



**SMPS CONNECTICUT, INC.**  
**HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION**

**ACTUAL INCORPORATION DATE** – 1983 as SMPS, Southern New England Chapter

**HISTORY OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. 1981 - Several Connecticut marketers who had been attending the SMPS meetings in Boston whenever possible, decided they'd like to form a chapter in Connecticut. They contacted Diane Creel, then President of the Boston Chapter, and advised National of their interest in forming a chapter to serve the needs of people in Connecticut. A steering committee was formed, which consisted of the 9 original founding members:

Dick Ostop, Chairman  
Teri Polaske  
Felicity Bruns  
Henriette McHugh  
Kiran Majmudar

2. On November 5, 1981, the Steering Committee held their first meeting at Howard Johnson's in Windsor Locks, Connecticut. They had a list of 20 names from National of those marketers from Connecticut who were attending Boston's meetings and planned a luncheon meeting to see if they could generate interest in a Connecticut chapter. This original list of 20 members consisted of:

Bruce Arneill  
Peter Borgemeister (Assoc. Member)  
Felicity Bruns  
Mike Buckley  
Vincent Cangiano  
Sam Giavera  
Mike Hough  
Julio Laurerio  
Hanriette McHugh  
Kiran Majmudar  
Charles Meyerson (Assoc. Member)  
A.J. Mulligan (Assoc. Member)  
Leonard Morris (Assoc. Member)  
Dick Ostop  
Teri Polaske  
Joseph Romano  
David Soleau  
Karen Warseck  
Richard Whiteside

3. Acting in an "unofficial" capacity, as a satellite of the Boston chapter, the 5 original members held their first luncheon program on November 19, 1981. Twenty-five (25) people attended the luncheon which was held at the Hawthorne Inn in Berlin, Connecticut. The first guest speaker was Norman Cutts, who was then the Director of Facilities Design and Construction for the State of Connecticut Bureau of Public Works.

4. During the course of 1981 and early 1982, the committee contacted other members who were traveling to Boston for meetings to generate interest in the new chapter. They also developed by-laws for the new chapter which were filed with the National organization.

Discussions with National took over a year. National had many questions, especially those concerning the boundaries of the new chapter. Ultimately, it was resolved by telephone area code – 203 and 413 area codes were designated for the new Southern New England Chapter, and people within Fairfield County had their choice of joining the Southern New England Chapter or New York City Chapter.

5. On October 14, 1982, the first official Board of Directors meeting took place. It was at this meeting that a discussion ensued about whether SMPS would make it in this area. This meeting and subsequent Board meetings were rather informal and, although there was no formal election, a board was formed:

President	-	Dick Ostop
Vice President	-	Henriette McHugh
Treasurer	-	Felicity Bruns
Secretary	-	Teri Polaske
Member-at-Large	-	Kiran Majmudar

6. A second luncheon was held at The Hartford Club on May 12, 1982, also while the group was a satellite of the Boston chapter. Martin Elroy of New York City was the guest speaker, and the luncheon was well attended by 35 people. It was this luncheon that really convinced the Steering Committee that the group could "fly" on its own.

During 1982 through early 1983, other members gradually became involved, some taking an active role, such as Ron McKeowen and Peter Abel.

When the Chapter was being formed in 1982, it was not necessary for the founding members to file with the State of Connecticut in order to be a certified chapter, However, they were advised early in 1983 that they had to file for incorporation with the State. Therefore, actual incorporation did not take place until 1983.

#### Committee Chairmen:

Newsletter	-	Cynthia Bowman
Program	-	Randy Anagnostis
Public Relations	-	Karen Heroy
Membership	-	Arlene Hiller

7. In 1983, the officers remained the same as in 1982; however, in January, a steering committee was added to the group.

#### Board Members (1983/1984)

President	-	Dick Ostop
Vice President	-	Henriette McHugh
Treasurer	-	Felicity Bruns
Secretary	-	Teri Polaske
Member-at-Large	-	Kiran Majmudar
Steering Committee	-	Peter Abel
	-	Arlene Hiller
	-	Colleen Driscoll

#### 8. Board Members (1984/1985)

President	-	Dick Ostop
Vice President	-	Henriette McHugh; then replaced by Karen Heroy
Treasurer	-	Felicity Bruns
Secretary	-	Teri Polaske
Member-at-Large	-	Kiran Majmudar
Steering Committee	-	Mike Hickey
	-	Arlene Hiller
	-	Roger Dean
	-	Peter Abel

On October 24, 1984, the existing Board decided to revise the chapter by-laws with regard to the structure of the Board of Directors. They agreed the Board should consist of four officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary), the immediate past president, and 4 members in good standing to serve as Directors, staggering 2 each year to maintain continuity.

#### 9. Board Members (1985/1986)

President	-	Teri Polaske
Vice President	-	Karen Heroy
Treasurer	-	Mike Hickey
Secretary	-	Sara Tyson/Joan Koppel (Sarah relinquished the position on the Board mid-year and was replaced by Joan)
Directors	-	Dick Ostop
	-	Cliff Mason
	-	Felicity Bruns
	-	Bruce Arneill
	-	Arlene Hiller

#### Committee Chairmen:

Newsletter	-	Cynthia Bowman
Program	-	Randy Anagnostis
Public Relations	-	Karen Heroy
Membership	-	Arlene Hiller

The Southern New England Chapter sponsored and had an exhibit booth at the Connecticut Exposition in Hartford. March 26-27, 1986. In February 1986, SMPS Southern New England held its first education workshop.

On April 18-19, 1986, Southern NE Chapter held the first Northeast Regional Conference at Lake Waramaug Inn (now called Boulders Inn) which is a charming fieldstone inn and cottages dating back to 1985 scattered on 28 acres near Lake Waramaug in New Preston, CT. Conference was entitled "Know Yourself, Know Your Profession, Dick Ostop". This was also SMPS National's first multi-chapter conference.

