

Leading Off



Year in Review

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your International President this past year. It has been a different and challenging year. It has also been a very productive year. Many changes have happened this year to help RSES grow. Because of COVID many conferences and meetings were either postponed or virtual.

As I have said in some of my previous articles, virtual meetings are a good alternative versus not having something at all, but you do not make the personal connections that you would at an in-person meeting. I did not get to meet our newest Board Member Jayson Goff, CMS in person. We have emailed and he has attended several virtual board meetings. When we had an in-person Board meeting Jayson was not able to travel at that time. Hopefully, I will get to meet Jayson in the future.

The office has moved to a different location. With a reduced staff, that large of an office was no longer needed, and the rent was expensive. Two of the roof top units had bad heat exchangers, which allowed CO into the building. I am very happy that there no one got seriously ill from that. There was a plumbing leak, which caused a big mess. The roof was leaking, it was time to get out of there. When staff was moving, they found mold on the walls. This all happened in the cold part of winter. The staff did a great job of moving the office, and keeping up with the day-to-day work that has to be done.

Our accounting software has been moved to QuickBooks, which is more user friendly, and once the transition is complete will take less staff time to do the work than with the previous software. This will give staff more

time to devote to working on improvements for RSES. There are many online learning opportunities that have been added to the website, and that continues to grow. Be sure to keep checking and see what new courses have been added.

I am sure that the incoming President and Board will continue on and keep making improvements. The one way to help them in to keep recruiting new Members. That is what we really need to keep RSES growing. I know that I have said in every one of my columns to invite someone new to a meeting, and I will keep saying that long after I am President.

If someone comes to a meeting and decides it is not for them, then at least they were given the opportunity so see what RSES is about. Several years ago, I invited a young coworker to a meeting and the speaker was terrible, and he did not want to come back. I convinced him to try another meeting and he is now a Chapter and a Regional Officer. Keep trying to recruit new Members.

This is my last chance in this column to say, invite someone to a meeting, or to visit the website and become a member. I hope to see many of you at future RSES events. 🙏

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