



CURRENT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Judy Love Bradley

MPI's Resource Center Ready, Willing and Able to Assist You



In its quest to identify, research and develop ways to increase the success of the meeting planning process, function and management, the Educational Research Foundation of MPI has introduced the MPI Resource Center, the newest benefit available to MPI members.

Services available at the Resource Center include reference, research, literature searches, bibliographies and indexes on materials collected and printed in various meeting publications and computer searches from the archives of many different sources.

You now have a tool that will do the "legwork" for you when your boss asks for information on, for instance, "the deregulation of airfares in the U.S." An extensive report from all available sources can now be compiled by the Resource Center.

Members and non-members can call (214) 746-5226 or 746-5227, or fax the Center at (214) 746-5248 for research assistance; or you can write the MPI Educational Research Foundation Resource Center, 1950 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, Texas 75207. Terri Lawrence, Manager of the Center,

and Susan Ciskowski, Research Librarian, will search through the available literature in print form and in computer libraries, obtaining information from books, pamphlets, periodicals, reprints, newspapers directories, reports, press releases, etc., and compile a report for you.

Based on inquiries received so far, packages of information are already available

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This Issue
of
CURRENT
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by



There's more Colorado in
**COLORADO
SPRINGS**

January Chapter Meeting

MPI's Natural Resources

You - Me - Us

Together... We Can Make It Happen

by Sue Ferguson

Think New Year! Think New Members!
Think Participation! Think Professional
Comraderie! Think Benefits! Think Resources!
Think Long-Lasting Friendships!

Think MPI!

We have made some of the best friends
we'll ever have in a lifetime, and they all

(continued on page 2)

January Chapter Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 17, 1991

Place: INFOMART
1950 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75207

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Registration and Reception
12:15 - 1:30 p.m. Luncheon and Program

Cost: Advance Registration: \$22.00
Late Registration: \$30.00
Guest Registration: \$25.00

Parking: Complimentary Self Parking

When paying by check, please have it made out before you get to the Registration Desk. Advance reservations must be made by NOON on Monday, January 14, 1991, by calling (214) 343-0555.

MEETING RESERVATION AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

NOTE: Money will be collected at the door. If paying by check, please have your check filled out prior to registering at the door. Advance payments are not accepted. We would appreciate your cooperation. Advance reservations must be received by cut-off date; late reservations and walk-ins will be accepted on a SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS ONLY.

CANCELLATIONS must also be received by the cut-off date - NO SHOWS WILL BE BILLED!
Guests are limited to attending three meetings per chapter year before membership is required to attend future meetings (spouses not included). In case of overflow seating, members not present 15 minutes after the meal is served will have their reserved seats sold.

Members are responsible for paying "no show" charges for their guests.

MPI FOCUS

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

on certain topics, such as how to find a job in meeting planning, how to hire a meeting planner, why you should centralize your meeting planning, meeting planning software, charging clients for meeting planning, starting a business planning meetings and meeting market statistics.

Contact the Resource Center to learn research fees and applicable mailing or reprint costs. MPI members who contribute to the Educational Research Foundation will receive 50% off applicable fees for this service.

The Resource Center was created to help each of you become the very best you can be. Our January chapter meeting will be held at the Infomart so that our members will have the opportunity to tour this new facility.

The benefits of membership in Meeting Planners International continue to grow. Aren't you proud to be a part of MPI, the industry's foremost association dedicated to the advancement of meeting management?

Dollars & Cents

by Susie Ruffner

September

Beginning Balance	\$14,364.27
Income	5,651.25
Disbursements	<u><8,552.54></u>
EOM Balance	\$11,462.98

October

Beginning Balance	\$11,462.98
Income	5,315.15
Disbursements	<u><9,633.98></u>
EOM Balance	\$7,144.15

November

Beginning Balance	\$7,144.15
Income	1,427.10
Disbursements	<u><1,935.58></u>
EOM Balance	\$6,635.72

All balances include \$6,050.00
Certificate of Deposit.

MPI's Natural Resources

(continued from page 1)

understand us, our needs, our long hours, our commitments. They have created a Resource Center, putting information at our fingertips. They've sent us business; they've taught us how to pass along our knowledge to others and obtain their knowledge freely. We've been taught new techniques and learned how to make our bids more interesting.

Now we'd like to return the favor to new members and old.

