

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Lisa South, CMP



I have heard many comments about how well this year is going for the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of MPI. This is truly gratifying. I cannot say often enough

how fortunate I feel to be serving as this year's president.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank each of you who have sent notes and cards, called, inquired about me and/or remembered me in your prayers during my prolonged back problems. It's hard to have to be out of circulation, so it's always great to hear from you. Also, I'm a great believer in positive thought. I was told that surgery was the option to correct my problem in late December. But after more tests, lots of positive thoughts and lots of support from family and friends, I now am told that physical therapy can possibly prevent surgery. What good proof to keep a positive attitude toward anything!

This month's topic fits in quite well with my current situation. Many of you know one technique that I (and many others) use to get to know people better. And it was exciting to see an article in the December 1991

Reader's Digest regarding this practice: writing notes.

A simple, handwritten note can mean more than you realize to someone you've just met at a chapter event, a new member, someone who has done something kind for you, or someone you simply would like to get to know better.

People often say to me, after they learn that I send notes, "You're not in sales; why bother?" The key is: it's not a bother! It becomes fun to recap a conversation or topic that the recipient and I have just experienced.

Numerous rewards can be cited for sending notes. The person receiving

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Hands Across the Trinity

by Marsha Singer

The March chapter meeting is offering its membership a unique opportunity to explore the NEW frontiers that are being blazed in our sister city across the Trinity: FORT WORTH!

Lee Conte from the Fort Worth Convention and Visitors Bureau will be our hostess on this fantastic journey. We will hear from the experts and see wondrous things about the growth of Fort Worth. Our panel of speakers consists of Margaret Kramer with Sundance Square, Ed McLoughlin

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MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

5:00

DATE: Thursday, March 26, 1992

PLACE: The Worthington Hotel

200 Main Street

Fort Worth, Texas 76102

(817) 870-1000

TIME: Preregistration for those arriving by motorcoach:

Motorcoach departure time: 5:35

On-Site Registration & Reception: 6:15

Dinner and Program: 7:00

COST: Advance Registration: \$26.00

Late Registration: \$35.00

Guest Registration: \$30.00

If you wish to utilize the Carey "Wagon," please advise Sandi when you call to RSVP.

PLEASE RSVP: Before NOON, Tuesday, March 24, by calling Sandi or Marsha at (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. Advance reservations must be received by cut-off date; last 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!

juests are limited to attending three meetings per chapter year before membership is required to attend future meeti age of overflow scating, members not present 15 minutes after the meal is served will have their reserve seats sold.

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

MPI FOCUS

(President's message continued from page 1)

the note knows you are sincere in your interest and will remember who sent the note. Maybe, just maybe, they will send someone else a note to continue the "chain" of good feelings. A note is something tangible that can be reviewed over and over, continuing those good feelings. (In fact, I keep a file of notes I've received and refer to them when I'm feeling not-so-positive. It changes my mood very quickly!)

In continuing this year's theme, "Back to the Basics: Building Blocks of Success," I wanted to share a simple practice which has truly brought me success, both professionally and personally.

Meeting Planning Courses Draw Excellent Numbers

Jimmy Eanes, CMP, coordinator for the Richland College courses on meeting planning, reports some enthusiastic numbers for participants in this semester's courses.

Nineteen people are attending the Basic Meeting Planning class and 20 students are in the International Meeting Planning course. The numbers in the International class are especially encouraging since this is the first time this course has been held.

Advertising Space
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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 authority 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.

(March meeting continued from page 1)

with the Tarantula Railroad, Dayna Fowler with the Stockyards Station and Steve Nurin with the stockyards.

Consider this meeting your opportunity to introduce MPI and the value of membership to our friends across the Trinity. All Dallas members are encouraged to invite a Fort Worth business associate (who is not already an MPI member) to the meeting on March 26 at the Worthington. For every Fort Worth guest you bring, a ticket will be put into a drawing for you to win great and wonderful prizes donated by such fun places as Billy Bob's and other great Dallas and Fort Worth attractions.

Don your cowboy hats and make plans to hit the trail on March 26.

"

For those city folk who would rather not face the Great Plains (pains?) of the trip alone, plan to take a ride on the Carey "Wagon," which will provide guests with motorcoach transportation from Dallas to Fort Worth. Meeting registration can be handled from 5:00 p.m. at the Loews Anatole Hotel, and the "Wagon" will depart at 5:35. For those driving, registration will be at the Worthington on the patio outside the Atlanta Room (weather permitting) at 6:15. Music and beverages will be served. Dinner starts promptly at 7:00 p.m. Tours of the hotel will be offered after the program.

Plan to join us!

PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

February Meeting Wrap-Up

Airport Security Meeting a Success at DFW

by Tim Wade

The Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport was host to approximately 80 people at MPI's monthly meeting on Thursday, February 20.

