



CHICAGO SOCIAL SECURITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATIONS

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8/1/2018

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2019 CSSMA Annual Report

The Chicago Social Security Management Association (CSSMA) continued to enjoy another productive 2019. This year saw continued emphasis on promotion of CSSMA and the association was front and center on a number of issues at the regional and national level. We continue to be proud of all the work that was accomplished.

50Th Anniversary Planning

While CSSMA did not host a 2019 Membership meeting, we commenced celebration of our 50th year as an association. Included in this was the designation of a new 50th anniversary CSSMA logo to be used through the remainder of 2020. Additionally our group diligently commenced planning of our 50th anniversary Membership meeting. While no sight has yet been selected, our planning committee has sent several proposals out to host cities. The committee has put heavy emphasis on honoring the past and we are looking at returning to Ohio where the association first started. Similarly, we are also compiling a list of possible invitees that we hope will honor 50 years of CSSMA.

Membership

CSSMA once again provided hospitality at area and TSC management meeting throughout the region. Despite many losses due to retirement, CSSMA was able to continue to grow by adding 35 new members into our mix. This year marked the 2nd year of our Membership committee reaching out to new members of management and this has been one of the strongest recruiting tools to date. Additionally, CSSMA was able to provide hospitality to TL301/401 courses in regional office. Finally, CSSMA was very excited to have a 2nd year award winner of the Membership award. CSSMA was very excited to submit our winner for consideration at the national level.

Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee had another successful year. The Committee awarded two \$1500 scholarships. CSSMA worked with NYRMS and

NESSMA to make selections and through the promotion of this committee, we were able to receive a second year with a record number of scholarship applicants.

Communications

CSSMA was very excited to continue the long standing quarterly newsletter “CSSMA Today”. These newsletters were released in September of 2018, December of 2018, March of 2019 and June of 2019. The purpose of CSSMA Today is to provide our membership with relevant information across components. Each newsletter had a separate theme and focus. This newsletter is produced through the hard work of Chairs/Editor Rozelia Patino. This individual was responsible for convening quarterly calls and organizing such articles as “Interview with an executive.” In this series, regional executives were highlighted. Other columns worthy of noting are eServices Corner, LR/HR Q&A, Curious Operational Minds Want to Know, Blast from the Past articles and a quarterly President’s update article.

Awards

CSSMA received a record number of votes for this year’s All-One-Agency and Community Service Awards. These and other awards were presented in June at the Membership meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Below is a list of award winners

Robert P. Fleminger Award	Nancy McKee-Marshall, District Manager, Alpena, MI
All-One-Agency Award	Cathy Piwowar, Security Specialist, Chicago, IL
Community Service Award	Dawn Parrish, Operations Supervisor, Battle Creek, MI
Rick Warsinskey Award	Rozelia Patino, Assistant District Manager, Grand Rapids, MI
Membership Award	Christopher Maher, District Manager, Muncie, IN

Executive and RC Meetings

The CSSMA Executive Committee (EC) met with the Regional Commissioner Phyllis Smith and regional executive leadership at the Harold Washington Social Security Center in Chicago in May of 2019.

The meeting featured all of the available CSSMA EC members. The group met with Phyllis Smith Regional Commissioner, Doug Nguyen, Regional Communications Director, Erin Conway, Executive Officer, Anne Mills, DARC-MOS, Rick Lenoir, ARC-PCO, Margie Sletten, DARC-PCO, Andrew Philipson, Center Director for Systems and Automation, Robert Copelin, Center Director for Security.

The meeting offered the opportunity for CSSMA to discuss management concerns. The meeting covered items such as budget, personnel and staffing, regional office and field structure, regional and WSU-GLPSC support, vacancy concerns and several other items of utmost importance to our members.

The EC had the opportunity to convene the day prior in an internal meeting led by CSSMA President, Christopher Maher. During the meeting the EC discussed concerns gathered across the region and put together the most important items we would discuss with executives the following day.

In November of 2018 and February of 2019, the EC also held an extensive conference call with regional executives. During this call headed by Phyllis Smith, Regional Commissioner the CSSMA EC addressed the concerns of members across the region.

Committees

CSSMA was very excited to continue work with its current committee structure. The following committees work diligently to provide CSSMA and its members the best representation.

Annual Planning Committee	Communications Committee
Historical Committee	Management and LMR Committee
Membership and Bylaws Committee	Operations Committee
Scholarship Committee	Technology Innovation

These committees were actively involved and helped move CSSMA into the future on a number of fronts. The Annual Planning Committee is working to put together a very successful 50th anniversary meeting while the communications committee continues to produce an excellent “CSSMA Today.” The Historical Committee took the charge in archiving past records with the retirement of Rick Warsinskey. Management and LMR Committee actively participated in several surveys that were shared with our Regional Executives as well as wrote several excellent position papers. Membership helped secure thirty five new members and Operations worked to address several issues facing managers across the region. Scholarship awarded winners and brought in a record number of applications and Technology and Innovation continued to be the lead on issues in the ASC community. This year was very successful and we are looking forward to a similarly successful year in FY 2020.

Respectfully,
Christopher Maher
CSSMA President