



NMA

THE Leadership Development Organization

Breaktime



Members of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan Leadership Development Association celebrate with 2021 NMA Hall of Fame Inductee Dr. Thomas Simmer who was nominated by their chapter. 2020 Inductee Frank DeSantis was also recognized at the conference.

NMA Annual Conference held in Greenville

The 2021 NMA Annual Conference was held September 8-11 at the Hyatt Regency in Greenville, South Carolina! While attendance was significantly lower than in previous years due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, it was a fun three days filled with impressive speakers, fellowship, educational sessions, and of course, the NMA Speech Contest.

It all kicked off with a welcome mixer on Wednesday hosted and sponsored by our friends at ICPM. Thursday morning we began the day with the Keynote address and an educational workshop by former Miss California, retired Army National Guard pilot, and current American Airlines Pilot Patricia Murray. Murray encouraged those in attendance to "Run your own race."

That was followed by the Member of the Year Luncheon where the 2020 and 2021 Members of the Year were recognized. Jennifer Pakkala, the 2020 winner, and Charles Schultz, this year's recipient, are both Members of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan Leadership Development Association in Detroit.

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2021 Annual Conference Recap

Thursday wrapped up with two training sessions for Presidents/Vice Presidents and for Secretary/Treasurer. The final event of the day was the Past Chairman Dinner—and we all know that what goes down at the Past Chairman Dinner STAYS at the Past Chairman Dinner!

Friday got off to a great start as Dr. Thomas Simmer, who recently retired from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan as its Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, was inducted into the NMA Hall of Fame. Dr. Simmer was joined by his wife Rosie. On Friday afternoon it was time for NMA Chapters, Councils, and Individual Members to shine a spotlight on their achievements in 2021 under the theme **Leadership Takes Flight**.

Captain Wendell Pichon, 2021 Chair of the Recognition Committee, had his flight crew ready. Our ground crew, led by Ground Controlman Dan Spatz, kept the chaos under control as he cleared each flight for takeoff! Our pilot, 2021 Board Chair Scott Chesnut, along with Captain Pichon, ably guided the Recognition flight to a successful and safe conclusion.

Friday afternoon ended with the first ever Attendees Roundtable, a forum where the attendees could share concerns, ask questions of the Executive Committee, as well as share best practices among themselves.

Saturday brought one of the attendees' favorite annual events, the national finals of the NMA Speech Contest. Five talented students competed: Sean Bray, sponsored by the Lockheed Martin Leadership Association in Morristown, NJ; Asher Edgar, sponsored by the Savannah River Site Leadership Association in Aiken, SC; Jayanti Gupta, sponsored by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan Leadership Development Association in Detroit; Julia Lin, sponsored by the North Texas Council; and Rocio Rivera, sponsored by the Lockheed Martin Leadership Association in Palmdale, CA.

While it was a very close contest, Julia Lin was ultimately declared the winner of this year's contest and received a \$4,000 cash prize.

Finally, the conference culminated at Saturday evening's Executive of the Year Banquet where Doug Wilhelm, Vice President and F-35 Deputy General Manager at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics in Fort Worth, TX was honored. Mr. Wilhelm could not attend in person but did greet the attendees in an acceptance video.

It was a wonderful three days and we look forward to seeing all of you in 2022!



Lead Pilot Scott Chesnut (left) and Ground Control Dan Spatz helped keep the Recognition lunch's Leadership Flight safe! Below, Captain Wendell Pichon and First Officer Michelle Lewis kept the festivities on track.



