Season’s Greetings IPPA Members,

The 2012 IPPA Fall Conference was held in Des Moines at the Botanical Center. It was attended by 35 people and it was very successful. Laurie Hoing hosted the meeting and did an amazing job. Thank you Laurie!

Key highlights: During the business meeting Laurie Hoing was awarded the 2012 IPPA Member of the Year and Mary Wells was awarded 2012 IPPA Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations Laurie and Mary on these huge accomplishments!

I am very excited to announce that IPPA’s Facebook is now live. You may access it through the IPPA website. Check it out and “Like us” today!

Additional highlights of the Fall conference are on page two of this issue.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the following members for making 2012 a very successful year for IPPA:

- 2012 Committee Chairs: Edie Schmidt, Barb Sullivan, Luana Stoneking, Rebecca Johnson, Joe Marolf and Meredith Baker.
- Edie Schmidt who served as newsletter editor this year. She did an excellent job. Edie has agreed to continue to serve as newsletter editor for 2013!
- Pam Dickey who served as our webmaster. Pam has agreed to continue on as IPPA webmaster for 2013!
- Everyone who hosted an event and a class over the last year. They were:
  - The IPPA Chapter Connection
  - City of Ames and Iowa DAS for hosting classes. The City of Davenport for hosting the Spring Meeting and Iowa DAS for hosting the Annual Fall meeting
  - Everyone who was willing to share themselves in the “Member Spotlight” section of the newsletter and those who were willing to write an article for the “Class Review” section of the newsletter.
  - Everyone who served on a committee.

It has been a tremendous honor for me to serve as your 2012 President. Karl Wendt will be taking over the position effective January 1, 2013. Thank you again to everyone!

All the best,
Casey
October 18, 2012 was a cold and dreary day in Des Moines, but things were warm and cozy in the Des Moines Botanical Center for the annual IPPA Annual Meeting. Those in attendance enjoyed a day of information, education, training, collaboration, and great conversation.

Highlights of the morning included sessions by incoming chapter president Karl Wendt who presented “Buying the Cloud,” Kathy Harper of the State of Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management “Disaster Recovery,” and the Iowa DNR’s Theresa Stiner’s presentation on “Product Stewardship.”

After a delicious lunch and a stroll through the warm dome of the Botanical Center (and a visit to the gift shop, where everything was 20% off!), the business meeting was held. Highlights of the business meeting were the passing of the amendments to the Bylaws, the presentations of the IPPA Member of the Year and Volunteer of the Year awards, and the election of Directors and Officers for 2013.

The afternoon offerings included “Facilitate Effective Meetings” by Luana Stoneking, a demonstration of the IPPA’s new Facebook page by Rebecca Johnson, and a roundtable discussion of some of the attendees’ current issues and challenges.

The meeting concluded with the swearing in of the 2013 IPPA Board: Members at Large Barb Sullivan, and Kristi Keller; Secretary Diane Rodenkirk; Treasurer Karen Server; Vice President Joe Marolf; and President Karl Wendt. Newly elected Member at Large Meredith Baker was unable to attend the meeting and was sworn in at a later date.

It was a great day to stay in on a gloomy fall day and great to see all of our friends and colleagues! And now we look forward to seeing everyone in Cedar Rapids for the Spring Meeting!

Laurie Hoing is awarded the 2012 Member of the Year Award.

Mary Wells was awarded the 2012 Volunteer of the Year award, but was unable to attend the meeting.

The 2013 IPPA Board
Immediate Past President Casey Basset, President Karl Wendt, Vice President Joe Marolf, Members at Large Barb Sullivan and Kristi Keller, Secretary Diane Rodenkirk, and Treasurer Karen Server
(Member at Large Meredith Baker not pictured)
Above and left: outgoing Board Officers and Directors receive awards of appreciation: outgoing President Casey Bassett, outgoing Secretary Sandy McClure, and outgoing At-Large Director Lori Stock.

Below: outgoing Committee Members receive awards of appreciation: Lois Schmitz and Luana Stoneking (Awards Committee), Barbara Sullivan (Nominating Committee), Joe Marolf (Audit Committee), and Laurie Hoing (Education Committee).
INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT REVIEW

Michelle Boyd
Iowa Department of Administrative Services

NIGP’s Introduction to Public Procurement Class was held in the Hoover Bldg. in Des Moines, Iowa, September 11-13, 2012. Mr. Bill Davison, CPPO, instructed the class and Laurie Hoing and Suzy Trotter were wonderful hostesses for the class.

Attendees included mostly individuals from Iowa with a variety of experience, and an individual from Louisiana, for a total of 12 attendees.

Bill’s expertise in the area of State Procurement and his legal knowledge made his instruction a valuable resource. Bill related the material to real life experiences which made learning the concepts more enjoyable. From the pre-test to the post test, Bill kept the attention of everyone and guided us through the book via a Power Point presentation. His periodic review of materials covered was very helpful as were the case studies and group exercises.

While this class and Bill’s instruction were not designed to go into great detail in any particular area of Public Procurement, it did a perfect job of covering the influences of public procurement, laws and regulations, planning solicitation development, contract administration, policies and procedures, ethics and professionalism and finally professional development. We touched on technology and procurement which also included potential developments in the field.

