

INCOMING SPEECH

As the 2006-2007 Ohio Division President, I am honored to be a part of this important year as we Guide the Way for Future Generations! May each of you this evening think about how you can chart the path through rough waters and lead the future administrative professionals to success and new harbors.

Although today we begin to focus on the future, let us take a moment to celebrate the past!

(SHOW A SHORT VIDEO)

Each of those historical moments set the way for where we are today. Now each of you has the responsibility to set a course for future generations to follow.

Lighthouses and people have much in common. Noted lighthouse historian Ken Black observed lighthouses are like people, they come in all sizes, shapes and colors. Just as the administrative professional field which consists of more than 4 million in the United States.

Lighthouses appear stately and romantic along our coastlines but can often be mystifyingly transparent to the masses. Like the lighthouse, the International Association of Administrative Professionals might become transparent due to all the things in our lives especially more work and home life responsibilities. The International Association of Administrative Professionals will constantly be vying for the attention of the administrative professional.

We cannot simply open our meeting doors and wait for people to visit. This attitude is only minimally effective. We all need to find ways to spark that interest. One way to spark interest is offer programs geared toward the career minded professional. Offer programs that people cannot get elsewhere. Make sure these programs are engaging, meaningful, portray the IAAP value and are constantly and consistently impacting the attendees.

However, just conducting these programs is not enough. We all must diligently tell the IAAP story. Try not to miss an opportunity to spread the IAAP value. Some examples would be to drop off the Office Pro magazine at local hair salons or purchase an Office Pro subscription for your local library. Always carry a membership application so you could easily hand the application to the receptionist the next time you visit the dentist or doctors office. You may even want to drop one off at the business located next door to your office. Work on building media connections.

Try to change your thought process of we can't change the way we do things, we've done it this way for 50+ years. Ohio Division and Chapter leaders do not accept the status quo this year. When we are not moving forward we will be swept back to sea with the tide. We need to stop resisting change and leave our comfort zone so we can start heading toward rough waters to guide future generations to "new" harbors. We must create organizational infrastructures that are dynamic, diverse and on the cutting edge. Just as the lighthouse keepers worked everyday ensuring the light station was clean and polished, we too must work to polish our message and

image. Has your chapter grown stale or lost passion and luster? Then think of how to regroup, change and polish the IAAP message until it shines bright so new and current members are drawn to the light instead of sinking in the rough water. As Bill Parcells, the great football coach said, "Success is never final but failure can be".

As your leader during the 2006-2007 year, I propose the following 5 goals to help us find new harbors:

1. The Ohio Division will be split into 4 sections. Each section will be assigned a color, a word from the 2006-2007 Ohio Division Theme and a mission to work on. More details will be provided to the Chapter Presidents.
2. The Ohio Division Board is planning to conduct the Leadership Seminar/ Statewide LAN on Saturday, September 9, 2006 at the Columbus Marriott North. We are hopeful that another Statewide LAN meeting can take place in the Spring with an emphasis on technology or educational items affecting the administrative professional.
3. Each Ohio Division Committee will be provided with a minimum of one goal that should be accomplished in the 2006-2007 year. These goals have been established to promote excitement and involvement as well as growth and retention of members throughout Ohio.
4. The Ohio Division Board and Committees will actively work on involving Division Members at Large by communicating events and benefits of the Ohio Division membership. Each chapter is encourage to seek out those Division Members at Large within your area and continually send them your newsletters, meeting information, seminar information, etc.
5. The Ohio Division Board and Committees will reconnect and communicate with the established Ohio Division Student Chapters and reach out to the facilities that had a student chapter to re-activate the participation. We will strive to search out new opportunities and contact many advisors at the college and high school levels.

I am confident that we can accomplish these five goals. As you leave here tonight, I hope you reflect on the following question: What have I done for the International Association of Administrative Professionals lately? Remember don't just have your light on, polish your IAAP image and involvement. Great leadership is done in a positive way....think, create, and talk only positive ideas this year. Try your best to keep the polished image and allow that light to shine bright by not spreading negative gossip or talking in a negative manner about people or ideas. As Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said, "duty is a very personal thing. It is what comes from knowing the need to take action and not just a need to urge others to do something."

So let's enjoy the 2006-2007 journey as we Guide the Way for Future Generations.