



Field Notes

The Greater Oregon Chapter of the Appraisal Institute Official Newsletter

President's Message

By Carl N. Stillman, MAI

Three patients in a mental institution prepare for an examination given by the head psychiatrist. If the patients pass the exam, they will be free to leave the hospital. However, if they fail, the institution will detain them for seven years. The doctor takes the three patients to the top of a diving board overlooking an empty swimming pool, and asks the first patient to jump. The first patient jumps head first into the pool and breaks both arms. Then the second patient jumps and breaks both legs. The third patient looks over the edge and refuses to jump. "Congratulations! You're a free man. Just tell me why you didn't jump?" asked the doctor. To which the third patient answered, "Well Doc, I can't swim!"

As I begin serving as your 2011 GOCAI President I feel a little like that third patient in the story. Three years ago when, as Chairman of the Nominations Committee, Dave Groth, MAI asked me to begin a five year commitment to the GOCAI by stepping on the leadership chain I wasn't sure I knew enough about Appraisal Institute and GOCAI goings-on to make a useful difference. I knew enough not to jump in, but he gave me a push and I am happy to say that the experience so far, serving as Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President has been thoroughly enjoyable – no broken bones yet. It is not too hard to serve when you have help from the folks who willingly step up to volunteer and from Vicki Champ, without whom this organization would certainly flounder. I would especially like to thank Roxanne Gillespie, MAI

for her service as your 2010 President. She undertook the assignment during a significant transition in her life and also willingly drove 2 hours each way from Eugene to all our meetings!

Serving as my fellow Chapter officers in 2011 are Robert Greene, MAI, SRA – Vice President, Ryan Prusse, MAI – Treasurer, and Beth Aquilizan, SRA – Secretary. As a member of the Nominations Committee in 2010 I called Beth and asked her to step onto the leadership track just as Dave had called me. She was a bit reluctant, but I didn't have to shove too hard to get her to agree! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

Kudos to Terry Bernhardt, SRA, who in the wake of a resignation, agreed to step in mid-stream as the Region 1 chair. Terry is our conduit to National and is a valuable resource for the Chapter. The 2011 Region 1 meeting will be held in Portland on April 9.

The GOCAI is in reasonably good shape considering the economic times. We continue to offer a full education calendar and have scheduled four Chapter meetings throughout the year in conjunction with 2-hour member produced continuing education seminars, one of which a dues paying member can attend for free. The first meeting was February 17, 2011 and was well attended. Thank you to Craig Zell, MAI, SRA for putting together the meeting and narrating the panel of speakers. Please visit the GOCAI website for the complete calendar of scheduled meetings, classes and seminars. We may be forced to



Carl Stillman, MAI - 2011 Chapter President

cancel scheduled classes if minimum student numbers are not met and for this we apologize. Over the past couple of years some classes were run at a loss, but prudent fiscal management going forward precludes continuing this policy except on a case by case basis.

On the legislative front Wayne Richards, MAI, along with our lobbyist Lana Butterfield are closely monitoring HB 2499, the "new" AMC legislation. The primary focus of the bill is to clean up unintended consequences relating to the 2010 AMC legislation and to move AMC regulatory authority from the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs to the ACLB.

I am really hoping for a quiet year as I am not too good in a crisis. With that said, I hope to see you all at a Chapter function this year.

Carl N. Stillman, MAI
2011 Chapter President

Past President's Message

2010 Chapter President, Roxanne R. Gillespie, MAI

Where to begin.....

The summer of 2010 was challenging on so many different fronts that it is difficult to begin the unwinding of these complex issues. Let me attempt to begin some untangling of words, letters, and issues.

I always like to start on a positive note. We sent Brian Brooks and Aaron Krueger to the Leadership Development and Advisory Counsel in Washington D.C. in May 2010. Brian reported to the Board of Directors that he was able to visit several senators and representatives for Oregon and actively participate in a lobbying venture while attending LDAC. He indicated that it was an eye opening experience and that he would like to participate again. LDAC is an integral part of our chapter, with many of the past LDAC participants contributing back. We appreciate this greatly. Members are encouraged to participate, and the Chapter is looking for nominations for 2011. Please contact Jordan Lee (jlee@jbappraiser.com) if you are interested in attending or with any nominations.

