



BLUEGRASS CHAPTER
NCMA
NATIONAL CONTRACT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

THE LITTLE CHAPTER THAT CAN

Fall 2019

NCMA Bluegrass Leadership

Officers

President – Lisa Mitchell-Flinn
Vice President – Kelly Hanson
Secretary – Sean Young
Treasurer – Dave Hincks

Committee Chairs

Membership – Jennifer Vollman
Programs – Bridget Fay
NES Chair - Vacant
Newsletters – Noelle Mills
Webmaster - Vacant
Photographer - Noelle Mills
Awards - Vacant

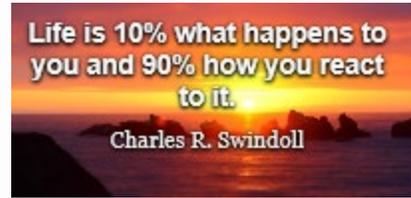
TOPICS

FROM OUR PRESIDENT
ANNOUNCEMENTS
UPDATES
WORLD CONGRESS
AWARDS

Welcome to the **Fall 2019** newsletter. In the coming of the new year, the Bluegrass

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Chapter has plenty of events, activities, and career advancement opportunities approaching. This newsletter will provide much of that information. You can also visit NCMABLUEGRASSCHAPTER.COM.



[Bluegrass Chapter](#)

From Our President

Thank you to all who have chosen to volunteer this program year! We are looking forward to awesome networking events, relevant training sessions, and exciting new opportunities for the Bluegrass Chapter. Be on the lookout for nomination requests for awards. I would like to ensure that the talent within the Bluegrass Chapter is recognized.

Announcements

NCMA Grant Program for Certification Exams

The Bluegrass Chapter will provide a grant for NCMA certification assistance for up to 4 chapter members each year. No Bluegrass member has submitted for this opportunity to date this Program Year. If anyone is interested please visit the Bluegrass Chapter website for information on the application process.

Pre-paid Registration Fees or Discounts

The Bluegrass Chapter plans to sponsor one pre-paid registration fee for most, if not all NCMA sponsored events such as World Congress which will be held in Dallas, TX, July 25-30, 2020. Be on the lookout for an email requesting statements of interest late-Winter. Also, See the Bluegrass Chapter website for more information on sponsored events.

Congratulations!

The Bluegrass Chapter is proud to announce that Lonniea Holman received a Master's in Contract Management Certification in March!

Direct Hire Authority for Federal 1102s

OPM's Acting Director, Margaret Weichert, issued a memorandum announcing Government-wide Direct Hire Appointing Authorities for certain STEM and Cybersecurity positions, including 1102 Contract Specialists at the GS-11 to -15 level, October 11, 2018. This authority is in effect for 5 years. The Cincinnati EPA has been able to onboard seven new Contract Specialists this fiscal year and continues to post opportunities as they become available. If you or someone you know is interested, please monitor USAJobs for vacancy announcements.

Updates

Committee Chairs

We are still looking for a committee chair for the National Education Seminar (NES) and Webmaster. The NES is an all-day training that Bluegrass Chapter has historically hosted annually and provides a great networking opportunity with fellow

members and nationally recognized speakers. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Lisa at mitchell-flinn.lisa@epa.gov.

GCMS Scholarship

A GCMS scholarship was offered this year; however, no submissions were received by the deadline. The Chapter intends to continue offering these opportunities as they become available. Please monitor your email for information on future events.

Upcoming Events

The chapter will be sponsoring a webinar on Thursday, October 10, 2019, from 12-1:30PM on "Avoiding Cost & Price Analysis Pitfalls". Additionally, the next Chapter meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, October 18, 6:30PM in Cincinnati, OH. Additional details to follow!

World Congress



Four chapter members (Lisa Mitchell-Flinn, President, Sean Young – Secretary, Dave Hincks – Treasurer, and Jennifer Vollman – Membership Chair) had the opportunity to attend World Congress 2019 in Boston, MA. Dave Hincks was the Bluegrass Chapter recipient of the World Congress grant. Dave's photograph with former EPA Cincinnati and chapter member Samantha (Sam) Fuchs was featured in National Communications on World Congress. Sam graduated from the CMLDP Program at World Congress this year. "More than 3 years after moving across the country, I ran into H. David Hincks, Branch Chief at the Cincinnati Acquisition

Division of the U.S. EPA, here at World Congress. He is the one who encouraged me to join NCMA, pursue certification and development, and find a new opportunity in another state. Without him, I wouldn't be where I am today." Sam Fuchs



Awards

Nomination for Elmer B. Staats Contracting Professional Excellence Award

<http://www.procurementroundtable.org/documents/PRT%202018%20Staats%20Fischer.pdf>

This award from the **Procurement Round Table** recognizes a federal acquisition professional with extraordinary business leadership or team participation in the design, development, or execution of an acquisition program or project that furthers an agency's mission. Nominations should be submitted electronically

to mitchell-flinn.lisa@epa.gov in addition to Procurement Round Table requirements.

