

UMA SCUTTLEBUTT

Jan 2014

Issue #14-001

Depending on your definition, things have returned to normal.

The board has established an ambitious agenda for this year. Some of the highlights are to improve membership. It is estimated that about 20% of the USPTO population are veterans, yet our active membership is less than 1%. Let's talk to our neighbors and sign them up.

The UMA has a list of mentors available for those who wish assistance. Contact Joe.Hirl@uspto.gov.

We are looking ahead to both our Memorial and Veterans Day events, and we are trying to line up a speaker for Veterans Day. If you have any ideas about who we should approach, please contact UMA@uspto.gov. This can be someone you know or would like to hear, e.g. Colin Powell. We are also eager to have members propose and organize events like the Civil War lecture by Lyceum Director Jim Mackay, held on Jan. 15 in the Jefferson Conference Center. These events are easy to do and cost us nothing but a little time.

At noon on Feb. 11 there will be a WebEX about Fiduciary Responsibilities for Volunteer Employee Organizations. This will be a presentation for all organizations/groups, especially those who collect dues. All are welcome to participate, but because of limited seating at the actual presentation attendance via WebEX is encouraged. You can login at <https://uspto.webex.com/>, event number 993 935 209, password 123456.

Wounded Warrior visits will continue to either the Fort Belvoir or Walter Reed hospitals. The number of people who can go on any visit is limited, but if you are willing to make a trip contact Brent.Howard1@uspto.gov. These trips are day trips during the week and Other Time is not authorized.

Another group which can use our support is 'Honor Flight', which brings surviving WWII veterans to D.C. to visit the memorials. They are looking for people to meet and escort them while they are here. Remember, these are veterans who are where we will be, in a number of years. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Katarzyna.Wyrozewski@uspto.gov.

For your reference, here are the links to the UMA web sites:

<http://ptomilitaryassociation.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/USPTOMilitaryAssociation>

If you have questions or comments about anything appearing or not in the UMA Scuttlebutt, please contact Lee.Cattell@uspto.gov or Brent.Howard1@uspto.gov with subject line Scuttlebutt. You can also stop by the lower atrium coffee group on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 and discuss it.