



# THE GALAXY

NATIONAL CONTRACT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (NCMA)  
/SPACE CITY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER—SUMMER 2005

## Board of Director's Corner

### CHAPTER ELECTIONS-RESULTS

Please help us in welcoming your newly elected Chapter Board of Directors.

President - Linda Riviera (NASA)

Vice President/President Elect – Linda Miller (Boeing)

Secretary - Marie Lopez - (Muniz Engineering, Inc.)

Treasurer - John Hamilton (USA)

VP Education – Keith Hutto (NASA)

VP Programs – Deborah Jolly (Rede--Critique, JV)

VP Membership – Karen Irving (Boeing)

Your new Board of Directors will be inducted at the August Seminar. Their term began July 1, 2005.

## Presidents Message

Although the Galaxy has been silent for the past year, the chapter has remained active and the officers have been busy with chapter activities. The board faced many challenges early last year as new officers. Our mission was to carry out the vision and mission of our former executive board. That vision included providing value to our members by fostering chapter growth, improved member benefits, and providing more educational opportunities to our members. The current board has adopted these visions and we are working toward implementing more educational programs and opportunities to our members. We had many activities last year beginning with our traditional member appreciation dinner, had a successful Fall Conference, joined NMA for our Christmas social, welcomed Stephen Perry, GSA Administrator, had a successful Small Business conference and began offering the Audio Seminars Series. We concluded our year with the chapter anniversary celebration. We will soon be able to accept credit card payments for our conferences and workshop. Our new chapter year, which began July 1, 2005, promises to be another exciting year. Our July lunch meeting featured Debra Johnson, Director of Procurement for JSC. As a new board last year, we faced many challenges. We learned from our experiences and remain enthusiastic about our vision and our mission for our chapter and our profession for this New Year. Our guidance has come from our National Directors, leadership conferences that we have attended, and from you, our dedicated members who have supported us in many ways. We will continue to strive to provide you with quality activities and programs and hopefully have some fun along the way. We look forward to the coming year and welcome your ideas, guidance and support.

Linda Riviera  
President, Space City Chapter



# THE GALAXY

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## **Debra Johnson Appointed Chairman, Board of Advisors**

The Space City Chapter Executive Board has formed a new committee called the “Board of Advisors”. The BOA was established to draw upon the wealth of experience and knowledge of its long term members to further strengthen the presence of NCMA in the local Aerospace community and to advise the Chapter Officers regarding future direction of the profession and the chapter. Chairing the BOA will be Debra Johnson, Director, Office of Procurement for the Johnson Space Center. Ms. Johnson’s position is a 1 year term and may extend to several 1 year terms not exceeding 3 years. Members to the BOA will include 4 members, two from Industry and two from Government who have been members of NCMA for not less than 10 years and have served as a chapter officer. The BOA will also include a member of academia who is a member of NCMA. The Chairman will nominate membership to the BOA, with confirmation by the Executive Board.

The principle duties of the BOA are as follows:

1. Provide counsel through the Chairman to the Chapter President and other members of the Executive Board.
2. Advise the Executive Board of workforce trends, member needs, and career development issues important to the members of the chapter.
3. Maintain a pro-active relationship with industry and government executives to advocate the contract management profession.
4. Advise on what strategies the chapter can deploy to become more relevant to the profession.
5. Recommend new training/education/leadership initiatives for the Space City Chapter.

6. Each member of the Board of Advisors must maintain an active leadership role in the chapter by participating in one or more of the following activities each year:
  - a. Speaker at a Chapter monthly meeting
  - b. Co-chairing or moderating a workshop or conference
  - c. Contributing articles to the Galaxy or Contract Management Magazine
  - d. Participating in any NCMA national conference or event

Membership to the BOA will be announced as nominations are confirmed.

## **Ginger Darnell named to the NCMA Awards and Honors Committee**

Ginger Darnell, Associate Director for the Office of Procurement at JSC, was recently named to NCMA Awards and Honors Committee for the FY 05-06 program year. This committee oversees the Association’s awards and honors programs, including programs for volunteerism and for accomplishments within the contract management profession.



