Message from the President

Dear Members,

As we move into 2006, the Chapter has many accomplishments behind us, and challenges in front of us. Thanks to the great leadership of Past Presidents Kirk Buffington, C.P.M., M.B.A., and Karen Walbridge, CPPB, C.P.M., we were able to walk-away with the 2005 NIGP Large Chapter of the Year Award, which is the most prestigious chapter award in the nation. Secondly, despite the “damper” that Hurricane Wilma put on us, our 8th Annual Reverse Trade Show was still the most successful ever, and stands alone as a benchmark for similar events across the nation! The Chapter made upwards of $86,000 at last count for the Trade Show.

I’d like to thank all of the many tradeshow volunteers who tirelessly gave their time and effort, to make this show a great success! The show had over 400 vendors, and about 45 agencies, we had record attendance! Vice President Joel Mariani, who is Chairperson for the 9th Annual Reverse Trade Show, has promised some terrific enhancements and changes for the next show, which is tentatively scheduled for November 17, 2006.

With the 8th Annual Reverse Trade Show under our belt, we will now be able to concentrate on our professional development activities. In addition to some fantastic NIGP LEAP offerings, we are now hosting all of the sessions in the new State of Florida Purchasing Certification program, which features our own Dr. Bud Roon as the instructor. The classes offered so far have been very enjoyable, and I would like to encourage our members to work towards your Florida Certification.

Speaking of professional development, the UPPCC, which is the organization responsible for conferring the CPPB and CPPO designations has developed a bridge between the C.P.M. designation issued by the ISM, and the CPPB and CPPO designations. (The ISM will soon discontinue awarding new C.P.M. designations, although existing C.P.M.’s will be able to maintain their credentials.) The new bridge will allow candidates to take an abbreviated examination for the CPPB designation, and CPPO candidates will only be required to take the oral examination. For more information on this, go to the following url: http://www.nigp.org/BuyWeekly/BuyWeeklyMar012006.htm#1.
Message from the President - Continued

Also, don’t forget that the Annual Forum will be held in Tampa this year, which provides a unique opportunity for our chapter members to attend. The Forum will be held August 5th – 9th, so register now! Please refer to the NIGP web-site at http://www.nigp.org/events/Forum.htm for more details on Forum.

I would also like to thank the SE Florida Chapter membership for its kindness and generosity for our donation to the local Tampa Forum Committee. Committee Chairperson Louis Moore has asked me to express his personal appreciation to our members for our donation of $7,500, which will be used to defray Forum costs for the local Tampa Bay Chapter.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Chapter’s Professional Buyer of the Year, Yasmin Teja, CPPO, C.P.M. and our Professional Manager of the Year, Karen Walbridge, CPPB, C.P.M. Both applications will now be forwarded on to NIGP for entry in the national competition, and both individuals will be given $750 to be used for Forum registration and expenses.

Keith K. Glatz, CPPO, President
Southeast Florida Chapter of NIGP, Inc.
The 8th Annual Reverse Trade Show
“Imagine the Possibilities”!
Tops All Records!

By Keith K. Glatz, CPPO, President

The February 9th Reverse Trade Show, held at the Broward County Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale was the most successful ever, and broke all records. With over 400 vendor representatives, and 46 agencies, there were nearly 650 total attendees. To date, the final revenue count was $86,000, which is well over $40,000 more than our last show in November, 2004.

Thanks to all of the vendors who participated, and especially to those who purchased sponsorships and donated door prizes. This year, we had more prizes than ever!

A special thanks to all who worked on the various Reverse Trade Show Committees, or who volunteered in some other manner. These volunteers include Eddie Bailey, Gail Banner, Marilyn Cahill, Donna Council, Marvin Davis, AnnDebra Diaz, Gail Dixon, Ronnie Escano, Richard Ewell, Will Glasmeyer, Leeta Hardin, Carol Hollins, Maciej Kadzinski, Alicia Kalish, Leahann Licata, Anne Lodato, Diane LoPresti, Joel Mariani, Roxana Milliani, Ellie O’Connell, Ann Potter, John Raite, Holly Raphaelson, Mark Roberts, Claudette Sanders, Connie Soiri, Freddy Suarez, Roxanne Sookdeo, Yasmin Teja, Peter Thomas, Pamila Thompson, Janet Townsend, and last, but not least, our own “40K Karen”, Karen Walbridge! Thanks again to all of you!

