



# **The Fine Print**

The Newsletter of the Maryland Public Purchasing Association, Inc.

January / February 2004

## **President's Message –**

Karen R. Luther, CPPO

I can't believe my time as President is coming to a close. Since I last wrote my message, the organization hosted the very successful NIGP Regional Conference in Annapolis. Without impartiality or a doubt, it was the best regional conference I have ever attended. The speakers that volunteered their time to present workshops were praised by all that attended. To quote one attendee's comment that I overheard, "I think they were even better than speakers at the Forum." That's saying something! I think that NIGP should be advised of their names and presentation content for potential Forum workshops.

After the Conference and just before Thanksgiving, I vacationed in Biloxi, Mississippi and visited with a member of the U.S. Air Force stationed at the Air Force Base located there. During the stay, we made two day-trips to New Orleans, Louisiana. It is only ninety minutes away by car and not a bad drive at that. You will recall that Biloxi is the location for the 2004 NIGP Forum. I hope all members are able to budget for this event. You will be pleasantly surprised at the accommodations of the Beau Rivage, the food, and the hospitality of the people in this region. However, the reality of the war in Iraq was present in the airports during my trip—I watched a mother follow her son, who was enlisted in the U.S. Army and leaving his wife and baby behind, to catch a last glimpse and take a picture of him after he went through security to board the plane. Please continue to keep those in the armed services in your prayers!

This week the joint board meeting of the incumbent and incoming board members and committee chairs was held at The Olive Garden in Columbia, Maryland. Being able to attend this annual year-end administration meeting near Christmas time is just another good reason for members to consider serving on the Executive Board or as a committee chair. Have I mentioned lately how much I love this organization! However, how you view the significance of your membership in MPPA is what you make of it. A member definitely gets more out of it than they can ever put into it.

I'd like to take credit for MPPA's accomplishments this past year, but I can't. The leader doesn't take the hill alone; it's the troops on the front line that wins the battles. I want to thank my fellow officers, the directors, the committee chairs and their assistants for their support this past

year. I encourage you to do the same for the newly elected Officers and Directors to be installed in January as your 2004 Maryland Public Purchasing Association, Inc. Executive Board.

The Installation of Officers/Directors event will be held on January 24, 2004. I encourage everyone to take time out from their post-Christmas schedules to attend and support your 2004 Executive Board. Incoming President George Dietsch has selected a wonderful venue and entertainment that will be provided. One thing I've learned about George over the years that I have known him, he definitely knows the places to eat in Baltimore and the surrounding vicinity. I've taken his advice many times and have been quite pleased.

I also would like to thank a special person who is not a member of MPPA, but has assisted me tremendously as the *unofficial* secretary to the President. The membership knows her by her e-mail name: jridenour@washco-md.net. My secretary Jan Ridenour finalized agendas and correspondence, performed updates to the membership roster as submitted to me from the Treasurer, e-mailed notices to the membership, made photocopies, sent out mailings as requested, found my head when it was lost, and I could go on and on. Jan, I know you read this publication when it comes in the mail and want you to know how much you are appreciated! Jan could retire from County service but I keep the pressure on to stay with me until we can both go at the same time. Thank you, Jan!

In closing, a note to the incoming administration: "Leadership is the only ship that doesn't pull into a safe port in a storm."

## **RECOGNITION REPORT**

John R. Wall, Jr., CPPO, C.P.M.

### ***New Certifications***

With this time of holidays and good cheer, we have more reasons to celebrate. There are at least eight more certifications as we go to print. Joining our latest Certified Public Purchasing Officers, we have more Certified Professional Public Buyers. Congratulations, and "welcome to the club" to:

**Janice Montague, CPPO, CPPB**, Procurement Analyst, Maryland Department of Budget & Management

**Elizabeth M. Alexander, CPPB**, Baltimore City Community College

**Susan Bacon, CPPB**, Office of the Comptroller, State of Maryland

**Mary Ellen Davis-Martin, CPPB**, Procurement Specialist II, Montgomery County

**Maureen Flickinger, CPPB**, Buyer, Carroll County

**Samuel C. Flood, CPPB**, Procurement Specialist I, Montgomery County

**Mathew Purkins, CPPB**, Buyer, Carroll County

**Vern L. Shird, CPPB**, Office of the Comptroller, State of Maryland

Also passing the CPPB exam, and soon expecting to be accorded CPPB status is **William E. Beaupain**, Procurement Specialist I, Montgomery County.