Quite selfishly, we planned the January meeting to feature US, the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter and MPI International. Local chapter chairpersons will be manning trade-show-type booths to answer all your questions and entice you to join their committees.

Find out how you can become an active participant in this vibrant organization. If your interests run to leadership, take this opportunity to find out how to become an officer or director of our chapter.

As we are fortunate enough to live in the area which is also home to MPI International, several members from that team will be manning booths and even operating an MPI "Store" to give you information and answer all your questions.

Like a crown jewel, the new Resource Center on the 5th floor of the Infomart will be available for your inspection. All meeting attendees are encouraged to drop by to become familiar with the resources available there.

It is with great pride that we feature our own "Natural Resources," so bring a potential new member, bring a friend, but most importantly, bring yourself! You ARE MPI's best Natural Resource!

Remember:

**Together . . .
We Can Make It Happen!**



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PUBLIC RELATIONS

Thanksgiving Day Meals on Wheels

by Mary Ann Rodriguez

Thank you to all our MPI members and their friends who gave up a few hours on Thanksgiving Day, away from family and friends, to help deliver dinner to the sick and elderly in the Dallas area.

About 2,300 meals are usually delivered each week to those taking advantage of the Meals on Wheels program. Thanksgiving Day volunteers, however, delivered a staggering 1,800 meals on that one day! Each two-person team delivered eight meals to a designated area of town, such as South Dallas, East Dallas, Oak Cliff and Grand Prairie, to name a few.

Thanks to the Volunteer Nurses Association who put this effort together, we brought many smiles to the faces of those elderly folks who craved the sound of another person's voice. Many expressed their gratitude with the touch of a warm hand, and we saw sadness in their eyes when we had to leave.

When I sat down to my own Thanksgiving dinner, I gave thanks for the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the people I had met that day.

As a result of our volunteer effort for Meals on Wheels, it appears that several of

us will continue working with this worthwhile organization on a regular basis. I know I will be one of those people.

MPI volunteers, we DID make a wonderful difference. Thank you.

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter Offers Subscriptions for *CURRENT* Newsletter

by Connie Sandifer, CMP

The Board of Directors of MPI's D/FW Chapter, as of its December meeting, has voted to provide annual subscriptions to the chapter's monthly newsletter, *CURRENT*. This is in addition to the copy that each D/FW Chapter member currently receives as a member benefit.

Mainly intended to accommodate requests from members of other MPI chapters, the subscriptions will also be available for D/FW members that need additional copies of the newsletter.

The subscription offering is effective January 1991. Annual subscriptions will cost \$75, and subscribers must be members of MPI.

For more information or to place a subscription order, please call the chapter's Vice President of Public Relations, Connie Sandifer, CMP, at (214) 239-9969.

Successful Food Drive—Thanks to You

by Pamela Braesicke

Thanks to you and your holiday spirit of giving, the Dallas/Fort Worth chapter collected canned and non-perishable food items during our December meeting.

Because of your generosity, the North Texas Food Bank distributed this food to the local community at Christmas. This private, non-profit organization is a liaison between the food industry and its 160 client organizations in North Texas. They collect, store and redistribute food and non-food items throughout the year.

Your contribution has made this drive a success. On behalf of the Community Service Committee, the North Texas Food Bank and the community: THANKS!



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The *CURRENT* is published 12 times yearly for the D/FW Chapter of Meeting Planners International. Statements of fact and opinion within this newsletter are made on the responsibility of the author only and do not imply an opinion of the officers or members of MPI. News contributions and suggestions for making this publication more useful are welcomed.

Our Team Is Your Team.

As full service contractors, you can depend on us for every trade show and meeting need.

