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Upcoming Events

September 23, 2016
2016 IR Workshop
Navigating in a VUCA World
 Metropolitan Club
[Register](#)

October 10
North Suburban Networking Reception
[Register](#)

Photo of the Month



(l to r) Mitchell Schacher, Michael Rosen, Bill Franklin and Kelly Mattie took first place at our recent golf outing.

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From the President



Let the programs begin! Following months of preparation, our IR Workshop will take place on **Friday, September 23**. Entitled "**Navigating in a VUCA World**," this year's workshop will provide clarity around the issues you face so you can adapt in today's VUCA world. (VUCA = Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity.)

Our keynote speaker is R. Keith Bliss of Cuttone & Co. A frequent commentator on CNBC, Bloomberg and other media outlets, he will tap his 30 years of experience in the global financial markets to provide his perspective on the dynamics of today's volatile and complex markets. Bliss' insights will help you clarify trends and navigate these uncertain times.

The keynote luncheon is surrounded by exciting panels throughout the day, including:

- **Tales from the Edge, Tips from the Trenches.** A company crisis can take on many forms but by definition, always creates volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity. This session will focus on best practices for dealing with VUCA during crisis at public companies.
- **The Speed of Change.** Governance practices are changing deeply and rapidly. As the boardroom's balance of power shifts in favor of investors, smart boards are aggressively adopting new best practices and becoming more transparent than ever.
- **The Elephant in the Room.** What does the contentious, divisive tone of elections around the world portend for trade, the regulatory environment, and global and local economies -- and for companies and investors in an interconnected and VUCA world?
- **Different Strokes: Managing the Varied Needs of the Board, Management and Investors.** In a VUCA world, stakeholders keep changing their expectations of an investor relations officer. Understanding and meeting these changing expectations can help a company achieve maximum stock valuation.

Register [here](#) for \$50 in early bird savings before September 9.

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Our workshop committee has spent numerous hours devising informative sessions and recruiting insightful speakers. I thank each one of them:

- Heather Wietzel, IRC (Chair), Corning
- Jennifer Childe, CFA, Clermont Partners
- Lisa Ciota, Strategic & Investor Communications
- Steven Eschbach, CFA, Eschbach & Associates
- Dee Johnson, Investor Relations & Corporate Communications
- Leslie Kratcoski, Snap-on Incorporated
- Maryellen Thielen, Allstate
- Mike Zimmerman, MGIC Investment Corp.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the workshop.

Regards,

Larry Larsen
NIRI-Chicago President

IR in the Driver's Seat

The NIRI-Chicago board strives to offer consistently strong professional development programs, unique networking events and career opportunities. That's why our 2016-2017 program year theme is **IR in the Driver's Seat**. The knowledge we share can help us take charge of our IR careers and become better IR officers and counselors. Hope to see you at a meeting soon!



IR Workshop Early Registration Ends September 9

Don't delay, [register today](#) and save \$50

In the News

- Here's ammunition to help convince your lawyers to (re)write financial documents in [plain English](#).
- The SEC discovers [hyperlinks](#).
- [Dividends](#) (and buybacks) are what matter now -- but companies can't [spend](#) more than they make forever.
- 13-Fs aren't just out of date, they're also [unreliable](#).
- Should the mix of [CEO pay](#) favor shorter-term incentives?
- [Message-test](#) your IR spiel.
- One [view](#) of the outlook for financial jobs in Chicago.

S&P Global
Market Intelligence



NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **John DiRocco**, vice president, assistant general counsel & corporate secretary, SunCoke Energy Inc.; **Bridget Freas**, vice president, finance and investor relations, InnerWorkings, Inc.; **John Gunn**, vice president, corporate communications, VASCO Data Security International.

Congratulations to the winners at the 2016 NIRI-Chicago golf outing: Lisa Meers, longest drive; Mike Anderson, longest putt; Larry Larsen, closest to the pin; 1st place team: Bill Franklin, Kelly Mattie, Michael Rosen and Mitchell Schacher; and 2nd place team: Mike Anderson, Robert Cherry, Chris Hodges and Victor Jendras.

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

Maryellen Thielen
Vice President, Communications
NIRI-Chicago