



Get ready to “Celebrate in ‘08”

Special points of interest:

- The 2008 AEP Applications are due May 31, 2008. Download the application at www.npiconnection.com
- Online registration for 2008 Conference

Exhibitors and Sponsors is now available at www.npiconnection.com

The National Purchasing Institute invites you to join purchasing professionals, vendors and delegates from all over the country to celebrate our 40th Anniversary in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Riviera Hotel & Casino!

- Writing an effective scope of work
- Best value contracting

Subjects presented will reflect directly upon the purchasing industry. Over the years, we have built a great reputation for presenting challenging, quality education, which continues to keep us at the forefront of our profession.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

This year’s program theme is “*Celebrating our 40th Anniversary and Educating our Members.*” Conference speakers will focus on purchasing and managerial topics including but not limited to:

- Managing younger generations
- Motivating employees
- Diversity
- Customer service
- Marketing procurement value
- Green procurement
- Thoroughly modern leadership

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Honorary & Lifetime Membership Nominations

National Purchasing Institute annually issues a call for nominations for both lifetime and honorary memberships. In the case of lifetime membership, the individual has been a regular member for ten years or more, has retired from all regular employment, and has been approved for this type of membership by a majority vote

of members attending NPI’s annual business meeting. The best part is that as a lifetime member there are no dues!

Honorary Membership is intended to recognize an individual who has not qualified for regular membership with NPI but has

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NPI represented on UPPCC Board of Examiners

The National Purchasing Institute has had the distinct honor of having two of its Officers selected to serve on the Universal Public Purchasing Certification Council's Board of Examiners (BOE), each having a three year term commencing January 1, 2008.

Serving as NPI's representative for the Certified Public Purchasing Officer (CPPO) level on the BOE is Pam Kirkland. Pam is a 27-year veteran in public purchasing with experience both at the state and municipal levels, and currently serves as Purchasing Manager for

the City of Richardson, Texas. Pam has been a member of NPI since 1985 and has been instrumental in development and adoption of purchasing-related legislation in the Texas State Legislature. Among her many accomplishments, Pam was NPI's 2007 President, is Past President of the Public Purchasing Association of North Central Texas, Past President of the Texas Purchasing Management Association, and has served on the Board of Directors for the Texas Municipal League. Pam earned her BBA from Texas A & M University, is a Certified Professional Public Buyer and a Certified Public Purchasing Officer.

Serving as NPI's representative for the Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) level on the BOE is Mark Neihart. Mark is the Director of Procurement for the City of Tucson, Arizona, and currently serves as NPI's Second Vice President. Mark has over 20 years of government procurement experience at the City of Tucson and the State of Arizona. Prior to this, he held professional positions at Motorola, Ernst & Young and Bank of America. Mark is a Lifetime Certified Purchasing Manager, a Certified Professional Public Buyer, a Lifetime

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Scholarship opportunity for NPI members

Are you planning to take any college or university courses relating to the purchasing and procurement field? What about ISM, NIGP or NPI courses or programs? These are all great ways to enhance your professional development, and NPI is here to help.

Just submit a Scholarship Application along with the outlined re-

quirements to: Christine Green, NPI Treasurer, c/o City of University Park, 3800 University Blvd., University Park, Texas 75205, e-mail cgreen@uptexas.org for review and consideration by the National Purchasing Institute's Executive Committee.

Applications are available at www.npicconnection.com.

DEADLINE: May 1, 2008

Award Amount: Up to \$500

Period of Award: July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

Award announcement: On or before July 15, 2008

NPI Honorary & Lifetime Membership Nominations

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rendered distinguished service to the purchasing and materials management profession. As with lifetime membership, approval of honorary membership requires a majority vote of regular members attending NPI's annual business meeting, and there are no dues!

There's a good chance we know someone who might qualify for lifetime or honorary membership. Most of us have been fortunate to have good mentors in our profession and nominating those who have had an impact on our professional lives is a good way to honor them.

Lifetime and honorary membership nominations are due by Wednesday, April 2, 2008 and may be sent to Mark Neihart, NPI Second Vice President, at fax 520-791-4735, or email Mark.Neihart@tucsonaz.gov

Contact Mark at 520-837-4106 with any questions.

What is the NCPPC?

Have you noticed the new NCPPC logo on NPI's home page? NCPPC stands for the National Council for Public Procurement and Contracting, was established on August 5, 2006, and joins the voices of seven charter associations and the professional groups and individuals whose focus is public procurement and contracting. The seven charter associations, each having equal representation in the Council, include:



- The California Association of Public Purchasing Officers (CAPPO)
- The Florida Association of Public Purchasing Officers (FAPPO)
- The National Association of Educational Procurement, Inc. (NAEP)
- The Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO)
- The National Contract Management Association (NCMA)
- The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP)

- The National Purchasing Institute (NPI)

The Council augments the work of each member association by developing a collaborative network that promotes the public procurement and contracting professions through:

- Advocacy of public procurement principals
- Education, training and professional certification
- Applied research studies and activities

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NPI 40th Anniversary Conference & Exposition Update

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Who should attend?

