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## New Members

[Caitlin Custer](#)

[Mary Weimer](#)

## Meeting Information

### Chapter Meeting Attendance

June 2012

42 Members

8 Visitors

Chapter Membership: 111

### Board Meeting Mini-Minutes

\* We still need additional volunteers to work on the Awards Task Force.

\* Nonnahs is ensuring the Organizing Awards have online and social media presence and please be sure to check out

## NAPO-LA Calendar

### July

23 Board Meeting 2:45pm  
Chapter Meeting 6:15pm

### August

27 Board Meeting 2:45pm  
POLA Meeting 3:00 pm  
Chapter Meeting 6:15pm

## President's Message

### A Balancing Act



It has now been six months since I began serving as the "President" of our NAPO LA Chapter. It therefore seems an appropriate time to share my thoughts on this experience with you and explain how things look from my vantage point. I also want to "check in" with our Chapter members and solicit your feedback.

During the last two Board of Director's meetings, we have spent a lot of time discussing NAPO LA's need for additional volunteers and the best way to expand member participation. We discussed how fluctuations in the economy, membership trends, and overall attitudes have impacted Chapter members' interest and willingness to step up to the plate.

My observation is that our membership falls into one of two camps: those who are more active and those who are less active. Honestly, I don't think one is right or one is wrong- we just need to recognize that we have varying degrees of participation amongst our membership.

Analyzing the make up of our membership does raise some interesting points that are worthwhile to consider. Specifically, how do we thrive as an organization while maintaining balance and equilibrium? How do we develop an equal exchange given our differing degrees of participation - those who have much to "deposit" and those who simply wish to make "withdrawals?" That is our challenge and reconciling this is essential to our prosperity as a Chapter and our enjoyment as members.

If you have been a NAPO LA Chapter member for a few years, I am curious to know if you feel that you are getting your money's worth. I am interested to learn what initially attracted you to NAPO LA. Was there something specific that piqued your interest? Were you a lonely sole proprietor yearning for a think tank or a place to belong? Were you desirous of networking in order to build professional relationships? Were you hoping to gain hands-on experience and did you thirst for industry specific knowledge, tips and tricks? Were you hoping to "hob-knob" with the movers and shakers in the world of Professional Organizers? Were you hoping that Membership would be a stepping-stone along the path to fame and fortune? Hmm.

It is my hope that the questions posed above will stimulate your thoughts. During your morning commute, while participating in some form of Zen-like meditation or yoga, when your day is winding down, or whenever you find a few peaceful moments, give yourself a gift. Give yourself the gift of slowing down your usual meticulously efficient pace and take time to breathe and to think. Permit yourself the time and space to assess where you are with regards to your relationship with NAPO LA.

Is your experience what you thought it would be? Have you been actively taking advantage of all that your membership has to offer? Do you find the speakers at the monthly meetings to be interesting and relevant to your business? Have you routinely attended events and activities such as the monthly meetings, annual Family Picnic, The Los Angeles Organizing Awards, and/or the NAPO LA Expo in the last year or two? Have you benefitted as a result of your attendance and participation?

What I am trying to ascertain is if NAPO LA has held up its end of the deal by providing opportunities for you to gain more expertise in your organizing niche, by offering both general and specialized education programs, acted as a conduit for you to develop professional relationships, while continually presenting new resources, partnerships and discounts?

organizingawards.wordpress.com

\* At the June Chapter meeting, we awarded Isabelle Maramba with the Volunteer of the Month Award.

\* Our July Board Meeting will focus primarily on our budget

## NAPO-LA Board of Directors



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If you have answered, "Yes" to the majority of these questions, then I will be THRILLED to hear that because it means that the mission of our Board of Directors will have been fulfilled.

However, if you find that there is something lacking in your experience or you otherwise want more from your membership, then I am sincerely and seriously interested in knowing your thoughts and ideas about what we are lacking and what we need to do to improve the Chapter.

It is my goal as President of NAPO LA to engage the Board of Directors to work wholeheartedly to meet your needs and expectations. An additional part of my plan is to solicit greater involvement and engagement from each and every one of you. Why? Specifically, because it makes us better, stronger, more resourceful. As a result, we are ultimately more successful all the way around.

