



# **The Fine Print**

The Newsletter of the Maryland Public Purchasing Association, Inc.  
September / October 2004

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

George F. Dietsch, CPPO

Dear Members,

The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) successfully completed their 59th Annual Forum and Products Exposition, in Biloxi, Mississippi. As a representative of Maryland Public Purchasing Association, I report to our members that the Forum was a gross success. The attendance was the largest since the 2000 Annual Forum that was held in Baltimore. A total of 1,177 delegates were in attendance. This represents a 22.6% increase over delegate registrations in 2003 - and a 43% increase in exhibit booths.

The Florida Chapter led the way with 375 delegates and our neighbors to the south; Virginia had 175 delegates. The Mississippi Chapter exhibited some real down southern hospitality. They even had a stranger dialect than our own established Baltimorese. They sort of did it with a twang. All Ya All come back again.

The Forum is about educating professionals. With that in mind, a well-trained staff of educators offered a large variety of procurement topics. The classes were jammed packed and a good number of delegates were left to standing room only.

Congratulations go out to the NIGP staff and especially to Rick Grimm, NIGP Executive Officer.

The MPPA Board is working toward acceptance of credit card payment for meetings and educational classes. In order to offset the cost of doing this banking service, the board has voted to discontinue the printing and mailing of our wonderful newsletter, The Fine Print. The Fine Print will be around but it will be available on our website. We will continue the schedule this year and hopefully make the transition in January 2005.

The board sees this a win/win situation for MPPA and all the jurisdictions represented in our organization.

The next General Membership meeting will also be conducted in conjunction with our social event. I hope all members take advantage of a great offer to network, crack some shells and

generally have a good time. The event takes place on September 25; yes, it's a Saturday. The time will be 3:00 – 7:00 P.M. at Captain James' Landing in Canton.

I look forward to seeing all you all at the next meeting!

"Consistency 'It's no use saying, 'We are doing our best.' You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary." - Sir Winston Churchill

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Rich Shelton

Check out the new Leap Program class schedule beginning with the core classes including Introduction to Public Procurement in September and followed by The Legal Aspects of Purchasing, Planning Scheduling and Requirement Analysis, Sourcing the Public Sector, Developing and Managing RFP's in the Public Sector and Contract Administration.

All classes are subject to NIGP's minimum attendance requirements therefore, it is imperative that you register at least 30 days prior to the class start date. NIGP requires this time to make final plans for instructor accommodations as well as ordering books for class. If you have questions as to the status of a class please feel free to contact myself or Mary Moser at 410-386-2181.

And last but not least don't forget to mark your calendars for the CPPB and CPPO review classes to be held at Montgomery College tentatively on November 3rd, 4th and certification testing on the 9th.

Additional information can be found on the MPPA web site concerning educational opportunities!

## **RECOGNITION REPORT**

Pam Jones, CPPB, MBA

Announcements

Please remember, if you'd like to forward information to be published (e.g., recent certification, promotion, etc.), please contact me at [pam.jones@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:pam.jones@montgomerycountymd.gov) or Tom at [thomas.savoie@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:thomas.savoie@montgomerycountymd.gov).

### Awards

Just a reminder that the Zemansky and Distinguished Service Awards are presented at the Installation of Officers and Directors Reception. Your input as members of MPPA are valued and necessary to ensure that deserving candidates are recognized. Please e-mail me if you have recommendations on candidates.

### Bon Voyage

Kathy Buffum is enjoying retirement in Spring Hill, Florida. Kathy had been with Montgomery County, Maryland for her fifteen year career, all within the Office of Procurement. Her last work

day as a Procurement Specialist II was July 29, 2004, although she is still calling in and sending e-mails to make sure we are okay. For those that knew her, this is not a surprise. She was a committed MPPA member and will be greatly missed.

