President’s Letter

By Mike St. Martin, ASA

It’s truly an exciting time to be part of the Chicago Chapter of the ASA as we kick off the new year. I am pleased to say that we were presented with a number of awards at the recent ASA International Conference including Outstanding Chapter of the Year and Best Chapter Public Relations Program. These awards recognize the hard work and dedication that our member volunteers contributed to our chapter over the last year. We will be celebrating these accomplishments and socializing at our members-only opening night event at Sunda on Thursday, September 16 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. I hope to see you there.

We have a lot of exciting presentations planned for the upcoming year. I would like to encourage all of our members to visit our chapter’s website at www.appraisers.org/chicago to keep up-to-date on our chapter’s activities. In addition, please take time to visit our chapter’s new Facebook page where you’ll find pictures of our events at www.facebook.com/pages/Chicago-Chapter-033-of-the-American-Society-of-Appraisers/191426698243?ref=search.

On a separate note, I would like to thank Park Johnson, our outgoing chapter president, for his leadership over the last year. I would also like to introduce everyone to our 2010-11 chapter board members and leadership appointments. Board members include Patricia H. Atwood, Erin D. Hollis, Kevin Zanni, and Lela Hersh. We also welcome our new leadership appointees - Mike Ackerman, Mike Crismyre, John Friedman, Michael Holtzman, Jeffrey Kirk, and Carmen Sims. It is important to note that all of the above mentioned members are volunteers and are donating their time to coordinate and manage the activities of our chapter.

It is clear to me that our chapter’s success is based on our volunteers’ efforts and solid membership. I would like to encourage any members who have an interest in volunteering to contact any of our board members or leadership appointees for more information (see website or list at the end of this newsletter for contact information). I would also ask all members to continue to promote the ASA, the importance of accreditation, and society membership to your business contacts, friends, and colleagues. Thank you.
A WORD FROM DISCIPLINE CHAIRS

Business Valuation
By Carmen Sims

Merger and acquisition activity has improved over the prior year – with 51 U.S. based deal announcements over $1 billion for the first seven months of 2010, as compared with 39 during the same period in 2009. Although it’s not quite at the levels experienced in 2007/2008, the uptick may be a sign of restored economic confidence. As companies evaluate their overall transaction strategies, expect unique and complex deal characteristics to continue.

The Appraisal Foundation - New Sponsorship
RICS Americas, the New York-based regional branch of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, the world’s leading professional body for valuers across all asset classes, has just announced that it has become the first International Sponsor of The Appraisal Foundation. RICS, headquartered in London, is the leading worldwide organization of its kind for more than 100,000 professionals in property, land, construction and related environmental issues. For further information, visit www.ricsamericas.org.

International Valuation Standards Exposure Draft
IVSC has released a draft of its standards and received comments for review. A copy of the exposure draft, as well as their Overview and Questions for Respondents document on the exposure draft can be found on the website at www.ivsc.org.

Financial Accounting Standards Board Exposure Draft
FASB has also released an exposure draft with comments titled Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures (Topic 820) – Amendments for Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs (General Accepted Accounting Principles and International Financial Reporting Standards). This proposed update is a result of the continuing efforts of the FASB and the International Accounting Standards Board to develop common requirements for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and IFRSs. The Boards are working together to ensure that fair value will have the same meaning in the U.S. GAAP and in IFRSs, and that their respective fair value measurement and disclosure requirements will be the same (except for minor differences in wording and style). The Boards believe the amendments in this proposed Update will improve the comparability of fair value measurements presented and disclosed in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. standards and principles. For more information and to download a copy of this Exposure Draft, visit the FASB website.

Gems & Jewelry
By Michael Holtzman

Domestic diamond markets are hoping for a better second half of the year. Domestic activity has been muted and is in stark contrast with busy overseas markets catering to the burgeoning demand in local markets in India and the Far East. What does this mean for prices? Diamond prices are headed higher in the near term and have recovered much of what was lost during 2008-2009. A recent trade show in Mumbai, India was heralded as very successful and there is speculation that the upcoming Hong Kong show will be more of the same. This is in stark contrast with the industry’s largest but unsuccessful trade show that occurred earlier this summer in Las Vegas. Diamonds are finding the markets and those markets are not in the United States. Trade terms and prices are much more favorable overseas for sellers. Higher prices and shortages in select categories are on the horizon in the US. These and other macroeconomic pressures will put further stress on the weaker players in the trade. Domestic mass merchants in jewelry categories that cater to the low-end and mid-level consumer are particularly vulnerable. Higher-end international jewelry retailers will fare much better in this environment.

