



THE GALAXY

NATIONAL CONTRACT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (NCMA) /SPACE CITY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER— June 2008

2008-2009 NCMA Space City Installation of Officers

On Thursday, June 26, 2008, the 2008-2009 officers were inducted into office by Ron Smith, 2007-2008 NCMA National President at the Clear Lake Hilton. Ron Smith, former Space City-Houston chapter member, served as the guest speaker, giving the ceremony a perspective into the future of the contracting profession. Ron, also, emphasized the four objectives for NCMA: 1) Develop the next generation of contract management professionals; 2) Increase Professional Advocacy; 3) Reach more people in the Federal contracting community; and 4) Develop professional standards.

The term of office for each officer will be one year, except the position of VP/President-elect. This position is a two year commitment, serving first year as VP; followed by second year as President of the Chapter. Penny White, who was the Chapter's Vice President in Program Year 2007-2008, will serve as the Chapter President in 2008-2009.

The newly elected Board Members for the 2008-2009 Space City – Houston Chapter are as follows:

Penny White (USA) - President
Jeff Cullen (NASA) - Vice President/President-Elect
Melisa Reyna (USA) - Secretary
Janet Arkinson (NASA) - Treasurer
Ann Binion (USA) - Vice President for Programs and Chapter Operations

Carey White (U of H) - Vice President for Membership

Krystine Bui (NASA) - Vice President for Education

The Board Members will do their very best to make the upcoming year a rewarding year, with interesting speakers, challenging discussions, and opportunities for networking. A key role to our Chapter's success is the participation of our members. It is important that you participate in the luncheons, as well as our major events each year which include the Fall Conference, the Small Business Conference, and the National Education Seminar. Your help is also needed as volunteers. Volunteering for events will provide you the opportunity to work with others in the organization (networking at its best) and give you the chance to contribute to our organization's success and growth.. Stay tuned for more information on the upcoming program year activities.



From left: Penny White, Jeff Cullen, Ann Binion, Krystine Bui, Carey White, Jenny Arkinson, Melisa Reyna, and Ron Smith.



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NCMA Launches Communities of Practice

Customize your membership with the new NCMA Communities of Practice (COPs). Stay up-to-date on the latest news and trends, chat with industry experts, network, and learn within targeted areas of interest. From April 2008–March 2009, all NCMA members will get a free sneak peak at the COP Web sites for small business contracting; performance-based service acquisition; task, delivery order, and schedule contracting; and new professionals COPs.

Each community will include:

- A dedicated Web site,
- Related links,
- Fully searchable library,
- Discussion forum,
- Listservs
- A monthly e-newsletter,
- Access to subject matter experts and online resource guides, and
- A quarterly e-zine delivered directly to your computer with articles specific to your topic of interest.

World Congress 2009 Call for Presentations

Take the first step in identifying the most relevant topics and issues facing contract professionals today!

Submit your presentation proposal for NCMA's World Congress 2009 and share your expertise, gain recognition as a leader in the industry, and earn contract management education (CME) credit. Join other contract, acquisition, and procurement professionals; discover the hard-hitting issues; and capture the best practices that shape smarter processes.

This year's event is unlike any that NCMA has showcased before! It embraces innovation and celebrates the profession using a balance of small and large learning forums and communities of interest forums that help foster valuable partnerships.

The Call for Presentations closes October 17, 2008.

Nominations Requested

Have you, or someone you know, performed volunteer work on a chapter committee, special project or other endeavor during the July 2007–June 2008 chapter year? If so, please take a few minutes to tell us about it.

Space City will recognize a Volunteer of the Year award to a member who has exhibited exceptional energy, effort and dedication in performance of work, at the chapter level, to further the skills and professionalism of our members. The chapter winner will also be our nominee for the national level Arthur G. Muller Annual Volunteer Award.

