

Organizing Estate Documents

Next Chapter Meeting - April 6, 2009



Join us to learn from estate expert and NAPO-WDC chapter member, Norman Zalfa of *Organize Your Estate, Inc.* He will review the important skills needed to "Help Clients Organize Their Estate Documents."

The presentation will include tips on

getting started, what to include in the inventory of property, paper retention guidelines, and how to add estate planning to your roster of services.

Ask the Expert Focus Group

Come early (6:15 pm) to register and network. If you are new to organizing, attend our informal "Ask the Expert" Focus Group from 6:30 to 6:55 pm, hosted by a member of NAPO's Golden Circle.

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April 6 Chapter Meeting Location

Location

Hyatt Regency Bethesda
7400 Wisconsin Avenue
1 Bethesda Metro Center
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 657-1234
Bethesda.hyatt.com

Parking is \$7.00 at the hotel or by the hour in several nearby public garages (75 cents per hour for the first 3 hours). Quarters are required.

Agenda

6:30 - 7:00 pm Registration, Networking and "Ask the Expert" Focus Group

7:00 - 9:00 pm Business Meeting and Program

Guests are welcome to attend for a \$25 fee per meeting.

Professional attire please.

Chapter Mission:

To develop, lead and promote professional organizers and the organizing industry.

Date Change for the May Dinner

The Membership Appreciation and Awards Dinner has been changed to Monday, May 11, 2009. The dinner was changed to accommodate the chapter members who will be traveling back from the National Conference in Orlando. This will allow all chapter members to participate in this fun event. For more information on the dinner, please read page 2.

This Issue

Home Staging

NAPO-WDC 2008-2009

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Membership Appreciation and Awards Dinner

Monday, May 11, 2009 6:30 pm - \$30 per person

Open to NAPO-WDC Members and
Corporate Partners only.
No spouses or guests please.

Wildfire Restaurant Tysons Galleria,
1714U International Drive
McLean, VA 22102
703-442-9110

Join fellow NAPO-WDC members, the
Board of Directors, and Corporate Part-
ners for a lively evening of networking and
appreciation! This year we'll be dining at
Wildfire, a new steak and chop house.
Some of Wildfire's signature dishes will be
served family style for this event.

Please join us to celebrate and congratu-
late our award winners: Professional Or-

ganizer of the Year, Volunteer of the Year,
the President's Key Leader Award, and
Corporate Partner of the Year. In addition,
this is the evening when one lucky mem-
ber will win a free NAPO-WDC Member-
ship for the 2009-2010 chapter year!

You have two ways to reserve your seat
for this event. Cheryl Richardson will be
available to accept payment at the April
chapter meeting or you can send a check
for \$30 made payable to NAPO-WDC,
Attn: Cheryl Richardson, P.O. Box 7301,
Arlington, VA 22207 by May 4, 2009.
Please send any questions or dietary
concerns to Cheryl at [development@
dcorganizers.org](mailto:development@dcorganizers.org).

By Invitation Only

New Member Brunch

Saturday April 11, 2009 10am – 12pm

Caitlin Shear's home

Annandale, Virginia

If you joined the chapter after September 1, 2008, you are invited to be our guest. Come
and meet the other new members as well as the current and new board members.

Relax, enjoy the food and learn more about the benefits of NAPO membership.

To RSVP, please contact Karen Swain at Karen@spacematters.com.

If you work in D.C., check into their newly required General Business License to see if it
applies to you. Deadlines for some are already past; other deadlines are coming up
soon. Info is on their website: <http://dcra.dc.gov/dcra/cwp/view,A,1343,Q,642631.asp>

Staging to Live



Janet Schiesl
Basic Organization
www.BasicOrganization.com

We have all heard of home staging. It's all about presentation.

When you are selling your home, making it look its best by presenting a nice interior is important. Home sellers are motivated to hire a

stager to sell their house faster and for more money. A home stager may work with what exists in a home to enhance its positive aspects. Some home stagers also keep an inventory of decorative items to enhance the look.

