

President's Message



D. Michael Blake

Dear Member....

Membership in any organization is for many reasons. IASM members are no different. There are companies that choose to be what is affectionately referred to as "check book" members. They support the association financially by paying their annual dues. While they don't usually attend meetings their support financially is extremely important. We thank you for your support. Many members, however, become involved in attempting to improve not only their own company but also the industry and the association.

I wish to thank all members who have shown an increased interest this year by forwarding to the association suggestions for improvement of our industry. With your continued interest and support we, as an association, can accomplish much for our industry, which, in turn, should improve the working climate for our individual companies. If you have a contribution to offer and do not have time to put your suggestions in the form of correspondence, may I suggest you simply contact a director of the association? You can find their contact information on page 20 of the March 2008 issue of **STRUCTURAL MOVER** magazine or by going to the association's website at www.iasm.org and clicking on Board of Directors.

The association's work is carried out through 11 committees. You may see the list of committees at the same website by clicking on 2008 Committees. Or you can find them listed on page six of the 2008 Directory of Members. Because of the support of the 15 other directors, 11 of whom also serve as chair of a committee, I have been afforded more time to investigate additional new projects and issues

that may prove to be beneficial to our industry. Of significant benefit to the association is that our Board of Directors is multi-generational. This affords the programs to cover a broad spectrum of interests and methods. Plus, because of this diversity of age and experience, our efforts can be continued with continuity.

Thanks to the assistance of our staff executive's supplementing efforts of the North Carolina House Movers Association's Legal & Utilities Committee and officers, our work with NC utilities and members of the NC Legislature, we feel we have greatly improved our reputation, status and effectiveness by strengthening requirements for obtaining a license to move structures in the state. See the NCHMA column on page 15. The effort is to assist in creating an attitude of penalties for wrongdoers and not the legitimate mover who abide by the law and support increasing professionalism of the industry.

Additionally, in NC, a Permit Corridor Committee of young movers has been appointed. It is being modeled after the work accomplished by the Minnesota Building Movers Association. If you would like to establish such a committee for your state, contact MBMA President, Robert Swift, Vice President Tom Prodger or Secretary/Treasurer Larry Stubbs, at 612-282-1139. As these young members work together and develop a respect for each other's unique abilities they have a better opportunity of becoming tomorrow's leaders of this industry.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, February 18-22, 2009 for the 27th Annual Conference. Check out the ad on page 8 and make your hotel reservations now