- ▶ Trade Shows
- ▶ Conventions
- ▶ Corporate Meetings
- ▶ Special Events
- ▶ Exhibits
- ▶ Staging/Screen Masking
- ▶ Signs/Graphics
- ▶ Floor Plans
- ▶ Theme Party Props
- ▶ Rental Furnishings
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MEMBERSHIP

New Kids on the Block

by Kim Warren, CMP

Our continuing growth contributes to our reputation as one of the area's most dynamic organizations. This month, we extend a heart-felt welcome to the following new members:

✓ Nancy B. Bryan
Sales Manager
Expo Services Company
3940 Black Gold
Dallas, Texas 75247
(214) 634-9821

✓ Takako K. Castell
Customer Relation Specialist
Northern Telecom World Trade
885 E. Collins Blvd.
Richardson, Texas 75098
(214) 301-7459

✓ Amanda Culbertson
Assistant Executive Director
National Athletic Trainers' Assn.
2952 Stemmons
Dallas, Texas 75247-6103
(214) 637-6282

✓ Victoria E. Dempsey
Meetings & Exhibits Event Mgr.
Society of Petroleum Engineers
222 Palisades Creek Dr.
Richardson, Texas 75080
(214) 669-3377

✓ Phyllis Glenn
Meeting Planner
National Athletic Trainers' Assn.
2952 Stemmons
Dallas, Texas 75247-6103
(214) 637-6282

✓ Dana D. Hogan
Meetings Manager
Am. College of Emergency Physicians
1125 Executive Circle
Irving, Texas 75038
(214) 550-0911

✓ Marie-Anne L. Johnson
Sales Coordinator
FTS Life Insurance Agency Inc.
1925 W. John Carpenter Freeway
Irving, Texas 75261-9013
(214) 444-5249

✗ Charles Mkomwa
Student
2523 13th Street #307
Washington, D.C. 20009
(202) 462-1231

✓ Todd D. Richter
Sales Manager
ARA Leisure Services
650 South Griffin St.
Dallas, Texas 75202
(214) 749-0283

✓ Carolyn L. Schroder
Regional Sales Manager
Coastal Hotel Group, Inc.
2401 Brookhollow Plaza Dr.
Arlington, Texas 76006
(817) 640-1188

✓ Mary S. Shiroma
CEO
Southwest Speakers Bureau Inc.
5485 Beltline Road, #125
Dallas, Texas 75240
(214) 458-1627

✗ Robert R. Tadlock
Student
4003 Hill Springs
Kingwood, Texas 77345
(409) 568-2926

Meet a New Member

by Becky Milkie

MIKE FERNANDES
Director of Sales
Training and
Promotion
Success Motivation
Institute
Waco, Texas



Mike has been with Success Motivation Institute for two years and is responsible for the sales training and promotion department, including coordinating 12 monthly conferences to train their franchisees and an annual convention of 1,000 people from around the world. He also coordinates production of monthly mailings to franchisees, sales aids, product brochures, training manuals and awards programs.

Mike got involved in the meetings/hospitality industry by working with the U.S. Jaycees for seven years in the national headquarters in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He coordinated and managed several national events involving from 100 to 7,000 people.

Mike says his biggest challenge or toughest assignment in the industry is finding hotels that has both adequate meeting space to meet his company's needs and a fine staff with which to work.

Mike has been a member of MPI for four months and says he enjoys the chapter's monthly meeting topics that help him coordinate better conferences and conventions.

His working philosophy is to treat other people like you like to be treated in order to get the most and the best from them.

Originally from Hampton, New Hampshire, Mike is married and has one son, Kevin, age 16.

His hobbies include golfing, tennis, attending sporting events and boating. He just bought a boat, which was one of his long-range goals.

MEMBERSHIP

Recruit a New Member

For those of you pondering the answer to that musical question, "Who's been recruiting who :"

