Quick Peek Planner...

(Am I supposed to be somewhere?)

April 8, 2008
ICPC MEETING:
Vendor Managed Inventory
4200 Surface Road, Buckeye Room
State of Ohio, Office of Procurement Services
David Kaucheck & Tom Massari, Grainger
9:00 - 11:00am

April 15, 2008
LAST DAY TO FILE TAXES W/O EXTENSION

April 24, 2008
BROWN BAG LUNCHEON (free)
Financial Freedom, Part II:
Creating A Spending Plan
4200 Surface Road, Buckeye Room
State of Ohio, Office of Procurement Services
contact Janice Fitzpatrick if interested @ janice.fitzpatrick@das.state.oh.us

April 28-30, 2008
Sourcing In The Public Sector
4200 Surface Road, Willow/Walnut Conf. Room
State of Ohio, Office of Procurement Services
8am - 5pm

SPERANCA SZANA, CPPB, was the only winner in the CALL-OUT QUEST in the February Issue of Early Bird. CONGRATULATIONS Speranca and THANK YOU for your Patronage. Let’s see who’s reading… this is good stuff… and, I want to hear from:
ADAM MAXWELL JEAN ROMINE, CPPB KELLI WHALEN, CPPB

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No need for formal introduction here. You are all veterans to this game of slick wits and clue crunching, and since its inception in April of 2007, four different individuals have stolen the plaudits of Ace Detective for their savvy in solving the Minute Mystery. Your mission is to unravel the mystery based on the limited, somewhat ambiguous clues and figure out what has happened. A small reward, save inclusion in an elite group of others who achieved the standard; if nothing else, Early Bird brings out a spirit of discovery in our world of confusion.

The FEBRUARY 2008 edition featured arguably, the most mysterious Double Mystery that we have ever had. Never before in the history of Early Bird had I been so convinced that I had a stumper only to be dazzled by the 1.1 million correct email responses (okay, maybe a small editorial embellishment), but, indeed, almost every response was correct, leaving only the time of receipt as the only checkered flag we needed.

And, the results of from February’s Double Mystery, are:

The MAN FOUND MURDERED AT A TABLE SURROUNDED BY 53 BICYCLES, became a victim after being found cheating in a card game. Bicycle was the brand of playing cards they were using, a deck of 52 plus 1. LISA KOPPIN of Montgomery County was a blur on this one, beating out our President Mark Hutchison by 1 minute.

The TWO MOTHERS AND THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS WHO WENT INTO A STORE TO BUY NEW HATS, EACH LEFT WEARING HER OWN NEW HAT, YET ONLY THREE HATS WERE SOLD were comprised of a Grandmother, Mother and Daughter. DIANE MOSHER of City of Columbus, Public Service and CONNIE GALLICCHIO, City of Columbus, Public Utilities were tied for the honors on the quickest correct answer.

WHICH BRINGS US TO THE MYSTERY FOR THIS MONTH… (and, I should be tarred and feathered for this one)

A murderer is condemned to death. For his sentence, he has to choose between three rooms. The first one is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third one is full of lions that haven’t eaten in three years. Being an acute observer, he immediately chooses one door… and lives. Which one did he choose and how did he survive?

And for those of you who really like to rattle your noggins (and, most fitting, I might add):

THE CONVENTION CAPER

Five people flew into town to attend a conference. Unfortunately, hotel space for the conference filled up so fast that even though they are from the same office, all five are staying in separate hotels. The good news is that the Hotels are within walking distance of the convention center where the Conference is being held. The odd thing about the Hotels, is that all of them are individually owned rather than part of corporate chains, but, each is still a very well rated and successful business.

Your task is to determine the full name of each person, the name of the hotel each stayed at, and the hotel’s rating.

1. The Outlook Inn has a higher rating than the hotel where Patricia stayed. The three-star hotel is not Peak’s Inn.

2. Michael’s last name is Ontheway, but, he didn’t stay at the Wayside Lodge. Sarah, whose name wasn’t Spinner, stayed at The Outlook Inn.

3. Ms. Windswept and Joseph both stayed at four-star hotels. Mrs. Weatherby stayed at The Meadow Hotel, which wasn’t a five-star hotel.