NIGP Award:

Special congratulations to **Baltimore County** for receiving NIGP's Outstanding Agency Accreditation Achievement Award on November 26, 2003 for having demonstrated excellence in public procurement through the accomplishment of rigorous standards and best practices. Baltimore County is the first agency in Maryland to receive such accreditation.

Retirement and relocation:

**Richard Hanzevack, CPPO**, announced his retirement from the Baltimore County Public Schools and is relocating to The Land of Chads, aka Florida. Rich had admirably served MPPA as Chair and host for several Regional NIGP Conferences and we will miss him. Note to Rich: We look forward to your return to visit us in the Land of Pleasant Living. After January 15<sup>th</sup>, Rich's new address in Florida will be 1658 Mansville Terrace, North Fort Myers, FL 33903.

Convalescing:

As we go to print, we learn that William Schull, CPPB, C.P.M., is recovering from a mild heart attack and is expected to be up and about in February. Best wishes for a lasting recovery, Bill, from your friends in MPPA.

Mark your calendar:

Let's all turn out for the Installation of Officers and Directors and Awards ceremonies on **Saturday, January 24, 2004**, starting at **2 PM** at **Eichenkranz Restaurant** in Baltimore. We would like this to be a sort of "Homecoming" with many of our members of the past joining us. So help to spread the word! Call or e-mail them and encourage them to join us, especially those who have retired and may not be receiving "The Fine Print" announcement. It will be nice to see them as we celebrate the installation and awards event. Here's looking forward to seeing all of you, welcoming the new Board of Directors, and congratulating the next Distinguished Service Award and Stanley D. Zemansky Award recipients.

New Job:

Congratulations and best wishes to incoming President, George F. Dietsch, CPPO, upon accepting the position of Assistant Chief of Purchasing for Howard County Government. George began his new job on December 15, 2003. George states that he took the new position so as not to be late for MPPA Executive Board meetings that are held in the Howard County Purchasing Department conference room.

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

Rick Curry, CPPB – Nominating Committee Chairman

Elections for 2004 Officers and Directors were held at the General Membership Meeting at Squire's Restaurant in Baltimore on Thursday, November 13, 2003. The following members were elected to the positions as stated:

**President: George F. Dietsch, CPPB** – Assistant Chief of Purchasing, Howard County Government

**Vice-President: Stephen J. Ports, CPPB** – Staff Buyer with Baltimore County Purchasing

**Secretary: Donita Hood, CPPB** – Department of Homeland Security/USSS

**Treasurer: Mark Pemberton, CPPB** – Chief Procurement Advisor, MDOT Office of Engineering & Procurement

**Director: Teresa V. Lemon, Buyer II** – Howard County Purchasing; and **Mary Jo McCabe, CPPB** – Purchasing Agent III, Harford County Purchasing.

Incumbent Directors for 2004 are: **Deborah L. Meehan, CPPB**, Baltimore, County; **Gary R. Robson, C.P.M.**, Port of Baltimore; and **Cynthia L. Sennett**

### **NOTES FROM THE TREASURER:**

Stephen J. Ports, CPPB

#### MPPA Membership Dues for 2004

Most members have paid their dues for 2004. MPPA will mail out final notices in February.

Anyone not paid by the April Executive Board meeting will probably be dropped from membership. Most invoices were sent in the Agency name. If you need a copy of your invoice, call your new Treasurer, Mark Pemberton of the Maryland Department of Transportation at 410-865-1121.

#### E-Mail Notifications

For the past year, all notices regarding meetings, invoices, dues, seminars, etc. have been e-mailed to members instead of snail mail. If you have not been receiving regular e-mail notices from MPPA, please let us know. You may provide your e-mail address to the Treasurer, Mark Pemberton at [mpemberton@mdot.state.md.us](mailto:mpemberton@mdot.state.md.us) and he will see that it is forwarded to the necessary MPPA Program Directors.

