

# MPI

MEETING PLANNERS INTERNATIONAL®

# CURRENT

Meeting Planners International

January 1993

Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter

## President's Message

# Keep up the Good Work for Continuing Success

By Mary W. Cowart  
Mary Cowart Meeting Consultants

Happy New Year to all of you! I hope your holiday time was special.

The new year marks the second half of our chapter's administrative year. A lot has been accomplished during the six months your chapter board of directors has been in office.

Our chapter's achievements are punctuated by the record-breaking attendance at monthly chapter meetings. Thanks to the education committee for superior programs, and to the membership committee for equally superior efforts in encouraging attendance! Your support and enthusiasm is overwhelming.

But "it's not over 'til the fat lady sings," as the saying goes. We have much to do in

the next six months. Your board just completed a mid-year retreat where we focused on upcoming projects.

The public relations committee has compiled a press kit, a first for our chapter. The information will be a tool to create awareness of the meetings industry professionals in the Dallas/Fort Worth community.



Mary W. Cowart

Because of a first-rate education committee, educational opportunities continue with unparalleled standards of excellence.

We are gearing up for the "Golf for Kids" fundraiser and a committee is already hard at work on the Chapter of the Year notebook. Through the

(continued on page 2)

## MPI

MEETING PLANNERS INTERNATIONAL®

January D/FW Chapter Meeting

## "Walking the Tightrope of Success"

Hattie Hill-Storks, H.H. Storks & Associates

January 28, Thursday

### Winter Warmth Drive

Bring gently used coats & blankets for those in need.

Radisson Hotel Central  
6060 North Central Expressway  
Dallas, Texas 75206  
214-750-6060

Orientation 11:00 a.m.  
Registration & Reception 11:30 a.m.  
Dinner & Program 12 noon

R.S.V.P.  
by noon, Tuesday, Jan. 26  
Sandy or Kim  
214-343-0555

Advance Registration \$22  
Late Registration \$30  
Guest Registration \$25

See page 3 for more details. See page 3 for reservation policy.

# INSIDE

Upcoming Events **2**

January Meeting Info **3**

Sports Classic Set **4**

News Briefs **5**

Current Advertising Info **6**

CMP University News **7**

Supplier Membership **8**

Last Month's Meeting **9**

## Current

### Meeting Planners International Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

#### Newsletter Staff

**Editor**  
Gracie Hatfield Hilton  
*The Write Stuff*  
Phone & FAX  
metro 817-467-7439

**Director of Communications**  
Patricia Tripp, CMP  
*Princess Cruises & Tours*  
Phone: 214-230-6994  
FAX: 214-230-6993

**Vice President/Public Relations**  
Lesley Meyer, CMP  
*Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.*  
Phone: 214-401-0210  
FAX: 214-556-0916

**Advertising Chair**  
Stephanie Davis  
*Sheraton Park Central Hotel*  
Phone: 214-851-2016  
FAX: 214-991-4557

**Photographer**  
Mark Lazarow  
*Mark Lazarow Photography*  
214-380-0985

#### Department Editors

**Membership**  
Bruce Jaster  
*The Jaster Companies, Inc.*  
214-891-8891

**Education**  
Kim Kelley, CMP  
*The Tower Club*  
214-220-0403

**Public Relations**  
Holly Adams  
*The Southland Corporation*  
214-828-7770

**Staff Writers**  
Becky Milkie  
*Adolphus Hotel*  
214-742-8200  
Ken Cohen  
*Cohen's Casino Parties*  
214-276-2998  
Anita Seigers  
*Adolphus Hotel*  
214-742-8200

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## Upcoming MPI Events

**January 19, Tuesday**  
"How To" Breakfast  
Loews Anatole  
7:30 a.m.

**January 28, Thursday**  
Chapter Meeting  
Radisson Hotel Central  
11 a.m./Luncheon

**February 18, Thursday**  
Executive Workshop  
Center for Community Cooperation  
11 a.m./Luncheon

**February 25/Thursday**  
Chapter Meeting  
Bristol Suites  
11 a.m./Luncheon

**March 9, Tuesday**  
"How To" Breakfast  
Arcodoro  
7:30 a.m.

**March 12, Tuesday**  
"Give Kids the World" Sports Classic  
Bear Creek Golf Resort  
and Tennis Center

**March 25, Thursday**  
Chapter Meeting  
Century II Club, Ft. Worth  
6 p.m./Dinner

**April 22, Thursday**  
Chapter Meeting  
Fairmont Hotel  
11 a.m./Luncheon

**May 27, Thursday**  
Chapter Meeting  
Loews Anatole  
6 p.m./Dinner

**June 17, Thursday**  
Chapter Meeting  
Hackberry Creek Country Club  
11 a.m./Luncheon

*NOTE: Chapter meeting plans are subject to change.  
Check the **Current** each month to confirm details.*