Bobbie J. Allen
Amy L. Barker

Madonna K. Barnes
Judy R. Benaroché
Robert L. Berry

Judy Love Bradley
Kaye C. Burkhardt
Jan L. Campbell
Susie Carr, CMP

Phyllis Cox
Paula Cullar
Sue Ferguson

Phyllis Firebaugh

Sally Goldesberry, CMP
Julie Gravel
Mary K. Havens
Bruce W. Jaster

Debora J. Jerman
Donna Magro
Patricia McCain

Bob Mitchell
Sheri Pizitz, CMP
Barbara Rathwick
Alice R. Riggins

Alice Roberts

Anita O. Siegers

Lisa A. South, CMP

Jeana A. Stieber
Alexandra Vurpillat
Debra Williams
Laura B. Yarbrough, CMP

Susan Denno
Amanda Culbertson
Phyllis Glenn
Betty C. Bolin
Jeana A. Stieber
Patricia A. Bennett-Charles
James S. Follett
Jan Hall
Lori A. Schirpke
Patricia A. Tripp
LeeAnn H. Harle
Sarah B. Richards
Wendy L. Darin
Jeorgia Hopgood
Marie-Anne Johnson
Dana D. Hogan
Dona M. Bassana
Nancy D. Bryan
Francy H. Fellman
Susan P. Ferreri
Maurice H. Morris
Mary B. Shiroma
Barbara A. Stegemann
Kelly Graves
Catherine M. Murphy
Victoria Dempsey
Connie A. True
Sally V. Pringle
Bitsy Burns
Paula J. Cullar
Mollie L. Hines
Beverly D. O'Laughlin
Jan Pollard
Susan E. Singleton
Mark A. Burnworth
Tiffany Rippe
Dana Nickerson
Linda K. Dipert
Shirley A. Dotson
Juanita Pettit
Sally Torres
Natalie E. Adair
John Ures
Paula Hall
Linda Hughes
Linda R. Sergeant-Johnson
Eris A. Miltner
Nona J. Richey
Lee A. Thompson
Todd B. Richter
Takako Castell
Candis Clarke
Cathy L. Horton
Maureen C. Pittman

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Free Trips Awarded for Membership Recruiting

by Kim Warren, CMP

You are aware of the benefits membership in MPI offers both you and your company. Have you spread the good news to your colleagues? There might be a free trip to an exotic locale for you in the deal!

At the international level of MPI, three new incentive packages have been put together to encourage recruitment of new members by existing members. The lucky winners will each enjoy one of the following:

Round-trip airfare for two from Northwest Airlines to Hong Kong, along with five nights of hotel accommodations at the Omni and a two-day sightseeing package from the Hong Kong Tourist Board.

Two nights at the Westin Maui and two nights at the Westin Kauai in Hawaii, along with round-trip airfare for two compliments of Delta Airlines.

Round-trip airfare for two on American Airlines and five nights of hotel accommodations at the Sheraton Wentworth Hotel in Sydney, Australia.

This contest is separate from and in addition to incentives offered by the D/FW Chapter of MPI for membership recruitment.

For details, you can contact Colleen Albert, Vice President of Membership, or look for details in the *Meeting Manager*.

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Mary Cain
(214) 453-1234

PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

December Wrap-Up

by Alex Vurpillat

Santa Claus himself could not have selected a more lovely "Christmas Palace" than the Adolphus Hotel for our MPI Christmas Gala. It was a winter wonderland with all the festive displays for which the Adolphus is noted. The festivities were held in their newly opened Grand Ballroom. All this writer will say is: Watch out, Dallas hotels! The Adolphus is now a major competitor in all areas! Ultimate elegance is the only description.

And they are proud: Becky Milkie floated on Cloud 9 all evening, and it was obvious that she and the Adolphus staff are more than pleased with their new addition.

The reception area was filled with MPI members and their guests, all beautifully dressed for this festive evening. Laughter and warmth was everywhere as the champagne flowed.



Members were greeted by an enormous Christmas card, unique and fun and contributed by Cynthia Michael, which all were asked to sign.

Special thanks to O.D. O'Donnell of Night-life Talent and Management Agency for coordinating the entertainment for our holiday event. The Tony Payne Jazz Trio entertained us during the reception and started the evening with a festive flair. The Phares Corder Combo entertained us during dinner and kept us in the holiday spirit.

As we entered the Grand Ballroom, attention immediately focused on the stunning table decor: gold and silver lame overlays, furnished by Special Occasion, topped with candelabra provided by Ducky Bob's, which complimented the striking Christmas decor furnished by Putting on the Ritz, lent much to the party's atmosphere. Together, with the great back-drop furnished by Freeman Companies, the effect was breathtaking.

Dinner—what a joy!! It was incredible! The menu featured Filet Mignon and tender, tender veal, beautifully presented and elegantly served in the usual Adolphus style, a truly outstanding dinner.

Music played throughout the entire evening, and what great music it was!! Music from all eras was enjoyed; and from what we could see, everyone was up dancing the night away. The evening reflected the happiness in everyone for a year well done, and many feats accomplished through the efforts of many dedicated members.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the suppliers who continually assist by contributing to MPI all year long. This chapter could not accomplish all it has (and will continue to accomplish) without the generous support of our supplier members, who richly deserve all the recognition and gratitude (and business opportunities!) our chapter can provide. THANK YOU!



PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

Host Facility Profile

by Alex Vurpillat

INFOMART
1950 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75207
(214) 746-3500

INFOMART is a market center for buyers and sellers of information technology. More than 1.5 million visitors have been to INFOMART since its 1985 opening. The 1.6 million square-foot facility includes more than 100 companies featuring products such as computer hardware and software, telecommunications, electronic publishing, computer integrated manufacturing, copiers, facsimile machines as well as consulting and training.

INFOMART is open to the public and offers several services to help visitors and residents. The Executive Briefing Service assists corporate buying teams in finding products and vendors and arranging presentations. INFOMART also assists associations and trade show planners in preparing successful events. Guest Services orients visitors and provides product information through the Executive Briefing Center located in the atrium.

INFOMART is designed to resemble the Grand Crystal Palace of London's 1851 Great Exhibition. The atrium includes an exact replica of the fountain in the original Crystal Palace, made by the same Italian manufacturer.

Along the lower level entrance is "Time, Technology and Triumph," a 562-foot tile mosaic depicting the history of technology. It was created using an advanced computer-aided design system and includes more than 936,000 hand painted, one-inch tiles.

INFOMART adds the value of convenience for all kinds of visitors entering the building. INFOMART includes 300,000 square feet of exhibit space, 30 conference rooms and a 510-seat auditorium with complete multimedia capabilities. INFOMART also has full-service audio/visual rentals, catering, free parking, a bookstore, post office, dry cleaners, a cafeteria and two restaurants, all conveniently located near both Dallas airports and several Market Center and downtown hotels.

You Asked For It Your Comments Answered

by O.D. O'Donnell

My first reaction to the comments regarding the MPI-HSMA joint meeting at the Hyatt Regency DFW was, "I wonder if, when filling out the report cards, we are focused on the purpose of having a monthly meeting." Granted, it's nice to network with our peers, swap ideas, see new properties, etc., but basically, the monthly meeting is designed to educate and familiarize the new members with good, sound meeting planning procedures, refresh and remind the not-so-new members and give the old timers in the business an opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise.

There were four report cards that indicated that we chose a poor location. When you realize that we are the D/FW chapter of MPI, you will also realize that we have to concern ourselves with picking a centrally-located venue from time to time to support all areas of the metroplex. Several points have to be considered when selecting a site for our monthly meetings:

1. The property must be an MPI member;
2. We don't repeat a meeting at a property in the same year;
3. We try to balance out the meetings between lunch and dinner; and
4. We try to select venues from all parts of the metroplex.

I'm sure that, for many, it would be nice to have all luncheon meetings downtown, and all evening meetings in the suburbs; but we have to satisfy the entire membership. When it's all said and done, D/FW is probably the most centrally-located venue in the metroplex.

For the persons that commented on the location of the registration desk, I would remind you that the hotel had a major convention spending "big bucks," which made it more desirable to have our registration and reception nearer to our meeting space.

I, for one, felt the food and service was excellent; and although I was sitting about midway in the room, I didn't notice that some tables were unhappy. When you consider that most kitchen entrances are opposite the ballroom entrance, it might be wise to select a table close to the kitchen entrance if you're concerned with getting your food first and have to leave early. No matter how efficient the wait staff is, someone is going to be served last; and usually if you end up sitting down at the back of the room, your food has a good chance of being last to be served. At luncheons, in particular, most often the program has to start before everyone is finished eating in order to finish everything on time.

I hope this answers most of the concerns about the meeting. Remember: your program committee will continue to take your comments into consideration; and, believe me, we will strive to improve each and every meeting.

An Invitation

by Debra Williams

M'Lords and M'Ladies of MPI:

You are hereby requested to attend His Royal Majesty, the King, in his Great Hall at the Medieval Inn, 7102 Greenville Avenue in Dallas, on February 28, 1991.

The Royal Innkeeper will serve a six course royal feast and provide unlimited libations. His Majesty's jester, minstrel and magician will amuse you. The King's host of lovely and talented singing wenches will entertain you as only wenches can, and serve the feast in true Medieval style (which means no silverware).

The Royal scribe will send additional details in your February newsletter.

Prepare thyself for an evening of festive entertainment: Eat, Drink and be Medieval!

