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Photo of the Month



Steve Eschbach and Michael Maloney

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From the President



Now that it's June, I think of long -- if not lazy -- days, with the possibility of some investor relations being conducted on the golf course. A dream maybe, but given how unlikely the prospect, I am not embarrassed to say it in print! Also this month, we are looking forward to chapter events in conjunction with the NIRI Annual Conference here in Chicago from June 14 - 17.

Our NIRI-Chicago [annual meeting and reception](#) will take place before the conference begins on Sunday, June 14, in the finest Chicago style. We'll be on a boat cruise along our magnificent shoreline on the custom-designed luxury vessel Chicago's First Lady. We embark at 4:45 p.m. from the dock of Chicago's First Lady Cruises, right across the street from the NIRI conference hotel. NIRI-Chicagoans and guests will enjoy drinks, appetizers and networking before the conference officially begins at 6 p.m. Space is limited and RSVPs are required, so please [sign up now](#).

On Wednesday, June 17, the [Chicago Board Options Exchange](#) is opening its doors for a tour during the last day of the conference. You'll learn more about how options trading can affect your stock -- and how shareholders use options to enhance returns, reduce risk and/or support their activist agendas. Thank you to NIRI-Chicago member Deborah Koopman for leading this program. Registration required.

Please join us for these chapter events even if you're not attending the annual conference.

However, we have another treat for you if you've registered for the conference. We are absolutely delighted to be the hometown sponsor of the Virtual Chapter's Lounge Lizard party. This is always such a fun event that registrations from sponsor chapter members are coming in fast and furious, to the point that this year's party has been moved to a larger room -- Crystal

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Ballroom C at the Hyatt Regency's "green level," west tower. The party begins at 9 p.m. on Sunday evening. [Register](#).

On a personal note, I'm looking forward to the Monday morning breakfast and keynote with Dominic Barton of McKinsey. The keynote will be followed by a panel of CEOs, including my own CEO Bob Eck of Anixter. The morning will put a lens on how these leaders balance short-term demands from shareholders with their more strategic long-term goals.

June also marks the end of our program year, and begins a brief lull that provides the board with necessary time to reflect and plan. As always, I urge you to contact me or any member of the board with program ideas or your thoughts about how the chapter can provide more value to members. We'll begin our new program year with two events: our annual summer golf outing, currently planned for Tuesday, August 25, and our 2015 IR Workshop, led by Dee Johnson, on Friday, September 25. (Save those dates.) And please contact Christine Hanneman if you are interested in [sponsoring](#) either event.

As I conclude my final president's letter, let me thank all of you for the privilege of being your president. It has been my pleasure to serve this organization, from which I have learned the ropes of IR and gained wonderful friends and colleagues. I am grateful for the dedication, teamwork and commitment of the NIRI-Chicago board, our advisory board and volunteers. A special thank you goes out to Kathy Short, our chapter administrator, who makes sure we stay organized and on track; Maryellen Thielen, who keeps everyone well-informed through communications that operate like a well-oiled machine; and Lisa Ciota, for her years of contribution to our board and upcoming service on our advisory board. I'm pleased to hand the president's gavel over to Victoria Sivrais, founding partner of Clermont Partners, as I look forward to another successful year for our chapter.

Hope to see you all on the 14th!

Regards,

[Lisa Micou Meers](#), CFA
NIRI-Chicago President

Be a NIRI-Chicago Ambassador

Are you attending the NIRI Annual Conference? Don't forget to pick up and wear your NIRI-Chicago button. It's available at our annual meeting or from any NIRI-Chicago board member. It will identify you as a "Chicago ambassador" who can provide ["insider's advice"](#) on Chicago sights and restaurants. It's just one way our chapter can offer a warm Chicago welcome to our NIRI colleagues.



**NIRI-Chicago welcomes you
to sweet home Chicago!**

See the Insider's Guide at www.niri-chicago.org.

In the News

- Opinions: The SEC can't stop [screwing up](#). . . unless you think it [barely moves](#).
- New executive compensation reporting rules: The biggest question is, [why](#)?
- [Activists](#): Top lawyer says you can't beat 'em, so it's better to join 'em.
- [Survey](#): Global companies now consider reputation risk their #1 concern due to product recalls, hacker attacks, fraud investigations and other headline-grabbing incidents.
- What a surprise: SOX compliance is getting [more costly](#).

NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **Anthony Fusco**, senior analyst, investor relations and corporate communications, CF Industries Holdings, Inc., and **Tvrtko Jarnjak**, senior manager, investor relations, Whirlpool Corporation.

[Share](#) your news (job changes, awards, interesting articles) -- and thanks for reading the MEMBER CONNECTION.

*Maryellen Thielen
Vice President, Communications
NIRI-Chicago*