Many of our Chapter Members have successfully been running their businesses and participating in a variety of professional groups for a very long time. Our Chapter is bursting at the seams with life experiences and professional expertise. Our membership is comprised of natural born leaders, diligent and efficient worker bees -- both outspoken and soft spoken -- some funny and some serious, and above all else, exceptionally talented. If you think this is a worthy request, please take the time to share your thoughts and ideas with me and/or any of the Board Members. If you want to remain anonymous, then do so via our new Suggestion Box at our Monthly Meetings. The "what" and the "how" is most important - much more so than the "who" and the "why." As it has been said and realized numerous times, "Together We Are Better". And remember that Together - we are NAPO Los Angeles.

## NAPO-LA Chapter Meeting

### July Chapter Meeting

### Are You and Your Clients Ready for the Big One?

From Regina Lark, CPO®, Director of Professional Development

We are excited about our summer Chapter meetings! Be sure to join us in July when Captain Stacy Gerlich from the LA Fire Department gives us her very funny and resource-filled presentation on emergency preparedness.

Stacy will guide us through general preparedness as it relates to disasters and/or catastrophic events. The prescribed amounts of water, food, clothing, equipment, and communications will be covered in depth. Topics to be touched on include:

#### INTRODUCTION, EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS

Introduction  
Earthquake Threat in Southern California  
Personal & Family Preparation  
Nonstructural Hazard Mitigation

#### DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION TECHNIQUES

Fire Chemistry  
Fire Extinguisher Use  
Utility Control  
Creative Firefighting Techniques  
Hazardous Materials / Placarding

#### DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS

Recognizing Life-Threatening Emergencies  
Treating Life-Threatening Emergencies  
Triage

#### LIGHT SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATIONS

Evacuation  
Search Techniques

Stacy is a 25 year veteran of the Los Angeles Fire Department. She is currently assigned to the Disaster Preparedness Section and is the commander of the CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) Unit. She is an expert in the area of Disaster Preparedness and Training. She holds a Masters Degree in Organizational Management and a Bachelors Degree in Health Education.

Captain Gerlich is also an Instructor for the American Red Cross in the areas of CPR, AED, First Aid, Pet First Aid and is an Instructor Trainer. She also teaches for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). She enjoys educating the public and spends countless hours helping communities in the areas of hazard mitigation and preparedness.





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**Immediate Past President**  
Donna Rosman

**Coordinators  
&  
Committee Chairs**

CD Support Group  
Jean Furuya

**When: Monday, July 23, 2012**  
**Time: 6:15PM - 8:30PM**  
**Where: Olympic Collection, 11301 Olympic Blvd. Los Angeles**  
**Cost: Level 1 NAPO-LA Members: \$15**  
**Level 2 NAPO-LA Members: Free**  
**Visitors: \$25**

On August 27th, we have invited a panel of experts to discuss working with Seniors.

If you have an idea for a Chapter topic or presenter please don't hesitate to write or call:  
[Regina@AClearPath.net](mailto:Regina@AClearPath.net) 818-400-9592

## 2012 Organizing Awards

**Prepare to get your glam on and celebrate the successes of the past year in professional organizing!**



**Saturday, October 20th, 2012**

**Hosted by: Trish Suhr of Clean House  
and NAPO Los Angeles and NAPO New York at the  
"Hotel of the Stars," Sheraton Universal Hotel in  
Universal City, California.**

**Nominations are now open!  
Nominate your favorite organizing product and/or service!**

Visit [www.organizingawards.com](http://www.organizingawards.com) for all the details!

Like us on Facebook for up-to-date special announcements.

Follow us on our new Twitter account [@NAPOLosAngeles](#) and [#orgawards](#)

Follow The Organizing Awards Blog:  
<http://organizingawards.wordpress.com/>

Trish Suhr

*"We're gonna laugh, have some fun and celebrate all that we do as organizers."*

That's what Trish Suhr, the Yard Sale Diva from Clean House, said attendees can expect at the Organizing Awards on Oct. 20 with her as host.

After the 2011 awards, where she accepted the award for "Best Show Incorporating Organization on National Television" on behalf of Clean House, Trish said she knew she wanted to be at the helm of the event.

