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UPCOMING:

Board of Directors  
Meeting  
October 27, 2021  
1:00pm – 4:00pm

RMGPA 2021 Award  
Nominations  
Due before October 29,  
2021

Winter Newsletter  
Articles  
Due on or before  
November 30, 2021

2021 Winter Conference  
December 2, 2021 and  
December 3, 2021

Submit articles, pictures, recipes, etc. to:  
newsletter@rmgpa.rog
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fall is here and as we see the colors of the leaves changing along with cooler temperatures, it reminds us of the changes we have made for ourselves, RMGPA, and our agencies. Along with changing our processes, including many of us accepting bids electronically, we continue to learn how to navigate various online platforms for our meetings, and be more flexible with our many work environments. Our adaptability deserves recognition and celebration! At our upcoming winter conference, we will be recognizing our members and their efforts. I would like to kick off the celebration by announcing that RMGPA has been awarded a NIGP scholarship. With this scholarship, we will continue to provide members with meaningful and relevant educational opportunities for everyone. As we prepare for our upcoming conference, we encourage members to celebrate professional accomplishments and RMGPA’s successes as well.
Tell us about your background. After high school graduation I began working at the Pueblo Chieftain newspaper in the billing department. While working I attended college at night and weekends to obtain an associate degree in accounting and a bachelor’s degree in business management. During this time, a fellow classmate approached me about a job opening working with her at the Board of Water Works – the city’s water utility. I figured I had nothing to lose, applied, interviewed, and was offered the job. Twenty-two years later I am working as a Procurement Specialist at the Board of Water Works of Pueblo, CO (Pueblo Water).

Did you work in other professions prior to procurement and if so, where and for how long? I worked at the Pueblo Chieftain Newspaper for seven years in the billing office. When I was hired at Pueblo Water, I started in the customer service department and after five years I was promoted to work in the Human Resources Department. I worked in HR for 10 years as an HR Assistant and HR Specialist. In 2015 I was promoted to Purchasing Agent and continue to work as the sole person in procurement.

What organization do you currently work for and how long have you been there? I began working for Pueblo Water in 1999 and will celebrate 22 years in November.

How did you get into the procurement field? There was an internal job opening/promotional opportunity for a Purchasing Agent. I was familiar with some of the duties of the Purchasing Agent and felt this would be a good fit for my skill set.

What is the most interesting purchase/project you have been involved in and what was your role? One of the most interesting purchases to date has been acquiring two hydro-electric turbines for a new hydro-electric plant that will be built at our water treatment plant. Hydro-electric turbines are not your everyday commodity. LOL. As the Procurement Specialist, I worked closely with our engineering team, and we successfully awarded the turbines in 2020.
When did you join RMGPA and what have you enjoyed most about being a member of our organization? I joined RMGPA in 2015 when I was promoted to the Purchasing Agent at Pueblo Water. At that time, I was new to the procurement world and felt intimidated and overwhelmed. That feeling didn’t last long! At the first RMGPA Summer Conference I attended I met some amazing people who guided and helped me navigate this new career path. I feel the greatest attribute of being an RMGPA member is the networking. From my experience, RMGPA members share a special bond. We can ask questions, give advice and share ideas because we want to help one another.

Are there any professional and/or personal accomplishments you’re proud of? I am proud to have made contributions in my HR role and Procurement Specialist position by reducing costs, improving efficiencies, and developing and implementing new processes. Earning employee of the year in 2013 was testament of my hard work and I am appreciative of the honor.

