

October 30, 2015

Dear SRAPPA Members,

I hope you were one of the over 370 participants from 58 institutions that attended SRAPPA 2015 “Red, Hot & Rouge” here in Baton Rouge. Along with outstanding food & smokin’ hot music, we overfilled everyone’s conference plate with 34 educational sessions, two great speakers (General Russel L. Honoré & Ira Blumenthal), 80 booths in the Exhibit Hall, and tossed in some Lagniappe (something extra) with Mardi Gras Indians leading the procession to the final President’s Banquet.

A **SRAPPA first** took place with SRAPPA 2015 volunteers making 1,000 sandwiches and packing 500 lunches at St. Vincent de Paul to be distributed to local people in need, along with a \$375 donation to the Bags of Hope program. SRAPPA plans to take this service tradition to Nashville for next July’s joint APPA/SRAPPA/TNAPPA conference. More info to come on what will be an Outstanding Tri-Conference!

APPA President Pete Strazdas’ message for this year is Engagement. We all need to reach out to other institutions in our communities who are not yet APPA members and encourage them to check us out. When you deal with your local K-12, community college, or local college, make the opportunity to engage.

For the next year, your SRAPPA Board is focused on increasing training opportunities for each of our member institutions. We are the leader in providing Supervisor Toolkits and we will continue to bring more to our region. Drive-in Workshops are a great way to engage those institutions within 100 mile radius and also bring training to your folks.

A key step in professionalism is Credentialing and the SRAPPA Board is working on a paradigm shifting proposal to give our members fantastic opportunities to obtain these critical ratings. More to come soon!

Remember, November 30 is the due date for applications/nominations for the Award for Excellence, the Sustainability Award, Effective & Innovative Practices, APPA Fellow, Meritorious Service Award and the Pacesetter Award. I urge you and your institutions to consider applying for these prestigious awards or recognizing a worthy colleague by nominating them for an individual achievement award. These awards will be awarded in Nashville in July during the Tri-APPA Conference and I want to see you there!

Finally, it is my honor and pleasure to serve as your regional president for this year. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or comments, please feel free to contact me. Have a great day!

Sincerely,

DAVE



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