



Briggs & Stratton Corporation employees celebrated NPW with a "PayDay" cake.

Individuals and Employers Team Up to Promote NPW

BY MARIA INES MARIN AND GLORIA ARANDA

APA's affiliated chapters are the greatest advocates of National Payroll Week, but many individuals—who may or may not be involved in a local chapter—choose to go above and beyond the call of duty to promote NPW awareness within their companies, payroll departments, and local communities.

Many of these individuals receive support from their employers, which often provide the venues for celebrations and training programs, encourage mass communications to workers, and may sponsor NPW prizes, awards, food, and decorations.

APA National is appreciative of those individuals and companies that continue to give NPW and the payroll profession visibility and help make the NPW campaign a success. Below are the 2004 NPW Individual Activity Contest winners, along with their employers:

First Place—Alicia S. Milligan, CPP, GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corp.

Second Place—Mary Kazmierczak, CPP, ADP, Inc.

Third Place (tie)—Michelle Ganzer, CPP, Briggs & Stratton Corporation and Lia Trapani, Aetna

Honorable Mention—Sean Sullivan, CPP, Highwoods Properties, Inc.

Employers Support NPW

The list of activities below includes individuals and their companies whose contributions made the 2004 National Payroll Week campaign the most significant in APA's history:

ADP, Inc.

Mary Kazmierczak, CPP

- Presented NPW pins to more than 1,000 associates
- Sent e-cards to all associates
- Represented the "sweetness" of the payroll profession by handing out PayDay® and 100 Grand® candy bars
- Sponsored a penny candy store in the atrium and donated profits to the Heart Walk
- Brought NPW awareness to employees through flyers
- Gave a personalized certificate of appreciation to each associate
- Included NPW letters of appreciation with each client's payroll

- Decorated the cafeteria with play money, confetti, posters, and a weeklong menu using acronyms associated with payroll; i.e., chicken premium pita for CPP and apple pie à la mode for APA
- Acknowledged all Certified Payroll Professional (CPP) and Fundamental Payroll Certification (FPC) designated employees
- Sponsored an ice cream sundae bar and a jumbo cookie
- Introduced employees to the NPW Web site and the online survey

Aetna

Lia Trapani

- Held a kick-off celebration with a speech from the service delivery department head
- Celebrated NPW a few minutes every day throughout the week; included team-building events and recognition of the payroll department
- Placed a write-up on the company intranet regarding the celebration and activities
- Presented \$340 and donated nonperishable items to the Cornerstone Foundation in Rockville, CT
- Brought NPW awareness to employees through e-mail
- Decorated the office with NPW posters, balloons, and promotional items
- Organized payroll games and held prize drawings and contests
- Received a formal proclamation from the Governor of Connecticut

AXA Liabilities Managers, Inc.

Debra Lynn Carp, CPP

- Sponsored NPW contests and sent questions and puzzles to employees via e-mail
- Promoted NPW to all employees via e-mail
- Decorated the office with NPW posters and wore NPW lapel pins
- Held a short ceremony to distribute prizes to contest winners
- Encouraged employees to participate in the "Getting Paid In America" survey

B. Braun Medical, Inc.

Sandra J. Lerch, CPP

- Held a direct deposit drive and awarded prizes to encourage signing up
- Set up tables and displayed informational brochures, publications, and NPW handouts
- Celebrated with NPW balloons, posters, PayDay candy bars, and prize drawings
- Conducted an NPW PowerPoint presentation for employees
- Created a flyer to promote the "Getting Paid In America" online survey and sent an e-mail to all employees



Payroll department staff at GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corp. celebrated NPW by setting up a table in the employee cafeteria with publications, PayDay® candy bars, handouts, and other information.

Briggs & Stratton Corporation

Michelle Ganzer, CPP

- Held a team-building payroll department outing
- Encouraged employees to participate in the "Getting Paid In America" online survey
- Sent employees NPW informational packages with their payroll checks
- Provided educational and payroll-related information to employees
- Displayed NPW flyers, balloons, pins, and PayDay and 100 Grand candy bars
- Posted NPW information on the intranet and sent an e-mail notification to employees
- Celebrated NPW with cake, games, payroll music, and prize drawings



The payroll staff at HealthPartners in Bloomington, MN bring the NPW colors to life in their office. Pictured are Maud Olsson, Kelly Jordan, Noreen Link, and Barb Abrahamson.

GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corporation

Alicia S. Milligan, CPP

- First year to celebrate NPW at GMAC; experienced a huge success rate
- Held a kick-off celebration with prize giveaways, games, and seminars
- Nearly 3,000 employees participated in the NPW payroll trivia contest via e-mail
- Sent a payroll department satisfaction survey via e-mail; received responses with rave reviews for a job well-done from 660 employees
- Sponsored a company-wide payroll quiz called "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?"
- Provided educational and payroll-related information to employees on a daily basis
- Distributed PayDay candy bars and handed out 100 bags of shredded money
- Cafeteria participated by naming foods in the payroll department's honor
- Sent company-wide e-mails highlighting NPW to more than 3,000 employees
- Included NPW information in the company's electronic newsletter
- Set up tables and displayed informational brochures, publications, articles, and NPW handouts during lunchroom activities
- Encouraged employees to participate in the "Getting Paid In America" online survey



Sean Sullivan, CPP; Lynn Nunn; and Roy Syster, all of Highwoods Properties, Inc., joined payroll mascot "Petunia Peichek" to promote NPW awareness to company workers.

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2004 NPW

- Employees who currently have direct deposit and those who submitted a direct deposit form during NPW were entered in a prize drawing

Greyhound Lines, Inc.

