



The Organizing Authority SM

CONNECTICUT CONNECTIONS

January 2011

Next Chapter Meeting

When: January 21
9:00 a.m. – lunch

Title: Walk your Talk as a Professional Organizer

Agenda:

- Continental breakfast
- Networking
- Situation of the Month
- Panel discussion
- Buffet lunch & Door prizes

Where: Holiday Inn, North Haven, Exit 12 off Route 91

RSVP: through Evite

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President's Message

Sandra Wheeler forpeaceofmind@sbcglobal.net



Happy New Year! I do love a brand new calendar with all the white space on every page. Such possibilities stretch out in front of us!

One meeting I do hope you have on your schedule is NAPO-CT's Chapter meeting on January 21! In honor of GO Month, we are celebrating our profession. See the exciting details below.

I wish for you a fabulous New Year. May your calendar pages fill up with only those activities that bring you the most joy.

GO Month in January

In celebration of National GO Month, our January chapter meeting is going to be very fun! This meeting is open to only NAPO National members, based in Connecticut, and current NAPO-CT members in good standing. There will be lots of networking, a panel discussion "Walk your Talk as a Professional Organizer" about professionalism in the industry, followed by a buffet lunch.

We are trying Evite for our meeting invitations. If you are a current NAPO-CT member you should have received your Evite to the special January meeting on December 13th in your e-mail. Please be sure to RSVP so that we have an accurate count for lunch!

To date, raffle prizes have been donated by:



KEEPING YOU ORGANIZED

To be eligible for one of the neatfreak! door prizes, you must join the neatfreak! Facebook page between now and the January meeting. Individuals must be present at the meeting to win prizes.

November Meeting Highlights

Jennifer Alden, Secretary

Program: "Open Spaces" was facilitated by Faith Manierre. The group brainstormed those topics most on their mind, then voted on which to discuss first. The priorities were:

1. Staying busy / getting new business
2. Clients that are mean / difficult
3. Learning styles of clients
4. Breaking up or turning down a client

Time allowed us to discuss only the first two topics thoroughly. Here are some brief notes:

Staying busy

- Specialize
- Have a website – include who you are since the personal connection is so important, create a mental picture of your ideal client and make sure the website reflects that, use phrases in your meta-tags
- Referrals between the Professional Organizers in our Chapter
- Check in with your network, your clients, on a personal level
- Partner with other services – elder care, etc.
- Get a Virtual Ass't to take care of the pieces you don't like – billing, prospecting, etc.
- QuickBooks for accounting
- Check out 'mail chimp'

Difficult / Mean Clients

- "I think I have someone else for you...a better fit"
- "You may not yell at me."
- Keep boundaries
- Be clear about how you will work together.
- Keep a notepad – "Let's write that down as something to talk about later"
- Give clients two choices otherwise they may be overwhelmed

GO Month Speaking Opportunity

For the past three years, NAPO-CT has coordinated speaking engagements at Libraries throughout Connecticut, to promote National Get Organized Month and NAPO. Due to a lack of resources to help coordinate this large undertaking, instead, we are holding a special January Chapter meeting (as described above).

Several libraries have contacted NAPO-CT, asking if we will once again provide Professional Organizers as speakers for their January programs. The Farmington Library is asking if we can provide a GO Month speaker for their library. Please contact Sandra Wheeler via e-mail forpeaceofmind@sbcglobal.net if you are interested.

Note your Calendar

Title: Walk your Talk as a Professional Organizer
Speaker: Board of Directors panel discussion moderated by Judith Kirk
Date: January 21, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. through lunch

NAPO-CT Chapter members and NAPO CT-based Professional Organizers are invited to join us for networking and celebrating GO Month. The NAPO-CT Board members will serve as a panel for discussions around professionalism in our industry. Door prizes will be presented throughout the morning. Don't miss out!

Meeting Schedule for 2011

Feb 18	Chapter meeting	9:00 am – Noon
	Board - Strategic Plan update	12:30 – 2:30 pm
Mar 18	Chapter meeting	9:00 am – Noon
	New Board Welcome meeting	12:30 – 2:30 pm
Apr 15	Chapter meeting	9:00 am – Noon
	Board transition	12:30 – 2:30 pm
Apr 6-9	NAPO 25 th Annual Conference & Organizing Exposition in San Diego	
May 20	Chapter meeting	9:00 am – Noon
	Board meeting	12:30 – 2:30 pm
June 17	Chapter meeting	9:00 am – Noon

Nomination and Election Process 2011-2012

Cara Brook, Past President

At this time of year we start thinking about the future of our Chapter and its leadership. I ask that you consider the benefits that you have derived from being a member – networking with your colleagues, sharing best practices, taking advantage of the continuing education offered, etc. I ask that you consider a role as a Director or Board member. Nomination forms are due to me by Friday, January 21st. Please refer to my e-mail of 12/16/10 for more information. The leadership skills and experiences you acquire will stay with you throughout your business and personal life.

Our Library Resources

Jen Alden

We have reduced our library resources to include CPO exam information and recommended reading books. NAPO-CT members in good standing may check-out two items at a given time. There will be a space set aside at meetings for any books you wish to swap from your own library of Professional Organizing resources.

If you are interested in acting as our Chapter Librarian, please see Jen Alden.

Mailing Address

NAPO-CT
 Attn: -----
 994 North Colony Road
 PMB 127
 Wallingford, CT 06492

Web Address

www.NAPOCT.com

NAPO Dues Notice

According to National NAPO policy, if your National dues lapse for 30 days, your membership date with NAPO will be reset to the date you rejoined. NAPO-CT will adhere to the same policy. If National membership expires, chapter membership automatically expires. It is your responsibility to keep both national and chapter membership current. Notify NAPO-CT Membership Director if you have any changes in your contact information.

Weather Policy

If the North Haven schools are closed due to bad weather, our meeting will be cancelled. Check local radio and television stations for updated news.

Our **Chapter Vision** is to be the leading resource for professional organizers in Connecticut.

Our **Chapter Mission** is to:

- Support, educate and provide networking for our members.
- Promote the profession of professional organizing.
- Educate the public about professional organizing.

**Our Goal is
 Your Success**

Chapter Board of Directors

President

Sandra Wheeler (860) 608-0451
ForPeaceOfMind@sbcglobal.net

Vice President

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Committee Chairs

Advertising / Sponsorships
 Associate Membership
 Golden Circle Liaison KB Bryant
 Hospitality
 Librarian
 Mentoring Program KB Bryant

National Ambassador
 New Organizer Q&A Forum
 Newsletter Editor
 Photographer
 Website KB Bryant

Advertising Information

Connecticut Connections is published at least six times a year and sent to all NAPO-CT members, subscribers and NAPO National for posting on www.napo.net.

The NAPO-CT Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad or article. Articles and ads must be sent by email and pictures must be in .jpeg format.

A 10% discount is given for a six-issue advertisement insertion. When space is limited, chapter news has priority over any paid advertisement and chapter members have priority over non-members.

Ad size	NAPO-CT	National Member	Non-member
3 – lines	\$7.50	12.50	25.00
3.5" x 2"	15.00	25.00	35.00
¼ page	25.00	50.00	70.00
½ page	50.00	75.00	100.00
Full page	100.00	150.00	200.00