#### Goodbye, Hello, & Help

I've enjoyed being your Treasurer the last two years and I am looking forward to my new role as MPPA Vice President. We have made strides toward greater professionalism, both for MPPA and for the public purchasing profession as a whole, and I expect this trend to continue under

the leadership of George Dietsch. Attendance has skyrocketed at both seminars and general membership meetings. More members than ever before are taking an interest in their MPPA and their profession.

In order to keep our edge; we need a constant influx of new, member participation. From those just getting into purchasing to our retired "elders", we need your input to keep us moving in the right direction. If you ever have any comments (good, bad, or ugly) give me a call. Let the Board know if you have any time to volunteer to MPPA. It will look good on your resume, and your added knowledge will make MPPA stronger than ever! Hope to see you in 2004.

### **DEADLINE DATES FOR PUBLICATION SUBMITTALS**

### **DATES OF FUTURE ISSUES**

March 1, 2004  
May 1, 2004  
July 1, 2004  
September 1, 2004  
November 1, 2004  
January 1, 2005

Friday, February 13, 2004  
Friday, April 16, 2004  
Wednesday, June 16, 2004  
Monday, August 16, 2004  
Friday, October 15, 2004  
Tuesday, December 14, 2004

Please send all contributions via e-mail to [kluther@washco-md.net](mailto:kluther@washco-md.net) or [krnluther@aol.com](mailto:krnluther@aol.com)

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Darla H. Herbold, CPPO

The following professional purchasing practitioners were accepted into membership at the MPPA Executive Board Meeting on December 9, 2003.

Kathleen A. Budd  
Manager, Facilities Procurement  
Department of Residential Facilities  
University of Maryland

Heidi Derry  
Purchasing Agent  
Anne Arundel Community College

Gary Kraft  
Director of Purchasing  
The Community College of Baltimore County

Kristy L. Heim  
Administrative Assistant  
Harford County Government  
Procurement Department

Jeff Miller  
Purchasing Agent  
Baltimore County Public Schools

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING –  
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Debbie Meehan, Facilities Chair

WHEN: Saturday, January 24, 2004  
From 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

WHERE: Eichenkranz Restaurant  
611 South Fagley Street  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
Phone: 410-563-7577

COST: \$27.00 per person (members/guests)

DRESS: Business Casual

FOOD: Menu served will be hot and cold buffet with an “Open Bar”

ENTERTAINMENT: Two-piece combo (according to incoming President George Dietsch and Past President Brian Snyder, the combo is excellent)

NOTE: Rick Grimm, CPPO, CPPB - Chief Executive Officer of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) has again graciously accepted the invitation to be in attendance to perform the installation ceremony.

**Reservations and Payment** are due no later than **Thursday, January 15, 2004**. Please send your reservations and checks made payable to MPPA, Inc., c/o Deborah L. Meehan, CPPB, Senior Buyer/Disbursement Supervisor, Baltimore County, Maryland Purchasing Bureau, 400 Washington Avenue, Room 148, Towson, MD 21204-4665. Should you have any questions, you may contact Debbie at telephone 410-887-4637 or via e-mail: [dmeehan@co.ba.md.us](mailto:dmeehan@co.ba.md.us).

**EDUCATION**

SEMINARS 2004

(Tentative Schedule)

March 17, 2004	Specification Writing	1 Day
March 18, 2004	How to Write Request for Proposals	1 Day
March 19, 2004	Contracting for General Construction Service	1 Day

April 15 & 16, 2004	Competitive Sealed proposal/Competitive Negotiations	2 Days
May 19 or May 21, 2004	Basic Legal Principles – at Montgomery County	1 Day
July 29, 30, 2004	Contract Management	2 Days
August 12, 13, 2004	Alternative Dispute Resolution	2 Days
September 15- 17, 2004	Introduction to Public Procurement	3 Days
October 13- 15, 2004	The Legal Aspects of Purchasing	3 Days
November 17- 19, 2004	Planning, Scheduling and Requirement Analysis	3 Days

*If you have any questions regarding the seminar schedule, please call Rich Shelton at 410-386-2181.*