



## T-O-A-L, NAEP

Texas – Oklahoma – Arkansas – Louisiana Region, National Association of Educational Procurement

# Networking News

Volume 11, Issue 1

May 2011

### *Message from the President...*

Your 2011 TOAL board and Host Committee has just completed the site visit for *Hot Springs, Arkansas* and is in full swing planning for your arrival in September. We have some great plans for fun, professional development as well as some time for relaxation. The theme for this year's meeting is "*Soaking up the Savings*", which I feel provides a clear direction of where the procurement field is headed, if not already there. Our departments continue to seek our guidance and knowledge to assist them with stretching their budget and to ensure the best value is obtained for our institutions. Linda is working on putting a program together packed full of topics to provide great learning opportunities for our members to take back to our institutions and apply to achieve these savings. Dee Ann is working on pulling as many vendors to *Hot Springs, Arkansas* to provide a well rounded vendor show. This will be your opportunity to visit with our vendors and find out what programs are offered, what contracts are available for our use and network to achieve the savings that are desperately needed during these tough economic times.

Your board knows that it will be a challenge to get our members to the meeting this year in *Hot Springs, Arkansas* because of these tough economic times. We are listening and TOAL is here to help! TOAL will be offering ten (10) \$750.00 scholarships to help out our members this year. Please be on the lookout in the next few weeks for these scholarship opportunities via the TOAL Listserv. So, if you have not signed up for the TOAL Listserv or know of someone that hasn't signed up, please encourage them. The TOAL Listserv is our communication lifeline to our members on all important information.

TOAL will also be offering TOAL Plus once again **FREE OF CHARGE** to any member that is registered for 2011 TOAL in *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. This is a wonderful opportunity for you or a co-worker to obtain another 16 CEU points for little or no cost. Last year, TOAL Plus offered the basic level, so this year we will be offering an intermediate level. More details will come in future communications, but wanted to let everyone know to dedicate the entire week to 2011 TOAL in *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. I must also say that if we are keeping with the theme – "*Soaking up the Savings*", members can attend TOAL and TOAL Plus for only \$300.00 and get two conferences for the price of one **or** one member attend TOAL and send another member to TOAL Plus – two conferences & two members all for the price of one – talk about savings!

"I Am truly excited to serve as your President this year and I can't wait to see everyone once again in *Hot Springs, Arkansas*. " Again, I highly encourage everyone to sign up for the TOAL Listserv which allows you to stay connected to your TOAL family and receive important information in reference to your next TOAL conference. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of your 2011 TOAL Board members.

See you in Hot Springs!

Patty Winkler, CTP, C.P.M.  
President, TOAL 2011



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## TOAL 2011 Annual Meeting



### Call for Programs

Linda K. Fast, APO, CPPO, CPPB  
1st Vice President

Click the link below for Proposal Guidelines:

[TOAL - Call for Programs.pdf](#)

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### Hotel Details:

The Arkansas members are very excited to be hosting this year's TOAL meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The conference location this year is at the Embassy Suites Hot Springs – Hotel & Spa just two blocks from downtown Hot Springs.

### On-Line Reservations:

[http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/H/HOTESSES-NEP-20110924/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/H/HOTESSES-NEP-20110924/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

**Embassy Suites Hot Springs - Hotel & Spa**  
400 Convention Boulevard  
Hot Springs, AR 71901

**Hotel Rates: Single/Double Occupancy: \$ 124**

**Parking:** The hotel provides free guest parking. Valet parking is \$10 per day.

### On-Line Reservations:

**Group Name:** TOAL-2011

**Group Code:** NEP

**Hotel Reservation Deadline:**

**August 25, 2011**

Surrounding attractions within a brief walking distance of the hotel are:

Take a step back in time and visit the faithfully-restored historic [Fordyce Bathhouse](#), now open by the National Park Service as a museum and visitors center on Bathhouse Row. Relax and bathe your tensions away in the thermal waters and enjoy the [Hot Springs spa](#) salons.



Arkansas art galleries and studios in historic downtown Hot Springs

World class antique and collectibles destination: one-of-a-kind discoveries and treasured collectables selected by Hot Springs refined antique vendors.



LIVE!! Arkansas' newest and most exciting professional regional theatre company: **Arkansas Theatre Works** presents **Stage Struck** by Simon Gray September 21<sup>st</sup> thru Oct. 2. A fascinating psychological thriller first presented in the West End in 1979. It is full of theatrical devices to the **end**. You will never be sure who is really dead or just acting dead. Join the audience & try to unravel the twists & turns of this amusing thriller. It is a "who's-going-to-do-what-to-whom".

