



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 31, 2007

**News Release**

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**INAUGURAL BCPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED**

DUNEDIN, FL and GLENVIEW, IL—The Board of Certification for Professional Organizers (BCPO) is pleased to announce its inaugural Board of Directors. The Board was approved by the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO) on April 25, 2007, at NAPO's Annual Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

New BCPO President Audrey Lavine, CPO<sup>®</sup>, says of the inaugural Board, "This is an amazingly talented and dedicated group of professionals. Their tireless efforts in the past years, and their current energy in moving the standards of our industry forward ensure that BCPO has a bright future ahead."

The BCPO Board is comprised of the following 9 members:

**President (2007–2010)**

**AUDREY LAVINE, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Life Support Systems, New York, NY**

Audrey Lavine has been involved in the development of certification for professional organizers for a decade, with the goal of elevating the status of the organizing profession to that of other certified professions. A practicing organizer since 1988 and a NAPO member since 1989, Lavine served three years on the NAPO Conference Program committee, was the conference Program Chair in 2000, and Conference Chair in 2001. She was a founding member of the group that grew into the National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization (NSGCD) and has also served in a wide range of volunteer and leadership capacities in NAPO-New York. Lavine is the only person to have received NAPO's President's Award and the prestigious Founders' Award in the same year (2007). In addition to her work with NAPO, Lavine has served on the boards of The Crystal Quilt, The Manhattan Association of Cabarets and Clubs, and Koch Landmark Developments. She holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati.

**Director of Examination Development (2007–2010)**

**MARY DYKSTRA, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Within Reach Organizing Services, Grand Rapids, MI**

Mary Dykstra, owner of Within Reach Organizing Services has been helping corporate, residential and entrepreneurial clients get organized since 2000. Dykstra earned her MBA and worked as a marketing consultant/project manager and liaison for 12 years prior to owning her own business. She served on the Certification Item Writing Team and is Chair of the Certification Examination Development Team. Dykstra has passed the General NSGCD exam. Among other associations, she has also been a member of BNI (Business Networking International), where she served a term as Vice President of her local chapter, and Great Lakes Aviculture Society, where she served a term as President. She currently serves as Program Director for West Michigan Interchange and volunteers as a business mentor on behalf of Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women. In addition she teaches nationally for Center for Professional Education. She has been a NAPO member since 2000.

**Secretary (2007–2008)**

**DIANE SMITH, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Simple Work Solutions, LLC, Acworth, GA**

Diane Smith served as Secretary of the NAPO Georgia Chapter along with other national and chapter volunteer duties. She was a member of the Certification JTA (Job Task Analysis) Committee, Chairperson for Resource Team, and participated in Item

Writing. She has served on two previous church boards and as musical choir president and board member for 5 years. Smith majored in business at Georgia State University. She started her organizing business in 2000, and has been a NAPO member since 2001 and a Golden Circle member since 2006.

#### **Treasurer (2007–2009)**

##### **KATE RHOAD, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Kate Rhoad – Professional Organizer, The Woodlands, TX**

Kate Rhoad has held numerous positions in NAPO, including co-founding NAPO's community service program, Quantum Leap, serving on the Certification Committee since 1998, and serving as the NAPO Conference Program Chair. She is a founding member of the NAPO Houston Chapter and has served in several positions, including President. She has also been President of Toast Masters, Community Women Together, and PTO. Rhoad has founded several community programs. She is the 2004 recipient of the prestigious Service to NAPO award and received the public school system PIE (Patrons Influencing Education) Award for her innovative fundraising work. Rhoad attended Sam Houston State University with a major in psychology and a minor in business. She is the author of *How to Organize a Medical Practice*, and was the founder, editor and publisher of an organizing newsletter called "Interchange," and has been a newspaper columnist. She has been a professional organizer since 1980, a NAPO member since 1993, and a Golden Circle member since 1995.

#### **Director of Technology (2007–2009)**

##### **SCOTT ROEWER, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Solutions by Scott LLC, Washington, DC**

Scott Roewer, President of the NAPO-Washington, DC Metro Chapter, served on the Program Definition Team for Certification. In addition, Roewer has served extensively on behalf of non-profit, philanthropic, and health-related organizations and causes. He served as Vice President of Federal City Performing Arts Association, and is Past President of the Fine Arts Advisory Council, University of Nebraska – Lincoln and currently is an active member of the Potomac Executives Network. Roewer was a public school music educator in Kansas, where his work establishing a summer community theatre program was then adopted by the arts council. Roewer holds a Bachelors in Music Education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Masters of Education from the University Missouri-Kansas City. He holds a Level II, Chronic Disorganization Specialist certificate from the National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization. He has been a NAPO member since 2004 and a professional organizer for four years.

