

NCMA NEWS

San Diego Chapter



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Upcoming NCMA-SD Events

- March 16 Seminar: Earned Value Management System
- April 6 Chapter Board Meeting at Accenture
- April 13 CART Meeting at KES
- April 20 Workshop: Navigating the Joint Venture Path to Profitability
- May 4 Chapter Board Meeting at Accenture
- May 11 CART Meeting at KES
- May 18 Seminar: Small Business Focus
- June 1 Chapter Board Meeting at Accenture
- June 6 CART Meeting at KES
- *NEW!* June 15 CART Meeting in North County, Location TBD

A Festive Holiday Gathering

By Ray Chalupsky, CPCM, Fellow



40 members and guests enjoyed an evening of holiday spirit at the Black Angus in Kearny Mesa in December. Several food items were enjoyed as well as soft drinks. President Maurice Caskey and Vice President Tran welcomed the attendees.

President's Message

By Maurice Caskey

The NCMA San Diego Chapter holds an annual election of officers to serve in 7 elective positions for the subsequent program year. The NCMA program year cycle runs from July 1 through June 30 of the next year. Therefore, the election to be held this spring will be for officers to serve from July 2011 through June 2012.

The election process is prescribed by Article III of the Chapter's bylaws, which can be found online at <http://ncmasd.org/homepage/chapterbylaws.html>. The timeline for this year is:

- 2/9/11 — Appoint Elections Committee
- 3/31/11 — Deadline for Elections Committee to receive input
- 4/6/11 — Elections Committee report nominations to the Board
- 4/8/11 — E-mail ballot to all Chapter members
- 4/30/11 — Voting closes
- 5/18/11 — Announce 2011–12 elected officers at the general membership meeting
- 6/15/11 — Introduce and install incoming officers



I agreed to serve one term as Chapter president when nominated last year. Therefore, my position will be open, as will other elected and appointed positions. The Elections Committee will develop a qualified slate of candidates for the following elected positions identified by Article II of the bylaws:

- Arrangements Director
- Education Director
- Membership Director
- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice-president.

The Election Committee chair this year is Gabe Olivas, who currently serves as the CART committee chair. Lee Davis is serving with Gabe on the Elections Committee.

The Elections Committee needs your input! Please e-mail Lee at leedavis83@hotmail.com with your suggestions for nominees to be elected as Chapter officer. Don't forget, your suggestion could be your own name as a volunteer to serve the Chapter in an elected capacity.

The Elections Committee will consider any and all inputs received from the Chapter members to develop a slate of candidates. Each individual that is a probable nominee will be contacted by the Committee to determine that individual's qualifications for the position, willingness to serve, ability to set aside the time needed to participate in the Chapter's activities (including attendance at Board meetings), and his or her employer's willingness to allow the individual to spend a modest amount of time each month, during the normal work day, to participate in the Chapter's activities.

The bylaws also identify 8 standing committee chairs that serve on the Board along with the elected officers. Those chairs are appointed by the president and approved by the Board. One way to become more involved in, and influence, the local Chapter's activities is to serve in one of the appointed chair positions. The incoming president will need to know who might be interested in serving as a committee chair. Planning for the 2011–12 program year will start in early July. Therefore, the appointed chair positions need to be filled

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*President's Message – Chapter Elections**Continued from previous page*

as soon as possible after the election results are announced in May. If you are interested in volunteering for an appointed chair position, please notify Lee at the above e-mail address.

Anyone who currently is working in, or successfully has worked in, a contract administrator position (including subcontract administration and purchasing) should be qualified to serve as an appointed committee chair. Any contract administrator who has participated in NCMA local chapter activities should be qualified to serve as an elected officer. Position descriptions for each of the elected and appointed positions can be found on the Chapter website at <http://ncmasd.org/homepage/positiondescriptions.html>. Again, the Chapter depends on volunteers to fill these positions — are you willing and interested?

Let me take this opportunity to thank Gabe and Lee for agreeing to serve the NCMA San Diego Chapter as the Elections Committee members for this year. And please provide them with your input!

Maurice Caskey, CFCM, CCCM
President, NCMA San Diego

Membership Focus – Theresa Robinson Harris



Theresa Robinson Harris is the Education Director for the NCMA San Diego chapter. She has been a Senior Contracts Administrator at RECON Environmental Inc, an environmental consulting firm located in downtown San Diego, for six years. In this position she is responsible for the day to day management of the contracting and subcontracting functions in support of government and commercial clients. Her responsibilities include: contract negotiation, contract administration, and customer contract activities to provide for proper contract acquisition and fulfillment in accordance with company policies and legal requirements. She also oversees several small business programs.

Prior to joining RECON, Theresa worked for several consulting companies and NGOs. She also spent several years at the United Nations Development Program in Venezuela and is fluent in Spanish. Theresa holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Newport University, a Bachelor of Science in Marketing Management from Western Governors University, and an MBA degree in Global Management from the University of Redlands. She has been an active NCMA member since 2006.

In her spare time Theresa volunteers with the UN volunteer program where she assists NGOs to seek out and apply for grant opportunities for various programs in Africa. She also enjoys spending time with her husband and stepson.

Join Our NCMA San Diego CART Meetings!

By Jack Friery

Our chapter has meetings that are guaranteed to make you a better contract professional. And you can attend on the way into your office. And they're free!