Thank you Bill for traveling to Des Moines and for your valuable and entertaining instruction and another thank you to Laurie and Suzy for all your hard work in setting this up and providing a comfortable learning atmosphere and never ending snacks and beverages.

“What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness?” - John Steinbeck

LEGAL ASPECTS OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT REVIEW

Heather Mell
City of Cedar Rapids

Iowa Public Procurement Association members and the City of Ames hosted the NIGP course Legal Aspects of Public Procurement on October 31-November 2, 2012. The class attendees included professionals from the State of Iowa, City of Cedar Rapids and University of Iowa with a variety of backgrounds and different levels of procurement experience in many areas. There were a total of 18 attendees.

The group was privileged to be instructed by Nancy Przymus. Nancy has 25 years of government experience with the City of Minneapolis. Currently, Nancy is available to assist businesses gain government contracts via her consultancy: Birchknoll Enterprises LLC.

The objectives of the class were to identify and define public purchasing legal terms, concepts and principals, apply basic legal concepts to practical situations, describe the three categories of law, describe how the laws establish the rights and obligation of all parties, and distinguish between ethical and legal requirements.

The three days were packed full of information that is highly recommended for all procurement professionals. Exercises for those attending started with the pretest then moved quickly to identifying the different types of law, such as common law, statutory law and administrative law. The class was involved with court cases, the model procurement code, UCC, bids, solicitation, competition, mistakes, protests, debarment and suspension, negotiation and ethics.

Thank you Nancy for traveling to Ames and for your valuable and entertaining instruction and another huge thank you to Edie Schmidt for all your hard work hosting this training.
EDUCATION SURVEY AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2013

Edie Schmidt
City of Ames

At the Annual Fall Meeting members were surveyed to determine the education offerings for 2013. Twenty-four surveys were returned and based on the results, the Education Committee has tentatively planned:

- Sourcing in the Public Sector April 2013 in Ames
- Risk Management in Public Contracting April 2013 in Iowa City
- Effective Contract Writing Aug/Sept 2013 in Cedar Rapids
- Introduction to Public Procurement September 2013 in Des Moines

This schedule is tentative and will be brought before the Board for approval at their next meeting. We will keep everyone notified of classes as they are approved and firmly scheduled!

The Education Committee encourages anyone planning to take the CPPB or CPPO examinations in 2013 to take advantage of the Prep Classes offered on-line by NIGP. Information regarding the on-line Prep Class can be found at http://www.nigp.org/eweb/StartPage.aspx?Site=NIGP&webcode=pd-ep-ot

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey – we appreciate your input!

“A lot of people like snow. I find it to be an unnecessary freezing of water.” - Carl Reiner

MANAGING YOUR END USERS REVIEW

Lori Stock, CPPB
City of Bettendorf

On October 17, 2012, the Iowa Public Procurement Association (IPPA) members from the State of Iowa, Department of Administrative Services (DAS) hosted the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing course – Managing Your End Users and Suppliers. IPPA members from the State, Cities of Ames, Bettendorf and Davenport and even someone from the Metropolitan Council of St. Paul, Minnesota attended the class.

The class instructor was Mike Bevis, CPPO, C.P.M., PMP from the City of Naperville, Illinois. Mike is a very familiar face to most of the IPPA members. He has taught many classes for NIGP including my personal favorite, the CPPB Prep Course. Yes, Mike was my instructor preparing me for the CPPB test. He is one of my favorite instructors - thanks again Mike!

All public agencies face the challenge of stretching limited resources to accommodate an ever expanding workload. Often we forget the value of investing our time and resources to reach out to our stakeholders. Public Procurement can benefit greatly from relationship management with our end users and suppliers. The objectives of this class were to see and share ideas related to tools and best practices in internal and external client outreach, understand the importance of managing relationships in procurement, and recognize that internal and external relationships can both be invaluable. We also discussed the benefits of reaching out to our stakeholders and how it can improve procurement’s effectiveness.

Mike reminded us about a couple of things. First, he wanted us to know that the perfect purchasing system does exist - on Star Trek! But on a serious note, he told us about what happened at the City of Naperville when all of the City IT systems went down and had been down since October 3rd. So, the City was without email, Outlook, internet, etc. Mike had to set up his own hotspot to reestablish communication. He stressed the importance of printing out a copy of your contacts at least quarterly for safekeeping!
A friend is someone who you think your life would be different if they didn’t exist. A friend is someone who never leaves you out, you are always included when you are with them. A friend is there for you, no matter what.

As a board member for the past 2 ½ years I have learned a lot. I have grown in so many ways and am very proud of my accomplishments and the person I have become. I am very glad that I took the opportunity to be Vice President, President and Past President for IPPA. I have met so many nice people along the way and have made so many friends. I will cherish these friendships for a very long time. Through this experience I know I have friends who will be there for me whenever I need them. And I hope they realize I will be there for them, too.

Memberships are comprised of so many different people and it is important that we respect everyone’s views and opinions. I have given my all to be very respectful and professional of others and their opinions.

This organization is important to all of us. No where can you be with others that know so much about Purchasing and who are great people to be around. I hope that all members of the IPPA continue to respect the professional organization we have created.

Thank you for supporting me these past few years. I wish the incoming board the best of luck.

June

P.S. Always try to consider stepping out of your box – even if it’s at a bag drop!
More fun at the Fall Meeting!

IOWA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ASSOCIATION

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