In May 1986 in Hartford, our program was Criteria for Hiring Professional Service Firms. On June 18, 1986 in Hartford, SNE chapter held its first Annual Awards Night.

#### 10. Board Members (1986/1987)

President	-	Teri Polaske
Vice President	-	Karen Heroy
Treasurer	-	Mike Hickey/Vance Freyman (Note: when Mike left the board mid-year, he was replaced by Vance)
Secretary	-	Joan Koppel
Directors	-	Dick Ostop
	-	Arlene Hiller
	-	Bruce Arneill
	-	Cliff Mason
	-	Felicity Bruns

##### Committee Chairmen:

Newsletter	-	Cynthia Bowman
Program	-	Joe Connelly
Public Relations	-	Karen Heroy
Membership	-	Arlene Hiller

#### 11. Board Members (1987/1988)

President	-	Randy Anagnostis
Vice President	-	Terry Casey
Treasurer	-	Joan Koppel
Secretary	-	Cathye Bednarczyk
Directors	-	Teri Polaske
	-	Karen Heroy
	-	Peter Borgemeister
	-	Coleen Renault
	-	Dick Jacques

##### Committee Chairmen:

Program	-	Neil Honan
	-	Cliff Mason
Publicity	-	Ann Austin
	-	Jim Bancroft
Membership	-	Arlene Hiller
Newsletter	-	Terry Casey

#### 12. Board Members (1988/1989)

President	-	Joan Koppel
Vice President	-	Cathy Bednarczyk
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Linda Wilkins
Directors	-	Peter Borgemeister
	-	Colleen Renault
	-	Terry Casey
	-	Peter Guerra

13. Board Members (1989/1990)

President	-	Richard Jacques
Vice President	-	John Dugan
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Pat Quinn
Directors	-	Paul Bartlett
	-	Peter Guerra
	-	Joe Segar
	-	Terry Casey
	-	Linda Wilkins

14. Board Members (1990/1991)

President	-	Richard Jacques
Vice President	-	Jim Bancroft
Treasurer	-	Dave Freed
Secretary	-	Pat Quinn
Directors	-	Paul Bartlett
	-	Bob Mitchell
	-	Joe Segar
	-	Jonelle Hobbs
Committee Chairmen	-	Bob Mitchell, Programs

15. Board Members (1991/1992)

President	-	Jim Bancroft
Vice President	-	Terry Casey
Treasurer	-	Dave Freed
Secretary	-	Hamid Adib
Past President	-	Dick Jacques
Directors	-	Peter Stevens
	-	Jonelle Hobbs
	-	Bob Mitchell

Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Bob Mitchell

Membership – Elaine Richardson

Publications – Linda Wilkins

Public Relations – Jonelle Hobbs

Principal Involvement – Ken Gibble

Job Data Bank – Dick Jacques

Leadership Development – Karen Heroy

Finance & Administration – David Freed

16. Board Members (1992/1993)

President	-	Terry Casey
Vice President	-	Bob Mitchell
Treasurer	-	David Freed
Secretary	-	Angela Haggerty
Past President	-	Jim Bancroft
Directors	-	Elaine Richardson
	-	Ann Prokob
	-	John Kozak
	-	Pat Quinn

Committee Chairmen:

Program	-	
Membership	-	Stephanie Snow
Public Relations	-	Suzanne LaPolt
Job Bank	-	Dick Jacques
Publications	-	Elizabeth McAlpine

17. On January 27, 1993, the Chapter won the Striving for Excellence "President's Award" in our membership category.

Board Members (1993/1994)

President	-	Bob Mitchell, AIA
Vice President	-	Elaine Richardson
Treasurer	-	Dave Freed
Secretary	-	Sarah Reynard
Past President	-	Terry Casey
Directors	-	John Kozak, Bob Bounds, Ken Gibble, Stephanie Snow

Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Teri Polaski & Deidre McArdle  
Membership – Stephanie Snow  
Publications – Kelley Johnson  
Public Relations – Ruth Lyons  
Principal Involvement – Dick Ostop  
Leadership Development – Jim Bancroft  
Finance & Administration – David Freed

18. Board Members (1994/1995)

President	-	Stephanie Snow
Vice President	-	Gil Tyler
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Maureen Herzig
Past President	-	Bob Mitchell
Directors	-	Bob Bounds
	-	Ken Gibble
	-	Dick Jacques
	-	Kelley Johnson

19. Board Members (1995/1996)

President	-	Gil Tyler
Vice President	-	Pat Bilotto
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Ruth Millward
Past President	-	Stephanie Snow
Directors	-	Dick Jacques
	-	Kelley Johnson
	-	Janet Pagini
	-	Terry Casey

20. Board Members (1996/1997)

President	-	Pat Bilotto
Vice President	-	David Frassinelli
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Ruth Millward
Past President	-	Gil Tyler
Directors	-	Terry Casey
	-	Marcia Mochnick
	-	Brian Armet
	-	Kermit Thompson

Committee Chairmen:

Membership	-	Terry Casey
Programs	-	David Frassinelli
Newsletter	-	Marcia Mochnick
Public Relations	-	Maria Loitz
Job Data Bank	-	Bob Bounds

On August 26, 1997, the chapter by-laws were revised to reflect standards given to us by National. At that time, we changed the position of Vice President to President-Elect which would take effect the following election.

