Hello,

As a procurement professional you are in constant contact with a network of suppliers, contractors, management, peers, committees, and many other internal and external customers. You communicate with your network in many different ways: texting, email, posting, tweeting, phone, and many others. These are great ways to connect with your IPPA peers and share ideas and solutions. While we as a society have become very dependent upon these electronic forms of communication, there is another more effective way to communicate - face-to-face conversation. Visiting your co-worker and discussing a problem, getting into a conference room and tackling an issue with a supplier, meeting with your boss to improve a process are all great examples of this. Taking the time to meet with the end-users of a product or service you are buying for them provides them with confidence that you are listening to their needs.

One of the many benefits of being a member of the IPPA is access to a network of those who are dealing with similar struggles and challenges that you face every day. This organization is full of members who have a depth and breadth of experiences that you should take advantage of and use as a resource to help solve problems and improve your processes. I encourage you to use any form of communication to reach out to your fellow IPPA members for help. If someone contacts you requesting your input, respond promptly and accordingly, and be proud that they value your input.

We have the opportunity to assemble a couple of times of year at our meetings. Our meetings are great way to meet face-to-face with peers. I encourage you to get signed up to attend our spring meeting. Until then, get up out of your cubicle and collaborate with your colleagues, get in a conference room with your “customers” and get on the phone or send a fellow IPPA member email to discuss a solution to your problem.

Karl Wendt

2013 SPRING MEETING

By Heather Mell

The IPPA will hold a Spring Meeting and Training Conference on May 15, 2013 co-hosted by the City of Cedar Rapids and Cedar Rapids Community Schools. The meeting will be held at the Cedar Rapids Schools Educational Leadership and Support Center, 2500 Edgewood Road NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

In addition to the Business Meeting, the day’s agenda includes the following training topics:

- Insurance
- Project Management
- Contract Administration
- Communication with the Media and Public
- Flood Recovery Procurement

New for the Spring Meeting!! All members are encouraged to bring a friend for free! Friend must not be a member of IPPA and be attending for the first time.

Members should have received an agenda and registration information by email. Information is also posted on the IPPA website. Please register no later than May 6, 2013!

Hope to see everyone in May!

2013 IPPA BOARD

- President, Karl Wendt, CPPB, CPSM, karl.wendt@iowa.gov
- Vice-President, Joe Marolf, jmarolf@cr.k12.ia.us
- Secretary, Diane Rodenkirk, CPPB, d.rodenkirk@cedar-rapids.org
- Treasurer, Karen Server, CPPB, kserver@city.ames.ia.us
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- At-Large Director, Kristy Keller, City of Davenport, kkb@ci.davenport.ia.us
- At-Large Director, Barbara Sullivan, barbara.sullivan@iowa.gov
- Immediate Past President, Casey Bassett, CPPB, C.P.M., cbassett@city.ames.ia.us

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REMINDER!

All nominations for 2013 IPPA Buyer of the Year and IPPA Manager of the Year are due March 15, 2013.

Forms are available on the IPPA website!
RESTORING A NATIONAL TREASURE

By Rebecca Johnson, City of Cedar Rapids

One of the most devastating effects of the 2008 flood in Cedar Rapids was the destruction of the historic Paramount Theatre. The theatre was originally opened as the Capitol Theatre in 1928, then purchased by Paramount Studios in 1929, and was gifted to the City of Cedar Rapids in 1975, at which time it was renovated and returned to its original state. The theatre later underwent a $7.8 million dollar renovation in 2003. In June 2008, the building was inundated by flood waters, with the basement completely submerged and approximately eight feet of water on the main level. The flooding caused over $16 million in damage to the theatre, including the original Wurlitzer organ that was installed when the Theatre opened in 1928, one of only 31 original organs of its kind remaining in the United States.

The City of Cedar Rapids Purchasing Division has had the opportunity to be involved in a number of procurement projects throughout the long process of bringing the Paramount back to life. From initial projects such as temporary HVAC and electrical, to organ restoration, furniture and signage, it has been exciting to play a role in seeing this community treasure return to its original grandeur. Unlike the 2003 renovation, the complete renovation that has occurred since the flood focused on restoring the theatre as closely as possible to its original 1928 appearance.

Project Timeline

- **July 2008** – Building stabilization & hazard mitigation begins
- **March 2011** – Building design complete
- **August 2011** – Construction begins
- **Fall 2012** – Construction complete
- **October 26, 2012** - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
Experts were brought in to duplicate special painting techniques. A citizen came forward with a pillow upholstered in the original fabric removed from the seating during the 1975 renovation which has been duplicated on the new expanded seating. An original carpet sample was found and used to duplicate the intricate design installed when the theatre was built. In addition to restoring the appearance, many improvements were made such as updated acoustics and lighting, a new customized orchestra shell, expanded orchestra pit, expanded stage and wing space, and a refurbished historical marquee with a digital interface.

### Project Costs
- FEMA Reimbursement = approximately $21 million
- I-JOBS Grant = $5 million
- State & Federal Historic Tax Credits = $8.7 million

**ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST = $34.7 MILLION**

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on October 27, 2012, four years after the flood, after $34.7 million in renovations. The first event hosted by the reopened theatre was a sold-out performance by Harry Connick, Jr. In the four months since, there have been 30+ events with more than 35,000 people in attendance. As a community we look forward to many more to come.

When you attend the IPPA Spring Meeting in Cedar Rapids on May 15th you will have an opportunity to tour the Paramount and see the completed renovations for yourself in this landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
Educational Opportunities

Your Education Committee, in conjunction with the IPPA Board, is pleased to announce the following classes for 2013:

**Risk Management in Public Contracting**
April 10th & 11th
Emma Harvat Hall, 410 E. Washington Street, Iowa City
Instructor: Tony Ellis, CPPO
Cost: NIGP Members $510, Non-Members $700

**Sourcing in the Public Sector**
April 29th - May 1st
Ames City Hall, 515 Clark Avenue, Ames
Instructor: David Nash, CPPB, CPPO
Cost: NIGP Members $650, Non-Members $850 - Cost will increase $50 after March 28th!

In addition, we are currently making arrangements for the following courses:

**Effective Contract Writing**
August or September
Cedar Rapids

**Introduction to Public Procurement**
September
Des Moines

**Procurement Under Federal Programs and Grants**
September or October
Location TBD

Information for these courses will be made available as soon as registrations are ready on the NIGP website.

In addition to these classes, we would like to share currently scheduled courses in Minnesota:

**Adding Value to the Procurement Process**
March 15th
City of Bloomington
Instructor: Michael Bevis

**Performance Based Requests for Proposals**
June 10th & 11th
City of Bloomington
Instructor: John R. Miller

Please contact Edie Schmidt at eschmidt@city.ames.ia.us if you have any questions regarding any of these courses or how to register.

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**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**
The IPPA Chapter Connection newsletter is a quarterly publication. Newsletters will be published in March, June, September, and December.

*Re-certification points are given for any newsletter articles that are submitted for publication.*

You may submit articles to Edie Schmidt via email at eschmidt@city.ames.ia.us