



Incoming Presidents Speech
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I had a very difficult time deciding on a theme for this upcoming year. With the Amarillo Chapter hosting the T-L Division Annual Meeting in 2010 I know that this upcoming year will be anything but ordinary. I know that our time and energy will need to be laser-beam focused on May 2010. I know that the members of this chapter want to host the best conference ever, we want to show off our city and area, we want attendees to leave after the conference anxious to come back again. I know, as we all do, that our efforts this year will have to be “above and beyond”. Above and beyond – that’s a good theme, and that reminds me of the life-long creed of someone who has impacted my life even though we’ve only met a couple of times. Pete Smith, whom you may know as a former Amarillo ISD board member, is a former president of Utility Engineering and was instrumental in creating Precision Resource Company, my former employer. I heard many good things about Pete when I was part of the UE family, but one recurring theme was his motto, his creed, his way of living life – do what is expected AND THEN SOME. And then some – yep, that’s what it is going to take this next year – all we’ve got and then some. Okay, great – I’ve got the words, now how do I bring that to life as a logo or emblematic pin? Easier said than done. So I began my search online for a picture that captured the words. As I searched I found another potential theme – “Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss you’ll land among the stars!” Heeeeyyyyy – that’s pretty good. I’ve even heard it, “Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss you’ll end up with a handful of stars!” Stars, I love stars – so much hope, promise, mystery, romance – well come to think of it, we’re all stars in our own lives. “Stars” seems to be a good emblem of the message I want to convey, so let’s research stars. I found lots of emblems and sayings using the star theme. One book title I found is, “Reach for the stars. Give up the good to go for the great!” I LOVE that. So let’s see, I now have “above and beyond”, “and then some”, “shoot for the moon and grab some of those stars”, “give up the good to go for the great”. All of these are what I want for the upcoming year. I *want* our chapter to accomplish our goal of hosting the best division annual meeting ever and I know that it will take extraordinary effort from all of us. I *want* us to have great programs at the chapter meetings, which means thinking outside the box sometimes, being creative, finding new resources. I *want* our membership to continue growing. That means commitment from all of us to talk about IAAP and what it means to us and how membership has affected our professional and personal lives. I *want* us to have a high percentage of our members certified as CPS and/or CAP. And I *want* all of us to grow as professionals, as chapter members, as friends, but more importantly as confident, accomplished women. I *want* us to reach for that moon and grab as many stars as we can. The moon, after all is just a chunk of cheese, the stars are the fireballs, the glittering, twinkling, heavenly bodies that sometimes streak across the night sky inspiring a feeling of awe in those who witness this occurrence. So this year, with *all* these themes in mind, lets grab us some stars!