

...the power of one

In Calgary, I was overwhelmed when presented with a special presidential citation for my enthusiasm for CAPS and **living example of the power of one**. I was noticeably unable to speak (very rare for me) and couldn't send an email about it (smile).

Each of us has the opportunity to make an impact on those with whom we come in contact - and sometimes even those who we never meet. And often we don't see the catalyst that sparks the change. I must confess, I did not expect to receive any recognition for the work I had done with my chapter or the ideas I shared with my fellow chapter and national leaders in my many emails.

I accept it with gratitude for what it represents - that I was able to make a difference in the lives of my fellow speakers. I accept it on your behalf - for I know that no one succeeds in isolation.

...the power of one is demonstrated constantly. In the willingness to take on a local committee, to serve on a Chapter or National Board, in attending and contributing at our annual conferences, in sharing the uniqueness that we as CAPS provide to our clients and fellow speakers, and in the professionalism, we take to our audiences. Each commitment validates the power of one, and the potential for each of us to dramatically change the face of our organization.

Cavett Robert exemplified the power of one. His daughter, Lee told me he was amazed at the growth of NSA. He would be proud of the work we've done to expand his vision here in CAPS and thru the IFPS.

We have people in our own Association who have also made these kinds of differences. Chris Robertson, David Sweet, Warren Evans, Brian Danzall, Jeff Mowatt, Patricia Katz and Jim Beaubien for example have led us thru the startup phases of our National and now international existence.

Look at the people who served on Chapter committees and leadership teams. Do you remember their contributions? Have you told them you appreciate the work and foundations you now get to build on?

Think about the speakers who invested in your life, who shared openly from their experience and encouraged your growth. How about the ones who came along side you when you were weathering a severe storm? Have you shared your appreciation for their contribution to your career and life? When I lost my folks, six months apart, I was overwhelmed with the outpouring of encouragement and compassion from my fellow CAPS/NSA speakers and friends.

I challenge you to seek and experience for yourself **...the power of one**.

- **Providing leadership in your local chapter**
- **Providing mentorship and encouragement with your fellow speakers**
- **Providing excellence on the platform and in all your dealing with clients**
- **Providing guidance and encouragement to those who have not yet joined us**
- **Providing leadership in being at our national conference**

Will you be the one this year that proves ...**the power of one, and changes the face of your chapter, of our association, of the lives you touch through your presentations?** I hope so.

This was shared with our Canadian Association of Professional Speakers, but very much lends itself to any professional association for example, and encouragement.

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