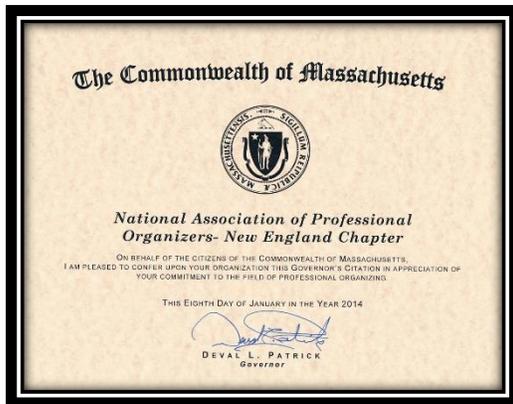




GO Month Initiatives in Review

2014 NAPO-New England at the State House, January 8, 2014

Thanks to **Representative Anne Gobi** (Spencer, MA), NAPO-New England this gubernatorial citation was presented to NAPO-New England. Prior to the presentation, Rep. Gobi treated our Board of Directors to a most educational tour of the State House. This presentation was even more historic by **Senator Stephen Brewer's** (Barre, MA) participation. He served the citizens of the Commonwealth as Representative of the 5th Worcester District from 1989-1996 and Senator for Worcester, Hamden, Hampshire, and Middlesex Counties from 1997-2014. He had announced his retirement effective at the end of 2014. [Editor's note: Susan Terkanian, web chair, also participated because Rep. Gobi is her Rep. and Senator Brewer is her Senator.]



On behalf of the citizens of Massachusetts, I am pleased to confer upon your organization this Governor's Citation in appreciation of your commitment to the field of professional organizing.

*January 8, 2014
Signed, Deval L. Patrick, Governor*



NAPO-New England at the Massachusetts State House

Front row (L-R): Congressional aide, Susan Terkanian (NNE Web Chair), Senator Brewer, Rebecca Burley (NNE president), Rep. Anne Gobi, Denise Meurant (NNE Director of Associate Membership), Dawn Link (NNE Director at Large), Congressional Aide.

Back row (L-R): Congressional Aide, Heather Ahern (NNE Director of Professional Development), Susan Stone (Vice President), Kate Sands (Treasurer), Sandy Rhee (Secretary).



GO Month Initiatives in Review

2014 cont'd **NAPO-New England GO Month Organizing Expo January 25, 2014**

Embassy Suites Hotel, Waltham MA

Chaired by member Wendy Buglio, our gala Organizing Expo culminated our Chapter's celebration of GO Month 2014. Staffed with an army of volunteers, over 200 attendees were treated a day chock-full of presentations, an inside vendor expo — and even vendors who braved the cold New England day to provide a wide host of recycling services (from electronics to home goods).

Presentations included the following:

- *Got Photos?*, Phillip Griffith, [PSG Photo Solutions](#)
- *What do you mean "Is my house making me fat"*, Susan Terkanian, [AISET Solutions, Inc.](#)
- *Digging out from under your paper piles*, Dawn Link, [Resolutions Organizing](#)
- *Green organizing: It's not just about recycling*, Sandy Rhee, [Organization Guru](#)
- *Organizing for emergencies*, Hildy Neumann, [Organizing Strategies](#)
- *Downsizing for seniors*, Maryann Murphy, MSW, [Professional Organizer and Time Management Consultant](#)
- *Organizing Kids: When one size doesn't fit all*, Leslie Huikko, [Nicely Done Organizing](#)

2012 **NAPO-New England teams up with [IKEA, Stoughton](#)**

NAPO-NE's GO Month event 2012 was part of IKEA's National *Bring Your Own Friend* event. This event was to encourage IKEA's current customers and Facebook Fans to come to their local store, bring along a friend, and experience a special day of shopping, free giveaways and inspiration.

About twenty NAPO-New England professional organizers and Associate Members participated in this event. Most volunteers worked at the "Ask an Organizer Station" located in the "Work IKEA" department in the small business area of the store. There, customers were able to have one on one conversations with our professional organizers and Associate Members and regarding organizing issues they face at home. Customers were also able to submit a raffle ticket for NAPO-NE's raffle basket giveaway, which included a two-hour photo organizing session with [PSG Photo Solutions](#), a copy of Linda Varone's book [The Smarter Home Office](#), and a copy of [Organizing from the Inside Out](#) by Julie Morgenstern. About half way through the event, three NAPO-New England organizers presented the *Small Steps to Big Changes* seminar held in Ikea's Living Rooms department. Three five-minute presentations were given and followed by a time for Q & A. There were many great questions asked by audience members, making the seminar interactive and fun.



GO Month Initiatives in Review

2011 NAPO-New England and [Northeast ARC](#)

Northeast ARC is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing lifelong support to people living with disabilities.

NAPO-New England professional organizer volunteers worked with their Cape Ann Early Intervention Center in Beverly and the ArcWorks Gallery on Foster Street in Peabody. We also assisted one of Northeast ARC's administrative offices in scanning and purging numerous files.

Generous supporters of this initiative include donations from: A friend of Anne Lucas, a friend of GO Month, [The Container Store](#), [Closet and Storage Concepts](#), [Ikea](#), [Home Depot](#), KDSA, Sceris, [Smead](#).

2010 NAPO-New England partners with [Family TIES Massachusetts](#)

Family Ties offers parent-to-parent support for Massachusetts families with children who have special health care needs.

In January 2010, about a dozen NAPO-New England professional organizers worked one-on-one with Family TIES staff in their offices in Northampton, Canton, Boston, West Boylston and Tewksbury to help maximize workspace and create new systems for organization.

Another NAPO-New England professional organizer led a virtual training session to teach staff how to use Excel to organize database information to allow sharing of resources between offices. In addition, The [Container Store](#) and [Smead](#) donated supplies to assist with the office organizing effort.

A word from Mary Summers, Director, Family TIES

"For those of us who include inspiration to others on the value of being organized, we learned a number of good suggestions to share with future workshop attendees. Truly, best of all was the in-office organizational tips and assistance for many of the staff."

2009 NAPO-New England and [Family TIES Massachusetts](#)

In November 2009, one of our NAPO-NE professional organizers facilitated a roundtable discussion At the "Joining Voices" Conference to Support Families Raising Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs. This conference teaches advocacy and leadership skills to parents and provides an opportunity to network with other parents and professionals. The roundtable discussion covered organizing tips to help parents manage busy schedules and gain some control over their lives.

As a result of this conference, Family Ties Massachusetts was selected as NAPO-NE's GO Month community outreach initiative for 2010.