

Best of the Best Program

The Best of the Best Program originated during round table topic discussions held at the Leadership Day Conference in Dallas, TX, in 1996. The idea for the Best of the Best was presented by Phyllis Festinger, Executive Director, of the Ft. Lauderdale Chapter (renamed in 2005 as the Southeast Florida Chapter). Best of the Best Manuals were produced from 1997 to 2001. Beginning with the 2002 “Best of the Best” competition winning entries and all Summary Statements of Entry are now located and archived in the Chapter Leadership Resource Center of the HSMAI web site.

The intent of the program is to make available to all chapter board members the award winning chapter operations and programs through the Frank W. Berkman Chapter Award Program. Referencing the work of successful chapter operations and programming is efficient and helpful. The material presented in the Best of the Best is easily adaptable for any size chapter to implement with minimal tweaking. We encourage all chapter board members to explore the content of the Best of the Best to assist them in their respective roles on the chapter board. The ultimate goal of all chapter boards is to increase the value of HSMAI membership by providing professional programs and events that reflect favorably upon HSMAI in their individual marketplaces and internationally.

HSMAI has conducted a Chapter Award Competition since 1980. In 1996 the program was expanded to include the Best of the Best and renamed the Frank W. Berkman Chapter Award Program. A complete list of winning chapters follows this information.

Frank W. Berkman was the elected President of HSMA in 1958. In 1965 he succeeded our Founder, Adrian Phillips, as the Executive Director and held that position for 16 years, until his retirement in 1981. Mr. Berkman passed away in March of 1996.