



Chapters Give Back Through Teaching and Service

During National Payroll Week 2005, APA's local chapter members not only gave back to the profession by increasing awareness about payroll in their communities, they personally gave back through their generous volunteer and donation efforts. NPW provides a perfect opportunity for chapters to organize activities and volunteer efforts through charities, hospitals, schools, military branches, churches, senior centers, nonprofit organizations, and hurricane relief groups. The latest showing of NPW spirit through participation by chapters in community service activities was phenomenal.

Chapter members also used National Payroll Week as an opportunity to educate children, those new to the workforce, and the general public about the payroll profession and the importance of NPW. This year, chapters visited local schools, held training sessions within their companies, approached individuals at shopping malls, sent out mass e-mails, wrote letters, created flyers and newsletter articles, publicized on billboards, and organized games. Chapters developed new and creative ways to inform the public and their coworkers about payroll and calculating paychecks.

The Winners

First Place in this category went to the **Chicago Chapter**, which organized an impressive list of community and educational outreach activities during National Payroll Week.

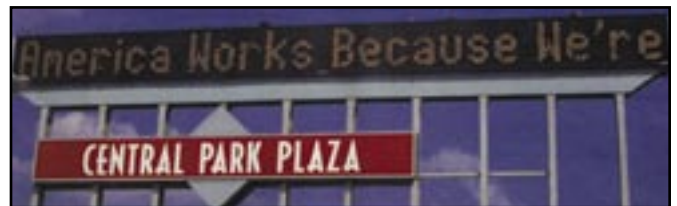
The chapter held a children's book drive and collected new children's books at both their meetings and their NPW social. The books will be donated to the Chicago Public Library System, and will be used as prizes and incentives for the library's reading programs throughout the year.

The chapter also hosted an NPW networking celebration at a pizza parlor in Chicago. Officers provided updates on NPW accomplishments and promoted the National Payroll Week contests. Attendees played a National Payroll Week trivia game and NPW prizes were awarded. The chapter's 15 NPW proclamations were also displayed and the chapter gave presentations at local high schools to show the students what they can expect upon entering the workforce, which included an APA video.

The chapter also held its own Company Celebration NPW contest, asking chapter members to submit information on their company and department NPW celebrations. The winner received a free chapter membership.

In addition, chapter members volunteered for the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Association Telethon and held an all-day National Payroll Week education meeting that included NPW cake, payroll music, games that incorporated N-P-W, four workshops, an NPW raffle, and more.

In **Second Place**, **The Alamo Chapter of the APA** out of San Antonio, TX, held a number of events that supported the community and education.



Texas drivers were treated to the message, "America Works Because We're Working for America; National Payroll Week; September 5-9, 2005," on the marquee at Central Park Plaza, just off one of San Antonio's major highways. The Alamo Chapter of the APA coordinated the publicity and won second place for its community service efforts during NPW.

The chapter held a school supply drive called, "Stuff the Bus" in which it partnered with local business Tesoro Petroleum and encouraged chapter members to purchase school supplies and stuff boxes that had been decorated as school buses.

The chapter also held an NPW membership drive and awarded the member with the most referrals a hotel package, movie tickets, and a special tour. The drive drew 19 new chapter members.

More than a quarter-of-a-million San Antonians were also treated to a larger-than-life greeting: "National Payroll Week; September 5-9, 2005; America Works Because We're Working for America" as they drove past a local mall's electronic marquee. The message was flashed on the marquee more than 700 times each day. The chapter also used local radio stations to air NPW public service announcements throughout the week.

In addition, the chapter held an NPW celebration that was

festively decorated in the National Payroll Week colors. Each chapter member received an NPW goody bag filled with a chapter armadillo mascot, PayDay® and 100 Grand® candy bars, an NPW pin, and an online survey promotion. The surprise giveaway also featured an opportunity for 10 members to win two tickets to a San Antonio Missions professional baseball game where the chapter's name was announced and displayed on the scoreboard.



Southeastern Pennsylvania (SEPA) chapter members participate in the Jerry Lewis MDA telethon during NPW. A community effort was definitely present during NPW as the SEPA chapter won third place for their efforts.

The **Third Place** winner, the **Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter**, coordinated outstanding community outreach efforts during National Payroll Week. Chapter members volunteered for the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Association Telethon during NPW. During the televised event, Chapter President Raeann Hofkin, CPP, challenged viewers who received paychecks to donate \$1 from each paycheck they received during the year.

In addition, the chapter participated in the Walk for Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) during National Payroll Week. Chapter members received some local media coverage that featured volunteers wearing customized NPW shirts and baseball caps.

Members proudly raised \$425 for PKD research at a time when many were contributing to the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts and had less to give to other charities. Chapter members also organized a Muscular Dystrophy Association Bowl-A-Thon in East Norriton, PA. During NPW, the chapter collected more than \$600 in pledges and was able to send a child with muscular dystrophy to camp.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to the **Denver Chapter Payroll Association**, **Greater Nashville Chapter**, and the **Atlanta Chapter**.

The **Denver Chapter Payroll Association** visited an area high school to talk to students about payroll and the profession, compiled a list of members' employers and delivered NPW baskets created by its NPW Committee to those companies, manned a booth at the Denver Peoples Fair, and visited local TV and radio stations.

They also heavily promoted the NPW online survey via an e-mail announcement, through a special flyer (which was handed out to the general public at the Fair), and included regu-

lar articles in their chapter newsletter highlighting the "Getting Paid in America" survey.

The **Greater Nashville Chapter** held an NPW event at the Nashville Sounds baseball game where Chapter President Lisa Wachter, CPP, threw out the first ball and the APA was recognized on the jumbo guitar scoreboard.

The NPW Committee also organized a "Stock the Pantry" drive for the Ronald McDonald House and a "Family Room" at Vanderbilt Hospital's pediatric unit. Twelve chapter members cooked a lasagna dinner for the residents.

The chapter wrote letters to the editor, which were published during National Payroll Week in the *Nashville City Paper* and *The Tennessean*.

The **Atlanta Chapter** organized a presentation for 19 third graders at a local elementary school where they explained gross and net pay, taxes, and deductions.

The chapter donated items to the school and gave the children NPW bracelets and patches. The chapter also held an NPW meeting and celebration, playing Payroll Trivia with information directly from the National Payroll Week Web site, awarding 100 Grand® and, PayDay® bars, and NPW prizes. The chapter also collected \$400 for four baskets to be given to victims of Hurricane Katrina. Chapter President Hope Williams, CPP, accepted an additional \$400 match from her employer for the relief efforts.



Third graders at Harmony Elementary School in Buford, GA, enjoyed their first payroll learning experience presented by Atlanta Chapter Past President and NPW Chairperson Regina Haynes, CPP. For their community outreach during NPW, the Atlanta Chapter took honorable mention in this category.

Winners of the Community and Educational Outreach Contest:

- First Place—Chicago Chapter**
- Second Place—The Alamo Chapter of the APA**
- Third Place—Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter**
- Honorable Mention—Denver Chapter Payroll Association**
- Honorable Mention—Greater Nashville Chapter**
- Honorable Mention—Atlanta Chapter**