Consumers can expect higher prices until the end of year in most diamond categories. A weaker dollar would spur higher diamond prices domestically. As the domestic economy recovers, diamonds will continue to find the most attractive world markets, and today that is often not in the US.

Machinery & Technical Specialties
By Michael Ackerman, ASA

The International Manufacturing Technology Show will take place September 13-18 at McCormick Place. This is the largest manufacturing technology show in the Americas. There are amazing things on display that entertain people like me – someone who has been looking at equipment for years. I also believe that the show would be entertaining to members in other disciplines to see something different in a pleasant environment that is close to the loop. There is an admission charge, but it could be a pleasant diversion for those who have time (see www.imts.com).

I have heard from several associates in the machinery industry that business is weak, but others are saying that business is strong. It seems big companies with large staff are busier than smaller companies. People are not satisfied with the level of current business activity and they point to the same problem areas - jobs, lack of funding, general feeling of uneasiness, fear of making the wrong move and making things worse than they already are. On the flip side, I met a fellow recently who was proud he had just brought a manufacturing job back to his company from India and had the potential to get another. The equipment market is still spotty. Daily equipment values vary up and down without clear cause. We must remain optimistic and hope for improvement.
A WORD FROM DISCIPLINE CHAIRS

Personal Property
By Patricia H. Atwood

It’s never fun to read sensational news report involving appraisers. This summer an appraiser’s client called a press conference and announced a $200 million value for “lost” Ansel Adams negatives. The happy client said that he had purchased these negatives at a garage sale for $45. After authentication by a team of experts, he turned to a Beverly Hills’ appraiser for help.

Who is the appraiser? He is not a member of ASA. According to a story in The New York Times, he bills himself as “Los Angeles’s leading appraiser of all genres of fine art and celebrity memorabilia.” He also has a gallery, where you can now purchase prints and posters related to the appraised negatives.

An August article in The New York Times discusses problems with the authentication and thus with the valuation. The story includes quotes from a skeptical previous employer and notes that the appraiser was convicted of petty theft and fraud in two states. Here is the URL for the August 14, 2010 NY Times article by Reyhan Harmanci,: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/14/arts/design/14photos.html?_r=3&scp=1&sq=%22Tale%20of%20Ansel%20Adams%22&st=cse

Leaving aside the sensational aspects of this case, it is interesting to read a description of appraisal methodology that is presented on the appraiser’s own website. The research process, for which he charges $150, is described as taking one hour. He explains that his research “entails searching through a minimum of six paid worldwide databases and then data files of my own compilation.” The appraiser also states that “appraisals, unless otherwise arranged, are done from hard copy or digital images provided by the client.” You can read more details at the following: http://davidstreetsbeverlyhills.com/fine-art-appraisal.php

Comments about appraisals done without a personal inspection of the property? Questions about research based upon a minimum of six Internet queries? What about the authentication process in this case?

I’m looking forward to the fall ASA Chicago Chapter meetings where we can learn from lively discussion of these and other professional issues. As always, you can earn CPE credit by attending one of the monthly presentations (whether it’s in your specialty area or not), and we welcome all ASA members to come enjoy the conversations.

Real Property
By Jeffrey T. Kirk, ASA

National and state legislation improves the appraisal profession.

The national HR 4173 - The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Bill - was signed into law by the President on July 21, 2010, and the Illinois HB 1015 amendment to the Real Estate Appraiser Act of 2002 bill was signed into law by the Governor on December 28, 2009. These legislations foretell the good future of appraising and will benefit the overall profession.

Some of the changes contained in the national bill include:

- Ensuring that appraisers are paid a “customary and reasonable fee” for their services
- Increasing the use of appraisals in a variety of residential real estate transactions
- Providing for clear protections of appraiser independence, stopping coercion
- Ensuring that consumers receive appraisal reports before closing
- Regulating appraisal management companies, providing for transparency of automated valuation models, and limiting the use of broker price opinions

The improvements contained in the Illinois bill also reflect well on all Disciplines.

