

June 11, 2018

Where did a year go? I find it so hard to believe that what seemed like such a long road ahead is coming to an end this month. I recall hiding under the eaves of the Revere rooftop last July as we kicked off the new year with a little thunder and lightning storm.

The telling part of that memory is not that we weathered the storm, it's not that our sponsor worked tirelessly to continue the party – the real story is that most of the crowd stayed through the rain and continued the networking once it had passed. That one little event has become a metaphor for this year.

We often say that no one person steers the ship and that could not be more true in the instance of MPI New England. While this was “my” year as President, what most humbles me looking back at it is the sheer number of people who've played a part in the success of the chapter over the last 365 days. I've had the honor of leading the most kick butt board of directors that I could ever have imagined; a group of people who give and give and give of themselves and when the going gets a little bumpy they give some more.

We as a group have had the privilege of working alongside the hardest working group of volunteers who give of their time and talents every month to ensure programming, member outreach, communication and much more are in line with what our membership expects.

And the chapter as a whole has been benefitted from an incredible group of sponsors, education partners, host venues and those willing to support and donate to raffles, education programming, networking initiatives and so much more; without whom nothing we do would be possible.

When I think about my time as President in the aggregate I'm utterly awestruck by the number of professionals it is now my honor to have worked with, worked for and worked alongside in the mission to enhance, engage and enrich every member's experience.

All of this inspiration culminates on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Boston Park Plaza in their new Avenue 34 space where we will applaud the many board members, volunteers and sponsors who have impacted the chapter this year. We will recognize our incredibly deserving award recipients and we will induct the new leadership team who will take things to the next level in 2018-2019.

It has quite literally been one of the greatest honors of my professional life to lead the chapter this year, I very much hope you'll join us on June 20<sup>th</sup> as I pass the baton to Bryan Lavin, who is going to elevate this chapter and your leadership team to do amazing things. Thank you so much for the endless support each of you has provided me along this journey; it has been my safety net on many occasions and I can't wait to see what comes next!

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