Looking at our Calendar you wouldn't imagine this is a busy time for LCI. But the opposite is true. Victor Sanvido has been hard at work finalizing details for the 13th Annual Congress in Pasadena. Registration should be available this week so look for that on our site.

Victor has been concentrating on Owner value with his committee and hopes to have an entire day of Owner experiences with lean design and construction principles. If you are interested in presenting, we have just issued a Call for Presentations.

We are also searching for those of you who have had real world experience with Target Value Design—how did you do it, how did it work and are you willing to report on your conclusions? The Ohio Valley Community of Practice hopes to host a One Day Presentation in Late August from those of you with that kind of experience. Please contact me if you’re interested in presenting there.

We have continued our efforts with the Construction Users Roundtable. Greg reports that the CURT Lean Workshop scheduled for September 14 in Buffalo. As you likely know, most CURT members have lean production and manufacturing initiatives going on within their companies—Boeing, Proctor & Gamble, Dow Chemical, Merck—just to name a few. The transition to lean design and construction principles has been a challenge for many of them. We’re hoping to find Owner reports of lean design and construction activities that have paralleled those other lean transformations. Look for a deeper explanation in Greg’s note due out this week and let us know if you would like to present on that topic.

Greg is off to Lima, Peru with others LCI members for the annual International Group in Lean Construction meeting. Our connection with IGLC is long but not well-defined and he hopes to bring a little more clarity to their mission and our support.

Also undefined is our relationship to foreign chapters. Marton Marosszeky has been working hard in Australia to get that Community of Practice up and going. That Chapter will be hosting Lean in the Public Sector this year, currently scheduled for October 19-21 in Brisbane. Marton’s focus has been on horizontal construction—the same general focus of alliancing projects in Australia—and we are watching with interest the development of that sector.

George Zettel’s Committee on the Last Planner® Coaching Authorization is moving apace and hopes to have something in place soon. Hal Macomber has taken the laboring oar on assisting with the finalization of that project.

On the CoP front, I was in Philadelphia last week helping Larry Stival (Air Power), Kevin Labrecque (Limbach), Rob Reeves and Christian Kalbach (E. Allen Reeves) and Jerry Kilhefner (Klover Contracting) start the Chesapeake Bay Community of Practice. The New York CoP is having Hal Macomber deliver an Introduction to Lean on June 30, sponsored by Turner Construction Co. (Jim Barrett), STV Incorporated (Sam Spata) and the Lean Construction Institute. And the Carolinas CoP is working through David Craft to finalize the dates for their Introduction to Lean.

And just reviewing the list of upcoming CoP events in Central Florida (where Ed Anderson is waxing poetic on the Airplane Game), New England (Haley & Aldrich on their use of Kaizen
events), Los Angeles (I can't think of a finer trio of design/lean specialists than Todd Henderson, Stan Chiu and Kathy Blume) and Northern California (with Ron Migliori and Larry Summerfield of Buehler & Buehler and Arun Kaiwar of Stantec - the three of whom taught me most of what I know about CBA), I'm jealous I'll be unable to attend them all. The quality of individual CoP events is really spectacular and you'll suffer in your lean experience if you don't take them in on a regular basis.

It's not looking like a lazy summer for LCI. But it is building season and that's what we're trying to do.