

THE LOS ANGELES ORGANIZER



May/June 2013

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Meeting Information

May Chapter Meeting Attendance

Membership: 104
Members: 38
Visitors: 2

New Members

Sylvia Azarian
Email: designingsylvia@yahoo.com

NAPO-LA Board of Directors



President
Nadine Levy
Management 180
818.585.4828



Vice President
Susana Enriquez

NAPO-LA Calendar

May

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

June

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

President's Message



By Nadine Levy

Changing of the Guards: Here We Go! NAPO Los Angeles June 2013

On May 15, 2013 the NAPO Los Angeles Board of Directors 2012-2013 term officially came to a close, and the new Board term officially began. On the precise date that this occurred, our Chapter did not hold a special meeting or have Board installations. In fact, nothing particularly ceremonious took place. The "Official" turn over date is determined by our National headquarters. Traditionally, the outgoing NAPO LA President works with the incoming President, to create a smooth transition process. Since you have chosen for me to continue for another year as the Chapter President, I have been and will continue to consult with myself in order to effectuate a smooth transition. So far, so good!

I would like to personally thank our outgoing Board members for their dedication and commitment during their time of service. Your time and energy has been well spent and truly appreciated. NAPO Los Angeles is better off as a result of your holistic and creative approach to hard work.

I also want to extend a warm welcome to our new Board members! We have already spent a day together learning about the roles and responsibilities of being a NAPO LA Board member and the orientation process will be ongoing.

To all of our Chapter members (including Board members) who filled a multitude of volunteer positions throughout the past year, thank you for stepping up when we needed you most! The foundation and success of our Chapter is built upon a group of devoted, caring, enthusiastic organizers who have demonstrated their commitment to our continued growth and innovation. The willingness of individuals to rise to the occasion and lend a helping hand has been remarkable.

To our incoming Board members, here we go! We are at the beginning of another year full of twists, turns, excitement, enrichment and accomplishment. As we all know, no one person is ever as strong or as capable as a team that is working in unison, collectively reaching to achieve the improbable. Here we go!

As the summer gets underway, the Board of Directors will continue to work on finalizing our Strategic Plan, goal setting, and event planning for the coming year.

I would particularly like to encourage all of our members to think about what you have to contribute and how you would like to be involved in NAPO LA. Our success rests upon your involvement and suggestions, so that we are an engaged chapter, not a passive one. At NAPO-LA, we offer all kinds of opportunities for your personal and professional growth and we look forward to you receiving these same benefits through volunteering and personal participation. Here we go!

NAPO-LA Chapter Meeting

June Chapter Meeting

Exceptional Organizing: Strategies for De-cluttering People with Special Needs

Downsize and Get Organized
805.409.4638



Treasurer
Lisa Suchesk
Timeline Organizing
562.438.5650



Secretary
Nancy McFarland
Association of Personal Photo Organizers
323.273.8775



Director of Administration
Mary Anne Lantieri
Apparent Priority
818.314.2128



Director of Communications & Technology
Katherine Macey
Organize to Excel
310.800.7430



Director of Marketing
Christie Gelsomino
Vision to be Organized
661.993.8291



Director of Membership
Tara Kenavan
21 Times
818.358.3363

and Abilities

It seems like everybody has clutter. Whether you have two legs or get around on two wheels, clutter seems to find a way into your day. Sometimes people are born with organizing challenges, or they're disorganized as a result of a life-changing experience. Overcoming daily obstacles can be an obstacle in itself. Please join us when Yael Hagen (disability rights activist), Ruthee Goldkorn (founder, O (No) Barriers Disabled Access Consulting and Advocacy Services Founder), and Cynthia DeJesus (Ms. Wheelchair California) for a panel discussion on organizing for people with special needs and abilities.



Yael Hagen is a wife, mother, advocate and innovative problem solver. Much of her personal and professional life is dedicated to finding innovative solutions to better the lives of those with disabilities. Her current career path is as a Consultant with expertise in disability-related issues. Mrs. Hagen is currently working for Access Services as a consultant on this first-of-its-kind Parents with Disabilities Paratransit Pilot Program. This program is designed to provide parents with disabilities and others a safer and more usable travel option when traveling with their children. She was diagnosed as a young girl with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis and uveitis (an inflammation in the eyes). Throughout her lifetime, the severity of her disability has fluctuated. "I am proud to have initiated and continued to participate in a program that among its many virtues, brings parents with disabilities needs to the forefront."