21. Board Members (1997/1998)

President	-	Pat Bilotto
Vice President	-	Marcia Mochnick
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Ruth Millward
Past President	-	Terry Casey
Directors	-	Maria Loitz
	-	Christopher Cignoli
	-	Brian Armet
	-	Kermit Thompson

22. Board Members (1998/1999)

President	-	Marcia Mochnick
President-Elect	-	Dick Ostop
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Geryl Rose
Past President	-	Pat Bilotto
Directors	-	Ruth Millward
	-	Cathye Grabarek
	-	Maria Loitz
	-	Christopher Cignoli

Committee Charimen:

Programs	-	Christopher Cignoli
Membership	-	Cathye Grabarek
Publications	-	Bernice Bako
Public Relations	-	Maria Loitz
Job Data Bank	-	Terry Casey
Nominations & Election	-	Terry Casey
Leadership & Development	-	Pat Bilotto

23. Board Members (1999/2000)

President	-	Dick Ostop
President-Elect	-	Maria Loitz
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Geryl Rose
Past President	-	Marcia Mochnick
Directors	-	Ruth Millward
	-	Cathye Grabarek
	-	Kathleen Chambers
	-	Bernice Bako

#### 24. Board Members (2000/2001)

President	-	Maria Loitz
President-Elect	-	Bernice Bako
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathleen Chambers
Past President	-	Dick Ostop
Directors	-	Terry McDonald
	-	Jessica Loew
	-	Jeff Gutsfeld
	-	Christopher Cignoli

#### 25. Board Members (2001/2002)

President	-	Bernice Bako
President-Elect	-	Kathleen Chambers
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Jeff Gutsfeld
Past President	-	Maria Loitz
Directors	-	Terry McDonald
	-	Geryl Rose
	-	Peter Newman
	-	Jeanne Boyer

In August 2002, the Chapter was the Grand Prize Winner in the 2002 Striving for Excellence Award. Service Accomplishments included established CPSM study groups, organized a regional conference and implemented a new member orientation program.

#### 26. Board Members (2002/2003)

President	-	Kathleen Chambers
President-Elect	-	Terry McDonald
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Mary Beth Morris, PE
Past President	-	Bernice Bako
Directors	-	Peter Newman
	-	Geryl Rose
	-	Sharon Apotheker
	-	Pat Bilotto

In 2004, the chapter formerly changed its name to SMPS Connecticut, Inc. to better reflect its membership base (96% were located in Connecticut). A new identity package and web site were launched.

#### 27. Board Members (2003/2004)



President	-	Terry McDonald/Pat Bilotto (when Terry moved and left the Board first quarter, he was replaced by Pat)
President-Elect	-	Pat Bilotto
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Mary Beth Morris, PE
Past President	-	Bernice Bako
Directors	-	Sharon Apotheker/Maria Loitz
	-	Cathy DeFrances
	-	Gillian Hodgen
	-	Robert MacDuff

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	Mary Beth Morris & Bernice Bako
Program	-	Cathy DeFrances
Communications	-	Gillian Hodgen
Membership	-	Ruth Millward & Betty Horne
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Sponsorship	-	Rob MacDuff
CPSM	-	Terry Casey

28. Board Members (2004/2005)

President	-	Pat Bilotto
President-Elect	-	Mary Beth Morris, PE
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Pam Perry
Past President	-	Bernice Bako
Directors	-	Gillian Hodgen
	-	Robert MacDuff
	-	Wayne Cobleigh
	-	Cathy DeFrances

Committee Chairmen:

Program	-	Cathy DeFrances
Communications	-	Gillian Hodgen
Membership	-	Betty Horne
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Sponsorship	-	Donna Maltzan
CPSM	-	Terry Casey & Diane Kozel

SMPS Connecticut was the first chapter to host a Regional Conference that held a Leadership Workshop as part of the conference. This was a three-hour workshop to help chapter leaders and committees run their chapters. National staff members, Earl Klinger and Tina Myers, as well as National President, Karen Courtney, lead the workshop.

Our chapter won The 2006 Striving for Excellence Program Outstanding Achievement Award for mid-size chapters.

29. Board Members (2005/2006)

President	-	Mary Beth Morris, PE
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President-Elect	-	Cathy DeFrances
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Gillian Hodgen/Betty Horne (Gillian left the Board mid-year and Betty took her place)
Past President	-	Pat Bilotto
Directors	-	Wayne Cobleigh
	-	Lauren Stoutenberg
	-	Diane Kozel
	-	Dick Jacques/Sara Ruggiero (Dick left the board mid-year and Sara took his place)

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	Cathy DeFrances & Sharon Roberts
Program	-	Wayne Cobleigh
Communications	-	Gillian Hodgen / Lauren Stoutenberg
Membership	-	Diane Kozel
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Sponsorship	-	Marcia Mochnick
CPSM	-	Terry Casey
Leadership	-	Pat Bilotto

30. Board Members (2006/2007)

President	-	Cathy DeFrances
President-Elect	-	Wayne Cobleigh
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Grace Waldvogel
Past President	-	Mary Beth Morris
Directors	-	Lauren Stoutenberg / Terry Casey (Terry replaced Lauren who left mid-year)
	-	Diane Kozel
	-	Sara Ruggiero
	-	Tom Beebe

Committee Chairmen:

Program	-	Wayne Cobleigh
Communications	-	
Membership	-	Diane Kozel
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Leadership	-	Mary Beth Morris
CPSM	-	Terry Casey

31. Board Members (2007/2008)

President	-	Wayne Cobleigh
President-Elect	-	Geryl Rose
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Grace Waldvogel
Past President	-	Cathy DeFrances
Directors	-	Thomas Beebe
	-	Fallon Greene
	-	Bill O'Connor
	-	Sara Ruggiero

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	Geryl Rose
Program	-	Tom Beebe
Communications	-	Sara Ruggiero
Membership	-	Diane Kozel
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Leadership	-	Cathy DeFrances

32. Board Members (2008/2009)

Board members: Bill O'Connor, Geryl Rose, Kara Bacik, Diane DeGray, Lauren Dabek, Kathy Serafin, Wayne Cobleigh, Beth Haas, Marcia Kellogg, Tom Bebee, Sara Ruggiero, Cathy DeFrances, Carolyn Bligh.