Denise Moore, CPP

- Payroll department chose an Olympic theme to promote NPW awareness called "The Olympians of Finance"
- Served payroll department employees breakfast and a catered lunch
- Decorated the office with NPW posters and balloons and wore T-shirts
- Posted NPW information on the company intranet and also sent e-mail
- Held an NPW payroll trivia contest and awarded prizes
- Presented payroll employees with gold medals recognizing them as "star payroll athletes"

Gulf States Paper Corporation

Dorothy E. White, CPP

- Issued letters of appreciation to each associate, along with an attractive portfolio
- Held special surprise luncheons and recognition meetings

HealthPartners

Beverly Schmitz

- Held a surprise continental breakfast in the payroll department
- Decorated the office with colorful gold, green, and purple metallic stars hanging from the ceiling; NPW balloons; NPW posters; and special stars on the walls
- Wore NPW T-shirts throughout the week
- Presented payroll employees with NPW-themed surprises, gifts, and treats to show gratitude and appreciation
- A certificate of appreciation was presented to each payroll employee at a catered luncheon
- Daily flyers and e-mails alerted employees to take the NPW online survey
- Held an open house with cake, treats, and NPW handouts

Highwoods Properties, Inc.

Sean Sullivan, CPP

- Payroll mascot "Petunia Peichek" brought NPW awareness to employees via e-mail
- Directed employees to the NPW Web site and encouraged them to participate in the online survey
- Held a pop quiz on payroll-related information and awarded prizes



The payroll team at J. Jill Group in Tilton, NH created its own banner and spread the word about NPW in the cafeteria. Pictured (clockwise from upper left) are Alana Fagnant CPP; Michal Waterman; Sonya Tomlin; and Sue Noyes.

- Celebrated NPW with cake and ice cream
- Decorated with NPW balloons and posters and wore NPW pins
- Conducted payroll-related PowerPoint presentations for employees
- Presented NPW information on colorful handouts

J. Jill Group

Alana A. Fagnant, CPP

- Kicked off NPW with a direct deposit campaign
- Set up tables and displayed brochures, publications, and NPW handouts
- Published information highlighting NPW in the quarterly newsletter
- Encouraged employees to participate in the "Getting Paid In America" survey
- Sent company-wide e-mails to employees promoting NPW
- Distributed NPW pins and PayDay and 100 Grand candy bars
- Wore NPW T-shirts, decorated with NPW balloons, and created an NPW banner

Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute

Barbara Sawyer, CPP

- Held an employee appreciation coffee break and benefit fair
- Decorated with NPW balloons and posters
- Promoted NPW via e-mail and encouraged employees to take the online survey
- Set up tables and displayed brochures and NPW handouts
- Served refreshments and held a raffle and prize drawings

Lowe's Companies, Inc.

Aleda Howard

- Held an appreciation barbecue lunch for the entire payroll department
- Celebrated with NPW cake and ice cream
- Constructed the "Lowe's Payroll Speedway" and had six teams battle it out on the race track in a special contest during each day of NPW

Martin K. Eby Construction

Karman Diehl

- Promoted the APA and NPW with announcements placed on the company intranet
- Publicized the message, "Have you hugged your field pay-

roll representative, payroll clerk, or payroll manager today?" on the company intranet to show appreciation during NPW

- Published an article in the company newsletter to encourage employees to participate in the "Getting Paid In America" survey
- Provided each payroll staff member with an NPW T-shirt and lapel pin as a token of appreciation
- Held an NPW celebration lunch for the entire payroll staff
- Payroll staff distributed PayDay and 100 Grand candy bars to all employees
- Payroll team received special treats, hugs, and thank you notes from employees expressing their appreciation

Southwestern/Great American

Sandy Hicks, CPP

- Celebrated with NPW cake, candy bars, balloons, T-shirts, posters, mouse pads, lapel pins, and posters
- Brought awareness to the NPW Web site and the online survey via e-mail
- Promoted the local chapter in its efforts to raise donations for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Titan America

Darlene Wallace

- Held an NPW celebration lunch for the entire payroll department
- Distributed candy and bananas with the message, "Don't go bananas ... Payroll's got you covered."
- Held a "Dip Day" where department members brought in their favorite dips, crackers, and chips
- Had an ice cream social and a 50/50 raffle to benefit the American Cancer Society

Tyco Healthcare Retail Group

Raeann Hofkin, CPP

- Celebrated NPW with various giveaways, candy, cake, and presentations
- Payroll employees received flowers, thank you notes, T-shirts, and goodies
- The company newsletter and e-mails encouraged employees to take the NPW online survey
- Included NPW stickers with employee paychecks
- Posted NPW information on bulletin boards and decorated offices with NPW balloons

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Unitime Systems is proud to be a sponsor of the American Payroll Association's National Payroll Week. Our sponsorship, as well as our ongoing support of the American Payroll Association, exemplifies Unitime Systems' commitment to helping payroll professionals improve processes and profitability for America's businesses.

As a leading provider of automated time, attendance, and labor management solutions for over 10 years, Unitime Systems understands the many difficult jobs that payroll professionals perform day after day and pay period after pay period. That's why we continually strive to leverage innovative ideas and the latest technologies in the development of user-friendly software and hardware products. Our solutions enable payroll professionals to increase the accuracy of payroll while reducing costs, eliminating manual processes, and improving workforce productivity.

We look forward to many more years of continued partnership with the American Payroll Association and payroll professionals throughout the country, and we hope to see you at APA's 23rd Annual Congress in San Diego, CA!

Doug Peterman
President



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