

IWLA Cover Note

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www.naiw.org – our national page
www.cacouncilnaiw.com – our state page
www.insurancewomenla.org – our local page
www.inssfa.org – our national education foundation page

Insurance Women of Los Angeles
 P.O. Box 481294
 Los Angeles, CA 90048
 Victoria Lovinggood, Editor



President's Corner

Cathryn Feely
 President



Dear Members and Friends:

Our Monthly Business Meeting took place on March 15th. Rhea Meshekow, our Community Action Chair, coordinated the IWLA Spring Beauty Drive for the girls of Aviva. Arlene Joyier from Aviva Family and Children's Services spoke to us about this very special program for abused children and teens. It was amazing to hear how much we take for granted after hearing her tell how Aviva turns their lives around, giving them chances some of them have never experienced. Members donated bath/beauty products and other related items that will be distributed to the girls. Thank you members for your generosity. Arlene was overwhelmed when she saw the amount of donated items.

Susan Fife presented the slate of officers to the members on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Our thanks to Susan and the following members served on the Nominating Committee.

Marci Barrett

Chris Lipka

Vickie Huff

We are very excited to welcome our newest member who joined IWLA this month. We look forward to her active participation in our association.

Karri Woods

Kari brought 2 guests to our meeting whom we hope to see at future events. Thank you for joining us, **Tina Martinez** and **Lisa Arcuria**.

Our thanks also go out to **Christine Tillett** who conducted our 50/50 drawing, which raised **\$55.00**. We will be holding these drawings at every business meeting because all the proceeds are going towards the 2007 State Meeting.

I want to extend my personal thanks to all of the members who are working so hard to help IWLA in so many ways. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

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President's Corner

Continued from page 1

CONDOLENCES

Go out to the family, friends and colleagues of **Sherry Porter**, who passed away unexpectedly last month. Sherry was a member of Insurance Women of Ventura and took a CWC course last spring/summer with some members of IWLA. Cards can be mailed to: Mr. Sergio Argusta 130 West Adele #F- Anaheim, CA. 92805.

CONGRATULATIONS...

Go out to **John Boyle** who won the March Birthday Gift Drawing

Go out to **Gail McKenzie** who won \$55.00 in the 50/50 Drawing.

Go out to **Marilyn Cartrett and Victoria Lovinggood**, who both qualified for NAIW President Mahoney's "Reach For the Stars, Achieve Your Dreams." She personally called to offer her congratulations. Well done, ladies.

REMINDERS/ UPCOMING EVENTS

Executive Board Meeting- Takes place at Hoffman Brown Company Wednesday, **April 12th, 2006 at 5:30 PM.**

Business Dinner Meeting-Takes place on Wednesday, **April 19th at 5:30 P.M.** This is a closed meeting since elections are being held. **Christine Tillett** will be conducting a **White Elephant Auction** where all proceeds will go towards the **2007 State Meeting.**

CPCU Society Workshop-"Contractual Risk Transfer"- Takes place Thursday, **April 20, 2006 8:00 AM-12:05 PM** at Brookside Country Club in Pasadena.

IWLA Annual Installation Banquet- Takes place Wednesday, May 17th at 5:30 PM at the Sportsmen's Lodge.

In Fellowship,

Cathryn

Member Updates

Member Updates is a column to spotlight the accomplishments of our members. If you have received a promotion or a new designation you wish to share, please contact editor Victoria Lovinggood so that your accomplishments can be included in the newsletter.

Cover Note Reminder

All submissions for the May Cover Note are due no later than Friday, April 21, 2006 to the editor, Victoria Lovinggood.

Please note that if you are providing a document or information from a source that is copyrighted material that proper credit must be given to the source. To not do so could be an infringement of copyright material and is illegal.



Safety News

Nancy Burgos

Safety Committee Chairman

APRIL SAFETY: Basic Camping Safety

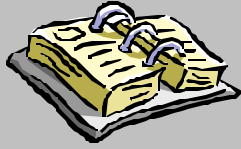
As the frost leaves the air, and the snowboarders sigh in sadness, spring starts rolling in. In my family, that means camping!

Here are a few basics you should always remember:

This will apply to rustic backpacking into any high-country area as well as your local state parks and populated areas to camp.