As professional organizers, you probably have done a bit of home staging for clients. You may not have a name for it, but Barb Schwarz, in her book "Home Staging, The Winning Way to Sell Your House for More Money" uses the phrase "Staging to Live". I believe that is what we do for our clients. Have you ever noticed that a senior client's favorite chair is located too far away from his TV for easy viewing? Do you suggest moving it to a place that works better for him? Does he need more lighting or a side table at the chair's new location? Another client may have their kitchen table obstructing the flow of movement in a kitchen.

By making these observations and suggesting a change, you are "Staging to Live". A professional organizer understands that sometimes these obstructions can cause clutter to pile up. By incorporating staging as part of the system you set up, clients may be able to more easily make the new system work.

There are guidelines you can use to help you in assisting your clients. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has standards for accessible design at <http://www.ada.gov/stdspdf.htm>. These guidelines state how to place furniture with enough space for reasonable movement. In Peter Walsh's book, "It's All Too Much" there is a guideline you can use when working in a closet. It lists how many of a particular type of item will fit into one foot of space.

"Staging to Live" also suggests that you live with the things you love. We so often save our favorite things for "some day". We pull out the good stuff when company is coming. Instead, "Staging to Live," suggests you burn those special candles, use that good china, wear what you love and enjoy things in the present. "Staging to Live" means living your best life.

Blog Watch



Judy Parkins
Gently Organized
www.gentlyorganized.com

With over a million blogs on the Internet, we can spend hours looking for those related to organizing and design. There are new products as well as creative uses for well known products.

Now, The Washington Post has a new offering in the weekly home section called

Blogwatch by Terri Sapienza. This gave me an idea. We all have favorite blogs so let's share them via the NAPO-WDC newsletter. Submit your favorite blog to Janet@BasicOrganization.com and we'll post it. Be sure to include a one sentence summary about what the blog offers. I'll start with one of my favorites: Unclutterer (www.Unclutterer.com) offers daily tips on how to organize your home and office. What are your favorites?

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Incorporating Home Staging Techniques

into Professional Organizing

September

- 8 Chapter Meeting:
The Art of Pre-
Assessment
Westin
Tysons Corner
- 23 Book Club North
- 25-27 NSGCD
Conference
St. Louis, MO

October

- 6 Chapter Meeting:
Tech-Savvy
Organizing
Hyatt Regency
Bethesda, MD
- 22 Book Club South

November

- 1 New Member
Brunch
Invitation Only
Clarksburg, MD
- 3 Chapter Meeting:
Roundtable
Discussions
Westin
Tysons Corner
- 18 Book Club North

December

- 1 Chapter Meeting:
"My Mother's
Garden"
Hyatt Regency
Bethesda, MD
- 10 Book Club South

January

- 5 Chapter Meeting:
Am I Making a Living
at This?
Westin
Tysons Corner
- 13 Book Club North

(Continued on page 5)



Lauri Mennel
Bluebonnet Professional
Organizing
www.BluebonnetPO.com

It may seem counterintuitive to think about adding home staging to your professional organizing bag of tricks during the current housing crisis. However, sellers and their agents are feeling compelled to do whatever they can to gain an advantage over the competition in this down market.

This thought process led me to check out the book "Home Staging for Dummies" by Christine Rae and Jan Saunders Maresh. In addition to learning about basic staging techniques for home sellers, I also found that there may be certain techniques that we can use to help our residential organizing clients "stage" their homes *for themselves*. In other words, we might be able to help clients realize their vision of not only an uncluttered, more relaxed living environment, but also how to arrange furniture and objects, and make other improvements, to best reflect the renewed sense of order in their homes.

As I read the books numerous tips and suggestions, it got me thinking about this "owner-centered staging" process. I found myself asking questions like what would I do in my own home if I was preparing to put it on the market? Would I rearrange furniture to make a more open environment? Would I clear out any items to make a particular space more inviting? What things might I purchase to make my home more inviting? Would I replace some well-used items with more current

styles? What could I do on a daily basis to make my home a more pleasing place to live?

