



# The NCMA Gateway "to Contracting Excellence"

Volume No. 2, Issue No. 1

## HEART WALK 2008

**Saturday, September 27, 2008, 8:00am, @ Exposition Park in Los Angeles.**

**L.A. Gateway Chapter of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA)  
is proud to support the  
American Heart Association (AHA) in their annual 5 km (3.1miles) walk.**

AHA & NCMA asks for your support by voluntarily participating in the walk and/or making a monetary donation. This year's goal is to meet or exceed \$5,000.

Last year's LAGC team had a great time walking and raising funds AHA.

"The Heart Walk 2007 created an incredible sense of camaraderie and promoted enjoyable exercise for the walkers while meeting the goal of benefiting the AHA."

- Phyllis Walker, LAGC 2007/08 President

### **What is American Heart Association?**

The AHA is the largest voluntary health organization working to prevent, treat and defeat heart disease, stroke and other cardiovascular diseases.

In addition, the AHA supports research, education, and advocacy and assists heart disease and stroke patients. AHA research funds have led to such major advances as:

CPR, bypass surgery, artificial heart valves, pacemakers, clot-busting drugs and high blood pressure medication plus additional programs.

Millions of volunteers, supporters, donors across America help AHA combat heart disease and stroke and make it possible for all people to live longer, better lives.

### **What can I do to help?**

Become a team captain by organizing other co-workers and friends to participate in the walk/donate program or participate individually.

For more information & registration for this exciting and life giving event, follow the link below.  
<http://heartwalkla.kintera.org/lacountyca/mta> then click on "home".

Or

Contact Ed Kichi (213-922-3647, e-mail: [kichie@metro.net](mailto:kichie@metro.net)).

## **PRESIDENT'S VOICE**

As the newly elected President of the NCMA LA Gateway Chapter for the Program Year 2008-2009, with your support, I intend to bring to fruition the programs and goals set by my predecessors. In addition, with membership help, I intend to champion new initiatives that will keep the productive momentum of the past four-years moving in a positive direction. As an example, this year will continue to support the American Heart Association (AHA) Walk/Donate program held on September 27, 2008 (see front page of the newsletter).

In the not to distant future, committee chairpersons and necessary supporting staff positions will become available. Enthusiastic members will be afforded the opportunity to fill these positions. I look forward to a productive year with active membership involvement.

*Ed Kichi*

## **NCMA MEMBERS TO VOTE IN NCMA NATIONAL ELECTIONS BEGINNING IN 2009!**

By Margaret Merhoff

On August 3, 2008, the NCMA Board of Directors decided to revise the national election process to provide members greater involvement in the process of selecting NCMA national leaders. The new change, which goes into effect for the 2009 national elections beginning in February 2009, enables members to vote directly for national Board of Directors members. Previously, this responsibility was assigned only to chapter presidents.

The national election process begins in February 2009, with a call for interested parties—this notifies NCMA members that they may submit their names for consideration for positions on the national Board of Directors. The NCMA Nominations and Elections Committee will review and evaluate all interested parties and select the most qualified members to be placed on the ballot, which will be released to members for voting in March. This process also enables the committee to address key strategic objectives, such as board diversity. Only members with active membership on the ballot date may submit votes in the national election. Voting will be conducted through a website. Please watch the NCMA website and the Contract Management magazine for instructions.

## **NCMA-LAGC MEMBER, MARION COLSTON, SELECTED AS PANEL CHAIR TROP**

In November 2007, the Transit Cooperative Research Program (TRCP) received nominations for persons to serve on project oversight panels for FY2008 Transportation Research Board (TRB) research projects. Panels for the new research projects were scheduled to meet in March 2008. Panel members serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses. In most cases, only two meetings are held in the life of a project, and these normally occur in Washington, D.C. Typically the first meeting is to develop a project statement that is used to solicit proposals while the second meeting is to select a research organization from among those submitting proposals. Panels operate under the guidance of a permanent chair, and there is liaison representation from the FTA, APTA, and TRB; the TRCP staff serve as the secretariat.