"What makes the Organizing Awards special for me is that it's all the folks that I look up to and respect in the

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Volunteer Coordinator  
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Website Coordinator  
Open

Webmaster  
Open

Google Docs Forms/Survey Expert  
Katherine Macey

## The Los Angeles Organizer



Editor

Audra Cottrell

[Organized Impressions by Audra  
editor@napola.org](mailto:editor@napola.org)



Trish Suhr  
Photo by DelSol Photography

business," the comedienne said.

Trish, who hails from Kentucky, lives in Los Angeles with her husband of two years, Dave McCoul, and their dogs, Truman and Bessie. She is gearing up to be the new Lifestyle correspondent for The Ricki Lake Show this fall on Fox.

She took some time out of her busy schedule to complete some statements for The Los Angeles Organizer.

**My earliest organizing memory** is helping my Papaw organize his 'junk room' - a 1000 sq. ft. room in my grandparents' house. I was five years old and would literally sit and make piles of what needed to be thrown out and what needed a home. I did that instead of playin' with Barbies. I had already organized my Barbie Dream House, so it was on to bigger things!

**I can't imagine life without my** husband, my dogs and my label maker. They all make me so happy!  
**It drives me crazy when** keys are out of place.

**My garage or laundry room could be featured in Real Simple magazine.**

**I wouldn't want a professional organizer peeking in my** office. I share it with my husband and the area is frightening. But at least his mess is contained to there!

**I have more than a normal amount of** cleaning products (I love trying them all out and really seeing which ones make the cut) and shoes (I have them all stored in clear plastic shoe boxes so I can

stack them neatly for days)!

**My favorite organizing product** is a toss-up between Slimline hangers and Elfa.

**My favorite part about clearing out clutter** is helping people lose the emotional weight that clutter costs them.

**My least favorite part about clearing out clutter** is the dust. I am a clean freak, so I really don't like that people are literally living in such unhealthy environments.

**The last time I held my own yard sale, I couldn't believe I sold my** snow globe collection. I started it when I was three years old, but I was good-and-over carrying around 200-plus snow globes.

**The best thing I ever bought at a yard sale was** an old church pew from a Lutheran Church in Louisiana from 1924. It's got the stamp on the bottom that it's property of - and it was only \$25. I LOVE it!

**I always forget to** floss. I have to set a daily alert on my phone. I'm tryin' to be good.

**My 'To Do' list** is crossed off everyday. I like to feel accomplished so I don't make it bigger than a day at a time. There's such satisfaction in crossing things off your list!

**When I travel I make sure to** carry Clorox wipes and clean EVERYTHING (the trays on airplanes are GROSS!!). And I always tip well up front. You get more flies with honey. Just sayin'.

**I keep track of my comedy material on** DVDs. I've never written a joke in my life - everything I say is in my head. I know it's shocking. That's why I have to watch my sets if I want to see how I say a certain story.

**My wedding dress lives in** pictures. I have sold so many people's wedding dresses at yard sales over the years and I didn't want that to be the fate of mine. So the day after our wedding my husband and I did a "Trash the Dress" [photo] shoot . . . so it did get beat up a bit. I had it cleaned and when we have a child, I'm having the dress made into its Christening gown - that way it gets kept in the family.

**Merging my stuff with my husband's was** easier than I thought it would be. We have similar tastes. He was pretty good at letting stuff go and I was good about cutting down on all my pictures (I love having family up on the walls).

**I would love to get rid of my husband's** bag collection in our office. It's crazy makin'.

**Truman and Bessie's stuff** is all in [two] Tribeca bins from the Container Store. Truman will pull stuff out and put it back - it's awesome!! Bessie just leaves everything everywhere. We're workin' on her!

**My family's funeral home business taught me** that you can't take it with you, so live your best life right now!

Read more about Trish at the Organizing Awards blog: <http://organizingawards.wordpress.com>  
Submitted by Susana Enriquez of [Downsize and Get Organized](#)



**Publisher**  
Michelle Powell  
[Some Like It Organized publisher@napola.org](mailto:Some Like It Organized publisher@napola.org)

**Newsletter Advertising**  
Kenya Erving

**Proofreaders**  
Lois Koch  
Kathryn Masci  
Toni Scharff

The Los Angeles Organizer is published bimonthly (January, March, May, July, September and November). The newsletter is emailed to NAPO-LA members and associate members, NAPO national board members, and NAPO chapter presidents, and is available to the public on our website. All content is copyrighted. All rights reserved.