President	-	Geryl Rose
President-Elect	-	Sara Ruggiero
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Serafin
Past President	-	Wayne Cobleigh
Directors	-	Kara Bacik, Diane DeGray, Lauren Dabek, Bil O'Connor

Committee Chairmen:

Programs	-	Tom Beebe & Marcia Kellogg
Communications	-	Kara Bacik
Membership	-	Diane DeGray
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Leadership	-	Beth Haas

Highlights: National placed much focus this year on retention because of the tough economy; Squarespace was suggested for the chapters' website created by Carolyn Bligh of Bligh Graphics;

33. Board Members (2009/2010)

Board members: Victoria Pancoast, Jim Bancroft, Marie Maia, Sara Ruggiero. Carolyn Bligh, Geryl Rose, Kara Bacik, Diane DeGray, Lauren Dabek, Beth Haas, Marcia Kellogg, Terry Casey, Ariel Martinez, Ruth Millward Pat Billotto, Brian Burke, Krista Kenney, Melissa Shaffer.

President	-	Sara Ruggiero
President-Elect	-	Kara Gruss (formerly Kara Bacik)
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Serafin
Past President	-	Geryl Rose
Directors	-	Beth Haas, Vicky Pancoast, Lauren Dabek, Diane DeGray

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-
Program	-
Communications	-
Membership	-
Job Bank	-
Leadership	-

Highlights: Discontinued AIA/CES provider relationships; membership of 90

34. Board Members (2010/2011)

Board members: Lauren Dabek, Kara Gruss, Kathy Serafin, Jim Bancroft, Beth Taylor, Krista Kenney, Melissa Shaffer, Allison Gapski, Jacqui Copp-Moffett, Diane DeGray, Bob Saunders, Marcia Kellogg, Kim Walsh, Cathy DeFrances, Terry Casey.

President	-	Kara Gruss
President-Elect	-	Lauren Dabek
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Serafin
Past President	-	Sara Ruggiero
Directors	-	Beth Taylor (formerly Beth Haas), Vicky Pancoast, Brian Burke and Melissa Shaffer

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	Cathy DeFrances and Beth Taylor
Programs	-	Marcia Kellogg and Beth Taylor
Communications	-	Krista Kenney and Kim Walsh
Membership	-	Kara Gruss and Allison Gapski
Sponsorship	-	Diane DeGray and Melissa Shaffer
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
CPSM	-	Melissa Shaffer
Leadership	-	Kara Gruss

Highlights: Discovered our legal name and IRS name didn't match so Jim and Lauren had to troubleshoot and resolve; 82 members;

35. Board Members (2011/2012)

Board members:

President	-	Lauren Dabek
President-Elect	-	Beth Taylor
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Serafin
Past President	-	Kara Gruss
Directors	-	Melissa Shaffer, Krista Kenney, Jacqui Copp-Moffett and Allison Gapski

Committee Chairmen:

Programs	-	Marcia Kellogg & Beth Taylor
Communications	-	Kim Walsh & Krista Kenney
Membership	-	Kara Gruss & Allison Gapski
Sponsorship	-	Diane DeGray
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Leadership	-	Kara Gruss

Highlights:

36. Board Members (2012/2013)

Board members: Lauren Dabek, Beth Taylor, Lindsey Burke, Kara Gruss, Carolyn Bligh, Jim Bancroft, Kathy Nanowski, Allison Gapski, Jacqui Copp-Moffett, Diane DeGray, Bob Saunders,

Victoria Messina, Jessica Osborne, Cathy DeFrances, Terry Casey.

President	-	Beth Taylor
President-Elect	-	Cathy DeFrances
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Nanowski (formerly Kathy Serafin)
Past President	-	Lauren Dabek
Directors	-	Bob Saunders, Lindsey Burke, Jacqui Copp-Moffett, Allison Gapski

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	
Programs	-	Lindsey Burke and Carolyn Bligh
Communications	-	Jessica Osborne
Membership	-	Kara Gruss and Vicky Messina
Sponsorship	-	Diane DeGray and Bob Saunders
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
Leadership	-	Lauren Dabek

Highlights: 75 members; no regional conference this year; inaugural Uber conference held May 2014.

37. Board Members (2013/2014)

Board members: Beth Taylor, Lindsey Burke, Carolyn Bligh, Jim Bancroft, Kathy Nanowski, Diane DeGray, Jessica Osborne, Cathy DeFrances, Terry Casey, Wayne Cobleigh, Ruth Millward and Diane Petra.

President	-	Cathy DeFrances
President-Elect	-	Carolyn Bligh
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Nanowski
Past President	-	Beth Taylor
Directors	-	Lindsey Burke, Bob Saunders, Jessica Osborne, Diane Petra

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	
Programs	-	Lindsey Burke and Carolyn Bligh
Communications	-	Jessica Osborne
Membership	-	Wayne Cobleigh and Ruth Millward
Sponsorship	-	Diane DeGray and Bob Saunders
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
CPSM	-	Wayne Cobleigh
Leadership	-	Beth Taylor

Highlights: Started sending digital surveys following programs. Uber Conference held in Atlantic City. Allison Gapski was awarded the Grace Waldvogel Member of the Year award.

38. Board Members (2014/2015)

Board members: Kathy Nanowski, Jim Bancroft, Jessica Osborne, Cathy DeFrances, Derek Czenczelewski, Joan Davidson, Terry Casey, Jessica Parkins and Carolyn Bligh.

