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[Register](#)

May 20
NIRI in Your Neighborhood West Suburban Networking Reception
[Register](#)

June 8
Afterglow party at NIRI Annual Conference
[Register](#)

June 19
NIRI-Chicago Annual Meeting and Social
 Vertigo Sky Lounge
[Register](#)

Past Events

In case you missed our April meeting on compliance, disclosure and accountability in

From the President



The merry month of May! It seemed that April would go on forever, and worst of all was the two-inch snowfall in mid-month. It's really a truism that it always snows one more time in April.

Shareholder activism achieved a new permutation with news of Bill Ackman's partnership with Valeant Pharmaceuticals to buy Allergan. And while the media pundits were postulating about the legality of the announcement based on the accumulation of shares before the deal was announced, Ackman said on CNBC that his legal counsel, Robert Khuzami, former director of enforcement at the SEC, had reviewed the partnership and deemed it legal. If one thing should be clear to public filers, it's that the activist hedge funds do their homework before they act. And they have short memories. I was thrilled to hear the additional news that Bill and Carl Icahn had buried the hatchet and are friends again.

So what does that mean for IROs? Beyond shareholder activism, are you prepared for the next, unknown crisis? How can you prepare when you don't even suspect what might be coming next? Find out at our **May 9** mini-workshop, **Crisis Communications: Prepare for a Rainy Day**. You'll spend the morning working through a crisis simulation as a team with fellow IR professionals to test your crisis management skills and help you prepare for that "rainy day." Senior counselors with expertise in investor relations, corporate disclosure and regulatory compliance will facilitate and provide valuable feedback on the teams' immediate reactions, planning and ultimate outcomes. Our panelists include: **Doug Fox**, CFA, VP, investor relations and treasurer, Zebra Technologies Corp.; **Beth Saunders**, chairman of strategic communications, Americas, FTI Consulting; **Mark Wood**, head of securities practice, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP; and our moderator, NIRI-Chicago board member **Janine Warell**, a seasoned IR and corporate communications pro with vast hands-on crisis

today's 24/7 world, click through to the event [summary](#).

Save the Date

September 19

NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop
The Art & Science of IR

Check Out NIRI-Chicago's Mobile App

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[Download on Android](#)

Photo of the Month



NIRI CEO Jeff Morgan and speakers at April's meeting

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experience. Breakfast begins at 8 a.m. and the program will run from 8:30 to 10:45 a.m. at the Metropolitan Club. [Register](#).

On a sad note, we offer our condolences to our friends at Allstate and to the family of Bob Block, Allstate's SVP of investor relations. Bob passed away on Easter Sunday. He was an ardent supporter of NIRI and our Chicago Chapter and we will miss him dearly. His passing is a reminder that we all need to step back once in a while and smell the roses.

I also wanted to thank the members of our IR Workshop Committee, who are working hard to develop an exceptional program for Friday, Sept. 19. Co-chairs Patty Paul of ButtonWood Associates and Terri Anne Powers of Veolia Environnement have rounded up an outstanding committee. [Committee members](#) are Randy Diaz of Navistar, Shep Dunlap of Motorola Solutions, Dee Johnson of Rubicon Technology, Liz Kluge of McDonald's, Ashish Kohli of Walgreens, consultant Larry Larsen, Geoffrey Mogilner of Edelman, Tina Ventura of Abbott and Mike Zimmerman of MGIC Investment Corp.

If you have ideas and suggestions, I am sure the committee members would love to hear from you. And thank you all for volunteering to plan our annual blockbuster event. More news on speakers and panels will be forthcoming, but for now, please save the Sept. 19 date.

Until next month,

[Elizabeth Higashi](#)
President, NIRI-Chicago

SAVE THE DATE
September 19, 2014
NIRI-Chicago IR Workshop
The Art & Science of IR

In the News

- Op-Ed: [Buffet](#) bites back.
- A [corporate crisis](#) is an opportunity, says a reputation expert (and repeat NIRI-Chicago speaker).
- [Reputation](#): the hardest risk to manage.
- [Study](#): One in five CFOs exploit GAAP's vagaries to "intentionally misrepresent" their companies' earnings.
- [Study](#): Your company may be undervalued because the sell-side wants to benchmark it against the highest-valued peers.
- [Confound](#) those high-speed traders/speculators: Release earnings at 4:01 p.m. ET.



Special thanks to
[Paragraphs Design](#)
for the creation of our Member
Connection masthead and program
year banner

- Almost a fifth of companies (19%) faced [litigation](#) related to regulatory matters and investigations last year, up from 9% in 2012.

NIRI-Chicago Member News

Welcome to NIRI-Chicago's newest members: **Jennifer Childe**, GoGo Inc.; **Blair Rieth**, VP- Investor Relations, Hill-Rom Holdings; and **Richard Zimmerman**, Director of Finance and Business Services, KapStone Paper and Packaging.

[Share](#) your news (job changes, awards, interesting articles) -- and thanks for reading the MEMBER CONNECTION.

Maryellen Thielen
Vice President, Communications
NIRI-Chicago