### President's Message/Mary Cowart *continued from page 1*

Sister City committee, another new effort for our chapter, we will adopt an MPI chapter in another country and interface with their membership on a monthly basis.

Speaking of membership, kudos to the creativity exhibited by our membership committee in encouraging new members! When our membership drive comes to a close, three diligent recruiters will fly away on wonderful vacations as a reward for their efforts.

The awards committee will soon be seeking your recommendations for Planner, Supplier and Chapter Manager of the Year. Nominations for International Planner and Supplier of the Year are also forthcoming.

The 1993 budget has been approved and the nominating committee

will soon request your suggestions for candidates for 1993-94 officers and directors.

Congratulations to all of you for the successes we have already witnessed. I know we will continue to excel during the next few months—because our membership has heeded our chapter message, "Get into the ACT." Thank you! And keep up the good work!

*The board joins me in saying a special THANK YOU to Sheraton ITT for many courtesies, including the reception and dinner at our recent monthly board meeting at the Sheraton Grand Hotel, as well as the recent board retreat, complete with continental breakfast. Thanks too, to keynote speaker Charles Morell of ALTA Technology, who provided a terrific presentation on team building.*



## January Meeting Highlights

# Learning Skills in 'Walking the Tightrope of Success' Good Way to Start New MPI Year

By Cathy Mason  
USMotivation

A new year, filled with high expectations, resolutions and added challenges and, perhaps, an increased workload, brings an opportunity for a fresh start.

Hattie Hill-Storks, president of H.H. Storks Associates of Dallas, will join us for some advice on "Walking the Tightrope of Success" at the January chapter luncheon meeting Jan. 28 at the Radisson Hotel Central/Dallas.

Hill-Storks' presentation will help prepare us for the realities of the '90s—when the sales person is under continued pressure to produce more and more business, and the meeting planner is expected to produce more creative, unique programs for less money. She will discuss ways salespeople can cope with a stressful sales environment and how meeting planners can maintain quality with a smaller budget.

Handling stress, staying motivated, identifying symptoms of burnout and establishing ways to cope with those symptoms are among topics Hill-Storks will discuss.

Her presentation, which will include

some helpful ideas on how to accomplish more in less time, and ways to handle daily and long-term commitments, is a great way to start the new year.

Orientation begins at 11:00 a.m. A pre-meeting reception will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the luncheon meeting beginning at 12 noon.

As part of the chapter's charitable *Winter Warmth Drive*, please remember to bring gently used coats and blankets for those in need.

Co-chairs for the January meeting are Cathy Mason (USMotivation), Mary Cain (Texas Bundles), Todd Richter (Escoffier Catering); Mike Snider (Baker's Ribs) and Mary Shiroma (Southwest Speakers Bureau).

The Radisson Hotel Central/Dallas

is situated east of I-75 (Central Expressway) between Yale and Mockingbird Lane. Northbound travelers on Central Expressway exit on Yale. Southbound travelers exit at Mockingbird Lane, turn left, and drive north on the service road. The hotel offers complimentary parking.

Among the facility hosts are MPI members Joanne Nichols and Angela Herrera, members of the Radisson Central sales staff.

Featuring more than 280 sleeping rooms and suites, the Radisson Hotel Central has a tropical garden atrium with an indoor/outdoor pool, whirlpool, steamroom and sauna. Eleven meeting rooms account for 13,000 square feet that can accommodate conferences and banquets from 10 to 1,000.

### about Hattie Hill-Storks...

## January Speaker No Stranger to MPI

Hattie Hill-Storks, featured speaker at the January chapter meeting, is president of H.H. Storks & Associates, an international consulting firm in Dallas. A professional speaker and author with more than 10 years experience in personal development, Hill-Storks has trained thousands of professionals, including many from the ranks of MPI.

