

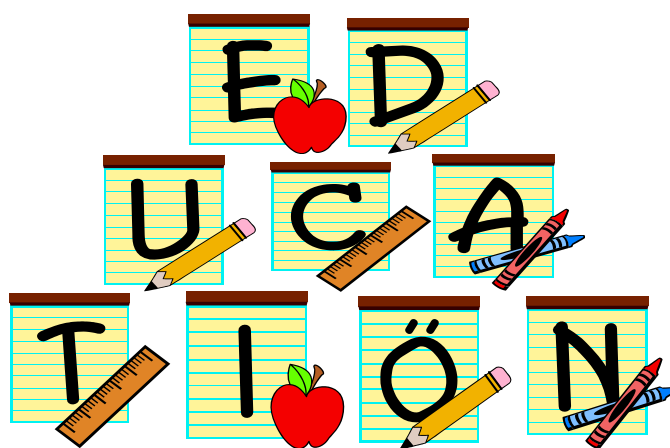
# DixieGram

CREDIT PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL  
DISTRICT III & IV NEWSLETTER

May 2015 Edition

Making A Difference

Through



*Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.*  
~ *Nelson Mandela*

## **District III & IV Officers**

**2015-2016**

President-----Cheryl Burleson-Davis MPCE

Vice President-----Sheila Edwards, PCE

Secretary/Treasurer-----Pat Porter, PCS

### **From District III & IV President**

As we begin a new year for our district, let us take time to thank President Valrie for a wonderful year leading our association with her theme “Time to Make a Change.” President Valrie inspired us to embrace change as we move toward the future.

For those who were unable to attend District Conference in Gatlinburg, you missed a great conference. Tennessee members Deborah Tyler, Dawn Morgan and Betty Jo Goff presented programs on finance, the digital age and parliamentary procedures. The entire conference ran like clockwork and so a big “THANK YOU” to Helen Fisher and the Tennessee members.

My theme for this year is “Making a Difference Through Education.” I challenge each of you to find new ways to reach out to the community with educational programs whether it’s in the schools, civic groups or church groups. Find your niche and go with it! If you’re presenting a program, please share with other members of our District and forward your power point presentation to Rhonda McKinney, our webmaster and she’ll put it on our website for other members to use. Let’s utilize our members to develop great programs that we can share.

For my President’s Project, I want to see what you’ve done with the challenge. Put together a video, power point, copies of brochures and dates/times the presentation was done. If you’ve volunteered in a school, or other organization, let me when and where and what you did. I know we have some creative members and look forward with seeing what you’ve done with my theme. Hope to see you in Atlanta to support our International President Rhonda!

*Cheryl*

*“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”  
~ Aristotle*

# **Credit Professionals International MISSION STATEMENT**

To support the members of Credit Professionals International by providing opportunities for networking, career development and community involvement.

The objectives set forth to carry out the MISSION are as follows:

A. To develop appropriate strategies to meet the needs of the members in facing the economic and technological changes in the credit industry.

B. To provide quality educational materials to keep the members well informed about current credit standards and sound business practices.

C. To develop closer contact among those employed in the credit and collection industry.

D. To provide to the members opportunities for personal growth and development.

E. To exercise a high degree of care, skill and diligence in providing benefits and ancillary services to the members.

F. To continuously search for and be alert to development opportunities for the formation of similar associations.

G. To maintain a high level of social responsibility by providing credit education to the general public.

H. To support the principle of interdependence by cooperating with other credit associations at the local, district and international level.

I. To use marketing strategies to increase awareness of CPI as a positive and valuable association in the community and in the credit industry.

J. To support the Credit Education Resources Foundation as a vehicle to promote community involvement

*The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.*

*~ Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## MEMORIALS



*Melba Barry*, 86, of Pensacola, and former 'everything' in CPI, passed away on May 8th at her daughter's home in Cantonment, FL, after a very long battle with many forms of cancer. *Melba* was a very active and supportive member of CPI and had held both local and state offices. She was loved by all that knew her and will be missed.

*Mary Arthur Sims Powers*, who, at one time, was a very active member of CPI of Charlotte, lost her husband, *Don*, on March 5, 2015. *Mary Arthur* worked for the Credit Bureau of Charlotte and served, devotedly, in many offices on the local level of CPI. *Mary Arthur* is a current resident of a Care Facility in Union, SC.