**Submission Guidelines**

**Articles:**

NAPO-LA members are encouraged to contribute to this newsletter. Articles are not to exceed 500 words in length. Submissions must be received by the Editor no later than the 20th of the month prior to the month of publication. You may send your article as a Microsoft Word document or directly in the body of an email. Photos should be .jpg, 72 dpi, sent with your article. All article topics and content must be approved by the Editor. Submit editorial to [editor@napola.org](mailto:editor@napola.org)

**Advertising:** Ads must be received by the 20th of the month prior to the month of publication. There are two types of ads available.

**Website Link:** This is a small ad containing a link to your website, located in the left side column of the newsletter. The ad can be your logo, a photo, or a short message.

**Format:** .jpg, 72 dpi, 125 pixels w x 100 h.  
\$25 NAPO-LA Members  
\$35 Non NAPO-LA Members

**Block Ad:** This is a large block located at the end of the newsletter providing details about your company or service, along with a logo and/or photo. **Format:** Submit ad copy (100 words max) as a Word document and email with logo and photo as .jpg, 72 dpi.

\$35 NAPO-LA Members  
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Submit ads to [editor@napola.org](mailto:editor@napola.org)

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**Golden Circle**

Welcome **Christie Gelsomino** and **Fay Wolf** to Golden Circle! Watch for our next Golden Circle event in the fall.

For questions about Golden Circle, please contact Mishele Vieira, CPO® at 818 519 2938 or [mishele@awaywithchaos.com](mailto:mishele@awaywithchaos.com).

**School's Out...Now what?**



It's summer and the kids are home! Great! Not so great? Well, maybe because it seems you are constantly after them to pick up their stuff and clean their room. Right? During the school year, they were busy with after school activities, homework, etc. Now they are home all day.....need I say more? There is hope!  
Here are a few tips to make life easier and less stressful and the summer more fun.

1. Set up a list of chores/duties...if you haven't already. If you have, then this is the time to reinforce them as "we are all spending more time at home now". Don't forget to link a reward to their accomplishments. Even though we all know many duties in life do not reap rewards....it helps to inspire children. I know!
2. This method is one I share with my adult classes and works very well with children. I call it the "Supermarket Sweep". Provide each child with a laundry basket and assign them a room of the house (it could be their room) and put everything in the basket that does NOT belong in that room. Then use the basket to return those items to where they belong...their rightful home. Just as you see in the Supermarket when shoppers leave items where they do not belong and a store clerk is returning them to their proper locations. When family members practice this simple organizing technique, daily or even every other day....you will see a remarkable difference in the appearance of the kids' rooms and the entire house. Bonus: Less nagging and less stress...for all! This is a good one to use when they lament, "Mom...I'm bored!" How is it that parents are rarely "bored?"
3. Another favorite of mine, and one I use personally, is to set a timer for 5-15 minutes. Then challenge the kids and yourself to see how much can be accomplished in that amount of time. You will be amazed at what can be accomplished in a short period of time. With younger kids this could be an activity that warrants a trip to the park or library, etc.  
NOTE: Your teens may roll their eyes over this one, but link it to privileges or other activities and it may work. Try it.....can't hurt!
4. One of my favorites is to remind all family members to take "their stuff" with them on their way to bed each night. Including toys, magazines, books, shoes, snack dishes, etc. This simple organizing technique could become a habit and allow you to wake up to a tidy environment. Wouldn't that be nice?  
Choose one or all of these tips to help create a more pleasant environment this summer. September is a long way off or is it? Have a great summer.

© Ann Gambrell 2012

**GOLDEN CIRCLE LISTSERV**

Are you a member of the Golden Circle ListServ? Open only to Golden Circle members, this ListServ allows more seasoned professional organizers to network with each other. To get started, log into [www.napo.net](http://www.napo.net) and go to the Golden Circle Page. In the second paragraph you will see a link for the Golden Circle ListServ. Clicking the link will allow you to go to the page to sign up for the ListServ. Once approved, you can post to the ListServ by sending an email message to [golden-circle@lists.napo.net](mailto:golden-circle@lists.napo.net).