INDUSTRY NEWS

From the Resource Center

[Editor's Note: The following is the first in a series of educational pieces developed for the D/FW Chapter by Terri Lawrence, Manager of MPI's Educational Resource Center. The series will address a wide range of items of interest to the members of the hospitality industry.]

Available for \$1 each from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402:

Your Trip Abroad

* Tips on obtaining a passport, considerations in preparing for your trip and traveling, other sources of information.

Safe Trip Abroad

* Helpful precautions one can take to minimize the chance of becoming a victim of terrorism and other safety tips.

Americans Residing Abroad

* Information for U.S. citizens living abroad on dual citizenship, tax regulations, voting and other overseas consular services.

Travel Tips for Older Americans

* Special health, safety and travel information for older Americans.

For currency regulations, customs, dual nationality and other travel tips for specific areas of the world:

- Tips for Travelers to the Caribbean
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- Tips for Travelers to Cuba
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- Tips for Travelers to Mexico
- Tips for Travelers to Middle East & North America
- Tips for Travelers to the People's Republic of China
- Tips for Travelers to South Asia
- Tips for Travelers to Sub-Saharan Africa
- Tips for Travelers to the USSR

Professional Education Conference

by Connie Sandifer, CMP

If you were not one of the D/FW Chapter's 71 members in attendance at MPI's Professional Education Conference (PEC) in New Orleans last month, you missed what was probably the best MPI conference to date.

A combination of quality programming and 111 educational sessions (a 51.4% increase over last year's PEC) drew a record attendance of 1,600+ to this year's conference. Here are some of the highlights:

Chapter Management Forum

Members of the D/FW Chapter's Board of Directors joined approximately 150 other chapter leaders in MPI's pre-conference Chapter Management Forum (CMF). This interactive session, "Picture This: Chapter Success," addressed the challenges facing chapter leadership, including "managing" versus "doing," goal setting and inspiring/motivating those you lead.

Other components of the CMF included opening remarks by Edwin Griffin, Jr., CAE, MPI Executive Vice President and CEO, following an introduction by MPI President Marjorie Hamilton. Comments by the Professional Conduct Committee were also made before the session began.

Mr. Griffin re-emphasized MPI Headquarters' desire to work with the local chapters and encouraged feedback from the chapters regarding member needs and chapter goals. He also stated that MPI Headquarters recognizes and appreciates members' commitment to this profession and their chapters.

The Professional Conduct Committee reminded chapter leadership of MPI's Code of Ethics. The committee defined ethics as "an organizational commitment inspired by pride" and asked each chapter to conduct a program on ethics by December 1992.

Opening General Session

Marjorie Hamilton opened Monday's General Session. She was joined by "Maria Planneria," a time-traveling meeting planner from the 21st Century, brought to the conference by Interactive Personalities. (Yes, this is the same Interactive Personalities that participated in the D/FW Chapter's January 1990 monthly chapter meeting.)

Ms. Planneria was a wealth of information throughout the conference. As she noted to Marjorie, PEC's 1,600+ attendees from 43 chapters in 31 countries was a significant advance from MPI's first conference in 1974, which had 50 attendees.

After opening remarks by the New Or-



INDUSTRY NEWS

leans Host Committee and Edwin Griffin, CAE, keynote speaker C.W. Metcalf presented "Humor, Risk and Change," a look at the importance of humor in the business world. . . especially in a stress-ridden industry such as ours.

Mr. Metcalf emphasized that humor can save us from "terminal professionalism," by allowing us to access joy in adversity and taking ourselves lightly while taking our job, problem or challenge seriously. He had the audience participate in "humea-rorobics" exercises to drive the point home.

Workshops, Special Interest Groups, Etc.

There were "breakouts" for every interest, skill and experience level at the PEC. The newest in meeting planning software was showcased on Sunday, beginning, intermediate, advanced and professional development workshops were held Monday and Tuesday, and SIG groups and other special meetings were held throughout the conference, in addition to pre- and post-conference activities. In fact, there were so many interesting options available that a personal just couldn't participate in them all!

Special Events

Can the folks in New Orleans ever entertain! Thanks to the MPI staff and the New Orleans Host Committee and sponsors, there was something truly remarkable going on all the time.