Ruthee Goldkorn is the President of the Ms. Wheelchair California Pageant. She worked in the medical field, both in Obstetrics and Gynecology, and in management prior to retiring. In 2001, Ruthee was crowned Ms. Wheelchair California. She established "O (No) Barriers" Disabled Access Consulting and Advocacy Services in 1995. She is also a member of the Executive Committee for Californians for Disability Rights, Inc. She is very active in the community, serving on many boards and is a member of many associations.



Cynthia DeJesus is currently studying toward her PhD in Cultural Anthropology from University of Iowa Extension. She is currently CEO, coaching, and contracting for DeJesus Coaching Services. A strong advocate for children, families, and the disabled, she involves her coaching with clients and faith formation students in the social etiquette of advocating for the other and the disabled at home, as well as overseas. She believes anyone can change the world. Every single person can make a difference. The difference in a smile, for the person who genuinely needs a smile in the moment. The person for whom we leave a place. The person assisted with a door. Even the hand held for a fleeting moment while listening to their story. She believes to the recipient of daily kindnesses; we all can be heroes. Her professional interests focus on education and technological advances within the disabilities sector; and, her current projects include the knowledge, awareness, and rehabilitation of orphanages for the disabled in Romania. In addition, she serves as spokesperson for Kinder mit Handicap at Weisenhaus in Rumänien, Stadt Satu Mare. She is a member of the Coaches Federation and was recently honored with the Golden Key International Honour Award for her pursuit of academic excellence.

When:

Monday, June 24, 2013, 6:15 pm

Where:

The Olympic Collection Conference Center at 11301 West Olympic Blvd. in West Los Angeles (cross street is Sawtelle). The usual meeting room is on the second floor.

Who:

All professional organizers and those interested in entering the field are welcome to attend. Professional business attire requested.

Cost:

Meeting charge is \$15 for NAPO-LA members and \$25 for visitors. (CASH or CHECK only please.)

Parking:

\$6 in the underground parking. Limited street parking is available after 6:00 pm.

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

Golden Circle

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 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.



Director of Associate Membership

Robyn Reynolds
[Organize2Harmonize](#)
310.625.6522



Member At Large

Leslie Haber
[An Organized Life](#)
213.507.1389



Director of Professional Development

Regina Lark
[A Clear Path](#)
818.400.9592

Coordinators & Committee Chairs

- CD Support Group: Jean Furuya
- Database Coordinator: Cari Dawson
- Greeter: Nancy McFarland
- Historian: Christie Gelsomino
- Librarian: Mary Ann Lantier
- Co-Member Spotlight Coordinators:
Deron Bos
Tanya Whitford
- Neighborhood Group Facilitators:
Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena: Cari Dawson
South Bay: Roxanne Hoerning
San Fernando Valley: Janet Fishman
- Online Ambassador: Open
- Photographers: Sara Getzkin
- Professional Organizers Learning Academy (POLA):
Jean Furuya
Regina Lark
- Registration Assistant: Nonnahs Driskill
- Social Media: Open
- Visitor Liaison: Lori Gersh
- Webmaster-Events: Open

The Los Angeles Organizer



Editor
Deron Bos
[Bos Organization](#)
editor@napola.org

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 email at goldencircle@napola.org

Member Article: Preparing Your Clients for the Big Move

Preparing Your Clients for the Big Move: Finding a Qualified Mover

The critical questions to ask a moving company before hiring

NorthStar Moving Co-Founder and NAPO-LA Member Laura McHolm

Is Googling "moving company" really the best way of seeing your clients smoothly into their new home? Sure, you will find a mover, but will you find a mover you would use again? Instead, educate yourself and your clients on what to look for when hiring a mover. Not only will their belongings arrive in their new place safely, you'll also be setting your services apart. You'll have them feeling well taken care of and cross off worries and to-dos from their list.

The month of May is actually the kick off of the busy moving season and appropriately, National Moving Month. So, first, when choosing a moving company, reputation is crucial. And, a great reputation saves your clients time and money. But how do you know whom to trust and to recommend? Asking key questions not only uncovers a wealth of knowledge about the company and helps prepare everyone for moving day, but a little extra research can save everyone a huge hassle in the long run. Here are some surefire questions to ask before hiring a mover:

