



A MESSAGE FROM THE ACUMA BOARD

Tim Mislansky

PROFIT

CHARITY

But for Service*

New Leadership in a New Year Means Increased Potential and Possibilities for ACUMA

By Tim Mislansky

If I have any regrets about writing this column, it's that I only have two chances to communicate with all of you each year — each time an issue of ACUMA's *Pipeline* is published. True, I do get to meet many of you at the sold-out ACUMA workshops and the Annual Conference and, like many attendees, I relish the chance to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Frankly, I can't think of a better way to recharge my batteries, broaden my mortgage knowledge, and support our organization, which is helping credit union mortgage lenders nationwide better serve their members.

But twice a year also means I have a lot of heavy lifting to do within the confines of the few pages I am given. However, that forces me to sharpen my thinking, focus on what's truly important, and search out the best ways to support ACUMA and, by extension, help you become better mortgage lenders. Those are not service obligations I take lightly. In fact, I like to follow the advice of boxer and athlete the late Muhammad Ali, who said, "Service to

others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth." That means that I, and all of you for that matter, had best get going.

Speaking of service, I am more than pleased that Peter Benjamin, CMB, accepted our offer and became the new president of ACUMA. Don't get me wrong — Tracy Ashfield, Peter's predecessor,

did wonderful things to support and help grow the organization, and we all will be forever grateful for those efforts. But Peter's a leader of a different stripe. He's been a credit union mortgage lender and brings those same insights and understanding of the business to our

national association. I hear that doesn't happen much among credit union trade groups, and I congratulate us all on our good fortune.

You will have a chance to read about Peter elsewhere in this edition, including his inaugural President's column. It's clear that he's not only hitting the ground running, but at lightning speed, and is already creating a new look and feel for ACUMA, all of it designed to improve our value proposition to members to help them help more members with homeownership. This equates to becoming



I like to follow the advice of boxer and athlete the late Muhammad Ali, who said, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth."





SERVICE

ing better, more responsible, and more profitable mortgage lenders. On behalf of the board, I want to thank Peter for joining ACUMA. We couldn't be more excited about the future.

Speaking of board members, we're planning on adding a new one this year. Board service is not necessarily a difficult task, but it is a task critical to the success of our organization. As board members we establish governance for the organization, as well as provide guidance to the ACUMA president. Nothing could be more important to ACUMA's success in helping you as members succeed in your chosen careers.



Today, our members need our help more than ever in terms of homeownership, and I am optimistic and confident in our ability to create great success together.



Like those in credit unions, board terms are voluntary and the three-year terms are staggered to assure that there are experienced members as well as "new blood" to keep ideas fresh. You have to be from an ACUMA member credit union or CUSO to serve and have your credit union's support to participate in conference calls, ad hoc committees and the Annual Conference, including the one scheduled for September in Las Vegas. Most important of all, you need a strong desire to give back to the credit union industry, as well as the ability and willingness to act on that desire.

If you have an interest, need more information, or would like to apply, please see page 6 of the magazine for more details. We need your expertise to help us chart the future for ACUMA. A future that is bright. Today, our members need our help more than ever in terms of homeownership, and I am optimistic and confident in our ability to create great success together.

We hope to have the new board member onboard in early fall. But I will be happy to tell you more about board service when I see you at the 2022 Annual Conference in Las Vegas this September. The hallmark of any profession is its commitment to train its future leadership. Even if you can't serve at this time, know that future opportunities abound. And please do attend the only conference designed to serve the professional needs of credit union mortgage lenders. We can talk more about it when I see you there. 

**An abbreviation of the longstanding credit union motto, "Not for Profit, Not for Charity, But for Service."*

Tim Mislansky is chairman of the ACUMA Board of Directors, which governs the organization. He also is president and CEO of Wright-Patt Credit Union in Beavercreek, Ohio.