The Governmental Affairs committee is continually running. The chair of the committee, Wayne Richards, SRA, MAI, reported that the AMC legislation passed February 2010 has made its way through the Department of Consumer Business and Services, Finance/Banking division. The committee worked diligently on administrative rules to implement and interpret the new law. Implementation of the law and enforcement issues are in place. This will not be the last that we see of the AMC legislation. It has been reported that there are revisions being created for the next legislative session, as well as other issues that could surface. **NOW** would be a very good

time to get to know your senators and representatives. I encourage you to contact them, take them to lunch, and have a conversation. I also encourage you to work collaboratively with your Governmental Affairs committee.

Have you checked out the education offerings for our chapter recently? There are great things happening. We are able to offer core courses for the designation path, several one day seminars, and the required Appraisal Curriculum Overview courses for both residential and commercial members. Please check the education calendar and sign up today. www.oregonappraisers.org/event.html

Lastly, I feel compelled to address the most recent issue regarding the relationship between our professional organization, the Appraisal Institute, and the Appraisal Foundation. I am sure you have been informed of the difficult issues via email, letters, and possibly telephone calls. Your leadership team has been involved via very long conference calls and strings of emails. The conversations were difficult at times, and the decisions were even more so. As much as I would like to share all of the conversations that our chapter has had with our national leaders, it would take pages. To summarize, our elected leaders decided to inform the Foundation that the Appraisal Institute has chosen to withdraw our sponsorship of the Foundation. This was done to preserve the Appraisal Institute's integrity, independence, and to ensure that the Appraisal Institute can continue to communicate freely in order to advance the best interests of the Appraisal Institute members, the appraisal profession, and the public. The discussion is



Roxanne R. Gillespie, MAI

available to you at www.appraisalinstitute.org/myappraisalinsitutte/AI_TAF.aspx

In closing, thank you for your participation and professionalism. Your officers and board of directors are here to serve you and our profession. Please participate in our education and meeting events, and volunteer for a committee. As always, please feel free to call or email at any time if you have a concern, would like to have a conversation, or a suggestion to make our chapter better.

Roxanne R. Gillespie, MAI
2010 Chapter President

Installation of Officers Banquet

By Katherine Banz

The annual **Installation of Officers Banquet** was held at Hayden's Lakefront Grill in Tualatin on November 4, 2010. The banquet was well attended and provided a fun opportunity to network and reconnect with colleagues.

Roxanne Gillespie, MAI worked tirelessly throughout the year as our 2010 Chapter President. Her primary goals were to increase the number of designees, help facilitate the new AMC legislation and encourage more member involvement within our local Chapter. Roxanne achieved all of these goals and more.

2010 Designees - GOCAI welcomed 11 new designees during 2010 (five new MAIs and 6 new SRAs!). After fulfilling all of the requirements necessary for designation, seven members were recognized for their professional achievements at the award ceremony. Four other members were recognized at other times throughout the year. Congratulations on a job well done!

Our 2010 designees are:

Pamela J. Mann, SRA

W. Grant Norling, MAI

Bryan S. Wells, MAI

Phil G. Bell, SRA

John V. Donnerberg, MAI

Christopher K. Lowell, SRA

Stephen Erving, SRA

Jill A. Whitlock, SRA

Brett J. Okoneski, MAI

Theresa C. Blake, SRA

Corey Dingman, MAI

Installation of Officers - Spencer Powell, MAI installed the upcoming 2011 Chapter officers, including:

President: Carl N. Stillman, MAI

Vice President: Robert M. Greene, MAI, SRA

Treasurer: Ryan S. Prusse, MAI

Secretary: Beth Aquilizan, SRA

Past President: Roxanne R. Gillespie, MAI

Year 3: Kenneth L. Davis, MAI, SRA

Year 2: Kurt M. Mueller, MAI

Year 1: Dean J. Cameron, MAI

Region 1 Representatives:

Carl N. Stillman, MAI

Robert M. Greene, MAI, SRA



William E. Adams, MAI
Scott A. Henningsen, MAI
Hillary Huefner, MAI

One common theme of the evening was encouraging all of us to become more involved in our local Chapter. We are fortunate to have numerous individuals within our Chapter that take the time to contribute their knowledge and expertise in order to make our experience with the AI a great one. At the installation banquet, awards were given to three individuals who continue to serve our Chapter and promote our profession.