To enter, please complete and e-mail your nomination (500 words or less) to Mr. Chris Guthrie, at chris.a.guthrie@usa-spaceops.com, not later than **July 21, 2008**

The nomination form is available at our website <http://www.ncmaspacecity.org> under “**What's New Volunteer-of-Year_Nomination.**”



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MEMBERSHIP INFO

VP Membership

Carey White

Welcome Our New Chapter Members!!

May 2008

Eddie Williams (DCMA)

Linda Miller (Greenhunter Biofuels Inc)

Stacey Puls (Integrity Contract Solutions Inc)

Summary of Benefits

If you are faced with the decision of joining NCMA or renewing your membership, you might be asking, "what value or benefits do I receive from the organization"? The Board believes that for personal and professional growth belonging to an association such as NCMA is invaluable. There are numerous opportunities for learning, networking, leadership and volunteerism through NCMA.

Contract Management Magazine

Contract Management, a monthly, full-color magazine, is one of NCMA's most significant member benefits. Did you realize that in addition to receiving current topic contracting news, members could access past articles through NCMA's Contract Management Leading Center? See www.ncmahq.org. NCMA also welcomes your stories and encourages you to submit articles for publication. If you have been reading the magazine, you will notice our chapter has frequently published articles in this magazine. This is your opportunity to contribute to your professional organization, NCMA.

Educational Seminars and Conferences

Please take advantage of our Chapter audio seminars. See [Calendar of Events](#) page 4 below.

Luncheons

Throughout the year, our Chapter organizes many events including luncheons with great speakers and topics critical to the contracting profession. This is another opportunity for you to get involved. If you, or someone you know, is a subject matter expert on a related Contract Management or Procurement topic, and would like to be a speaker at a luncheon, please contact a member of the Board. Take advantage of the opportunity to share what you know with the Chapter.

Reminder to Update Your Membership Information

Most all of our communications are via electronic mail and on occasion, we may call members. If you have not reviewed your contact information in awhile, we ask that you do so by following the instructions below. If you know someone who is not receiving information from either NCMA local Space City Chapter or from National, please first suggest checking his or her contact data. If the contact information is not correct, then please contact us and we will investigate to resolve the problem.

How to Update

You can update your membership information online at www.ncmahq.org; by clicking on Update Membership Content under the Membership tab on our home page. If you have not logged into NCMA before, you will receive a prompt to log in. You will enter



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your six-digit member id as the user name and the password will be blank, you receive a prompt to set a password.

Keeping this information current will ensure you receive notices from NCMA concerning upcoming events.

If you have any questions, please contact Carey White, Membership, NCMA - Space City Chapter, at 713-752-8466.

Helpful Hint for New Members

If you are a new member, or know someone who is just joining the Chapter, please note: Online registration is available at www.ncmahq.org (click "membership)join NCMA"). Upon first joining via online registration, the online registration software will automatically assign you to the NCMA Chapter nearest your geographic area. If you wish your affiliation to be with a different Chapter, please follow-up your registration with a call and or e-mail to National stating that you have registered and you want to join the Space City Chapter (or other Chapter of your preference); 800-334-8096 or choi@ncmahq.org.

GALAXY via the Web

The Galaxy is published throughout the Program Year. An e-mail announcement will alert you when the next Galaxy Newsletter has been posted to our Chapter website. www.ncmaspacecity.org To ensure you receive the alerts, please visit the www.ncmahq.org website today, click the Membership / Update Member Information web links and ensure your correct e-mail address is in the system

Employment

Please refer to the website for current employment opportunities:

www.ncmaspacecity.org

Calendar Of Events

National

AUGUST 4 – 5 , 2008

Aerospace and Defense Contract Management Conference – Garden Grove, California

NOVEMBER 20 – 21, 2008

The 27th Annual Government Contract Management Conference – Bethesda, MD

APRIL 5 – 8, 2009

The 2009 NCMA World Congress – Long Beach, California

Local

JULY 17, 2008

Get Acquainted with the 2008-2009 Space City Houston Board (Happy Hour), TBD, 4:30 – 6:30

