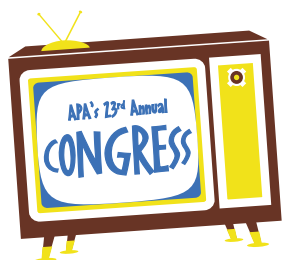


Susquehanna Valley Chapter Receives Top Honors

The Susquehanna Valley Chapter takes home the 2005 Chapter of the Year Award.



Members of the Susquehanna Valley Chapter got a big surprise at the Congress luncheon on May 2. The Lancaster, PA-based chapter was named APA's 2005 Chapter of the Year (COTY) in front of 2,000 Congress General Session luncheon attendees at the 23rd Annual Congress in San Diego, California.

APA Executive Director Dan Maddux announced the highest honor given to APA local chapters as the final award during the luncheon. Chapter members in attendance came up to the stage to receive the prominent

purple and white "2005 Chapter of the Year" banner and a large gold cup trophy.

"The Susquehanna Valley Chapter of APA has shown a tremendous dedication to APA and the payroll industry," Maddux later commented. "Its initiative and determination set a great example for other chapters to follow."

The Susquehanna Valley Chapter was selected for its outstanding level of payroll education programs, chapter activities, community support events, and initiatives to increase public awareness about the payroll profession and its significant contributions.

The chapter achieved second place in the 2004 COTY Contest and was delighted to be recognized with top honors this year. Susquehanna Valley Chapter President Heide Daugherty, CPP and chapter officers graciously accepted the award on the chapter's behalf.

Maddux also announced the COTY second place award winner, the Denver Chapter Payroll Association, and the third place winner, the Northstar Chapter (Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN). Honorable mention awards went to the Dallas Chapter, Rainier Chapter (Redmond and Seattle, WA), and The Alamo Chapter of the APA (San Antonio, TX).

New Chapter Forms in North Dakota

APA National welcomes the latest affiliated chapter to join the APA family and the first to be established in the state of North Dakota:

Bison Chapter—Fargo, ND
President: Cassandra Henry
Phone: (701) 281-7513
E-mail: cahenry@microsoft.com

Secretary: Cristi Hopping, CPP
Phone: (701) 281-7516
E-mail: cristih@microsoft.com

Four Chapters Earn Gavel Awards for Excellence

Gavel Awards are presented each year to APA local chapters for exceptional levels of achievement in four areas based on their Chapter of the Year Contest entries. The awards include four categories: Communicator, Facilitator, Mentor, and Innovator. APA Executive Director Dan Maddux announced the 2005 Gavel Award winners during the Congress General Session luncheon on May 2, 2005.

The Communicator Gavel Award was presented to the Central Iowa Chapter APA (Des Moines, IA) for members' effective communication tools used to enhance membership campaigns, newsletters, brochures, meeting notices, and its chapter Web site. The Facilitator Gavel Award was given to the Siouxland Chapter of the APA (Sioux Falls, SD) for its outstanding facilitation of government, certification, meeting, and chapter activities.

The Mentor Gavel Award was presented to the Rainier Chapter (Redmond and Seattle, WA) for members' voluntary guidance and assistance of other chapters and groups in the areas of education, certification, community service, meetings, and inter-chapter activities. The Innovator Gavel Award was awarded to the Dallas Chapter (Dallas, TX) for its groundbreaking ideas and projects in the areas of government, membership, and meetings.



1. The Central Iowa Chapter APA accepts the Communicator Gavel Award and third place Best Chapter Web Site Award.



2. The Siouxland Chapter shows off its Facilitator Gavel Award.



3. The Rainier Chapter, winner of the Mentor Gavel Award, honorable mention for Chapter of the Year, and honorable mention for the Dream Theme Contest.



4. The Dallas Chapter displays its Innovator Gavel Award and honorable mention for Chapter of the Year.

Youngman Named First CHAMPS Chapter Mentor of the Year

Barbara Youngman, CPP, Immediate Past President of the Dallas Chapter, was awarded the first CHAMPS Mentor of the Year Award at the May 2 General Session luncheon. APA Chapter Relations Manager Maria Ines Marin announced the honor in front of 2,000 Congress participants, and later presented the award to Youngman during the Chapter Exchange, where she received a standing ovation.

The CHAMPS Chapter Mentor of the Year Award was established in 2005 to recognize one individual chapter mentor for volunteerism and dedication to mentoring other chapters through CHAMPS; for always showing positive enthusiasm and willingness to assist other chapters

and offer guidance to them; for continuous dedication to helping the APA Chapter Relations Department promote the CHAMPS program; for serving as a CHAMPS role model to other chapters by holding chapter leadership and volunteer positions, often longer than the term or role requires; and for paving the way for new or less experienced chapters to make their mark in the payroll profession.

APA's "CHAMPS" Chapter Mentor Program, which stands for "Chapters Helping APA—chapters Make Payroll Shine," was created to provide a national chapter-to-chapter networking program for chapter leaders to access when confronting obstacles in more than 80 categories.