NOTE: Qualifications for Golden Circle membership include five years in business as a professional organizer and one year as a NAPO member. Quarterly meetings are held in the homes of Golden Circle members, where we network, share information, and get to know each other on a more personal level.

All eligible Golden Circle members are invited to join the Los Angeles Area Golden Circle. Chapter membership is not required; NAPO National membership is. More information is available on the NAPO National website or by contacting Mishele Vieira at [goldencircle@napola.org](mailto:goldencircle@napola.org).

## Advertising

### Promote Yourself or Your Product: Advertise!

By Kenya Erving  
Erving Consulting Group

Don't miss out on the opportunity to advertise your business in *The Los Angeles Organizer*. Let everyone know about the products and services you offer by running an ad in our award-winning newsletter. Space is available for members, non-members and associate members.

To purchase an ad, go onto the NAPO-LA website at [www.napola.org](http://www.napola.org) and click Advertising. Size options and prices are available online. Advertising space starts as low as \$25. Hurry, act now! Space is limited!

For more information, contact Kenya Erving at (323) 253-3426 or send her an email at [newsletteradvertising@napola.org](mailto:newsletteradvertising@napola.org). If you know of any businesses that offer great products and/or services for Organizers, please forward their information to Kenya to contact regarding ad space.

## Membership

### NAPO National Membership

**Annual Dues:**  
\$230 - Active Member\*  
\$150 - Associate-Branch  
\$250 - Associate-Local  
\$300 - Associate-Corporate  
\$20 - Processing Fee

\*Provisional member dues are \$200 plus a one-time \$20 processing fee. You are an active member\* if you have completed your provisional membership year, or are a new NAPO member with more than one year of professional organizing experience.

NAPO National dues can be paid online. Proof of paid dues is required at time of joining NAPO-LA. NAPO National submits its renewal notices directly to members on their anniversary dates. NAPO-LA annual membership dues are renewed each September. You can also join NAPO-LA online.

### NAPO-LA Chapter Membership

#### Regular Members:

Dues are prorated 25% quarterly.  
Level 1 - \$125 (does not include \$15 meeting fee)  
Level 2 - \$195 (includes all meeting fees)  
Yearly dues and Website Listing in the "Find an Organizer" section of our website.  
\$25 - One-Time Processing Fee  
\$25 - Lapsed Member Processing Fee

#### Associate Members:

Dues are prorated 25% quarterly.  
\$175 - Branch Associate Member  
- Local branch or regional office of a Corporate Associate Member  
\$300 - Local Associate Member  
- Locally-based, self-operating retailer, supplier, designer, or independent sales representative engaged primarily in the manufacture, distribution, and/or sale of organizational equipment, supplies, or organizing-industry related services.

#### NOTE:

All members are required to sign a Code of Ethics as part of their membership.

[For more information on becoming a NAPO-LA member, click here](#)  
[For the NAPO Code of Ethics, click here](#)

## NAPO-LA Professional Organizers Learning Academy

THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZERS LEARNING ACADEMY PRESENTS...

### "What Every Organizer Should Know About Organizing Cupboards, Closets and Cubbyholes"

In this 2 hour session, you will learn different ways to use space and systems to organize every room in your client's home. Esther will show and reveal the top secrets, tools, systems and techniques to create more space and efficiency in a kitchen, pantry and storage areas. You will learn where to put the most valuable and useful items you need and how to store difficult, oversized appliances and kitchenware. Esther will give you ideas on how to arrange toys, art supplies, memorabilia and photos in a way that is both practical and visually appealing.

We will have a firsthand look at different organizing supplies from the Container Store and how to decide which system is best for the individual client. You will see some of Esther's work in before-and-after pictures along with a guided description of how the process is initiated.

This class is a nice opportunity for new and also seasoned home organizers to learn a different approach from an expert in how to organize large families.



Esther Simon, MSW is a mother of seven and a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers. Esther has a master's degree from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work in New York City. By helping people organize their lives, she's become known as the "The Traditional Home Organizer" and specializing in Time Management and Home Organizing. She helps her clients de-clutter their homes, set up file systems and organize every aspect of their homes. "My specialty is the home, says the former social worker, "and dealing with children's clutter. When you run a home office and a family, time management is critical. Esther gives lectures and workshops on all aspects of the home, such as budgeting, organizing the kitchen, housework, closets, day planners, etc. She also helps people devise plans to accommodate elderly, sick relatives in their homes, which Esther did for six years.