Home staging and professional organizing can go hand-in-hand even with clients not putting their homes on the market. By using visionary verbiage with your clients and getting them to think about how they would view their own home if they were selling it, we might be able to do more than just help them declutter.

In this down market, many folks are choosing to "stay put" in their homes rather than "moving up". Putting money into professional organizing and "staging for you" can be a good investment, both fiscally and emotionally.

According to the authors, the following changes make the biggest impact on buyers (pages 25 – 28):

1. Lighten and brighten
2. Add warmth and style with color
3. Clean and de-clutter
4. Upgrade kitchen and baths
5. Repair floors and replace carpet

If these changes can have a big impact on buyers, wouldn't it make sense that they might have a big impact on the homeowner's sense of well-being in their homes? Of course, we've got number three covered but the other broad suggestions might help us assist our clients with their own staging process even if we are not professional interior designers or experienced home stagers.

Hmm, I think I'll go look at paint chips for that hall bath I've wanted to update!

NAPO-WDC is looking to grow our Corporate Partner (CP) program. We need your help! The Corporate Partner committee is in need of volunteers to assist with our recruitment efforts and serve our current CPs. Do you want to help shape the future of NAPO-WDC? Volunteer today! Contact NAPO-WDC Director of Corporate Partners, Kim Oser at corppartners@dcorganizers.org or 240-350-9091.

Sharing the Experience

(Continued from page 4)



Amy Goldberg-Cutler
The Runaround
NAPO-WDC Director
of Marketing
www.runaround.com

In these trying economic times, the need for gently used household items is greater than ever. When you are helping your clients improve their homes, they can be helping someone else create a home. I recently paid a visit to A Wider Circle, a nonprofit organization that serves individuals and families living in poverty in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan region. Their programs reach low-income children, teens, seniors, individuals who are disabled, and adults who lack access to the resources that many of us take for granted. I was struck not only by the acute need for their services, but also by the volume of donations that are dis-

tributed on a continuing basis. In the short time I was there, three families were able to choose the items they need in order to move into a home.

I have always encouraged my clients, as we all do, to donate their "extra" things to charity. I must confess that I didn't realize the impact of this action until I was able to see how appreciative this could be. The families that are reached by A Wider Circle don't have the resources to go buy the most basic necessities, a bed, sheets or a chair in a consignment or resale shop. My spring cleaning project this year will be a little different. Not only will I be looking for the extras that I don't want, but I will also be looking for items that I don't need that could help someone else.

Additional information on this very worthwhile organization can be found at www.awidercircle.org.

February

- 2 Chapter Meeting: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink: The 4 "R's" of Electronics
Hyatt Regency Bethesda, MD
- 18 Book Club South

March

- 11 Chapter Meeting: Envisioning the Future
Westin Tysons Corner
- 24 Book Club North

April

- 6 Chapter Meeting: Organize Your Estate
Bethesda, MD
- 22 Book Club South
- 29- May 2 NAPO National Conference
Orlando, Florida

May

- 11 Chapter Meeting: Annual Awards Dinner
TBD
- 19 Book Club North

June

- 1 Chapter Meeting: A Few of Our Favorite Things
Hyatt Regency Bethesda, MD
- 17 Book Club South

July

- TBD Book Club North

No chapter meetings in July or August.

Motivation for Spring-Cleaning



Victoria Robinson
Clutterbucks
clutterbucksvar@cox.net

Social-Justice Yard Sale in Oakton, Virginia provides a 'win-win' chance to lighten up your home and clients' homes, while lighting up the lives of immigrant families and the working poor.

For the past six years, I've volunteered to sort, setup and sell at Northern Virginia's largest charity yard sale. This year the sale will be held on May 2, 7am-1pm, at the Unitarian Church, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, VA 22124.

As organizers, we thrive on walking into a chaotic space of co-mingled things and creating order. That's what happens during the Wednesday through Friday yard sale set-up days. It's hard work, but Fun! If you're not going to conference, please consider volunteering April 29 - May 2.

