



SPACE CITY - HOUSTON CHAPTER

GALAXY

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January 2002

NATIONAL CONTRACT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (NCMA) SPACE CITY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Herb Baker

It's January 2002. Time for new year's resolutions, right? By the time you read this, January will be almost gone. So how are you doing with your new year's resolutions? The Babylonians celebrated New Years Day over four thousand years ago, although their celebration was in March rather than in January, coinciding with the spring planting of crops. So if you must break your resolution, break it with pride! You'll be continuing a long tradition of broken resolutions dating back to the dawn of recorded history! And if you had a false start, why you can start again in March, à la Babylonia!

The new year has always been a time for looking back at the past, and more importantly, looking ahead to the future. Led by the efforts of Tom Devitt, our VP for Programs, we're trying hard to ensure that our Chapter's future includes more excellent speakers and interesting meetings - starting with this month's speaker, Congressman Nick Lampson. Congressman Lampson is a third-term Member of Congress and serves on the House Science Committee where he is a strong advocate of the Johnson Space Center and NASA's manned space program. We're also attempting to make arrangements for NASA's new Administrator, Sean O'Keefe, to speak at one of our luncheons.

In the spring, we're looking forward to the 2002 National Education Seminar. This year's theme is "Financial Analysis: Contract Management Applications." More to follow on that.

Happy New Year everyone!

Herb

CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT



1/15/02 NCMA National Announcement to all NCMA Members: Congressional Support for Payment of Certification & Professional Development Expenses

Among NCMA's primary organizational objectives is to be a chief information and knowledge resource for its members. With that objective in mind, there is a late-breaking piece of information that we thought imperative to share with you.

President Bush signed the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill (P.L. 107-107). Within that enactment is a provision that permits reimbursement to contracts and procurement professionals for the cost of attaining a professional designation, including certification.

NCMA has long supported the concept that professional certification is integral to both career management and identification of those individuals who have demonstrated a thorough understanding of the principles of a profession. This action by the federal government sustains and supports this conclusion.

The bill as adopted and signed, authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military constructions, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes. Specifically stated in P.L.107-107 (Sec. 1126) DOD is authorized to use available funds to pay for professional credentials of employees, as well as for the examinations required to obtain such credentials. Guidelines and procedures for the process for individuals attaining reimbursements were not contained in the legislation.



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MEMBERSHIP MEMORABILIA

by Dale Pittman

The Space City Houston Chapter of NCMA would like to welcome the following new members:

Victoria Armijo	DCMA
Cody Corley	NASA/JSC
Robyn Kowalske	Muniz Engineering
Wanda Strickland-Porter	Ashtead Technology

We would also like to recognize the following for their years of membership and service to NCMA:

30 years	Gerald Clause Walton Tiffany
15 years	Edward Wilder

If you are interested in helping the Space City Houston Chapter grow, please contact Harold McCracken at 281-282-4089.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY LUNCHEON MEETING

When: Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2002
11:30 - 1:00
Where: Silver Moon Café at Space Center Houston
Topic: Current Congressional Issues Affecting NASA & JSC
Speaker: Congressman Nick Lampson

Beaumont native Nick Lampson was elected to represent the 9th Congressional District of Texas in 1996. As a member of the Science Committee, this third-term Member of Congress is a strong advocate for the Johnson Space Center and the entire NASA manned space program.

“Congressional Support” continued from pg. 1



TREASURER'S REPORT

Quarterly Statement of Funds by Carolyn Biggerstaff

BEGINNING BALANCE – October 1, 2001		\$46,066.39
RECEIPTS		
Interest	\$ 475.61	
Fall Conference	32,390.00	
HQ Rebate	1,281.15	
Miscellaneous	325.65	
Total Receipts		<u>34,472.41</u>
Total Funds Available		<u>\$80,538.80</u>
DISBURSEMENTS		
Meeting Facilities/Food	\$2,048.48	
Fall Conference Exp.	19,689.18	
Galaxy Expenses	307.13	
Scholarship-UHCL	5,000.00	
Dividend Penalty	155.34	
National Board Conf.	898.44	
Miscellaneous	481.57	
Total Disbursements		<u>28,580.14</u>
ENDING FUNDS BAL. – Dec. 31, 2001		<u>\$51,958.66</u>

NCMA has two professional certification programs:

CACM - Intermediate professional designation focusing on federal government contract management.

CPCM - Advanced contract management professional designation focusing on the full breadth of general and specific knowledge of the field.

Recently, the Department of Veterans Affairs determined that veterans were eligible for reimbursement for professional designations as well. NCMA is listed on the VA web-site as having eligible certifications.

Clearly, the federal government has given recognition to the critical importance professional designations can play in career development and quality service to various constituents. A growing number of federal departments and agencies, as well as, private sector companies place significant emphasis on certification as a mark of professional distinction.

NCMA's certification program enjoys widespread recognition as a major contributor to professionalism in the contract management field.

Please visit the web-site at www.ncmahq.org for a full description of the NCMA certification programs. Access is on the home page of the NCMA web-site (drop down menu).