Sunday's Welcome Reception, "Splish, Splash, A Riverfront Bash," took place on the Mississippi riverfront. The new Aquarium of the Americas was opened for a flow-through tour by MPI members. New Orleans eateries provided delicious fare both around the park area and aboard two moored paddlewheelers. The mood was completed with a jazz band playing dixie in the background.

Monday evening's "French Quarter Party" saw the group start out on Royal Street, where they were met by street entertainment, another jazz band and plenty of

good eats. Eventually, MPI "second liners" were accompanied by a police escort to Bourbon Street, to continue enjoying the city's most famous section.

The New Orleans tradition continued on Tuesday, when attendees were treated to a "Mardi Gras" luncheon in the Louisiana Superdome. A Dixieland jazz band led the group from the Hyatt to the Superdome, which was decorated with some of the largest carnival krewe floats from the Mardi Gras parade. The Southern University marching band provided lively wrap-up entertainment as attendees returned to their sessions.

A 1940s-style gala reception, dinner and dance, entitled "Another Openin', Another Show" capped off Tuesday's activities. Guests were seated in the Hyatt's ballroom, decorated like a grand hotel of the '40s. A four-course dinner and orchestra completed this night of elegance.

Closing General Session

As with all good things, the 1990 PEC did draw to a close. The keynote speaker for Wednesday's powerful Closing General Session was W Mitchell, whose presentation was entitled, "It's Not What Happens to You; It's What You Do About It." W. Mitchell, who survived a fiery motorcycle accident in 1971 and an airplane crash-landing in 1975 (each of which nearly cost him his life), addressed the possibilities for the human mind and spirit. As he says, "I've learned the difference between the big things and the little things. There aren't a whole lot of big things." He told the audience, as he has groups all over the world, about his life and how they can realize their inner power.

Before heading homeward, attendees recognized the New Orleans Host Committee and program sponsors. Following was a teaser for:

MPI's 1991 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

A presentation was made by the Las Vegas Host Committee for MPI's 19th Annual

Conference next June. The Committee commended the job done in New Orleans and assured attendees that they are up to the challenge of presenting a special program in their home town as well.

How appropriate, then, that the conference is called "Success by Design, Not Chance"!



International Board Nominations Announced

Two Texans have been nominated to sit on the international board of directors of MPI, and one of the two hails from our very own chapter.

A past president of the D/FW Chapter of MPI, J. William Boyd, Jr., CMP, of Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc. in Irving, joins Jeffrey W. Rasco, CMP, from the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, on the slate of candidates to fill two of the four vacancies on the board. Terms of service will be 1991-94.

Also nominated for board seats are Michael J. Fiorentino of Westin Hotels & Resorts and David Kliman, CMP, of the Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies. Additional nominees may be added to the ballot by petition.

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

MPI's Institutes I and II April 9-14
Dallas, Texas

CSIG Tech April 24-26
Dallas, Texas

MPI Annual Conference June 23-26
Las Vegas, Nevada

ET CETERA

Give Kids the World

by Patti Wilke, CMP

"Our thanks to all of you. The staff made our stay fantastic. Jennifer's dream did come true. We love you all."

"Thank you so much from happy hearts. We had a great time."

"We had a really lovely time. We can't thank you enough. . . it was absolutely magic."

"Thank you for making Judy's wish come true."

These families and many more like them have warm memories from a fantasy vacation provided by Give Kids the World.

As you know, Give Kids the World is an organization founded for the sole purpose of making dreams come true for terminally ill children and their families. Each family is treated to a six-day complimentary vacation in Orlando, Florida, complete with tickets to the Magic Kingdom, EPCOT Center, MGM Studios and Sea World.

The D/FW Chapter is planning an exciting Charity Ball, featuring live and silent auctions on Saturday, March 23, 1991, at the Loews Anatole Hotel. The proceeds of this ball will benefit Give Kids the World and the chapter's educational fund. This is the first time the chapter has undertaken an event of this magnitude. . . it is our goal to involve not only the Chapter but the entire community!

You can fulfill the wishes of a child by committing yourself to this project. Plan-

ning is underway. . . several committees have been formed to ensure the success of this event and we need every chapter member to become a part of the team. Please contact the committee chairpeople for meeting schedules and additional information:

Solicitations Follow-up Committee - Phyllis Firebaugh, Westin Hotel Galleria Dallas

Public Relations - Connie Sandifer, CMP, Dallas Fan Fares

Printing - John O'Hearn, Hyatt Regency Reunion

Invitations - Myra Berry, Park Plaza Hotel

Budget - Bob Berry, International Communications Association

Decorating - Judy Benaroche, Kaleidoscope, Inc.

