

February 5, 2008

A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS OF THE PLC

SPECIAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 19, 2008

DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON MERGER WITH SEPCA

This past summer, we were approached by the Southeastern PA Claims Association, (SEPCA), about a possible merger with the PLC. They had a concern with continuing as a separate entity, as their membership base and monthly meeting attendance was declining. Your Board of Directors met on this proposal in August 2007. At issue are the PLC by-laws, which state that we are exclusively a property organization, and with the varied disciplines that support SEPCA, there might be a problem with any joint efforts going forward. To be fair, however, it was agreed that we would meet with SEPCA's Board of Directors to discuss their proposal, and then bring this back to our membership for a vote. I had mentioned this to the group at our January 15, 2008 meeting, and in the interim, we have had our meeting with SEPCA.

SEPCA has decided to go forward with a proposal to dissolve their organization. That will be up for vote by their members. SEPCA's presentation had merit. They propose that we use the term *assimilate*, rather than *merging* of the organizations. They recognize our specialty charter, and ask, only, that we present at least two meetings that will offer "General" or non-specific topics that would benefit other disciplines that have supported SEPCA over the years. They want to be fair to their members, and as opposed to just "closing the doors"; they would like to offer some venue for continued interest in the local Claims Associations. We would gain members, and there will be some monetary contribution to PLC's operating fund.

This is an important topic and one that deserves some discussion, and resolution by the PLC members. That said, we will be having a general meeting for February. There will not be a speaker, as our sole topic will be this proposal. This can alter the make-up of our organization and that of local Claims Associations for all time going forward.

I ask that all of our members try to attend. This is up to the full membership, and we welcome all of those who support the PLC to also attend, and discuss your issues, as well. For those who cannot attend, we will be working on an electronic vote site so your voices can be heard.

I thank you for your continued support of the PLC, and for your anticipated input on this topic. See you on the 19th of February!!

Gene Angiolillo
President, PLC