



EASGV Additional Director's Report David A. Shean, CSEO/CEI January 2009

COMMITTEE: CEA News

We have a change in Committee Chair this year. Linda Hamilton is directing the committee. We reviewed the articles submitted for consideration and discussed the direction we want to go for new articles. The Committee is aware that we will need to do more work outside the actual Director's Meeting. We will be utilizing the CEA "Go To Meeting" for online committee meetings throughout the year so that even though we are dropping from 5 to 4 Director's Meetings the output of a quality Newsletter will not drop off. We encourage all regional members to let us know what kind of articles you would like to see in the CEA News.

If you have recommendations or suggestions for articles or if you find articles in other trade organization materials that you think would be of interest to our members, please forward them to David.Shean@EscrowEssentials.com or call Dave at 818-517-3750 with particulars.

COMMITTEE: CEA's AEA Committee

Jan Cerasaro, our AEA Alternate Delegate led the committee meeting since Alma Rushing, our CEA AEA Delegate was attending the 6 to 8 hour AEA telephonic Board of Director's Meeting also held on Saturday the 10th.

Hold the Dates: The 2009 AEA Annual Business Meeting and Conference will be held in Sparks NV from June 4th thru June 6th. Speakers and topics are being negotiated and arranged at this time.

It appears that between 4 and 6 different counties will be moving into the electronic recordings in California this year. There will be at least four PREP (Property Records Education Partners) meetings this year in California (Bay Area, Mother Lode area, Sacramento and one in Southern California). These meetings of members from Escrow, Title, Recorders, Lenders and other industry related parties are extremely beneficial for helping to smooth the electronic recording process and procedure and to assure that members understand the affect of the process on others in the process. I encourage you to watch the CEA and AEA calendars for the meeting in your area and attend, if possible.

I reported on the current status of both the UCI's and RESPA to the committee:

- **Uniform Closing Instructions (UCI):** The MBA Closing Practice Committee and many newly invited industry specialists are currently working on conference calls to complete this very important document. If the process in NOT completed shortly (within the next several months) I believe the process will be dropped.
- **RESPA:** The implementation of the new RESPA rule adopted November 17, 2008 has been delayed by two separate lawsuits filed against HUD.
 - On December 19, 2008 the National Association of Mortgage Brokers ("NAMB") filed suit against HUD in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia for permanent injunctive relief to prevent the Department from enforcing the final RESPA rule. NAMB claims the final RESPA rule singles out mortgage brokers and is arbitrary and capricious, is not reasonably supported by HUD's explanations and justifications and among other serious items will result in irreparable harm to the NAMB and its members.
 - On December 22, 2008 the National Association of Home Builders ("NAHB") sued HUD in the U.S. District Court of Eastern Virginia in search of both a preliminary and permanent injunction against the Department's enforcement of the "required use" provision. The NAHB claims the Department acted contrary to RESPA's statutory requirements and in an arbitrary and capricious manner without rationale, reasoning, or explanation to justify the final rule. The Department agreed on January 7, 2009 to extend the effective date of the "required use" provision until April 16, 2009.

These items continue to point out the importance of membership in your regional, state and national escrow associations. Without your support national and state legislators will promote positions contrary to your activities in Settlement Services and will go on unnoticed and our common day to day practices will be eroded.

COMMITTEE: CEA Miriam Schwartz Benevolent Fund

This committee is made up of CEA Past Presidents and I am fortunate to be the Chair for 2009. Miriam Schwartz was President of CEA in 1970. Miriam was a victim of a very serious accident that left her pinned all night off the road under the steering wheel of the car. Miriam vowed during the man months of her hospitalization and therapy to do something to show her appreciation to her friends and fellow members of CEA for the spontaneous help that came her way during those trying times. In 1976 the association was presented with a \$1,000 contribution from Miriam Schwartz to establish a benevolent fund for CEA members, later named in her honor.

The funds are administered to aid CEA Members who have experienced a catastrophic accident or illness and to CEA Members in need of financial assistance. If you become aware of CEA Members in need, please contact me at David.Shean@EscrowEssentials.com (Phone: 818-517-3750) or CEA Headquarters directly.

EASGV has for the past several years made regular contributions to this worthy cause.

Respectfully submitted:

David A Shean, CSEO/CEI/CNSA, Additional EASGV Director