

# Connecticut Connections

October 2010

"What you have caught on film is captured forever...remembers little things long after you have forgotten everything."  
~Aaron Sisking



## Next Chapter Meeting

**When:** October 15  
9:00 a.m. – noon

**Title:** Photo Organizing –  
Tapping into this New Niche

**Facilitator:** Cathi Nelson

### Agenda:

Continental breakfast  
Networking  
Situation of the Month  
Presentation

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

**RSVP:** with an e-mail to  
[RSVP@NAPOct.com](mailto:RSVP@NAPOct.com)



## President's Message

Sandra Wheeler  
[forpeaceofmind@sbcglobal.net](mailto:forpeaceofmind@sbcglobal.net)

The autumn days are shorter and cooler. The air feels clear and crisp. The trees' leaves are beginning to turn brilliant colors before they drop to the ground. It is a season of change!

Changes on the Professional Organizing front include: NSGCD's name change effective

January 1 and NAPO National's proposed changes. A position paper was sent via e-mail to all members on October 1. A national teleconference is scheduled for Thursday evening. You are encouraged to get all the information that you need on the proposed changes before you cast your vote. You have until the end of October to cast your vote.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### NSGCD Changing its Name

Written by Faith Manierre

Beginning January 1, 2011, the National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization (commonly referred to as NSGCD) is changing its name to **the Institute for Challenging Disorganization**. The organization's new tagline will be **Education. Research. Strategies**. The new web address will be [www.challengingdisorganization.org](http://www.challengingdisorganization.org).

"The name Institute for Challenging Disorganization better reflects who we are as an organization: the premier resource for education, research, and strategies for overcoming challenging disorganization. It also better reflects what we do: benefit people whose lives are challenged by disorganization,"

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says Katherine Trezise, CPO-CD®, CPO® president of NSGCD. In particular, the term “chronic disorganization” was found to be negative and easily misunderstood. "The term 'challenging disorganization' is more inclusive and positive and less clinical-sounding than 'chronic disorganization'," says Trezise.

“People are challenged by their lack of organization for many reasons. Our new name lets people know that we have strategies to help them overcome their disorganization, regardless of whether they have been disorganized all their lives or if disorganization more recently became a problem for them.” The tagline: “Education. Research. Strategies.” refers to the various ways that the organization contributes to its three main audiences, professional organizers, related professionals, and the public.

## NAPO-National Board Proposing a Name

As outlined in the Position Paper circulated to the membership on October 1<sup>st</sup>, the NAPO Board of Directors is proposing that the name of the organization be changed from the [National Association of Professional Organizers](#) (NAPO) to Organizing and Productivity Professionals International (O.P.P.I.). The position paper proposes that the name change will broaden the scope and appeal of the organization and will further recognize that we are an international organization. The recommended amendments all relate to the organization's new name and broadened scope.

## NAPO National Conferenc Call – October 7<sup>th</sup>

NAPO National is planning a conference call for all NAPO members, for October 7<sup>th</sup>. The official invitation and details pertaining to the call were distributed to all NAPO members last week. Pre-registration was required by Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. The primary topic will be the new strategic plan for the Association. It seems that the call will be recorded for those who had prior engagements and are not able to attend.

## CHAPTER NEWS



### How to Find a Stud

Our September Chapter meeting was especially fun thanks to our own members, Betsy Krobot and Jen Burke for a really informative presentation.

Betsy and Jen introduced the benefits of being able to offer some handyman-type services to clients to help finish a job. They showed us how to use various tools: electronic stud finder, level, tape measure, drill, yardstick, safety glasses, electric screwdriver, hammer, as well as the book “Home Improvement for Dummies.”

They also covered the difference between working with plaster walls vs. sheetrock and what to do when you need to hang something and you are not near a stud.

Thank you Betsy and Jen for a great meeting!



## Thanks for Volunteering

A special thank you goes out to these members for stepping forward and volunteering their time and talents to our chapter. We so appreciate YOU!

Deb Gabinelle, thank you for serving as Secretary on the Board of Directors through the summer. Thank you for serving as our Director of Marketing for the past two years. We wish you much luck in your new role in the banking industry. We are pleased that you are remaining a chapter member.

Thanks to Jen Alden for stepping forward as Secretary on the Board of Directors. She was voted in unanimously at our last Board meeting. We are looking forward to working with you.

Thank you to Cindi Filer for stepping forward as our Director of Membership. She was voted in unanimously as well. Jen Burke will work closely with Cindi to transfer these responsibilities. Thanks again Cindi!