A special thanks to all of our speakers as well. Kirk Buffington, C.P.M., M.B.A., had a full house once again, with his session on “How to Do Business with the Government”. Speaker Ray Burnett from The City of Kansas City, and Fred Marks, retired, Port Authority of New York/New Jersey, served-up some great topics that drew many participants as well. The Co-op meeting was also a great success.

Carol Hollins and her crew made sure that we had fantastic meals, and there was no disappointment with breakfast or lunch! We received many great comments about the food.

For the 9th Annual Reverse Trade Show, Chairperson Joel Mariani promises that it will be even bigger and better. The current tentative date is November 17, 2006. We moved this date back, since FAPPO will be holding its annual tradeshow in the Broward Convention Center in April of 2007, and the Greater Miami Chapter will be holding its annual trade show in March of 2007.

We have already been promised bigger and better facilities for the upcoming show, and Joel has a few interesting surprises that should add real value to the show for everyone!
8th Annual Reverse Trade Show - Photos
8th Annual Reverse Trade Show - Photos
Professional Development - Update

The Professional Development Committee hit the ground running on January 18, 2006 with a CPPB Exam Review Session followed almost immediately by the LEAP Series “Introduction to Public Procurement” Seminar from January 24 -26. Both Exam Review Session and the Introduction Class were presented by Rick Berry, CPPO, NIGP Past President and winner of NIGP’s 2005 Distinguished Service Award.

On February 7 – 9, the Professional Development Committee facilitated another LEAP Series Class – “Legal Aspects”. The Professional Development Committee worked with Keith Glatz, President and Reverse Trade Show Committee Chair, to make it possible for “Legal Aspects” students, to also attend the Chapter’s Reverse Trade Show on February 9th by providing them a classroom at the Broward County Convention Center. Legal Aspects attendees enjoyed a day of learning as well as vendor outreach. While at the Broward Convention Center, they were able to network with other Chapter members who were attending Fred Marks’ Seminar “Great Expectations”, Ray Burnett’s Seminar “How to Evaluate Bids and RFP’s” or Kirk Buffington’s Seminar “How to do Business with Government”.

The Professional Development Committee continued the ambitious seminar schedule on February 17th with the second State of Florida Certification class, “Negotiations: Statutes, Rules, Policies and Best Practices”. This class was presented by Dr. Bud Roon and Russ Rothmann at the Coconut Creek Community Center. On March 7 – 9, Steve Corwin, CPPO, presented the third LEAP Series class “Planning, Scheduling and Requirements Analysis”.

After review of a Chapter Survey received from Southeast Florida NIGP members last year, the Professional Development Committee has scheduled a year full of interesting and professionally useful seminars. Not only are five of six LEAP seminars offered, there are also a number of State of Florida Certification classes.

The next exciting seminar at Broward Community College’s Tigertail Lake Center will be held Wednesday, April 12. This will be a fast-paced and information-packed Power Series seminar covering a wide-range of information public purchasers need to know to become familiar with and successful in construction procurement. This Power Series Seminar entitled “Construction Procurement” will be subsidized for Chapter members at $30.00 per person (Non-Chapter members - $60.00).

So far this year, the Southeast Florida NIGP Chapter has hosted more than 82 persons over five separate seminars. The largest number of students - more than thirty- attended Bud Roon’s State of Florida Negotiations Seminar on February 17 at the Coconut Creek Community Center.
Photos from the Introduction to Public Procurement- LEAP Series Seminar held at Fern Forest Nature Center - Coconut Creek from January 24 - 26, 2006
Course Agenda and Intended Outcome:

Class Hours:  8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Continental Breakfast and Afternoon Snacks provided.

Lunch is on your own.

Designed to be an educational exploration of the many facets comprising government construction procurement, this course is an intensive and fast-paced survey of the many methods and elements of construction procurement from Construction Manager at Risk to Design/Build and everything in between (i.e. Bonds, Pre-Bid Conferences, Bidding Preferences, Qualified List Procedures and Protests). Florida Statutes regarding construction procurement will be reviewed as well as Federal requirements. This one-day seminar is designed to provide a foundation for professional success in construction procurement. This seminar will acquaint you with the policies and regulations which govern public construction to give you a greater knowledge of this important subject.

