

Montana Chapter Newsletter

A Letter From the President

Dear Fellow Appraisers,

It was a pleasure to serve as the President of the Montana Chapter of Appraisal Institute for 2012. I hope you all found it to be a busy and productive year.

The Montana Chapter and AI National continued to assist us all with navigation through the complex industry changes during 2012. Our chapter took all necessary steps to become compliant with the Appraisal Institute Chapter Financial Review Policy and Procedures. We successfully completed all of the 2012 Chapter Minimum Criteria for the Appraisal Institute and we continued to provide the best appraisal education available in Montana.

My goal for 2013 is to encourage collaboration and foster collegial behavior among our members. Our colleague, Jerry Mitchke provided an excellent role model for selfless service and for a high level of professionalism. When we work together not only do we benefit as individuals but more importantly the appraisal profession benefits. **I encourage each of you to assist your colleagues in becoming better appraisers. I encourage you all to give back and volunteer your time for our profession.**

An excellent way for designated members to give back is to sign up as an **Advisor for the Candidate for Designation Program**. Our profession is in jeopardy due to an aging appraiser population. In order for the profession to thrive it is crucial that new appraisers continue to be trained. Please don't think of advising as training your competition but rather as improving the profession. A higher level of professionalism and competency in the appraiser population results in a greater degree of respect for our industry.

The AI Advisor program is informal and does not require a large time commitment. I urge each designated member of our chapter to participate. Please follow the link below for more information;

<http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/myappraisalinstitute/candidate/advisor-information.aspx>

Another excellent way to give back is to attend the AI **Leadership Development & Advisory Council** conference in May of 2013.

It has been and continues to be my pleasure to serve the Montana Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. It is rewarding professionally and personally. **Please join me in volunteering in 2013!**

Ellie Clark, MAI

President, Montana Chapter of the Appraisal Institute

Get Involved with the Montana Chapter

There are plenty of opportunities to participate in the Montana Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. Help us as we continue to strive to make our chapter a great education and networking resource for Montana appraisers! To get involved, contact Chapter President Ellie Clark, MAI at eclark@clarkappraisal.us

Become a Candidate Advisor – Your Experience is Needed!

The Appraisal Institute is seeking Designated members to serve as Advisors for Candidates for Designation. Before thinking you don't have time, consider the following:

- To become an Advisor, you need merely take a short (less than one hour), free online orientation.
- You can choose how many Candidates for Designation you'd like to advise – from one to 10 individuals.
- Each Candidate for Designation will require a minimum of just four phone calls, e-mails or visits per year.
- And don't forget, you may earn up to 25 hours of AI continuing education credit!

Please take a moment to view the free online Advisor orientation on the Appraisal Institute website: www.appraisalinstitute.org/myappraisalinstitute/candidate/advisor-information.aspx. At the end of the orientation, you will then be prompted to complete an Advisor Agreement, which can be submitted online. AI staff will then review the form and, if you are eligible, will notify you of your approval as an Advisor in the Candidate for Designation program.

2013 LDAC Registration Deadline Extended to March 22!

Please consider attending LDAC as a Montana Chapter member. Interested parties should be a Designated member or Candidate near obtaining their designation, and plan on serving in the chapter in the future.

Contact Chapter President Ellie Clark, MAI at eclark@clarkappraisal.us if you are interested.

Each year, the Appraisal Institute gathers a group of approximately 100 chapter representatives for the Leadership Development and Advisory Council (LDAC) to participate in a series of roundtable discussions and to lobby on Capitol Hill. The 2013 LDAC will take place May 21-23 in Washington D.C.

Ask any LDAC alumni, and they will undeniably tell you that LDAC has been one of their most positive experiences with the Appraisal Institute! Here's why:

- LDAC is your spring board for future leadership within the Appraisal Institute
- You get to make a difference in the Appraisal Institute by helping to formulate solutions to obstacles and challenges faced by the appraisal industry
- You have an opportunity to make your voice heard by members of the Nation's lawmakers
- Leadership development component, which includes leadership training and leadership opportunities
- Up to 9 hours of Appraisal Institute continuing education credit may be earned for participating in LDAC. Please refer to Regulation No. 10: Continuing Education for more details. (CE will be granted at the end of the conference, after full participation is documented.)

For more information on the program please visit the AI National website at <http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/profession/events/LDAC.aspx>

Annual Meeting July 23-25 in Indianapolis – Registration Open!

AI Connect is a first-class event that joins valuation and real estate professionals from across the country and around the world.

Come to the Appraisal Institute's biggest event of the year and:

- Network with your peers and working professionals.
- Earn up to 16 AI CE credit hours and 12.5 state CE hours for attending the entire conference.
- Choose from 30+ exceptional education programs.
- See exhibits of cutting-edge valuation products and services.
- Attend the annual Appraisal Institute awards dinner.

The site of the 2013 Appraisal Institute Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, is teeming with arts, sports and cultural activities, all prime for exploring, experiencing and enjoying. Begin planning for AI Connect 2013 by perusing our "[Indianapolis](#)" page to learn more about some of the fantastic things Indianapolis has to offer every type of visitor, from families to sports fans to dining enthusiasts to shopaholics.

[Click here for full information and to register](#)

Welcome To Those Who Have Joined the Chapter Recently

Michael David Seitz – Billings, MT

Deborah L. Smith, MAI Ennis, MT

Have Something to Contribute?

Do you have an idea for an article you'd like to contribute to the next newsletter? A news item to cover, topic to suggest, pictures from a Montana event? Send them our way! E-mail content and ideas to Deborah Smith, MAI at d.l.smithmai@gmail.com.



Contact Us

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