Continued on page 4

Calendar of Events



April - Elections

April 12, 2006

Board Meeting, 5:30 P.M.
Hoffman Brown Company

April 19, 2006

Dinner Meeting (Please contact Cynthia Andrachick at 818-464-9365 for more information)
4222 Vineland Ave, North Hollywood, CA
This meeting is closed for elections

May – NAIW Week, Installation

May 11, 2006

Board Meeting, 5:30 P.M.
Hoffman Brown Company
If Needed

May 17, 2006

Installation Banquet (Please contact Cynthia Andrachick at 818-464-9365 for more information)
Sportsmen's Lodge, Sherman Oaks, CA

May 21 – 27, 2006

NAIW Week

May 31 – June 3, 2006

National Convention
Orlando, FL

2005 – 2006 IWLA BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Cathryn Feely
President Elect: Lily Gastelum, CISR, CPIW
Vice-President: Mitula Patel
Secretary: Gail McKenzie
Treasurer: Deborah Paladino, CIC, CPIW
Covernote Editor: Victoria Lovinggood
Immediate Past President: Susan Fife, CPIW, CPCU, AAM, AIS, AIM, DAE
Directors: Cynthia Andrachick, CPIW
Vicki Huff
Darlene "Chris" Lipka
Marci Barrett

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Advertising: Gail McKenzie
Arrangements: Cynthia Andrachick, CPIW
Audit: Susan Fife, CPIW, CPCU, AAM, AIS, AIM, DAE
Budget: Deborah Paladino, CIC, CPIW
Bylaws: Mitula Patel
Community Action: Rhea Meshekow
Education: Andrea Gable-Setterstrom
Marion Graham
Finance: Christine Chandler-Tillett
Jobline: Victoria Lovinggood
Legislation: Marci Barrett
Membership: Marilyn Cartrett
Programs: Darlene "Chris" Lipka
Public Relations: Lily Gastelum, CISR, CPIW
Safety: Nancy Burgos
Website: Mitula Patel
Secret Pal: Vickie Huff

Happy Birthday to our Members:



Marilyn Cartrett – April 11
Pamela Heard – April 20



For all tent campers, please be advised of where you are placing your tent or shelter. This is crucial in terms of the following:

1. Weather and rain - do not place your tent in a low-lying area for flooding purposes. If you absolutely have to, then dig a trench out around the sides. It does not have to be very deep. Three to four inches is helpful to detour the water around your shelter. If this is a state park area and you cannot do that, please respect their rules. Fill in these areas after you are done camping.
2. Beware of trail areas and animals - Many animals, especially hooved animals such as elk and deer will move at night. If you are in the middle of a heavily traveled path, you may be trampled in your tent or shelter in the middle of the night.
3. If you are in a territory where there are bears - Clearly you want to have all your pans clean. Hang food and perishables as well as pots and pans you cook in at least 200 yards away from your campsite. You do not want to hang them 20 or 30 yards away from your tent area.

Do not place your tent under a tree - Sometimes this is impossible. If you are going to place your tent under a tree, please check and make sure that the tree is not dead, aging, or dead or loose limbs above. It has not been uncommon for limbs to fall from a tree onto campers' tents, and injuring them in the middle of the night.

Always carry a medical kit of some degree with you. Band-Aids, topical antibiotics are helpful. Make sure everyone has tetanus updates. Depending on the length of time that you are spending camping, antibiotics may not be necessary. These are just a variety of medicines that you should have in your kit. Over the counter Imodium AD is always good to carry with you. It is very uncomfortable to get diarrhea on a camping trip. Flashlights are crucially important. We have a difficult time seeing in the dark. We are not nocturnal animals. Flashlights that work should be checked and double-checked. Extra batteries would be helpful to have on-hand. The LED flashlights have been a huge innovation in lights and they can burn anywhere from two weeks to a month on the batteries that are put in there and are extremely resilient.

Water is crucial, while water purification is even more crucial. Currently, there is no safe water to drink in North America or Canada. Water filtration as well as purification tablets and boiling are effective means to take out all organisms for drinking purposes. Make sure you bring enough water. Dehydration is not an enjoyable ailment and can lead to death in severe situations.

Last, please remember that you are not in your home but in nature's home. If you take care of her, she will take care of you. Please pick up all litter. In certain areas now, specifically in the boundary waters, you have to carry out your excrement. This area is not usually addressed. If you are in areas where it is not necessary to do that, please dig a hole far enough away from any water sources. Pick up all your litter. After you have packed up, turn around and look where you have camped and cooked and see that it is clean. Look at it as if you are staying in someone's house, and how you would like that bedroom or that area to be just as well picked up. Please treat nature the same way.

For more information on camping (what to put in a First Aid Kit, what to do if someone gets lost, etc.) visit: <http://www.surviveoutdoors.com>

Collect for Insurance Women

Marie K. Franzen
Ins. Women of Milwaukee

Take us, O God, under Thy Divine protection.

