

Insight from the CEO

Jack Whitlock

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It saddens me greatly to report the loss of two of our long time personal friends, David Resnick and Ron Ostrowski. Both of these gentlemen were not only great representatives for American Surety, and the epitome of what the industry should expect from its representatives, but even more importantly wonderful husbands and parents. Our heart goes out to Esther Resnick and Marsha Ostrowski and their families for their loss.

A LEGEND

David, whom we had featured in our last newsletter, had the heart of a lion. Over the last few years he had suffered innumerable physical setbacks, and on several of those occasions we never expected him to make it out of the hospital, but in each case his great will to live prevailed, and he was quickly back to his desk. Even this time when the doctors had given up hope, I would not have been surprised to see him pull up in our parking lot in his huge motor home, or at the next Florida agents meeting where he had been a long time member and contributor. Bill and I thank him for all that he did for us and greatly appreciated his friendship. We hope that Esther has a number of years left to enjoy her grandchildren, and hope those of you who knew and appreciated Dave will send her a note.

A MAN OF PRINCIPAL

It's unfortunate for us all that the good Lord decided to take Ron long before his time. He battled cancer over the last two years and finally ran out of options. Ron was a second generation bondsman who appreciated the business and contributed back to it by serving a number of years as the Indiana association President, worked hard every year at the legislature to see that the industry was protected, and was a fixture at all of the PBUS national meetings. I met with him in Vegas at the last meeting and went over his situation, and he wanted to be prepared for the worst, so we made some moves so that Marsha could continue the business without interruption, but even then I felt that his strong will would prevail. I greatly miss his friendship and counsel, but am thankful that we will be able to continue to have the benefit of working with Marsha for a long time to come.

CBAA TURNS 20!

We just returned from a celebration of the California Bail Agents Associations 20th Anniversary. They had a great turn out for a well deserved celebration. I want to commend Celes King, Marvin Bryon, Buffy Osti, Terry Fowler, Marco LaMandria and the deceased Andy Moreno for the excellent leadership and dedication you have shown as leaders. All your administrations were well run and contributed greatly to the continued success of the bail industry in that state. I'm sure new president, Barry Pearlstein, will continue the tradition during his term of office.

The legislative season will soon be upon us, so now is the time for you to voice your opinions and desires to your elected representatives, then work hard, and contribute financially to see that our industry benefits. If the industry's a winner, then we all are. As we approach the holiday's, lets get in the spirit and mend fences that need it, and get set for the new century. It is hard enough to say that other word, much less spell it.