The yard sale shoppers include not just

church members and neighbors, but many low-income people who really need our household and clothing basics.

Who else benefits? The four social-justice groups who work to earn their portion of yard sale funds. Profits go to:

- Mosaic Harmony. A multi-cultural, interfaith community choir.
- Our Daily Bread. Providing food to Fairfax County poor.
- Partner Church. UUCF's link to struggling 'sister' churches in India and Romania.
- The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Services and classes by and for seniors.

Offering to personally delivery your clients' donations on April 29 or 30 could be a big help to them. For a flyer with donation specifics or to volunteer, contact Victoria Robinson at 703-237-6826 or ClutterbucksVAR@cox.net.

PR Corner

Cheryl Larson, *Cheryl's Organizing Concepts*, gave a presentation on home organizing for the Montgomery County Stroke Association at Suburban Hospital on March 3.

Janet Schiesl, *Basic Organization*, was interviewed in an article titled "Dominate Your Disorder" for the March issue of Northern Virginia Magazine.

Scott Roewer, CPO®, *Solutions by Scott*, was interviewed for "Too Much Stuff," by Melody Warnick, in the January issue of Woman's Day, "Neat & Cheap," by Martha White, February/March issue of Consumer Reports ShopSmart, and "On The House," by Nancy Schoeffler, The Hartford Courant, on March 6.

Scott was also a contributor on the popular blog, SheKnows®, "Cleaning Can Be Fun" and "10 Must-Haves for The Busy Mom's Kitchen", Melissa Chapman-Mushnick, SheKnows®, March 9.

C.Lee Cawley, CPO®, *Simplify You, Inc.* was quoted in the cover article of the March 12 Washington Post Home section. The article was called "So Many Toys, So Little Order".

Welcome New Member!

Mary Al-Fakhri
571-730-7716
maryalfakhri@verizon.net

There are currently 123 members and 12 Corporate Partners in NAPO-WDC. 52 members attended the February meeting and the chapter hosted five guests.

Home Staging

Rebecca Lang
Clutter Organizers
www.ClutterOrganizers.com

People shopping for a new home buy with their emotions! What's at stake is whether or not you will sell your home quickly and for the best price. The potential buyer must see the possibilities of the home to make the purchase. A properly staged home will convey the feelings of comfort and warmth that appeal to the buyer's vision of living in the home. As with a luxurious hotel suite, staging is about de-personalizing the space and creating an atmosphere of comfort. Potential buyers must have a sense of what they would feel like living in this home.

Real estate professionals understand that a staged home sells much faster than an empty home, and often for a better price. An investment in having your property staged can offer great returns and often a quicker turnaround time.

A home staging consultant will first visit your home and take pictures to present a proposal of work that needs to be accomplished. Typically, checklists of items that need attention are presented.

This checklist includes but is not limited to:

- Furniture
- Accessories
- Artwork
- Colors
- Drapes

They will advise their client of storage solutions for items that will not be used in the staging process. Their services include coordinating any necessary handyman, cleaning and painting services. They can setting a temporary kitchen for use while the home is on the market.

Layout and placement of furnishings, accessories and artwork is done after all other steps are accomplished.

If you choose to do some of the work yourself, one of our recommendations would be to start with the outside of the

home. Attractive curb appeal is always a key selling point. Uncluttered and inviting space is what you want the buyer to see as they approach your home. No debris, toys, lawnmowers or trash should be visible. When your home looks neat, buyers will often not look too deeply to see what may be wrong. By making your home visibly appealing, it will say: "Buy me, I am a good deal."

