

**ORLANDO HOSTS RIPA AND IPANA FOR 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Over 160 people gathered in sunny Orlando, Florida October 10-13<sup>th</sup> to attend the Annual Conferences for both RIPA and IPANA. Members of both organizations shared in several of the sessions and social events. They also attended the ever-popular *Suppliers Exposition* which featured more than a dozen exhibit booths.

At the opening session, introductory remarks were made by the RIPA and IPANA Chairs, Mr. Dan Burek and Mr. Chris Lind.

Prior to the first invited speaker, IPANA's Director Sue Nauman and ISDI Chair Kyle Stavig took a moment to offer special recognition of the late Mr. Robbie Evans and Mr. Ernest Beardsley. Family members for both gentlemen were present to deliver comments and accept their loved ones' posthumous IPANA Lifetime Membership awards.

[continued page 3](#)

**BOARD ELECTS BRIAN EVOY AS RIPA CHAIRMAN**

At the recent RIPA Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors elected Brian Evoy, President, FDS Packaging, to be the next Chair of the association. Mr. Evoy is currently a member of the Board and has served as co-chair of the IBC Product Group for the past four years.

Along with Mr. Evoy, the Board elected Jerry Butler, Industrial Container Services, LLC, to be Vice Chairman, and Eric Bernath, Advance Drum Service, Inc., to be Treasurer. The three new officers will serve two-year terms of office beginning on January 1, 2017.

"I am deeply honored that the Board of Directors has elected me to serve as Chair of the group. I am excited about the work that lies ahead and look forward to working with Jerry and Eric, as well as the all other members of the Board, to ensure the association continues to be responsive to the needs of the membership," said Evoy.

Evoy expressed thanks to outgoing Chair Dan Burek for his outstanding leadership over the past two years. "Dan was exactly the right leader for RIPA these past few years," said Evoy. "He not only kept the association moving forward, he led us through some very difficult times and oversaw significant and needed changes, including a major revisions of the association's dues structure. RIPA owes Dan a debt of gratitude," concluded Evoy.



**CHAIR'S MESSAGE**

Dan Burek

**Thanks for the Memories**

RIPA is an association of entrepreneurs: It is jam-packed with men and women who know how to turn bad times into good and problems into opportunities. No matter who you talk to in this group, or when you have the conversation, their attitude is positive, and their goal is always success.

During the past two years our association has undergone some significant changes and, frankly, some hard times. But when you have a Board of Directors whose only goal is to make the organization succeed, fellow officers who are unwavering in their support of my efforts, and a highly professional staff who are dedicated to the association, success is really the only option.

I am very proud of what RIPA has accomplished these past two years. During a period of rapid consolidation, RIPA managed to retain virtually all its members and, in fact, we added several new members each of the past two years. Our Suppliers have been incredibly supportive throughout my time as Chair and, at least in part because of their efforts, our meetings have been very successful. Importantly, the association is in great financial shape.

Perhaps the thing that surprised me most during my term was learning how closely RIPA staff works with a wide range of government regulators and lawmakers. Over the years, Paul, C.L. and Rick have worked hard to develop strong working relationships with regulatory officials at DOT, Congressional staff and even key Members of Congress. These relationships don't just happen; they are the product of years of involvement here in the U.S. and in various international regulatory forums, such as the United Nations Sub-committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

I also discovered that our meetings are the product of a great deal of hard work and detailed planning. Our long-time meeting planner, Bonnie Cunningham, gets much of the credit for our success; but, staff spends many hours finding speakers, developing meeting material and ensuring that our meetings are both educational and productive.

Going forward, I leave the Chair in the very capable hands of my friend, Brian Evoy. I am certain everyone in the association knows Brian and appreciates his Board service and years as Chair of the IBC Product Group. Brian is knowledgeable, dedicated and very smart. He is the right person for this job, and I look forward to helping him succeed as he takes the reins of leadership.

I am also deeply grateful for the help given to me by my fellow officers Eric Bernath, Jerry Butler and Peter DeWitt.

And they told me this job would be a piece of cake!

*Annual Conference continued....*

The main speakers program commenced featuring lively and informative talks from industry leaders such as Greif's Senior VP Mr. Ole Rosgaard who offered a vision of the industry as of today and how it may develop in the future. Ole also touched on a number of leadership strategies and goals.

Mr. Timothy Gill, Chief Economist with the American Iron and Steel Institute, presented a sweeping view of the steel industry and its current economic trends. Mr. Gill noted that domestic steel shipments are up slightly thus far in 2017 after a drop in demand during 2015 and 2016. Additionally, he predicted industrial production overall to rebound from the 2015-2016 contraction, with steel imports also growing to meet those needs.

