

SDP Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 1, Spring 1998

A Message From Your President

The state of the Society is strong and growing stronger.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend last year's Board of Directors and Committee Chairs and members for a job well done. I would like to especially thank last year's president, Bill Stout, for his outstanding leadership and dedication to the Society. Thank You!

The Board's objective for 1998 is simple: to increase the value that the Society provides to its members. In doing so, the society will continue to grow. This will be done by focusing on the following areas:

Membership The Membership Committee is actively recruiting new members and encouraging former members to return to the fold. Initially the Membership Committee's goal was to increase membership 10% to 15%. Through their innovative approach in looking outside of the traditional areas for members, a 20% to 25% increase is within sight. The Society is reaching out to other professional societies. For example, depreciation is a vital component in the assessment of property value. As technological obsolescence renders significant portions of a utility's infrastructure obsolete, property tax appraisers look to the depreciation professional for help in quantifying the loss in value. The Society, through the Coordinating Committee, is reaching out to property appraisers across the country.

Communications In 1997, the Society rolled out its Internet home page. This year, the Home-Page Committee is including a host of features and services to enhance the home page and make the Society more user friendly. These enhancements include an on-line membership directory containing live links to member's individual or corporate home pages and e-mail addresses. Additionally, the home page will post employment opportunities. Other enhancements are underway and/or under consideration. Thanks to the Home-Page committee, the SDP Home Page promises to be a major benefit to the Society's members. Please be sure to visit the SDP Home Page at: **www.depr.org**

The Society's Newsletter and Journal are also getting a face lift. They are your vehicles for expressing views, ideas and accomplishments. Take advantage of this forum. Submit an article. By publishing an article in a professional journal, you increase your marketability and provide valuable information to others in the field. There is little that impresses a potential client more than being a published expert. Send a letter to the

editor. Share something you have learned with the Society. Make the Newsletter and Journal work for you!!!

Certification Over 30 members have completed the professional certification process and become Certified Depreciation Professionals. In order for the designation of CDP to be meaningful, the Society must be ever vigilant in upholding the professional standards represented by certification. The Society is doing this through the efforts of the Certification Committee and the Ethics and Standards Committee. The Certification Committee is revamping the certification training program to make it even more convenient, timely and efficient. This Committee is also developing procedures for re-certification.. The Society's Ethics and Standards Committee is working on procedures for handling and resolving allegations of ethics violations by Certified Depreciation Professionals. These activities will strengthen professional certification and contribute to its long-term viability.

Annual Meeting This year's upcoming Annual Meeting is also being enhanced. The Program Committee assessed your feedback on the 1997 meeting and has laid out what may prove to be the best Annual Meeting ever. The new format will cover one and a half days and will include technology and product demonstrations, a field trip, a social event, improved training, exciting speakers, and much more. See page 3 for more information. Don't miss it!!

As you can tell by now, I'm excited about our objectives for 1998. I promise that every decision and recommendation I make will be based on the answer to a simple question, What value does it add to the members? At the end of my term, judge my performance with your answer to the question, What value did his administration add to the members? Judging from the outstanding performance by the Committees to date, the Society will have a great year.

Thanks for your support,
Steve Barreca

1998 Membership Report *Ronald Kalich*

1998 will be a landmark year for SDP membership and recruiting.

To its members, SDP continues to be an important aspect of our careers and lives. To its prospective members, SDP holds the same benefits we now enjoy, such as our new internet site, certification, the Journal, and the annual meeting; among others.

This year, SDP has already noted a large number of renewals, welcomed a number of "lapsed" members back into the fold, and reached out to a wider audience of potential members. We're crafting a new-and-improved version of the Society's brochure in order to help keep our recruiting strong. We plan to host a new member function at the annual meeting. And, we are going to ask each and every one of you to contact someone you

know with an interest in our field that is not currently an SDP member and personally ask them to join.

There's no doubt that each one of us receives very important benefits from SDP, but every one of us also has the responsibility to keep our Society strong. Please join with me in celebrating SDP in 1998, and don't forget to contact at least one potential SDP member and invite them to the annual meeting.

A final note: If you've already paid your 1998 dues, thank you very much. If you're not yet current, please take a moment and send in your dues. The timely receipt of renewals enables the Society to adequately plan for the future.

Upcoming Events

National Conference of Regulatory Utility Commission Engineers
June 19-23, San Diego, CA
Contact: Dean Evans 415/703-1837

Depreciation Programs, Inc.
July 13-17, Grand Rapids, MI
Contact: DPI 616/375-6035

Journal Committee Requests Articles for the 1998 SDP Journal

Jerry Houck, Chair of the SDP Journal Committee, is ready to accept submissions of articles for the next SDP Journal. Abstracts and articles should be submitted in MS Word format to: Jerry Houck, GTE Telephone Operations, 600 Hidden Ridge, HQE01H17, Irving, TX 75038. Please contact Mr. Houck if you are interested in submitting an article. All submissions must be received by August 15th, 1998.

