

First Association for Pharmacy Buyers is Founded!

In January 2010, the National Pharmacy Purchasing Association (NPPA), the first association specific to Pharmacy Buyers, was formed by Summerdale Enterprises, Inc., the publisher of *Pharmacy Purchasing Outlook* and conductor of Annual Pharmacy Purchasing Networking Conferences (from hereon to be known as the NPPA Conference).

The National Pharmacy Purchasing Association is being created for Pharmacy Buyers in response to the need of such an organization expressed by the subscribership of our monthly publication, *Pharmacy Purchasing Outlook*, and the attendance at our Annual Conferences.

The mission of NPPA is to:

- Promote the Profession of Pharmacy Purchasing.
- Provide Specific and Enhanced Educational Opportunities for the Pharmacy Buyer.
- Provide a Unified Voice for the Professional Pharmacy Buyer.
- Affirm Pharmacy Purchasing as a unique and important specialty within the Pharmacy Profession.
- Affirm that Pharmacy Purchasing is an important aspect of Total Patient Care.

Members of the Association will consist of Institutional Pharmacy Buyers, regardless of their local job title, and those who support the goals of the Association. Member benefits, types, and qualifications can be found on the "Join NPPA" page of our website: www.PharmacyPurchasing.com.

How it all started: In 1991 our founder and CEO, Dale Kroll, started his own publishing firm, Summerdale Enterprises. By March of 1994 he began publishing *Pharmacy Purchasing Outlook* with the help of our current Executive Vice President, Francine Morgano. A true visionary, Dale Kroll recognized the need for an educational resource specifically designed for a group of highly motivated, influential and otherwise unrecognized, group of individuals. In 1997, Summerdale Enterprises organized and hosted the 1st Annual Pharmacy Purchasing Networking Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, a tradition which has continued to grow year after year. Progress continued to be made in the development of Summerdale Enterprises and in January 2006, the company incorporated, becoming Summerdale Enterprises, Inc.

Nineteen years later, we are now in the planning stages of our 14th annual conference. On August 9, 2010, at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, the 14th Annual NPPA Conference will be another step forward in the legitimizing of a profession that otherwise goes unnoticed and underappreciated.

The National Pharmacy Purchasing Association Conference is the only one of its kind; a conference solely for the Pharmacy Purchasing Executives. The NPPA Conference offers a plethora of educational opportunities including the future Pharmacy Buyer Training Program and Examination.

We look forward to seeing you in at our conference, and appreciate your support for the newly launched NPPA.

Staff of Summerdale Enterprises, Inc.