

AIFD North Central Chapter Officer Reports

President's Report: Jim Rauch AIFD

Dear North Central AIFD Members, New Inductees & New CFD's, please read this message carefully! Everyone should have received an October/November Presidential email from me that included details about our annual Chapter meeting in Chicago, called PROJECT 99! Please refer to the full page itinerary included in the newsletter if you did not.

I just want to be sure all of you understand that I am spearheading spending YOUR money on this meeting and the programs! Although we are all feeling the effects of these economic times, I urge you to come to Chicago! Your board's goal is to be sure everyone leaves Chicago with a new thought, a new plan, a new sense of connection to other members and hopefully a new way to position ourselves in the future of our beautiful industry.

Now finally, one last thing. Click on my email address, it's right here, jrauch@choiceonemail.com and tell me you are coming. PLEASE, I need this information ASAP, so, just on the off chance that a member you know is too busy to read their email, CALL THEM!!!

I cannot wait to see AT LEAST 99 of our members there! Email me right now, then call Hotel 71 & make your reservations!!!

See all of you in January, can't wait!
Jim Rauch

President Elect's Report: Alice Waterous AIFD

A brief recap on Nature's Creative Edge '09. entitled: "Floral Art – Museum Inspirations" held this past September at the woodland property and home of NC member Rober Friese AIFD:

We had 28 designers and about 14 or so volunteers who assisted to create over 31 exhibits in the 5 acres site prepared by Bob and AIFD friend/artist, James Lutke. Susan Bain AIFD traveled from Florida to participate and the others came from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana! Attendance was terrific; we have 1,056 visitors to the exhibit, more than double last years' number. This was a great public awareness event and fundraiser. After expenses were paid, we submitted \$7,883.80 to AIFD Scholarship Funds!

Put the third weekend in September on your 2010 calendars. All AIFD members are encourage to participate. This is a very fulfilling experience with an opportunity to let your creativity go wild!! Get further details at the January 23 & 24 NC meeting in Chicago, and have an opportunity to see the slideshow of "Floral Art – Museum Inspirations" while there.

I asked in the last newsletter for member input about our January meeting and pretty much got no response. So, your Executive Board plus Bobbi Ecker-Blatchford AIFD has put together what we think is a pretty terrific two days of programs that will educate & entertain. I must confess, putting this meeting together was my duty, but our Chapter President Jim Rauch teamed up with Bobbi to get it DONE. Thanks...you two are the very BEST! (See the exciting lineup of events for Project 99 in this newsletter.) Your Chapter is INVESTING in YOU please take advantage of it. Let's see a turnout that is way over the 99 member attendance goal!

Respectfully submitted,

Alice E. Waterous

Past President's Report: Frank Feysa AIFD

For those of you who might consider attending the Great Lakes Floral Expo March 5th, 6th and 7th in Grand Rapids, Michigan, I have an offer you cannot refuse! (Unless of course you are closer and/or planning to attend the Illinois State Convention in Springfield, IL, which is also great and the same weekend.) Come join me and about 7 other AIFD members who are designing arrangements for the Great Lakes Floral Expo AIFD public awareness display. The flowers are provided and the Expo will give you a free registration for your efforts. (Great perk!) It is so much fun and the hallway that our pieces are located in is in a fantastic area to design for. Come support the Great Lakes Expo, your fellow AIFD members and our fantastic international organization by making a stunning floral piece of your choice. Call or email and I can fill you in on all the details.

Frank Feysa
frank@ohiogreen.com