The **President's Service Award** was presented earlier in the evening to **Aaron Brown, MAI**. Have you ever wondered who does all of the fact checking for the demonstration reports submitted from our Chapter members? Aaron donates his time to fulfill this task on behalf of the AI. With so many newly designated members, this volunteer work takes up quite a bit of time. Congratulations Aaron!

The **Outstanding Associate Award** was given to **Jordan Lee** for accepting the call to perform a demanding task and service to our members. Jordan was elected by GOCAI membership in 2010 to serve as the first Associate Member Chair of the Chapter Associate Member Committee (CAMC). Jordan's biggest goal is to reach out to younger members who may be apprehensive about getting involved with the AI. He is hoping to do that through the implementation of modern technology, such as establishing a Facebook and Twitter page for the local chapter, or even doing podcasts on appraisal issues and making them available for download. We look

forward to seeing Jordan's plan take shape over the next year.

Beth Aquilizan, SRA presented the **Outstanding Service Award to Spencer Powell, MAI** for exemplifying the highest levels of professional standards through action and practice. Throughout his nearly 40-year career, Spence has proven to be a dedicated advocate for appraisers. He has served on numerous committees, including the Ethics and Counseling Committee, Planning Committee, Board of Directors, Database Task Force, and the National Nominating Committee, to name a few. He has been both the GOCAI Chapter President as well as the National President of the Appraisal Institute. One adjective used to describe him was "velvet bulldozer". This refers to his experience on national committees and particular consensus building style. In his acceptance speech, Spence acknowledged that after such a long career, he still looks forward to going to work every day. He truly loves this work.

As my father, I can attest firsthand to Spence's unparalleled commitment to our profession, both locally and nationally. I have witnessed the long hours at work and also the enthusiasm he continues to exhibit for appraisal practice. With this enthusiasm, he inspires the rest of us to seek not only higher professional standards and accomplishments, but he also encourages those around him to find personal fulfillment in their appraisal careers.

As always, a huge thank you is given to **Vicki Champ**, our Executive Director, who continues to keep all of the wheels turning. She truly is the heart of our Chapter. Vicki, thank you for your hard work and dedication!



Roxanne R. Gillespie, MAI, 2010 Chapter President reflects on her year as chapter president at the 2011 Installation of Officers



(left to right) Spence Powell, MAI; Craig Zell, MAI, SRA; and Brian Glanville, MAI

Chapter Hosts Strecker Memorial Golf Tournament

By Kurt Mueller, MAI

GOCAI held the annual Strecker Memorial Golf Tournament, Monday, September 13, 2010. Once again the event was held at the Rock Creek Country Club in Portland.

The winning team in this year's scramble format, and holding of the revolving Memorial trophy is the foursome of Jeff Buono, Gerald Duce, Bronson Rueda and Jeremy Snow. Their team shot a score of 63. Very impressive scoring for a small tournament of this size.

The second place team consisted of Dennis Fitzgerald, Dan Murphy, John Qualman and Thomas Williams. Their score was 66.

The weather was perfect and everyone seemed to have a great time. We ended the afternoon with a buffet dinner and awards presented with raffle prizes given away.

Mark your calendar for the 2011 golf tournament, September 12, 2011 at the Rock Creek Country Club again. The tournament will follow the same procedure that we have the past few years. Start at 1:30pm with dinner and awards in the clubhouse afterwards.

RMLS and the 1004MC "Button"

By Ralph Olsen, MAI, SRA, IFA

Recently the local chapters of the National Association of Independent Fee Appraisers and the Appraisal Institute submitted letters to the Regional Multiple Listing Service (RMLS). In the letters it was asked that RMLS create a 1004MC "Button" for appraisers to use when doing single family residential appraisals.

Here is how the RMLS works to accomplish such tasks.

