



In This Issue

[From the President](#)

[In the News](#)

[Member News](#)

Upcoming Events

August 16

Blaze Your Path to Career Success

(members only)

[Register](#)

August 21

NIRI-Chicago Golf Outing & Reception/Dinner

early registration ends Aug. 2

[Register](#)

September 9

NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop

early registration ends Aug 23

[Register](#)

Other Programs of Interest

September 25-27

NIRI Southwest Conference

Photo of the Month



NIRI board and chapter members at the 2013 NIRI Annual conference

Weathering IR Climate Change

NIRI-Chicago Forecast
2013 - 2014



From the President



Have you ever read Cornelius Ryan's *The Longest Day*? It was great background for a trip to Normandy this summer with my son. I was struck by how months of meticulous planning of the Allied invasion of France could be affected by a dramatic change in the weather -- just as the unexpected often alters our best-laid investor relations plans.

That's why our theme "Weathering IR Climate Change" resonates so well with this year's program topics. Our programs focus on supporting your mission and goals -- moving forward whether the forecast has been predicted accurately or not -- and overcoming the unexpected along the way.

NIRI-Chicago's 2013-14 programs are based on the topics and venues that polled highest on our member survey. And to respond to members' suggestions, we are expanding the number of NIRI in Your Neighborhood breakfasts and social events this year. The events and dates are listed on a [downloadable PDF](#) for your convenience.

We're also trying out new types of programs. On Friday, August 16, we're offering our NIRI-Chicago members a half-day career development program, "Blaze Your Path to Career Success," with Mary Hermann and her BPI Group colleagues. For a nominal fee to cover materials costs, we're underwriting this program to help our members set and reach their career and personal goals. [Register](#).

On Wednesday, August 21, we'll host our annual [Golf Outing](#) at Highland Park Country Club. Non-golfers are cordially welcome to join the golfers at the reception and dinner, rain or shine (which is included in your NIRI-Chicago membership). It's always a great day, and we hope you'll join us for one or both events. [Register](#).

The annual fall [NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop](#) "Expanding Horizons" is on Monday, September 9, at the Hyatt Chicago Magnificent Mile. Our keynote speaker is EVP and CFO Cheryl K. Beebe of Ingredion. Ms. Beebe is also on the board and chairs the Audit Committee of Packaging Corporation of America and was named Chicago's CFO of the Year by Financial Executives International Chicago Chapter.

Our program will offer strategic insights and practical advice from panelists such as Michael Holt, director of U.S. equity research of Morningstar (on capital allocation and valuation), and Walt Young, NRG Energy board member and chairman of the NRG Compensation Committee (on executive compensation). Interactive sessions with participants will round out the

NIRI-Chicago Job Bank

Our Sponsors

Platinum



Gold



Silver



Special thanks to
[Paragraphs Design](#)
for the creation of our
Member Connection
masthead and program year
banner



program. We'll end the day with a cocktail reception and raffle with a variety of great prizes donated by our Board and sponsors. [Register](#).

And, to our NIRI-Chicago members in Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, New York, Tennessee, Wisconsin and British Columbia -- consider pairing the IR Workshop with other events in the city or meetings with investors. The Saturday and Sunday before our workshop, the Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee Brewers will be playing at Wrigley Field, or you might want to visit a special exhibit, "Impressionism, Fashion and Modernity" at the Art Institute. Group rates on rooms at the Hyatt Chicago Magnificent Mile will be available through August 9, so make your reservations soon. And of course, member and early bird registrants get discounts!

It's going to be an exciting year for NIRI-Chicago. Please feel free to send me comments or suggestions. We all look forward to seeing you at our events throughout the year.

Best regards,
[Elizabeth Higashi](#)
President, NIRI-Chicago

In the News

- Fewer barbarians at the gate ([hostile takeovers](#).)
- Some accountants are grumpy about [non-GAAP metrics](#).
- [Why](#) non-GAAP metrics are "exploding."
- Study: More analysts, [less innovation](#). (Will your CEO buy into this?)
- Proxy disclosure [trends](#): "most" companies prepare for their annual meetings all year.
- When in doubt, [blame](#) the shareholders.

NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **Matthew Ackley**, senior manager, investor relations, United States Gypsum Company; **Kaveh Bakhtiari**, investor relations analyst, SunCoke Energy, Inc.; **Patrick Flaherty**, investor relations analyst, CF Industries Holdings, Inc. and **Bridget Freas**, director, investor relations, Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation.

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

Maryellen Thielen
Vice President, Communications
NIRI-Chicago