Tell us about your interests/hobbies outside of work. Outside of work, I enjoy being active, exercising, baking, home improvement projects, traveling and eating.
RMGPA’s Newest NIGP-CPP Certified Members

**Vera Braeckman-Kennedy**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
Jefferson County Public Schools

**Connie Fox Lataille**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
Aims Community College

**Heather MacMillan**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
Larimer County

**Trudi Peepgrass**, NIGP-CPP
Arapahoe County

**Cindy Stahmer**, NIGP-CPP, CPPO
Jefferson County

**Leslie Brown**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
Larimer County

**Brenda Hannu**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
City and County of Denver

**Whitney Mugford-Smith**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
City of Wheat Ridge

**Deborah Rivera**, NIGP-CPP
City of Pueblo

**Stacy Tino**, NIGP-CPP, CPPB
Auraria Higher Education Center

**Congratulations**
NIGP has developed a ‘standard’ in which chapters can strive to follow and advance the opportunities offered to their members. Participating chapters receive a score which records their progress in achieving excellence. The four tiers are:

- Platinum Chapter
- Gold Chapter
- Silver Chapter
- Bronze Chapter

During the virtual NIGP Forum 2021, NIGP announced that RMGPA has received the Gold Performance Standard Seal. Congratulations!
2021 WINTER CONFERENCE - VENDOR NETWORKING TRADE SHOW
40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Dec 2 - 3, 2021
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Westin at Westminster
10600 Westminster Blvd
Westminster, Colorado 80020

CELEBRATE! EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT
we got your back!

CONFERENCE RATES:

Member Early Registration: $149 Through Nov. 8th | Late Registration: $169 Effective Nov. 9th

Virtual Registration: $79 Through Dec. 1st Limited Program Provided

Lifetime Member: FREE

Non-Member Early Registration: $169 Through Nov. 8th | Late Registration: $179 Effective Nov. 9th

MEMBER APPRECIATION DINNER RATES:

Registered Conference Attendee: Included in Registration Fee

Appreciation Dinner Guest: $35 per person

WESTIN HOTEL ROOM RATE:

$129.00 Single/Double Standard Room

Reservation deadline Nov. 17th

Register Here

Everyone who registers will receive a 40th anniversary celebration RMGPA t-shirt!
STATE PRICE AGREEMENT WEEK

During the week of October 25th-29th, we will be holding free 90-minute webinars each day. Each one will focus on different price agreement categories and will feature price agreement vendors. There will also be plenty of time for Q&As so if you’ve been curious about price agreements or want to speak directly with a vendor, this is your chance. Oh, and we’ll also be raffling off a swag bag of Colorado-themed goodies each day!

Who are these webinars for? They are for you! If you work in procurement for the state, an institution of higher education, a certified nonprofit, or a local government and want to learn more about price agreements, especially about a specific category, these webinars are a great chance to learn and ask questions. If you are program staff, this is a great way to learn more about the contracts and vendors available to you through price agreements.

How do I register? You can register here for one day or all five. It’s free no matter how many sessions you attend, and since they’re only 90 minutes long (and online!) we hope to see you at more than one. Once you register, you’ll receive a confirmation email from Zoom with all of the login information.

Where can I learn more? Visit the event website for a full list of categories and vendors to be highlighted each day.

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<tr>
<th>DATE/TIME</th>
<th>CATEGORIES</th>
<th>VENDORS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 26</td>
<td>Advertising, Temporary Personnel Services</td>
<td>Grainger, and Western Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 27</td>
<td>Translation Services, Equipment Rental, Fleet Vehicles</td>
<td>Corporate Translation Services dba Language Link, Voiance, and MasterWord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 28</td>
<td>Copiers &amp; Managed Print Services, Small Package Delivery Services</td>
<td>Enterprise Car Rental, Dooley Enterprises, and Salt Lake Wholesale Sports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 29</td>
<td>Training, Assessment &amp; Development Programs, Procurement Acquisition Support Services, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone) Services</td>
<td>Colorado Center for Organizational Excellence, Public Knowledge, and Gartner</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
UPCOMING FROM NIGP

- **OCT 14**: Webinar - A Case for Change: Aligning Strategy with Action for Procurement Transformation
- **OCT 26**: Webinar - NIGP Certified Procurement Professional: A Proven Pathway That Invests in Your Long-Term Career Growth
- **NOV 3**: Webinar - Strategies for Delivering Successful Procurements and Projects
- **NOV 17**: Webinar - The Game Changer
- **DEC 8**: Webinar - Stakeholder Relationships and Setting Expectations
- **OCT 19**: Webinar - Asking the Tough Questions with Cooperative Purchasing
- **OCT 28**: Webinar - 2021 State of Public Sourcing: Back to Business, Fast and Focused
- **NOV 10**: Webinar - Strategies On How to Do Outreach as a Procurement Professional
- **NOV 30**: Webinar - NIGP Certified Procurement Professional: A Proven Pathway That Invests in Your Long-Term Career Growth
- **JAN 11**: Webinar - Reverse Auctions: A Powerful Negotiation Tool for Your Toolbox

https://www.nigp.org/learning/all-courses/webinars
Preparing for NIGP-CPP CERTIFICATION?

