



CURRENT

Meeting Planners International—Dallas Fort Worth Chapter

July 1985

Thoughts From The President

by Ellen Beckert

By the time you read this issue of the *Current*, we will have newly installed chapter officers and board of directors getting ready for the 1985/86 term. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with our immediate past board of directors this year, and I hope that we have been able to fulfill some of the needs and desires you have indicated to us during the year. My primary goal this year was to encourage more input and participation for our entire membership, and I appreciate the comments and suggestions that many of you have taken the time to send in or call in. Please continue to do so — your input is seriously considered, and we have benefited in many ways from your ideas.

We have an exciting project in the upcoming year. As you hopefully have heard, MPI's International Headquarters will be (finally!) leaving Middletown, Ohio and relocating to Dallas! Our city was successful in bidding on this relocation through the dedicated efforts of several local members, such as Charlotte St. Martin and Gene Rondeau. Our city's proposal included major concessions in office rental and transportation costs; however, there will be much more help needed as MPI gets into the details of their move. It will be beneficial, both to the efficiency of International's operation and to the entire membership, if we as a chapter can utilize our resources to help them accomplish this major task.

We will be letting you know of more specific needs during the year — please help us give MPI a Texas-style welcome!



A first for any MPI chapter, the new board members took their oath of office on horseback at the June chapter meeting at the Circle R Ranch. A steak dinner, the presentation of special awards, and a gift presentation for outgoing president Ellen Beckert preceded the ceremony on horseback.

MPI To Relocate Staff Headquarters In Dallas

The Board of Directors of Meeting Planners International (MPI) voted June 6, 1985, to relocate MPI's staff headquarters in Dallas, Texas. MPI's headquarters currently is located in Middletown, Ohio. No timetable for the relocation has been established.

MPI's new headquarters will be located at the recently-opened INFO-MART, approximately 1.5 miles from downtown Dallas. INFOMART is a seven-story, totally glass-enclosed office building that resembles London's famous Crystal Palace, and is touted as the world's first large-scale computer products complex. INFOMART is part of the seven-building, 7.6 million square foot Dallas Market Center on Stemmons Freeway, and has over 5,000 hotel rooms within easy walking distance.

In commenting on the relocation and selection of Dallas as the site, MPI President Joseph W. Bow said, "MPI decided on Dallas for a number of important reasons. The dynamics of our organization are such that Dallas suits our needs well in terms of an exciting city

with ample facilities to host many functions, out-standing quality of life, superior location and accessibility, a large labor pool and support services and its growing reputation as a major convention headquarters. They were very cooperative and made us feel that they really wanted us to locate our headquarters in Dallas."

July Meeting To Be Held "Behind The Scenes" With SNAG

by Kathy Holmes

When you've done a good job and the meeting's run smoothly, and your attendees are unaware of any snags you have encountered in the planning - that's because so much of what we do takes place within the walls of hotels and board rooms.

Join us on July 25 when the MPI Longhorn Players presents its interpretation of what goes on "Behind the Scenes of the Society of North American Gardeners (SNAG)." This special chapter meeting will be held at the Fairmont Hotel. See details in the enclosed flyer.

Special Invitation to MPI Members

Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc. cordially invites all DFW/MPI members Seminar '85, "Applause! Applause!" Because of the often expressed desire of many MPI members to see what the legendary Mary Kay Seminars really look like, special arrangements have been made to allow MPI members a look at one of this summer's sessions at the Dallas Convention Center.

July 22, 1985

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Opening General Assembly (DCC Arena)

1:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Mary Kay Skin Care Class (DCC Arena)

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Product Knowledge Class (DCC Arena)

July 23, 1985

9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Classes at Dallas Convention Center and Loews Anatole

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Awards' Night (DCC Arena)

July 22, 1985

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

General Assembly (DCC Arena)

If you wish to attend, please contact Leslie Fasick at Mary Kay Cosmetics, 630-8787, Ext. 5938, by Thursday, July 18. You will need to pick up your badge at the Registration Area located outside the Main Entrance of the Dallas Convention Center at Ceremonial Drive.

