



**UPPER SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER  
INSTITUTE FOR SUPPLY MANAGEMENT  
CAROLINAS - VIRGINIA, INC.**

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It is hard to believe that the 2006/7 meeting year has ended. It was a good year and I believe that the past Board of Directors was successful in meeting the various challenges, some known and others unknown. The new Board is in place and has started the planning process for 2007/8 meeting year.

I am honored to be leading the Upper South Carolina Chapter for a second time. For those of you that attended the Chapter meetings during my last opportunity to lead (1997 – 2000) my goal is to encourage each of you to take an active part in your Chapter. The Board of Directors knows, acknowledges, and understands that this is your Chapter and without your support through volunteerism and attendance this Chapter cannot succeed.

What does this mean? Attendance is obvious; we need you to attend the monthly meetings and seminar. Both offer networking and educational opportunities. Volunteerism is a wide open opportunity to influence the Chapter, its success in meeting your needs and expectations. You can choose various levels to participate; 1) provide recommendations for topics and speakers (meetings & seminar), 2) serve on a committee of your choice, or 3) at the meeting itself. The Board's success in meeting your needs and expectations is only as good as the involvement of the membership – YOU! I am asking each of you at this time to volunteer in some way, as we start planning for next year. In addition, we need recommendations for topics and speakers for both the monthly meetings and the seminar. Please forward your recommendation to either myself or Tom Higginbotham.

Mark your calendars now for the upcoming meeting year. We will continue to meet at the Marriott (behind Michelin) at I-85 and Pelham Road in Greenville from 6:00 to 8:00. Below are the meeting dates

September 13, 2007 Bosses Night	February 7, 2008
October 4, 2007	March 6, 2008 Purchasing Month
November 1, 2007	April 3, 2008
December 6, 2007	May 1, 2008

We have not determined an exact date for this year's seminar but it is tentatively scheduled for sometime in February 2008.

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The new and upcoming ISM Certification call the Certified Professional in Supply Management will be rolling out January 1, 2009. What does this mean to current Supply Chain/Purchasing professionals? The C.P.M. certification will technically cease to be issued by December 31, 2008 (see timeline below) but not be eliminated completely. If you currently hold the C.P.M. certification it will remain a recognized certification and you will be able to re-certify every five (5) years. The only exception is that the grace period of one (1) year will no longer be available.

CPSM Pilot Exam is available	Last day to register for the C.P.M. Exam	Last day the C.P.M. Exam is available	Last day C.P.M.'s may take Modules 3-4 to re-certify	Last day to apply for the C.P.M. Designation	Last day to register for the CPSM Bridge Exam	Last day the CPSM Bridge Exam is available
February 2008	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2009	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2013	December 31, 2014

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As you can see you actually have through December 31, 2009 to take the C.P.M. exam. However, if you were to fail any of the modules you would not be allowed to register to take that module again. As a result, my recommendation is that if you plan on achieving the C.P.M. certification and you do not have a Bachelor's Degree, you should plan to complete the exams by December 31, 2008. The difference between the C.P.M. and the CPSM are as follows:

	<b>C.P.M.</b>	<b>CPSM</b>
<b># of Modules</b>	4	3
<b># of Questions/Module</b>	3 at 95 & 1 at 130	150
<b>Experience Required</b>	3 years (with BA/BS) or 5 years (no degree)	5
<b>Bachelor's Degree</b>	Optional (3 years experience)	Required

The Board of Directors has reviewed what has been our end of meeting activity – door prizes. It was determined that we would reduce the number of door prizes awarded at each meeting to what we determined to be relative to our mission of moving the Supply Chain/Purchasing profession forward through education and networking. We believe these three door prizes offer those tenets.

**1. Book Gift Certificate**

One of the purposes of the Institute for Supply Management is to encourage and provide education to the Supply Chain Professional. The Board of Directors of the Upper SC Chapter embraced this tenet. As a result, the Board of Directors established this certificate, in the late 1990's to encourage the membership of the Upper SC Chapter to take advantage of what ISM has to offer.

As a winner of this certificate we encourage you to make a purchase from ISM's Educational Resource Catalog and collect this certificates value. You and your company will both benefit by the purchase you make. It is an investment in the future.

## **2. 50/50 Scholarship**

In the early 1990's, the Upper SC Chapter in conjunction with ISM-CV (formerly NAPM-CV) established a scholarship fund at Greenville Technical College for a sum of \$20,000.00 which was designated for use only with students in the Supply Chain Management degree program. That obligation was completed in 1997. Since then the Upper SC Chapter has continued to increase this fund's value.

The 50/50 drawing was established to generate additional funding for this worthwhile endeavor whereby the tickets purchased by the membership results in 50% being awarded to the lucky member at each meeting and the other 50% accumulated and presented to Greenville Technical College at the end of each meeting year (May).

Your continued support of the scholarship fund is appreciated by the Board of the Upper SC Chapter, Greenville Technical College Scholarships and their students. This allows the Upper SC Chapter to support future Supply Chain/Purchasing professionals and fulfill the mission of providing education.

## **3. Business Card**

This drawing was designed with the purpose of offering an incentive to members to come to future meetings of the Upper SC Chapter by reducing the expense to either the member or their company. Each meeting is designed to provide to the membership a forum to network with like professionals and to gain knowledge relative to their profession.

I would challenge you as a winner of this drawing to use it for yourself or utilize it as an invitation to someone else within your organizations Supply Chain/Purchasing department or to invite someone you know in another company's Supply Chain/Purchasing department to experience the benefits of the Upper SC Chapter.

We look forward to seeing you during the upcoming meeting year. Again, we need your input and involvement. So contact any of the Board Members.