

# from the desk of



By  
Marilyn  
Lawrence

**H**appy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah from the International Office! We hope you have a great holiday season!

You will find the 2006 Convention wrap-up in this issue of the Journal. It was a great Conference in Overland Park and the Central Section were wonderful hosts. If you were there, you know what I mean. If you were not able to attend, you missed a good time.

Congratulations to our new Executive Committee for the 2006-07 program year - Norm Akin, President; Lenny Addair, Senior Vice President; Aron Larson, First Vice President; Bill Moroski, Second Vice President; Craig MacKenzie, Third Vice President; Greg Bothwell, Immediate Past President and Don Fullerton, Past President.

The Board of Directors met for one full day to review the business of the previous year and to plan for the next year. I gave the Executive Director's report which included information on the fol-

lowing subjects: Membership; Financial; Audit Committee; Executive Committee Meetings; Certification; Certification Renewal; IMSA Journal; IMSA Committees and Representatives; Wireless Technologies Office; Director of Education and the TARP Program. Also distributed to the Board was a comparison of the year-end financial status for the years 2004 and 2005. Reports were received from the Audit Committee, Certification Committee; Scholarship Committee, Site Committee, Director of Education and the Director of the Wireless Technologies Office. Many reports were also received from the various IMSA Committee Chairs and Representatives to other organizations.

A report was given by Richard Kinsman, Chief Operating Officer and National Frequency Coordinator. In the absence of the President of the Foundation who could not attend this year, Doug Aiken gave a report about the activities of the IMSA Educational Foundation.

The Board authorized seed money to retain a consultant to prepare a strategic plan addressing certification and special education options with short and long term development, distribution, funding and revenue mechanisms.

Committee meetings held at the Conference included the Executive Committee, the Certification Committee, the Canadian Certification Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Section Secretaries.

Between the committee meetings, the Board meeting, the technical sessions, the social program, the exhibits and the certification classes, most attendees had a busy but informative and fun time.

All of the Board of Directors and Committees are volunteers. Many take their personal vacation time to attend the Conference and do their work at the Section

level. They work very hard all year long to represent you, the IMSA member, and to continually improve the Association. Please make sure to thank these important members of your Association.

Plan to attend our 2007 Conference in Louisville, Kentucky next August. A registration form will be included in the January/February issue of the Journal and make sure to complete it and return it to the International Office right away. The Tri-State Section is really going to make 2007 a memorable Conference!

Sharon Earl and I just returned from The American Society of Association Executive (ASAE) Annual Conference. ASAE is the organization for people who work in the Association field so we had the opportunity to attend sessions, visit exhibits and meet with other association executives to exchange ideas. Over 6,000 people were in attendance and there were many good learning opportunities.

Certification Renewal -just a reminder, that in November we will mail to those individuals whose last certification was between January 1, 2000 and December 31, 2004.

Membership Campaign - We are pleased to report we have received a number of new members as a result of the 2006-07 membership campaign. There is information on the campaign in every Journal so make sure you participate. By doing so you will offer new members the benefits of IMSA as well as win some prizes and chances for a cruise. We have one person who has already recruited 18 new members!

Until next time, stay safe and remember, if at any time you have any questions, please give us a call.



*A few of our Canadian members pose for the camera.*