Hi IPPA Members,

Last summer I spent some time in San Diego, CA; the first day I was there I experienced an earthquake! This past July, I spent some time in Rapid City, SD, where I experienced the Black Hills on the back of a Harley Davidson motorcycle. I cannot describe the amazing sights that I saw and the smells in the air. In August, I attended the 66th Annual NIGP Forum in National Harbor, MD with Judy Lehman and Karen Server. While there, I experienced my first hurricane! I am thinking that someone is trying to tell me that I should stay in the Midwest. 😊

Some of the highlights for the IPPA at the Awards Luncheon on August 22nd included:

- Karen Server was honored as a newly Certified Professional Public Buyer, having received her CPPB in May of this year.

- The City of Cedar Rapids was recognized as a Certified Agency for maintaining a UPPCC fully certified public procurement staff.

- The City of Cedar Rapids was also recognized as a Sterling Agency for maintaining a Certified Agency standing for three or more consecutive years.

On August 26, 2011, I attended the Chapter President’s Appreciation Luncheon. I met the chapter Presidents from Wisconsin and Minnesota. We talked about planning some joint activities in the near future. I may be looking for volunteers to help with some of the activities.

The Fall IPPA Membership Meeting and Training is right around the corner. This year’s meeting will be held in Bettendorf, Iowa on Tuesday, October 25th. Lori Stock will be the host of this meeting and has planned a fun day of speakers and training. Registration and agenda for this meeting can be found on the IPPA website. [http://sites.google.com/site/ippamembers/](http://sites.google.com/site/ippamembers/)

On Wednesday, October 26th there will be a NIGP one-day course titled “Principles and Techniques of Problem Solving.” Information regarding registration for this event can be found on the NIGP website.

If you have any questions regarding either day in Bettendorf please contact Lori Stock at lstock@bettendorf.org.

I look forward to seeing you all in Bettendorf in October!
Upcoming Courses

October 26, Bettendorf, IA
“Principles and Techniques of Problem Solving”

Education Committee Report, by Diane Rodenkirk, CPPB

Chairperson

We have recently held two NIGP classes that have been very successful! The department of Administrative Services (DAS) hosted Intro to Public Procurement in September, and the City of Cedar Rapids hosted Contract Administration in early October. Also, The City of Bettendorf will be hosting Principles and Techniques of Problem Solving on Wednesday, October 26 (the day following the IPPA Fall meeting). Michael Kolodisner is the Contracting Services Manager for the Metropolitan Water District of southern California and brings a wealth of purchasing knowledge to the course he teaches.

NIGP classes are great opportunities to learn, not only from the instructor, but also from your peers. Sharing your “real world” experiences and hearing how others deal with the same issues is invaluable information that you can bring back and implement in your own departments.

Please note that NIGP has raised the fee for classes. You can save $25 off these rates when you register 60 days in advance. Prices for NIGP members are:
- 3 day classes - $595
- 2 day classes - $385
- 1 day classes - $175

By hosting a class, you can save on hotel, mileage and per diem expenses.

I want to encourage everyone to take advantage of the educational opportunities available through IPPA.

Upcoming Classes

Announcing upcoming class

IOWA
October 26 – Bettendorf “Principles and Techniques of Problem Solving”

To Register go to www.nigp.org

Nomination Committee Report, by Barbara Sullivan, Chairperson

At the Spring (May) 2011 IPPA Meeting a “Volunteer Signup” sheet was passed out to all members asking for volunteers for 2012 Board Positions (Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and At Large Directors), Committees (Audit Committee, Award Committee, Education Committee, Membership Committee, and Nominating Committee), and Other Opportunities (hosting an IPPA meeting, or hosting a NIGP class, etc.).

This new “Volunteer Signup” form worked very well as we had numerous volunteers. Karl Wendt, CPSM, State of Iowa DAS volunteered for the Vice President position for 2012. Karen Server, CPPB, City of Ames volunteered for the Treasurer position for 2012, and Sandy McClure, City of Ankeny volunteered for the Secretary position for 2012. Diane Rodenkirk, CPPB, City of Cedar Rapids volunteered for an At Large Director position for 2012. At the Fall (October) Meeting these names will be presented for nomination and on the ballot for the election.

Welcome New Members

Cindy Sanger
State Contracting Officer
Iowa Department of Public Defense-Military
West Des Moines WW
“Introduction to Public Procurement”, by Suzy Trotter and Andy Saxton, C.P.M.

NIGP’s Introduction to Public Procurement Class was held in the Hoover Bldg. in Des Moines, Iowa on September 13-15, 2011. Mr. Tony Reed, CPPO, MPA instructed the class and Laurie Hoing was a wonderful hostess for the class.

The class attendees included a variety of procurement professions from Kansas, Virginia and Iowa and with a variety of backgrounds and different levels of procurement experience in many areas. There were a total of 12 attendees plus Tony.