Implementing a unique blend of counseling and psychology in her training technique, she designs and implements programs focused on personal and organizational development. Her customized training focuses on self-mastery skills, teambuilding, leadership and customer service.

Companies and corporations—both large and small—have found that Ms. Hill-Storks has a unique ability to focus on a specific problem, complete an analysis and offer workable solutions. She has utilized these skills to help companies around the world increase productivity and profits.

An active member of the National Speakers Association, the North Texas Speakers Association, and the National Association of Female Speakers, Ms. Hill-Storks has written numerous articles and self-help manuals. She is currently developing a cassette learning system for career management.

She holds a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in counseling.

Because she is a frequent and favorite presenter at MPI's annual conferences and professional education conferences, Ms. Hill-Storks is already known to many of our chapter members.

Her audience has included many respected organizations, including AT&T, Kodak, Xerox, Exxon and, of course, MPI. She has shared her expertise throughout America and in numerous European countries as well as Australia.

### Meeting Reservation & Attendance Policy

Registration fees will be collected at the door; advance payments are not accepted. If paying by check, please have check completed before approaching registration table. Reservations must be made by RSVP deadline for advance registration fee to apply. Late reservations and walk-ins will be accepted on a SPACE AVAILABLE basis. Cancellations must be made by the RSVP deadline. **No-shows will be billed.** Members are responsible for "no-show" charges for their guests. Guests are limited to attending three meetings per year (spouses are an exception).

**Volunteers Needed!****Give Kids the World Benefit Sports Classic Set March 12**

"Children are supposed to be our future, but kids like me don't have futures; we just have memories," said Amy, a terminally ill child who spent a cost-free week at Disney World through Give Kids the World.

To help kids like Amy, the D/FW chapter of MPI will host a Sports Classic/Silent Auction on March 12 to benefit Give Kids the World, a non-profit organization that provides a six-day, cost-free adventure to central Florida attractions for thousands of children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

"For Amy, and others like her, it is a joyful vacation between hospital stays," said chapter volunteer Melissa Parks (American Fire Sprinkler Association).

Give Kids the World is an official charity of the D/FW chapter of MPI. In 1991, a chapter-sponsored benefit gala netted \$20,000 for this worthy organization.

"We want to beat that record in 1993, and we need the commitment of our entire chapter to accomplish that goal," Parks said.

When Give Kids the World started in 1986, the organization hosted 329 families. In 1993 it expects to host a record 4,179 families.

The Sports Classic, featuring a golf and tennis tournament, plus an evening party with silent auction, will take place at Bear Creek Golf Resort and Tennis Center.

"A small but committed group is already at work on this endeavor and we need lots of help," Parks said.

Volunteer opportunities range from staffing the sports registration desks or finding gifts for goodie bags, to helping with decorations, sports prizes and awards.

To volunteer your time and expertise, contact Lisa South (Ducky-Bob's Party Rentals), 214-702-8000; Kim Kelley, CMP (The Tower Club), 214-220-0403; or Melissa Parks, 214-349-5965.

**Let the Games Begin —  
But first we need your help!**

Don't miss your chance to get in on:

**MPI's 1993 Give Kids the World Sports Classic  
Friday, March 12, 1993  
Bear Creek Golf Resort and Tennis Center**

The fund-raiser, benefitting Give Kids the World, will involve a golf and tennis tournament and an evening party with a silent auction. This is your chance to get involved and have fun too!



Volunteer opportunities range from staffing the sports registration desks or finding gifts for the goodie bags, to helping with decorations, sports prizes and awards. You name it, we need it.

Please contact Lisa South at 702-8000 for more information on how you can help make MPI's major fundraising effort a success.



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**\$15 Members  
\$25 Non-Members**

*All inquiries are confidential.*





# News Briefs

## D/FW Chapter News

### Executive Workshop on Feb. 18 Features Tips on Planning Non-Profit Events

A noontime (11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) executive workshop Feb. 18 on planning non-profit events will feature Scott Murray, sports director/anchor and noted volunteer to charitable and civic organizations; and Bob Hopkins, CFRE (Certified Fund Raising Executive) and executive director of the Texas Neurofibromatosis Foundation.