Two years ago I volunteered to serve on the RMLS Technology Committee. We meet monthly. The RMLS Board of Directors (BoD) had decided to create several committees to do the review and planning for the implementation of various proposals to the Board. This way the BoD could simply review the recommendations of the various committees and choose whether or not to adopt the committee's proposals.

The various committees are populated with people who are interested in the subject matter the committees focus on. Almost always the BoD accepts the suggestions of the committees. This shortens the BoD annual meetings considerably.

When the Technology Committee offers its suggestions to the BoD all the items suggested have been analyzed as to priority of importance and weighted

by the estimated work hours involved to complete them. The technology committee almost always provides more work to do in a year than the RMLS programmers have time to accomplish.

The bad news is that the letters from NAIFA and AI, although appreciated by the Technology Committee, came too late in the year to act upon. The suggestion for a 1004MC "Button" is on the list of items to review in the coming year so it might be put on the 2012 work schedule (if the BoD approves it).

The good news is that this year the RMLS is working on "Statistics Phase II." Included in the description of that project is: "This phase would provide subscribers a way to search on many of the fields in Advanced Search. It would provide the calculations necessary for appraisers to complete the 1004MC and would streamline the Annual Trend Report."

As you can see the RMLS is working to create easier ways to analyze data in their sales and listing inventory. They understand what it is that we appraisers need, and will continue to develop the statistics section of their website. And, there will someday be a 1004MC "Button."

Election Of Chapter Associate Member Committee Chair

At its November 2009 meeting, Regulation No. 8 was amended to create Chapter Associate Member Committees (CAMC). These Committees will be composed of all Associate Members in the Chapter. The Associate Members in the Chapter recently elected the Chair of the Committee. The Chapter Associate Member Committee shall:

- a) Discuss issues impacting Associate Members and provide recommendations to other bodies as appropriate;
- b) Work to enhance communications among Associate Members of the Chapter and between Associate Members and the Regional and national organizations;
- c) Work with the Chapter Associate Member Guidance Committee to encourage Associate Members to complete the designation process; and
- d) Work to develop future leaders for the Chapter and the organization as a whole.

The Chair of the Chapter Associate Member Committee shall be elected from among the Associate Members of the Chapter at the same time that the Chapter holds its other elections pursuant to this Regulation. The Chair shall be elected by the Associate Members of the Chapter present and voting at the election.

The Chair shall serve a two (2) year terms and may serve two (2) consecutive two (2) year terms. The term of a Chair shall commence on the January 1st following election. If the individual elected as Chair becomes a Designated Member before commencing his or her term or if the Chair becomes a Designated Member during his or her term as Chair, such individual can fulfill his or her complete two (2) year term but shall not be eligible for election to

another term. The Chair shall serve on the Regional Associate Member Committee.

Jordan Lee of James Brown & Associates, Inc. is the first Associate Member Chair elected by GOCAI membership in 2010.

Jordan started his appraisal career at Powell Valuation Inc in 2004 after graduating with a degree in economics from Willamette University. He spent five years as a general commercial appraiser working the Oregon, Washington and Idaho markets. In 2009, he moved to James Brown & Associates Inc, a Salem-based company specializing in elderly care and hospitality properties. Beyond his primary work experience, he has also traveled to Washington DC for the Leadership and Development Advisory Council and most recently served as the chair for the Development and Retention Committee.

In his six plus years in the appraisal industry, Jordan has had the opportunity to work with three designated members that are active locally and nationally with the Appraisal Institute. Because of this, Jordan has had the opportunity to see the value of the designation and the benefits to being an active member of the institute. He wants to guide other new members toward the designation and encourage them to serve the organization in any way they can. He would like to provide guidance and dispel many of the myths that keep appraisers from pursuing an MAI or SRA designation.

Jordan recently passed the comprehensive examination and hopes to finish his demonstration report during 2011. He would like to be designated in the next year and continue to serve the Appraisal Institute and the Greater Oregon Chapter any way he can.

2010 Chapter Leadership Program, Chicago, IL:

Carl N. Stillman, MAI

As the incoming GOCAI President I attended a two day program in Chicago (August 10-11) designed to bring incoming Chapter Presidents and Chapter administrators up to speed on new programs, classes, AI chapter reporting requirements, and most importantly, how not to make a fool of oneself when running a meeting or speaking to a group.