## Volunteers Needed

Submitted by Kerri Colombo, Cornerstone Organizing

I am slated to do another episode of "Hoarding: Buried Alive" beginning either October 11 or 12. This looks like a huge job and I'm looking to put together a team of VOLUNTEERS to help the family. If anyone is able and willing to help, please contact me ASAP. We will be working with a family in Winsted, CT over a 4-week period following the initial date. I can be reached at 203-794-0284 or e-mail at [cornerstoneorganizing@hotmail.com](mailto:cornerstoneorganizing@hotmail.com).

## NAPO-CT Annual Renewal

Submitted by Jen Burke NAPO-CT VP

This is a reminder that NAPO-CT has moved to an annual renewal date of October 1 for all members. If you have not yet renewed your membership, you may process your paperwork and payment in person at our October chapter meeting. If you renew by mail, remember that your form and payment need to be received / postmarked before the end of October to avoid the late fee.

## Board Notes

The NAPO-CT Board of Directors pulled together all of our Chapter's paper and electronic records back at the beginning of September. We spent the day together sorting and purging. We are happy to report that our Chapter is in compliance with National's Records Retention Guidelines!!

At our September Chapter meeting the question was asked 'Can Chapter members attend a Board meeting?' This question was raised on the NAPO Chapter Presidents' call just this past summer. The bottom line is this: Guests at Board of Director meetings are discouraged. NAPO National's lawyer recommends closed meetings as the topics may be sensitive and individuals may take discussions out of context without the full history of relevant discussions in the past or having a full background on the topic. The NAPO-CT Board discussed this at our last meeting and agreed with National.

NAPO-CT Board positions that are still open include:

- Director of Marketing
  - Networking Events Coordinator
  - Public Relations
  - GO Month Coordinator
- Director of Professional Development & Programming
- Director of Technology & Communication
  - Newsletter Publisher

## NOTE YOUR CALENDAR

### NAPO-National Conference Call

**Date:** October 7, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time



### NAPO-CT **October** Meeting

**Title:** Photo Organizing – Tapping into this New Niche

**Speaker:** Cathi Nelson of Personal Photo Organizing by Cathi

**Date:** October 15, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Almost overnight film photography was replaced with digital cameras and people gained the ability to snap hundreds of photos in an instant. The result is a consumer who is overwhelmed with the sheer number of photos now clogging their computers. In addition, the photographs that were once printed are often still in boxes, bins and bags. The average person feels guilty and anxious that they have not done anything with their photos. Cathi will share how a Professional Organizer can be of great assistance in this critically needed area.

### NAPO-CT **November** Meeting

**Title:** Open Spaces

**Speaker:** TBD

**Date:** November 19, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to noon

What's on your mind? What keeps you up at night? What topics are you interested in learning more about in the Professional Organizing industry? Open Spaces is a chance for you to bring your hot topics and burning questions to the group. We will facilitate the opening discussion to identify the challenges and questions that Connecticut Organizers are facing in our industry. As a group we will select the top four or five topics and dive into discussions and sharing ideas!

### NAPO-CT **January** Meeting

**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

In honor of "Get Organized" month, you are invited to a very special Chapter meeting and buffet luncheon. We are inviting all Connecticut-based Professional Organizers 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. We are planning for surprises and raffles throughout the morning. Don't miss out!

## Meeting Schedule for 2011

Jan 21	Chapter meeting and luncheon	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Feb 18	Chapter meeting Board - Strategic Plan update	9:00 am – Noon 1:15 – 2:30 pm
Mar 18	Chapter meeting New Board Welcome meeting	9:00 am – Noon 12:30 – 2:30 pm
Apr 15	Chapter meeting Board transition	9:00 am – Noon 12:30 – 2:30 pm
May 20	Chapter meeting Board meeting	9:00 am – Noon 12:30 – 2:30 pm
June 17	Chapter meeting	9:00 am – Noon

### Mailing Address

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

### Web Address

[www.NAPOCT.com](http://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.

## 2010-2011 NAPO-CT Board of Directors

### President

Sandra Wheeler (860) 608-0451  
For Peace of Mind, LLC  
forpeaceofmind@sbcglobal.net

### Vice President

Jennifer Burke (203) 722-1566  
JKB Organizing  
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### Secretary

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### Treasurer

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### Past President

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### Director of Marketing

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### Director of Membership

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### Director of Professional Development / Programs

Vacant