

IAAP Lehigh Valley Chapter

56th Pennsylvania Division Annual Meeting – May 16-18, 2008
Best Western East Mountain Inn & Suites, Wilkes-Barre, PA
Delegate/Alternate Report

Friday, May 16, 2008

Sandy Dredge, Carol Ziegler and I traveled north on the PA Turnpike for a short, but rainy drive to Wilkes-Barre. The Best Western East Mountain Inn was easy to find and has a magnificent view of the Wyoming Valley. The Wyoming Valley Chapter was our host for this event. Mary Ann Vought and Jean Meckley also arrived Friday, and Linda Schmoyer arrived Saturday morning.

Registration went smooth and fortunately our rooms were available upon arrival. Tours of The Lackawanna Coal Mine and The Lion Brewery were conducted for the early-arrivals.

Seminar – *“Storm Clouds Over Party Shoes”*

Mary L Hepner, President of The Protocol School of PA provided instructions in etiquette, domestic and international protocol services, dining skills and cross-cultural training.

Mary was very interesting and humorous in her approach to describe various generational differences with manners and etiquette.

Seminar – *“Succession Planning – Begin With the End in Mind”*

Susan Fenner PhD, Manager of Education and Professional Development, IAAP Headquarters gave an excellent presentation and explanation of the different generations: The Veterans, The Boomers, Gen-X and The Nexters.

Red White and Blue was the theme for the Friday evening festivities, along with a picnic-style buffet. DJ Charlie Hayes spun the records and provided various hilarious games that everyone enjoyed.

Saturday, May 17, 2008

Carol and I volunteered for the 7:00 AM shift at the registration table, and greeted the Saturday morning arrivals, including our own, Linda Schmoyer. Credentials sign-in went smooth as well as the delegates/alternates briefing. The parliamentary briefing was very informative. Lyndee Long CPS, PA Division President called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. Marion Hidlay CPS/CAP, the Meeting Coordinator welcomed everyone and introduced the panel.

Keynote Speaker, Julie Sidoni, co-anchor of Channel WNEP-TV, topic was “Are You a Rising Star?” She spoke about developing leadership skills, putting yourself with the right people at the right time so you can learn from example, and before you know it you’ll be successful. “Talent is little of what gets you ahead: Sweat-hours/sweat-equity.” She said that everyone is a “rising star” unless you just punch-in and punch out. Julie took many interesting questions from the floor concerning her career and daily activities as a news anchor.

After recess, we returned to the formal business session: Roll Call of Chapters, Report of Registration (Total 97), Report of Credentials, Presentation of Rules, Treasurer’s Report and Audit Committee, Report of Division Officers and Committees. The candidates for office were introduced, and voted on and declared duly elected:

President: Jean Bohinski CPS/CAP, Wyoming Valley;
President-Elect: Diana Comber, Montgomery Chapter;
Vice-President: Catherine Hoke, Harrisburg Chapter;
Secretary: Open
Treasurer: Carol Lundgren CPS/CAP, Clear Penn Chapter

2009’s Division meeting will be held in Valley Forge, followed by Gettysburg in 2010.

A recess concluded the morning business meeting followed by lunch.

The afternoon was the Presentation Awards: Lehigh Valley was presented with three awards:

Certification holders – Highest percentage: honorable mention – 28.1%
Newsletter: IAAP Happenings in the Lehigh Valley – second place
Website: Lehigh Valley Chapter

Once again, I was very proud of our Lehigh Valley Chapter to walk the walk for our awards. Since Sandy and Carol were present, they personally received their award for the Website.

The President’s “Star Spangled Banquet” was exciting. I participated in the Parade of President’s, but this year we got to sit with our own group, not assigned. Linda Lorden CPS/CAP, Past Northeast District Director, did a very emotional military-themed Installation of Officers. It was beautiful! Jean Bohinski’s entire family was present. Jean and her husband have two sons which recently served in the military.

After dinner we were entertained by the David Blight School of Dance. A group of very talented young women did a variety of dances, stage front, right in front of our table.

The evening was concluded with a receiving line to greet the 2008-09 Division Officer’s.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne H Sullivan, President

Sunday, May 18, 2008

Our last day together began with a business meeting and the introductions of the newly elected PA 2007-2008 Division Officers by Jo Anne McHale CPS. The meeting continued with a Moment of Reflection given by Linda Mihalaki CPS/CAP, Sunday Business Co-Chair. Diana Comber, 2007-2008 Division Vice President and 2008-2009 President Elect, officiated at the Memorial Service honoring the memory of Theresa Szewczyk Ivers – Montgomery County Chapter.

The meeting continued with the Report of Registration (91) and Report of Credentials. An International update was given by Susan Fenner Ph.D., Education and Professional Development Manager, IAAP. The 2008-2009 International Theme was announced by Dr. Fenner, "Excellence in Action." The theme was announced early this year so that Chapters can create their theme around that of International's. The 2007-2008 PA Division Officers presented a workshop, "The Office". The hilarious skit presented examples of how to enhance your interviewing skills.

Following the final announcements, the 2008 PA Annual Meeting was adjourned by President Lynee Long CPS. We left the Endless Mountains and our gracious hosts and headed back to the Lehigh Valley after a productive and enjoyable weekend.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Schmoyer CPS, Vice President