*"I am always saddened by the death of a good person. It is from this sadness that a feeling of gratitude emerges. I feel honored to have known them and blessed that their passing serves as a reminder to me that my time on this beautiful earth is limited and that I should seize the opportunity I have to forgive, share, explore, and love. I can think of no greater way to honor the deceased than to live this way."*

*~ Steve Maraboli*

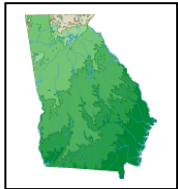
## **District 3 & 4 Reports**



### **CPI - Capitol City, Alabama**

Credit Professionals of Alabama has 3 members. All three of us attended the District Conference, so I guess you can say we hit 100% participation! We do not meet on a regular basis.

President - *Pat Porter, PCS*



### **CPI - Atlanta, Georgia**

No Report



### **CPI - Jacksonville, Florida**

The Florida organization is very small, having only three members. Kathleen Powell is in Boone, N C, for her summer home visit. LaVonne Agerton, in Pensacola, is slowing down now due to health problems.

As for myself, I have physical therapy twice a week for pain and to hopefully get me walking again. I use a rolling walker to get around and get friends to drive me. Many days hurt too bad to even check e-mails. I am home bound most of the time.

On April 2nd, my grandson, Randy and his wife, Allison delivered their third child, a little girl, Molly, to go with Keegan 9 and Emma 6, What blessings these babies are, and on April 7th, my granddaughter, Missy, and her husband John, gave birth to a son, Patrick. How lucky I am that they all live in Jacksonville and we were all together at my daughter, Melinda's and her husband Bill's, for Mother's Day.

News of former members:

Queen King of Jacksonville, a former Dixie President, is totally retired. She does a lot of church work and babysitting for her grandchildren. Her health and her daughter, Paula Maple, are fine.

Glen Boutwell, of Pensacola, and her husband, Gary, are enjoying retirement and are traveling a great deal in their motor home.

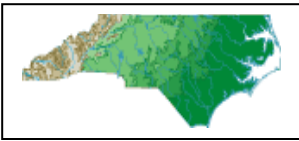
President - *Marcella A. Lowe, MPCE*



**CPI - Jackson, Mississippi**

No Report

**BPI of the Triad, North Carolina**



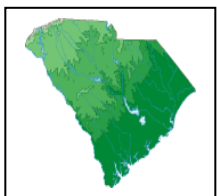
No Report

**CPI - Charlotte, North Carolina**

CPI of Charlotte celebrated the 74th anniversary of the founding of our organization in May. Helen Neil, Vice President, presented the program "A History of CPI. This spring, the members participated in Belk Charity Days. The proceeds from this fundraiser go toward replenishing the coffers of the Ethel B. Wilkinson scholarship fund. The association presented four scholarships to help with the continuation of the education of four college students of whom we are so proud.

In keeping with District President, Cheryl Burleson-Davis' theme, "Making a Difference Through Education", CPI of Charlotte is exploring ways to meet her challenge. Each member was urged to vote for candidates for International office and by-laws changes, and to complete out the Credit Professional of the Year form.

*Shirley Clontz, CCBE/President*



**CPI - Spartanburg, South Carolina**

No Report



## CPI - Tennessee

Tennessee's goal this year is to retain our current members and add new ones to our fold. I have not been told of any new members but the year is not over yet. Our state will have its annual meeting in September in Paris, Tennessee. I understand that they have a replica of the Eifel Tower so if one of your goals in life is to go to Paris to see this structure, September is the right time. Everyone is welcome. Tennessee is so thankful for all who were able to attend the District Conference in our great state in April. All our members worked hard to show them a good time while giving them something worthwhile to think about when they went home. Our speakers, Deborah Tyler and Dawn Morgan, did an excellent job of presenting our workshops and the skit led by Betty Jo Goff and her team of "volunteers" was entertaining and educational. Thanks to all the others for their, behind the scenes work, to make this a successful conference.

**Brownsville:** These ladies meet twice monthly with lessons each meeting. They find a need in the community and conduct a project to help meet that need each quarter. Attending other associations as often as possible is one of their other projects. Seven very fine ladies make up this organization and enjoy being together and learning something new each meeting. Currently they are preparing for the State Conference in September.

**Jackson:** This organization meets twice monthly with lessons and/or speakers. The organization has gained a new student member that some of you met at District Conference. They continue their check writing classes among other projects. Congratulations to Sheila on being named Credit Professional of Year at District. We look forward to hearing that she also won at International.