### SAVE THE DATE ~ REGISTER NOW

**When: Monday, August 27, 2012**

**Time: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm -- prior to NAPO-LA meeting**

**Where: Olympic Collection, 11301 Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles**

**Cost: NAPO-LA Members \$25 -- Non-Members \$35**

**Register: Online at [www.napola.org](http://www.napola.org)**

**Advance registration and payment required**

**Registration will close Thursday, June 21st**

No refunds for POLA sessions. If you are unable to attend this class, the fee will be applied toward another POLA class within one year's time.

For more information: contact [pola@napola.org](mailto:pola@napola.org).

For details about NAPO-LA Education Committee classes, visit [www.napola.org](http://www.napola.org), click on Education Tab.

## Volunteer of the Month

### Congratulations to Jean Furuya! May 2012

#### What is your business name and website?

The Office Jeanie. I do not have a website.

#### Where do you live and where do you do business?

I live in Torrance and prefer to work with clients in Los Angeles County but willing to travel to Orange County.

#### How many years have you been in business?

I am in my 22nd year of business.

#### How did you get into organizing as a profession?

When I was leaving my full-time job in 1990, a co-worker at my company suggested that I look into becoming a professional organizer since I was pretty much organizing everything in the company.



**Where are you from originally?**

I was born in Seattle, Washington

**What are your main organizing interests or specialties?**

Currently my preferences are small businesses, solo-preneurs, and paper management. While I said I would never work with CD (chronically disorganized) clients, for the past five years I have been collaborating with (cognitive) therapists and working with their clients who have disorganizational or hoarding issues.

**What do you like to do when you aren't organizing? Hobbies? Interests?**

When I'm not organizing, I mostly volunteer - right now mainly for NAPO-LA, NAPO, ICD, and Faithful Organizers. Also, as time permits, I volunteer for other non-profit organizations (church, Meals-on-Wheels, etc.). If I were to retire, I would spend much of my time volunteering (my God-given gifts are administration, service, helps). My husband said if I'm going to retire and volunteer, then I might as well as keep on working. My other enjoyments are spending time with family and doing crafts.

**Tell us about your family. Married, Single, Children, Pets?**

Married for 50 years this August. We have two daughters, one son-in-law, one soon-to-be son-in-law and two grandchildren.

**How did you come to join NAPO and NAPO-LA?**

My co-worker's friend was in the same networking group as Martell Keniry, NAPO-LA chapter member. Since she was dropping from NAPO, she suggested I call Beverly Clower to get meeting information. I attended my first chapter meeting in October 1990 and NAPO-LA conference in February 1991 and then joined NAPO and NAPO-LA.

**What has been your experience volunteering in NAPO-LA and what do you consider the benefits of volunteering?**

Since I enjoy volunteering, my experience in NAPO-LA has always been positive, enjoyable, and motivating -- my first job was as treasurer. I always benefit from volunteering because of new learning experiences (which helps one to grow personally and professionally), interacting with others (for networking, support and friendship) and having a wonderful feeling of being a part of a greater purpose.

## Volunteer in NAPO-LA

Below is a list of the open volunteer opportunities currently available with your NAPO Los Angeles Chapter.

For most positions no experience is necessary and any training needed will be provided. The time commitment can vary depending on the position but most require just a few hours each month and can be worked around your schedule. Volunteering is an excellent way to make the most of your chapter membership, make new business and personal contacts and give back to the chapter that offers you so much in return!

If you have questions, comments or would like to volunteer, you can contact Marie Nimo at [volunteer@napola.org](mailto:volunteer@napola.org) or the board/committee member directly.