AUGUST 21, 2008

Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, Nassau Bay Hilton, 11:00 – 1:00

OCTOBER 22-23, 2008

NCMA Fall Conference, Dinner (22nd) and All Day Conference (23rd), Hobby Hilton

Audio Seminars

600 Gemini, MIC Room (near door 10)
Contact Jessica Tucker for more information at: Jessica.M.Tucker@usa-spaceops.com

JULY 17, 2008

Contract Law: "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Government Contract Law but Were Afraid (or Didn't Have the Opportunity) to Ask" – Q&A Session

JULY 24, 2008



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Moving from SOW to PWS, an Approach That Works

Articles of Interest

Outgoing Message

By Keith Hutto

As it begins to sink in--this year I am the outgoing President. I am now feeling the anxieties that those who preceded me must have felt. First, have I done what I set out to accomplish and second, what will happen next year?

Looking back over the past year, the Space City Houston Chapter has had a very productive year. We have had three major and very successful events, the annual Fall Conference, the Small Business Conference and closing out the operating year was the National Education Seminar. Mixed into this were several workshops and multiple audio seminars. In addition, the Chapter had one of our members complete the Leadership Development Program with NCMA and another member applied and was accepted into the NCMA Leadership Program. Through our association with the University of Houston, Clear Lake we were able to offer at no expense, two members attending training from the Center for Advanced Management Programs (CAMP). While reflecting over the past year, the hard work of the Executive Board; the dedication of Committee Chairpersons and committee members, and the willingness to succeed by all members, yes, it was an overwhelming success.

What will happen next year? Next year is going to be even better. The new Executive

Board has already in place and demonstrated a can do attitude and is ready to take the helm and lead the Space City Houston Chapter to new heights. We are seeing a new growth of interest in the newer members wanting to get involved. It is an opportunity to foster a new generation of professionals and add their contributions to the contracting profession. As you and I prepare for the next year, keep in mind that this is your Chapter and it will be what ever you make of it. The mission is simple:

“NCMA exists to enable the workforce to grow professionally, assess individual and organizational competency against professional standards, establish values, develop best practices, and provide access to skilled individuals, enabling enterprises to improve their buyer-seller relationships.”

With that I wish to express my thanks to all who spent the time and efforts to the success of the Chapter.

Space City Chapter Member, Stephanie Murphy, Selected for NCMA Leadership Program

By Ann Binion

Stephanie Murphy, Vice President of Business Operations for MEI Technologies in Houston, Texas, was selected to participate in the NCMA National Leadership Development Program beginning in June 2008. Because of the aging workforce in contract management professionals, this program is designed to quickly close the gap in leadership progression by accelerating the preparation of a selected group of contract management professionals. Participants will go through a series of classroom, online, volunteer, and other experiential learning activities that will accelerate their career development and



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prepare them for management roles in their organizations and chapters.

Competition for admission to this exciting new program was intense, with several high quality applicants being considered. Applicants came from a wide range of employers and chapters, including Federal, State and Local government agencies, large and small businesses, and not for profits were all represented, as well as more than 55 chapters across NCMA. Stephanie will represent her chapter well as she has been an active member of the Space City – Houston Chapter since 2004.

Stephanie received her BS degree in Business Administration from Texas A&M and is currently working towards her undergraduate certificate in Procurement at the University of Virginia. She has worked in various aspects of procurement and contracts at MEI that include director of contracts, financial analyst and purchasing agent.

Fellow NCMA member and graduate of last year's LDP (as well as fellow Aggie) Ann Binion, will assist in mentoring Stephanie as she embarks on her journey through the program.

Congrats Stephanie!

2008 NCMA Fall Conference

By Linda Miller

Mark your calendars! The date and place has been set for our 2008 NCMA Fall Conference. The banquet will be on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, with the conference on Thursday, October 23, 2008, at the Houston Hobby Hilton. The theme for the conference has not yet been determined, but will address the

contracting profession in this ever changing environment. Suggested topics range from workforce transition, knowledge management, retention, training, acquisition planning, etc. This year's conference will consist of keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and maybe even a panel discussion tying together the conference day events.