# THE GALAXY

## NCMA Space City Chapter August Workshop /Luncheon Meeting

### Installation of Officers

and

Steven R. Boshears, NCMA Chief Knowledge Officer

Topic: NCMA's New Certification Programs:

"Your Key to Professional Success"

Date: August 24, 2005

Day: Wednesday

Workshop: 10:00am

Lunch Served: 11:30am

Chapter Business: 12:20pm

Meeting Adjourned: 12:45pm

Location: Nassau Bay Hilton; Marina Ballroom  
3000 NASA PARKWAY

Lunch Price: \$13.00 to Members, \$16.00 to Non-members

For Reservations Please Contact:

Contractors: [ginger.coleman@bakerhughes.com](mailto:ginger.coleman@bakerhughes.com) or (713) 625-6326

NASA Civil Servants: [claire.a.cox@jsc.nasa.gov](mailto:claire.a.cox@jsc.nasa.gov) or (281) 483-0743

Please indicate whether you are a member or non-member when you RSVP.

Join NCMA @<http://www.ncmaspacecity.org>.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8/24/05 – Installation of Officers/NCMA New Certification Program

9/25/05 - NASA Cost Estimating (tentative)

10/19-20/05 – Fall Conference

11/00/05 – ADR

12/1/05 – Christmas Luncheon

1/06 – Open

2/06 – Open

3/06 – Small Business Conference

4/06 – Open

5/06 – Open

6/2/06 – National Education Seminar



# THE GALAXY

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## 2005 Fall Conference

October 19 – 20, 2005

### Theme: Leadership: The Power through People

NCMA Space City/Houston Chapter presents its Fall Conference theme – Leadership: The Power through People. This year is very important to NASA and the nation as we begin preparation for the Shuttle's Return to Flight and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Challenger. The theme of "leadership" is key for all of us as we look to the individuals that inspire our past, our present, and our future.

The Fall Conference, which will be held at the Hobby Hilton, will begin October 19<sup>th</sup> with a banquet dinner where our guest speaker will be Dayna Steele Justiz, who is a Houston Radio personality, Disc Jockey, entrepreneur, and anchor's her own radio show "The Art of Doing Business" which airs in Houston (1320 AM) and Dallas (1360 AM).

The all-day conference will take place on October 20<sup>th</sup> where our Guest Speaker will be Lt. General Jefferson D. Howell, Center Director, Johnson Space Center, and our Honorary Guest Speaker will be Dr. June Scobee-Rogers, wife of the late Space Shuttle Challenger Commander Dick Scobee, and Founder of the Challenger Learning Center for Space Science Education. Our opening guest speaker will be Karen Reuter, President of NCMA, and subsequent speakers will be: Farryn Melton, Chief Procurement Officer of Amgen, the largest bio-technology corporation in the world; Colonel Jeffrey A. Brand, Commander of the Defense Contract Management Association in San Antonio; Roger Mellott, Motivational Speaker and current Individual Stress Coach of the Miami Dolphins; and Tom Burbage, Executive Vice-President and General Manager, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company, F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program

The NCMA Space City/Houston Chapter is proud to present our wonderful guest speakers and believe that they will share examples of

leadership in their respective fields. We want our audience to become aware of the leadership challenges that our guest speakers have faced and how to impart such experiences into our lives that will enable leadership that transcends all aspects of our lives, in our jobs, families, and relationships.

If you would like to help us, we will provide you a free admission to the event as well as a step into our chapter's leadership cadre of volunteers, please, contact Kelly @ [kelly.r.wilcutt@nasa.gov](mailto:kelly.r.wilcutt@nasa.gov); (281) 244-7890.

Kelly R. Wilcutt  
Chairman



# THE GALAXY

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**VP Membership**  
**Karen Irving**

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### **NCMA Implements E-Web: Web-based Membership System**

On June 1, NCMA implemented E-Web, a new Web-based membership system designed to make it easier for members to update their membership record and renew their memberships, or for new members to join. Starting from the NCMA Web site [www.ncmahq.org](http://www.ncmahq.org), click on the "Membership" tab, then "Update Contract Information." Enter your login name (your six-digit member number) and password (your last name, with proper capitalization and punctuation), and then edit your contact information. **NOTE:** You cannot delete an item if it is listed as the primary address, e-mail, phone, or fax. Start by adding your new contact item, setting it as primary, then deleting the old information. You can also indicate "unlisted" for any meaning it will be in the NCMA database but won't be displayed in the membership directory.

