

President's Message

January 2012

Happy New Year... As we welcome in the new year, TxPPA continues to grow and become the organization that we all dreamed of several years ago. As we all face the challenges that 2012 brings, I hope that TxPPA can serve as a resource to meet those challenges and provide the assistance, networking and community to assist you. I look forward to serving TxPPA along with the executive committee (**Sandy Bradley**, Vice President, **Kelli Davis**, Secretary, and **Donna Riley**, Treasurer). A special thanks goes out to **Kay Foster**, immediate Past President for all of her hard work and dedication. Previous TxPPA presidents, **Jack Beacham** and **Cheryl Turney** have provided the leadership and direction that has made TxPPA (the only statewide purchasing organization in Texas) the great organization it is.

If you have not signed up for the list serve, I encourage you to do so, and actively participate by posting your questions, assistance, answers and comments. This list serve can be a valuable resource in our everyday purchasing lives.

TxPPA has many committees such as Communications, Legislative, Membership, Professional Development, Sponsorship and others listed on this website. I encourage each of you to contact the chairpersons listed and volunteer to assist (in any way possible) the committee of your choosing.

Our next event will be the **Spring Conference** on March 28-30, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza in Austin. Early registration rates and hotel rates are only good through March 6, 2012. Please make sure to register early. The conference committee is hard at work preparing a great agenda with fantastic speakers and topics. These conferences provide a great opportunity for both new people to the purchasing profession as well as the purchasing veteran. A special thanks to **Donna Riley** and **Sandy Bradley** for all the hard work in what will be a great conference.

This summer, the **2012 Momentum Conference** will be held at a new location. We will be moving the annual conference from South Padre Island to **Galveston**. The conference will be June 27-29 at the **Hilton Galveston Island Resort**. This conference will continue with its great tradition of providing quality professional development in a great location. Please make plans to attend. Please be advised that there will be a competing conference held in South Padre by the NAPM Rio Grande Valley, however the right conference to attend will be in Galveston with the great topics and speakers you have enjoyed in the past.

Our **2012 Fall Conference** will be traveling to **San Antonio** in November 2012. The Fall conference has traveled to different locations in Texas to provide quality professional development to all of Texas. Last year's event in Lubbock was a great success and San Antonio will be no different. This year's event will be held

November 7-9th, 2012 at the St. Anthony's Riverwalk hotel. The room rate secured is very affordable and this event will continue to provide purchasing professionals a great event.

Next year's events for the Spring Legislative Workshop will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Austin on March 27-29, 2013.

The Board is looking for a location to host the Fall 2013 conference. If you are interested in hosting this conference in your area, please contact Jack Beacham for details.

In 2011, TxPPA voted to hire an association management firm, MPire (MMG). This has provided TxPPA to grow and prosper. Blaine Siske (blaine@tppa.org) and Tiffany Chase (tiffany@txppa.org) are the contacts and can answer questions regarding membership and upcoming conferences.

One of the continuing efforts of TxPPA has and will be the Texas Unified Purchasing Code. **Mark Rogers** has spearheaded this initiative. Having a Unified Code for all Texas Purchasing professionals will a great step forward for our profession. If you are interested in assisting Mark and the committee, please contact him at markrogers15@hotmail.com.

I really look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming conference in Austin and the wonderful things 2012 brings TxPPA.

Sincerely,

TxPPA President
Mark Vechione, RTSBA
Socorro Independent School District