Old And New Boards Met Jointly

The outgoing and incoming members of the D/FW chapter met at the Anatole in early July to ensure a smooth transition from one group to the other.

Among other items, the Board voted to make the newly printed membership roster available for sale to members for \$5.00 and to non-members for \$50.00. Contact Lynette Owens for more information.

The Board also announced that the tentatively scheduled chapter retreat to be held August 8-11 jointly with the other Texas MPI chapters has been indefinitely postponed. Instead, the chapters will hold a Chapter Leaders Training Retreat, August 1-3 in Corpus Christi. New chapter leaders will receive intensive orientation to the workings of MPI, both locally and at the International level.

MPI Annual Conference In Windy City

by Joan Fleming

The MPI Annual Conference, "Meetings: An Industry In Motion", was held in Chicago on June 6-9. Over 1000 planners and suppliers breezed into the Windy City to attend the conference. The Palmer House and the city of Chicago rolled out the red carpet to greet participants. Even Mayor Harold Washington was on hand to welcome the group and entice them to "enjoy everything Chicago has to offer".

On Thursday afternoon, Supersports was rallying point for the conference. Following Supersports, a post-game party featuring "a taste of Chicago" was held at the nightclub Park West.

The conference, which officially began on Friday morning, was full of new features: Networking in Motion, Between Us, and Industry Career Opportunities. In addition to the educational aspects of the conference, attendees had ample time to make new acquaintances and discuss business opportunities.

At the gala on Saturday evening, the following awards were presented.

Planner of the Year—Albert Sears, Jr.

National Fire Protection Association
Quincy, MA

Supplier of the Year—Helen Comer

Tan-Tar-A Resort
St. Louis, MO

Chapter of the Year—Southern California

Final Prize To Be Awarded In July

The final prize in the year-long membership drive will be awarded at the chapter meeting July 25 at the Fairmont. The prize is roundtrip coach fare for 2 to Paris or Frankfurt courtesy of American Airlines.

The prize will be awarded to the member who has recruited the most new members over the year.

Or appreciation goes to all of these sponsors for their support and contributions during this membership campaign.

New Members In June

The following became members of MPI in June:

Joyce Baker, Sales Manager, Americana Hotel

Toni J. Cunningham, Manager Charters & Tours, Shuttlejack, Inc.

Robin S. Gosnell, Seminar Coordinator, The Meyers Group, Inc.

Lynn M. Mottek, Regional Sales Manager, Wyndham Hotels

Kay L. Santamauro, President, Lawrence Int'l Conventions, Inc.

Betty J. Welch, Customer Service Rep., LTV Aerospace & Defense Company

Becky G. Braswell, Crusade/Conference Coordinator, James Robison Assoc.

Phyllis R. Firebaugh, Sales Manager, Registry Hotel Dallas

Wendy K. Jensen, Operations Manager, Wyndham Travel, Inc.

Suzann Richardson, Coordinator of Special Events, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc.

Judy L. Smith, Sales Manager, Holiday Inn DFW So.

Paul E. Bryant, President, Natl. Convention & Trade Services, Inc.

Gayla B. Fussell, Sales Manager, The Westin Hotel, Galleria Dallas

Linda C. Ladin, Brock Hotel Corporation

Jill S. Rischall, Staff Analyst, GTE Directors Corp.

Susan K. Trotter, Travel Coordinator, Ceramic Cooling Tower Company

cal·lig·ra·pher \kə-'lig-rə-fər/n [fr. kalli-beautiful + -graphia writing] 1. one who writes a beautiful hand 2. penman 3. professional letterer

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For meeting and convention information, ask for our Director of Sales
For reservations or information, see your professional travel advisor or
call toll free 800-228-3555

Kudos

On behalf of TEAM TEXAS, we wish to thank co-captains Patty Watson-Covert and Jeff Fuller for their outstanding leadership during this year's Supersports competition.