**Nashville:** This association consists of two ladies who keep very busy for CPI. Jean is currently recuperating from a broken bone in her leg and Artie is getting dental work out of the way so that she can talk at Tennessee State Conference where she will be installed as President.

Our congratulations to the new District President, Cheryl Burleson-Davis, and her new officers. And as always, "May God hold you in the palm of his mighty hand until we meet again."

*Helen Fisher, MPCE - State President*

## **District dues are now due!**

*Dues are \$10.00 each and should be mailed to me at:*

Pat Porter  
3125 Gatsby Ln  
Montgomery, al 36116

If you have questions, please feel free to call me at 334-414-4896.

*Pat Porter, PCS*

*It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see.*  
*~ Henry David Thoreau*

## Award winners for 2014-2015



### Membership Award

First Place-Atlanta, Ga.  
Second Place- Jackson, Tn.

### New Member Increase

First Place - Atlanta, Ga.  
Second Place - Jackson, Tn.

### Bulletin Award

First Place - Charlotte, NC

### Attendance Award

First Place - Brownsville, Tn.  
Second Place - Eastern, NC  
Third Place - Capital City, Al

### Ten Year Club Award

Rhonda McKinney

### Career Club Mileage Award

First Place - Brownsville, Tn.  
Second Place - Capital City, Al.  
Third Place - Business Professionals  
of the Triad, NC

### First Timer Award

Jacqueline Edwards

### Credit Professional of the Year

Sheila Edwards, Jackson, Tn.

*"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today."  
~ Ft. Jackson Brown Jr.*



## **Walk-A-Thon News**

It's time for you to practice your putting to compete in the CPI Masters' Golf Tournament at the CPI International Conference in Marietta in June. You can be the winner of the famed green jacket (Yes, we do have a green jacket for the winner!) and other prizes from the Masters in Augusta. Get your pledges for the Foundation's Tournament which is our version of the annual Walk-A-Thon. We want to make this a record-breaking fundraiser for the Credit Education Resources Foundation and to have fun, fun, fun!

We will have necessary putters and balls for you to score a "hole-in-one" and become a winner. So talk to your family and friends about your golfing skills and get them to pledge for you to be a winner. Looking forward to seeing you at the CPI Masters' Tournament in June!

*Joyce Dove*, Walk-A-Thon Chairman

## **Credit Professionals International & Credit Education Resources Foundation**

The Walkathon each year supports The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. This is such a worthwhile organization. If you can help, contact: <http://www.missingkids.com>, or bring your contribution to the Conference in Atlanta next month.

Thank you!  
CPI WebMaster

*The mission of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children is to serve as a resource center for law enforcement, families and the public to help find missing children, reduce child sexual exploitation and prevent child victimization*

### **Please note:**

International officers, district presidents, and any interested friends please bring a gift basket of \$25 to \$50 in value to the CPI Conference in Marietta (Atlanta) in June. This will be a fundraiser raffle for the Foundation and an opportunity to win a beautiful gift to take home with you.

Thank you,  
*Joyce Dove*,  
Conference Committee...

## **To All CPI MEMBERS**

You can find the updated Career Club Roster at the site below, posted on the Career Club Area of the CPI Website. Please review and update your information on line or send it to the corporate office for revision.

[http://www.creditprofessionals.org/images/careerclubroster\\_11.2014.pdf](http://www.creditprofessionals.org/images/careerclubroster_11.2014.pdf)

Your participation in CPI and the Career Club are very important. Thank you for being a valued member of CPI.

*Barbara J. Chapin*, CCCE/MPCE  
Career Club President 2014-2015  
International Past President/  
Strategic Planning Chairman

### **Credit Professionals International** **District III & IV** **Education/Membership/Extension**

**Making a Change Through Education**

Our membership challenge for 2015-2016 is to recognize the association and individual member that obtains the most points.

- **25 points** Each membership drive event. ( Association Points)
- **50 points** Contacting potential members ( Individual Points)
- **25 points** Association activities or meeting that include a potential new member (Association Points )
- **25 points** Each potential new member attending three consecutive events (Association and Individual points)
- **50 points** Association that maintains its membership (Association points)

*Sheila Edwards*

## **DISTRICT III & IV PRESIDENT'S PROJECT 2015 - 2016**

For my President's Project, I want to see what you've done with the challenge. Put together a video, power point, copies of brochures and dates/times the presentation was done. If you've volunteered in a school, or other organization, let me know when, where and what you did. I know we have some creative members and look forward with seeing what you've done with my theme.