Tony’s expertise in the area of Federal and State Procurement and his legal knowledge made his instruction invaluable and allowed him to use great examples of applied use of the material taught. From the pre-test to the post test Tony kept the attention of us all and guided us through the book via a great Power Point presentation. His periodic review of materials covered was very helpful as were the Case Studies and Group Exercises. I particularly enjoyed the exercise the “Centralization vs. Decentralization Debate” that had the room split into two groups and there were individuals actually working in Centralized Procurement and Decentralized Procurement arguing against their current structure.

While this class and Tony’s instruction is 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 and what is likely to come down the pipeline. Tony provided some helpful hints for the exams and emphasized the importance of the books contents and that the “Public Procurement Dictionary of Terms” is a reference that is worth its’ weight in gold.

Thank you Tony for traveling to Des Moines and for your valuable and entertaining instruction and another thank you to Laurie for all your hard work in setting this up and providing the comfortable learning atmosphere and never ending snacks and beverages. Especially the breakfast pizza!

In preparation for Hurricane Irene, while attending the 66th Annual NIGP Forum in National Harbor, Maryland, Judy stocked up on the necessities.
“Common Ground: How to Stop the Partisan War That is Destroying America”

The 66th NIGP Forum held in National Harbor, Maryland began the 2nd day by updating us on the status of Hurricane Irene and what precautions the hotel and the NIGP staff were taking to make sure we were all safe. The hotel's staff's only concern was that the hotel would probably lose power sometime Saturday night.

After this “fun” start to our morning...Bob Beckel of USA Today and Andrea Tantaros of the NY Daily News were introduced onto the stage. Bob could be described as a left wing democrat. Andrea is a right wing republican. Before I forget, Bob had been in a car accident on his way to the hotel...someone ran his car off the road. You could tell that he was in a lot of pain and should have been seen by a doctor. Instead he was up on that stage putting on a very entertaining and informative presentation.

Both Andrea and Bob talked seriously about the current issues being faced in Washington, D.C. yet made it very entertaining. You could tell Bob and Andrea disagreed on a lot of issues. However, they know how important it is for all of us to find common ground. By their responses, you could tell at they held a mutual respect for each other. They stressed over and over again how important it is for us to find common ground in order to resolve some of the issues faced by us all.

Over the next hour and a half Bob and Andrea went over several issues our country will be facing: balancing the budget, foreign policy, defense spending, reforming the tax code, term limits for politicians, etc.

Andrea mentioned the following phrase “United we stand, Divided we fall” and told each of us to think about that. After listening to her and Bob talk about these important issues, it really did make me think about how the decisions made on these would affect not just me but future generations.

Bob challenged each of us to have a conversation with someone who has an opposing view and to really listen to what they have to say. You might learn something. Change starts with us (the voters). It is not going to happen in Washington, D.C. without your help.

The audience found Andrea and Bob to be very entertaining, and yet they made their point about some serious topics.
Member “Spotlight” – Lori Stock, CPPB

Lori Stock, CPPB, City of Bettendorf is hosting our Annual Fall Meeting at the end of October. So let’s get to know her a little with this newsletters Member “Spotlight”.

Q: How many Years in Purchasing?
A: I have seventeen years in procurement. I’ve been with the City of Bettendorf since 2000 in the position of Account Clerk, but the job description says that I will also serve as the public buyer. Accounts payable is my main job along with assisting other departments with the purchasing process.

Q: How did you get into Purchasing?
A: Before coming to Bettendorf, I served as a City Clerk for a small town for several years, so I was familiar with daily operations and requirements that are involved with a municipality. I had a fellow City Clerk get an accounting job with the City of Bettendorf and when the Finance Dept. had an opening, she recommended me. After I was hired, I was told that I would need to get certified in public procurement and 11 years later, I’m still here!

Q: Which procurement are you the most proud of?
A: That would have to be our city wide communication network program. Many hours of work went into that procurement.

Q: Home town?
A: I was born and raised in Davenport, Iowa. I lived and raised my children for 24 years in rural Bennett, Iowa. Currently my husband and I live in rural Blue Grass, Iowa.

Q: What do you like to do outside of work?
A: I love crafts of all kinds. Currently, I enjoy making cards and scrapbooking. I’m an HGTV addict and love to change things up in my home. I volunteer and teach Sunday school at our church. I especially enjoy spending time with my grandkids and going to all of their activities. Every chance I get I will go and visit my sons who both live out of state.

Q: Favorite book, movie, dream vacation?
A: I love anything written by Dan Brown. The American President would have to be my favorite movie. My dream vacation would be on a beach somewhere with blue water and a good book.

Newsletter

I would like to thank everyone who submitted an article for this newsletter. Please remember if you have anything to report or pictures you would like to share please send them to me at wellsma@davenportschools.org.