Nationally recognized commentator and author, Mr. Ron Fournier, made a lively presentation on the country's current political and cultural climate. He made several interesting observations about the "Millennial" generation and how their expectations about political representation could shape the future course of politics in America.

Mr. Andrew Lenzen from the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force spoke about "cyber security" and what businesses can do to protect their information from cyber-hackers.

The luncheon speaker was Dr. Hakeem Oluseyi from Florida Institute of Technology. Dr. Oluseyi's talk was entitled "Understanding the Origins of the Universe. In Thirty Minutes." The talk was fun and fascinating.

After the luncheon, IPANA's conference officially ended, having commenced two days earlier. Meanwhile, RIPA began its Annual Business Meeting and its Product Group sessions which proceeded all afternoon and into the next day. These sessions were followed by the RIPA Board of Directors meeting on Friday afternoon.

**Annual Business Meeting**

After RIPA Chair, Dan Burek thanked the members for their support during the two years he served as association Chair. He noted the group is in excellent financial condition and is well situated going forward.

The association approved two revisions to its bylaws: one, to reduce the maximum number of Board members from 21 to 18; and two, to eliminate the officer position of Secretary. Both of these revisions were described as "more reflective of existing conditions". The Board currently has 15 members and the duties of the Secretary are handled by the association's President.

*continued page 4*

*Annual Conference continued...*

The Plenary Session continued the next morning with a talk covering a number of trucking and driver issues such as electronic logging devices (ELDs) for tracking hours of service. ELDs are becoming more common and will soon be required by FMCSA for most drivers – particularly “long haul” drivers.

Another Plenary Session topic was the recent request from DOT for comment on what regulations might warrant revisions or withdrawal. RIPA indicated it would submit comments on a range of issues (*see related story page 7*).. Finally, attendees were advised of DOT’s intention to have all reconditioners and manufacturers be assigned an “M” number that would be on a 5-year renewal cycle. DOT indicated those wishing to continue to use their “R” number, or other registered symbol, could continue to do so. A formal regulatory proposal on the issues is expected soon.

**Steel Drum Product Group**

The Steel Drum Product Group discussed a range of issues including the ongoing project to certify annually certain remanufactured drums. Attendees were advised that the drums were successfully requalified by two independent labs.

Attendees also were advised that RIPA is part of an ANSI Committee working to update the “ANSI MH 2 Standard” which contains industry consensus on dimensions for most types of steel drums. The standard has not been reviewed since 2004. Finally, the group was advised that RIPA’s two Petitions for Rulemaking on ultrasonic leakproofness testing and the definition of an “adherent free” steel surface after reconditioning (and before painting) have been accepted by PHMSA and are expected to be published as rulemaking proposals in the near future.

**IBC Product Group**

Product Group Chair Brian Evoy provided an overview of annual requalification testing for several IBC design types. He reported that testing would be undertaken soon and that anyone interested in participating this year should sign up with the RIPA office.

*continued page 5*

*Annual Conference continued...*

Attendees were then advised of a recent meeting between RIPA and PHMSA at which the association discussed with PHMSA a long-standing petition for rulemaking intended to eliminate the need for truck placards and shipping papers for emptied IBCs. IBCs should be allowed to move to reconditioners in much the same manner as drums. Attendees were advised that key PHMSA personnel appear to be receptive to the industry's arguments and asked for further clarification of some key issues.

The Product Group also discussed ways to improve the manner in which some emptied IBCs are prepared for recycling. The group agreed to draft new operational guidelines for this particular practice.

*Product Group Plenary Session*

Mr. John Heneghan, Senior Director at PHMSA for Field Operations (i.e., enforcement), spent a generous amount of time with RIPA members in an informal setting. Heneghan touched on a wide array of issues raised by attendees including issues ranging from training requirements to the amount of customer information plant owners are required to give inspectors.

The session was followed by a presentation entitled, "Driverless Trucks – A Look at the Future" which was made by Mr. Michael Cammisa, VP for Safety Policy and Technology, American Trucking Associations (ATA).

After a break to visit the Suppliers Exposition in the adjacent ballroom, Mr. Jerry Geyer from Greif and the Plastic Drum Institute (PDI) provided a comprehensive look at the plastic drum business – both manufacturing and reconditioning. To round out the day, a presentation on certain scrap industry issues was made by Mr. Mark Reiter, VP for Government Affairs with the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI). Mr. Reiter spoke in detail about possible bans on imported scrap that may soon be issued by the government in China and what such a move could mean for business in China as well as in the U.S.