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### Directions/Transportation/Local Airports:



For directions and transportation information, [click here](#).

Fun filled events and details about the program will be forthcoming in upcoming newsletters and on the TOAL website. But your first step is to mark your calendar and tap your budget to attend the conference on September 24-28<sup>th</sup> as well as TOAL Plus that is included with your registration on September 28<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>.

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## Vendor Exhibit -



Summer is almost here and we think of vacations. Our theme for this year's vendor exhibit will be vacations.

You will all agree that last year's vendor exhibit was amazing! So I really need your help to contact vendors, share our vendor registration web site, or to forward me vendor contact information.

Thank you to Bryan Glenn with West Texas A&M and to Darla Stewart with University of Texas at Austin for volunteering to help me with this year's vendor exhibit. We have space for 92 vendors in the Hot Springs Convention Center. The Convention Center is first class. So while we are "Soaking Up the Savings" our vendors will be on a "vacation of their choice". Who says work cannot be fun! September should be a wonderful time of year to be in Hot Springs. Hope to see you there!

Dee Ann Schneider, CTPM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

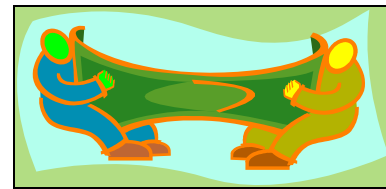
## Treasurer's Report

Just a few comments from the financial side of TOAL. We had a financially successful annual meeting last year in College Station. Our net income for last year was over \$36,000 which was a record-breaking accomplishment. The TOAL Board and College Station Host Committee did an excellent job of monitoring and containing expenses. Plus, our supplier support was huge, with suppliers assisting with increased sponsorship levels and even funding our teambuilding event! In fact, our valued suppliers provided approximately 65% of the total financial support for our annual meeting last year. I encourage you to contact your suppliers and ask them to exhibit in Hot Springs. We will have a really nice location and it will definitely be a positive for both attendees and suppliers. Let's start early in getting them signed up!

As a result of last year's success, we are able to increase scholarship opportunities for attendees at this year's annual meeting in Hot Springs...more to come on that, but please do not miss this opportunity!

Many of you have registered in the past utilizing credit card payment for your payment settlement. We are working on improving this process even more by utilizing a PayPal portal which will provide a secure transaction with increased card acceptance (including American Express).

That is all for now... I can't wait to see you all in Hot Springs!



Tom Hoffmeyer, C.P.M, CPA  
Treasurer

## Scholarships:

The TOAL Board wants to provide financial assistance to its regional members for professional development through a regional scholarship. The 2011 TOAL Officers voted to award ten \$750 scholarships in 2011.

The scholarships are intended to assist members who would benefit by attending the TOAL Regional Annual meeting. Please encourage employees at your institution to apply for the TOAL scholarship. The scholarship form will be sent to the TOAL Listserv in the next few weeks. If you have any questions, you may contact Patty Winkler at [p-winkler@tamu.edu](mailto:p-winkler@tamu.edu).

Continue checking the TOAL website for updates at [www.naep.toal.org](http://www.naep.toal.org)

## TOAL ListServ

Make sure you are on the TOAL ListServ. All important information is distributed through the ListServ. To add or remove your name from the listserv, go to the national website ([www.naepnet.org](http://www.naepnet.org)) and go to Tools->Listservs and then click the \*SUBSCRIBE\* button on that page and fill out the subscription form making sure to select TOAL from the Regional Lists.

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Soaking Up The Savings  
Hot Springs, AR

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## A Note from the Host Committee...

The Host Committee has been working very hard with the Board to begin planning the best TOAL meeting ever! Last year was a great event so we have a lot to live up to for our event in Hot Springs. We have our work cut out for us, but we are up to the challenge!

We would just like to take a few moments to share with the members some exciting new attractions available in Hot Springs...

- \* Historic Downtown Hot Springs
- \* Unique Specialty Shops
- \* Bath House Row
- \* Ride the Ducks
- \* Fine Dining
- \* Garvan Woodland Gardens
- \* Lake Hamilton
- \* Plus much more. . . .

The Host Committee is working on a fantastic host event for your 2011 TOAL conference in Hot Springs! We want everyone to go home from the SPA city with a little rest and relaxation in addition to taking advantage of all the education opportunities available during the conference and TOAL *Plus*. Please make sure that you are signed up for the TOAL Listserv so you don't miss any details on the 2011 TOAL Conference. We hope to see everyone in Hot Springs!

## 2011 Hot Springs Host Committee

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