The Chairperson for the 2008 Fall Conference is Russ Carroll, Boeing, and his email address is Russell.g.carroll@boeing.com. Russ will co-chair this event with a NASA representative. Only one kick-off meeting has been held, so you have plenty of time to join the committee to help with the activities for this event. Contact Russ, or any of the NCMA Board Members, to join the committee and be a key player in the planning of the 2008 Fall Conference.

7th Annual Leadership Summit

By Linda Miller

The NCMA 7th Annual Leadership Summit was held on June 20-21, 2008 in San Diego, CA for all NCMA members and chapter leaders. The summit focused on learning how to build and manage a successful chapter, bringing together chapter officers from across the association, to share ideas, success stories, support and recommendations. The summit provided tools to develop better chapter leaders, enhance leadership skills, provided an opportunity to connect with peers and learn from each, and provided training on the fundamental chapter and national operations. Sessions with chapter leaders provided a forum to openly discuss challenges, best practices, and ideas that made their chapter successful.



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Approximately 125 leaders and members from across the association attended this two day, intense filled, summit. Sessions with innovative ideas on planning your program year events, recruiting and obtaining volunteers, building your chapter budget and the financial management of your chapter stimulated peer discussions and networking opportunities. Creative ideas and recommendations for awards and recognition, as well as new ways to market to the new millennium workforce, were presented throughout the two day summit.

Luncheon speakers included Kimberly Rupert, SAIC's Senior Vice President of Contracts, Procurement and Pricing and Deidre (Dee) A. Lee, who retired from the position of Director of Management and Chief Acquisition Officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security in March 2008, after 32 years in various positions in numerous Federal Agencies. Dee's message provided four steps – (1) Plan/Prepare; (2) Clear/Concise Presentations; (3) Ask; and (4) Follow Up/Follow Through – which, along with telling them what you want them to do and asking what you can do for them, will help in getting senior management support. Dee also touched on the communication difficulties between the baby boomers and the younger generations. Recognizing and addressing these challenges will ensure success in obtaining your management support and obtaining your Chapter's goals and objectives.

Recommendations and ideas were shared on creating educational programs and conducting a certification study group to provide members growth and developmental opportunities. The importance of obtaining a 'Fellow' recognition was discussed. Individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of contracting and to NCMA can achieve a

'Fellow' status. This recognition is the third highest award given by the association and focuses on personal development, professional development and contribution to the Association. A structured informational program on the University Outreach Program, which is designed to educate our local universities/colleges of Contract Management and NCMA, will be implemented this fall. Each chapter will be provided a briefing to be presented to the College Dean/Professor and designed to be the 'icebreaker' which will educate and influence the local colleges and hopefully encourage them to focus some curriculum on Contract Management.

Andrew Papageorge, Strategic Thinker, Innovator, Author and Entrepreneur provided a presentation on Creativity and Innovation. He discussed the importance of creating the right environment and nurture collaboration to allow solutions and ideas to grow. He described creativity as thinking of new and useful ideas, while innovation was implementing new ideas that generate value. We participated in team activities where we were given management roles within the organization and directed to support our position. Once we discovered the importance of reflecting (slowing down our thinking), advocating (promoting a point of view) and inquiring (asking about and requesting information) we became better listeners establishing an environment to nurture collaboration.

Our Chapter Leaders will take the principles, ideas, recommendations, lessons learned, and other experiences gained by attending this summit and use them to make our chapter stronger and offer to our members educational and developmental opportunities such as establishing and developing a certification study group, addressing 'hot button' contracting issues at our monthly luncheon



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meetings, and offering increased networking opportunities.

KEY CONTACT POINTS - SPACE CITY CHAPTER BOARD:

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Stay Tuned

... for an exciting 2008-2009 Program Year with
your Space City-Houston Chapter!