**MIKE PORRECA HONORED WITH MORRIS HERSHSON AWARD**

Michael Porreca, COO, National Container Group, was honored by his industry peers with the *2017 Morris Hershson Award of Merit*. The award was given to Porreca during the RIPA Annual Conference at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Orlando, FL, on October 12, 2017. RIPA presents the prestigious award to an individual for “distinguished and longstanding service” to the reusable industrial packaging industry.



The *Morris Hershson Award of Merit* commemorates Mr. Hershson who was President of RIPA (then called the National Barrel and Drum Association) for 35 years until his death in 1985. Mr. Hershson is credited with developing the association into a leading advocate for the reconditioning industry in North America and around the world.

Mr. Porreca has worked in the industrial container reconditioning industry for nearly 35 years, beginning with Acme Barrel Company and, more recently, with National Container Group. Porreca has served several terms on the RIPA Board of Directors and has lead or been a member of numerous association committees over the years.

The presentation ceremony was poignant and, at times, very funny. Mauser CEO Peter Schaefer recalled his early travels with Mike and how, in a matter of hours, Mike could dissect operational issues and then team up with plant managers to fix the problems. Somehow, at the end of the day, everybody was smiling and ready for dinner! Schaefer concluded his remarks by stating what we all know to be true: “Mike is a great and likeable person, filled with knowledge and someone who has the respect of his peers all over the world.”



Elliot Pearlman, who has worked with Mike for three decades, gently ribbed him for having “a case of the mumbles.” People sometimes wonder, “what did he just say?” said Pearlman. Pearlman recognized Mike as “an operational genius” who contributed significantly to the betterment of the firms he worked for, as well as the association throughout his professional career.

Porreca accepted the award with humility and deep gratitude. He thanked the people who give him an opportunity to be a part of an industry he loves, and the association for enabling him to serve many years as a member of the Board of Directors. And he thanked his wife, Kay Robinson and his two children, Emily and Mike, Jr., for their support and love over the years.

“All RIPA members recognize and appreciate the many contributions made to our industry by Mike Porreca,” said RIPA Chairman Dan Burek. “Mike has been a major contributor to the association through his Board service and work on various committees. But, perhaps more importantly,” noted Burek “Mike he has always been willing to share his technical knowledge with industry colleagues in North America and around the world.”

## **RIPA ADVISES U.S. DOT ON SEVERAL REGULATORY ISSUES WORTHY OF REVIEW**

RIPA will soon submit comments to U.S. DOT in response to a request from Secretary Chao for input on regulations that warrant a review for possible revision or even rescension. The request from the agency followed the general direction of several Executive Orders issued by the White House earlier this year.

RIPA's comments focus on the following recommended actions:

- Removal of requirements for vehicle placards and shipping papers when emptied IBCs are being shipped to a reconditioner (reprocessor).
- Codification into the regulations (at 40 CFR 178 Appendix B) the use of ultrasonic sensing technology as an approved method for testing UN packagings for leakproofness. The method has been proven safe and effective under Competent Authority Approvals for several years.
- Changes to the standard for metal drum surface preparation in reconditioning. The changes would require all external coatings and labels to be *...sufficiently removed to expose metal deterioration which could adversely affect transportation safety*.
- Changes to the periodicity of annual design-type testing of packagings for continued UN (hazmat) qualification. Operators (self-certifiers and commercial test labs) would be eligible for less frequent testing after showing DOT the designs have a history of safe transportation
- Codification into the regulations of Special Permit 16323 which allows the installation of new, plastic inner receptacles (leakproofness tested by the receptacle's manufacturer) into composite IBC "cages" provided certain conditions of quality control and best practices are demonstrated and maintained.

Of course, some of these issues have been submitted already to PHMSA as rulemaking requests and may, in fact, be implemented without input by the DOT Secretary. RIPA will continue to push for beneficial changes through every regulatory platform available.

**HOWARD “SKIP” ELLIOTT SWORN IN AS PHMSA ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Howard “Skip” Elliott was sworn in as Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) by Secretary Elaine L. Chao earlier this month at U.S. Department of Transportation headquarters.

Elliott joins PHMSA following his recent retirement from CSX transportation in Jacksonville, FL, where he served as Vice President of Public Safety, Health, Environment, and Security. Elliott’s portfolio at CSX included hazardous materials, transportation safety, homeland security, railroad policing, crisis management, environmental compliance and operations, occupational health management, and continuity of business operations.

