the 2013 International Appraisers and Advanced Business Valuation Conferences in San Antonio, Texas

By Micheal R. Lohmeier, FASA, MAI, SRA, RES, MMAO(4)

The American Society of Appraisers provided another highly successful 2013 Joint **International Appraisers** and **Advanced Business Valuation Conferences** this past October. The conference was held in downtown San Antonio, Texas and brought together over 750 valuation specialists from a variety of disciplines including real property, personal property, machinery and technical specialties, gems and jewelry, and business valuation.

The professionals that lectured ranged from equally diverse fields including private fee appraisal offices, government offices, and large corporate accounting offices and financial service firms.

The location of the conference provided our members, and their families, numerous recreational activities and tours including the immediately adjacent and historic Alamo and a water cruise boat ride along the historic Riverwalk area.

Real Property Committee Meeting

On Sunday the Real Property Committee (RPC) discussed a variety of contemporary and challenging issues facing real estate appraisers, including

- Real Property Chair Report
- Treasurer/Finance Report
- Board of Examiners Report
- RPC Membership and Education reports. This included discussions of recruitment and retention of membership in 2013 and into the near future. It also included discussions involving educational opportunities including online programs, webinars, and other traditional qualifying and continuing education programs.
- Various other discussions occurred at this meeting including multi-disciplinary education opportunities.

This real property committee meeting was extremely energized and informative and an opportunity to discuss the hard work done during the past year and needing to be completed in the following year. Guest speakers included our current ASA International President J. Mark Penny, ASA and our past ASA International President Mike Evans, FASA.



Mike Orman, ASA, RPC Chair (seated at head table in center) leading the RPC meeting



Current ASA International President J. Mark Penny, ASA provided insight at the RPC meeting



(It to rt) current ASA International President J. Mark Penny, ASA and member Micheal R. Lohmeier, FASA during a break of the RPC meeting



(It to rt) Micheal R. Lohmeier, FASA with past ASA International President Mike Evans, FASA during a break of the RPC meeting

Professional Networking Opportunities

- *Get-Acquainted Welcome Reception.* On 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 and into the educational component of the conference.
- *Welcome to San Antonio Breakfast for Spouses and Guests.* This was held Monday morning and provided an invaluable insight into the history of San Antonio and some of the "must see" tourist trips.
- *ASA Educational Foundation Auction.* On 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 meet-and-greet with ASA International Presidents, past Presidents and our current President. These professionals were easy to spot in their red jackets.

The Appraisal Foundation Update

The conference featured The Appraisal Foundation (Foundation) President David Bunton. Mr. Bunton has been with the Foundation since 1990. Mr. Bunton provided our members with invaluable insights into where the Foundation has been, where it is today, and where it is anticipated to go into the near future.

The American Society of Appraisers is a long-standing Appraisal Sponsor of the Foundation and our members have a long history serving on its various boards and committees. For example currently ASA has members volunteering in the following areas, not an all inclusive listing

- **Jay E. Fishman, FASA** and **John D. Willey, FASA** on its Appraisal Practices Board
- **R. Lee Robinette, ASA** on its Appraisal Standards Board
- **Lee Hackett, FASA** and **Carla Glass, FASA** on its Valuation for Financial Reporting Steering Committee

Some of the areas Mr. Bunton addressed included

- The history of The Appraisal Foundation
- An update on the activities pertaining to real, personal and business property valuation, including activities involving its Appraisal Standards Board and the Appraiser Qualifications Board
- An overview of its Appraisal Practices Board
- An overview of the Alliance for Valuation Education, a separate entity from the Foundation.



(It to rt) Past International President Mike Evans, FASA, Foundation President David Bunton, and Conference Speaker Dr. Lawrence Golicz, PhD, ASA, MAI



(It to rt) Foundation President David Bunton and ASA Detroit Chapter President Ron Prat, ASA

Real Property Committee Discipline Education

The Real Property Committee (RPC) provided a diverse mixture of real property programming at the conference including. Much appreciation goes to our Real Property Conference Chair William (Bill) P. Wilson, FASA. Educational opportunities included

- *Preparing and Testifying for Litigation* with **John Lifflander, ASA**. This was a jointly held session and partnered with the Machinery and Technical Specialties discipline committee.
- *Golf Course Valuation* with **Lawrence Golicz, PhD, MAI, ASA**
- *Ad Valorem/Mass Appraisal of High-End Valued Residential Properties and the Particular Valuation Elements Involving Non-Residential Income Producing Properties for Property Tax Purposes* with **Kristen Sieloff, ASA**
- *Real Estate Damage Economics* with **Randall Bell, PhD, MAI**
- *Valuation of Religious Properties* with **Karen Mann, ASA**
- *How to Find Your Adjustments Using Spreadsheets* with **Gary Snowden, ASA**

Including committee and board meetings, as well as other discipline education opportunities, ASA members had three to six days of education and/or professional networking opportunities available to them.

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 that had members present also took plenty of photographs including the Detroit Chapter at <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanSocietyOfAppraisersDetroitChapter>.

Additional information on this conference is available on the ASA's popular YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/ASAappraisers>. See if you can recognize someone you know.

Hope to see you all at our **2014 International Appraisers Conference** which will be held in **Savannah, Georgia** from **09/14/2014 to 09/17/2014** (with discipline committee meetings held the day prior).



AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Micheal R. Lohmeier, FASA, MAI, SRA, RES, MMAO(4) currently serves as the City Assessor for the City of Auburn Hills in Oakland County, Michigan.