

NEWSLETTER

Member & Chapter Services Committee

February 2015

Membership Recruitment and Involvement by Tasha Todd

Why should I join APCO?? What's in it for me?? I am asked this question a lot when talking to folks about the benefits of membership. So how do we bring more folks into our APCO family? How do we get our membership numbers up? Social media is without a doubt one of the greatest tools and greatest headaches of Public Safety. But, when used correctly, you can generate a lot of free advertisement for your APCO

chapter. It's also a great way to get younger folks involved. Trust me, if anyone can use Twitter and Facebook to its full capacity it's our newest additions. Try to post an update every week with something new and/or entertaining. Don't limit your group to just members of APCO. If they are part of our public-safety family, let them join as well. You will be surprised how many members you can generate from social media. Also, make sure your website is up to date. Keep information updated on your website so it

serves as a one-stop shop for all those that have questions and concerns. And lastly, form committees that your Chapter needs. From training, conferences, and employee standards, there are many things you can get started with a committee. Many chapters have the same folks always involved. Some new members or folks that are thinking about joining don't know where to start. Giving them a voice, whether through social media or a committee, is a great way to start!



Upcoming Member and Chapter Services Webinar

February 24 at 2:00 p.m. EST

March 12 at 10:00 a.m. EST

Get in the know! Please submit your suggestions for agenda topics through your Chapter's Leadership to the Member & Chapter Services Representative for your Chapter.



APCO Awards: Do you know someone who is a star?

Don't wait to nominate YOUR shining star...nominate today!

APCO International presents awards to public safety communications personnel who have demonstrated the highest levels of personal and professional conduct and performance in the line of duty. Nominees must have been employed in the applicable category by a public safety agency at any time between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2015. Nominees **do not** have to be members of APCO.

PSAP award categories:

- Telecommunicator of the Year
- Communications Center Director of the Year
- Line Supervisor of the Year
- Radio Frequency (RF) Technologist of the Year
- Information Technologist of the Year
- Trainer of the Year
- Team of the Year



Award recipients will enjoy VIP treatment starting with a fully paid trip to the 2015 APCO Annual Conference & Expo; including registration, travel expenses, and hotel accommodations. During the conference, the recipients will be brought on stage to receive their awards in front of their peers from around the nation. They will also be featured in a press release announcing the winners and in an article in APCO's *Public Safety Communications* magazine.

Nominations for the **Technology Leadership Award** are also being accepted. This award is designed to recognize an emergency communications center's use of technological advancements and demonstrated benefits received to their employees and the citizens they serve. Nominations should detail modifications to policies and procedures necessary to make operations more efficient. Nominations should also show how the project benefits center employees and the public served. Examples of projects include but are not limited to Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD), radio, 9-1-1, public safety IT, broadband, electronic crime reporting, mapping, GPS to name a few.

The Award Recipients for the Technology Leadership Award shall receive a complimentary "day-pass" registration to APCO 2015 for the day of the award ceremony. A representative from the winning PSAP(s) will be recognized at the annual conference, in *Public Safety Communications* and on the Web site.

Visit <http://apcointl.org/apco-membership/awards/psap-awards.html> for more information. Nominations are being accepted in the online format until **April 1, 2015**.

APCO Scholarships

The APCO Scholarship Application Timeframe is January 1 – March 31

Scholarship programs available are the **SILENT KEY SCHOLARSHIP** which was initiated as a means of remembering and honoring individuals who have participated in APCO, contributed to APCO, and meant a great deal to APCO members. By remembering these individuals who mean so much to us, they continue to contribute to our organization even beyond the years we were privileged to have them in our midst.

The **COMMERCIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) SCHOLARSHIP FUND** was initiated by the Commercial/Corporate Advisory Council as a means for its commercial members to give back to the public safety community. Scholarship funds may be used for the APCO Institute or the APCO Virtual College. The funds may apply to books, tuition, and/or registration costs for approved classes and programs. Up to \$500 of the award may be applied to travel or living expenses to attend an APCO International educational event. Applicants must bear responsibility for payment of all costs, and will be reimbursed only upon satisfactory completion of the course or class.