Outside Checklist

- Front entrance is clean
- Windows are sparkling
- Siding is painted and in good condition
- Fences and gates are in good working order
- Sidewalks and driveways are clear
- Gutters and downspouts are clean

Inside Checklist

- Use magic eraser on walls to remove marks
- Fresh paint throughout will pay for itself
- Clean, Clean, Clean
- Less furniture is more space
- Fix all leaks, hide plunger and drain cleaner. Their presence may suggest a problem
- Light is king - so turn on the lights
- Replace burned out light bulbs
- Let the light in by opening the blinds
- Unclutter your space
- Secure all personal belongs. Do not leave valuables out. This includes spare keys
- Bedrooms should look welcoming. Beds are made every morning
- Bathrooms clean and clutter-free
- Kitchens – clear all unused appliances
- Sinks clear of dirty dishes
- Make sure counter-tops are clear
- Remove pets when your house is being shown
- Ask friends to smell your home.

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Most people cannot smell offensive smells in their own homes

If you are planning to stage your home, start about two months before you are

going to put your home on the market. When choosing a home staging professional, allow about one to two weeks before listing it for sale. After staging, you can be sure your home is ready for its new owner.

March 16 Chapter Meeting Review



Sandra Merrigan
Organizing Chaos
NAPO-WDC Secretary
Organizing-chaos@erols.com

The chapter meeting was held on March 16, 2009 at the Westin Hotel, Tyson's Corner VA.

Announcements

BIG NEWS: The Awards Dinner will be May 11, 2009 at Wildfire Restaurant, Tyson's Corner 2, International Drive. Please RSVP by May 4 to Development@DCOrganizers.org. This is the Academy Awards of NAPO-WDC. It's always a great meal and lots of fun.

The Lending Library will have four people sharing the responsibility at chapter meetings. They are Mary Al-Fakhri, Janet Hanchuck, Tammy Laurent, and Maria White. Please visit them at the next chapter meeting Lending Library table and borrow some CDs. Thanks to the four for volunteering.

Book Share is going strong and is up online at the Yahoo Group site. We now have 60 books for sharing.

We need volunteers for "Ask the Expert" sharing at the chapter meetings. If you are interested please contact Jessica Williams at www.clutterdr.com.

At the next chapter meeting Monday, April 6, 2009, Norm Zalfa will speak on "Estate Planning and Estate Organizing for Your

Clients".

Our guest speaker was Margarita Rozenfeld, owner of Incite International (www.inciteinternational.com) and organizer of Yes Circle (www.yescircle.org). Her topic was "Creating Your Ideal Life". Through a series of questioning activities Margarita took the group through expanding their own vision of their "ideal" life. She explained these simple steps to balance and prioritize the roles in your life.

1. Identify your passions
2. Clarify your priorities and values
3. Make your intentions clear
4. Surround yourself with positive support

This gives you a vehicle for envisioning where you are today and where you want to go. Here is your homework: take three sheets of paper and colored markers. Put some great music on your iPod.

On the first sheet of paper depict where you are today using pictures, words or illustrations. On the second sheet depict where you want to be. On the third sheet depict how you're going to get there. This is your plan. Place the sheets somewhere you can see them, to remind you. This activity keeps you focused and feeling empowered to move in the direction you have envisioned. Try it! It works!

Margarita can be reached at her websites or on Facebook or Twitter.

NAPO-WDC Chapter Membership Dues

Regular Chapter membership requires membership in NAPO National (*see below*).

Regular chapter member (local)	\$165
Regular chapter member (non-local)	\$120
New member one-time processing fee	\$ 25
Corporate Partner	\$275
New Corporate Partner one-time processing fee	\$ 50

Membership year is from October 1 through September 30.

For NAPO-WDC Chapter membership information and application, visit www.DCorganizers.org or contact the Membership Director, Karen Swain at membership@dcorganizers.org. For Corporate Partner questions, contact Kim Oser at CorpPartners@dcorganizers.org.