Betty Robertson (EDS) and Phyllis Tackitt (Voluntary Hospitals of America) encourage D/FW chapter members to sign up for this "don't miss" event *soon* because reservations for this low-cost (\$5) are limited to the first 75 respondents.

Expect a raffle and a number of other surprises at the workshop, which will take place at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak.

### Member Transition Grants Assist Unemployed Members

In order to assist unemployed members in their quest for employment, the D/FW chapter of MPI has instituted the Member Transition Grant, according to chapter board member Carolyn Carey (Fidelity Union Life Insurance Company).

"The Member Transition Grant allows unemployed members to attend four consecutive monthly meetings at no cost," said Carey. "This is a great opportunity for industry networking, which is invaluable to the job seeker."

Members in good standing of the D/FW chapter for one year may apply for the grant. Upon approval, the member may attend the next four consecutive monthly chapter meetings at no cost.

A maximum of five grants per month will be approved. Missed meetings may not carry over, and if employment is found during the four month period, the grant becomes invalid.

To apply for the Member Transition Grant, send your name, address, telephone number, and notation of the year you joined MPI, to Carolyn Carey (Fidelity Union Life; P.O. Box 500; Dallas, TX 75221; FAX 214-978-7770).

### 'Deck the Hall' Project Successful

Thanks to several D/FW MPI chapter members, Dallas City Hall had holiday decorations during the recent Christmas season—for the first time in almost a dozen years.

Early last fall Steve Kemble (Event Design) issued a plea to MPI for assistance in this effort, and four eager D/FW chapter members responded.

Kemble and his band of volunteers—Linda Sergeant (Bill Reed Decorations), Marta Lilly, CMP (Young Presidents Organization); Betty Robertson (EDS) and Tracey B. Smith (Electronic Form Systems)—worked during the Thanksgiving holidays to get the decorations ready.

When city workers reported to work the first day of December they were delighted to see six giant 72" decorated wreaths, plus 48" candy canes and 75 yards of decorative garlands. Kemble also made two smaller wreaths for the mayor's office and the City Council chamber offices.

According to all reports, the decorations were deeply appreciated.

"I have never seen so many smiling faces around City Hall," said Kemble, who reports that he and his fellow MPI volunteers have adopted 'Deck the Hall' as an annual project.

## National & International News

### Headquarters Issues Warning RE: Questionable Phone Solicitation

A number of reports from MPI members regarding a questionable solicitation process prompted Edwin L. Griffin, Jr., CAE, executive vice president/CEO of MPI, to issue this notification!

If you get a call from a representative of another association expressing an interest in helping you "get rid of all those annoying calls from hoteliers"—BEWARE!

Callers will request data on your meeting for their data banks and say they will assist you by providing a reference number that will allow reference to their data bank.

Griffin issues this warning: "They are making money off your data and probably not relieving your problems a bit. In fact, as your data is sold to more hoteliers, the probability of more calls to you increases."

### Focus on Education

In order to develop quality educational programming and services, MPI has launched a thorough educational needs assessment.

Various chapter representatives are conducting focus groups to develop the survey instrument to be sent to approximately half the MPI membership during the first quarter of 1993. Additional focus groups will validate the survey data. Results will be complete by June 1993.

If you are asked to participate in a focus group, please accept; it's an opportunity to let MPI know your educational needs and benefit your association. Your input is important.

### Corporate Meeting Planners SIG Educational Tapes Available

Audio cassette tapes from the first Corporate Meeting Planners Forum are now available: The Impact of the ADA on Corporate Meetings; Master the Art of Contract Negotiation and Development; Expand Your Corporate Meeting Planner's Role; and Discover Trends in the Hotel Industry.

Corporate SIG members may purchase the four-tape set for \$14. The cost for other MPI members is \$18; for nonmembers, \$22. If you wish to purchase by credit card, call 214-712-7732. Check purchases may be handled by writing to Corporate SIG; Meeting Planners International; 1950 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 5018; Dallas, Texas 75207-3109.

### MPI Announces Newly Structured Institutes I & II

MPI debuts its newly structured Institutes I & II programs on March 21-26.