- How long has the moving company been in business? Experience counts and a track record shows the ability to deliver each and every time.
- Are they licensed? (Ask for a copy of their license and keep it on file.)
- Have they won any awards or accolades for service? Can they share any letters of recommendation? If they haven't won any awards for service, chances are they aren't going to win any awards from you. Remember, a great reputation absolutely saves everyone money. No one gives a glowing review to a company that over promised, under delivered and over charged.
- Be sure to check out the company's rating with the Better Business Bureau (BBB). Social media sites such as Yelp, Citysearch and TrustLink will also give you a look into other people's experiences with the company.
- Don't forget about coverage. What insurance do they offer? Is the moving company able to produce a Certificate of Insurance to protect your home? Also, your clients should be advised to check to see if their personal items are covered under their homeowners or renters policy. If not, they may need to consider supplemental moving insurance.
- Low rates don't necessarily mean a low final bill. Study rates! What do their rates really include? Are fuel charges incorporated? Also, just like the airlines, rates can vary based on season and days of the week. Will they give your client a better rate if they move on a Sunday as opposed to a Monday? The best indicator of getting good value is a good reputation. Again, no one wins awards for service when they overcharge.
- If your client is moving out of state, ask the company to explain in detail its consolidation policy and delivery windows. Consolidation is when your belongings are combined with other people's and shipped together. It's a great way to save money, but be aware that it may add time to the delivery schedule because multiple shipments are needed.
- Will the moving crew wrap and protect their furniture to prevent damages? How many movers will be on the job? How long will the job take? Are there enough hours in the day? Will they be charged if there is overtime? By law a moving company can only give you rates on the phone, not estimates on the phone.
- What sort of specialty experience do they have? Are they familiar with high rises and elevators? Additional men and equipment can mean surprising extra costs.
- Ask the movers to measure your doorways, stairways, elevators etc... and take pictures of them before the move so they can't be blamed for any damage.
- Advise your clients to measure all their furniture. Have them make a scale drawing of every room and scale cut out furniture. Think paperdolls for grown ups. Then have them figure out how they would like their furniture arranged in advance. Will it all fit? This saves a lot of time while the movers are on the clock.
- Lastly, let the moving estimator ask YOU questions. If he/she hasn't asked a single question, yet is ready to give an estimate, turn and run.

Laura McHolm is co-founder of NorthStar Moving Company and an organizational & storage expert. NorthStar Moving Company is an "A+" rated company, which specializes in providing eco-luxury moving and storage services. www.northstarmoving.com

Volunteer In NAPO-LA

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

Website Calendar Manager

The website calendar manager is responsible for keeping the online Chapter calendar up to date and for posting meeting information on the website. Some tech knowledge or a willingness to learn necessary. Full training available. Approximate time commitment: 30 minutes - 1 hour per month.

General Information

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 the Director of Administration, Susana Enriquez, at administration@napola.org or the board/committee member directly.



Publisher
Michelle Powell
Some Like It Organized
publisher@napola.org

Proofreader
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 toeditor@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
\$45 Non NAPO-LA Members
Submit ads to editor@napola.org

Associate Members



123 Moving and Storage
Email Sean Ward
(310) 618-8120



Garde Robe
Email Janine Castro
(858) 336-0471

NAPO-LA Professional Organizers Learning Academy

THE PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZERS LEARNING ACADEMY PRESENTS...



What Every Organizer Should Know about Social Media

By now almost every business person knows that social media is an important part of a company's marketing efforts. How can you use social media to grow your business? How can you stay on top of social media without letting it consume you?

[Click here to register!](#)

During this 4-hour Saturday workshop, we will cover:

- How to set yourself apart and position yourself as an expert
- How to grow an on-line community
- Social media best practices (e.g. how to make friends, not enemies, on-line) and how they vary from site to site
- Tools to help you manage your efforts

We will also cover the latest trends and most popular networks so that you are up-to-speed and can zero in to find your tribe.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Alaia Williams

Alaia Williams works with business owners and professionals who are ready to grow their businesses and enhance their careers. Since she was a teenager, Alaia has had a passion for improving herself and the world around her. Blending that passion, her enthusiasm for technology, and her experience with small business systems and processes, she focuses on helping clients get things done so they can get their work out into the world. Since 2008, Alaia has helped small businesses with social media through workshops, classes, strategy, and social media management. In addition to her consulting work, Alaia also founded and currently runs The Entrepreneur Connection, a networking group for entrepreneurs and small business owners, and At the Helm: Women in Biz, a women's business conference.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Meeting Time & Location

Date:

Saturday, July 20, 2013
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location:

Leeza's Care Connection,
501 S. Buena Vista Street,
Burbank

Cost:

PRE-REGISTRATION:
NAPO-LA Members \$49
Non-Members \$59

ON-SITE REGISTRATION:
NAPO-LA Members \$59
Non-Members \$69

ON-SITE PARKING FEE: \$6

Important:

Pre-registration will close Tuesday, July 16, 2013.

On-site registration will be available with an additional \$10 fee.