Entertainment - Phares Corder, Phares Corder Entertainment

Remember: TOGETHER. . . WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN for a child and their family.

Board Makes Policy Change

by Kim Warren, CMP

At a recent meeting, the chapter's Board of Directors approved increasing the number of monthly chapter meetings a non-member can attend before joining the organization from two to three. This policy does not pertain to spouses, however, who may attend meetings with you any time.

Richland College Meeting Planning Courses

by Patty Tinsley

The Richland College Committee is very proud to present not one, but two ten-week continuing education programs for the spring of 1991.

The Basics of Meeting Planning is designed for novice meeting professionals wishing to increase their knowledge of the industry and for individuals interested in an exciting career move to meeting planning. Professional terminology and practical applications are taught, as well as studies in various categories of site selection, transportation, special events and many others.

For graduates of the beginners program, or for meeting professionals with two or more years of experience, the Advanced Meeting Planning course has been developed. This class will address the finer points of meeting planning with specific discussion in the areas of business ethics, contracts and legalities, crisis management, etc. An educational trade show has also been scheduled in which select MPI suppliers may participate.

Both courses are instructed by fellow D/FW chapter members and qualify for credits toward the CMP (Certified Meeting Professional) exam application.

Don't wait to register! Basics of Meeting Planning starts Monday, February 18, and Advanced Meeting Planning on Thursday, February 21. Space is extremely limited. For registration or additional information, contact the Richland College Continuing Education Division at (214) 238-6144.

Looking for a new challenge?

Send five copies of your resume to:

MPI Career Opportunities c/o Marilyn McGuire

P. O. Box 655147

Dallas, Texas 75265

RESUME HANDLING FEE:

\$15 - Members

\$25 - Non-Members

If you have a position to fill and would like to receive resumes of qualified applicants, please contact:

Marilyn McGuire
(214) 980-5111

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CALENDAR UPDATE	OFFICERS	BOARD OF DIRECTORS
<p>January 17, 1991 INFOMART Luncheon MPI's Natural Resources</p>	<p>PRESIDENT Judy Love Bradley (214) 922-9806 Canadian Consulate General</p>	<p>Bob Berry (214) 233-3889 International Communications Association</p> <p>Barbara Fett (214) 746-3500 INFOMART</p>
<p>February 28, 1991 Medieval Inn Dinner Focus on Ale</p>	<p>VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP Colleen Albert (214) 746-6628 Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau</p>	<p>Lindsey Iacovino (214) 634-9060 AVW Audio Visual, Inc.</p> <p>Marilyn Manby (214) 484-9531 Maritz Meeting Planners</p>
<p>March 28, 1991 Dallas Museum of Art Breakfast Topic TBA</p>	<p>VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCE Susanne Ruffner, CMP (214) 869-1355 AMS Users' Group</p>	<p>Judith Mathews, CMP (214) 783-4444 Meeting Tech</p> <p>Patti Wilke, CMP (214) 458-0601 BeautiControl</p>
<p>April 18, 1991 Hyatt Regency Fort Worth Dinner Transportation Panel Discussion Officer Elections</p>	<p>VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION & PROGRAMS Lisa South, CMP (214) 490-2986 Electronic Data Systems, Inc.</p>	<p>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Mary Jo Malone (214) 742-8200 The Adolphus Hotel</p>
<p>BOARD MEETINGS Tuesday, January 15, 1991* Tuesday, February 19, 1991 Tuesday, March 19, 1991 Tuesday, April 16, 1991 Tuesday, May 14, 1991</p>	<p>VICE PRESIDENT, PUBLIC RELATIONS Connie Sandifer, CMP (214) 239-9969 Dallas Fan Fares, Inc.</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT, ADMINISTRATION David Gisler (214) 634-1463 Freeman Decorating Company</p>	<p>CHAPTER SECRETARY Marsha Wright (214) 343-0555</p> <p>CURRENT EDITOR Kim Warren, CMP (214) 401-0210 Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc. FAX (214) 556-0916</p>
<p>*Committee Chairs invited to attend the January meeting and report to Board of Directors.</p>		