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About the Cover . . .

National Work Zone Awareness Week 2009 will be observed April 6-10, 2009. The 2009 national media event will take place Tuesday, April 7, 2009.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I'm writing this report in mid-December, 08 for release in late February, 09, in order to meet the publication deadline. The Constitution and By-Laws Resolution Committee's (CBRC) proposed resolution has been sent by certified mail to each Board Director and Alternate-Director for review, prior to the mid-winter 09 Board meeting. The CBRC was charged, by the Board, to propose a resolution that would reflect the Governance Task Force (GTF) report that was accepted by the Board at the 2008 Annual Board meeting. The resolution is a concise document of necessary information required by New York State law and language advised by corporate attorneys specializing in non-profit associations. Basically, the Constitution and By-Laws were combined into one abbreviated document with policies relocated into an easily amendable Governance Policy Manual. Unfortunately, I can't predict the Board's decision on the resolution. Regardless of the outcome, the CBRC, GTF and IMSA staff deserves our utmost gratitude for their tireless efforts to fulfill this charge.



William Moroski

As March/April approaches, a proliferation of orange cones will again cover our roadways. Spring is an ideal season to increase public and employee safety awareness for our roadway work zones. It's when road repair and construction, especially in northern areas, kicks into high gear. April 6-10, 2009 is National Work Zone Awareness Week. This week is more than catchy slogans, statistics and sales gimmicks; it's about protecting those who risk their lives in the public right-of-way for the good of the general public. It's one week in fifty two that is selected for emphasizing public awareness. Those of you who work in the roadway on a daily basis, on call day and night, seven days a week, know the reality of both good and bad work zone safety practices. Too many have paid the ultimate price for one lapse in good judgment. Safety awareness is a survival instinct that should not be diminished by complacency.

Public and worker safety depends on education and adherence to national standards, specifically, the national Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Part 6, Temporary Traffic Control. The uniform application of temporary traffic control devices in work zones provides motorists, pedestrians and bicyclist vital information and guidance around variations from normal conditions. Spring also brings a proliferation of pedestrians and bicyclist eager to share the right-of-way. Special attention is necessary to provide safety for this non-motorist segment of the public, including children, the visually and mobility impaired. Advance warning devices, properly positioned, provide adequate response time to protect both motorists and road workers. Channelizing devices, properly positioned, provide positive guidance for motorist and non-motorist alike. The public can be educated through various media including; press releases to local newspapers, radio and television networks, Chamber of Commerce and neighborhood associations.

Employee safety training and employee adherence to recognized standards is the responsibility of employers. Training is a dynamic process, not a one time effort. Just as any professional must continue to maintain and develop their skills or lose them, professional road workers must do likewise. Employers are accountable for maintaining employee safety pro-

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iciency. Prudent employers measure and record employee safety proficiency as a matter of risk management and compliance to OSHA regulations.

IMSA courses and certification deliver training, establish proficiency levels and assure proficiency maintenance through certification renewal requirements. IMSA membership is another means to continuing education. The Journal contains the latest technologies and standards, which provides members with information pertinent to their specialty field. Many Sections offer discount training for IMSA members, another cost-saving benefit for employers.

I implore you; PLEASE take work zone safety seriously. Your diligence may be the difference in whether or not you and/or a co-worker return home from work.



Membership Dues Notice

The IMSA Membership application can be found on page 65 in this issue of the IMSA Journal.

Active and Associate Membership is \$70.00, Public Agency Membership is \$60.00, and Student Membership is \$45.00. See page 65 for definitions on the membership types.

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