### Organizing Awards Co-Chair

Assists Event Chair with all aspects as needed:

Event Chair:

Oversees all aspects of event

Manages task force team

Assists and guides department heads as necessary

Determines and adjusts timelines as necessary. Communicates event status to chapter president on pre-calendared basis, prior to monthly task force meeting

### Organizing Awards VIP Coordinator

Secures host for the event

Communicates with presenters, host and other VIP's

Distributes running script pages and presenter guidelines

Overseas escorting of host on the night of event

Coordinates team to oversee escorts for presenters/VIP's on the night of event

## POLA (Professional Organizers Learning Academy) Tech Savvy Committee Member

The POLA Committee is looking for a NAPO-LA member who is interested in helping fellow organizers with continuing education classes related to professional organizing. We hope to find someone who has a good understanding of website/internet (to assist with e-blasts, etc.) and someone who can bring fresh ideas and a fresh perspective to the committee. POLA is a great Committee that does really worthwhile work.

Qualifications: Must have been an active LA chapter member for at least 1 year. Strong interest in education. Regularly attend chapter meetings, events, and the occasional POLA meeting.

\*Computer skills: email, e-blasts, PDFs, social network postings, website and Internet knowledge.

Gold Star Qualifications (helpful but not required): Experience in marketing, creative writing, presentations and conference attendance.

Responsibilities: The POLA Committee coordinates with the NAPO-LA Website Administrator and Newsletter Editor to market and publicize the programs and workshops via email, advertising and chapter announcements. All committee members work together as a group to conceptualize/design the curriculum, find expert presenters, maintain the class schedule, research venues and maintain relationships with venue partners, monitor class attendance and maintain database of attendees, attend classes to assist the presenters and perform admin. duties. Approximately 3-8 hours/month.

Contact: Jean Furuya at [Jean@TheOfficeJeanie.com](mailto:Jean@TheOfficeJeanie.com) or 310.316.1753.

### Neighborhood Group Liaison (Orange County and Westside areas)

Qualifications: Be an active member of NAPO-LA.

Responsibilities: Facilitate informal bi-monthly meetings. Most neighborhood groups meet in casual settings like a restaurant or someone's home. You will be in charge of determining the meeting location, sending out an electronic invitation (evite or email) to NAPO-LA/NAPO National members and lead the group in agreed upon discussions. Approximately 2-3 hours/month plus meeting attendance.

Contact: Kathryn Masci at [tobeorganized@earthlink.net](mailto:tobeorganized@earthlink.net).

## Institute for Challenging Disorganization



ICD Conference 2012



September 20-22, 2012  
DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago - Magnificent Mile  
Chicago, Illinois, USA

Registration Is Now Open!

### 2012 Conference Session Line-Up

- END PROCRASTINATION NOW: Pause, Ponder, Plan, Produce  
Joseph (Joe) R. Ferrari, Ph.D.
- Brain Injury and ADHD, Beast or Blessing?  
Lois McElravy
- Hangin' on with Humor When Life Looks Ugly. . .  
Lois McElravy
- Baby Steps - Radically Reducing Your Clients' Time Clutter: 101  
Francis Wade

- Forgive For Good  
Frederic Luskin, Ph.D.
- Don't Call Me Nuts! Beating the Stigma of Mental Illness  
Patrick Corrigan, PsyD
- Walk in Their Shoes!  
Gail Shields & Karen Shinn
- ADHD: What the Science Says  
Dale Davison, M. Sp.Ed., ACAC
- Optional Post Conference Workshop (Sunday) - Time Clutter: 201. Pick up where 101 left off and explore 5 additional fundamentals of Time Management 2.0. Separate Registration is required. [Click here for details and registration information.](#)

## CD Clients - Support Group



### CD CLIENTS - SUPPORT GROUP FOR NAPO-LA CHAPTER MEMBERS

If you are working consistently and on an ongoing basis (at least one year or more) with chronically disorganized clients, you are invited to participate in an informal support group.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 11th. The topic will be "Client Acquisition". Meeting time is from 6-8:30pm. Time will also be spent sharing our individual client issues. Limited to 12 attendees. A simple pot luck is planned.

To RSVP or for further information, contact Jean Furuya at [Jean@TheOfficeJeanie.com](mailto:Jean@TheOfficeJeanie.com) or 310.316.1753.

## NAPO-LA Neighborhood Groups

*Tell us what's happening in your neighborhood...*

### **Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena:**

We have grown by 2 more members, so we are now up to 20 members.

We had a great meeting in May at Cari Dawson's home where we looked at each others' websites and offered comments and constructive feedback to each other. It was a very productive meeting.