Past issues of SDP Journals are available from the SDP office. For your convenience, an order form is included with this Newsletter.

SDP Welcomes New Members:

Bruce Clark, Bonneville Power Administration, Portland, OR
Rebecca Lee Crowe, Cincinnati Bell Telephone Co., Cincinnati, OH
James Cunningham, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, Concord, NH
Norman Eady, NorthwTel, Inc, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada
John Fox, ALLTEL, Little Rock, AR
Francis McGovern, Bell Atlantic (retired) Laurel Springs, NJ
Alan Heitsch, Detroit Edison, Detroit, MI
David Huss, Florida Power, Miami, FL
Charles McDonald, Jacksonville Electric Authority, Jacksonville, FL
David Williams, Arkansas Louisiana Gas Co., Shreveport, LA
Lezlie Young, ALLTEL, Little Rock, AR

In addition, we have many former members who had drifted away from the Society and have rejoined in 1998. Welcome back!

**Make Your Plans Now for the 1998 Annual Meeting
Cincinnati, OH October 4-7, 1998**

The planning committee, in response to comments and recommendations from the membership, has made a number of exciting changes for the 1998 Annual Meeting. We heard from many of you that traveling across country for a meeting that lasted only one day was difficult to justify within your office budgets. With that in mind, the 1998 Conference has been expanded to two days, Monday and Tuesday. The training has been moved to Sunday, October 4th. For those who need to travel over Saturday night for the best airfares, we believe this schedule will accommodate your needs. The certification examination will continue to be held on Wednesday morning.

We plan to take advantage of the many resources which Cincinnati offers. We will take a walking tour of an historic landmark which happens to be the Switching Center for Cincinnati Bell. On Monday evening we will travel to one of Cincinnati's popular night spots for dinner and entertainment. For details on sports, entertainment, arts and other offerings in Cincinnati, visit their home page at: www.cincyusa.com

In addition to a stimulating agenda, several exhibitors will be on hand with the latest in technological advances that affect the depreciation industry. You will have opportunities to visit with them throughout the meeting. This meeting is designed to provide you the opportunity to stay in touch with the latest developments in the industry and to network with colleagues. We hope to see you there.

Tentative Agenda

Sunday October 4, 1998

8:30 - 4:00 Training - Training will help candidates prepare for the certified depreciation professional (CDP) examination.

4:30 - 6:30 Reception

Monday October 5, 1998

AM
Sessions Welcome & Opening
 Impact of Competition on Depreciation Rate Setting
 Experiences in Automated Meter Reading
 AMR Open Discussion

12:00 -
1:00 Lunch (Provided)

PM
Sessions *Concurrent Industry Discussion*
 • Telco Advances/96 Telco Act
 • Competitive/Economic Depreciation
 • FERC 888/Securitization Tour of Cincinnati Bell Historic Switching
 Center

6:00 -
10:00 Social Evening - Travel to Cincinnati's favorite casino for dinner and entertainment (transportation and dinner provided)

Tuesday October 6th

AM
Sessions Telephony Directions
A Regulator's Perspective
Nuclear Waste Decommissioning: Low Level Radiation Waste Disposal,
Replacements & Rebuilds, Yucca Mountain Update
Open Forum

12:30 -
2:00 Lunch (provided) and SDP Business Meeting

Wednesday October 7th

8:00 -
12:00 Certified Depreciation Professional Examination

*Make your hotel reservations by calling the Omni Netherland Plaza Hotel 513/421-9100
Be sure to identify yourself as part of the Society of Depreciation Professionals to get the
special room rate of \$117 per night.*

SDP SUSTAINING MEMBERS

AUS Consultants
BellSouth
GTE Telephone Operations
Sprint - Local Telecom

BUSINESS SPONSORS

Columbia Gas of Ohio
Depreciation Programs, Inc.
Wotring Associates
Yankee Gas

SDP FRIENDS

Herb Crowhurst
Richard Lee
John Russell

Support Your Society

There are four ways to support SDP. Companies may become **Sustaining** or **Business** Members. Individuals may become **Patrons** or **Friends** to SDP.

Sustaining Members \$750

Benefits: Recognition in the Journal and Newsletter and a Plaque at the Annual Conference.

Business Members: \$300

Benefits: Recognition in the Journal and Newsletter

Patrons \$200

Benefits: Recognition in the Journal and Newsletter.

Friends: \$100

Benefits: Recognition in the Newsletter.

Send your donation to:

SDP

5505 Connecticut Ave, NW #280

Washington, D.C. 20015

We need your input.

Please submit any news of interest to our members to the Newsletter editor for inclusion in upcoming issues of this Newsletter.

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The Society of Depreciation Professionals Newsletter is published tri-annually. *Please send your contributions to the Editor.*

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