Other E-Web features include a membership directory, which allows members to search for and find contact information for one another. Searching can be done on chapter, member name city, state, zip code, or national committee (or combination of the above). **NOTE:** To hide your personal contact information from other members, select "unlisted" for each contact item in your information record. **NOTE:** Only NCMA members can search and view the membership directory, and it cannot be downloaded. If you have any questions about this new system please contact Karen Irving: (281) 226-4824; Email [karen.l.irving@boeing.com](mailto:karen.l.irving@boeing.com)

### **New Memberships types for students!**

The NCMA Board of Director recently established a new membership type for students, which went into effect on July 1, 2005. To qualify for this membership class, individuals must be full-time students in an accredited, degree-granting institution and not hold full-time employment in contract management or a related field. These individuals will receive all the benefits of regular membership, and the **annual dues will be free-\$0** (plus initiation fee is waived). This new student membership will work alongside NCMA's initiative to establish new student chapters. Watch this newsletter and your e-mail for more information on this important program. Any questions? Please contact Karen Irving (281) 226-4824; Email [karen.l.irving@boeing.com](mailto:karen.l.irving@boeing.com)

### **Change to Associate Membership Qualification Requirements**

The NCMA Board of Directors recently changed the qualification requirements for the associate membership to "GS-7 or below (if federal employee), E-4 and below (if military), and an annual salary \$40,000 or less (if other than federal or military)." This change, effective immediately, was made to make the reduced membership dues –available to the entry-level professionals and interns entering the contract management workforce. Please direct questions on these new requirements to your regionally elected Board of Directors member, NCMA Member services at 800/344-8096, ext. 0, or the executive director, ext. 423. Karen Irving: (281) 226-4824; Email [karen.l.irving@boeing.com](mailto:karen.l.irving@boeing.com)

Space City NCMA chapter; please contact, Karen Irving,  
[karen.l.irving@boeing.com](mailto:karen.l.irving@boeing.com).



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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Please refer to the website for current employment opportunities: [ncmaspacecity.org](http://ncmaspacecity.org)

If you would like to post an employment opportunity please E-mail Marie E. López @: [marie.e.lopez1@jsc.nasa.gov](mailto:marie.e.lopez1@jsc.nasa.gov)

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## Articles of Interest

Submitted By Nancy Liounis

### **Methodology Behind Set-Aside Determinations is Important!**

(Courtesy Fried, Frank's Government Contracts Alert, April 2005)

The GAO sustained a bid protest challenging the decision by Federal Prison Industries to not set aside a T-shirt fabric procurement for HUBZone small businesses. (USA Fabrics, Inc., Comp. Gen. Dec. B-295737 et al., Apr. 19, 2005) GAO concluded that the agency failed to make reasonable efforts to ascertain the likelihood that it would receive offers from two or more HUBZone firms, as required by FAR 19.1305. The only market research performed by Federal Prison Industries was a review of one prior procurement; the agency made no use of commonly referenced, readily available databases of possible HUBZone firms, nor did it contact the SBA.

(Courtesy Fried, Frank's Government Contracts Alert, April 2005)

The Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals held that a contractor was not entitled to a Service Contract Act (SCA) price adjustment for the increased costs of furnishing health and welfare benefits to its union employees in an option renewal period under a fixed-price Air Force contract for aircraft maintenance. (Lear Siegler Services, Inc., ASBCA No. 54449, Apr. 11, 2005) The board concluded that an SCA price adjustment was not authorized because the increased costs did not result from a change in the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the contractor and its employees' union or from a change in the scope of the benefits to be provided. Instead, the increased costs resulted from changes in health insurance costs and the fact that the contractor agreed in the Collective Bargaining Agreement to provide a "defined benefit" plan under which employees would receive fixed benefits regardless of the cost to the employer.