4. The Wayside Lodge was a five-star hotel. Wendy’s last name wasn’t Weaver.

5. The Fell Hollows Lodge was rated with one star less than the hotel where the person whose last name was Spinner stayed.
Who's Who On The Board?

Treasurer: CAROL CLINGMAN

Little did they know in 1956 that a simple song sung by one of the most popular artists of that time would be remembered for decades to follow for its catchy words and true to life significance. Doris Day’s Que Sera Sera, was not only her signature piece, but, achieved major success both in the US and the UK. The concept that we really don’t know what the future holds, whatever will be, will be… is certainly a notable measure, if for nothing else than to make us more aware and prepared for what lies ahead.

For today’s purchasing professional, finding that source of refuge to quietly escape to from the oftentimes madness that becomes their day, is paramount to keeping the spirit of mental preparation alive. Such is the feeling you get when you first walk into the office of Carol Clingman. Pictures of her children, a cat in a most unusual hat, stacks of documents and regulations, all the tools of the trade and then some… including, her basket of fun things. Toys and novelties, stress balls, kaleidoscopes and spinning tops… things only Dr. Seuss could express better… a little refuge to bridge the day.

From her early purchasing beginnings working with the Jess Howard Electric Company to her current position with State Procurement, Carol has coordinated the procurement activities of everything from light fixtures to million dollar remote terminal units. Commonly referred to as the “drug lady”, because she used to handle the pharmaceutical and vaccines for the State, one could conclude that Carol was the most reputable drug buyer in the State, with purchases in excess of 25 mil a year.

Born in Texas, lived in Wisconsin for a while, Carol has been a Buckeye most of her life, the last 32 years of which have been with her husband Daryl. They have two children, Jennifer, who works at Battelle and Dan, who lives and works in Scottsdale, AZ. Carol calls home, their 5 acre farm in Licking County with a host of animals akin to the ones Noah gathered. Born to shop, forced to work, Carol finds her peaceful easy in the many comforts of home.

Carol finds her association with CO-OPP to be both exciting and meaningful… always an opportunity to connect with a peer from the many entities in this organization and always an educational forum to learn how to do what we do more efficiently… and of course, a little whimsical escape never hurts anything.

Where Will We Be When They Go?

If you are a procurement leader and considering retiring, ponder for a moment the following questions: Is your organization ready for retirements? Do you have a succession plan? Are you mentoring and preparing the next generation of procurement professionals to assume leadership roles?

Finished pondering? Well most organizations are now being hit with the realization that our organization is getting older and nearing retirement. The Baby-Boomer generation has given over 30 years of experience and skills to our profession and are considering calling it a day. When an individual retires he or she does not leave an organization with just a position to fill, they take from the organization years of experience, skills, challenges, knowledge and wisdom.

Are your mid-career and younger workers being trained, developed and challenged to follow those who have put forth many years of dedication and passion to the procurement profession? Are we encouraging certification and continuing education through organizations such as NIGP? For our profession to continue to grow and advance our current leaders must be willing to provide training, tools, skill sets, challenges, and wisdom to the next generation of public procurement professionals so that these individuals have the opportunity to assume leadership roles with confidence and not thrown to wolves.

A 2003 NIGP survey The Graying of the Profession revealed a stunning revelation; 42.50% of the workforce was between the ages of 50-59 and 26.25% will retire within 6-10 years. Furthermore, that same survey reported 45.75% of our workforce was between the ages 30-49 and 32.25% plan to retire between 11-20 years. Both groups are now 5 years older!!!

Still pondering? Why not get proactive? If you are a leader of a procurement group and proud of the profession, you must think seriously about what you are doing to enable, train and prepare future public procurement leaders. Many of you have advanced the profession to what it is today, what do you want the future to be like? It is imperative to our profession that our future leaders are ready. Where will we be when you go?

Joe Lombardi, CPPO, CPPB
Vice President
Central Ohio Organization of Public Purchasers (CO-OPP)

Early Bird is a publication of the Central Ohio Organization of Public Purchasers (CO-OPP), a chapter of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP). This mini-newsletter is written and produced by the Public Relations Committee of CO-OPP: Steve Sammons, Chairman, Jean Stephenson, Jack Hill II, Geri Berry, Teri Wilkinson and Harry Graham, members, on month’s where the Procurement Edge is not published (February, April, June, July, August, October and December).