Barbara Youngman, CPP, recipient of the 2005 CHAMPS Chapter Mentor of the Year Award.

South Bay Area Chapter's Pictorial Awarded First Place

Entries for the 2005 Chapter Pictorial Contest were some of the most original and creative in recent years. Incorporating new guidelines to encourage creative uses of photos on a single, double, or tri-fold display, the innovative pictorials were exhibited in the foyer outside of registration for the duration of Congress.

APA Chapter Relations Manager Maria Ines Marin announced this year's Chapter Pictorial Contest winners at the May 2 Congress General Session luncheon. Honorable mentions were awarded to the Susquehanna Valley Chapter (Lancaster, PA) and Houston Chapter; third place went to the Metro Atlanta Payroll Association; second place was awarded to the Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter; and first place honors went to the South Bay Area Chapter (Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, and San Jose, CA).



1

1. South Bay Area Chapter board members accept their first place trophy for the Chapter Pictorial Contest and honorable mention for the Dream Theme Contest.



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2. Second place was awarded to the Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter.



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3. Third place went to the Metro Atlanta Payroll Association.

The Alamo Chapter Is Honored for Best Chapter Web Site

Winners of the Best Chapter Web Site Contest were announced during the May 2 Opening General Session luncheon at Congress, by APA Chapter Relations Manager Maria Ines Marin. The winners include:

First Place: The Alamo Chapter of the APA (San Antonio, TX)

Second Place: Columbus Area Chapter (Columbus, OH)

Third Place (TIE): Central Iowa Chapter APA (Des Moines, IA)

Third Place (TIE): Richmond Chapter (Richmond, VA)

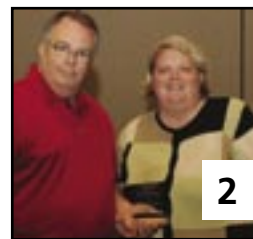
Honorable Mention: Greater Milwaukee Chapter (Milwaukee, WI)

APA's local chapter Web sites are some of the most informative in the payroll profession. Using some of the latest trends in online graphics and formats, with invaluable payroll resources and links to other organizations—including APA National—the entries for APA's 2005 Best Chapter Web Site Contest were tough competitors.



1

1. The Alamo Chapter of the APA claims first prize for the Best Chapter Web Site Contest and honorable mention for the 2005 Chapter of the Year.



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2. The Columbus Area Chapter proudly displays its second place Best Chapter Web Site Contest trophy.



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4. Greater Milwaukee Chapter Vice President Cynthia Cichosz, CPP brings back a Best Chapter Web Site Contest honorable mention to her chapter.



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3. Richmond Chapter members were awarded third place in the Best Chapter Web Site Contest.

First Dream Theme Contest Honors Indiana Statewide Chapters

In 2005, APA held a new contest for local chapters: The Dream Theme Contest—Promoting Your Statewide & Regional Meeting. The contest awards a chapter or partnering chapters for the best themed promotional and on-site materials during a statewide or regional meeting.

Entries were scored on the creativity and originality of materials that best incorporated the meeting's theme or concept. The winners were announced at the 23rd Annual Congress in San Diego by APA Chapter Relations Manager Maria Ines Marin during the May 2 General Session luncheon, and included the following chapter winners and their conference themes:

First Place: Northeast Indiana Chapter, East Central Indiana Payroll Association, Indianapolis Chapter, and Greater Lafayette Chapter (for the Indiana Statewide Payroll Conference)—“Lights, Camera, Payroll.”

Second Place: Western Pennsylvania Chapter (for the Pennsylvania Statewide Conference for Payroll Professionals)—“Payroll Survivor: Outlast, Outwit, Outpay.”

Third Place (TIE): SunCoast Bay Area Chapter (for the Inaugural Florida Statewide Payroll Conference)—“Payroll's a Beach.”

Third Place (TIE): Denver Chapter Payroll Association (for the Rocky Mountain Regional Payroll Conference)—“Payroll with an Altitude.”

Honorable Mentions: South Carolina Chapter, North Carolina State Chapter, and Charlotte Chapter (for the Carolinas Payroll Conference)—“Grand Ole' Payroll”; Rainier Chapter (for the Northwest Regional Payroll Conference)—“Cruising in 2004”; and East Bay Chapter, Sacramento Valley Chapter, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, and South Bay Area Chapter (for the California Payroll Conference 9)—“Harvest the Grapes of Knowledge.”



1. Indiana chapter members beam with pride over their first place Dream Theme Contest trophy.



2. Accepting the second place award for the Dream Theme Contest is Pennsylvania Statewide Conference Chair Liza Paparella, CPP.



3. Third place honors for the Dream Theme Contest went to the SunCoast Bay Area Chapter.



4. California Payroll Conference 9 chapters take home an honorable mention award for the Dream Theme Contest.

Expert Panel Shares Tips on Planning Statewide Meetings

With some 60 attendees, “How Your Chapter Can Better Serve Its Members—Planning a Successful and Profitable Statewide Meeting” was presented at Congress by a panel of experts who offered useful tips on topics important to APA's local chapters. This Chapter workshop, offered during Session 6 on May 3, was a Congress highlight for many chapter members.