NAPO National Member Dues

Provisional member annual dues	\$180
Active member annual dues	\$200
Corporate Associate member annual dues	\$550
One-time processing fee	\$ 20

Send NAPO National dues to:
National Association of Professional Organizers
15000 Commerce Parkway
Suite C

Mount Laurel, NJ 08054
Tel: 856-380-6828
Fax: 856-439-0525

Visit the website to download a membership application or join directly at:

<http://www.napo.net/joinnapo/regular.html>

Newsletter Information

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Newsletter Topic Schedule

Sept Client Assessments
Oct Technology for You
and Your Client
Nov Donation and Disposal
Dec Coaching
Jan Financial Organizing
Feb Great Products
Mar Special Interests
Apr Home Staging
May Organizing Generations
Jun Growing Your Business

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At the Movies

Confessions of a Shopaholic

R. Stadick
Home Organizing Service

Most of us (organizers and clients alike) have probably overspent at one time or another. The problem with Rebecca Bloomwood, the main character of the movie, is that she charged thousands of dollars on her 12 credit cards. There was no end in sight. Influenced by her parents (played by John Goodman and Joan Cusack) love for a good bargain and her discovery of "magic cards" (credit cards) as a child, Rebecca was probably destined to become a really good consumer. There was a moment in the movie every organizer could appreciate and, maybe, give her credit for: a box, among many others, in her parents' dining room was clearly labeled "open-toed shoes".

Rebecca was the master of justification. At one of her weakest moments, she said she needed gloves because "it was winter and she had hands". Buying was so easy because "all you have to do is hand over a little card". She said that spending made her feel "confident and alive and happy".

Ironically, at the height of her overspending, she became a financial advice columnist. The Girl in the Green Scarf (as she came to be known) never got around to telling her publisher/love interest about her secret affliction. After Rebecca was exposed on national television, she devoted herself to paying off her cards by selling her worldly possessions, some of which were stored in those all-too-familiar plastic vacuum bags.

It was clear that she struggled. She knew the exact number of days and months since she last used her credit cards. Eventually, she referred to herself as a reformed shopaholic. She realized that "instead of a relationship with my card, I have a relationship with someone who loves me back and defines me."

There are short appearances by Lynn Redgrave, John Lithgow, and Fred Armisen (of Saturday Night Live). Though probably most appreciated by women, this movie has something for everybody: a little romance, a little humor (some of it physical), and a very timely theme.

Website Report



Theresa McDonald
Precisely Right Organizing
NAPO-WDC Director of Communication & Technology
www.preciselyrightorganizing.com

Month/Year	Unique Visitors	Number of Visits	Pages	Hits
February 2009	724	1,108 1.53 visits/visitor	4,018 3.62 pages/visit	35,604 32.13 hits/visit
February 2008	1,276	1,823 1.55 visits/visitor	5,585 3.06 pages/visit	56,857 31.18 hits/visit

Fact: There were 16,313 less hits in February 2009 compared to January 2009.

Book Clubs

Book Club North

Coordinator: Lynn Meltzer
Clutter and Paperworks

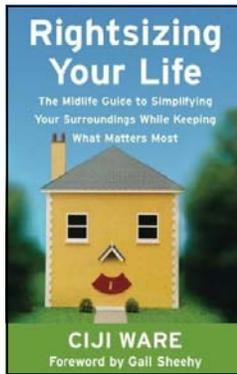
When: Tuesday, May 19, 7pm

Where: The Home of Lynn Meltzer
Bethesda, MD

Book: *Rightsizing Your Life: Simplifying Your surroundings While Keeping What Matters Most*

by Ciji Ware and Gail Sheehy

Study of midlife Americans who are reevaluating their surroundings to suit their age, stage in life and situation. How they face the daunting task of paring down a lifetime of possessions while furnishing their new lives with meaning.



Book Club South

Coordinator: Judy Parkins
Gently Organized

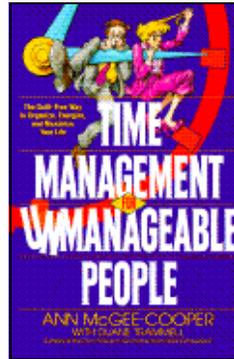
When: Wednesday, April 22, 7pm

Where: Gently Organized Office
Alexandria, VA

Book: *Time Management for Unmanageable People*

by Anne McGee-Cooper

If you have tried to follow other time management programs without success, this is the book for you. McGee-Cooper makes time management fun and flexible. It not only provides great tips, it contains valuable insights as to how different people view and use time.



