FRAMING THE FUTURE

(Installation of International President, Ruth Zardezed, 1995/96)

"Our future may lie beyond our vision, but it is not entirely out of our control," were the words uttered by Robert Kennedy as he was striving to be this country's chief civil rights architect.

He was telling his allies, his enemies and those that were still deciding, that the should not be afraid of striving for change, even if they did not yet understand where they wanted to lead or be led.

Robert Kennedy was "Framing the Future," just as other visionaries before him:

- Ordinary statesman who became framers of the Constitution
- Tinkerers and scientists who became the inventors of the light bulb, the atomic bomb and the microchip
- Peaceful protesters who turned the tide of governments in India, Poland and South Africa

These people were ordinary people with extraordinary perception and dedication to a vision. They felt the vision, understood the need and forged the path.

This vision is what we need to share as we are "Framing the Future," beginning today, for CPI. In order to create a vision of the future, we must first understand and learn from the past. We have a wealth of knowledge to draw on from those who have held the vision before us: Our Past International Presidents.

Charlotte Maness Mary Nebeker Martha Philip Hazel Knopp Lorna Collins Nadine Kennedy

Helen Shirley Wanda Brown-Meade Theda Shadel Sybel Plehn Helen Sawyers Kitty Lofton

(When everyone is up on stage, say) "This is a portrait of our history. It is because of their insight that we stand in the present, poised to take on the future."

(After recognition, the past international presidents leave the stage.)

Credit Professionals International's future depends on our ability to concentrate on this associations's needs, benefits and goals. Its next wave of leaders will have to balance organizational goals with economic reality. Out of this balancing act emerges the vision. When you put this vision in focus, you can clearly see the big picture and clearest route to the future as you design it. As we become more focused on framing our future, we will more clearly understand the opportunities... and be in a much better position to overcome the obstacles in our path.

The future is not something that we enter...the future is something we create. In a few minutes you will see standing before you the chief architects of CPI's future. Each of these leaders is a self-portrait of their strengths and skills.

As they come forward, you will see, frame by frame, the character, ability and commitment that CPI will draw on as we move toward our future.

District Presidents:

District One
District Two
District Three & Four
District Five
District Six
District Seven
District Eight
District Nine
District Ten
District Eleven
District Twelve
District Thirteen

Marcia Clark
Lynn Gardner
Jo Ann Vandeventer
Kathy Locke
Naomi Braun
Genia Smith
Angie Hadley
Sandra Padilla
Dawn Bredimus
Joyce Moreash
Nancy Gibson
Linda Bridgeford

International Executive Committee:

Executive Vice President Immediate Past President Treasurer Secretary Second Vice President First Vice President President

Esther Worthington Terry Rowe Sharon DeShazer Gail Ottinger Carol Smith Barbara Hall Ruth E. Zardezed

(When all are on stage say the following: "Will commit to framing our future as a strong, viable association dedicated not only to listening to its members needs today, but hearing what they will need tomorrow? If so please respond...I will.")

Standing before you is the finished portrait of CPI's leadership who have accepted the responsibility of making our vision a reality. It's all there, in black and white. As you reflect on how you will help these leaders guide our association along the path to our shared vision, keep in mind these words from Robert Kennedy:

"Some people see things as they are and ask "Why?"...I see things that never were and ask: "Why not?"

Ladies and Gentlemen, I present your 1995-96 Board of Directors for Credit Professional International.