Applicants should meet the following standards:

- Currently employed in the Public-Safety Communications field.
- Have accumulated at least one year of experience within public-safety with at least eight months of continuous service.
- Current APCO Members and maintain APCO membership throughout the scholarship period.
- Demonstrate a commitment to high career standards with long term goals in public-safety communications.
- Demonstrate commitment to continuing education and self-improvement.
- Submit a completed application within the prescribed time frame.

For more information visit the website below and select “Scholarships”

<http://www.apco911.org/training-and-certification>

Membership Information

Member Type	2/1/2014	2/1/2015
Associate	2581	2208
Commercial	718	629
Full Member	5290	4453
Group Online	5313	6195
Total Number of Members	16141	16297
Total Number of Group Agencies	371	507
Commercial Group		7

Note: January and February are traditionally the lowest months reported for membership numbers due to incoming renewals. We expect to see this number continue to grow and within a month or so return to its normal level.

Membership FAQ



QUESTION: I see a discussion thread on PSConnect that I think I can help with. How do I respond?

ANSWER: Once you are signed into www.psconnect.com, click on the post you wish to respond to. On the right-hand side of the original post, you have the option to “Respond to eGroup” and “Respond to Sender”. To respond to the eGroup with a public reply, click “Respond to eGroup”. To send a reply directly to the private inbox of the original author, click “Respond to Sender”. Enter your comments and hit the “Send” button at the bottom or top of the editor box.

81st Annual APCO International Conference & Expo

Save the Date!
August 16 - 19, 2015
Washington, DC
www.apco2015.org



Georgia Emergency Communications Conference

March 9 - 12, 2015
The Classic Center
300 N Thomas Street
Athens, Georgia



Visit our website to find out more: www.gecc2015.org

Missouri Public Safety Communications Conference



MEET ME IN ST LOUIS!
at the
Missouri Public Safety Communications Conference
Hosted by Missouri APCO & NENA

March 29 – April 1, 2015
St Louis Union Station a Doubletree by Hilton Hotel
SAVE THE DATE! Call for Papers is Open!

www.monena-moapco.org

Mid-Eastern APCO Chapter Spring Training Conference

April 9 and 10, 2015
Kent Island VFD
1610 Main Street
Chester, Maryland
www.mideasternapco.com



2015 APCO Western Regional Conference

April 8 - 10, 2015
Sacramento, California

The Sacramento Convention Center will be Conference Central, with plenty of room for over 100 vendors, training sessions, keynotes, and outside there will be the largest collection of Command Vehicles in the state.



Visit us on the web for the most up-to-date news: <http://www.apcowrc.org/2015/news/>

NENA / APCO Ohio State Conference



SAVE THE DATE!

April 12 - 15, 2015

Kalahari Resort, Sandusky OH

CALL FOR PAPERS OPEN!

Visit our website:

http://ohioapco.org/?page_id=1748

2015 Indiana APCO / NENA Conference

April 13 - 17, 2015
Indianapolis Marriott East
7202 E 21st St
Indianapolis, IN 46219



Registration: <http://innena.org/register.php>

2015 Pennsylvania APCO Conference

Save the Date!
April 19 - 22, 2015
Best Western Premier Eden Resort
Lancaster, PA



Presentation Proposals Open!

Visit our website for more information: <http://www.paapco.org/index.php/conferences>

2015 Texas APCO / NENA Public-Safety Conference

April 19 - 22, 2015
Galveston Island Convention Center
Galveston, Texas

The 2015 TX APCO / TX NENA Public Safety Conference will be held in Galveston, Texas on April 19 - 22, 2015. This will be our second year in Galveston, and things in Texas continue to get bigger and better! We will have amazing speakers, a full Industry Partner Hall, and excellent networking opportunities. More information regarding the conference can be found at www.texas911conference.com



2015 Florida APCO / NENA Training Conference

May 3 - 7, 2015
Daytona Beach Hilton
100 North Atlantic Avenue
Daytona Beach, Florida

Call for Papers Now Open!