All AI Chapters have been transitioning from Chapter level bookkeeping and accounting to on-line QuickBooks® through the National office. Vicki Champ has been coordinating GOCAI's effort at getting our already well oiled book keeping system to match the chart of accounts mandated by National. GOCAI is well ahead of the curve compared to other chapters across the country.

The online "Leadership Resource Registry" was discussed in detail. The registry, available at the AI website, provides an opportunity for any of you out there that would like to become involved in the AI at either the Chapter level or at the National level. The registry collects basic and background information regarding a potential volunteer's membership status, interests and availability. Chapter leaders can access the Registry when seeking to fill committee chairs and other leadership opportunities.

Of course, AI politics and the ongoing battle of wits between the AI and The Appraisal Foundation (TAF) was also discussed at length, both in the formal sessions and during networking time. Leslie Sellers, MAI – the 2010 AI President – gave a talk on the situation that didn't provide any more detail than the communications that have already been sent directly to you by the AI. Stay tuned, or see the AI website for more details.

I am looking forward to serving as the 2011 GOCAI Chapter President and would like to hear from any of you if you have suggestions, concerns, etc.

Research support position available February 1, 2011 with an established Portland based commercial appraisal firm. Responsibilities include field investigation, planning department interviews, subject property and comparable data development, transaction confirmation, internet research and a broad range of related market analysis. Must have a college degree or experience equivalent as well as excellent interpersonal, computer, writing and telephone interview skills. Real estate related experience is required with preference given to those having an appraisal or commercial brokerage background. References required. This is not an appraiser trainee position. Work schedule will be 32 hours over a 4 day week. Salary range \$2,260 to \$3,280/month depending upon experience. Only qualified individuals will be considered. Please e-mail resume with cover letter to Richard Herman MAI at rick@rpherman.com.

Capitol Hill LDAC Attack

By Brian Brooks

I'm tired of hearing it said that democracy doesn't work. Of course it doesn't work. We are supposed to work it.
~Alexander Woollcott

I am fortunate to have attended the Leadership Development and Advisory Council, known as LDAC, with fellow Oregon Chapter member Aaron Kruger and appraisers from all over the U.S., as well as international attendance with representatives from Mexico and Ukraine. The location of the event was two blocks from the Capitol Building and the National Mall, which lends a sense of gravitas to the proceedings; the D.C. monuments and much of the architecture adds to city's magnificence.

The main focus of LDAC is on two things: discussion groups and lobbying our politicians.

Discussion groups exchanged ideas on current topics in our profession. Some of the topics of discussion have and will result in new Appraisal Institute policy.

With regards to the lobbying, the timing was perfect. We addressed two bills. The first, The Dodd-Frank Financial Reform Bill was being developed while we were in D.C. One week after LDAC, an appraisal provision was added to that bill that became law on July 21st 2010.

But there is another bill that was introduced by Oregon's own Rep. Kurt Schrader that has an item that the Appraisal Institute wants removed. The bill H.R. 3854, ironically titled, the Small Business Financing and Investment Act of 2009, raises the threshold for appraisals from \$250,000 to \$400,000 for loans with the Small Business Administration. This would do two things: create more risk and reduce business for commercial appraisal firms, most of which are small businesses. We do not oppose the bill as a whole, only the raising of the threshold. Please, contact Rep. Schrader's office to let him know you want the threshold to remain at \$250,000.

The New Legislation

The Dodd-Frank bill covers quite a bit of ground with respect to appraising, but what I found most notable follows.

Appraisals with an interior inspection are mandatory for all subprime mortgages; two appraisals are needed when a house flips within 6 months, with a narrative anal-



ysis in the second appraisal; HVCC will no longer be in effect.

Mandatory USPAP Reporting

Another item in the bill requires mandatory reporting for USPAP violations. The Dodd-Frank statute states: "Any mortgage lender, mortgage broker, mortgage banker, real estate broker, appraisal management company, or any person involved in a real estate transaction involving an appraisal in connection with a consumer credit transaction secured by the principal dwelling of a consumer who has a reasonable basis to believe an appraisal is failing to comply with USPAP, is violating applicable laws or is otherwise engaging in unethical or unprofessional conduct, shall refer the matter to the applicable State appraiser certifying and licensing agency." This is self-explanatory and is a new requirement for appraisers designed to increase professional standards and ethics.