- Mandatory licensing of real estate appraisers in Illinois
- New penalties for the extortion, coercion or bribery of an appraiser.

The mandatory licensing requirement ensures that qualified professionals are competent to perform appraisals to high standards.

Appraisal legislation for all disciplines

Jim Blaydes has been an active proponent of the Illinois legislation through his position as a leader of the Illinois Coalition of Appraisal Professionals and as a member of the Illinois Appraisal Board. Recently, Mr. Blaydes was at a speaking engagement and responded to the comment that appraisers of all disciplines want the same safeguards and protections that are now in place for Real Property appraisers. He was asked for his suggestion as to the best way to bring this about for all appraisers. His response was very direct - “Become politically active.”
EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Conferences, Panels, Presentations, Symposia and Workshops

WEBINAR
SEPTEMBER 22, 11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.
HTTP://WWW.APPRAISERS.ORG/EDUCATION/VIEWCLASS.ASPX?CLASSID=2526
MTS AIRCRAFT BLUEBOOK
PRESENTER, CAROL JANSSENS, ASA

EXHIBITION
SEPTEMBER 13-18
MCCORMICK PLACE, CHICAGO
THE INTERNATIONAL MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY SHOW ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY (MTS)

TOUR
MERCHANTISE MART, CHICAGO
OCTOBER 4, 2010
INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUES FAIR
TOUR: PATRICIA H. ATWOOD, ASA

CONFERENCE
SOUTH BEACH, MIAMI, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 4 - 6, 2010
ASA AND CICBV JOINT BV CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE
SOUTH BEACH, MIAMI, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 6, 2010
INTERNATIONAL VALUATION SUMMIT

CONFERENCE
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINE
OCTOBER 11 – 16, 2010
PERSONAL PROPERTY CONFERENCE

PRESENTATION
UBS BUILDING, CONFERENCE CENTER
NOVEMBER 18, 2010
GET THE PICTURE: PHOTOGRAPHING OBJECTS FOR APPRAISAL REPORTS
PRESENTER: JAKE FISH, DOUGLAS TOMSKY & ASSOCIATES

International Antiques Fair

One of the world’s most expansive antiques fair and Chicago’s most eclectic finds will be featured at The Merchandise Mart in early October. The International Antiques Fair is the ultimate treasure hunt for seasoned connoisseurs and novice collectors. This year will feature a new pavilion at the Fair with an eclectic mix of urban antiques and vintage objects. Please join Patricia H. Atwood, ASA, when she conducts a tour of the fair on Monday, October 4 from noon to 2:00 p.m. CPE credits will be awarded.

Get the Picture: Photographing Objects for Appraisal Reports

ASA Candidate Member Jake Fish of Douglas Tomsky & Associates will offer tips for appraisal inspection photography. With information that is useful both for beginning digital photographers as well as seasoned appraisers, this talk will focus on how to improve your technique and efficiency in this important skill. Come join the conversation and earn CPE credits on Thursday, November 18, 2010, at the Conference Center at UBS Tower, One North Wacker Drive. Registration begins 11:30, program begins at noon.

Personal Property Conference

The Personal Property Discipline is holding its fall conference at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) in the 18th century Old Salem district of Winston-Salem, NC. The conference sessions on October 11, 12 and 13 will be a series of connoisseurship studies of antiques and decorative arts taught by Fran Zeman, FASA, and Janella Smyth, FASA, focusing on preparation for ASA’s antiques & decorative arts examination. The October 14, 15 and 16 sessions will be taught by Judith Vance, ASA, and will focus on connoisseurship and appraisal of fine arts. Access to the resources and collections at MESDA will be an integral component of the conference. Keep checking http://www.appraisers.org/PPHome/PPHome.aspx for additional conference information.

BV Conferences

The ASA and CICBV are holding a joint conference in South Beach, Miami, October 4-6, 2010. Topics include valuation for financial reporting, transaction and advisory services, fair market value and litigation.

Immediately following the conference, the International Valuation Summit will be held at the same location (on the afternoon of October 6). Topics covered include International Financial Reporting Standards, Issues in Managing an International BV Assignment, and Managing a Successful International BV Practice. Please visit www.bvconference.com for more details.
CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

Business Valuation Education Courses

The ASA Business Valuation Committee has updated their Principles of Valuation (POV) Education Series with a new and improved curriculum. This new curriculum is designed to address current topics that appraisers face. Information on the new curriculum can be found at www.appraisers.org.

