Aloha all!

Another year of Chapter activity has gone by. As always the speed that time goes by never ceases to amaze me.

The usual rounds of gratitude; my thanks to the Chairs of our Committees, my Executive Committee and the membership that we serve. As most of you know we did a lot of work with our committees this year and have made several combinations and rebranding efforts. We have combined the Conference Committee with the Forums Committee. This change helps eliminate duplicate effort and provide for better management of both efforts. There is a lot of duplication of effort and the work is very similar between the two. Richard Kirton remains the chair.

A bigger change was taking Mentoring and Chapter Services and combining them. We realized that these two committees needed much closer ties and competed for time, volunteers and resources. Molly Elliott and Stacie Huibregtse are operating as co-chairs with Karen Crawford and Stephanie George helping out in leadership positions. We expect great things from this new committee with their support of our conferences and recognition of telecommunicators, agencies and centers that are impacted by tragedy.

Our Public Information efforts have increased dramatically. We have created a Membership Engagement Committee. This committee is responsible for PIO efforts, social media updates, the newsletter, the revamping of our web-site and all efforts in engaging our membership in chapter activities. Lora Ueland heads up this energetic and amazing group of individuals. My continued gratitude to this group for timely messaging and active participation in chapter work.

Keith Flewelling heads up the PGAC and continues to actively engage with current legislative efforts. With his leadership we headed off a major funding issue when the Governor’s budget failed to fulfill the needs of the State Emergency Communications Office. We successfully worked with the legislators, testified and engaged directors across the state to put pressure on the Capitol. Additionally, we worked with WASPC in a work session and then testifying as part of a bill that eventually ended up in providing for multiple grants managed by WASPC for agencies working on adding a mental health response component to field incidents. We were able to insert requirements that an agency accepting a grant has to involve their local PSAP’s in the process.

We continue to work on the Telecommunicator Certification effort. We have worked closely with the Washington State Fire Chief’s, WASPC, labor, and the State 9-1-1 office on developing a bill to address the need for certification. We are still in that effort and have made some strong progress in strengthening our partnership with WASPC in particular. While this effort feels to move at a glacial pace, I feel like real progress has been made.

I would like to thank all of you for your contributions to our Chapter and to our profession, be it large or small. There are many opportunities for you to volunteer with our organization. Please consider serving on one of our many committees! Thank you all so much.

Karl Hatton
President

MISSION

Join together as public safety communications professionals to lead, learn, and leverage our influence, for the benefit of our profession, the public safety workforce, and ultimately the public we serve.
We are devoted to the advancement of Public Safety Communications. Come join the fastest growing group of public safety professionals in the country. Our members can be found in every communications center in Washington State. Working in a high stress environment produces different needs and increasingly complex technologies are required for public safety. Come join our team today!
Chapter members are what make our Chapter work, without long time members our Chapter wouldn’t be able to continue the great strides that we make each year.

THANK YOU LONG TIME CHAPTER MEMBERS!

20+ Years (Join Date 12/31/98 or Earlier): Alan Hull, Mildred Tirapelle, Ross Morris, Steven Ruley, Michael O’Connor, Phyllis Hull, Chris Fischer, Joe Blaschka, Marlys Davis, Barry Luke, Stephen Romberg, Kevin Kearns, Randy Jones, Steve Reinke, Sue Pivetta, Cory Ahrens, Peter Jorna, Glenn Roach, Robert Johnson, Mike Voss, Thomas Eades, Peggy Fouts, Gary Lancaster, Deb Flewelling, Dana Hanford, Brenda Cantu, Thomas Eckels, Mark Musick, Wayne Gilberts, Julie Buck, tom Manley, Molly Elliott, Jodi, Maier, Tim Lenk

15+ Years (Join Date 1/1/99–12/31/03): Jerry Corder, Thomas Deccio, Deanna Wells, Richard Kirton, Kurt Hardin, Cathy Munoz, Dean hane, Khalid Khan, William hanes, Sheryl Mullen, Tom Shaughnessy, Helen Demel, tina Jackson, Heidi Harvill, Jennifer Johnson, Randy Richmond

CHAPTER LIFE MEMBERS

Cory Ahrens++, Joe Blaschka, Jr., Bradley Davis, Peggy Fouts ++, Stephanie Fritts, John Gasser, Alan Hull ++, Phyllis Hull++, Richard Kirton, Dave Magnenat*, John McCormick, Mark Morgan, Ross Morris++, Jim “JQ” Quackenbush, Sandy Saffell, KD Seeley, Duncan Steward, Millie Tirapelle++

++Also APCO International Life Member
* deceased
MEMBER ENGAGEMENT, LORA UELAND, CHAIR

In late 2017, President Karl and the Executive Committee discussed how to improve on our outreach and communication within the Chapter. The result was a re-org of the PIO and newsletter editor duties to create the Membership Engagement Committee. The mission of the Committee is to engage members with Chapter activities and each other, and to promote communication within the Chapter.

The MEC is responsible for creating and collecting content for a monthly newsletter, promoting activities within the Chapter such as forums/conferences and Chapter meetings, elections and more. MEC will seek volunteers to staff the various committees and connect those people with committee chairs. We are the holder of the Chapter Communications Plan and responsible to keep it current and to ensure it is being followed. We act in capacity of PIO and share information via social media and the website. A refresh of the website began in late 2018 and is still underway.

In 2018, the MEC issued six newsletters sharing information and celebrations. While initially we were able to send out email “blasts”, with the skills of Della Mauler a real newsletter began to emerge. The MEC would like to recognize and thank Jackie Jones for her many years of newsletter editor and chief content wrangler. We are amazed at the work she did year after year, often single-handedly!

The inaugural members of the MEC are Lora Ueland, Lori Markham, Kris DeVore, Della Mauler, Jay Atwood and Tim Martindale. We have since welcomed Julie Buck to the committee.

CHAPTER SERVICES, MOLLY ELLIOTT, CHAIR

Our focus was on the 2018 APCO Western Regional Conference in Tacoma in March. The Washington State Patrol Honor Guard presented Colors and Grace Larsen sang the National Anthem at the opening ceremony. The Puyallup and Nisqually Tribes of the Northwest Salish Sea shared tribal songs and dances during the evening event. We had some fantastic baskets donated and bid on during the Basket Auction and our 50/50 raffle ticket sales were a huge success.

With the WRC in Tacoma, we did not have a Summer Conference in 2018; however, Richard Kirton did a great job on the MEGA Forum in October in Kennewick.

We did not receive any scholarship applications.

Two sympathy cards and one flower bouquet were sent in Memorial.

At the MEGA Forum in October, Chapter Services and Mentoring Committees merged! Molly Elliott will remain the Chair and Stacie Huibregtse will be the Co-Chair. Karen Crawford and Stephanie George have joined the Chair team to help with ongoing projects and services for the joint committee. We look forward to working together to serve the Chapter.
Committee Updates

TECHNOLOGY, KATY MYERS, CHAIR
The technology committee has worked to identify what our focus should be. With a small group of dedicated individuals we continue to search for the right way to serve the chapter and its members. The committee submits articles for the newsletter and is working to be more involved in soliciting and selecting training related to technology in the future. If you have ideas for us or you would like to join please email Kathleen.myers@clark.wa.gov

Katy Gilbert (right) and Jami Vropped (not pictured) delivering a gift basket to Molly Elliott at RiverCom

Search for @APCONENAWA on Facebook and like our page!

Trisha Stender and Darcie Graves, front, Misty Viebrock, back