#### **Liaison, NAPO Board of Directors (2007–2008)**

##### **SANDY STELTER, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Strategic Organizing Solutions (SOS), Suisun City, CA**

Sandy Stelter is the current Secretary for NAPO and has served as the NAPO Board Liaison to Certification. She has held numerous positions on the NAPO San Francisco Bay Area Chapter board, including President. She served on the Certification I team, Program Definition Team, and Certification II. She is also active with the Solano Pride Center, Fairfield, CA, and Women's Network of Contra Costa County. Stelter holds a BA in Library Science from Texas Women's University and a JD from Golden Gate University, San Francisco. She writes a column for A Balanced Life (Internet monthly). She has been a professional organizer for 12 years, a NAPO member since 1994, and a Golden Circle member since 1999.

#### **NAPO Director & Professional Practices Co-Chair (2007–2008)**

##### **KARON VAN VUUREN, CPO<sup>®</sup>, Kapela Solutions, LLC, Houston, TX**

Karon Van Vuuren has been President and Secretary of the NAPO Houston Chapter. She has served as NAPO International Chair from 2005 to present and has served on the Certification JTA team and Content Outline used for the Certification Exam, and Item Writing Team. Van Vuuren has served as President and Secretary of CTO (Central Texas Organizers) - Austin Board and as Secretary of a HOA (Home Owners Association). The NAPO Houston Chapter selected her as "Organizer of the Year" in 2005. Van Vuuren has spent 5 years organizing as a small business owner and 19 years while in various corporate jobs. She has been a NAPO member since 2002.

#### **Liaison, Professional Organizers in Canada (2007–2010)**

##### **MARGARET MILLER, TERAGRAM Coaching & Consulting Group (TCCG), Hamilton, ON, Canada**

A speaker and author, TERAGRAM Coaching & Consulting Group (TCCG) founder and owner Margaret Miller launched her business in 1996. She combines over 30 years' business experience, with a diverse range of professional accreditations. Miller is a founding member and past-President of POC. She served on the Certification Program Definition Team. Among Miller's other leadership positions are a directorship with her local Chamber of Commerce and a directorship with the International Coach Federation, Toronto chapter. She also is a member of the Ethics Committee with WABC (Worldwide Association of Business Coaches). Miller is the recipient of POC's Harold Taylor Award and the Adler School of Professional Coaching's Presidents Award recognizing her excellence, professionalism, and outstanding contribution to both organizations. Miller is a Certified Trainer/Facilitator, Certified Executive Coach, Certified Results Coach, and is currently working on her Certified Master Business

Coach designation. She is the author of *26 Ways to Bullet-Proof Your Career*, and *A Successful Hire*. She has been a NAPO member since 1998 and a Golden Circle member since 2003.

**Public Director & Professional Practices Co-Chair (2007–2008)**

**SUZANNE C. PILSK, Librarian, Metadata Specialist, Technical Services Division, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Washington, DC**

Suzanne Chernau Pilsk is a cataloging librarian in the Original Cataloging Section of the Cataloging Services of Smithsonian Institution Libraries, a position she has held since 1993. She routinely works on traditional library material and the ever-increasing digital data using national and international standards. A graduate of Trinity College, Hartford, CT (BA) and Vanderbilt University (MLS), Pilsk has authored various articles covering the field of cataloging in special libraries, and has given presentations at various professional organizations. She is an active member in the Special Libraries Association, American Libraries Association, and OLAC: Online Audiovisual Catalogers.

**What is CPO<sup>®</sup> Certification?**

CPO<sup>®</sup> Certification is a voluntary, industry-led effort which benefits the public and members of the organizing profession. “Certified organizers exemplify the importance of professional standards and contribute to evolving standards in the industry as a whole,” says Certification Chair Audrey Lavine. CPO<sup>®</sup> Certification recognizes those professionals who have met specific minimum qualifications and proven through examination and client interaction to possess the body of knowledge and experience required for certification. The program recognizes and raises industry standards, practices, and ethics. While the CPO<sup>®</sup> designation is not an endorsement or recommendation, certification of professional organizers maximizes the value received from the services provided and products recommended by a CPO<sup>®</sup>.

**About BCPO ([www.certifiedprofessionalorganizers.org](http://www.certifiedprofessionalorganizers.org))**

The Board of Certification for Professional Organizers (BCPO) is the certifying body whose charter is to increase the professionalism of the organizing industry by:

- Identifying a body of knowledge in the organizing profession
- Establishing the level of knowledge and experience required for certification
- Advancing the practice of professional organizing
- Increasing the value of organizing practitioners to their employers
- Recognizing and raising industry standards, practices and ethics
- Maximizing the value received from the products and services provided by CPOs

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