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State Chapter News and Update

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Chapter meetings will be held at various locations starting in September and continuing through December; the latest schedule of state meetings is posted at

http://www.NACVA.com/association/state_chapter.asp and updated regularly as new meetings are announced. New locations and activity this year—Montana will offer a Case Analysis session in Bozeman and the Georgia chapter will also offer one, the IBA's SE Chapter Annual Regional Conference is to be held in Atlanta including dinner with Howard Lewis, Upstate New York has scheduled three meetings this year and Mississippi is hosting a "Current Update in Valuations" course (all day), which I highly recommend. Texas is meeting in San Antonio for two of the programs this year. The Connecticut chapter will be hosting a joint meeting with its local Bar Association, a wine and cheese event to benefit battered women and eldercare. Massachusetts is offering a full day on report writing with Al King and Frank Rosillo as guest speakers. Thanks to all those chapter leaders, new and continuing, who are working to bring their state membership together in so many creative ways!

We need chapter representatives from Washington state, Arizona, Illinois, Georgia and Nevada will be speaking to the BVTC and introduce the advantages of state involvement. Contact SimoneH1@nacva.com or my assistant Rebecca at RLA4Hoovcocpa@aol.com to confirm your attendance at the event in your state. Plans are being made to activate AL before yearend. Anyone interested in helping arrange meetings in the state of Florida should contact Simone Hoover at SimoneH1@nacva.com.

I recently heard from members at opposite ends of the country; one had just landed a huge assignment and needed staff, the other is working on his certification in BV and wants experience in writing reports to submit. I gladly introduced them to each other and to the NACVA subcontractor database. We also host a "careerbank" on www.NACVA.com. Not to mention the online credentialed member Directory that is a valuable networking tool for those who take the time to update the posting with information that a prospective referral sources or client might need. Even after many years of membership, there are still benefits that I forget to use! As a quick reminder, simply go to NACVA's home page, click on MEMBER LOGIN, once you enter your member # and password, this takes you to NACVA Members Only—Professional Development Center, there you click on Update My Directory Information.

While not connected to my duties with the State Chapters, I continue to enjoy participation on the Ethics Oversight Board (EOB) and want to share this with you. Not since college days, do I recall thinking this often about how "outsiders" view my profession. The many changes being made in financial services and the accounting profession support my belief that so many view things from a different perspective, and we really could do more to educate the public. In our deliberations, the EOB has discussed the need

for offering an "ethics" course that specifically focuses on the valuation professional. Many of us, especially those who hold the CPA credential, already have a mandatory ethics requirement for our CPE; however, these are not all "on point" to the practice of valuation consulting. I'm considering adding this topic to our suggested list of state chapter agenda programs and ask for your feedback: what ethics questions would you have addressed in such a program? If you can recommend an existing program, or someone to write the presentation, send that too. Other ideas and comments to make the state chapter activities more useful are always welcome. Send your ideas and questions to SimoneH1@nacva.com.

Despite the summer doldrums and a sluggish economy, things are happening in our profession. NACVA has been selected to provide training to two major organizations, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the AICPA, something we can all be proud of as it speaks to the talent, hard work, and commitment of so many in our leadership, staff, and membership. In September we all received a notice of the exposure of the "Unifying Professional Standards." Most of us understand this as a significant achievement in the evolution of business valuation in the U.S. I encourage each of you to spend some time reading this document. Your participation in the many aspects of this organization is what keeps it growing and continuing to meet the needs of an ever-changing field. Thank you for all you do.

Local state chapter events provide members valuable opportunities to: (1) promote CVAs, AVAs, CFFAs, CMAPs, and NACVA within the community, (2) create a platform to network and develop mentoring relationships with other members, (3) deliver relevant industry-related information and educate members on the range of support available as benefits of membership and, (4) receive economical CPE on timely and relevant topics pertinent to valuation and litigation forensic services.

I encourage NACVA members to take advantage of these opportunities, share ideas, and educate one another on current issues facing the business valuation, litigation, financial forensics/fraud consulting, and mergers and acquisitions communities. To help facilitate and address such issues, NACVA provides presentation materials for three half-day state chapter meetings each year on topics of current interest.

Contact your local state chapter president to let him/her know of your interest in attending a meeting, being a presenter, or assisting in preparing the materials for a future meeting—or contact me at simoneh1@nacva.com or NACVA's Executive Director, Pam Bailey at pamb1@nacva.com.