NMA Adds Value for You

By Brian Berg

NMA Executive Director

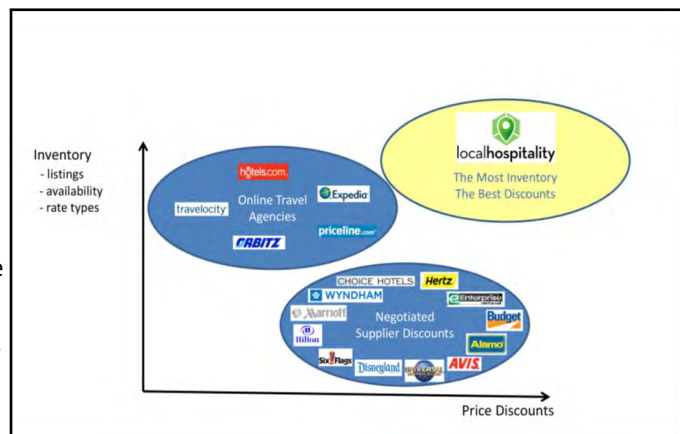
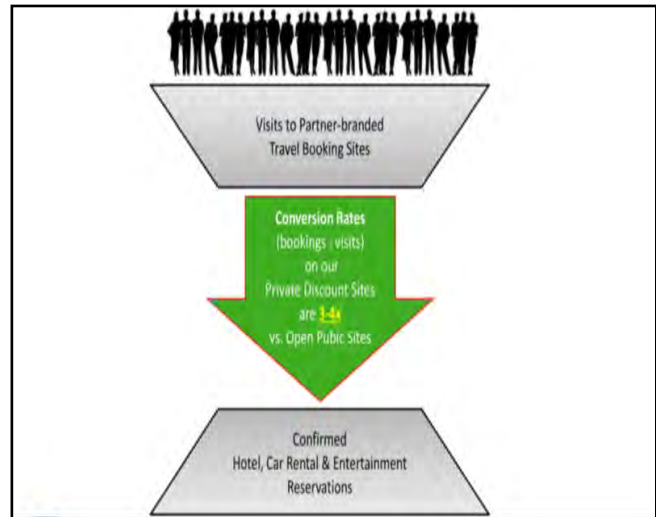
It is with great pleasure that the NMA Membership and Marketing National Committee announces a valuable new partnership with Localhospitality.

Localhospitality has partnered with NMA to bring to our members significant savings on hotels, car Rental and vacation/entertainment companies. These saving opportunities are with the major companies in each sector of their industry.

This is an NMA branded private program which allows below market opportunities to our members.

We will have a link on our website with an NMA password for our members access which will take you to our easy to use search and quote engine.

To access these discounts [CLICK HERE](#) and scroll to travel discount. Once you begin a search, enter passcode **NMA1** (all caps) to take advantage of this exclusive member offer. Stay tuned for additional announcements as we are working to constantly increase value to you, our members. I hope this will benefit you soon!



Thank You 2021 Speech Contest Donors!

Diamond Level

**Blue Cross Blue Shield
Leadership Development
Association**

**Jean Christopher
Rowlett, TX**

Gold Level

**Avis French
Individual Member/
Associate Director
Laguna Woods, CA**

PD Exchange

Enhance your skillset with professional development resources

By Kaitlyn Bradley, VP of Professional Development



One of BCBSM Leadership Development Association's goals is to bring you opportunities for professional growth and leadership enhancement. But did you know that your BCBSM LDA membership gives you access to additional professional development resources from the National Management Association?

NMA offers a wide variety of resources and discounts to help you improve your leadership and professional skills. Some of the professional development resources include Learning Center Courses, FaciliSkills!, Foundations of Management, NMA Leader Labs, Business Training Experts, The Business Source, 2021 IQ Share Courses, MindEdge Courses, the NMA Virtual Library and the Educational Foundation. All of these resources can be found on www.nma1.org.

THE BUSINESS SOURCE

Earlier this year, I used the NMA discount for a subscription to The Business Source. This program gives me access to professional development and business book summaries in an easy-to-digest format. Every month, I get two new business book summaries that take less than 20 minutes to read. They also provide video summaries that are only 3-5 minutes long.

I've found that these short book summaries have been extremely beneficial because I can learn new leadership skills quickly and easily. If you're looking to get the best ideas from today's top business books in minutes, this is a great opportunity for you!

For more information on the professional development resources available through NMA, visit their [website](#).

Please note that there may be a cost associated with these course offerings. To help us evaluate our member's participation, let the Professional Development team know if you take a course by emailing us at NMAChapter141@bcbsm.com.



Membership Takes Flight!

The 2021-2022 Membership Campaign is underway. Chapters may select any two “Sale” months (of your choice) until December 2022 in which the National New Member \$20 Registration Fee is reduced to \$10 per new member. No special forms are required, simply indicate “Sale Month” on the Chapter Dues Worksheet.

This discount applies to all new Individual Members joining through December 2022 as well.

Contact Robin Furlong with Membership Campaign questions
Robin.furlong@nma1org or call 937-294-0421



Board elects 2022 leadership team, welcomes new directors

One of the more notable events at the Annual Conference in Greenville was the installation of officers for 2022. Each year nominations are sought for the four elected positions on the Executive Committee – Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Matt Zelman, a member of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Michigan Leadership Development Association in Detroit was sworn in as the 2022 Chairman of the Board. Serving with Matt will be Cathy Spatz as Vice Chair. Cathy is a member of the Columbus Public Service Chapter. Deborah Davis-Leicht, a member of the Lockheed Martin Leadership Association (LMLA) in Fort Worth, will serve as Treasurer and Amanda Lamson, an Individual Member from Huntsville, AL will serve as Secretary. Scott Chesnut, the 2021 Chairman, will also serve on the Executive Committee as the Immediate Past Chair. Congratulations to all!