During our July meeting we are excited to be sharing our favorite organizing products with each other, and we hope to have another field trip in the Fall.

### **San Fernando Valley:**

The San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Group's June meeting was a big success. Kudos to Nancy McFarland for facilitating the presentation on "Networking Strategies." We shared and learned tremendous information about networking tricks.

We added a section to our meeting titled "Challenge Question" whereby a member or two conveys a challenging experience and others offer suggestions about how they have handled similar situations. Our neighborhood group will be sponsoring/leading an activity in the SFV in January for National Organizing month and is in the process of soliciting suggestions for that.

Our next meeting will be Sunday August 5 at 10:30 a.m. in Northridge. The topic will be: "CULTURAL DIFFERENCES AND THE ROLE THIS PLAYS IN BUSINESS." Carol Pardoe will be facilitating this discussion. For more information about the San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Group of NAPO-LA, please contact Janet Fishman at 818-349-6330 [orjanet@janetfishmanorganizer.com](mailto:orjanet@janetfishmanorganizer.com) .

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Many of the Neighborhood Groups hold informal bimonthly meetings throughout the Los Angeles area. A benefit of chapter membership, these offshoots of NAPO-LA offer education, networking and support. Check below for the group nearest you and contact the Facilitator for information on the next meeting.

If you'd like to volunteer as a Facilitator for one of the open groups, please contact Committee Chair Kathryn Masci by email at [neighborhoods@napola.org](mailto:neighborhoods@napola.org).

**Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena: [Cari Dawson](#), Facilitator**

Hollywood: [Beth Ziegler](#), Facilitator  
South Bay: [Roxanne Hoerning](#), Facilitator  
Ventura: [Kathryn Masci](#), Facilitator  
San Fernando Valley: [Janet Fishman](#), Facilitator

## New Soles4Souls Challenge

Last year, Professional Organizers collected over 170,000 pairs of shoes in the first NAPO Challenge. This was the largest shoe collection by any one organization. Since this event was so successful, Soles4Souls has decided to host another challenge.

This second challenge launched on May 1, 2012 and will end October 31, 2012. This challenge is open only to NAPO members. You can compete as an individual or as a chapter. You can win in two ways:

- The individual that collects the most shoes will win a trip for two to travel with Soles4Souls to the country of their choice: Haiti, Jamaica, Honduras or Costa Rica. While traveling, you will work to fit the locals with new footwear - sometimes their very first pair.
- The top three chapters that collect the most shoes will win a shoe distribution in their city.

The simple gift of footwear can provide life-saving protection from wounds, infections and the transmission of disease. In many countries, shoes can mean the difference between a child who receives an education and one that does not. More than anything else, the gift of shoes gives people dignity, courage and hope. To start collecting, visit [www.giveshoes.org/napochallenge](http://www.giveshoes.org/napochallenge) and click the "Get Started" tab.

## Barry Izsak/Gloria Schklair Conference Scholarship Fund

The Barry Izsak/Gloria Schklair Conference Scholarship Fund was officially unveiled at the NAPO2012 Membership Luncheon and met with a standing ovation by the NAPO community. This new fund was endowed by Barry Izsak, NAPO President 2003-2007, in loving memory of dear friend and NAPO member Gloria Schklair.

The scholarship fund directly supports the educational mission of NAPO by providing access to the educational experience of Conference for the benefit of Industry Members who otherwise may not be able to attend due to financial or other extenuating circumstances.

The deadline for applications is August 31 in the year prior to conference.

Details about eligibility, criteria, and the application process can be found here: <http://www.napo.net/who/donate/scholarship.aspx>.

### NAPO Los Angeles

**Mission Statement:** NAPO-LA is the organizing industry leader committed to providing the public with resources; providing professional organizers with education and support; and providing related industry professionals with unique channels for their products and services.

NAPO-Los Angeles  
PMB 134, 10573 W. Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
Phone 213-486-4477

The National Association of Professional Organizers, Los Angeles Chapter (NAPO-LA) is a legal entity separate and distinct from NAPO, Inc. (the National Association of Professional Organizers) and is not entitled to act on behalf of or to bind NAPO, contractually or otherwise.

For questions on our disclosure policy, please contact our [Chapter President](#).