President	-	Carolyn Bligh
President-Elect	-	Jessica Osborne
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Kathy Nanowski
Past President	-	Cathy DeFrances
Directors	-	Joan Davidson, Diane Petra, Derek Czendzelewski (replaced), Wayne Cobleigh, Ruth Millward, Jessica Osborne

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	
Programs	-	Jessica Parkins and Allison Gapski
Communications	-	Jessica Osborne
Membership	-	Joan Davidson and Ruth Millward
Sponsorship	-	Nichole Petersen
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
CPSM	-	Wayne Cobleigh and Jessica Osborne
Leadership	-	Cathy DeFrances

Highlights: Membership reported at 93. Uber 2015 Conference held in Boston, MA. Nichole Petersen received 2014-2015 Grace Waldvogel Member of the Year Award.

39. Board Members (2015/2016)

Board members: Kathy Nanowski, Jim Bancroft, Jessica Osborne, Samantha VanSchoick, Carolyn Bligh, Nichole Petersen and Jessica Parkins.

President	-	Jessica Osborne
President-Elect	-	Kathy Nanowski
Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Nichole Petersen
Past President	-	Carolyn Bligh
Directors	-	Jessica Parkins, Samantha VanSchoick, Joan Davidson, Ruth Millward

Committee Chairmen:

Regional Conference	-	
Programs	-	Jessica Parkins
Communications	-	Samantha VanSchoick
Membership	-	Ruth Millward
Sponsorship	-	Nichole Petersen
Job Bank	-	Terry Casey
CPSM	-	Wayne Cobleigh
Leadership	-	Carolyn Bligh

Highlights: 98 members; UBER conference took a break, Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM received the Grace Waldvogel Member of the Year Award.

40. Board Members (2016/2017)

President	-	Kathy Nanowski
President-Elect	-	Sharon Pomeroy

Treasurer	-	Jim Bancroft
Secretary	-	Nichole Petersen
Past President	-	Jessica Osborne
Directors	-	John Schlesinger
		Jessica Parkins
		Alicia Washington
		Sam VanSchoick

Committee Chairmen:

Program	-	Jessica Parking & Rita Joy
Communications	-	Sam VanSchoick
Sponsorship	-	Nichole Petersen
Membership	-	Cathy DeFrances, Ruth Millward
Job Bank	-	Allison Puzycki
Leadership	-	Jessica Osborne

2016 / 2017 Highlights: We did our first MAX presentation; won national's Membership Derby membership drive and achieved large chapter status (again); started using a Strategic Planning document again; Kathy Nanowski, Kristine Nemeth and Sharon Pomeroy received their CPSM credential; The Marketing Communications Awards (MCAs) turned into Blue Carpet Gala! Marta Dabrowski received the Grace Waldvogel Award at the MCAs; Kate Anderson received the 2016-2017 Trail Blazer Award at the MCAs; Cathy DeFrances received the 2016-2018 Lifetime Achievement Award at the MCAs; NERC held in Saratoga Springs, NY.

41. Board Members (2017-2018)

President – Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM  
 President-Elect – Samantha VanSchoick  
 Treasurer – Jim Bancroft  
 Secretary – Nichole Petersen  
 Past President – Kathy Nanowski  
 Directors – Alicia Washington, Ron Paolillo, Marta Dabrowski and Jessica Osborne

Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Jessica Parkins and Rita Joy  
 Communications – Marta Dabrowski, CPSM  
 Sponsorship – Nichole Petersen  
 Membership – Cathy DeFrances, Ruth Millward and Ron Paolillo for second half of the year  
 Job Bank – Allison Puzycki  
 Leadership – Kathy Nanowski, CPSM

2017/2018 Highlights: Celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 15, 2017 at Real Art Ways in Hartford; Marta Dabrowski successfully began regular blog posts; Allison Puzycki suggested and managed a first time ever \$100 per ad fee for jobs posted to the job board on our website to generate additional revenue; Chapter began a lending library managed by Jessica Osborne; contributed \$500 for NERC sponsorship; between September and February increased the roster with 17 new members totaling 126 total members which is the highest membership ever; Barbara Klimaszewski of BVH Integrated Services became a CPSM; Kathy Nanowski and Samantha VanSchoick submitted striving for excellence and president of the year award submissions (awards made to other chapters); MERGE regional conference held in Baltimore, Maryland.

2018-2019 regional conference to be held May 1-3, 2019 at the Downtown Marriott in Providence, Rhode Island.

On May 2, 2018 – New policy adopted: Current President oversees updating their year's chapter history and passing on to the president-elect at the conclusion of their year.

May 2018 – To honor Jim Bancroft's retirement and 30+ years of service to SMPS, the board unanimously voted to change the Lifetime Achievement Award to The James Bancroft Lifetime Achievement Award. Jim Bancroft will be the first honoree with the award given on June 20, 2018 and the name of the award going forward will always be given in his name. (This decision was made without Jim's knowing; all discussion via email.)

May 2018 – The decision was made that The Grace Waldvogel Member of the Year Award will be given to Jessica Parkins of Petra Construction at the June 20, 2018 Annual Meeting and Program.

Program Calendar 2017/2018: September 20<sup>th</sup> Networking Skills with Gilda Bonanno; October 18 Graceworks presents The Human Connection; November 15 Birthday Bash and Event Management; January Photography Social; February 14 Going Green is Good for Business; March 14 AEC Industry Award Submissions; April 25 Mechanics of Marketing Digital Marketing Mastery; May 16 MAX Talks; June 20 Annual Meeting & Client Round Tables; June annual retreat led by Samantha VanSchoick. December was a break in our educational program season.