The theme for the meeting was "Armed and Dangerous: Airport Security." To highlight this unique venue, a tour was conducted by the



Airport's Administration Office for approximately 60 of our members. What the members saw was an indepth look at the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport and its Customs Control area.

In addition, the members saw the airport's canines demonstrating how to sniff out drugs among all the baggage which travels through D/FW on a regular basis. Not to be slighted, however, were members of the airport's





"Special Reaction Team" (SRT), who demonstrated their skills in responding to life-threatening actions or terrorist attacks.

Upon returning from the hour-long tour, members were treated to a mouth-watering banquet of finger sandwiches, salads, a beef station and a bar complete with beer, wines, soft drinks and mineral water.

Then, members gathered in the Administration's second floor board room for a presentation by Len Limmer, Director of Public Safety at



DFW. He joined us to give an inside and revealing presentation on an actual hostage situation which took place on January 5, 1987, at the airport.

A couple and their children, including ten-year-old Michael Carruso, were standing at the Delta ticket counter in Terminal 4E when an armed Palestinian refugee grabbed the boy and slowly made his way into the secured area of the terminal.

What followed was an eight-hour standoff and negotiations between professional members of the airport staff and the refugee. Mr. Limmer showed a side demonstration which provided unpublished footage of the incident, which ended with the boy being released unharmed. This presentation, more than anything else, brought home the whole theme for the meeting, "Armed and Dangerous: Airport Security." Indeed, they were!

MPI would like to thank the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport's administration staff, Clarees Vessey and Carol Langdon, for providing us with an excellent meeting. Thanks also to the program chairs of the program committee responsible for this meeting: Mary Lynn Novelli, Bobby Bulger and Tim Wade.

PGA Scholarship Funds Available for You

by Paige Garrett

Are you a cost-conscious planner or supplier with limited funds for continuing education? In these tough economic times, continuing your educational/professional development is more important than ever. The Professional Growth Awards exist to help you attain your goals.

Scholarship money is waiting for your application. The only requirement is that you have been an MPI member for a year or more.

PGA will help fund tuition and course materials for just about any workshop or seminar that contributes to your growth as a professional in this industry. PGA scholarships can be used for Richland College courses in Basic and International Meeting Planning, MPI Institutes I & II, MPI's International Symposium, CMP Exams and MPI's Annual Conferences or Professional Educational Conferences.

Don't miss out on the resources available to you through PGA. Contact Paige Garrett at (214) 380-6903 for applications or more information.

MEMBERSHIP

1991-1992 Awardees Selected

by Suzann J. Oliver

The D/FW Awards Committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for consideration at the international level:

Judy Love Rondeau Chapter Manager of the year

This award is intended to recognize the commitment of an individual influencing the life of that member's chapter. It is based on the ability of the person to motivate others, stimulate volunteer functions, give a sense of direction and act as a catalyst to cause exceptional results that benefit the local chapter.

Laura B, Yarbrough, CMP
International Planner of the Year

Eugene E. Rondeau International Supplier of the Year

These honors are awarded based on the contributions in the following areas: service on the international level; service to the chapter, industry and community; published contributions to the industry; speeches; professional recognition, certification and continuing education.

At the local level, the following D/FW Chapter members have been nominated:

D/FW Chapter Planner of the Year Jimmy Eanes, CMP Marilyn Manby Diane Smith, CMP

D/FW Chapter Supplier of the Year

Sue Ferguson Phyllis Firebaugh Lindsey Iacovino O.D. O'Donnell

These awards are based on significant contributions made to our chapter in the following areas: involvement on committees, board of directors; meeting industry service, recognition and awards; meeting industry related speaking engagements and community service.

All nominees will be honored at the May chapter meeting and the D/FW Chapter Planner and Supplier of the Year will be announced.

Congratulations to all nominees and a special "thank you" to the Awards Committee: Mary Cowart; Norb Dettmann, CMP; David Gisler; Marilyn McGuire, CMP and LaTrelle Smart, CMP.

Thanks to all the members who took time to complete and return the nomination form.

Recommended Slate For Board of Directors to be Presented at March Meeting

by Judy Love Rondeau

In keeping with International Nominating Procedures, the nominating committee is recommending a full slate of candidates for ratification by the membership.

This recommended slate will be presented at the March monthly chapter meeting. At that time, nominations will be accepted from the floor. Each nomination from the floor must have, in writing, the individual's consent and the backing of his/her organization to serve the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter. Should nominations from the floor be submitted, a ballot will be mailed to each chapter member for voting purposes.

The nominating committee is pleased to announce its recommended slate of nominees for Officers and Board Members for the 1992-1993 Board of Directors of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of MPI.