GOVERNANCE UPDATES

provided by Allegra Tasaki, Director of Marketing/Communications, NCMA National

Governance documents and presentation locations have been listed below:

I. Front Page: Provides a link to public documents excluding financial and treasurer's reports

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/index.html>

Posted documents include the following:

- * Presidential

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/StateofNCMAAddress.ppt>

Address: State of NCMA (M. Currier)--MS PowerPoint

- * e-Learning

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/eLearningStrategies.ppt>

Strategies (N. Couture)-PowerPoint

- * Public

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/PublicPolicyCommitteeUpdate.ppt>

Policy Update (C. Yukins)-MS PowerPoint

- * Permanent

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/PermanentConferenceCommitteeUpdate.ppt>

Conference Committee Update (S. Roesler)--MS PowerPoint

- * Membership

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/MembershipUpdate.ppt>

Update (F. Ka'upu)-MS PowerPoint

- * Editorial

<http://www.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/EditorialBoardUpdate.ppt>

Board Update (G. Garrett)-MS PowerPoint

II. Governance and Member's Only Areas

Governance Page with updated schedule information:

<http://members.ncmahq.org/govnce/index.html>

Financial and Treasurer's Reports page (accessible from the Governance area and Members Only section):

<http://members.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/index.html>

Posted documents include the following:

- * Treasurer's

<http://members.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/FinancialPlanPresentation12-08-01.ppt>

Financial Report (G. Zura)-PowerPoint

- * Asset

<http://members.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/AssetManagementCommitteeUpdate.ppt>

Management Committee Update (J. McGovern, G. Zura)-MS

PowerPoint

- * Presidential

<http://members.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/StateofNCMAAddress.ppt>

Address: State of NCMA (M. Currier)--MS PowerPoint

Listed below are the documents that were posted pre-conference, retained for your convenience.

- * Asset

<http://members.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/AssetManagementReport&Docs.doc>

Management Report (J. McGovern, G. Zura, & C. Currier)-MS Word

- * Yield

<http://members.ncmahq.org/ncmadmin/download/docs/ECC2001/ProformaBalSheet.xls>

Analysis Related to the Asset Management Plan (J. McGovern)-MS Excel



NOTES FROM NATIONAL

by Sam Morthland, CPCM, Fellow, and Dana Award Winner

-This was a very critical milestone in NCMA's evolution. At the recommendation of the new Asset Management Committee, the Executive Council, by a 20 to 3 margin, voted to sell our National Building in Vienna, VA, and begin leasing less expensive space further away from the 495 Capital Beltway. This action converts investment in *bricks and mortar* to **cash** of about \$2.7 Million. This cash will be allocated as follows: \$1.7M to a restricted reserve to generate investment return, \$500K to an unrestricted reserve to be available for near term strategic opportunities and a cash-draw bank, with the remainder used to pay for three urgently needed projects- new membership and accounting software and a revamped certification (CPCM) program- and to move to the new facility. The decision was supported by the Board of Advisors, and by the Board of Directors. It will happen almost immediately.

- Our National President again presented a long, detailed report of NCMA actions since she took over on 1 July 2001. It is posted on the NCMA home page under Members Only/Governance. You should read it.

-**Membership** is down slightly to 21,001, but retention is at a high of 98+ %.

-**Financial position** is still improving slowly. T-1 should finish with a \$20K profit, and FY 02 (Jul01-Jun02) should have a profit in the \$50-60 range.

-**Contract Management Institute** is very active. It has been working with NAPM on two important studies. A brochure of their work is just becoming available for all, and a CD-ROM containing a wealth of supporting data will be posted on the NCMA web page. One of the most interesting outcomes is that NAPM has changed their name to *NASM- Supply Management* to recognize the expanding role of their- and our- members into business management, not the stovepipes of purchasing or contracts.

-Service Contract Acquisition Reform Act (SARA)

Congress is now debating this bill. It may include a provision to "fence" up to 5% of all service contract funds for Acquisition Training for government people in our field. NCMA will be asked to testify on the bill in either a white paper form presenting the pros and cons, or perhaps in person by our officers. There is a companion issue of whether or not to hire an NCMA staff person to "monitor" congressional actions that affect our interests.

-Publications Contract Management (CM) is improving.

For each issue, page count is up by 15, number of articles by 7, and advertising revenue by 40% to \$300K. Plans are underway to make all back issues available on the web- *we can then unload the stacks we've been piling up in our bookcases*. The new Buyers Guide that was included with the Dec issue of CM has been so well supported that the revenue derived will allow publication of our NCMA scholarly Journal to resume after a several year absence.

-World Congress 2002 in Long Beach Jul 19-24 continues

to firm up. Over 100 proposed papers/tracts have been submitted to date, but more are sought. The National Office instead of the West Coast Region will manage this as other July conferences have been done, and a new Professional Conference Planner has been hired to perform this task.

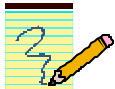
-e-Commerce Neal Couture, National Office, reported on

two very successful programs. A joint program with NAPM had 6000 hits at \$100/person and our first on-line CPCM preparatory course had over 90 students. He believes that there is almost unlimited opportunity for us to train our members and obtain additional revenue to help support our chapters/members instead of continual dues increases.

GALAXY PLEA

If you would be interested in helping edit the *Galaxy* or taking over as Editor, please contact Karen Pennington at the following e-mail address:

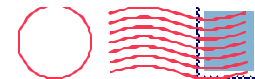
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**REMEMBER
LUNCHEON ON
TUES. 1/22/02**