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

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

For More Info:

contact: pola@napola.org

-or-

For details about NAPO-LA Education Committee classes, visit napola.org, click on Education tab



Go Junk Free America!
 Email [Evan Berger](mailto:Evan.Berger@gojunkfree.com)
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 (818) 232-7683

Pendaflex
 Office Organization Products
 Email [Barbara Schmit](mailto:Barbara.Schmit@pendaflex.com)
 (818) 232-7683

Chapter Photo Albums

Follow these steps on napola.org to view our chapter's pictures!

Go to: <http://www.napola.org>
 Roll over Media tab
 Click Photo Album Archives
 Click on "click here" link

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 - \$190 (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](#)

For more information:

contact pola@napola.org

For details about NAPO-LA Education Committee classes, visit: napola.org, click on Education tab

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Don't forget to visit our [Facebook page](#).

Institute for Challenging Disorganization



Registration is now open for ICD's "Climbing to New Heights" Conference, September 19-21, 2013 in Denver, Colorado. [Click here to register.](#)

Invest in your knowledge about challenging organizing and become more effective with clients on the topics of ADD, Collecting, Dementia, Hoarding, Stress Management, and more by attending this spectacular conference and the optional post conference workshop on leading a clutter/hoarding support group.

Those of you who have attended conference before know that what happens between the sessions is just as valuable as what happens within them. If you have never attended conference before, plan to join us this year.

[Register today for the adventure of "Climbing to New Heights."](#)

Check Out Our Speaker Line-Up for 2013!

- **Celebrating Inattention: ADHD, Neurodiversity, and Multiple Intelligences**
Thomas Armstrong, Ph.D.
- **Female Treasures: What We Cherish, How We Relinquish, and Why**
Melinda Barlow, Ph.D.
- **Strategies for Working with Clients with Memory Impairment**
Laurie White, MSW
- **Ask the CPO-CD Panel**
Your burning questions answered by CPO-CD's with diverse client experience.
- **From Inside-Out: The Culture of Families Dominated by Hoarding Disorder**
Suzanne Chabaud, Ph.D.
- **Living Stress Free**
Don Goewey
- **The Power of Peer Support When You Have Too Much**
Lee Shuer
- **Case Studies: Theory into Practice**
Denslow Brown, CPO-CD, ICD Master Trainer, CPO, SCAC, MCC

[Click here](#) for more information on the sessions and speakers.

Optional Post-Conference Workshop

Now integrated into the registration process!
 Sunday, September 22, 2013, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

How to Run the *Buried in Treasures* Workshop

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn from the course's co-creator, Lee Shuer! This six hour training will equip attendees to start and facilitate a self-help group for people who have too much clutter. Additional fee required. Fee includes materials.

Plan to stay the extra day to benefit from this unique training.

To find out more, [click here](#).



Conference Hotel The beautiful Sheraton Downtown Hotel, 1550 Court Place, Denver, CO 80202, USA is our 2013 conference hotel. Situated along a mile-long tree-lined promenade featuring outdoor bistros, microbreweries, shopping, and entertainment, the Sheraton has complimentary local shuttles for added convenience. The hotel is also one block from Colorado's State Capitol, 3-1/2 blocks from the Colorado Convention Center, and minutes from Coors Field - home of the Colorado Rockies and the Pepsi Center - home of the Denver Nuggets and Colorado Avalanche. It is located 35-45 minutes from Denver International Airport (DEN).

[Click here for more information.](#)

Want to be a conference sponsor and see your logo here?

ICD has three levels of conference sponsorship. Let your colleagues know about the products or services your have available by gaining visibility at ICD's annual conference.

Contact Conference Sponsor Liaisons Cris Sgrott-Wheedleton and Collette Shine at sponsorship@challengingdisorganization.org.

Education. Research. Strategies.

CD 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 July 9. Topic will be "Women & ADHD". Meeting time is from 6pm to 8:30pm. Time will also be spend sharing our individual client issues. Limited to 12 attendees. A simple pot luck is planned.

To RSVP or for further information, email Jean Furuya at Jean@TheOfficeJeanie.com or call (310) 316-1753.

NAPO-LA Neighborhood Groups

Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena Neighborhood Group:

We had a great meeting in March at Cari Dawson's home. Our topic was "Client Communications," and we covered everything from first contact through client and lead follow-up. It was a great discussion.

On May 11th Tanya Whitford hosted us, and we shared our favorite Smart Phone/Tablet Apps and how we use them with our clients or in running our businesses. Very valuable information.

Our next meeting is July 11th. If you are in our area and would like to join our group, please contact Cari Dawson.

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.

Burbank/Glendale/Pasadena: [Cari Dawson, Facilitator](#)
South Bay: [Roxanne Hoerning, Facilitator](#)

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](#).