

## **NCSG Executive Director's Report**

Much of what has transpired since our last meeting barely a month ago has been relatively routine. Of most notable significance has been the departure of Judy Thompson from the staff after 8 years as our Director of Finance. I had hoped to be able to report her successor, but as of the writing of this report, while close, that has not yet materialized. None-the-less progress is being made in the search, and between well-established SOPs and the staff stepping up to fill the temporary gap, we are not losing any ground.

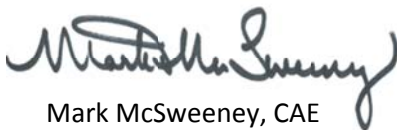
Prior to Judy's departure, we did wrap up our annual financial audit. As expected, the process went smoothly. NCSG was also subjected to a random compliance audit by Indiana Department of Workforce Development. The focus of the audit was to review disbursements made to individuals (staff and volunteers alike) during 2009 and 2008. Nothing unusual seemed to come up during the collection process, and while we are not expecting to have an adverse review, we have not yet received any follow up communication from the Department one way or the other. In addition, Judy was able to finalize our system setup for PCI compliance, which is the relatively newly-required system for properly handling and securing credit card information. Judy and I were pleased to discover we are able to implement this new program for roughly \$2800 less than originally budgeted; a savings of approximately \$1400 for NCSG.

Convention preparation is progressing on track. With roughly 80% of booth space already spoken for we are anticipating a sell-out at the trade show. The seminar schedule is full and will be posted soon to the convention website. The planning staff is headed for a site visit and program walk-through in mid-November.

I'm hoping to have additional information to share soon relative to the liability insurance surveying that was conducted over the past month. Preliminary feedback indicated that our members are generally satisfied with their level of soot coverage and would not welcome changes that would impact their premiums. However, that initial data was shared approximately half way through the survey process so final results were still pending. Either way, Stratus still intends on having alternatives for those who wish to seek additional levels of coverage for themselves, beyond the parameters of the general program.

Over the next couple of months we will be preparing for the anticipating upcoming board changes, including the election process itself and well as the change in presidency. To that end, Jay and I are scheduled to attend the ASAE CEO Symposium (joint training and planning session for the incoming chief elected and chief staff officers) in January.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McSweeney, CAE  
Executive Director