Looking Back - From the Desk of the Immediate Past President

The MSAA Conference and Show 2020 is a conference I’ll never forget.  Being back in the same place it all started for Beth and I gave us both such a feeling of fulfillment!  We joined the MSAA as a way to meet people in the industry and learn more about the Auction world. To be associated was one thing but the feeling of acceptance was what we both cherish most.  Over the years we both took on leadership rolls and continued earning the trust and respect of our membership. So much so, we’ve had the honor to work with several members, their families and auction companies.  This means the world to us and we enjoy each and every opportunity and feel blessed to have work.

After spending a few years as members in the association, I was thrilled to be asked to run for a board position.  It was a do or die kind of moment for me. Like many things, if I didn’t do it now, the chances of me doing it again may not have happened.  Fast forward eight years, I enjoyed 6 years on the board, VP for a year and President in 2019 and just like Christmas, it’s here and gone in a snap.  As it is very important for me to keep my mind occupied, these positions have given me responsibility and the motivation to keep focused, achieve goals and organize an event for my peers.

Serving as President increased my level of respect for the past Presidents who served before me. The responsibilities of coordinating board meetings, Summer Picnic and more specifically, the Conference & Show has allowed me to grow, improve and develop in many ways.  Taking the initiative to lead helped me to build confidence and trust with humility. I led with enthusiasm, exposing my passion for the work that we do and for our association. I also led with an open mind with a keen focus on accountability (thanks to Col. Frank) and diplomacy among the team.   I’ve also realized how important it is to have patience in such a position. Things happen for a reason and if they are out of our control, it’s better to roll with it than let it bother you.

Thank you to everyone who was able to spend time with us in St. Cloud for the MSAA Conference & Show 2020.  Special Thanks to the Board Members (my peeps), for supporting me and making things happen so seamlessly. You were simply the best.  To now President Tammy Tisland and Executive Vice President Col. Frank Imholte who so purposefully performed their duties and assisted wherever needed.  I am so glad I had the opportunity to serve while Col. Frank was still EVP, he made me think and reeled me in a time or two, but was there every step of the way.  Congratulations to all the contest winners and participants. You made it an absolutely fantastic Conference & Show. One wonders how we could fit all the Education, Marketing, Champion, Rookie & Classic Auctioneer, Ring Person Contest, Marketing Contest and Auxiliary activities into the time we had together.  It was a true honor to serve as President of the MSAA. I appreciate your trust and faith in us and celebrating – Beginnings That Last a Lifetime!

Respectfully,

Dave Thompson

-Immediate Past President 2019

-2017 MSAA Champion Auctioneer