Recognized as the most comprehensive training program in the meetings industry, Institutes is a five-day in-depth educational experience in meeting management. Institute I is designed for the novice planner and covers the basics of planning successful meetings. Institute II concentrates on advanced meeting management functions and skills. Students in Institute II should have at least two to five years' experience in basic meeting planning functions.

Registration for both programs (\$795 for MPI members; \$895 for non-members) includes all classroom materials and meals. For more information call the MPI Education Department at 214-712-7751.

### Two European Clubs Established

Continuing its international growth efforts, MPI has established two European clubs in Bavaria and the United Kingdom.

The Bavaria Club is headquartered in Munich, the capital of Bavaria and the largest state in Germany. The United Kingdom Club is in London.

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.

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## Current Deadlines

Copy and ads for *Current*, the D/FW MPI chapter newsletter, are due according to the following schedule:

ISSUE	DEADLINE
February	Jan. 15 (F)
March	Feb. 15 (M)
April	March 15 (M)
May	April 14 (W)
June	May 14 (F)

Because of production schedules, information received after deadlines cannot be guaranteed placement.

Please mail or FAX copy to Gracie H. Hilton, *Current* Editor, 3020 Glasgow Court, Arlington, TX 76015, phone & FAX: (metro) 817-467-7439.

## Smart Idea!

# Advertise in the *Current*

**QUESTION:** What reaches almost 600 people monthly and increases your company's recognition among professionals in the meetings industry?

**ANSWER:** An advertisement in the *Current*, the newsletter that chronicles the activities of the Dallas/Fort Worth chapter of Meeting Planners International!



### Current Advertising Rates & Information

SIZE	PER ISSUE	YEARLY RATE	MEASURE
Full Page	\$500	\$250	7 1/2" x 9 1/4"
Two-Thirds Pg. Hor.	\$400	\$200	7 1/2" x 6"
Two-Thirds Vert.	\$400	\$200	5" x 9 1/4"
Half Page Hor.	\$300	\$150	7 1/2" x 4 1/2"
Half Page Vert.	\$300	\$150	3 3/4" x 9 1/4"
Quarter Page Hor.	\$150	\$ 75	7 1/2" x 2 1/4"
Quarter Page Vert.	\$150	\$ 75	3 3/4" x 4 1/2"
Business Card Hor.	\$100	\$ 50	3 1/2" x 2"
Business Card Vert.	\$100	\$ 50	2" x 3 1/2"

*Current* is published monthly, 12 months annually, by the Dallas/Fort Worth chapter of Meeting Planners International. *Current* is circulated among almost 600 individuals and companies interested in the field of meeting planning.

Rates are based on camera-ready copy. Special rates are available for advertisers who contract space three and six times per year.

To place ads, contact Stephanie Davis, *Current* advertising chair (214) 851-2016; or Lesley Meyer, vice-president of public relations (214) 401-0210.

A \$500 investment for a sponsorship ad will bring your company a full-page ad on the inside back cover—plus two prominent mentions on the front page!

Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your business or service through the *Current*

## Get into the Act with EDUCATION!

# CMP University Announces '93 Richland Courses, Prep Opportunities for CMP Exam

## Curriculum Enriched for Richland College Meeting Planning Courses

By Sherri Cook  
*Sherri Cook & Associates*

New and exciting changes have been made for the Richland College 1993 spring semester courses, according to Norb Dettman, CMP, PhD, (Professional College Management International), D/FW MPI director of education.

The curriculum has been expanded to enrich the development and skills of working, experienced planners as well as prepare individuals new to the field.

Two courses, "The Meeting Professional" and "International Meeting Planning" are designed to train individuals to plan, coordinate, organize and execute successful business meetings and events for corporations, association, and independent meeting management companies. (See COURSE HIGHLIGHTS in box.)

The classes, taught by Certified Meeting Planners (CMPs) from the D/FW chapter of Meeting Planners International and other industry experts, begin in February.

**The Meeting Professional** course, which runs for ten consecutive weeks, will meet on Monday evenings beginning Feb. 15. Class times are 7-9:15 p.m.

Tuition for The Meeting Professional is \$98, which covers course materials, including The Convention Liaison Council Manual and Glossary.

**The International Meeting Planning** course will meet for five weeks on Tuesday evenings beginning Feb. 9. Class times are 7:10-9:10 p.m.

