We Look Forward to Seeing You in Chicago

We look forward to seeing you in Chicago this weekend! This is the first meeting of the new association formed by the merger of the Inland Press Association and the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association – and we think you will be impressed by the result.

We have a great program and nearly 250 attendees from daily newspapers, community newspapers, and companies that provide goods and services to the newspaper industry.

The meeting will be held at the JW Marriott Chicago. The hotel’s address is 151 W. Adams Street, in the financial district, in downtown Chicago. The telephone number is 312.660.8200.

GETTING THERE

Rapid transit train service is available from Chicago’s two major airports. Travel time from O’Hare airport to downtown on the Blue Line is about 40 minutes. Travel time on the Orange Line between downtown and Midway airport is about 30 minutes.

BLUE LINE (O’Hare): Construction has closed a segment of track just outside the airport, which requires passengers to use a shuttle bus between the airport and the nearby Rosemont station. This temporary re-routing could add 20-30 minutes to your travel time. The $5 cost of Blue Line service from the airport includes an airport departure tax. Service to the airport is $2.50.

The Monroe station is three blocks east of the JW Marriott.
ORANGE LINE (Midway): The one-way fare on the Orange line is $2.50. The Adams/Wabash station is four blocks east of the JW Marriott.

TAXI or RIDE SHARE: A car from the airport will cost $50 to $60. Credit cards are accepted by all cabs.

PARKING: Off-site parking is available near the hotel for about $45 a day. The hotel’s valet service is $69 per day.

Here is additional transportation information about trains, rental bikes, water taxis and other transportation details.

WHO’S COMING?

When two associations join together to produce a meeting, the attendance is larger, and the networking possibilities are richer. You will see old friends and meet new ones. Here is a list of people who were registered by Sept. 30.

PROGRAM

The convention program starts at 1 pm on Sunday, Oct. 6 and ends at noon on Tuesday, Oct. 8. The complete program can be found here.

The Exhibitor Lounge opens at noon, allowing you to visit with our R&D partners in advance of the conference.

EXHIBITORS AND SPONSORS

Our R&D partners will stage exhibits just outside our meeting rooms to share a wealth of knowledge about what is working in newspapers all over the U.S. Please make it your mission to visit with them. The right solution or suggestion can pay for your trip to Chicago many times over – and often, the experts behind the exhibit tables are your best source of information.

A total of 24 companies have signed on as financial sponsors. These sponsors support the program and provide meals, refreshments, technologies and communications services. This support pays for expenses that otherwise would have to be included in higher registration fees.

Here is a complete list of our exhibitors and sponsors and information about their companies.

INTERNET ACCESS (sponsored by BlueVenn)

BlueVenn is providing our meeting guests with complimentary Internet access in their guest rooms, hotel lobby and in our meeting rooms.
WELCOME RECEPTION

The Welcome Reception for registered attendees begins at 6 pm on Oct. 6 and concludes at 7:15 pm. Bring your badge. You must be registered for the convention to attend.

The name of the new association will be announced at this reception.

SPouse/GUEST PROGRAM

Spouses and guests should plan to go on Chicago’s famous river boat architecture tour on Monday morning. It is consistently rated one of the top tours in America, and one of the most popular attractions in Chicago. The cost is included in your registration fee.

This fun boat trip lasts about 75 minutes and highlights more than 40 landmarks that made Chicago famous. The trip starts and ends on Michigan Avenue – the perfect jumping off place for fine dining and shopping.

To participate in this program, you must be a registered spouse/guest, and you must sign up in advance. If you plan to join us, please notify clintz@inlandpress.org – or sign up at the registration desk by 5 pm on Sunday, Oct. 6.

DINING AND THINGS TO DO

Pick your experience – fine dining, great music, world-class museums, theater and dance. Chicago has it all. Here are some lists to guide you:

- Marriott’s guide to dining, music, arts, theater, shopping, nightlife, attractions and transportation.
- Time Out’s 55 Things to Do in Chicago Right Now
- Fodor’s Ultimate Things to Do in Chicago

AWARDS

The Mayborn, Carlsen, Walls and Casey awards will be presented during the Monday morning General Session. E&P magazine will also present its Publisher of the Year Award.

WEATHER

Fall temperatures have arrived in Chicago. Forecasts call for daytime highs around 60 degrees and nighttime lows near 50 degrees -- with only a small chance of rain after Saturday. Check before you pack! Access a 10-day forecast at The Weather Channel.
ATTIRE

Attire for this meeting is “business casual.” For men, that means shirts with collars and slacks, with or without a jacket or sports coat. For women, slacks and a blouse or top, a skirt or dress, with or without a jacket or blazer.

People complain that meeting rooms are cool.

NEED HELP?

The staff is happy to help you with hotel, program and registration questions before and during your trip. Please contact any of us:

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Safe travels! See you in Chicago.