(Continued from page 8)

The deadline for each newsletter submission is one week after each chapter meeting.

The NAPO-WDC Chapter is committed to providing information through the newsletter. Contributions from members are encouraged. All articles are subject to editing. Please include your full name, business name, email address and photo for possible publication.

If you would like to advertise in this newsletter, please contact Lauri Mennel, Lauri@BluebonnetPO.com. NAPO-WDC makes no endorsement of products or services advertised.

Advertising sizes and rates:

Small (3 1/2 x 2")	\$30
Medium (3 1/2 x 4")	\$50
Large (7 x 4")	\$100

25% discount for members

25% discount for repeat ads (3 or more consecutive months)

All ads must be pre-paid. Rates subject to change at anytime.

The NAPO-WDC Book Clubs meet every month and choose their own books. Take part in this great opportunity to get to know other members and to share your knowledge.

All chapter members are welcome to attend. Please check the chapter newsletter calendar (on pages 4 and 5) for future dates for both the North and South Book Club. RSVP to Lynn Meltzer at arnielynn@verizon.net or 301-530-3551 for directions to the Book Club North meetings. RSVP to Judy Parkins at judy@gentlyorganized.com or 703-548-1000 for directions to the Book Club South meetings.

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Board Meetings

The next board meeting is scheduled immediately preceding the April chapter meeting. Board meetings are open to all chapter members. To ensure enough space at the location of an upcoming board meeting, non-board members who wish to attend should contact Chapter President Michelle Bogert one week prior to the meeting.

Golden Circle

Golden Circle originated in 1990 as a way to recognize our veteran members with a special designation for their dedication to the organizing profession and to NAPO. There are more than 600 members throughout the country and 45 in our area.

If you've been in business as an organizer for at least five years and a NAPO member for at least one year, you may qualify for GC membership. To apply, go to http://napo.net/members/gc/golden_circle_application.pdf for an application.

There are no membership fees or dues and new members receive a GC certificate and gold membership pin. The GC logo can be used on your marketing collateral and you are designated in the National and Local NAPO Membership Directories, and websites, as a GC member.

GC members attend many outstanding events at the NAPO national conferences – including luncheons, special lectures and roundtable discussion groups – as well as local get togethers.



Golden Circle Report



Jessica Williams
Clutter Doctor
NAPO-WDC Golden Circle
Liaison
clutterdr@earthlink.net

Golden Circle Gatherings

The next gathering of Golden Circle members will be at the Maryland

home of Helen Montfort at 4:00pm on Sunday, April 19th. Helen's address and other details are being announced via email.

Those Golden Circle members who are attending NAPO's national conference in April will surely enjoy Thursday's members-only networking breakfast as well as the Q&A Session with Closing Keynote speaker Michael Port on Saturday.

New Golden Circle Members

The total number of local area Golden Circle members has risen to 45. Please join me in welcoming our newest members, Judy Parkins of Gently Organized, Scott Roewer of Solutions by Scott and Jackie Kelley of Clearing House. Congratulations, Judy, Scott and Jackie!

Golden Circle Listserv

If you are a part of the NAPO national chat, then you know that this membership benefit provides a wealth of information on a daily basis. But are you aware that there is also a Golden Circle Member listserv? This is another venue for more seasoned professional organizers from around the country to network, ask each other for advice, get a referral for a vendor or product or and share knowledge about a variety of topics with other Golden Circle members. Find more information about this listserv at <http://lists.napo.net/listmanager/listinfo/golden-circle>

Ask the Expert Table

At the beginning of each chapter meeting, an "Ask the Expert" table is hosted by Golden Circle members. This gives new folks an opportunity to ask questions of more seasoned organizers and for GC members to give back to the organizing community.

Many thanks to Melissa Sorensen and Susan Kousek who hosted the tables at the March meeting. Volunteers are still needed for upcoming dates. Please let Jessica know at which meeting you'd like to be the "expert!"

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