

## A Message from Outgoing President, John Blum



Dear iMAPS New England Colleagues,

I have been fortunate to have been the President of iMAPS New England for the past two years. The time certainly has gone by quickly and I had a hard act to follow in Mike Gervais. Over the past two years we've added new faces to the Executive Committee, continued to put on a strong technical program, and had two very successful Symposia/Exhibitions.

This was only possible due to the support and hard work of the Executive Committee. – Jon, Minh, Mike, Harvey, Joe, Tom, Jim, Jeremy, Matt, Michael, Dmitry, Amaresh, John; for providing the manpower and creative ideas that made these two years a success. And a special thanks to Judi Eicher who coordinated the arrangements that make the Technical Program, Executive Committee meetings, and especially the Symposium worry free (*to me – not her*) every year. If you are reading this, you have used our updated website which has been reinvigorated thanks to Harvey Smith's hard work and vision.

Some of my fondest memories are of the frantic night before the symposium each year. There are mountains of work to get done, but the many volunteers are there to make sure it all gets done. And it does get done, with only a few curses thrown in.

In speaking with other Chapter Presidents, it is clear that the New England Chapter is the envy of many. From the inside, I can see this is due to the many volunteers we have as well as the continuity of experience within the Chapter, including some from our founding members. Our corporate sponsors are a valuable resource, providing much needed financial support to keep our programs going. We are always looking for new members to our Executive Committee to bring new insights and experiences. If you are interested – please send an e-mail to me at [jbblum1@gmail.com](mailto:jbblum1@gmail.com).

I am sure that under Jon Medernach's skilled hand the Chapter will surpass the limited achievements of the past two years. I look forward to contributing.

John Blum  
iMAPS New England Chapter President 2014-2016