Elliott has more than 40 years of experience in the boardroom, on Capitol Hill, and in state houses and city halls and is a leading advocate in developing and implementing computer-based tools to assist emergency response officials, first responders, and homeland security personnel in preparing for and responding to hazmat incidents.

Elliott has earned honors from numerous institutions and is a recipient of the Association of American Railroads’ (AAR) prestigious Holden-Proefrock award for lifetime achievement in hazardous materials transportation safety.

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**PDI PRESENTS LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARD TO JERRY GEYER**

The Plastic Drum Institute (PDI) recently honored Mr. Jerry Geyer as the inaugural recipient of its Lifetime Membership Award.

"This is truly an honor that I was not expecting," said Geyer, Product Management and Development Director at Greif. "To see the industry continue to grow and prosper has been very satisfying, and knowing I have been a small part of its wonderful history. My goal has always been to work for the growth and betterment of the entire industry of plastic drum manufacturers and suppliers."

The Lifetime Membership Award is given to a long-time member of the plastic drum industry who exemplifies dedicated service and devotion to the mission of PDI. It was presented during the Industrial Packaging Alliance of North America's Annual Meeting in early October in Orlando, FL.

"Jerry has been a force in the plastic drum industry for decades," said Chris Lind, Chair of IPANA and Director, Technology and Regulatory Affairs at Mauser USA, LLC. "His tireless commitment to advancing this sector is an example for us all."

In 1973, Geyer started out in the plastic drum industry with Container Corporation of America and, after working for a variety of industrial packaging companies, joined Greif in 1997. He has been a member of PDI since 1978, serving as Chair from 1982-1984 and again from 1990-2015. After more than forty years in the industry, Geyer will retire at the end of 2017.



**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

RIPA is pleased to announce the receipt of an application for membership as a Reconditioner Member from:

North East Container Services, Inc.  
20 Industrial Drive  
Keyport, NJ 07735  
732-970-5575  
[www.northeastcontainer.com](http://www.northeastcontainer.com)  
Mr. Anthony Foglia, President

With this notice begins the 30-day period of review. Members with any questions or concerns should contact the RIPA office.

**16<sup>TH</sup> ICCR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE SET FOR TOKYO**

Tokyo is one of the most vibrant, interesting and historic cities in the world. It is home to about 13 million people and, in 2018, the City will host the 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Industrial Packaging. The event will take place 19 – 21 September 2017 at the Hotel Chinzanso Tokyo, which is a beautiful hotel in the heart of the City, surrounded by stunning gardens established in 1861.

The Conference is sponsored by the International Confederation of Container Reconditioners (ICCR) and this year is hosted by members of the Japan Drum Reconditioners Association (JDRA).

Conference Chairman Shiro Kobayashi is pleased to invite global representatives of the industrial packaging industry to the meeting. He promises an exciting and informative event, featuring “Omotenashi” (heartly hospitality) and a fulfilling stay in Tokyo.

The Conference Theme is “Onko-Chishin”, which translates to “Studying the Past for Our Better Tomorrow.” However, these international gatherings are always filled with magical social events and tours for participants and accompanying persons.

Mark your calendars now for the 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Industrial Packaging. This will be an event you and your family will remember forever.





Drum It Up!