#### 42. Board Members (2018-2019)

President – Samantha VanSchoick  
President-Elect – Nichole Petersen  
Treasurer – Jessica Parkins  
Secretary – Kate Anderson  
Past President – Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM  
Directors – Marta Dabrowski, CPSM, Ron Paolillo, Cathie Reese and Allison Puzycki

##### Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Jessica Osborne, CPSM  
Communications – Marta Dabrowski, CPSM  
Sponsorship – Nichole Petersen  
Membership – Cathy DeFrances and Ron Paolillo  
Job Bank – Allison Puzycki  
Leadership – Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM  
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force – Alicia Washington  
CPSM – Kathy Nanowski

2018/2019 Highlights: Developed Chapter's 1<sup>st</sup> 3-yr Strategic Plan generated from Strategic Planning. The Diversity and Inclusion Task Force was created. First year of Member Handbook. Highest Sponsorship Revenue to date <\$17K. Major focus on volunteer recruitment and retention. Samantha VanSchoick allowed each committee chair to budget for committee appreciation. "Share your notes" created as a way to show value of attending SMPS CT programs. 2<sup>nd</sup> year that the Marketing Communication Awards were presented as a Gala. Anastasia Barnes of High Profile was the Emcee for the event. Hired Monkey puppets for cocktail hour. Ruth Millward recipient of James Bancroft Lifetime Achievement Award. Olivia Morris recipient of Grace Waldvogel Member of the year award. Jocelyn Taylor Trail Blazer Award. All awards presented during MCAs.

December 2018 – Samantha VanSchoick and Nichole Petersen conduct "Journey of Cheer" delivering home-made cookies to volunteers' firms as a thank you. They traveled across the state.

January 16, 2019- First Volunteer Appreciation social

January 2019 – Secured Media Sponsor with High Profile Monthly

May 1-3, 2019 regional conference to be held at the Downtown Marriott in Providence, Rhode Island.



May 2019 – Win More Work Summit idea hatched, and planning began.

May 29, 2019 – “Meet SMPS CT” video released at MCAs Golden Gala. Video created for member recruitment.

July 19, 2019 – 12 volunteers bought, prepared, cooked and served food at the NEW Have Ronald McDonald House in honor of Keith Claytor (in-kind photography sponsor) and his son Jackson.

Summer 2019 – Membership drive (offering \$100 rebate) brought in 8 new members. Ended year with 112 members

2018/2019 Program Calendar: September 26<sup>th</sup> Reading the Room – The Dynamics of Emotional Intelligence In Action; October 31<sup>st</sup> Confessionals of a Content Whisperer and Google Analytics Guru; November 28<sup>th</sup> Principals Program – Beyond the Plan: Challenges and Solutions to Strategic Planning, Implementation and Budget; December 12<sup>th</sup> Fireside Chat – Inspiration Session (members-only); January 16<sup>th</sup> SMPS Volunteer Celebration Axe Throwing (Members-only); January 23<sup>rd</sup> Welcome to Coach U: Teaching Presentation Skills the Graceworks Way; February 27<sup>th</sup> Business Development: Building Effective Relationships and Momentum for the Future; March 27<sup>th</sup> Get a Leg up Before the RFP Hits the Streets; April 17<sup>th</sup> New Member Social and MAX Talks; May 29<sup>th</sup> The Golden Gala: SMPS CT MCAs; June 19<sup>th</sup> Regional Economic Outlook Panel & SMPS Annual Meeting; June 27<sup>th</sup> Chapter Strategic Planning Retreat led by Nichole Petersen; July 19<sup>th</sup> Ronald McDonald House of CT Meal Program; August 14<sup>th</sup> 60-Minute Creativity Workout: A Boot Camp for A/E/C Marketers & Business Developers

#### 43. Board Members (2019-2020)

President – Nichole Petersen  
President-Elect – Alicia Washington  
Treasurer – Jessica Parkins  
Secretary – Kate Anderson  
Past President – Samantha VanSchoick  
Directors – Cathie Reese and Allison Puzycki, George Jacobs and Jocelyn Taylor

#### Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Jessica Brown  
Communications – Marta Dabrowski, CPSM  
Sponsorship – Barbara Klimasewski and Julia DeFrances  
Membership – Kate Anderson and Luke Glendenning  
Job Bank – Allison Puzycki  
Leadership – Samantha VanSchoick  
Diversity & Inclusion Task Force – Alicia Washington  
CPSM – Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM and Jessica Osborne, CPSM

2019/2020 Highlights: Year 2 of 3-year strategic plan started with a splash! This year was all about building awareness of SMPS CT as a resource for technical professionals. Collaboration, education and inclusion were President, Nichole Petersen’s main initiatives. 1<sup>st</sup> Win More Work Summit held and great success.

Nichole kept the focus of volunteer appreciation and worked hard to retain and recruit members. Volunteer job board was created. AEC Industry calendar was developed. Began creation of student membership program and student member experience advocacy. Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce made great strides.

Global COVID-19 Pandemic halted the industry and cancelled all in-person meetings. Chapter wasted no time pivoting to webinars. Professional Achievement Awards were presented virtually along with 2019/2020 program year highlights during first virtual annual meeting. Award recipients were as follows:

Maria Loitz, CPSM, FSMPS – James Bancroft Lifetime Achievement Award; Cynthia Colon Trail Blazer; Hannah Sullivan – Grace Waldvogel member of the year.

September 9-13 – 1<sup>st</sup> SMPS CT week – raise awareness of SMPS CT + member engagement

September 12-13 – CPSM Marketing Audits offered at the CACX + booth presence. Try to promote WMW conference and appeal to technical professionals

October 2, 2019 – 1<sup>st</sup> Win More Work Summit – one-day conference where marketers, BD professionals and technical staff come together to learn how to win their firms more work.

November 15, 2019 – Thanks-for-giving tour. Nichole Petersen, Samantha VanSchoick and Alicia Washington traveled from Bloomfield to Stamford and everywhere in between delivering hand-made pies (Chocolate Cookie, Pumpkin and Apple) to committee volunteers and a thank you for their time and dedication.

February 19, 2020 - First time to combine volunteer and new member social in hopes of turning new members into volunteers. At least 7 new members became active volunteers by the end of the year.