Personal Property Education Courses

ASA is no longer partnering with Northwestern University in their continuing studies department. ASA was one of eight humanities programs that were discontinued as part of budget cutting at NWU. The Personal Property Discipline is currently seeking other partners and options. Stay tuned!
Designation Awarded

The Chicago Chapter of ASA is proud to announce that Suzanne M. Varkalis-Smycz, AM was recently awarded her designation.

Welcome New Members

Kristin Fox
Vincent Mercader
Carl Seidman

Illinois Association of Museums Conference

In the spirit of promoting ASA and our Chicago Chapter, several ASA Chicago Chapter members have volunteered to staff a booth at the Annual Conference of the Illinois Association of Museums in Naperville on November 4. If you would like to join us, please email Patricia H. Atwood, ASA.

SUNDA New Asian

Join your colleagues at a members-only opening evening for cocktails and appetizers.

Thursday, September 16, 2010
110 W. Illinois
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

YouTube

To further promote the ASA brand, the appraisal profession and our members, ASA launched its very own YouTube Channel, “ASA Television”. ASA plans to post more and more videos in the future that briefly discuss hot topics in the appraisal field. We encourage everyone to check out all of our current videos, provide some feedback, share the videos with your friends, and subscribe to ASA's YouTube Channel!

Insurance

Member Benefit Highlight: Professional Liability Insurance

No matter how well you do your job, you can still be sued. As an appraiser, your biggest challenge today may be finding liability insurance for which your practice area qualifies. In fact, many insurance companies do not offer coverage for any appraisal services. Marsh, working together with ASA, has developed the ASA Professional Liability Program to counter risks you face, and protect you for negligent acts, errors, and omissions. Call (800) 367-7950 or go to https://www.proliability.com/professional-liability-insurance/appraisers/american-society-of-appraisers for more information.

The ASA Professional Liability Program is not designed to insure high exposure practice areas such as Business Valuation. For “high risk” insurance, ASA has partnered with Murray Risk Management and established its own separate Professional Liability Insurance Program, available only to ASA business valuation discipline members. Go to www.murrayins.com or call Jeff Gelburd at (800) 533-5271, ext 381 for complete information.

New Chicago Chapter Board

Erin Durand Hollis, ASA (2nd Vice President), Kevin Zanni, ASA (Secretary), Patricia H. Atwood, ASA (1st Vice President), Mike St. Martin, ASA (President) and Lela Hersh, AM (Treasurer)
CONGRATULATIONS CHICAGO CHAPTER FOR WINNING OUTSTANDING ASA CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR THE 7TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR!

Chicago Chapter Awards

Chris Wall holding Application for International Awards

Lela Hersh, AM, awarded Greene-Kuehnle Scholarship Award and Erin Durand Hollis, ASA, wins Best Contributing Member Award
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<tr>
<th>ACRONYMS</th>
<th>DEFINITION</th>
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<tr>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>Appraisers Association of America</td>
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<td>ABV</td>
<td>Accredited in Business Valuation</td>
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<td>CRS</td>
<td>Accelerated Cost Recovery Schedule</td>
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<td>ACV</td>
<td>Actual Cash Value</td>
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<td>Accredited Agricultural Appraiser</td>
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<td>ASA</td>
<td>American Society of Appraisers / Accredited Senior Appraiser</td>
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<td>Accounting Standards Codification</td>
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<td>CEA</td>
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<td>Chartered Financial Analyst</td>
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<td>CSA</td>
<td>Certified Senior Appraiser</td>
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<td>DCF</td>
<td>Discounted Cash Flow</td>
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<td>Depreciated Replacement Cost</td>
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<td>Effective Age</td>
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<td>Fair Market Value</td>
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<td>Fair Market Value In Continued Use</td>
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<td>International Financial Reporting Standards</td>
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<td>Liquidation Value in Place</td>
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<td>MPPA</td>
<td>Master Personal Property Appraiser</td>
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<td>MTS</td>
<td>Machinery &amp; Technical Specialties</td>
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<td>Net Operating Income</td>
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<td>Normal Useful Life</td>
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<td>Professional Engineer</td>
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<td>Personal Property</td>
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<td>Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors</td>
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<td>Return on Investment</td>
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<td>Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice</td>
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<td>WACC</td>
<td>Weighted Average Cost of Capital</td>
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Chicago Shines at ASA International Conference

By Erin Hollis, ASA

On July 26, 2010, ASA kicked off the annual International Appraisers Conference in Las Vegas. The Chicago Chapter was a standout on many levels during this event. During the Town Hall Meeting, the Chicago Chapter won the ASA trophy for Outstanding Chapter of the Year, and Best Chapter Public Relations Program. Chicago has won the Best Chapter award every year since 2003, and has won the Public Relations award for a record 12 years out of the past 20, and every year since 2002.