Purchase your prep guides today!

This NIGP-CPP Module A and Module B Certification Preparation Guides are designed to help prepare you for the NIGP-CPP examination. Both guides are based on the focus areas of the Public Procurement Competency Framework (PPCF).

NIGP-CPP Prep - Module A

For the NIGP-CPP Comprehensive Exam

The NIGP-CPP Module A Prep Guide provides the learner with a thorough review of foundational topics such as Policy & Legislation, Planning & Analysis, and Sourcing & Contracting.

NIGP-CPP Prep - Module B

For the

- NIGP-CPP Comprehensive Exam
- NIGP-CPP Module B Exam Only
  (current CPPO and CPPB certificants)


PURCHASE TODAY

The purpose of these guides is to provide certification candidates with resources to help confirm their knowledge, skills and abilities across the competencies in the PPCF. These guides can be as a standalone resource or a compliment to the NIGP-CPP Prep Course, which is offered virtual and in-person.
RFP Learning Lab Series

Based on the recently revised Global Best Practice - Request for Proposals.

Join presenters Stephanie Dion, Manitoba Hydro, Victor Leamer, Spokane County, WA and Michael Thornton, City of Leesburg, FL for an interactive learning adventure.

_Hurry and register, last week’s Learning Labs were sold out. Seating is limited._

YOUR RFP IS A TREASURE MAP
Discover what information is essential to correctly portray intent in your RFP. Get guidance on the critical information required for suppliers to have a clear understanding of your needs so you can provide the best proposal possible.

**NOVEMBER 2 / 12:30PM – 2:30PM (ET)**

SCOPE OF WORK WRITING
Get ready to write specifications for actual procurements. Sharpen your specification writing skills and receive helpful tips and advice during this interactive session.

**NOVEMBER 2 / 3PM – 5PM (ET)**

$79/Lab MEMBERS
$179/Lab NON-MEMBERS
CONTACT HOURS: 2.0 | CEUs: .2
Betty Crocker Gluten Free Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Cookies  
Submitted by: Chelsey Axtell

Years ago, my co-worker discovered that she has a severe allergy to gluten. After watching her attend several work potlucks where she was limited to eating only from the fruit trays, I decided to surf the internet in search of gluten free desserts (her favorite!) I found this recipe on the Betty Crocker website and it became an instant hit. The first time I made these, I tested them on my two teenage sons and had to make a run to the store for more ingredients as they ate them all—they had no idea they were gluten free. I have since changed the recipe up a bit by adding walnuts or pecans in place of the raisins and sometimes I drizzle the cooled cookies with cream cheese frosting. SO good!! Enjoy!


¾ cup canned pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)  
¼ cup butter, softened (not melted)  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 egg  
19 oz Betty Crocker gluten free chocolate chip cookie mix  
½ cup raisins, if desired  
¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon  
Powdered sugar, if desired

2. In large bowl, stir pumpkin, butter, vanilla and egg until blended. Stir in cookie mix, raisins and cinnamon until soft dough forms. Drop dough by rounded teaspoonfuls 2 inches apart on cookie sheets.
3. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until almost no indentation remains when lightly touched in center and edges are golden brown. Immediately remove from cookie sheet to cooking rack. Cool completely, about 15 minutes. Sprinkle with powdered sugar or drizzle with cream cheese frosting.
## 2021 RMGPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>OFFICER NAME</th>
<th>E-MAIL</th>
<th>PHONE</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Diana Cantu, CPPB</td>
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## 2021 STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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