March 11, 2020 – Emergency Board vote to postpone March 16<sup>th</sup> Memory Power Program and Release official COVI-19 Statement.

March 16, 2020 – Official start of US in Global pandemic. Programs Committee met and quickly began reformatting and rescheduling upcoming in-person programs. Quickly pivoted to webinar formats. It was voted to pay for Webinar Jam and to offer webinars free of charge for both members and nonmembers.

May 2020 – Northeast Regional conference canceled due to COVID-19. Rescheduled to Lake George area in spring 2021.

June 8, 2020 – Official statement of support of #BlackLivesMatter released.

June 8-10, 2020 – Awards parade for Professional Achievement Awards. A way to show support and congratulations committee and board members drove by recipients' homes/businesses and beeped and waved. Cars were decorated and recipient was given award.

June 17, 2020 – First Virtual Annual meeting. Nichole Petersen worked with Geomatrix Productions to create a video highlight recap of year's events. Also, first virtual award ceremony.

June 15, 2020 – Alicia Washington hosted annual strategic planning virtually with the help of the Bolder Company via zoom

Summer 2020 – Nichole worked closely with Alicia to prepare for next year. Education committee (re-brand of CPSM committee) formed.

Membership status: Remained a large Chapter. Started the year with 113 members. Ended the year with 122 members.

2019/2020 Program Calendar: September 18<sup>th</sup> Brewery, Beer & BBQ – Project Tour; October 2<sup>nd</sup> Win More Work Summit; November 20<sup>th</sup> How to Focus in a World of Distraction; December 11<sup>th</sup> Fireside Chat with Cathy DeFrances-Vittorio; January 22<sup>nd</sup> Social Media & Content Marketing; February 19<sup>th</sup> Be the Firm Your Client Can't Live Without; February 19<sup>th</sup> Volunteer and New Member Social (members-only); April 9<sup>th</sup> Virtual Happy Hour (members-only); April 15<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Think Like a Journalist – The AEC Marketer's Guide to PR; April 29<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Responding to RFPs – Going Beyond the Submittal Requirements; May 6<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Encore Responding to RFPs; May 13<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Creating an Effective Roadmap for AEC Market Research & Analysis; May 27<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Brochures in the Age of Web; June 10<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Virtual Short List Interviewing – From Surviving to Thriving; June 17<sup>th</sup>: Virtual Annual

Meeting + Awards Ceremony; June 25<sup>th</sup> Strategic Annual Planning; July 8<sup>th</sup> Webinar: Prospering in a Virtual Environment.

44. Board Members (2020/2021)

President – Alicia Mojica Washington  
President-Elect – Marta Dabrowski, CPSM  
Treasurer – Julia DeFrances  
Secretary – Cynthia Colón  
Past President – Nichole Petersen  
Directors – George Jacobs, Jocelyn Taylor, Luke Glendening and Patrick Delaney

Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Jessica Brown and Kristen Torvinen  
Communications – Jocelyn Taylor  
Sponsorship – Barbara Klimaszewski and Carley Oliveto  
Membership – Kate Anderson and Cathie Reese  
Job Bank – Allison Puzycki  
Leadership – Nichole Petersen  
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force – Alicia Mojica Washington  
Education – Carly Olson and Katelyn Birge

45. Board Members (2021/2022)

President – Marta Dabrowski, CPSM  
President-Elect – Julia DeFrances  
Treasurer – Chris Abel  
Secretary – Cynthia Colón  
Past President – Alicia Mojica Washington  
Directors – Luke Glendening; Patrick Delaney; Caitlin Porter, CPSM; and Hannah Sullivan

Committee Chairmen:

Programs – Kristen Dera and Marie Patel  
Communications – Jocelyn Taylor, Caitlin Porter, CPSM and Katelyn Reynolds  
Sponsorship – Susan Fisher Plotner (Sept. – Feb.), Marta Dabrowski, CPSM (Feb. – Aug.)  
Membership – Kate Anderson  
Job Bank – Beth Taylor, CPSM  
Mentorship – Dana Lee and Maria Loitz, FSMPS, CPSM  
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force – Lisa Pavano  
Education – Jessica Fasi, CPSM

Chapter Advisor:

Maria Loitz, FSMPS, CPSM

NERC Board/Liaison:

Nichole Petersen

2021/2022 Highlights:

A Year of Growth & Firsts! *Collaboration | Engagement | Community:* Marta led the SMPS Connecticut Chapter through a year of growth and firsts. Through proactive leadership, member engagement, and collaboration she energized the SMPS Connecticut community and drove strategic initiatives forward.

Leadership

- A new 2021-2024 Strategic Plan was developed based on the Society's mission and vision - charting a clear course for the next three years. Additionally SMART goals were developed to identify quantifiable actions for committees to advance the Strategic Plan. The Chapter successfully completed nearly 80% of the SMART goals and completed or started 92% of the

Strategic Plan initiatives by the end of the program year.

- Marta encouraged collaboration and idea sharing through a new Slack platform and the Chapter's first ever Town Halls. She focused on best practices and volunteer development by creating volunteer job descriptions, trainings, and guidelines.
- The Chapter's profile was raised within the A/E/C industry by collaborating with other industry organizations, holding industry panels, and expanding student outreach.

#### Chapter Management

- The Chapter streamlined processes and invested in new platforms including Slack, Adobe Express, and MailerLite:
  - Upgraded chapter website resulted in a 27% increase in monthly views.
  - Revamped emails and newsletter led to 30% increases in open rates.
  - Re-energized social media led to increase in followers- LinkedIn 48%, Instagram 85%, student Instagram 90%, and Facebook 30%.
- Marta led and organized the Chapter's first Town Halls which were held in September and March. The Town Halls provided members the opportunity to meet the board and committee chairs and learn about the initiatives planned for the year.
- The Chapter voted-in updated bylaws in March of 2022 that reflected the latest Society guidelines.
- New sponsorship price levels were developed leading to a 60% increase in sponsorships for next year.
- The Chapter's first official internal financial audit checklist was developed and implemented.
- The Chapter achieved record revenue from the job bank - increasing 75% from the previous year.