Fees

Regarding fees, the legislation states: "Lenders and their agents shall compensate fee appraisers at a rate that is customary and reasonable for appraisal services performed in the market area of the property being appraised. Evidence for such fees may be established by objective third party." Interestingly, my appraisal software company has already done a fees study and when I accept a fee from their network I am told the amount of a typical fee.

Residential Appraisers Take Note

I am compelled to comment on some-

thing I found noteworthy. During a question and answer session, when asked what the Appraisal Institute was doing in regards to BPOs (Broker Price Opinions), the Appraisal Institute's national president, Leslie Sellers, SRA, MAI, abdicated any leadership in this capacity. He simply stated that residential appraisers on the national board need to address this. I found this remarkable.

Looking Forward

LDAC taught me: 1) Getting involved matters. Being a part of the Appraisal Institute and its functions will help shape our profession. And when an appraisal provision gets added to legislation a week after our lobbying efforts, I felt that LDAC achieved what it set out to do. 2) We must stay connected to the policy makers and make change happen, not wait for somebody else to form our destiny.

Another big realization from LDAC, as I listened to others discuss how their chapters operate, is that the Oregon Chapter is a great chapter. And I am not saying this so we can all pat ourselves on the back (but we should anyway), it is because it is simply the truth. Many other chapters have problems with membership, leadership, finances and classes. A number of times during LDAC I felt lucky, proud and grateful for our chapter and the fact that we thrive on many fronts. Finally, I look forward to attending another LDAC if given the opportunity and making a positive impact on behalf of our profession.



DANIEL "SHORTY" SCOTT BENDER
1955 - 2010

Daniel Scott Bender of McMinnville passed away from heart disease on November 3, 2010 at OHSU in Portland, Oregon.

Dan was the loving son of Byron and Roberta Jack Bender. He was born on January 12, 1955 in LaGrande, Oregon. His family moved to McMinnville in 1956 where he attended school and graduated with the Class of 1973. After trying several professions, he became a real estate appraiser in California and later moved back to McMinnville in 1996, where he became a well-known highly respected independent appraiser.

Dan was known as "Shorty" by his friends and family. He was also known for his generosity and loyalty. It was said of Shorty, that he never met a stranger.

He was an avid Duck fan and was recognized by his "Duck apparel" from head to toe. He followed them even when his health prevented him from attending games. He never wavered from his commitment to the Ducks, even though many of his closest friends were misguided Beaver fans. He forgave them for their sins.

Shorty spent his last few months at OHSU where he became friends with all the nurses and medical staff, who treated him with affection. He greeted all with his smiley grin and witty remarks. He became known as the "character" on the floor. Shorty had an infectious laugh that was punctuated by his "hee-hee" giggle.



Marvin D. Hansen

June 09, 1933 - Jan. 29, 2011

Marvin was born in Askov, Minn. He passed away peacefully in his sleep after a struggle with emphysema. Marvin was a wonderful husband and father and will be greatly missed.

He graduated from Elmira High School in 1951 and then attended Oregon State University where he received a degree in fisheries management in 1955. After college, he was in the U.S. Army infantry where he was ranked the fourth best marksman in the country.

Marvin had a lifelong love of hunting and fishing; his other passion was real estate. He was a senior appraiser at First Interstate Bank of Oregon from 1968 to 1978 and was a trust real estate manager for First Interstate/Wells Fargo from 1978 to 1995. Beyond his work, in a span of over 40 years he renovated numerous houses in need of serious repair. The bigger the job, the greater his enjoyment. One of his houses was condemned, he purchased it for \$50, moved it across Portland, and personally dug the basement by hand over a period of two years.

He was a Freemason and member of Eugene Lodge #11, A.F. & A.M.; Portland York, Rite Bodies. He was also an active member of Skyview Baptist Church in Vancouver where he had numerous friends.