The conference was well attended with over 300 attendees. Robert Schlegel, ASA, incoming International President, announced his committee chair appointments, which include Chicago Chapter member Erin Hollis, ASA, as Public Relations Chair. Also on the executive committee is incoming International Treasurer/Secretary Daniel Van Vleet, ASA. During the weekend, several members of the Chicago Chapter were interviewed for the ASA’s new YouTube website. Patricia Atwood, ASA, Sharon Desfor, ASA, Erin Hollis, ASA, and Douglas Krieser, ASA, were featured. You can see the videos at www.youtube.com/asaappraisers. Topics discussed on the social media site include ASA education, and a day in the life of an appraiser. Also, several Chicago Chapter members made presentations at the conference:

Patricia H. Atwood, ASA (Decorative Arts during Times of Financial Crisis: Case study on American Clocks during the 1837 Panic and Depression),

Edward G. Detwiler, ASA (two sessions - Medical Equipment Appraisal Symposium and Healthcare Valuation – An Interdisciplinary Approach)

Roger J. Grabowski, ASA (Cost of Capital with International Flavor)

Golf Outing


WHAT’S BEEN GOING ON?

Patricia H. Atwood, Robert Schlegel, Erin D. Hollis, Dan Van Vleet, Park Johnson, and Michael Evans at the International conference.

Bryan Fleming, Michael Holtzman, Jason Fauss

Jason Fauss

Jordan Donsky and Jason Fauss
WHAT’S BEEN GOING ON?

End of the Year Party at Nacional 27 Restaurant

Pamela Bardo and Diane Carr

Incoming President Mike St. Martin, ASA and outgoing President Park Johnson, ASA

Wes Nichols, Karen Leppert, Brent Maier, Nicole Stango

Robert Musur, Tom Popovic, Adrian Galis, Michael Crismyre, and Brad Hirsch

Dan Van Vleet, Brad Hirsch, and Erin D. Hollis
IN THE NEWS

A New Role for a Veteran
Dan Van Vleet

By Joey Rivera

Many professionals in the appraisal business are familiar with Dan Van Vleet, as he has been a long time participant and active member of the ASA and the BV community. Van Vleet is a Managing Director in the Valuation and Financial Opinions Group of Stout, Risius, Ross and was recently elected to the Executive Committee of the International Board of Governors of the ASA where he will serve as the 2010-11 International Secretary/Treasurer and will also chair the Budget and Finance Committee.

Van Vleet started his valuation career at Willamette Management Associates working for Shannon Pratt in Portland, Oregon. He received a MBA from the University of Chicago (1995) and became involved with the Chicago chapter (1997), serving on the board for five years and was president in 2001. Van Vleet also served on the board of the ASA International Business Valuation Committee (2002-2006). During his time of service on that committee, Van Vleet authored a paper that assisted in the restructuring of ASA governance.

In his new role on the ASA International executive board, Van Vleet, along with other committee members, will focus on expanding the efforts in the areas of education, valuation standards, professional credentials, and governmental relations. Each pursuit has its own unique set of challenges, but there is already evidence of success on multiple fronts. The ASA, along with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuers, co-founded the International Institute of Business Valuers. The objective of the IIIBV is to become an umbrella organization of BV organizations working together to deliver international valuation education. For those not involved with the BV specialty, the board is also working on addressing recent SEC and Congressional legislation regarding valuation practices and the move towards adoption of international accounting and financial reporting standards.

Van Vleet jokes that he wants to help make the ASA a “cool” organization to be a part of; much of this starts with finding ways of attracting new/young professionals and ensuring local chapters offer a host of opportunities and events that appeal to all members. He applauds the efforts of those who recently organized the BV Symposium this past year, and the effect it had on bringing continued recognition to the Chicago chapter. Ultimately, we all have the opportunity to create a better chapter and work with our fellow professionals at each of our respective firms and get them involved.

