

IWLA Cover Note

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Visit us on the web!
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:

Hope you all enjoyed the Thanksgiving Holiday. Many of our friends and colleagues have been through some very challenging times during 2005. Loss of friends and family, loss of homes, property, jobs, relationships, etc. remind us that we need to give thanks for what we do have and continue to be supportive to those who are not as fortunate. That is one of the best qualities of IWLA- we have always been there for others.

November was designated Membership and Education Month for IWLA. We sponsored an interesting one-hour CE Class on Lloyd's at our November 16th Dinner Meeting that was presented by Anthony Joseph. We would like to thank all of the prospective members and guests who joined us. Many thanks to the members, who put the word out, brought prospective new members, co-workers and old members we haven't seen for a while. Thank you to the members who spoke about NAIW/IWLA. I would also like to acknowledge the following members:

Andrea Gable-Setterstrom- Education Chair who organized the CE Class and did such an excellent job of circulating the flyers.

Marilyn Cartrett- Membership Chair who organized the Membership Drive and brought so many co-workers from USI.

Mitula Patel & Peter C. Foy & Associates- Vice President who generously donated ten pairs of AMC Movie Tickets for a drawing. Only guests and prospective new members were eligible to win.

Cynthia Andrachick- Arrangements Chair who always does such a great job planning our monthly dinner meetings.

Marion Graham- Education Co-Chair who organized the 50/50 Drawing.

Lily Gastelum- President-Elect who assumed my duties at the dinner meeting since I was unavoidably out of town for business.

Continued on page 2



President's Corner

Continued from page 1

The Executive Board will meet at 5:30 PM on **Wednesday, December 14th** at the Beverly Garland Hotel. Our Holiday Dinner Meeting will take place immediately following. Don't forget to bring your unwrapped toy to the meeting as IWLA will be donating unwrapped toys to the Peter C. Foy Foundation Annual Toy Drive. **Please note that we will be having our Holiday Gift Exchange. \$20.00 gift minimum.**

CONDOLENCES go out to Janine Atkins from all of us, who lost her father in early November. You and your family are in our thoughts.

THANKS FOR STAYING IN TOUCH-

goes out to Margie Scott and Anne Nichols. We love your letters, e-mails, postcards and pictures. We do understand that you love retirement, but your local presence is sorely missed. Our best to you and your families.

REMINDERS

National NAIW is in the process of upgrading their current web site and e-mail. As a result, they may be unable to receive your e-mails. If they do not respond to you within three (3) business days please re-send your e-mail because the original document was more than likely lost. They appreciate your cooperation during their upgrade process.

Southern California Inter-Coordinating Council Meeting- Will take place on Saturday, 1/28/06 at the Hilton Suites Hotel Orange/Anaheim from 9:00 AM -2:00 PM. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy, happy holiday season.

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.

Covernote Reminder

All submissions for the January Covernote are due no later than Friday, December 16, 2005 to the editor, Victoria Lovinggood



Calendar of Events



Happy Holidays

December 14, 2005

Board & Dinner Meeting – Holiday Party
More information to follow

Happy New Year

January 11, 2006

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

January 18, 2006

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

January 28, 2006

California Inter-Coordinating Council Meeting
More information to follow

February is Legislation Month

February 8, 2005

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

February 15, 2005

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

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



Safety News

Nancy Burgos
Safety Committee Chairman

Christmas Tree Safety

- ? A real tree should not lose green needles when you tap it on the ground.
- ? Cut one inch off the trunk to help absorb water.
- ? Leave the tree outside until ready to decorate.
- ? The stand should hold at least one gal. of water.
- ? A six-foot tree will use one gallon of water every two days.
- ? Mix a commercial preservative with the water.
- ? Check the water level every day.
- ? Secure the tree with wire to keep it from tipping.
- ? Keep tree away from floor heaters, fireplaces, or other heat sources.
- ? Use only UL-listed lights, and no more than three strands linked together.
- ? Use miniature lights--which have cool-burning bulbs.
- ? Turn off the Christmas lights when you sleep, or if you leave your home for very long.
- ? Never use candles, even on artificial trees.
- ? Clean the tree stand to improve the tree's water intake, use one capful of bleach to a cup of water.
- ? Dispose of the tree properly.

NEVER BURN A REAL TREE IN THE FIREPLACE.

Home Safety

- ? Install a smoke detector or new batteries in the one(s) you have and TEST it.
 - ? Use only outdoor lights outside your home.
 - ? Examine light strings each year and discard worn ones.
 - ? Fasten the bulbs securely and point the sockets down to avoid moisture build up.
 - ? Connect no more than three strands together.
 - ? Never use indoor extension cords outside.
 - ? Avoid overloading wall outlets and extension cords.
 - ? Keep outdoor electrical connectors above ground and out of puddles and snow.
 - ? Unplug light string before replacing a bulb.
- Review the original package to verify proper wattage and voltage.
- ? When connecting light strands, wrap a plastic bag around connections and tie ends with teflon tape.