Topics for this specialized course include: •*Can You Afford to Go Abroad?* •*What's Hot & What's Not* •*You Can Get There from Here!* •*Getting the Goods Delivered*, and •*Do You Bow or Shake Hands?*

Tuition for the International Meeting Planning course is \$25.

Professional Growth Awards, which will cover 50% of the tuition for either course, are available to anyone who has been a member of MPI for one year. To apply for a PGA, contact Paige Garrett (DalCity Associates), 214-233-9079.

MPI members may audit a single class in either of these courses.

Classes are scheduled on the Richland College campus, as well as several to-be-announced off-site locations, according to Lisa South, CMP, (Ducky-Bob's Party Rentals), Richland College committee chair.

To register for either of these courses, call Richland College, 214-238-6144.

### COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

- Site Selection
- Convention & Visitors Bureaus
- Convention & Conference Centers
- Program Planning
- Promotion/Publicity/Printing
- Housing & Reservations
- Air Transportation
- Ground Transportation
- Shipping Procedures
- Convention Services Manager
- Pre-Conference Briefing
- Registration/Information Services
- Meeting and Function Rooms
- Emergencies/Fire Safety
- Food and Beverage
- Ethics
- Audiovisuals & Teleconferencing
- Computer Applications
- Exhibits
- Gratuities
- Contracts/Insurance
- Meeting Evaluation
- Accounting

## CMP University Announces Two Prep Courses

Because helping prepare meeting professionals for the important Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) designation is one of the goals of the D/FW MPI chapter's CMP University, two special programs—a "crash course" and an informal study group—have been designed for those who plan to take the CMP exam in Dallas this summer.

CMP University is administered through the chapter's education department under the direction of Vice President/Education Sue Ferguson-Fry (Cityplace Conference Center) and committee chair Patricia Tripp, CMP (Princess Cruises).

### Informal Study Group

"If you are serious about studying for the CMP exam, an informal study group has proven to be most beneficial according to MPI members across the country," according to Sherri Cook (Sherri Cook & Associates).

"CMPs in our chapter will provide leadership in reviewing the textbooks and recommending areas to study in detail," said Cook, who chairs the informal study group.

To enroll in the study group, contact Cook at 214-394-8688.

### Crash Course

"A second educational opportunity for would-be CMP designates is the "crash course"—date TBA. The study course, also directed by chapter CMPs, will cover the 25 meeting planning disciplines included on the exam.

For more information, call Patricia Tripp, CMP, 214-230-6994.

### Apply Now

Applications to qualify for the June 26 exam are due April 5. Call Donna Washington (Convention Liaison Council), 202-626-2764 to request the CMP Application Kit; cost is \$25.

## MPI Opens Doors to Supplier Community Membership

Meeting Planners International Board of Directors recently approved to temporarily allow meetings professionals from the supplier community to join the association without a planner match.

MPI policy, set in 1972 when MPI was established, states that each supplier applicant must have a planner sponsor. At that time, suppliers were primarily hotel sales executives.

As MPI celebrates its 20th anniversary, the MPI Board of Directors re-examined the meetings industry and affirmed that it must respond to expansion which now includes production companies, destination management companies and speakers bureaus, etc..

"MPI felt inclined to be responsive to the many industry professionals who have sought an opportunity to be involved with the association," said MPI President C. James Trombino, CAE. "In several destinations where there are no MPI chapters, such as Las Vegas, New Orleans and Hawaii, we have pockets of suppliers who have been waiting a long time to

become involved with the world's premier meetings organization. Also, a majority of MPI chapters already have a list of suppliers looking for a planner match."

Suppliers may join without a planner match at the regular membership fee of \$260 from now until June 30, or until a 50/50 planner/supplier balance is reached, whichever comes first. It does not apply to Europeans, with the exception of supplier applicants whose principal place of business is Italy.

Currently, there are 1,000 more planners than suppliers who belong to MPI. Of the entire organization's planner profile, 50 percent work for corporations, 22 percent work for association, 16 percent are independent planners or consultants, and 12 percent are employed by hospitals, universities, government or multi-management companies.

Meeting Planners International is the world's largest association of meetings professionals with more than 10,700 members in 35 countries.

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Feb. 18 / 11 a.m.