Jose A. Rivera - A New Face in the Chicago Chapter

Rivera is an associate in at Deloitte Financial Advisory Services, LLP, in the valuation practice where he supports both machinery & equipment and business valuation teams due diligence engagements related to pending merger and acquisition transactions, public-company purchase price allocations, goodwill impairment measurement, and international restructurings. He would eventually like to be in a position where he can leverage the training associated from both these ASA and CFA designations, and get involved in other aspects of a transaction - capital raising, financial restructurings, and strategic financial advisory. He hopes he will be at a higher position with increased responsibility within his firm in the next ten years.

Rivera was born in San Antonio, Texas but because of his father’s military career, grew up in 5 different countries and 8 states. He earned a B.S in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan (2005), and also served as an officer and combat engineer in the military. When he was not deployed, Rivera took graduate courses in finance and accounting in order to pursue a career in business. He is currently pursuing a M.S. in Finance from Indiana University’s Kelley School of Business and has completed several ASA courses for both BV and MTS designations - his interest is in both the tangible and intangible side of valuation.

When not at work, Rivera can usually be found outdoors - running in races, playing soccer and sailing. This summer, he traveled to West Virginia for a week of white-water rafting, camping and horseback riding. Stepping away from the office, turning off his PDA and enjoying some outdoor adventure was a wonderful and relaxing get-away. He looks forward to being more involved in ASA.
In Memoriam
Park R. Johnson, ASA, MRICS

I attended my friend George Weinberger’s memorial service in June. George was a mentor to me when I got into this business. I knew him as a good appraiser who took the time to teach people how to do things right. He was an advocate for the American Society of Appraisers because of the professionalism that it gave our occupation. He was always willing to introduce people and help them out. He loved his family.

After attending his memorial service, I feel that I only partly knew him. I knew George at the end of a long career. Before I met George, he had worked at Kemper, Price Waterhouse, and Valtec. Before then, he worked as an engineer and estimator. George had served in Vietnam as a pilot. After he became an appraiser, he served on the MTS Committee as Secretary and served as Editor for the MTS Journal. He was also an ASA course instructor.

I know that I will miss George. His memorial service was both a happy and sad occasion. We came to say goodbye, but also to remember. There were a lot of good times to remember. I learned even more about him. He was not just a friend and mentor to me, but to many others as well. I will always feel that he is looking over my shoulder to make sure I do things right. Somehow that gives me comfort.

Comments from other MTS members:
George was a wonderful person. Always positive, always joking, he was well liked by everyone. Having had the opportunity to work with him both on the Committee and professionally, I will miss his infectious laugh. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife and family. – Art Narverud

George was a hard worker for ASA and the MTS Committee as well as a good friend whom I will miss. – Jack Washbourn

George was one of the good guys. I served on the committee when he was a member. I considered him a friend and also his wife Marietta – Neil Thompson

I am sorry to hear that George passed away. He was friend of mine too – Tom Sexton

I’m saddened to hear of George’s death. His sense of humor and thought out input helped through some long committee meetings. - Norm Laskay

Patricia H. Atwood featured on PBS - History Detectives

Personal Property appraiser and ASA Chicago Chapter Vice President, Patricia H. Atwood, ASA, was featured earlier this month as one of the experts on PBS TV’s “History Detectives.” Each episode of the show includes a mystery to be solved. Atwood was tapped to help with a Chicago time keeping question, which is described on the TV show website as “Our contributor wonders if her family clock kept time for the entire Midwest during the 19th century.” According to the story, the clock sat in the family jewelry store in Chicago and regulated time in other towns via telegraph signals. History Detectives takes on the case, and discovers how regulating time became critical as America moved into the industrial age. We visit a clock appraiser and a time-keeping historian and see some interesting results from the Chicago Tribune historical archives”

After working with the show producers several months, Atwood was invited to the American Clock and Watch Museum in Bristol, Connecticut last summer, where the show was taped.

Erin D. Hollis named Chair - International Public Relations

Erin Hollis, ASA, was recently been appointed by International President, Robert C. Schlegel, ASA to serve as his Public Relations Chair. Since 2007, Hollis has been the PR Chair of the Chicago Chapter and is currently Vice-President.
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