All Purchasing and Supply Management Professionals!

How will you benefit?

- Earn CEH's
- Participate in professional development sessions, networking opportunities, case studies and

round table discussions on the most current supply management topics.

The year looks to be an exciting one for educational topics.....please join us and you'll agree!

**Check for the latest
2008 NPIConference
information at:
www.npicconnection.com**



AEP applications are due May 31, 2008.

The application can be downloaded at www.npicconnection.com.

Be sure to review the "Summary of Changes to the 2008 AEP Application", also at www.npicconnection.com.

Welcome New NPI Members!

California

- Susan Holt, CPPO, CPPB, C.P.M., A.P.P., Senior Contract Administrator, Orange County Transportation Authority

Florida

- Maryan Egan, Director of Procurement Services, Florida Gulf Coast University
- Richard Pence, Assistant Director of Procurement Services, Florida Gulf Coast University

Georgia

- Robert J. Canada, CPPB, CPPO, Procurement Officer, Georgia Tech Department of Housing

Kentucky

- Tom Middleton, C.P.M., A.P.P., Director of Purchasing & Procurement, Louisville Regional Airport Authority

Louisiana

- Nathaniel Celestine, Purchasing Agent Assistant, City of New Orleans, Bureau of Purchasing
- Bernice R. Ealy, Buyer III, City of New Orleans, Bureau of Purchasing
- Burma A. Jackson, CPPB, Buyer III, City of New Orleans, Bureau of Purchasing
- Sabrina T. Jones, Purchasing Agent, City of New Orleans, Bureau of Purchasing

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What is the NCPPC? *(continued from page 3)*

- Strategic marketing of the public procurement and contracting profession

The Council's core values include dedication to the *service* of the respective associations, the belief that *ethics* lies at the heart of the profession, the commitment to work together using methods that are *non-bureaucratic* and respect the sover-

eignty and value of each member association, and an ongoing effort to *build consensus* between its participant associations.

The Council is not a closed membership as it encourages and expects to have other non-profit procurement-related associations join that are supportive of NCPPC's mission and values.

NPI's representative to the NCPPC is Diane C. Palmer, CPPB, and Past President of NPI. The next meeting will take place at the NASPO conference in New Orleans in April of 2008.

UPPCC Representatives *(continued from page 2)*

Accredited Purchasing Practitioner, a Certified Public Manager, and holds degrees from the University of Arizona and Arizona State University. Mark has served multiple years as a Director for the National Purchasing Institute, as well as on NPI's Finance, Membership and Nominating Committees.

As you may know, the UPPCC Board of Examiners (BOE) has undergone recent changes specifically focused on providing high quality exams. The UPPCC Governing Board has modified the structure of the BOE, adding new members and investing additional resources in professional staffing and consultant

services - all in an effort to ensure the highest standards and recognition of professional development and certification. Pam and Mark will be excellent additions to the Board and look forward with great enthusiasm to their new roles.

NPI welcomes 28 new members

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Louisiana (continued)

- Stephanie A. Warren-Toney, Buyer, City of New Orleans, Bureau of Purchasing

Michigan

- Laura Lukezich, Procurement Manager, Hannahville Indian Community, Island Resort Casino

New Jersey

- Robert Beauregard, C.P.M., A.P.P., Assistant Director, Department of Purchase and Property, State of New Jersey

New Mexico

- Deborah J. Soto, CPPB, Buyer/Contract Manager, City of Gallup

Texas

- Jessica R. Bucknum, Assistant Buyer, City of College Station
- Tanya Campbell, Communication Specialist, Houston-Galveston Area Council, HGACBuy
- Darlene Doss, Buyer - Public Works Contracting, City of Lubbock
- Norma Dryer, Interim Director, The University of Texas – Pan Am, Edinburg

- Robin Holder, Buyer - Purchasing & Contract Management, City of Lubbock
- Martha J. Sloan, C.P.M., A.P.P., Contracts Administrator, Harris County Purchasing
- Gregory C. Spoon, CMRP, Vice President, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport
- Bob Smeby, C.P.M., Specification Analyst, City of Plano
- Diana L. Thompson, Contract Administrator, Fort Worth Independent School District
- Odie M. Uhl, Purchasing Agent, Fannin County, Bonham
- Wanda A. Wakefield, Senior Buyer, Management & Training Corporation, Conroe
- Ramona Womack, CPPB, Purchasing Director, Comal County, New Braunfels

Utah

- Patricia A. Willover, Buyer, Management & Training Corporation, Centerville

Virginia

- Cynthia L. Moore, VCO, Purchasing Agent, City of Suffolk

Washington

- David R. Leach, Manager, King County, Finance and Business Operations Division, Seattle

AUSTIN, TX. **NEEDED:** *Progressive* Purchasing Professionals with proven track record. *Strategic Sourcing philosophy is key* – transactional philosophy is *not* desired. Positions are: 1) **Strategic Sourcing Manager (MRO)**; and 2) **Strategic Sourcing Manager (Construction)**. **CONTACT:** Submit complete resume and salary history to: dcs@csi-executivesearch.com 512 301 5559 FAX.