Seminar Location: Tigertail Lake Center of Broward Community College
580 Gulfstream Way, Dania Beach, FL 33304

Hotel (Make your own reservations)
La Quinta Inn (Ft. Lauderdale Airport) 2620 N. 26th Avenue
Hollywood, FL 33020
Telephone: 1-800-531-5900 or (954)922-2295
Room Rate:  In Season (Nov. – April)  King Bed - $108.00/Night
               Full Bed - $98.10/Night
           Off Season (May – Oct.)  King Bed - $71.00/ Night
                                Full Bed - $62.00/ Night
(Must show Government I.D. to receive government rates above)

Site Coordinator
Ronnie Escano, CPPO, C.P.M., CPCM, FCPM, FCPA
Broward County Purchasing Division
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Directions to Hotel from Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport

Start out going South on Terminal Drive out of Airport. Merge onto N. Federal Highway/ US-1 South toward Hollywood. Take US-1 South for 2.21 miles.

Turn right onto W. Dixie Highway and drive west for .70 miles. Turn right onto Sheridan Street and take Sheridan Street for .58 miles. Turn right onto Oakwood Boulevard and take this just a short distance (.15 miles) to North 26th Avenue. The La Quinta is at 2620 N. 26th Avenue.
Directions to Seminar site from Hotel:

From the Hotel go back to I-95

Take I-95 North for two miles to Griffin Road (Exit 23). Turn west onto Griffin Road and proceed west until the first traffic light (Corner of Griffin Road and Ravenswood Road – also known as Angler’s Avenue). Turn left going South at the traffic light. Proceed south for less than ¼ mile on Ravenswood Road.

Turn left again (going East) onto Gulfstream Way. The driveway into the Tigertail Lake Center is very close and is just a right turn off Gulfstream Way. (It is before the curve as Gulfstream Way curves around north and then east again. If you get to the Train Station and railroad tracks, you have gone too far.)

Directions to Seminar Site:

Take I-95 to the Griffin Road Exit (Exit 23) near the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport. The Tigertail Lake Center is southwest from the Griffin Road/I-95 Exit. Take Griffin Road west from Exit 23 to the traffic light at the corner of Griffin Road and Ravenswood Road - - also known as Angler’s Avenue (just ¼ mile). Turn left proceeding south on Ravenswood Road until you reach another traffic light (this is again just ¼ mile) and turn left onto Gulfstream Way. The driveway to the Tigertail Lake Center is just a right turn off Gulfstream Way before you round the first curve. The Tigertail building is set back from the parking lot and the lake is behind the building.
REGIONAL COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE IN SOUTH FLORIDA

All Aboard! Tri-Rail, South Florida’s commuter rail service, has been in operation since 1989. Currently, over 2.8 million people annually rely on this service at some point along the 72 mile route from Mangonia Park in Palm Beach County through Broward County to Miami Airport. 18 stations at strategic locations along the route make accessing service easy and practical.

A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1981 the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) commissioned a study of future transportation needs for the Tri-county South Florida Region. As part of the recommendations of that study, in 1986 the Tri-County Commuter Rail Organization was formed to begin the task of building a new commuter rail system along the existing CSXT Rail Corridor along I-95. Known as Tri-Rail, service began January 9, 1989 and was the first new North American commuter rail service start-up in more than 20 years.

On July 1, 2003, legislation passed by the Florida Senate and House of Representatives and signed by the Governor, transformed the Tri-County Commuter Rail Authority (Tri-Rail) into the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA.)

The new Authority was created with a vision to provide greater mobility in South Florida, thereby improving the economic viability and quality of life of the community, region and state. The Authority's mission is to coordinate, develop and implement a viable regional transportation system in South Florida that endeavors to meet the desires and needs for the movement of people, goods and services. The SFRTA Procurement Department plays a critical role in helping to achieve that mission.
PROCUREMENT’S ROLE

The SFRTA Procurement Department is one of eight SFRTA departments that report directly to the Executive Director. It is made up of eight full time Procurement Professionals. This includes the Director, Procurement Manager, two Contract Specialists, and one each in the capacities of Senior Procurement Specialist, Procurement and Facilities Specialist, Contract Compliance Specialist and an Administrative Assistant.

The Procurement Department is responsible for ensuring value for SFRTA Departments by procuring highest quality goods and services at the lowest competitive price from competent vendors meeting specifications. Procurements range from contracted rail operation services and station and double tracking construction, to micro-purchases of SFRTA promotional items and other low dollar supplies and services. Utilizing a variety of procurement methods, the Department ensures open and competitive procurements that are in compliance with Federal, State and Authority regulations. Over the years, SFRTA’s Procurement Department has been regarded as a critical partner in SFRTA’s overall success.
The City of Coconut Creek, incorporated in 1967, is located in the northwest quadrant of Broward County and is served by a two-person Purchasing Department consisting of Linda Jeethan, CPPB, and Christine Calhoun, CPPB. Linda and Christine are expecting to process in Fiscal 2006 purchase orders for $60,253,300.00 in goods and services and another $3,807,720.00 in capital improvements.