Marvin is survived by his devoted and loving wife, Virginia; sons, Douglas Hansen (Joanna) of Medina, Wash., and Kenneth Hansen (Amy) of Neenah, Wis.; brothers, Harold Hansen of Oregon City and Anton Hansen (Sue) of Milwaukie; sisters, Carol Baker (Vaughn) of Three Forks, Mont., and Lorna Machlan of Portland; six grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Elmer and Helen Hansen of Cottage Grove; and sisters, Myrtle Sweetin of Richland, Wash., and Joyce Speaker of Oregon City.

A memorial service celebrating Marvin's life will be held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011, in Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Vancouver.

Remembrances may be made in Marvin's name to the American Lung Association at www.lungusa.org/donate.

Please sign the online guest book at www.oregonlive.com/obits

Commercial Real Estate Appraisers Sought

Integra Realty Resources, the largest valuation firm in the United States, is hiring experienced commercial real estate appraisers. IRR-Portland and IRR-Seattle offer generous fee splits, retirement plans with employer contribution, medical insurance, paid education benefits, and associate membership in the Appraisal Institute. IRR is a leader in valuation technology, with a national web database/job management platform, the most advanced report template systems, and all available data sources to allow the appraiser to be efficient and profitable. Please contact Robert Hickok, MAI, at (503) 478-1004 (rhickok@irr.com) or Allen Safer, MAI at (206) 436-1190 (asafer@irr.com).

Commercial Appraiser Position Available!

Powell Valuation Inc is looking to hire an appraiser trainee and/or certified general appraiser. Candidates must have a college degree. The position includes market research and writing of narrative appraisal reports. Proven written and verbal communication skills and proficiency with Microsoft Word and Excel are necessary for the successful candidate. Both trainees and certified appraisers are encouraged to apply.

Powell Valuation Inc is a family owned and operated real estate appraisal firm that focuses on commercial property valuation services including market research, appraisal, and consultation. Property types include land, office, retail, industrial, subdivisions, special use (church, school, etc.), and multi-family. We offer competitive fee splits, health insurance, IRA retirement matching, and a supportive professional work environment. If interested, please contact Katie Banz at kbanz@pvinc.us, 503.371.2403.

Refugee shares perspective on Veterans Day

Commentary by Lt. Col. Harold Hoang (Chapter member Tony Hoang's Brother)
50th Mission Support Group deputy commander

11/3/2010 - SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- With Veterans Day just around the corner, let me share with you what this special day means to me. Bear with me as I walk you through the history behind the day that we now know as Veterans Day and why it has a special place in my heart.

Originally Veterans Day was known as Armistice Day and traces its origin back to World War I, known at the time as "The Great War." According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, a temporary cessation of hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars." It was a year later when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11, 1919 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. November 11th became a legal federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In 1954, at the urging of veterans who served in World War II and Korea, the 83rd Congress amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation (Public Law 380) on June 1, 1954, November 11th became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. Here ends the history lesson.

As for me, Veterans Day means a great deal. Whenever I have the honor of meeting veterans of past wars, I always make it a point to thank them for their service. I am thankful for veterans of all wars, but especially those who fought in the Vietnam War. Those brave men and women had a direct impact on my life and the lives of hundreds of thousands of "boat people" that fled the war torn nation of Vietnam in 1975. Yes, I was one of the "boat people."

So how did I get to call this great nation of ours home? Simply put, it was due to my parents' bravery and sacrifices. On April 30, 1975, my parents having lived under Viet Cong's rule before Vietnam was divided in two, decided to leave all behind and took nine kids on a journey that changed our lives forever. My dad was an officer in the South Vietnamese Army and served proudly alongside U.S. Special Forces. When the Viet Cong took over South Vietnam he knew it was time to "get out of Dodge." My parents knew the family would not be safe because of his affiliation with U.S. Forces. They knew someone would turn them over to win

favours with the new ruling party. They knew it was either live free or die...so off we went under the cover of darkness.