#### New Certification

CONGRATULATIONS to the following individuals:

##### New CPPB/CPPO (Reported from NIGP)

Catherine Bowles, CPPB, Sr. Buyer, St. Mary's County Government (May)

Marilyn Evans, CPPB, Agency Procurement Specialist, MD Dept of Health & Mental Hygiene (May)

Mable Trudy Brown, CPPB, Deputy Director, OCPMP, MD Dept of Health & Mental Hygiene (June)

**Joseph Patti, CPPO, CPPB**, Purchasing Agent III, Harford County Government

**Carol Stock, CPPB**, Chief, Operation and Maintenance Contracts, Maryland Aviation Administration

##### Re-Certified CPPB/CPPO (May/June report from NIGP)

Alvin Boss, CPPB, Program Specialist II, Montgomery County, Maryland (May)

##### New Certified Public Manager

Pam Jones, Senior Procurement Specialist with Montgomery County, Maryland recently completed a 12-month Regional Executive Development Program with George Washington University and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Institute For Regional Excellence. On September 10, 2004 she will graduate with her Cohort members and receive the designation of Certified Public Manager (CPM).

##### In Memoriam

Our thoughts and prayers go to Debbie Meehan and the Suter family and friends. On Monday, August 2, 2004, Debbie's nephew suddenly passed, Brandon Robert, age 18, beloved son of Kenneth R. Suter, Sr. and Kathleen T. Suter (nee Minnick), dear stepson of Nicole R. Suter.

You may convey expressions of sympathy in Brandon's name to the Hamilton Little League.

#### **MPPA ANNUAL ELECTIONS**

Elections for 2005 Officers and Directors will be held at the November General Membership Meeting. Over the next few months, I will be compiling a list of nominees for the slate of candidates. Should any member be interested in serving the organization as an Officer or Director, please contact me at 240-313-2332.

*Rick Curry, CPPB - Nominating Committee Chairman*

#### **2004 NIGP REGION 2 CONFERENCE**

The 2004 NIGP Region 2 Conference will be hosted this year by the Pennsylvania Public Purchasing Association, on October 27-29, 2004, at the Holiday inn - Stadium, 900 Packer

Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19148. For further information, please check PAPPAs web site at [www.pappinc.org](http://www.pappinc.org).

MARYLAND PUBLIC PURCHASING  
ASSOCIATION, INC.

**SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**JOIN US FOR OUR CRAB FEAST AT  
CAPTAIN JAMES' LANDING RESTAURANT**

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 25, 2004 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Captain James Landing Restaurant (Outside Crab Pavilion)  
2127 Boston Street  
Baltimore, MD 21231  
Tel: (410) 327-8600  
FREE PARKING IS AVAILABLE (Across the street from the restaurant)

**COST:** Retirees FREE  
Members \$20.00  
WITHOUT RESERVATION: \$30.00 (AT THE DOOR)  
Guests \$30.00  
(MPPA will subsidize the cost of this meeting)

**CRAB FEAST MENU**

**ALL YOU CAN EAT STEAMED CRABS**

Served with:

Maryland Crab Soup      Fresh Steamed Corn-on the-Cob  
Fried Chicken Wings      Homemade Cole Slaw or Potato Salad  
Pitchers of Soda are included.      A CASH BAR will be available.

Deadline for reservations is Friday, September 17, 2004. Reservations are necessary to insure appropriate seating and food allowances. The number of attendees must be submitted prior to the meeting. Please notify Facilities Chairperson, Deborah Meehan, by either telephone at 410-887-4637, or e-mail at [dmeehan@co.ba.md.us](mailto:dmeehan@co.ba.md.us), or fax at 410-828-7914.

**Directions to Captain James Landing**

**From the Inner Harbor**

Take Pratt Street to President Street  
Make a right onto President Street  
Follow to Aliceanna and make a left  
Going East, follow Aliceanna about 8 blocks

Restaurant will be on your left  
Crab House and Parking Lot will be on your right

From the North

Take 95 South to Exit 57 (O'Donnell Street West)  
Stay straight when coming to end of exit  
Follow Boston Street (1) mile to the intersection of Boston and Aliceanna  
Make a left onto Aliceanna and immediate left into parking lot

From the South

Take 95 North (New York) through Fort McHenry Tunnel to Exit 57  
(O'Donnell Street West)  
Stay straight when coming to end of exit  
Follow Boston Street (1) mile to the intersection of Boston and Aliceanna  
Make a left onto Aliceanna and immediate left into parking lot