

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Having just returned from the 63rd Annual IIMC Conference in Chicago, it's difficult getting back into the swing of things for two reasons: 1. I want to return to Chicago; and 2. The sun is finally out.



Attending my first ever IIMC Conference, I was in awe of the work that went on behind the scenes to ensure we were all comfortable at the historic Palmer House Hilton Hotel and were able to enjoy the educational sessions, motivational speeches, outstanding networking opportunities and a most incredible Opening Ceremony.

It was inspiring to hear bag pipers live, national anthems being played and sung, and to be part of the Presidents' Parade of Flags. State Presidents or visiting delegates carried the flag of their state or nation. Truly being an international conference, we were honored to have representatives from every state in our great nation – as well as delegates from Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Israel, Nepal, the Netherlands, Portugal, South Africa and the United Kingdom. As you read the pages of this EC Report, the photos you will see were taken by WMCA members who attended the IIMC Conference in Chicago.

IIMC President Dyanne Reese's chosen theme, "With Education... the Sky's the Limit", was spot on. The advanced academy sessions and the Athenian Leadership Society Dialogues were well attended and members had the privilege of hearing Apollo 13 Captain Jim Lovell as well as Monster.com Founder, Jeffrey Taylor. From start to finish, this was an amazing conference. To top it all off, delegates were bused to the famed Navy Pier where we enjoyed fantastic "Chicago-style" food, the sounds of Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band, and the incredible sight of a "private" fireworks show over Lake Michigan.



Your WMCA Executive Committee will hold a Regular meeting on Friday, June 26, 2009. We are here for you and WMCA is YOUR organization; so please let one of us know when we may be of assistance.

As the summer months approach and vacation times begin, remember to take time for yourself – to rest, relax and re-charge. Here's hoping you're finding ways to continually meet the challenge presented at the Conference in March – "Stand with Purpose. Live with Purpose. Service with Pride."

