



IAWP MINI NEWS

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ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO BE HELD ON APRIL 26

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INSERTS – Flyer for April 26 Annual Meeting and Educational Event

Commissioner's Letter

By Suzanne Guibert

On April 26, 2018 the Chapter will be given a guided tour of the Thomas Edison Center at Menlo Park in Edison, New Jersey. Edison came to Menlo Park in 1876 and established the world's first organized research and development laboratory where he and his staff would create 400 of his most important inventions before relocating to West Orange in 1884. Following the tour, the Chapter will hold their Annual Meeting at the Metuchen Inn in Metuchen, New Jersey that will include an important discussion of the future of the Chapter, a Treasurer's report and election of Officers for the 2018-19 administrative year. (See enclosed flyer for more details)

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR ACOSTA ON THE FEBRUARY JOBS REPORT ANNOUNCED:

- Job growth was the strongest since President Trump's election, with 313,000 jobs created in the month of February.
- The non-stop job creation since the election has yielded 2.9 million jobs.
- For the fifth month in a row, the unemployment rate remained at 4.1%, a 17-year low.
- Goods-producing industries such as manufacturing, mining and logging, and construction collectively had the highest month-to-month growth since 1998. These were among many sectors experiencing significant growth.
- The average hourly earnings significantly increased in February and have increased by 2.6% over the last year.
- 400 companies handed out bonuses, raises, or other benefits to more than 4 million Americans.

State Chapter Nominations

The State Executive Board has called for Nominations (see Chapter website) for the following offices:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Delegates

DID YOU KNOW?

- Five countries – China, Spain, Taiwan, Japan and South Korea – are responsible for 85% of high seas fishing;
- Large ships fished over 40 million hours in 2016;
- Depression is the 4th leading cause of disability worldwide;
- 48% of Americans own a dog;
- Americans own 89.7 million dogs;
- Fatal work injuries totaled 101 in 2016 for New Jersey, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported, up 4 from the previous year.

ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

1. How long can we maintain our current efforts with our present leadership?
2. How do we develop new leadership given our experience in the past?
3. How can we pursue active worker membership without risking our retiree membership?
4. How will developing an active worker membership change the organization?

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

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- The HIRE Vets Medallion Program recognizes employers who recruit, retain, and employ veterans, and who offer charitable services in support of the veteran community and who offer charitable services in support of the veteran community

CHAPTER FACES ISSUES REGARDING CONTINUANCE OF STATE ORGANIZATION

For the last 9 months, the Chapter Executive Board has been trying to deal with major issues raised by the International Executive Board that affect our Chapter and how we operate.

Membership declined significantly at the International level requiring changes in the structure and operation of the International organization. Thus, the International Officers and Board of Directors decided to propose major changes, some of which were problematic to NJ Chapter Officers. Examples of some of the issues are:

- Currently our chapter gets to have a representative (District Director) on the International Executive Board every three years because District Directors were established on a geographical basis. Under the newly proposed system, District Directors would no longer be established geographically and could be elected from anywhere in the country. The number of District Directors would also be reduced dramatically.
- Under new regulations, the Chapter would be obligated to sign a Chapter Affiliation Agreement requiring a great deal of additional paper work. The Chapter Executive Board is unclear as to what the benefits would be of this agreement.
- The membership dues for retired members would double from \$25 to \$50 dollars.

These and other issues, such as our Chapter's ratio of employed to retired members will be discussed at the Annual Meeting to be held on April 26, 2018.

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

By Mike Mrvichin, President

Normally, I would not address an issue like Gun Control as your Chapter President, however the events of the past few weeks, months, the last several years and longer on this issue is on my mind and so I have a few comments to make.

In 2012, there was a massacre in a school in Sandy Hook, Newtown, Connecticut. There was no successful gun control legislation in the US Congress. Last year in Las Vegas there was a mass shooting at a concert. Many people were killed or injured with no action from the Congress. The recent Parkland school shooting claimed 17 young lives and many others injured by another AR-15 armed shooter. To put a point on this issue there have been 1,607 mass shootings in the US since 2012. The question to ask is what will it take to get action to control this problem?

In other countries with gun control laws the numbers of deaths due to guns is many times less. Of course, there is a huge gap between how the US and other countries view firearms, in part, due to each country's historical origins. In many countries they do not have the right to bear arms as part of their constitutions. Our 2nd Amendment enshrines this right for our people. Many gun supporters find this right is absolute, but the laws of this country do not support their view. An example of this is in most cases it is illegal for people to own fully automatic weapons because we recognize they are not for self-protection. These weapons are designed for war. The AR-15 is semi-automated version of the military M16. The only difference is the rate of fire for the AR-15 is around 60 rounds per minute and the M16 in full auto is around 600 rounds per minute. The biggest thing they have in common is they are both designed to kill PEOPLE. We know in the hands of sick, mad, unhappy and/or criminal individuals they are very effective even when the shooters are not well trained.

The Parkland killing again underlines the need to have control of guns in this country. The Parkland students and teachers are in our hearts. They are calling for change and action on gun control. When will Congress get the message? It is too easy for bad people to get guns in this country!

NJ TRAINING GRANTS PROGRAM

Purpose: The Training Grant Program for Online Courses is designed to provide financial assistance to workforce program professionals who wish to increase their knowledge, skills and abilities in a course(s) of study that pertains to employment and training work, or that relates to job performance and/or promotional possibilities **OR** for retirees for their personal self-improvement.

Eligibility: The grant applicant must be a current IAWP member or have applied for membership, to be eligible.

Awards: The maximum grant amount is \$100.

Examples of Internet Training Companies:

www.corexcel.com,
www.flexstudy.com,
<http://courses.pdtrainingusa.com/>. Examples of courses include management, supervision, team building.

Application Procedures: An IAWP member may obtain a grant application from the publisher of the *MINI-NEWS* (see page 4) or from the NJ Chapter IAWP website at <http://njiawp.tripod.com>.

If you are not a member, we will help you become a member and help with the Training Application.

GOVERNOR MURPHY CREATES THE JOBS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL

On February 27, 2018 Governor Murphy established The Governor's Council on Jobs and Economic Opportunity:

1. The Council will consist of at least 12 members, including the Lieutenant Governor, the Chief of Staff to the Governor, the Chief Counsel to the Governor, the Chief Policy Advisor to the Governor, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Economic Growth, the State Treasurer, the Commissioners of the Departments of Education, Labor, and Banking and Insurance, the Secretary of Higher Education, the Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and the Director of the John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development at Rutgers University.
2. The objectives of the Council shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - a. Considering both national and state economic trends and developments that can have an impact on State policy;
 - b. Advising the Governor about and coordinating government actions that are designed to attract, expand, and retain employment opportunities;
 - c. Developing priorities and identifying funding sources for infrastructure development from federal, state, and bi-state authorities;
 - d. Advising the Governor on priorities for all federal economic development, education and workforce development funding, and for postsecondary education and state-funded workforce programs;
 - e. Advising the Governor on maximizing the acquisition of federal and philanthropic spending on infrastructure, community and workforce development, and postsecondary initiatives; and
 - f. Advising the Governor on effective deployment of state-of-the-art software technology to improve service delivery for employers, students, and jobseekers.

Finally, The Council shall be purely advisory in nature, and shall periodically report to the Governor, outlining specific recommendations as directed in this Order.

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