Linda Jeethan has been with the City of Coconut Creek for 10 years beginning in 1996. During that time, Linda not only served the city but has also been active in the Southeast Florida Public Purchasing Co-op. Linda has, in addition, served on the Professional Development Committee for the Southeast Florida NIGP Chapter and was instrumental in bringing the State of Florida Certification Classes to Southeast Florida. The State of Florida Certification classes are scheduled for either the Coconut Creek Community Center or the Coconut Creek Recreational Center. The City of Coconut Creek has participated in each of the eight Reverse Trade Shows of the Southeast Florida NIGP Chapter and, as such, has contributed to their success. Christine Calhoun joined the City of Coconut Creek in 2005 and is also a member of the Co-op.

Linda and Christine work as a team to procure the goods, services and capital improvements which are required to keep Coconut Creek moving forward. The City of Coconut Creek with 50,000 residents and 1400 businesses is known as the Butterfly Capital of the World and is home to the world’s largest butterfly aviary, Butterfly World, where over 80 species and 5,000 individual butterflies can be observed. Coconut Creek has the distinction of being the first in the State of Florida and eleventh in the country to be certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat.

Keenly concerned about the environment, the city possesses one of the largest fleets of city-owned alternative-fuel vehicles in Florida and has been designated Tree City USA since 1989.
Purchasing Agency Feature
The City of Coconut Creek
Continued

On the drawing board for the City of Coconut Creek is a near-future development of land in central Coconut Creek for a pedestrian-and-nature-friendly downtown with both residences and shops. The Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association has recognized Coconut Creek’s “Main Street Design Standards” project with an Award of Excellence in planning. Coconut Creek also received national honors with a grant from the Kodak American Greenways Awards Program for the creation of interpretive signs for City greenways and parks.

Linda and Christine welcome you to visit and enjoy Coconut Creek’s many attractions: Observing species of butterfly at Butterfly World, Horseback riding along the Nature Trails at Tradewinds Park (across from Butterfly World), or walking the recycled wood Nature Trails at the Fern Forest Nature Center.
The City of Margate is located in northern Broward County and encompasses 9.2 square miles. Incorporated in 1955 as a town and in 1961 as a city, Margate recently celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Named by its prime developer, Jack Marqusee, the City of Margate is now a full service city providing its 55,152 citizens with everything from Police Services (including K-9), an A.L.S (Advanced Life Support) Fire Department, Water and Wastewater utilities and the M.I.T. (Margate Inner-City Transit System) to name a few. Some of the city’s major employers include Northwest Medical Center, JM Lexus, PRC, Publix, and the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center.

In addition, the City is an entitlement city and has a CDBG and SHIP program. Margate also provides support services for the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center, Alzheimer Family Center, and the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency. The City of Margate has an annual budget of $76,455,289 in Fiscal Year 2006. The Purchasing Division handles the procurement of goods, services and construction for all of the above activities.

The professional philosophies of this dedicated staff of four (4) lead to their participation in the Southeast Florida Governmental Cooperative Purchasing Group. Both Spencer Shambray and Pat Greenstein have served as Chair of the organization and Connie Guzzi has served as Chair of GPASE, which merged with local chapter of NIGP. They continue to serve Purchasing through their local NIGP Chapter by handling the Membership Chair Committee, Reverse Trade Show Planning Committee, and by volunteering their facilities for the benefit of the Co-Op.
Additional activities happening in the City of Margate include the recently-completed Calypso Cove Aquatic Facility. This water park boasts a six-lane lap pool, a plunge pool with slides, a beach-entry activity pool, three half-court basketball courts and an expanded fishing dock. The Margate Town Center Project is now underway and will include improvements to the roadway on Margate Boulevard, and new landscaping to promote a pedestrian-friendly area as well as a new roundabout with a clock tower centerpiece.

The City of Margate is now and plans to continue being an active, productive member of the Southeast Florida Chapter of NIGP. The participation of the City of Margate’s Purchasing staff in professional organizations like NIGP is due in no small part to the support of the Margate City Commission and City Administration.
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Photography courtesy of AnnDebra Diaz and Joe Gagliardi