Make us to act as Thy messengers for peace and contentment, for harmony and understanding.

Grant that we may see more clearly the point of view of other men and women in all lines of insurance.

Realizing the highly competitive nature of our business, teach us to respect competition at all times.

Keep us free from pettiness and unwise discrimination. Let us do our work willingly, honestly and thoroughly, giving service graciously at all times.

Teach us, O Lord, to know and to realize that by Thy grace we can live in perfect peace with one another.

And grant that through this organization we may become closer in friendship and understanding.

AMEN.

Reminder!

April 19th

White Elephant Auction Fund Raiser
For IWLA



It's that time again! Remember that present you looked at and thought...Why? Just remember...one person's trash is another person's treasure!!! ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL GO TO THE 2007 STATE MEETING!!!!

Please remember to bring in that "special" gift that you received and didn't like or didn't need to our monthly Business Meeting on Wednesday, April 19th, 2006 for our **White Elephant Fund Raiser Auction (Please wrap or bag the gifts).**

I.W.L.A. thanks you in advance for your participation!!!! Hopefully it will be as successful as the last one 😊

For more details please e-mail Christine Chandler-Tillett @ ctillett@WAIC.com.

REMINDER

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2006

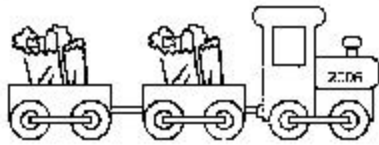
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Location: GG Industries
28545 Livingston Ave West
Valencia, CA 91355-4133

Please RSVP to Hoffman Brown Company
with your shirt size by March 31st.

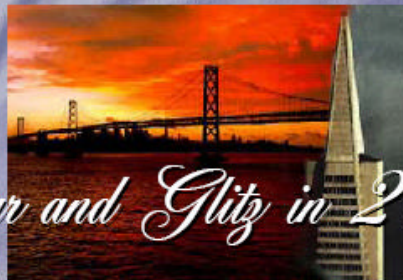
Call Marianne at 818-808-1047
Hoffman Brown Company
15233 Ventura Blvd., West Plaza
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

HBC FEEDS



**HELPING FAMILIES
STAY ON TRACK**

**20th Annual NAIW California
State Council Meeting**



Glamour and Glitz in 2006

September 22nd - 23rd

Sir Francis Drake Hotel

(www.sirfrancisdrake.com)

450 Powell Street (at Sutter Street on Union Square)

San Francisco, CA 94102

\$149 per double occupancy room

Thursday, September 21st

Tour Event - Beach Blanket Babylon

Friday, September 22nd

CE Classes, Welcome Reception

Saturday, September 23rd

Business Meetings, Awards Luncheon, Closing Banquet

Future Outings will include touring the wine country, SBC Park, golf tournaments ...

INSURANCE WOMEN OF LOS ANGELES, INC.

INSURANCE WOMAN OF THE YEAR

NOMINATION FORM

Please nominate a current member of the Insurance Women of Los Angeles, Inc. for the award of Insurance Woman of the Year.

The winner will be chosen on a point schedule based on a member who has been active in this association, served on the State, Regional and National levels, and active in educational pursuits. Dedication to our association and NAIW are important factors.

Nominations shall be accepted from current members only. Please send nominations along with score sheet by May 1st.

I, _____ nominate the following as Insurance Woman of the Year Award: _____

I have attached my point schedule for this nominee.

Mail to: IWLA-Insurance Woman of the Year Committee
Attn: Lily Gastelum
HOFFMAN BROWN COMPANY
15322 Ventura Blvd., West Plaza
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
lgastelum@hoffmanbrown.com
818-808-1058

INSURANCE WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Point System for Current Term

Attendance	5 pts each
Local Meetings	
Regular	
Board	
National Convention	2 pts
Regional Conference	2 pts
State Meeting	5 pts
Industry Related Seminar	2pts each
Special Events sponsored by other Assoc.	2 pts each
Special Events sponsored by our Assoc.	2 pts each
Serving on National, Regional, State or local committee	5 pts each
National, Regional, State or local Officers	5 pts each
National, Regional, State or local Committee Chairman	5 pts each
Completion of recognized NAIW program	5 pts each
Passing a National Exam	5 pts each
Completion of IEA or IIA sanctioned course	10 pts each
Obtaining a California license	2 pts each
Completion of other professional development educational courses	2 pts each
Receiving any professional designation	20 pts each
Instructor of an IEA or IIA sanctioned course	10 pts each
Coordinator/instructor of NAIW program or Association sponsored seminar	5 pts each
Sponsorship of a new member	5 pts each

Delegate's Report of the 61st Annual NAIW Region VIII Conference

I would like to thank the members of IWLA for allowing me to represent the Association at the 61st Annual NAIW Region VIII Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada from March 23rd -25th, 2006. The Conference Agenda was "P.O.W.E.R." Professional Organization Working (at) Education (and) Relationships.