The chapter conducts CART meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of most months. The acronym stands for "Contract Administrators' Round Table." The concept is that we get together from 7.30 to 8.30 one morning a month at a local business. And the ground rule is that you have to bring a problem to discuss, or a lesson you've learned that relates to public contracting. (Although we'll usually let you pass to the next person if you can't think of one.) We normally have 15 to 20 attendees. Some are federal or local government employees, some are contractor employees. Some are contracting officers or contract administrators; some are finance or property or quality people. Some have a lifetime of experience; some are brand-new to the field. And, while most of the attendees are members of NCMA, we do welcome non-members.

The topics we've discussed couldn't be more varied. Some examples: what if I can't find a copy of my contract? Do I have to book my contract travel through Southwest? Are my employees subject to foreign income tax if they serve outside the country? What if the Government fails to send me the latest Service Contract Act wage determinations? How do I comply with new Government ethics requirements? And much more.

The chapter sends out email announcements two or three weeks before each upcoming CART meeting. You can also check the chapter website for dates and places. You're invited!

How to Use Twitter and Facebook for NCMA Issues

By Ray Chalupsky

You have probably seen in the news that Facebook now has 600 million users and is worth about \$50 Billion. This is just one of the exploding social media techniques that people use to stay connected. The NCMA San Diego Chapter posts information to both Facebook and Twitter and it is easy to stay informed.

Twitter: Known as the 140 character system, Twitter is easy to use and easy to follow. Simply go to www.twitter.com and hit the sign up button and create your username etc. Once you have an account, search for NCMA San Diego and when that comes up click the button that says follow. That's it. You will receive daily tweets concerning national and local issues of interest to contracting professionals. The Chapter Tweetmaster [Ray] searches daily for information from national sources on government contracting in addition to issues on, for example, funding for the Department of Defense. You can even access Twitter from your smart phone. If you wish to follow other organizations or people, merely search for them on your Twitter account. Many organizations put the familiar "t" on their webpages so you can click and follow them easily. Again, this is all FREE!!

Facebook: Started by two college students from their dorm room, Facebook has become THE primary social media method. To get on Facebook, go to www.facebook.com and sign up for an account. Again, it is FREE. Once you have an account you can find friends and follow organizations. NCMA San Diego is on Facebook and we regularly post reports of meetings and events with pictures. If you are a grandparent it is a great way to see what your grandkids are up to because they post to Facebook all the time.

Some of you are probably thinking "I am way too busy to mess around with social media." Yes, it can take time. Once you get proficient in it the time goes down. With any new thing the initial learning will take some time. However, the amount of information you can get is almost unlimited. You can follow major newspapers like the New York Times or Washington Post. If you are a fan of cooking you can follow famous cooks of your interest. As a contract professional it is important for all of us to stay up to date. Social Media is a free tool to help do just that.

Cost and Pricing Panel Attracts Large Audience – November Workshop Debrief

By Ray Chalupsky



L to R: Trish Carlin, Dan Chalfant, Stephanie Perez

Our November event was a panel discussion on Cost and Pricing. Panel members, Dan Chalfant, Trish Carlin and Stephanie Perez presented a dynamic and information filled seminar. Topics included new FAR rules on cost & price analyses; new forms of competition; using procurement history and catalog prices; deriving a “should cost” estimate; assessing cost realism; satisfying TINA and using non-certified cost or pricing data. Attendees received real-time information on these topics as well as examples of how to perform cost and/or pricing analysis. A lively question and answer period followed the panel discussion. As always, a soft copy of the presentation is posted on the Chapter website.



JANUARY SEMINAR ON FALSE CLAIMS

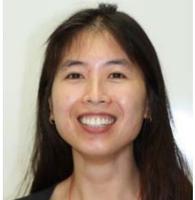
By Ray Chalupsky

In January, Mr. Timothy Terry, Esq., conducted an information-packed seminar on the False Claims Act and Whistleblowers. Key points raised by Mr. Terry included: the severe consequences of violating the act; some seemingly minor ways to violate the act; several recent examples of huge fines for violating the act; and qui tam actions and pitfalls. The audience asked many solid questions and all went away with a much keener understanding of the FCA and the potential harm to their companies if found guilty of violations. A copy of Mr. Terry’s presentation is posted on the Chapter website.



2010 – 2011 NCMA-SD Board of Directors

Board of Directors

Position	Officer	Email	
President	Maurice Caskey	scracer@flash.net	
Vice President	Quyên Tran	Quyên.Tran@morphodetection.com	
Treasurer	Mark Cook	mark@kes.com	
Secretary	Christine Powell	cpowell@syzygy-tech.com	
Membership	Shalina Sumolang	shalina.m.sumolang@saic.com	
Arrangements	Victoria Marin	victoria.marin@lmco.com	
Education	Theresa Robinson Harris	trobinson@reconenvironmental.com	

Committee Chairpersons

Position	Chairperson	Email	
Employment	Jack Friery	friery@earthlink.net	
Small Business & Military Outreach	Gunnar Schalin	gschalin@ptac-sandiego.org	
College Outreach	Ken Adam	kenadam.adam6@gmail.com	
CART Meetings	Gabe Olivas	gabe.olivas@navy.mil	
Publicity	Ray Chalupsky	ray.chalupsky@rdsconsultantsllc.com	
Webmaster	Erin Armstrong	erin.armstrong@viasat.com	
Newsletter	Erin Felix	erin.felix@ngc.com	