Where were we going? Doesn't matter, we weren't staying. We boarded a tugboat crammed with hundreds of other refugees sea bound for freedom...we hoped. We were fleeing with only the clothes on our backs and very little sustenance. There was no food or water and very little comfort. Luckily for us, the U.S. Navy was on watch ready to rescue refugees. Upon our encounter with the U.S. Navy, we were directed to abandon our boat and climbed into a collection point...a barge with chain link fence and sand bags for stability. I was seven years old but can still remember my dad climbing behind my three-year old sister making sure she did not fall into the ocean as the barge swayed with waves.

We were starving and dehydrated. We struggled through a couple nights without any food and very little water. I remember people pushing and shoving their ways toward the Navy ships fighting to get rescued. I also remember people fell between the sand barge and a Navy ship. They were never seen again. Smartly my parents kept us away from the madness until it was safe.

I don't recall the full details, but my brothers and sisters still tease me about passing out from dehydration. I told them I faked the dehydration, took one for the "team" so the family would be rescued sooner. But I did wake up on board a Navy ship with an intravenous stuck to my arm...kind of tough to get around that one. I think it was about two to three days before we were plucked from the ocean on our way to Subic Bay, Philippines. A few days later I got my first ride in a C-130 to Anderson Air Base, Guam. Two more weeks of paperwork, shots and whatever else and we found ourselves in a refugee camp at Fort Indian Town Gap, Pa.

We got to Fort Indian Town Gap just before Memorial Day and spent the next three months adjusting to a new culture. But trying to start a new life for a family of 11 was challenging when you hardly speak the language and had no money. Finding a family willing to sponsor us and give us a new start was not easy. In the end, it was St. Marks Luther Church in Storm Lake, Iowa that gave us a new life...our first home in the United States.

Needless to say the climate didn't agree with us. It was the first time we saw snow...



Lt. Col. Harold Hoang, 50th Mission Support Group deputy commander

all the way up to the windows. I recall seeing my dad biking to work in the snow. He worked at a turkey processing plant. It was not for him nor did he enjoy it but it had to be done. It wasn't long before my parents uprooted us again for Portland, Ore. We now consider Portland home.

So to veterans of all wars but especially the veterans of the Vietnam War, we owe you a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid through words. We are forever in your debt. Through your bravery and sacrifices we are living the American dream...all the kids are successful, contributing to this great nation and making a difference everyday. We're proud to be Americans and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

In closing, I encourage everyone to thank a veteran today and everyday. Because it is the veterans who make it possible for us to pursue life, liberty and happiness. I'd like to close with a poem by Father Dennis Edward O'Brien "It is the Soldier." Forgive me if you have read it before. But I do believe it's worth taking a moment to remember what veterans have done for this great nation. Enjoy the poem!

It is the Soldier

By Father Dennis Edward O'Brien

It is the Soldier
not the reporter, who has given us freedom of press.
It is the Soldier
not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.
It is the Soldier
not the campus organizer, who gives us freedom to demonstrate.
It is the Soldier
who salutes the flag,
who serves beneath the flag,
and whose coffin is draped by the flag,
who allows the protester to burn the flag.

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Meeting and Class Schedule 2011

March 7-10	Basic Appraisal Principles Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
March 28-29	15 Hour National USPAP Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
April 6-7	Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions: Practical Application "yellow book" seminar Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
April 8	Yellow Book Misconceptions and Common Errors Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
April 14	Appraising for Alternate Uses: Live Beyond Lending Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
April 15	Residential Appraising Update: Staying Competent in a New Decade (8:30am-12:30pm) Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
May 3-6	General Appraiser Report Writing and Case Studies Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
May 19	Business Practice and Ethics Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
May 20	7 Hour National USPAP Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
May 26	Chapter Meeting Location TBA
June 13-17	Advanced Income Cap. (New course) Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.
September 1	Chapter Meeting Location TBA
September 12	Strecker Memorial Golf Tournament, 1:30pm Rock Creek Country Club, Portland, OR.
September 16	IRS Valuation Summit Multnomah Athletic Club 1849 SW Salmon Street, Portland, OR.
September 22-23	Litigation Appraising: Specialized topics and Applications Phoenix Inn & Suites 9575 SW Locust Street, Tigard, OR.

For a complete schedule of upcoming events, see our online calendar: <http://www.oregonappraisers.org/event.html>

The Greater Oregon Chapter of the Appraisal Institute

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