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### **Price Adjustments to Service Contracts**



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## GET IT RIGHT! PAST PERFORMANCE & SOURCE SELECTIONS

(Courtesy Fried, Frank's Government Contracts Alert, April 1, 2005)

The GAO recently sustained a bid protest regarding the award of a contract by the Federal Bureau of Prisons to provide a "halfway house" because the Source Selection Authority (SSA) was not presented with an accurate summary of the offerors' evaluated past performance to support his cost-technical tradeoff judgment. (Comp. Gen. Dec. B-293348, Mar. 4, 2004.) The SSA's decision was based upon a past performance evaluation summary that conveyed the erroneous impressions that the awardees past performance had no weaknesses and the protester's past performance had many weaknesses and few strengths. In fact, the agency had identified numerous past performance strengths and weaknesses for each offeror.

In another decision, GAO held that, where a solicitation for countermeasure flares merely reserved the Army the right to consider new past performance information up until the time of award, the agency was not required to do so. (Comp. Gen. Dec. B-295375, Feb. 10, 2005.) It therefore was not improper for the agency to not consider deliveries under past performance contracts that occurred after the solicitation closing date but before the date of award.

Have any articles of interest? Please submit your articles to Marie Lopez email: [marie.e.lopez1@jsc.nasa.gov](mailto:marie.e.lopez1@jsc.nasa.gov)

It has been a busy and productive Spring-Summer. World Congress 2005 in Phoenix in April was outstanding. Over 900 attendees including both Tom Luedtke, NASA Procurement Officer and Deidre Lee a graduate of JSC/ Station and this Chapter's President in 1990 and now DoD's Senior Acquisition Official not only were speakers, but also remained an extra day or two just to attend other presentations of interest. You should really try to attend these World Congresses!

In June, I traveled to Austin to install the new officers for the Lone Star Chapter. This is the first of what will be many visits to our 17 South Central Chapters by me and Mark Chavez, our other Director from Albuquerque as we begin to revitalize the role of Regional Operations. This includes a Regional Training Meeting in early November in the Dallas/Ft Worth area. Stand by for further details.

In July, I attended the Leadership Summit in Charleston SC along with Linda Miller, our Vice President, and representatives from 9 of our 17 chapters. The group agreed that Regional Operations were needed and further that a regional web page and NCMA 800 telephone service were required to maintain connectivity. This was an excellent meeting and we brought back many ideas for use by our Chapter Executive Board.

I will be attending the next Board Meeting in Long Beach CA from July 26-29 .

Let me close with a **big congratulations** to Dr. Sam Bruno, Assistant Dean at UHCL on the announcement that he has been selected to the NCMA University Outreach Program that seek to get more University collaboration and college students involved and members of our organization. and another to **Ginger Darnell** who has accepted a membership on the NCMA National Awards and Honors Committee college students involved and members of our organization.

### *National Director*

By Sam Morthland, CPCM, Fellow – National Director





# THE GALAXY

## VP Education Keith Hutto

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### Removal of MidRange Procurement Procedures

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This final rule revises the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) by removing Part 1871, MidRange Procurement Procedures. The FAR provides contracting officers with broad discretion and flexibility in the source selection process in order to achieve a best value outcome. A separate NASA MidRange process is no longer necessary.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 2, 2004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Federal Procurement Policy approved a test of NASA's MidRange Procurement Procedures in 1993. The objective of the test was to reduce the lead time and effort associated with the conduct of acquisitions between \$25,000 (the small purchase threshold at that time) and \$500,000. OFPP test approval was needed to utilize electronic commerce to publicize and post solicitations along with a waiver to the publicizing/response times required by the FAR. Subsequent changes increased the threshold to \$10,000,000 for non-commercial items and \$25,000,000 for commercial items. The test portion of MidRange procedures (waiver of publicizing/response times) expired in 1997. The MidRange procedures are no longer unique and all the source selection methodologies under NFS Part 1871, MidRange, are directly traceable to FAR Parts 12, 14, and 15. Therefore, retaining a separate NASA MidRange process is no longer necessary.

