

INMAN INSIDER

Fund Raising Rising



It's been hard work, but the public is responding to our fund-raising events.

In March, we increased our St. Patrick's Day sales to over 525 meals, the highest in Amsterdam. In June, we held our first Flag Day All-American Dinner at the 518 Grille: the food was great, 135 persons attended, and we received 50% of the take. Thanks to Donna Dickerson for suggesting the idea, and all involved in making the event happen.

Next up: an ice cream social on

August 20th: cake, ice cream, toppings, entertainment, door prize and 50/50 – all only \$5 per person. And after that, the annual pie sale. Order forms are now available for ten inch pies for only \$12, which can remain frozen for up to six months. Orders and payment must be in by September 8th, for pick-up on September 22nd. Tickets and order forms, respectively, are enclosed with this newsletter.

There are many other events upcoming (see the enclosed listing). Every successful event raises

our public profile, encourages new membership, and supports Center programs.

We also just received a \$1,200 grant from CDPHP and are expecting several similar grants in the next two months.

In other good news: rentals are up with every Saturday in August booked except for the ice cream social.

But as Mike Wancewicz, long-time member and newly elected treasurer pointed out at the August Member Meeting: "We can never relax our efforts. Costs only go up each year."

New Dues Now Due

With the start of the Inman Center's fiscal year on July 1st, membership fees are now due.

Without even a reminder, somewhere between 1/3 and 1/2 of the membership has come forward to pay their dues. Not a one has complained that this year the Board of Directors voted for the first time in many years to increase the membership fee from \$25 to \$30 (first year veteran

member remains free, and subsequent years is now \$15). The Board of Directors has also voted that there will no longer be a proration of dues, which rewards members who do not pay when membership is due. All members pay the same, whenever dues are paid.

Pursuant to the above, members who do not pay before August 31st will be dropped from the

rolls until such time as they renew.

By far dues are not the largest part of our funding, but they are an indispensable source which serves two other essential ends:

- 1) They fund activities we can't fund through grants and other sources.
- 2) Paid membership in the hundreds makes us a group worth paying attention to.

Paid up membership is more than money in the bank: it's evidence that we are an organization that has people power

Tell Us About You

The more we know about you, the better we can serve you.

For years, Inman Center prided itself that it didn't have an application form. That was great, but we missed opportunities to better communicate with you, provide the programs you want, and engage you more closely. Enclosed is a membership information (not application) form to collect that

information. Please complete and return it to the Center – even if you've been a member for decades: our current files are incomplete, out-of-date, inadequate, and basically useless,

Completed forms also serve as a paper back-up to the electronic database, and can be batched to make data entry, update, and correction more efficient

Please also carefully consider whether you want to receive the *Inman Insider* and other news by email or snail-mail; email saves the Center money that can be spent on programs.

It's easy and quick: just fill out the form and send it back in the envelop included.

Information provided will not be shared with third parties.

