President’s Monthly Message
by Allen Leatherwood, IIA Albuquerque Chapter President

I recently went to a leadership conference sponsored by The IIA in Orlando, Florida. This conference is an annual event held for and attended by chapter leaders within the North American Region. This included chapters from the United States, Canada, and Caribbean Islands. Three things really hit home for me during my attendance at this conference. One is that our chapter is considered a midsize chapter in terms of membership. With over 160 chapters in the North American Region we have a relatively consistent and strong membership base here in the Southwest. The second is the number of individuals I met during these three days who truly had a desire and the dedication to enhance the Internal Auditing profession through outreach, continuing education and service to the profession. The final eye-opener for me was our own chapter’s continued achievement of excellence for service to our membership. The IIA has a complex tracking and scoring system called the Chapter Achievement Program, which awards points over each fiscal year on various areas such as continuing education offered to members, social events sponsored by our chapter, IIA certifications issued to members, scholarships made available for college students interested in Internal Auditing, and chapter advocacy, which addresses our outreach within the community to help improve the image of our profession. The IIA offers four levels of service achievement to its various chapters. If a chapter accumulates 685 points or more, they receive a Bronze award. To achieve a Silver award, a chapter has to achieve 1060 points, and for a Gold achievement a chapter has to reach 1560 points. For a chapter to achieve Platinum status, they must achieve the gold status for the last ten out of 11 years. Based upon my review of IIA records it appears only 30% of all chapters achieve the Gold status for more than ten years. Our chapter has achieved the Platinum status for the last four years, which means we achieved the Gold status for the last 15. To me this means that for the last 15 years our current and past Board members have done an outstanding job in a volunteer role to offer the very best to the New Mexico IIA members.
Albuquerque Chapter Upcoming Events

July 2014
Please join us for our next Quarterly Meeting, where we will be presenting two 4-hour training sessions:

Communication Skills for the 21st Century Auditor

and

Critical Thinking Skills for Auditors

Date/Time: July 16, 2014 8 am – 5 pm (registration begins at 7:30 am)

Cost: $175 members; $200 non-members (lunch and snacks included)

Location: CNM Workforce Training Center 5600 Eagle Rock Ave NE, Albuquerque

Speaker: Phil Flora

CPE: 8 hours

Registration and cancellation deadline is Thursday, July 10. Attendees who cancel after the deadline will be charged for the full cost of the meeting.

Please see our website at https://chapters.theiia.org/albuquerque/Events/Pages/July-2014-Seminar.aspx for full course details and speaker bio.

Communication Skills for the 21st Century Auditor
During this session you will learn to:
- Communicate effectively with audit customer/clients and other stakeholders
- Deal with difficult people and situations
- Negotiate with ease
- Negotiate to a result that benefits both parties
- Communicate with management and sell your ideas/findings
- Strengthen relationships with audit customers/clients
- Use reference materials provided for personal and audit team future development

Critical Thinking Skills for Auditors
During this session you will learn to:
- Understand what critical thinking is and how to use it in the audit process
- Develop your critical thinking skills
- Use different types of critical thinking to improve the internal audit
- Perform critical thinking to strengthen audit evidence and the resulting findings/issues and conclusions
- Use the tips, techniques tools and approaches to add additional value to internal audit and the organization by providing/considering alternative approaches/recommendations/solutions

2014/2015 Calendar of Events
Keep watching for specifics on the following upcoming events:

August 2014: Networking Event – FREE FOR MEMBERS!

September 2014: 1-hour Audit Executive Roundtable

October 2014: 1-hour, 4-hour, or 8-hour Quarterly Meeting

November 2014: 16-hour Fall Seminar

December 2014: Annual Holiday Social and Networking Event

January 2015: 1-hour, 4-hour, or 8-hour Quarterly Meeting

February 2015: Networking Event – FREE FOR MEMBERS!

March 2015: 16-hour Spring Seminar

April 2015: 1-hour, 4-hour, or 8-hour Quarterly Meeting

May 2015: 1-hour Audit Executive Roundtable

Upcoming IIA Members-Only Webinars
The IIA’s complimentary Members-only Webinar Series is available exclusively to you as part of your membership investment. These monthly educational webinars are developed specifically with IIA members in mind.

To register for a members-only webinar, visit The IIA’s website at https://na.theiia.org/training/elearning/Pages/Members-only-Webinars.aspx.

June 17, 2014
Members-only Webinar: Becoming a More Strategic Internal Auditor

July 23, 2014
Guidance Webinar: Independent Audit Committees in Public Sector Organizations
Meet Your 2014/2015 Board of Governors

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President: Allen Leatherwood
VP – Programs: Mike Hansen
VP – Membership: Marisa Vargas
Treasurer: Renee Martinez
Secretary: Michele Ziegler

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Programs Committee: Barbara Emmons
Registration Coordinator: Tracy Rowe
Website/Email Coordinator: KariAnn Blea

At-Large Governors
Jessica Bundy
Stacey Humphrey
Andrea Jaramillo

The new Board of Governors officially took office on June 1, 2014, and their terms run through May 31, 2015. Contact information for all Board members can be found on the back page of this newsletter and on our website.

Welcome New Members

The Albuquerque Chapter would like to welcome the following new members to the Chapter:
- Jeffrey Canney, New Mexico Department of Transportation
- Dianne Rossbach, NM Educational Retirement Board
- Leann Bell, City of Albuquerque
- JoAnn Zuniga, New Mexico State Taxation & Revenue Department
- Anna Salazar, New Mexico Gaming Control
- Nathan Garcia, Santa Ana Star Casino

We look forward to meeting you at a future Chapter event!

Chapter Survey Results

The Board of Governors would like to thank everyone who participated in this year’s survey. All feedback is being reviewed and considered by the Board; the information you provided is helping us to plan for programs, seminars, and networking events for the upcoming year. Thank you for informing us of what you find beneficial about the Albuquerque Chapter and also the issues that affect you as members.

As promised, a survey participant was randomly selected to receive a $25 gift card. Congratulations to Jennifer Goble!
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FROM THE EDITOR

Please submit all articles for consideration for the July newsletter by Tuesday, July 8.

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