OFFICERS 1992-1993

Immediate Past President: Lisa, South, CMP (P) EDS

President:
Mary Cowart (P)
Meeting Consultants & Assoc.

Vice President - Membership: Diane Smith, CMP (P) Alcon Labs, Inc/Vision Caren Group

Vice President - Education: Sue Ferguson (S) City Place Conference Center

Vice President - Finance: Alan Powdermaker (S) Circle R Ranch

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MEMBERSHIP

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Vice President - Public Relations: Lesley, J. Meyer, CMP (S) Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.

Vice President - Administration: Lindsey R. Iacovino (S) AVW Audio Visual, Inc.

BOARD MEMBERS 1992-1993

Jimmy Eanes, CMP (P)
Interstate Battery System of America

Paige Garrett (P)
Great American Reserve Insurance
Company

Kim Kelley, CMP (P) Independent Planner

O.D. O'Donnell (S)
Nightlife Talent and Management
Agency

Alice Riggins (S)
ALL-IN-ONE TOUR SERVICES

Alex Vurpillat (P)
Carey Limousines of Dallas

NOTE:

(P): Planner (S): Supplier Chapter By-Laws state that a majority of "Planners" must be maintained on the Board of Directors.

As chairperson of the nominating committee, I wish to thank the committee for their time, expertise and commitment to this chapter. Their support has been invaluable. There are many deserving members of our chapter; with involvement at an all time high, it is difficult to determine a new slate of officers and board members. Together, the nominating committee has developed a strong slate for your Board of Directors for 1992-1993.

Heard It Through the Grapevine

by Ken Cohen

Lots of "baby news" this month:

Michael are expecting their first child in September.

Jeorgia Hopgood gave birth to a beauty baby boy, Jacob Collin, on February 11.

Anne Carr and husband Gregg were elated to bring home little Gregory Ryan, born on February 28.

Laura Yarbrough and her husband, Pat, adopted their second child last November. Elizabeth Grace was born on November 19 and adopted on November 22. Here's what's happening in the adult world:

Cindy Wofford was in the hospital for three days in February. Everything is fine, and she'll be back at work sometime this month.

Chapter President Lisa South, CMP is recovering from back problems that have plagued her for a lengthy time. Luckily it appears that Lisa will be able to avoid surgery and has already returned work!

Marilyn McGuire, CMP has a new place to call home. She has joined The National Athletics Trainers' Association as Director of Meetings and Conventions. Congratulations!

Please let me know immediately when you hear about something that belongs in this column, such as job changes, promotions, awards, etc. Call me at 276-2998 or fax me at 276-9725.

C. W. Kendall has spent twenty-five years as an entertainment agent in the Dallas area. Offering the finest in live entertainment. Whatever your needs may be ,C. W. and his staff of professionals will work with you to find just the right performers to fit your theme and budget. Ken Ran is dedicated to making your event a success through experience, dependability, and quality entertainment.



PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

March Host Facility

In Fort Worth, It's the Worthington Hotel Because You're the Best

by Tim Wade

Located downtown in historic Sundance Square, The Worthington Hotel—Fort Worth's only four-star, four-diamond facility—offers over 500 luxury guest rooms and suites, complemented by three restaurants, lobby bar, athletic club, indoor swimming pool and rooftop tennis courts.

The Worthington complex spans three blocks. It features 55,000 square feet of flexible space including two ballrooms, an exhibition hall, 16 other meeting rooms, an outdoor terrace and an indoor parking garage.

Because The Worthington specializes in gracious hospitality and excellence, you'll find extra touches, like fresh flowers arranged daily, a morning piano serenade on the mezzanine, Reflections restaurant, plus staff eager to help with everything from rodeo tickets to golf times.

Just outside the door lies Sundance Square. It's a charming turn-of-the-century world, filled with interesting architecture, elegant shops and theaters, all waiting for you to explore. And The Worthington Hotel is just a short drive from DFW Airport, the Stockyards, world-class art museums, shopping malls, Six Flags and sports stadiums.

For more information, contact The Worthington Hotel at (800) 433-5677.

Volunteer Now for the Senior Citizens St. Patrick's Day Party

By Judy Love Rondeau

As immediate past president of the DFW Chapter of MPI, I have the honor of being the chapter liaison to our locally adopted charity, "Love For Kids." Many of us sold Christmas cards each year, drawn by the younger recipients of "Love For Kids" dollars, and others have assisted at the Christmas Party held at Circle R Ranch each year for 5000 underpriviledged children in the Metroplex. Did you know that "Love For Kids" also assists the "older" children in the area. the senior citizens of our community, by throwing a Senior Citizens Party each year?

This year's seniors' party is projecting the biggest attendance ever, with over 2500 senior citizens from our local community participating in this event. In years past, I have always written an article AFTER the event has been held; but this year, we need your help! We honestly will not be able to pull this event together without you.