Metro's own Marion Colsten, Director, Strategic & Organizational Planning, was nominated and serves as the Panel Chair for TRCP Panel F-14, "Addressing Critical Shortfalls: Recruitment, Development and Retention of High-Quality Managers for Public Transportation Systems". This is not the first TRB panel for Ms. Colston, she also served on a panel which conducted research on Strategic Planning for Transit Industries.

Congratulations Ms. Colston!

### NCMA-LAGC Officers

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[kichie@metro.net](mailto:kichie@metro.net)

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### SUPPORT YOUR CHAPTER!

If you are interested in a position on the council or as a chairperson, please contact Ed Kichi ([kichie@metro.net](mailto:kichie@metro.net)) or any LAGC Board Member. Do not assume the chapter will just run itself. Read the list below, speak with the current officeholder, then determine where you would like to lend a helping hand!

We need committee members and chairpersons in all of the areas listed below and any other areas you think might be of interest:

*Membership*  
*Planning*  
*Booster-Hospitality*  
*Education*  
*University Coordinator*  
*& Intern Program*  
*Finance*  
*Historian*  
*LA Gateway Bylaws*  
*Voting*  
*Communications*

Come join the fun and help to keep our chapter strong!

Thanks to those members who have consistently supported our chapter as committee members and chairpersons!

### UPCOMING GATEWAY CHAPTER ARTICLES

Look out for the next Newsletter articles this Fall!

New Board Members	Bid a fond farewell to last year's hardworking Board
The Heart Walk 2008	New Speakers Leadership Conference 2008
This Year's Training Classes	New LAGC Opportunities NCMA National News

### L.A. GATEWAY CHAPTER HAS A WEBSITE!

Check out: <http://intranet.ncmahq.org/southwestregion/default.aspx>

This is the website for the Southwest Region of NCMA. Things that you will find on Region Home Page include Events and Meetings information, Employment Opportunities and the links to the home pages for each of the regional NCMA Chapters including the LA Gateway Chapter.

The LA Gateway Chapter website is: <http://intranet.ncmahq.org/southwestregion/default.aspx>

You'll find meeting notices and announcements already posted. Also, the site contains copies of presentations made various Chapter meetings and presentations made at regional NCMA functions. Articles written by various Chapter members are also posted on the site along with a copy of the current Chapter Membership Directory. Please take time to check out YOUR listing and notify [dangn@metro.net](mailto:dangn@metro.net) or [lyd@metro.net](mailto:lyd@metro.net) if any information is not accurate. We will also post copies of the Chapter Newsletter on the site. Finally, give us your ideas for ways to use the website. Send your ideas to Margaret Merhoff at [merhoffm@metro.net](mailto:merhoffm@metro.net).

## UPCOMING METRO TRAINING CLASSES IN FISCAL YEAR 2008/2009

- ☼ Construction Contracting
- ☼ Best Value Contracting
- ☼ Managing Subcontracts
- ☼ Teaming Agreements and Advanced Subcontracting Issues
- ☼ Leadership Lessons
- ☼ CA Construction Law
- ☼ Public Contracting in CA
- ☼ Contract Negotiations
- ☼ Performance Based Acquisitions
- ☼ Government Contract Law

## NCMA WORLD CONGRESS 2009

### DO YOU WANT TO PRESENT?

Celebrate NCMA's 50th Anniversary at World Congress 2009, April 5-8, in Long Beach, CA!

Call for presentations - Take the first step in identifying the most relevant topics and issues facing contract professionals today! Submit your presentation proposal for NCMA's World Congress 2009 and share your expertise, gain recognition as a leader in the industry, and earn contract management education (CME) credit.

For Presentation Submission Guidelines see the NCMA website!

The Call for Presentations closes October 17, 2008.

Conference Location:

Long Beach Convention Center  
300 East Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
[www.longbeachcc.com](http://www.longbeachcc.com)

Additional information regarding the World Congress 2009 will be posted in the future.