More Information: www.apco-florida.org

APCO Institute Schedule

Visit the APCO Institute Site for the most up-to-date course information!

<http://apcointl.com/training-and-certification.html>

Course Name	Dates / Time	Location	Contact:
Comprehensive Quality #39435	Mar 2 - 3, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	St. Johns County Sheriff's Office 4455 Avenue A St. Augustine, FL 32084	Lt. Cristie Taylor cdtaylor@sjso.org (904) 209-2198
Comprehensive Quality #39834	Mar 16 - 17, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	Washington County Sheriff 1155 Clydesdale Drive Fayetteville, AR 72701	Carla Holcroft cholcroft@co.washington.ar.us (479) 444-5714
Crisis Negotiations for Telecommunicators #39720	Mar 11, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	Lake Mary Police Department 165 E. Crystal Lake Ave. Lake Mary FL, 32746	Suzanne Garfinkel sgarfinkel@lakemaryfl.com (407) 585-1322
Customer Service in the Comm Center #39787	Mar 27, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	Wrentham Public Safety 89 South St. Wrentham, MA 02093	Darrell True dtrue@police.wrentham.ma.us (508) 384-2121 ext.1008
Communications Training Officer #39246	Mar 4 - 6, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	University of Houston Clear Lake Police Department 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77058	Jewel Story story@uhcl.edu
Communications Training Officer #39504	Mar 16 - 18, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	Colorado State Patrol Training Academy 15055 S. Golden Rd. Golden, CO 80401	Stephanie Chataignier stephanie.chataignier@state.co.us (303) 239-4501
Communications Training Officer #39754	Mar 25 - 27, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	Law Enforcement Center 807 Courthouse Square St. Cloud, MN 56303	Kathy Struffert Kathy.struffert@co.stearns.mn.us (320) 259-3746
Emergency Medical Dispatch #39848	Mar 10 - 13, 2015 8 am - 5 pm	Hopkinton Police Station 74 Main Street Hopkinton, MA 01748	Meaghan DeRaad mderaad@hopkintonpd.org (508) 497-3401 ext. 0

From the Member and Chapter Services Committee

Dear APCO Officers and Members,

The Member and Chapter Services Committee (MCSC) supports the membership at the chapter level by building relationships with chapter leaders. Each MCSC member is assigned to represent Chapters and throughout the year they maintain information flow with the chapter leaders. We are here to keep APCO members informed of association policies, governance guidelines, and other APCO programs. Just as important, we push issues from the local level to the APCO leadership level. We work for the people and strive to make sure you receive all that you can from your APCO membership.

MCSC members work diligently to get program questions or information out to the local chapters, gather the needed feedback, and get answers back to the APCO organization. We share information about programs, training, and initiatives supported by APCO International as well as upcoming events through the monthly MCSC e-Newsletter.

MCSC works to build relationships among chapter leaders through training classes and webinars hosted during the year. We also assist the APCO organization staff to provide chapter leader training and workshops at the annual conference. But, we need your help to make these things happen. You can assist us by:

- Keeping your Chapter officer list up-to-date with APCO headquarters.
- Submitting information about upcoming events or programs in your Chapter for the e-Newsletter.
- Keeping the contact information of your MCSC representative handy so if you have questions or need anything you can call on us to help.
- Participating in chapter officer calls, webinars, and training so that you are up-to-date with the current information.
- Letting your MCSC representative know who to contact in order to get information about your chapter if the President of your Chapter is not the primary contact person..
- Looking for the monthly e-Newsletter and providing us with feedback through your chapter.

We are very fortunate to have members on the MCSC who support APCO and are willing to volunteer their time to make sure that APCO can meet its vision to strengthen our communities by empowering and educating public safety communications professionals. As a committee, we look forward to continuing to work with you!

Sincerely,

Member and Chapter Services Committee