- ? Never use electric lights on a metallic tree, use colored spot lights.
- ? Make sure trees hung with Christmas lights are not touching power lines.
- ? Place candles in sturdy containers. Remember, hot wax burns kids.
- ? Extinguish candles prior to going to bed.
- ? Dispose of fireplace ashes into a metal container until cold.
- ? After parties, check around and under sofa and chair cushions for smoldering cigarettes. (Provide lots of ashtrays)
- ? Install at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home.
- ? Have an operable fire extinguisher readily available.

"Safety" Gift Ideas

- Put together a gift basket containing one or more of the following items:
- ? Three smoke detectors and batteries.
 - ? A quality fire extinguisher.
 - ? A flashlight and batteries or light sticks.
 - ? A first-aid kit.
 - ? A carbon monoxide detector.
 - ? A mobile phone.
 - ? A second floor escape ladder.
 - ? "Emergency kit"- energy bars, water, battery radio, flashlight/light sticks and a first-aid kit packed in a small travel bag.

Please have an enjoyable and safe Holiday season.



We had such a great turnout for our Education-Membership Month. There were approximately 40 in attendance, it was so good to have a full room. Lloyd's of London gave an interesting presentation. We learned the history of the company and how they have grown both financially as well as their corporate structure. We owe a thank you to Abram Interstate for their sponsorship of this class. Marilyn Cartrett put together very impressive Membership Packets and many were handed out. We will get the numbers from her soon. Hopefully this will see new faces at our meetings! My personal thank you to Carola Meister for her Communicate with Confidence class as it helped me to conduct the Business Meeting with so many guests in attendance. It is coming to the end of the year, everyone should look back and see what they have learned and or accomplished this past year. IWLA as a group has done well the past year and we all deserve a big pat on the back. I know personally I have learned a lot and will continue to do so as I enter the New Year and my future as President- thank you to all who have supported me. I look forward to another full Business Meeting on the 14th of December, which will also be our Holiday Dinner. Don't forget your \$20.00 gift to exchange as well our Peter C. Foy Toy Drive. Everyone have a great Thanksgiving!

Respectfully,

Lily Gastelum, CISR, CPIW
President Elect

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.

Happy Birthday to our Members:



Rhea Meshekow- December 11

Cathryn Feely – December 27

Deborah Paladino – December 28

Nancy Burgos – December 28

I W L A
&
PETER C. FOY, INC.
PARTNER IN TOYS

Bring a toy(s) for a girl or boy ages 1-18 years of age to the December 14th dinner meeting and make someone less fortunate happy for the Holidays.

November 28, 2005

To: 2005-06 Executive Committee, Board of Directors, State Directors and Local Presidents,

Belated Happy Thanksgiving! I hope that you were able to share the holiday with those you love and were thankful for the gifts we have here in the United States of America. This year was especially meaningful for me. With special thanks we sat at the table to eat...we knew that all of our family members were safe and with loved ones – a special gift this year.

*An exciting announcement: **the new web site www.naiw.org is available for you to view and use.** On December 1 the website will be fully operational with certain sections still under construction. I am so proud of the work that NAIW National has done to make this professional and user friendly web site available to the members of the organization. Please take the time to review the site and how it is organized (a little different from the past). The colors are the current NAIW colors and that is exciting.*

Now that we have this wonderful web site we want you to share in the excitement. You can link your local association, state council or regional organization to the website. Here is how you do that: Go to Fax on Demand and locate the form to link your group to the website.

Fill out the form

Sign and send back to Melissa Adams at NAIW National

How wonderful that all of our associations will be able to be reached through one web site.

As winter darkness creeps in earlier and earlier each evening we must keep the excitement of moonlight and starlight in our thoughts. There are many opportunities to hold local association meetings with 30 minute presentations, or classes available from the NAIW store, have holiday parties to raise funds for charity or for your association, locate speakers that will create light in your association because of the knowledge or enthusiasm they share. Keep the communications with your members constant and full of NAIW news.


Speaking of excitement have you completed your Reach for the Star, Achieve your Dream cards? Those who have, received a special phone call. The delight and surprise in their voice when they hear my voice is worth every call. The best part is getting to know each of you a little better. So check out the card on the President's Page and complete the 45 points required. A special call to you will be my pleasure.

I wish you all health, wealth and peace this holiday and for the coming year. May you be blessed with loved ones, whether they be family or friends, during this special time of year.

Yours in fellowship;

*Joanna M. Mahoney ARM, CPCU, CPIW, DAE, NAIW International President
Look Beyond the Horizon Achieve Your Dreams*

IWLA thanks our sponsors!



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Cathryn Feely
 Vice President



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

INSURANCE WOMEN OF LOS ANGELES, INC.
HAS WON THE BID TO HOST THE

2008 STATE MEETING

Let's make this an event that everyone will talk about. We need to get a committee formed, so get your creative minds in gear and contact Lily Gastelum if you are interested in being a co-chair or committee member.

The committees' first job will be to choose a theme and location.

Victoria Lovinggood is our first volunteer.

We need to get started as soon as possible, so please call or email me NOW!

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