Charlotte St. Martin and the good people at the Loews Anatole Hotel are allowing this event to be held in Trinity Hall this year on March 17. Over 100 volunteers will be needed to assist with set-up, serving lunch and tear-down for this Senior Citizens St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

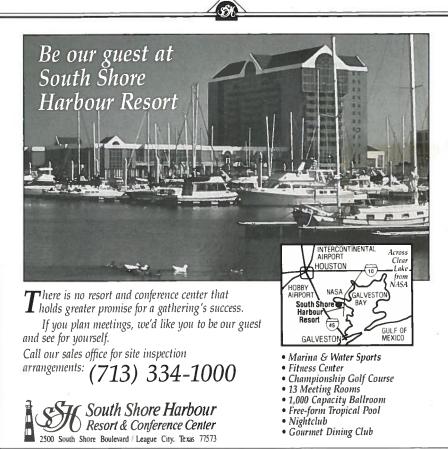
Our community's seniors look forward to this event all year long, and they dress for the occasion, too. Watching the busses unload and greeting the people, watching the excitement on their faces as they enter the party, will really tug at your heart strings. Wait until you watch them sing and dance along with the band—it's quite a rewarding day. Suzie Humphreys of KVIL has graciously agreed to be the Master of Ceremonies, so it should be quite an event!

If you can spare the time to assist with this event, please know we will be glad to take whatever time donation you can make. Volunteers are encouraged to work 8:30 - 11:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; 8:30 - 2:00 p.m. or whatever your schedule permits. Call 426-LOVE, leaving your name and telephone number, to volunteer or inquire about this event.

Please give this some serious thought. I look forward to seeing many of you there on March 17!

On a personal note: I would like to thank all the members who have volunteered their time for this very worthy cause. The DFW Chapter of MPI and "Love For Kids" organization appreciate your help.

INDUSTRY NEWS



Looking for a new challenge? Send five copies of your resume to

MPI Career Opportunities c/o Marilyn McGuire,CMP 2952 Stemmons Frwy. Dallas, Texas 75247

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, CMP (214) 637-6282

(ALL INQUIRES ARE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL)

Making Changes

If you have a change in your name, company business, address, business, telephone number, job title, etc., remember to send the information IN WRITING or call:

Meeting Planners International
Attention: Membership Department
INFOMART
1950 Stemmons Freeway
Suite 5018
Dallas, Texas 75207
(214) 746-5222

North Texas Speakers Association to Sponsor Annual Speakers Day

by Lisa South, CMP

Here's news about how you can plan meetings which are cheaper, more fun, more effective and can make you look good! Today's changing work place and lingering recession make meeting planning more challenging than ever.

On Friday, April 10, The National Speakers Association's North Texas Chapter will present a dynamic halfday seminar designed to allow meeting planners to share ideas, look into the future of the meeting business and discuss programming and other industry trends.

Scheduled on the second annual National Professional Speakers Day, this exciting session is neither a show-case nor an opportunity for speakers to market their talents. Instead, it will be a high-content program involving BOTH meeting planners and speaking professionals with such topics as:

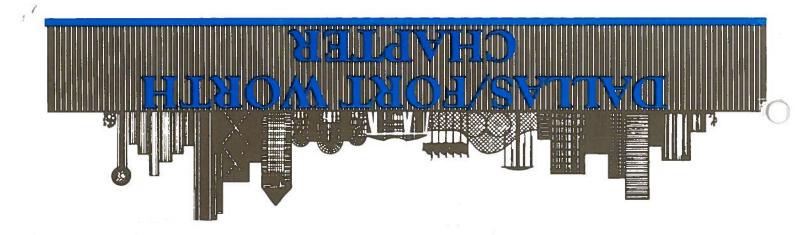
Forces of Change in the Meetings Industry: What's Up, What's Down, What's Hot, What's Not

Meeting Planning's Priority Issues (from the Meeting Planners' point of view)

Malox Moments: Meeting Upsets and Soothing Solutions (real world solutions to meeting snafus)

How to S-t-r-e-t-c-H your Dollars when Hiring Speakers

Watch your mail for your registration form for this exciting event. If you have any questions, please call Bette Price, NTSA's Task Force Chair, at (214) 385-7464.



10935 Estate Lane Suite 400 Dallas, Texas 75238



CALENDAR UPDATE

Thursday, March 26 The Worthington Hotel Dinner

Thursday, April 30 Ramada Renaissance Luncheon

Thursday, May 21 Marriott Mandalay Luncheon

Thursday, June 18 CityPlace Dinner

BOARD MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 14 MPI's Resource Center

Tuesday, May 12 MPI's Resource Center

Tuesday, June 9 MPI's Resource Center

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