## MEMBERSHIP

NCMA has a great benefit to offer many Contract and Procurement professionals within the L.A. Gateway area. Your help is needed to let them know there are excellent career building opportunities right under their noses that they are missing. If you know or meet someone who can benefit from membership in NCMA, either forward their contact information to me or give them my email address: [pennm@metro.net](mailto:pennm@metro.net). Thank you.

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

What would you like to read about in the next few issues? If you have a hot topic or an interest in certain contract management issues, send me your thoughts at [lyonm@metro.net](mailto:lyonm@metro.net) and you may read about it in the next issue!

## THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR YOU!

If you have a worthy opinion, notable experience, or even a lesson-learned related to procurement activities you would like to share, submit it in 250 words or less to [lyonm@metro.net](mailto:lyonm@metro.net).

Show us what you can do!!!

We look forward to hearing from you!!!

## UPCOMING UCLA EXTENSION SUMMER 2008 CLASSES

(please see UCLA Extension for course description and further details)

### GOVERNMENT CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Elements of Government Contract Administration X 408.1 Management 4 units \$525

Reg# U6105B Downtown Los Angeles: LA Metro; Call (310) 206-1548 for location.

Wednesday, 4:30-7:30pm, October 8-December 17, 12 mtgs

Lee C. Schuh, JD, contracts & financial consultant; recipient, UCLA Extension Distinguished Instructor Award, 2007

Government Contract Accounting X 408.2 Management 4 units \$525

Reg# U2745B Redondo Beach: Northrop Grumman Space Technology; Call (310) 206-1548 for location.

Thursday, 5:30-8:30pm, September 25-December 11, 12 mtgs.

Norair Demerdjian, BS in Accounting, CPA, Operations Business Manager, Northrop Grumman Mission Systems

Proposal Preparation and New Business Acquisition X 408.6 Management 4 units \$525

Reg# U2747B Redondo Beach: Northrop Grumman Space Technology

Wednesday, 5:30-8:30pm, September 24-December 10, 12 mtgs.

Robert New, Jr., MBA, C.P.M., NCMA Fellow, Director of Purchasing and Material Management, LACMTA

International Business Contracting (Online) X 408.61 Management 4 units \$625

Reg# U2748B September 24-December 10

Lee C. Schuh, JD, contracts and financial consultant; recipient, UCLA Extension Distinguished Instructor Award, 2007

Types, Application, and Structuring of Contracts X 408.7 Management 4 units \$525

Reg# U6156B Pasadena: Parsons; Call 310-206-1548 for location.

Tuesday, 5:30-8:30pm, September 23-December 9, 12 mtgs.

Jerome Johnson, MS, Contracts Manager, Raytheon

Types, Application, and Structuring of Contracts (Online) X 408.7 Management 4 units \$625

Reg# U2744B September 25-December 11

Robert New, Jr., MBA, C.P.M., NCMA Fellow, Director of Purchasing and Material Management, LACMTA

### GOVERNMENT COST ESTIMATING AND PRICING

Compliance X 442.15 Management 4 units \$525

Reg# U2750B El Segundo: Raytheon; Call 310-206-1548 for location.

Wednesday, 5:30-8:30pm, September 24-December 10, 12 mtgs.

Marek A. Gwozdzowski, MBA, Contracts Manager, ThalesRaytheonSystems

Pricing and Proposal Development (Online) X 442.16 Management 4 units \$625

Reg# U2751B September 25-December 11

Marek A. Gwozdzowski, MBA, Contracts Manager, ThalesRaytheonSystems

### PURCHASING AND MATERIEL MANAGEMENT

Advanced Purchasing (Online) X 445.1 Management 4 units \$625

Reg# U2784B September 24-December 10

Tony Swaim, MBA, PMP, Principal, Tony Swaim & Associates

Supply Chain Analysis and Compliance X 445.4 Management 4 units \$525

Reg# U2785B El Segundo: Raytheon; Call 310-206-1548 for location.

Monday, 5:30-8:30pm, September 22-December 8, 12 mtgs.

Marek A. Gwozdzowski, MBA, Contracts Manager, ThalesRaytheonSystems