Matt Zelman (left) is sworn in as 2022 Chairman of the Board by 2021 Chairman Scott Chesnut.

The Board has also welcomed new Associate Directors in recent months. They include Bhriannon Hernandez from LMLA in Fort Worth; Marcelo Laranjeira from Nokia Leadership Association in Dallas; Jessica Morales from the Mid-Columbia LDA in Richland, WA; Chad Stevens and Gregory Turner, both members of the KBR Leadership Association in Huntsville; Ashley Johnson from the Lockheed Martin SSC LA in Huntsville; Diana Ruud from the Lockheed Martin SSC Bay Area in Sunnyvale, CA; Omar Perales from the LMLA in Moorestown, NJ; Tanaya Covey from the Port of Seattle; and Steve Van Oostenbrugge representing ICPM.

Chairman's Corner



**NMA Chairman
Scott Chesnut**

It has truly been an honor to serve as NMA Chairman of the Board for 2021. In my first message back in January—which seems like yesterday—I emphasized that we would need passion, optimism, and direction to prevail in 2021. I'm happy to say that I've seen lots of each characteristic throughout this year; from all of you as well as our committees and staff. I employed a theme of "Leadership Takes Flight," and to follow that aviation analogy, we had plenty of headwinds this year.

What we thought might be a smooth flight in 2021, ended up being partly cloudy and at times turbulent due to the continuing pandemic impact on our jobs and operations. Nevertheless, as the great navigators you are, I saw plenty of creativity and persistence as you found innovative ways to lead NMA through the challenging environment. Importantly, I also saw some inspiring teamwork and compassion for your fellow leaders. The best crews are the ones that stick together and support each other!

One of the most inspiring experiences I had this year was the hour that I and other Board members spent in frank discussion with members at the Annual Conference's "first ever" Round Table. During that talk, members from around the country shared best practices and suggestion for NMA's future. Among these great ideas were the greater involvement of sponsoring executives with top volunteers from each chapter, attending other chapters' meetings to share ideas, creating membership "interns" to introduce new generations to NMA, becoming more socially conscious to include a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and to gather the chapter presidents virtually for a President's Summit at least once yearly.

So, as I sign off as Chairman and "pass the controls" to our next "Captain," I want to say a sincere thank you to all of you leaders that make up NMA. You are making a difference, and the future of NMA is in your hands. An aviation poet once said, "Until you spread your wings, you have no idea how far you'll fly." Aim high NMA, and fly on!

2021 Annual Conference



For more photos from the Annual Conference, visit our website at <https://bit.ly/3wkxNJa>

Mark Your Calendars for these Important Dates!

Thursday, November 18	12 /3 PM	NMA Webinar—Jennifer Sutherland “Emotional Intelligence”
Wednesday, December 15	12/3 PM	NMA Webinar—Alex Weber “Failproof”
Saturday, January 15	11 AM—1 PM	Chapter Presidents’ Summit/Roundtable
January 20—22		NMA Board of Director’s Meeting, Dayton, OH
Thursday, February 17	12/3 PM	NMA Webinar—Nathalie Osborn “Reclaim Your Power”
April 1-2, 2022		NMA Chapter Leader Training, St. Louis, MO

The NMA Book Club is tentatively scheduled to resume on January 18.

*Please note that all times listed are Eastern Time

Be sure to check out the new calendar on the NMA website that includes registration links!

<https://nma1.org/events-and-meetings/>

NMA, ICPM to strengthen partnership

NMA and The Institute of Professional Management (ICPM) have a long history of working together. Formally part of NMA, ICPM spun off as it’s own organization. As NMA approaches its 100th anniversary, ICPM has been partnering with NMA for 40 years.

We will be announcing some exciting new benefits and partnership in the coming weeks which will mean new economies and deliverables to your chapter, Individual member, and NMA nationally.

ICPM brings two key certifications to the market.

Certified Manager (CM)

Certified Supervisor (CS)

Since our National Conference, we have had two chapters acquire the curriculum for Certified Manager training and certification. We hope with the upcoming announcements your chapter or individual member will put this objective into your professional development plans and strategy.

The following is an overview of the CM Benefits:

Why is the Certified Manager Certification VALUED?

- Increases managerial confidence on-the-job
- Promotes professional credibility
- Fosters global recognition of managerial competency
- Advances marketability for employment or advancement

For more information visit www.icpm.biz or email info@icpm.biz.

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