November 2017

| PACKAGING NEWS   |  | WINEMAKING NEWS   |
|--|--|---|
| Paris to Ban Gas Cars  | Using Replacement Parts for Drums  | What's So "Natural" About Natural Wines?  |
| <p>Planning to be a leader in environmental protection, the City of Paris authorities announced a plan to banish all petrol- and diesel-fueled cars from the world's most visited city by 2030. The move marks an acceleration in plans to wean Parisians off gas-guzzlers and switch to electric vehicles in a city often obliged to impose temporary bans due to surges in particle pollution in the air. Paris City Hall stated that France had already set a target date of 2040 for an end to cars dependent on fossil fuels and that this plan also required speedier phase-outs in large cities.</p> <p>The French capital, which will host the Olympic Games in the summer of 2024 and was host city for the latest worldwide pact on policies to tame global warming, has already been eyeing an end to diesel cars in the city by the time of the Olympics. Already under attack over the establishment of no-car zones, Paris City Hall has established car-free days and fines for drivers who enter the city in cars that are more than 20 years old. Downplaying the use of the word "ban," the plan is designed to introduce a feasible deadline by which combustion-engine cars would be phased out.</p> <p>There are about 32 million household cars in France, where the population is about 66 million. Many Parisians do not own cars, relying on extensive public transport systems and, increasingly, fast-burgeoning networks offering bikes, scooters and low-pollution hybrid engine cars for short-term rental. The ban on petrol-fueled, or gasoline-engine vehicles as they are known in the United States, marks a radical escalation of anti-pollution policy. Many other cities in the world are considering similar moves and China, the world's biggest polluter after the United States, recently announced that it would soon be seeking to get rid of combustion-engine cars too.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to read more.</a></p> <p>—Howard Skolnik</p> | <p>When buying a UN specification drum, the entire design of the drum and all its components (heads, ring, gasket, bolt, nut, plugs) are defined in the testing certification. All of these elements are incorporated into a drum type that must meet a test standard, and successfully pass the UN Testing criteria. Once established, shippers cannot alter or exchange any of these components with non OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) parts as it might impact the ability for the drum to perform as certified. For example, if a filler or shipper were to change the ring from a bolt style to a leverlock or even change the gasket type, this would void the UN certification for the container and could result in a DOT fine for the shipper, or a potential hazmat incident. If replacement parts are needed, fillers must make sure that they contact the manufacturer and get original parts that meet the test criteria of that specific drum. Once the drum is filled, compliance with the UN certification is the responsibility of the shipper. To locate the contact information for the manufacturer, look on the Closure Instructions for this information. For all drums manufactured by Skolnik, you can request replacement parts at <a href="http://www.skolnik.com">www.skolnik.com</a>.</p> <p>—Howard Skolnik</p> | <p>As a general rule, technology is a good thing. Right? It's a tangible example of human's progression-- how we improve our lives and surroundings. The wine industry has certainly seen massive benefits from advances in technology. From vineyard to glass, we have tinkered with everything from fertilizer to fermentation. Adding sugars, tweaking yeast; modern winemakers work hard to scientifically engineer every step of the process. Even here at Skolnik, we seek to improve the wine production process with control and waste-reduction provided by our stainless steel wine barrels.</p> <p>There has, however, been a new trend in the wine industry that rejects technology. Rather than embrace the advances at our disposal, natural wines forgo them entirely. Instead, they seek a return to simpler, more traditional times. These vineyards make wine as their ancestors once did, by merely harvesting grapes, crushing them, and allowing them to ferment. The end result is a straightforward snapshot of that particular vineyard in that particular year. It also means that any irregularities or impurities, flaws or faults all make it into the end product, warts and all.</p> <p>Of course, how one defines "warts" is part of the experience. While a drinker could devalue natural wine if it's cloudy or oxidative, another could celebrate the diversity and find their new favorite bottle among the variety of previously unexplored flavors. It's also very attractive to anyone who is wary of all the chemicals and additives used in modern winemaking and for those concerned that we are becoming less and less attune with nature as we seek control over every single step of production.</p> <p>Much discussion has been had about the legitimacy of this movement, with equal part supporters and detractors, but the biggest challenge it faces is the lack of accreditation. At this point, anyone can claim to produce natural wine, and there is not yet a governing body to confirm or deny those claims. There is progress towards rectifying that, and establishing quality charters</p> <p><i>Continued on page 2)</i></p> |

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SKOLNIK IS A BUSINESS TO BUSINESS MANUFACTURER OF NEW CARBON STEEL DRUMS AND STAINLESS STEEL DRUMS FOR HIGHLY VALUED CONTENTS. FROM CUSTOM WINE BARRELS TO DRUMS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (HAZMAT) AND DANGEROUS GOODS, WE ARE A LEADER IN SPECIALTY PACKAGING.

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| Drum It Up!             |  | November, 2017   |                                      |
|                         |  | What's So "Natural" About Natural Wines? (cont.)   |                                      |
|                         |  | <p>will do a lot to help the legitimacy of the wines.</p> <p>Despite any negative opinions though, in a GMO, pesticide and additive-wary culture, natural wine is a growing industry. Perhaps adopting stainless steel wine barrels is the modern touch the movement needs to push it to mass consumption, or maybe that's just wishful thinking. After all, the beauty of stainless steel is that it protects against impurities or unwanted additives. Regardless, it seems that natural wine is here to stay. With about 400 natural winemakers in France alone, and many more around the world, this return to a simpler process and the results it produces has enough fans to sustain it for now. For information about our complete line of stainless steel wine drums, check out <a href="http://www.skolnikwine.com">www.skolnikwine.com</a>.</p> <p>—Dean Ricker</p> |                                      |

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