LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
Rick Kronberg, LCSW, CSADC, CEAP

Our annual NIEAPA Chapter Conference was held on June 7, once again at Drury Lane. Based upon the feedback we received from the evaluations, the record number of attendees (307) and the tied record number of exhibitors (70), this was our best conference ever! Thank you to all of you who attended, presented, or sponsored the 2016 NIEAPA Chapter Conference. Our sponsors make the conference affordable for attendees and we are so grateful that so many have chosen to join us year after year.

Congratulations to conference chair, Maureen Collins, Community Relations Coordinator, Rosecrance Health Network and co-chair Kathy Horton of Employee Resource Systems and their team of committee members and student volunteers. We couldn’t have a conference if not for these dedicated people giving of their time and talents.

Also, a big thanks to Ed Graziano and the Corporate Event Interactive staff for all they have done to support us and help the conference grow.

NIEAPA Chapter Board member and last year’s Conference Chair Linda Lewaniak, was named NIEAPA Member of the Year. Linda has provided many years of service both to the Chapter and to the addictions treatment community through her mentoring, leadership and educational efforts. As I continue to serve on the Board of Directors with her, I know this is a well-deserved award. Congratulations to Linda.

The John Sheridan Labor Award was given to IBEW local 701 and the DuPage County Division of Northeastern II Chapter of NECA. Charley Galassini presented the awards to their representatives, Tony Guinti of IBEW 701 and Sharon Cataneo from NECA. We truly appreciate the efforts of these organizations in serving their members.

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Thank you to all of you who filled out evaluations. Results from the survey were highlighted at the Annual Business meeting during the August Chapter meeting. Your feedback is already being considered in the planning for next year’s conference. The 2017 Conference Chair is Kathy Horton and the request for speaker proposals will be going out in the Fall.

For those of you seeking additional training opportunities, NIEAPA will be sponsoring a 3 hour Diversity event at our October Chapter Meeting. This program will meet the licensure requirement for professionals.

The EAPA World Conference is Sunday, Oct. 31-Thursday, Nov. 3, here in downtown Chicago at the Sheraton Grand Chicago. This is a great opportunity to learn about cutting edge advances in the EAP and treatment fields, and to network with colleagues from around the world. More details on both events are available on the websites.

I hope to see you soon, at one of our upcoming events or at the EAPA World Conference!

Rick

NOTES FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT
Charley Galassini, LCPC, CSADC, CEAP, IBEW

The general topic of this article is about getting involved. Many of us lead busy lives and have lots of commitments to keep. Let’s examine a couple of areas where we can get involved. The first I would like to discuss is voting. As we all know this is the year of the presidential election, but we should be aware of the other elections being held and take the time to find out about the candidates. We need to see how they may have views that align with our profession and how it affects the people we serve. We should look at their views toward counseling, addiction, and health care overall.

Many of you may have just received an email from EAPA to vote for the next Board of Directors. It is important that we take the time to vote. It only takes a few minutes and is an important part of being involved in our profession. Voting is one way can get involved.

Another way to get involved is to see the many committee opportunities available to NIEAPA members. If you go to our website you will be able to see the committees we have and a synopsis of what they are about. We are always looking for our members to join our committees. Also from time to time we have Board of Directors openings and we would be looking for members to get involved.

I am putting a plug in for one of our newest committees which is our Diversity committee. Our chapter recognizes the importance of the topic. At our next chapter meeting, bring held on October 21, 2016, the topic is related to diversity. I would encourage you to go to our website to get information about this very exciting chapter meeting. If you want to get involved you can reach out to Carole Hoffman who chairs the committee. Her contact information is available on our website.

Best,
Charley
This is YOUR Chapter…

Join us at our next Chapter Meeting, October 21st. Our chapter meetings not only cover some of the hottest topics in the EAP industry, but are also your chance to network with industry professionals and share a few stories and laughs. Bring a Guest!!

Post Your Event to the NIEAPA Calendar on our website
• Events must be related to EAP, Behavioral Health, Work/Life Health, or Home Health. Posting to the calendar is FREE to Members and non-Members alike!

Take advantage of the Online Resource Directory
• This directory is an outstanding resource for a wide variety of EAP related services. Secure your listing here.

Post EAP and EAP related Job Openings! Download the FORM and follow the instructions.