## CONTRACT BUNDLING

(Courtesy Fried, Frank's "Government Contracts Alert")

The GAO recently denied a protest in which a small business concern alleged that an Air Force solicitation issued pursuant to OMB Circular A-76 improperly consolidated various base operations support functions in violation of CICA and the Small Business Act. (Teximara, Inc., Comp. Gen. Dec. B-293221.2, Jul. 9, 2004.) The solicitation consolidated nine civil engineering functions, including grounds maintenance, with community services, human resources, supply services, marketing and publicity, and weather support at Kessler Air Force Base in Mississippi. The protester maintained that the solicitation precluded it from submitting a proposal because it did not have the capacity to perform functions other than grounds maintenance. However, the GAO concluded that, even if it assumed that the solicitation restricted competition, the Air Force had reasonably justified its "consolidated contracting approach" by demonstrating significant efficiencies, with significant associated savings, related to the overlap between grounds maintenance and the other functions. Moreover, the GAO concluded that the Air Force undertook to maximize small business participation to the greatest extent possible consistent with achieving significant savings and efficiencies. Note, though, that another case (Cf. EDP Enterprises, Inc., Comp. Gen. Dec. B-284533.6, May 19, 2003) resulted in sustaining a protest brought by a small business concern because the agency failed to reasonably justify bundling food services with base, vehicle, and aircraft maintenance services.

### UHCL Workshop Winner

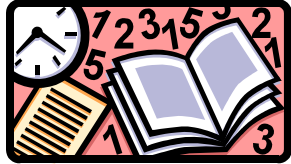
I'd like to thank all of you that participated in the chapter drawing held on June 15-16, 2005 for the UHCL workshop. Our lucky winner was Phyllis Morse of Boeing. We'd like to thank Sam Bruno of the UHCL for extending this offer and we encourage our members to take advantage of the excellent courses offered by UHCL.

Chapter Treasurer –  
John B. Hamilton



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## Financial Report for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2005

	April 2005	May 2005	June 2005
Beginning Balance	\$33,130	\$42,610	\$32,926
Revenues	\$11,258	\$664	\$8,627
Expenditures	\$1778	\$10,348	\$5,711
Ending Balance	\$42,610	\$32,926	\$35,842

### New: Credit Card Payments

The Chapter is now able to accept credit card payments (Mastercard or VISA only) for major chapter functions. See the upcoming Fall Conference registration form for details on how to pay the registration fee by credit card. Note, at this time we are not accepting credit card payment for smaller functions, such as Monthly lunch meetings, to keep down our processing cost.

### KEY CONTACT POINTS

### SPACE CITY CHAPTER BOARD:

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# THE GALAXY

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Chapter Treasurer – John B. Hamilton, 281-282-5719

[john.hamilton@usa-spaceops.com](mailto:john.hamilton@usa-spaceops.com)

Chairman - Board of Advisors – Debra L. Johnson, 281- 483-4157

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Sam Morthland, 281-480-9308

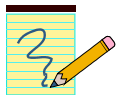
National Director for the South Central Region's 19 Chapters

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<b>Contractors Reservations –</b>	Ginger Coleman, 713-625-6326
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# THE GALAXY



## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Submit address/mail code changes to:

Online at: [www.NCMAHQ.org](http://www.NCMAHQ.org) or contact Karen L. Irving

Submit requests for membership to:

Karen L. Irving (281) 226-4824  
e-mail: [karen.l.irving@boeing.com](mailto:karen.l.irving@boeing.com)



## GALAXY EDITORS

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[www.ncmaspacecity.org](http://www.ncmaspacecity.org)

## PROCUREMENT PUZZLE

C	C	F	R	J	R	P	E	S	G	M	X	Q
S	O	R	T	N	U	O	C	C	A	E	N	U
P	U	N	R	A	Q	E	O	N	D	P	E	E
A	R	E	T	R	A	B	R	T	A	E	G	T
J	T	A	C	R	W	K	R	B	E	P	O	Y
R	T	I	D	U	A	E	E	T	H	A	T	L
E	C	A	R	S	R	C	C	S	R	A	I	T
T	C	E	F	E	D	M	T	I	E	L	A	S
T	A	H	J	D	Q	U	E	K	V	A	T	E
I	N	Y	F	I	T	R	E	C	O	G	E	A
B	I	E	D	O	R	R	F	P	Q	E	R	D
I	N	O	I	T	A	T	I	C	I	L	O	S
B	C	X	Q	L	L	M	Y	C	H	G	R	T

Find the words listed below in the box above; words may read horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, in any direction.

CONTRACT – AUDIT – BARTER – NEGOTIATE – AWARD – SOLICITATION – LEGAL - LIEN  
OVERHEAD – CERTIFY – ACCOUNT – COURT – DEFECT - CORRECT