Details of these Austin, TX, opportunities are included in NPI's online listing of career opportunities.

Check out this and other current job postings at www.npicconnection.com

What is Listserv?

What is listserv? It's an electronic mailing list of e-mail addresses of people to enable listserv subscribers to communicate with each other to discuss common topics of interest. You send an email to one address and multiple people receive it. When you respond to a post, your response goes back out to everyone. So whether or not you are actively participating in a discussion thread, you will receive all of the emails as the other users send them to the listserv.

Or, you can sign up for the digest version of the listserv. A Digest Listserv will only send to you once per day and contains all of the posts made to the listserv that day.

To join the listserv: only members of the listserv can post messages to it. So in order to participate, you'll need to join the listserv. To do this, all you have to do is send an email to executivedirector@npiconnection.com. Indicate whether you want to "join listserv" or join "digest".

To post a message to the listserv: simply send an email to npiconnect@npiconnection.com. Plain text emails work best and will have the least amount of trouble get-

ting snagged by other user's spam filter(s). You can add attachments to the emails if you would like, but please keep the size down to a reasonable level. Sending very large files can bog down other user's inbox, even if they have a fast Internet connection.

To leave the listserv: you can remove yourself as a listserv recipient at any time you wish. To do this, all you have to do is send an email to executivedirector@npiconnection.com. In the body of the email, write "leave listserv".

IMPORTANT Note for Listserv Users:

If you set up an auto reply message on your email (i.e. if you go on vacation), make sure to set up your auto reply so that it only goes to a sender ONCE. If you do not do this, your auto reply will go to every listserv user every time a new post is made to the listserv. Not only will you inspire jealousy in your fellow listserv users because they have to work while you're on vacation, but you will also annoyingly add to their inbox.

Survey opportunity with O*NET

The National Purchasing Institute (NPI) was contacted recently by a well-known not-for-profit research organization, RTI International, which is working under a grant from the United States Department of Labor/Employment & Training Administration on a project to update the national database of occupational information. The Occupational Information Network (O*NET) lets millions of employers, workers, educators and students across the country see what it takes to do the work of Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products, and this information is provided free of charge online to the general public at: <http://online.onetcenter.org>.

O*NET Data Collection staff would like to have some people with expertise in the occupation of Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail,

and Farm Products to answer survey questions about the work that they do. NPI has put together a list of our valued members who may fit the specific Occupation Expert criteria. Members of the O*NET Data Collection staff will be contacting a small sample of the professionals on this list. If you are one of those randomly selected, you will receive a phone call sometime in the next few months and O*NET Data Collection staff will mention that NPI provided your name to us as a possible Occupation Expert.

The National Purchasing Institute (NPI) supports the O*NET Data Collection effort. If you meet the stated criteria in this phone call, and if you would like an opportunity to represent your profession, nationally and confidentially, then I would like to encourage you to participate. Your

decision about whether or not to participate will have no effect on your standing as a member of NPI.

Your responses will be combined with others to describe the work Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products do. By providing this important information, you will help the O*NET database to accurately reflect the realities of the American workplace, and you will be doing your part to represent the occupation of Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, and Farm Products on behalf of our entire profession.

More information about this data collection effort is available at www.onetcenter.org. To those who end up being contacted, thanks very much for your assistance with this important project.

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National Purchasing Institute



Achievement of Excellence in Procurement®

An Association of Government Purchasing Professionals

We're on the web!

www.npiconnection.com

Taking Advantage of the Total Conference Experience

Do you visit the exhibitors when you attend the annual conference? The Exhibit Exposition is a valuable part of your conference experience! It is your opportunity to meet with suppliers and learn the latest and greatest about state-of-the-art products and services. This is an important element for any successful organization.

Last year, we were fortunate enough to have 12 sponsors and 43 exhibitors at the conference in Galveston. They spent an entire afternoon displaying their products and/or demonstrating their services to the delegates in attendance.

At the upcoming conference in Las Vegas, we are going to hold a Buyer Supplier Roundtable Luncheon prior to the opening of the Products Exposition. This will allow for more one-on-one time with suppliers and allow for discussion of specific topics of interest for the delegates and the suppliers. The exhibitors and sponsors will also be attending other events throughout the conference to better familiarize themselves with our industry and to provide valuable information about their industry.

If you know a supplier that may be interested in exhibiting or sponsoring, please have them contact Michele Brand, Products Exposition Chair, at 972-216-6394 or Ron Williamson, Co-chair, at 713-993-2410.

See you in Las Vegas!

- Michele Brand

NPI's 40th
Annual
Conference &
Products
Exposition
Riviera Hotel

September 21-24, 2008

Watch for more details
to come!