#### Society Awareness

- SMPS Connecticut developed conference panels on proposal coordination for WTS CT and AIA CT - showcasing members as thought leaders:
  - WTS Connecticut Transportation Mini-Series (10/21/21) SMPS Connecticut Proposal Coordination Panel - "What Every Transportation Professional Needs to Know About Proposal Coordination" – Moderator: Cathy DeFrances-Vittorio, CPSM. Panelists: Marta Dabrowski, CPSM; Katherine Nanowski, CPSM; Julia DeFrances; Caitlin Porter, CPSM.
  - AIA CT CACX'21 (10/18/21) SMPS Connecticut Proposal Coordination Panel - "What Every Architect Needs to Know About Proposal Coordination" – Moderator: Cathy DeFrances-Vittorio, CPSM. Panelists: Cynthia Colón; Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM; Kelly Conover, CPSM; Caitlin Porter, CPSM.
- A formal collaborating industry sponsorship was developed, resulting in collaboration with six organizations to promote programs. Collaboration also included other SMPS chapters which resulted in a joint program with SMPS Boston, and past presidents from other chapters participating on SMPS Connecticut panels.
- The Chapter prioritized student outreach connecting with more than 400 students through four events:
  - University of Hartford Career Day – SMPS Connecticut recorded a webinar for the event - "Pathways in the A/E/C Industry: Marketing, Business Development and Beyond."
  - ABC CT Construction Career Days - SMPS Connecticut was an exhibitor at the event.
  - ACE Connecticut Mentor Program Presentation.
  - Pulaski Middle School Career Day.
- A new free internship bank was started as a resource to companies and students, and a new discounted rate for programs was made available for students.

#### Membership

- The Chapter gained 21 new/transfer members and nine reinstated members, maintaining large Chapter status and increasing retention rate by 7%.
- A new member on-boarding process was implemented, pairing 20 new/transfer members with advisors.
- A new CPSM Study Program was launched with 21 members indicating interest in participating. The Chapter's first CPSM Scholarship was also launched.
- A new mentorship coffee meetups program was started which supplement monthly cohorts with more than 20 members participating.
- A new Chapter Leadership Award category was introduced and a record five individual awards were awarded.

## Chapter Programming and Events

- As the COVID pandemic wound down, the Chapter transitioned to in-person events in the Spring.
- Events included eight programs and 10 education workshops with an average rating of 4.6/5. In total 22.5 CEU credits were offered- 58% of which were at no cost to SMPS members.
- The Chapter provided 43 opportunities for members to connect through events, cohorts, CPSM study groups, town halls, and trainings.
- The Chapter held a new three-part DEI series to discuss DEI basics and tools to take meaningful actions.
- The Chapter began tracking speaker diversity - encouraging committees to expand their networks and providing a benchmark to track improvements.

### 2021/2022 Event Calendar:

September - Schmoozing in the Time of Corona - How to Network in a Hybrid World (Program - Virtual)  
October - Leveraging CRM for Marketing and Business Development Success (Education - Virtual)  
November - Photography Musts for Marketing (Education - Virtual)  
November - The Future is Now and It's Online (Program - Virtual)  
December - Fireside Chat with Bernice Bako (Program - Virtual)  
January - Supercharge Your Content Strategy in 2022 (Program - Virtual)  
January - Different Viewpoints, Same Goals: How Social Media Perspectives (Education - Virtual)  
February - DEI Series - Part 1: DEI Basics 101 Training (DEI – Virtual)  
February - Re-imagine Success: Finding the Joy in Your Journey with CJ McClanahan - joint program with SMPS Boston (Program - Virtual)  
February - CPSM Panel: Leveling Up Your Career (Education - Virtual)  
March - DEI Series - Part 2: DEI for Management Training (DEI – Virtual)  
March - Re: branding - How Turner Construction Reimagined its Supply Chain Subsidiary (Education - Virtual)  
April - DEI Series - Part 3: DEI for C-Suite Training (DEI – Virtual)  
April - Connecticut's Cannabis Market - How We Got Here and Where We're Going (Program – In-Person)  
April - Podcasts for A/E/C Marketers (Education - Virtual)  
May - Pitch Perfect: Working in Harmony with the Media (Education - Virtual)  
May - Golf 101: Fundamentals of the Game and Networking (Program – In-Person)  
June - Connecticut Projects & Projections Panel and Annual Meeting (Program – In-Person)  
June - Summer School: From Proposal to Presentation (Education - Virtual)  
July - Summer Social: Volunteer Appreciation and New Member Welcome (Social – In-Person)  
July - Summer School: Adobe InDesign for A/E/C Marketers (Education - Virtual)  
August - Summer School: Photoshop 9-1-1. What's Your Emergency? (Education - Virtual)

### 2021/2022 Professional Achievement Award Winners:

- The James Bancroft Lifetime Achievement Award | Sharon Pomeroy, CPSM
- Grace Waldvogel Member of the Year | Kelly Conover, CPSM
- Grace Waldvogel Member of the Year | Lisa Pavano
- Trail Blazer Award | Katelyn Reynolds
- Chapter Leadership Award | Chris Abel

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTION**

1. The governing body or Board of Directors consists of four (4) regular members in good standing and the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and immediate Past President.
2. The Board of Directors appoints chairpersons to run the three: standing committees (Program, Membership and Public Relations). The chairpersons select committee members from the paid membership of the organization. All committee chairmen report back to a member of the Board, who has been designated by the Board to act in the capacity of Advisor.
3. All other committees created by the Board shall be Special Committees and will be run as determined by the Board of Directors.