Facilitated by APA Chapter Relations Senior Manager Maria Ines Marin, the panel presentation included three former chapter presidents and statewide conference planners: Deneen McCormick, CPP, Past President of the Susquehanna Valley Chapter; Margaret Roark, CPP, Past President of the Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter; and Connie Connor, CPP, Past President of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter and APA's Director of Certification and Payroll Knowledge Assessment Calculator Sales.



APA Chapter Relations Senior Manager Maria Ines Marin.

Chapter Exchange Encourages Idea-Sharing

Chapter members from 129 APA local chapters throughout the country signed up to attend the Chapter Exchange workshop during Session 9 at Congress on May 4, 2005. This popular networking program and chapter awards ceremony drew nearly 150 attendees, who participated in the Table Topics roundtable discussions (offered for the first time at the Chapter Exchange), networked with colleagues, met APA's Regional Advisors and APA's President, and accepted chapter contest awards during a special recognition ceremony.

During the Table Topics roundtable discussions, all eight members of the 2004-2005 President's Board of Advisors facilitated attendee conversations on chapter newsletters, Web site development, obtaining sponsors, organizing Certified Payroll Professional/Fundamental Payroll Certification study groups, recruiting and motivating volunteers, and National Payroll Week (NPW) planning. To kick off NPW 2005 during the workshop, participants enjoyed an NPW cake and punch.



1. APA Regional Advisor Billy Meyerkorth, CPP greets attendees at the Chapter Exchange wearing his special advisor vest.



2. Flora Kunze, CPP and APA Regional Advisor Mike Casey, MAAT, CPP share insights during the Chapter Exchange.



3



4



5

3-5 Chapter members share valuable ideas (and some laughs) during the Table Topics roundtable sessions at the Chapter Exchange.

2005 and 2006 Study Groups and Statewide Meetings

Get an up-to-date, full listing of all CPP/FPC study groups and all statewide and regional conferences in *ePayXpress* (EPX), APA's online newsletter. Go directly to the Chapter Network section at www.americanpayroll.org/epayx/chapnews.html and click on the Study Groups and Statewides button on the left-hand side for the full listing.

The PDF file you will receive contains the same CPP/FPC study groups and statewide information you've been receiving in **PAYTECH**, but it will be even more up-to-date. We will refresh the list each month with the latest new CPP/FPC study groups and statewide information, and the links will be delivered to you via e-mail each month with the latest issue of *ePayXpress*.

You can go directly to the EPX Chapter Network section at www.americanpayroll.org/epayx/chapnews.html. When you get there, click on the Study Groups and Statewides button on the left-hand side for the most current list.

You can also get to *ePayXpress* through the main APA Web page. Go to www.americanpayroll.org and click on the "ePayXpress" link at the bottom of the page to get to the *ePayXpress* "front page" anytime.

While you're there, check out the great features available to you each month in *ePayXpress*. In addition to the *ePayXpress* Chapter Network Section, you also get current legislative and regulatory news, lots and lots of payroll-related links, information from vendors that support the payroll profession, details about upcoming APA training courses, and much more.

Best of all, whenever you need to refer to the CPP/FPC study groups and statewide list, it will be just a mouse click away at www.americanpayroll.org/epayx/epayxpress.html.

ePayXpress

Three Chapters Welcome Attendees at Hospitality Booth

For the first time ever at Congress, the Chapter Hospitality Booth was a collaborative effort between three APA local chapters: the San Diego Chapter, the North San Diego County Chapter, and the Orange County Chapter. The booth had a visible presence in the foyer outside the General Session ballrooms, and provided tourist and chapter information, free giveaways, and door prizes.

The San Diego Chapter generously produced and arranged a free giveaway—a Ceridian-sponsored Congress beach towel—for every Congress attendee. The San Diego Chapter also organized a special Saturday evening bus trip to the Viejas Casino and Outlet Center, which was open to all Congress attendees.



Costume Contest Brings Out Characters From Days Past

Congress attendees, chapter members, and vendors dressed up in their favorite “retro” costumes during the early evening Costume Contest in the Exhibit Hall on May 3, 2005. Contestants lined up to walk across the stage and be judged by a panel before leaving for the Congress Party.

Categories included best costume awards for an individual cast member (single), a duo, family, or cast of characters (group), and a chapter. Winners for the best individual cast member (single) included Miss Kitty, Audrey Hepburn, and Catwoman. For best duo, first place went to Lurch and Uncle Fester (the Addams Family), Sonny and Cher, and Buffy and Mr. French.

The Denver Chapter Payroll Association received best chapter costume as the “Let’s Make a Deal” audience. Best family was “Charlie’s Angels: Undercover at Berkeley” and best cast was a group of characters from “Laugh-In.”