*Cheryl*

**You can still register for International Conference  
Make your plans now!**

**The 78th Annual Conference of Credit Professionals International**

**will be held June 10 - 14, 2015**

**at the Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center**

**in Marietta, Georgia.**

The 78th Credit Professionals International Conference Committee is delighted to share a little bit of Atlanta with you as we take a deluxe bus trip downtown to tour the World of Coca-Cola, and then enjoy lunch at the world famous Varsity restaurant on Thursday, June 11, 2015. The World of Coca-Cola is celebrating its eighth anniversary at Pemberton Place. The World of Coca-Cola celebrates the fascinating history and global scale of The Coca-Cola Company. For those who have never been or who have not visited in a while, now is the time to go.

**Exciting speakers have been lined up to enlighten and instruct.**

**Tracee Randall, author and the founder of Generational Health: "Saving Money by Staying Healthy"**

**Jennifer Camp, a financial advisor with Edward Jones: "Aging Gracefully (and with Money to Spare!)"**

**Terry L. Wynne, founder of The Professional Edge: "Kidnapped" (relating a true story about one woman's terrifying experience).**

**Sergeant Dana Pierce, a Public Information Officer with the Cobb County Police Department's Public Information Crime Prevention Function Unit: "Personal Safety in the Home and Out and About".**

**Susan Brown, a 17 year breast cancer survivor - thriver, Certified Vitality and Success Coach: "How One Word Can Impact Your Vitality, Well - Being and Health".**

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA JUNE 2015**

[Here is a tentative agenda](#) for the International Conference Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting in St. Louis in October.

### **UPDATES:**

<b>EXPENSES – DETERMINE SPLIT BETWEEN CPI/FOUNDATION GRANTS</b>	<b>CHARLES GORDON CHARLES GORDON/ JIM LUCAS</b>
<b>FCRA CLASS – 2016 CONFERENCE</b>	<b>JEAN JERVIS</b>
<b>FUTURE CONFERENCES</b>	<b>JEAN JERVIS</b>
<b>INTERNSHIP -</b>	<b>RHONDA MCKINNEY</b>
<b>RETENTION/RECRUITMENT OF PRIOR MEMBERS</b>	
<b>SOCIAL MARKET</b>	<b>TASKFORCE</b>
<b>ATTRACTING YOUTH / PROMOTING</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE</b>
<b>EXPENSES VS INCOME/ CORPORATE OFFICE</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>
<b>WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?</b>	

Your opinion, as a member of CPI, is VERY important to the future of CPI. You may be a PIP, a Member in your local, district or state or a direct member. What is on your mind to make this Association Survive???

Believe it or not each of your ideas makes a difference in the future and is to CPI. Your ideas will be heard at the Strategic Planning Meeting and you will be updated after the meeting. So let me hear from the members that can and have not been able to attend. Your Executive Committee wants to hear your thoughts. If you prefer, you can send them to me confidential and I will only present the comments. Once again, THANK YOU for being a valued member of CPI.

*Barbara J. Chapin* CCCE/MPCE,  
Strategic Planning Committee Chairman

*Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.*  
*~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## Dates to Remember

### International Conference

Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel & Conference Ctr.  
Marietta, GA  
June 10-14, 2015

### North Carolina State Conference

Stanley Medical Center  
Albemarle, NC  
September 11 - 12, 2015

### Tennessee State Conference

Location to be determined  
September 19-21, 2015

### Strategic Planning Meeting

Drury Hotel  
St. Louis, Mo  
October 16 - 17, 2015

### District III & IV Conference

Crown Plaza Hotel  
Charlotte, NC  
April 21-24, 2016

The website has the updated information on conferences!  
See [www.creditprofessionals.org](http://www.creditprofessionals.org) for the agenda, registration and hotel information.

## **Attention!**

**June 5 is the cutoff date for voting for International,  
if you haven't voted go to the International website and VOTE!  
Place your vote for new officers for International office  
and for the By-Laws and Standing Rules proposals.**

**The DixieGram is a quarterly newsletter for District III & IV.  
Its purpose is to keep the members of Credit Professionals International informed  
about the activities and achievements of each local and state organization.**

**Please participate by sending information you wish to share to:**

**Shirley Clontz/Editor - ([shirleyclontz@carolina.rr.com](mailto:shirleyclontz@carolina.rr.com))**

**All reports should be sent by August 25, 2015**

**The next issue will be published August 2015**