



Northwest Indiana

Incorporated 1988

Serving Purchasing and Materials Management Professionals

April 2002 PO BOX 10009 Merrillville, IN 46411-0009

Communication, such an important part of our daily lives. We sometimes take it for granted. How can we exist without it? We don't realize how important it is until it isn't there. Communications with our membership has not existed this year, and for this there can be no excuse. All we can do is to move forward and make attempts to right the wrongs of this past year. It was not my task this year to bring you the events of our association, but it is something I volunteered to do after these months of silence. We need to keep each and every one of you informed as to the happenings and events that YOUR organization sponsors. Hopefully you will allow us to do that now. I will make a promise to you, to make every attempt to keep you informed. For this I need your help though. I need your input of things that are happening in your life, your industry. It is surprising how much we learn from the businesses around us. That should be one of the benefits of our organization. Sharing information.

2001-2002 has been a turmoil in the world around us. No one will ever forget September 11th, and the lives lost. Those of us in Northwest Indiana will never forget the drastic changes in what once was a booming steel industry. Most of us now realize how this industry affects the lives of all of us. This all becomes a part of history, just like this past year at NAPM-NI. We need to learn from history, and move forward. Lets do it! We still have a few events scheduled for this year, and we will need to make plans for next year.

T. A. Timm, C.P.M., A.P.P.

CALENDAR

April 17, 2002

Strongbow's Restaurant
2405 US HWY 30
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

This will be a joint meeting with the local ASQ Chapter. This meeting will outline some of the recent changes in ISO and how they relate to the Purchasing world. Please plan to join us at this event, it should hold a wealth of information for all of us.

MAY 5-8, 2002

San Francisco, CA
Annual ISM/ NAPM Conference

MAY 15, 2002

Tiebel's Restaurant
US 30 & US 41
Schererville, IN 46375

Our last Dinner Meeting of the year and our annual election of officers. Dinner topic will be Purchasing & Freight Forwarders.

JUNE 7-8, 2002

Columbus, OH
Summer Leadership Conferences

SUMMER 2002

During the summer months NAPM-NI will again be presenting our Annual Golf Outing. This year your Board is looking at a new location, and date! Be on the lookout for our mailer and hope to see you there.

President's Pen

Here it is March and this is only the second article I am writing. I don't have to tell all of you what has been happening to the Steel Industry and the economy in our area, it has been horrible. Many of us have had significant changes occur in our lives over the past year including our employers, jobs and personal lives. None of us have been spared some impact caused by the crisis in the Steel Industry, our economy and the events of September 11.

While all these issues have refocused our attentions, our association has continued to move forward. However with all the issues surrounding our lives, the one thing we have neglected is to communicate what our organization is doing over the past year. Even with the changes that have been occurring, the association has made significant progress in moving forward. Here is a recap of the highlights since our last newsletter.

Golf Outing – Even with the poor economy, we were able to run our summer outing which is the major fund raiser for our organization. Our employers and suppliers did their usual outstanding job of showing up with foursomes to support our affiliate.

C.P.M. Review – In September we held our C.P.M review for modules one and two. Dr. Russ Morey did his usual outstanding job on reviewing and preparing our members for the exam. We had plan to follow up with a spring session for review of modules three and four, but due to the overwhelming desire of some of our members to complete this effort, we moved the second session up to the beginning of February. The results so far have exceeded my expectations, so far this year we have three new C.P.M. and one new A.P.P. My congratulations to all, this is something to be

proud of and something no one can take away from you.

Website - We have been using our new website to manage our program rsvp and list our offices and programs. We also wanted to use it to communicate more promptly our newsletters and other information. While the first part is working, we have not done a good job preparing newsletters or adding other information. We have some ideas for expanding the site use and will work on improving its functionality in the future.

Programs – Our programs chair and Vice President continue to do an outstanding job on providing us with programs that are interesting and relevant to our profession. We have also had very good success with our joint meetings with AWMI and are going to try another joint meeting with the Quality professional in April. We are constantly looking for news topics and ideas for our dinner programs, please let us know if there are topic you would like to see added to our schedule.

Scholarship – Our scholarship committee has talked to all the colleges and universities in our area on this subject. Our intent was not to just award scholarships, but to form an alliance with a local education facility that would mutually benefit both our organizations. After much investigation, we felt that Valparaiso University offers us the best opportunity to accomplish these goals. The committee then selected two students who were required do more than just receive the money, they needed to give something back to our organization. These two students were recognized at our February dinner meeting and we are hoping to see more of them possibly as student affiliate members.

Special Committees - We have formed three new committees to help move us forward. The programs committee will be working on a schedule of topics and programs for next year, the golf committee will start planning this years

outing and the nominating committee is working on a slate of officers for next year. If you want to participate or have any ideas to offer, please contact one of the board members or chairs. You can find their telephone numbers and E-mail address on our website at www.napmni.org

Last but not least, I would like to acknowledge all the officers, chairs and other volunteers that help keep our organization functioning. They work hard and give up their time to make this organization work. Also any of you that would have some time to help, even if for just one program, one committee or an event, please contact one of the board members.

Charlie Ward

March 20, 2002 JET CORR PLANT TOUR
WOW, imagine 85 semi trailers or more pulling up to your plant filled with corrugated product EVERY day. That is what leaves the plant we had the opportunity to tour in Valparaiso, which is part of Pratt Industries, an Australian company. Inside the 11 acres of roof there were converters that are capable of running 1400 feet per minute of kraft paper into corrugated board. We saw more board and boxes than most people see in their lifetime. All of the corrugated is made from recycled materials, talk about saving landfill space! Hats of to NAPM member Rod Heath for arranging this informative tour. After walking the miles of the plant we had excellent meal at the Valparaiso Country Club! Here are some pictures for those of you who missed the tour.



The National News:

There have been many changes in the structure of the National Association over this past year. I would like to recap some of those changes for you. NAPM has moved into a new millennium, with the responsibilities of most traditional purchasing people expanding, the association thought it needed to change to meet those changes. NAPM is now known as ISM, Institute of Supply Management. Rather than go into all of the details right now, I suggest you look at your *Inside Supply Management* magazine that comes monthly.

The structure of representation has been in the process of changing for a few years now, and late last fall Districts as we knew them were eliminated. Affiliates now have the Affiliate Support Council to represent them at a National level. The AFS is still in it's infancy, and learning what they need to do to facilitate this support. Along with this change, the position of DNA is no longer needed in the affiliates. NAPM may consider By-Law changes next year to reflect some of these changes. We will need your help and input on these issues.

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If your address is incorrect please advise me at timm@nvb.com