IWLA had 12 members in attendance: **Mitula Patel, Lily Gastelum, Susan Fife, Deborah Paladino, Chris Lipka, Christine Tillett, Marilyn Cartrett, Marion Graham, Victoria Lovinggood, Rhea Meshekow and Susan Dixon.**

Thursday- Designated for education. Lily, Marilyn, Victoria and I took the 4 hour Leadership Development Class. Mitula, Marion and I took the Disaster Planning and Recovery Procedures Class in the afternoon. Both of these classes provided excellent insight and materials, so if any of you are interested in checking them out, please let me know. Thursday night was good for Lily, Susan, Deborah and Chris who took in the Celine Dion Show.

Friday- Mitula Patel was the Committee Chair for the First Timers. She arranged their Orientation Breakfast, provided them with special gifts and seasoned members who spoke to them about the rewards of being a member of NAIW. After that, they got to make a special entrance to the First business session. Michele Epstein, Region VIII Vice President presided. Gloria Bruno, NAIW President-Elect was in attendance and also spoke to us. We were treated to a dynamic keynote speaker-Judge Nancy Osterle. She discussed her rise in the legal system, various cases that go before her bench and her volunteer work with schools. She feels it is important to get to the kids before they turn down a wrong path that can affect their lives forever. There were 4 candidates for the CWC Speak-Off. IWLA congratulates the winner, **Kim Shipman** of Las Vegas Insurance Professionals, who will go on to compete at National. During the Second Business Session, as Robin Fawkes (CA. State Director) was presenting her report for the state, she singled out Chris Lipka to the members in recognition of her retirement. We concluded with a 'Meet the Candidates/Delegates Briefing.' Michele Epstein and Judy LeBel were the 2 candidates for Region VIII Vice-President. The evening concluded with the Welcome Party "ROCKIN' GOOD TIME" at the Top of the Riv. Las Vegas Insurance Professionals (host association) did a spectacular job with the decorations, food, music and ambience. Elvis was there to pose for pictures and entertain us.

Saturday-Was our Third Business Session. We have 1 Proposed Amendment to NAIW By-Laws. To more accurately accommodate our existing structure of States, Provinces, Commonwealth and Territories, all references to State Directors and State Directors-Elect, would be changed to Council Directors and Council Directors-Elect. In order to pass, the recommended amendment to NAIW National By-Laws requires approval by a majority of the delegates voting at the 2006 regional conferences and again at the 2006 national convention in June (if it passes at the regional conferences).

We had 1 Proposed Amendment to Region VIII By-Laws. It was proposed that Region VIII Public Relations Award heading now read **Roy Pasini Memorial Award for Public Relations**. He was a long time supporter of NAIW both personally and with his publication Underwriters Report and facilitated most of Region VIII's Public Relations efforts for at least four decades. This amendment passed and will become effective July 1, 2006. The awards, procedures and funds will also reflect this change.

Michele Epstein, current Region VIII Vice President was re-elected for another term. Sally Nordwall-Echols was elected Region VIII Delegate to the National Convention and Jolene Gilbert was elected Region VIII Alternate to the National Convention.

The Re-Confirmation of Regional Bids was as always, very entertaining. Once we adjourned, we all gathered for the Presidents' Recognition Luncheon "**TEA PARTY.**"

I would like to thank you all for my gorgeous orchid corsage that was the perfect accessory at the luncheon and the Awards Banquet later that night, where we were serenaded by the Rat Pack- Marilyn Monroe, Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra.

This year, there were several awards that did not receive nominations from any of the associations in Region VIII. In prior years, IWLA always had numerous candidates and winners in these categories. We have a number of qualified members who deserve to at least be nominated on the State, Regional and National level. Hopefully, we can do something as an association to change that.

I would like to conclude with a very special thank you to the members who served on various committees at this conference, but most of all to thank Marilyn and Victoria for their overwhelming success at fund-raising on behalf of IWLA. They put in many long hours in order to accomplish this and we are most grateful for their dedication and hard work on behalf of IWLA.

In Fellowship,

Cathryn Feely
President
IWLA

IWLA thanks our sponsors!

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