

## AIM FOR THE STARS

(Installation of International President, Gail Ottinger, 1998/99)

By Gail Ottinger  
Installing Officer, Lorna Collins

Before we begin our installation of the 1998/99 Executive Committee of Credit Professionals International, I want to extend, on behalf of the members, our very special thanks to President Carol Smith and the retiring officers for their year of hard work and dedication. We look forward to your continued support as we begin another year in Credit Professionals International.

Over the last few years, we "Set Our Sails," striving at a "Quest for Excellence," as we "Framed the Future." We learned that "Success is a Journey, Not a Destination," then we looked at our "Noteworthy Achievements, Past, Present and Future."

We celebrated our past accomplishments and have learned much from our adversities, which will take us into the future, preparing us for the next millennium .the 21st century, as we "Aim for the Stars."

Those who forged the path for our journey toward the future are to be saluted for their dedication to our organization. These are our Past International Presidents. Please stand.

To aim for something is to transcend one's present capacity for attainment. To reach our individual goals, we must take "action" through "Innovation" and be "Motivated" to reach our highest potential.

The stars have always been a symbol of high ideals and great hopes. There are many definitions for the word STAR: A heavenly body that shines by its own light; A person of brilliant qualities or talents; One who shines above others. A star is brilliant, outstanding and used as a guiding beacon in the sky. The North Star has helped many find their way when their sense of direction is lost.

Since very early times, individuals have looked up at the stars and wondered about these diamond-like points of light that shimmer above them. "Hitch your wagon to a star" is an often used expression that means a person should set high ideals and work to reach them.

We must, not only as individuals, but also as a team, focus on our values and ideals, aiming for the stars, carrying us into the 21st century.

Our District Presidents play a vital role in the success of our organization. The District Presidents are: (*Each person mounts stage as name is called.*)

District One:	Carol Martin
District Two:	Barbara Hinman
District Three & Four:	Janice Stewart
District Five:	Jean Jervis

District Six:	Wanda Mitchell
District Seven:	Betty Dickens
District Eight:	Dianne Buckelew
District Nine:	Josie Salazar
District Ten:	Lila Cronyn
District Eleven:	Susan Stricklin
District Twelve:	Joseph "Pat" Warner

Now I present to you your newly elected leaders of Credit Professionals International.

**Nona Ellzey, Secretary/Treasurer**

It takes courage to push yourself to places you've never been before, to test your limits, breaking through barriers, so aim high, aim for the stars.

**Mary Lou Addy, Second Vice President**

Goals are achieved when challenges are faced with determination and patience. Use this determination to aim for the stars.

**Sharon DeShazer, First Vice President**

You must have a drive to exceed expectations. No one can predict to what heights you may soar. Spread your wings and aim for the stars.

**Gail Ottinger, President**

We look to you to strive and maintain high standards, looking after the smallest detail and always going the extra mile. You have a passion for this organization and through your projection of this passion, there is no limit to the personal growth of the members. All things can be attained if you:

Care more than others think is wise,  
 Risk more than others think is safe,  
 Dream more than others think is practical,  
 Expect more than others think is possible,  
 Aiming for the stars.

Officers and Board each of you have been judged by your peers to be qualified and capable leaders of our association. You are fully aware of the duties and responsibilities of your respective offices.

If you are ready and willing to accept them, please say "I do."

Today, as always, man marvels at the skies above him, dreams his dreams and thirsts for a better understanding of the universe. We all live under the same sky, but we don't all have the same horizon.

Alice Davidson wrote:

The more faith you have,  
The more you believe.  
The more goals you set  
The more you will achieve...  
So aim for the stars,  
Pick a mountain to climb,  
Dare to think big,  
And give yourself time...  
And remember, no matter  
How futile things seem,  
With faith there is no  
Impossible Dream.

Ladies and gentlemen, I declare these officers duly installed. It is my pleasure to present to you the leaders of Credit Professionals International for 1998/99 and proudly present your new International President .Gail Ottinger.