CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Each year the Mail Systems Management Association takes special pride in recognizing one of its chapters for the Chapter of the Year Award. This award acknowledges the outstanding efforts and achievements of the chapter’s officers and members in meeting the mission statement of the MSMA.

The recipient of the 2009 MSMA Chapter of the Year is Chicago.

The Chicago Chapter finished 2009 with a membership of close to 100, and continues to have a consistent and increasing membership each year. Their Executive Board is made up of high performing professionals in the industry, and committed to ensuring the organization continues to be successful and provide value to its members and participants. Several of the Board Members have been with the Chicago Chapter since its inception in 1996. Chicago is a strong advocate of the CMDSS and CMDSS and the new MDC certification programs and has at least five very successful Member Educational Meetings each year.

In 2009, the Chicago Chapter initiated their “Children’s Memorial Member Referral Program”. They have partnered with Children’s Memorial Hospital of Chicago to send out a letter, asking each current member to provide contact information for anyone who may be interested in joining the MSMA. For all new members obtained through this program, the Chicago Chapter will donate $25 to Children’s Memorial Program. They have gotten several of their vendor member companies to match that donation as well.

Their Executive Board includes: Trevor Ward, CMDSS, President; Barbara Fahy, MDC Executive VP; Jeff Harrington, Secretary/Treasurer; VP of Education Chuck Wittmer, CMDSS; V P Membership Mary Allen, CMDSM, and Immediate Past President, Mike Lathrop, CMDSM.

Distinguished Service Award

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an individual who illustrates leadership and dedication by encouraging others to share their experience and knowledge. This year's winner exemplifies this award is Karen Cornelius, CMDSM. Karen currently serves as the Executive Vice President of the MSMA National Board and Immediate Past President of the MSMA Phoenix Chapter.

Setting new standards for project management within a volunteer association, creating successful launch and setting up continued revisions to the MSMA certification process are only a few of the things that she has brought to the profession. Karen’s enthusiasm for the industry, the association and education for others is contagious. She inspires and encourages others to get involved.

Manager of the Year

The recipient of this Award is recognized by their peers for his/her professional accomplishments and for sharing their experiences with others.

In her current position, she has recently completed a project of taking the property and casualty claims division paperless. One of the biggest risk points in this project was how to backscan approximately 7500 open claim files into the system and then how to handle new mail that comes in after the project went live. Luckily both of these points became a non-issue and transparent to most people due to Betsy’s outstanding leadership.

This is the fourth division in the company that has gone paperless and she has been a key contributor to the successful outcome of each project. She works hard to understand her customer's needs and expectations and always delivers.

Betsy is Manager-Distribution of Secura Insurance in Appleton, Wis. and currently serves as the Chapter
President’s Message  

From the desk of
Ron Goglia, CMDSM - National President

The summer season is now upon us and with that hopefully the opportunity to enjoy vacation time with family and friends. During this period, we also begin planning for next year’s budget cycle and the opportunities that lie ahead in our personal and professional lives.

I encourage you to consider attending the MAILCOM conference from September 26 - 28 and possibly become a CMDSSM or CMDSS. All the information you need is at your fingertips by visiting the MAILCOM or MSMA websites. Additionally, there is still time left to apply for the coveted Cliff Bennett Memorial Education Award, given annually at the Fall Conference. For many years, Cliff contributed to the education and professional career development of thousands of Mail and Distribution Managers worldwide during his lifetime. This award is a legacy to Cliff’s commitment to the professional development of Mail and Distribution Center Managers. Details of the program can be viewed on the National website. Finally, the current term of office for the National Board expires in December and members interested in running for a Board position for the upcoming two years are encouraged to complete the Consent to Service form, again located on our National website. The success of our Association is achieved through the dedication of individual members who donate and dedicate their time, expertise and services to our industry.

My best wishes to you and your families for a safe and enjoyable summer.

CMDSM/CMDSS Certification

The Certified Mail and Distribution Systems Manager certification was inaugurated in 1989 and continues to be one of the most esteemed and widely-recognized accreditations in the industry. Since its inception, over 350 managers have achieved their CMDSSM credentials nationwide. Simply qualifying to sit for the exam is an accomplishment in and of itself! This is because participants must achieve a minimum total of 150 qualification points to take the CMDSSM examination. There are 230 points possible in four categories: work experience, MSMA activities and membership, non-MSMA activities and membership, and education. Applicants are required to provide verification for all points claimed on the application.