Special thanks to the following for supporting TEAM TEXAS:

Emily Morgan Hotel, San Antonio —

Team Texas T-shirts

San Antonio Convention Bureau —

Visitors with blinking lights

Dallas Convention Bureau —

\$100 for pom-poms and Boots' airfare

"Boots" (Johnny Brink) —

For his time and enthusiasm in support of Team Texas.



At left, Team Texas marches through the streets of Chicago on its way to the Super Sports competition at the MPI meeting in June. At right, team co-captain Patty Watson-Covert and the team mascot, Boots, plan the team's next move.

New Advertising Program for Current

The Public Relations Committee is very excited to announce a new advertising program for the monthly *Current* newsletter. Approved by the Board in April, 1985, this program will for the first time enable advertisers to save money by contracting for more than one ad at a time.

This also marks the first time that the *Current* has had a printed rate sheet and information on circulation to provide to potential advertisers.

The *Current* advertising committee is attempting to convince potential advertisers that the readers of *Current* are a very elite and desirable audience for local meeting industry suppliers. Advertising in this publication is seen as more than a corporate donation to a worthy organization.

The rates become effective with the September issue (there is no August issue). Space will be sold on a first come, first served basis. See details in the enclosed flyer. Or contact John Giordano at 214-258-0210.



**D/FW AIRPORT
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CONFERENCE CENTER
Metro 481-8444**

Magic
by Personal Tour Service, Inc.

TO: ALL TEAM TEXAS MEMBERS

FROM: PATTY - YOUR TEAM CAPTAIN (ex)

DATE: June 14, 1985

RE: TEAM TEXAS - Number 1 in your hearts, Number 2 in Chicago

You were GREAT! Team Texas was out-standing on that cold and windy competition field, and the state and our chapters should be proud of your dedication and spirit. It's really too bad that Chicago came in #1 in the sports competition (it's rumoured they paid off the judges a la Al Capone) and New York won the Spirit Award (even though their apple looked more like a strawberry and the only thing that counted was the braless cheerleader on a very cold, windy afternoon). We came in 2nd in the sports events, but that's only secondary - pardon the pun.

Next year we'll recapture the #1 spot. Ideas are already being discussed along with a new team captain, a subject to which I have given a great deal of thought, to lead us on to the #1 spot in 1986. We have the material - personnel-wise, we have the spirit - trust me, and we have the creativity - the marvelous blinking-light visors that more than identified Team Texas at the after-sports party.

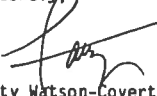
All I can say is that you were absolutely the best, most dedicated and outstanding group of wierdos I've ever seen, collectively, with a common cause to further the reputation and image of the greatest state in the Union. (Some wierdo PR person approached me about this, but I ignored his supercilious implications).

Thank you all so much. With any luck, we will be in possession of the video of Super Sports IV soon, and we hope you will share it at your next chapter meeting. It's even funny for private showings if you are so inclined. Once we obtain the video, it will be shared with each chapter and, perhaps, be one of the highlights in Corpus in August.

Good luck to you, collectively and individually, in the coming months. Remember to keep up your calisthenics and exercises so that you will be in proper competition form for Super Sports V in Boston. They'll probably stage a lobster attack on us, so you must be prepared - go ahead and fight the IRS this year, it will prepare you - the claws are about the same and just as painful.

Take care. See you in 1986 on the fields of competition in Boston - or perhaps a meeting or bar before then.

Sincerely,


Patty Watson-Covert

/elc

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CALENDAR UPDATE

July 25, 1985
Dinner
D/FW Chapter Meeting
Fairmont Hotel

September 26, 1985
Luncheon
D/FW Chapter Meeting
Anatole Hotel

October 24, 1985
Evening
D/FW Chapter Meeting
Fort Worth

December 8-11, 1985
Professional Education Conference
Phoenix

June 15-18, 1986
Annual Conference
Boston

December 7-10, 1986
Professional Education Conference
San Diego

June 7-10, 1987
Annual Conference
Winnipeg, Manitoba

December 6-9, 1987
Professional Education Conference
Miami

June 19-22, 1988
Annual Conference
Seattle

December 4-7, 1988
Professional Education Conference
Nashville

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