Because of MSMA’s dedication to mail and distribution professionals, the exam and Study Guide continue to be revised by a very dedicated group of individuals, thus ensuring the content is current and relevant to the mailing industry. The exam is administered electronically and consists of 135 multiple choice questions and 5 essay questions. The exam is proctored, most recently at MAILCOM in Atlantic City, and must be completed within 4 hours. To aid participants in their preparation for the exam, MSMA sponsors study sessions via webinar.

With great pleasure, the national MSMA board honors a new group of deserving individuals who are now part of an exceptional group in the mail and distribution systems field:

**Rob Williams**, Regional Director Operations, Continuum Worldwide Corp

**Diane Bouchard**, Area Operations Manager, Pitney Bowes Government Solutions

**Michelle Mindziak**, Manager, Penn State University

**Michael Summersgill**, Sr. Account Manager, Williams Lea

**Ute Franklin**, Manager Delivery Services, Rice University

**Dana McCormick**, Operations Manager, Wells Fargo Bank, NA

For more information on this program, please visit our Web site at WWW.MSMANATIONAL.ORG

National Mentor Program for CMDSSM/SS Candidates

The National Board is developing a Mentor Program for CMDSSM/SS candidates. If your chapter has a formal or informal mentor program that you would like to have considered by the National Board, please submit the information to: bfahy@msmanational.org. More detail will be forthcoming.

MSMA National Awards...

(continued from cover)

President of the MSMA Wisconsin Chapter.

In honor of the outstanding contributions made to his company and the industry, the Mail Systems Management Association awards its’ Manager of the Year honor to Betsy Brockman, CMDSSM.
MSMA’s New Mail Certification Program

*Mailpiece Design Consultant* is the new certification designation now available through Mail Systems Management Association. As part of MSMA’s ongoing mission to provide educational opportunities and recognition of achievement to all mailing, shipping, logistics and industry professionals, MDC has been developed to verify one’s knowledge and specialization specifically related to mail.

MSMA now offers a complete study guide to its online, open book, one hundred (100) multiple choice question pass/fail exam; all for a $35 fee. Pass the exam and receive your certificate! If you fail, feel free to study again and take the test an additional time at no extra charge.

*If you are part of the mailing industry you know how important it is to be designated an expert!* MSMA’s Mailpiece Design Consultant designation is the new industry standard. Go to: http://www.msmanational.org/pages/certification_mdc.cfm to register for this opportunity and to add a valuable certification to your résumé.

MSMA Worldwide: China Mail Professionals tap MSMA on US trip

A delegation of China Mail Industry professionals met with NJ MSMA member Marlene O’Hare and National MSMA Board member Paul Dreifuss to learn how MSMA’s structure adds value, education and networking to the mailing industry here in the US. They were intrigued by how many chapters there are; that certification within the industry is available and how chapters hold meetings and tour of different sites.

Shown in picture is the delegation of China Mail Industry professionals who met with New Jersey MSMA member Marlene O’Hare.

MSMA CMDSM/SS Certification Renewals

Once again, it is time to focus on certification renewals. Certification renewal is required every three years for Certified Mail and Distribution Systems Managers and Certified Mail and Distribution Systems Suppliers. The 2010 renewal period includes those with an original certification date or a re-certification date of January 2008. Renewal is required prior to December 31, 2010.

MSMA’s Certification Renewal process keeps you active in the industry and allows you to maintain your certification. To complete your renewal application, please go to: http://www.msmanational.org/pages/certification_cmdsmrenewal.cfm

*If you have any questions, please contact:*

Linda Henry
National Headquarters, P O Box 1145, N. Riverside, IL 60546-1145
Website: www.msmanational.org
Phone: 1-800-714-MSMA

Upcoming MAILCOM Conferences

**Fall 2010 MAILCOM Conference**
September 26–28, 2010
Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

**Spring 2011 MAILCOM Conference & Exhibition**
March 1st - 3rd, 2011
Washington, DC

For more details on either conference go to the MAILCOM website: www.mailcom.org

Mark your calendars!
P.O. Box 1145
North Riverside, IL 60546-1145

Visit the MSMA Web-site: msmanational.org

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