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\*limited to 1st 75 registrants



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## December Meeting Highlights

# 'Christmas at the Plaza' Enjoyed by Almost 300 Guests

By Kim Kelley, CMP  
*The Tower Club*

"Holiday de Carnival" was the theme for our December celebration, and a fine celebration it was! Held at the Plaza of the Americas on Dec. 18, this year's holiday gathering was the first to include members from several professional organizations from the hospitality and meetings industries as well as our own members.

The evening began with a reception overlooking the Plaza's newly remodeled atrium and ice rink. Spicy music and ambiance was provided by The Panhandlers, a steel band, for which we thank C.W. Kendall of Ken-Ran Entertainment. They set the tone for all the fun to come.

The evening's decor was outstanding, highlighting elements of the holidays with tropical flair. In the ballroom, a giant Christmas tree mambo-ed the night away, which a mechanical palm tree grabbed attention in the reception area. Brilliantly colored balloon and mylar streamers covered the ceilings in both area. Kudos to Linda Sergeant and Linda Hughes (Bill Reed Decorations) and Leo Bary ("Balloons to You") for hard work that produced truly spectacular results!

The Plaza of the Americas staff served a delicious dinner with deft efficiency while guests enjoyed the revelry. Many thanks to Mary Jo Malone, Peter Hill and John Mabry of the Plaza for their hospitality and lovely venue.

After dinner the party continued as Sue Ferguson-Fry, vice president/education, proceeded with terrific door prizes: a luxurious Christmas lights tour provided by Carey Transportation; gift baskets from Texas Bundles, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Bill Reed Decoration, Catherine the Great Exhibit, Yellow Rose Touring, The Crescent Court Hotel and The Mansion on Turtle Creek, Affairs Extraordinaire and Paris Gourmet.

The Grand Door Prize, round-trip airfare for two and two nights at Phoenix's exciting Phoenician Hotel, was donated by Mary Lynn Novelli and the Sterling Hotel Group together with America West.

Thanks to all these companies for

their generosity and for making our evening so special.

Then it was time to strike up the band as Dallas brass and Electric took to the stage (thanks, again, to Ken-Ran Entertainment) as guests danced the night away, sipping cordials graciously provided by Steve Kemble (Event Design) and O.D. O'Donnell (Nightlife Talent and Management Agency). You guys sure know how to top off a great night!

Finally, thanks to the co-chairs of this program, who helped us savor the holidays of 1992: Linda Sergeant (Bill Reed Decorations); Steve Kemble (Event Design); Mary Jo Malone (Plaza of the Americas); Mary Lynn Novelli (Sterling Hotel Group); Rebecca Whitehead

(Festivities and Meeting Management Associates, Inc.); and Alex Vurpillat (Carey Transportation). You outdid yourselves, and we take off our hats to all you.

### January Winter Warmth Drive

Remember to bring gently used coats and blankets to the January Chapter Meeting!



Mark Lazarow (Mark Lazarow Photography) and Judy Love Rondeau (Canadian Consulate General).



Sue Ferguson-Fry (Cityplace Conference Center) strikes a glamorous pose in Santa's chair at the December D/FW MPI chapter party at the Plaza of the Americas Hotel.

# 'Christmas at the Plaza' Enjoyed by 300 Members & Guests



*Kim Wible and Sandi Tarleton, managers of the D/FW chapter office, take a break from registration duties to pose for the camera.*



*Robert Churchill and David Little make a contribution to the canned food drive to benefit area charitable organizations.*



*Nancy Bryan (The Expo Services Company), Jerry Samuels (new MPI member) and Gracy Fujko.*



*Kristen Gisler and Erin Gisler (right) were guests of their father, Dave Gisler (Freeman Decorating Company), at the holiday party.*



**Kim Kelley** (The Tower Club), **Charlotte Merrill-Davis** (Event Source Professionals), and **Gordon Davis**.

**Photos by  
Mark Lazarow Photography**



**O.D. O'Donnell** (Nightlife Talent & Management Agency) and **Cathy Mason** (USMotivation).



**Marilyn Manby** (Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.), **Sandy Mukitarian** (Universal Meetings & Incentives), **Colleen Albert** (Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau), **Patricia Tripp** (Princess Tours & Cruises), **Sue Ferguson-Fry** (Cityplace Conference Center), and **Robert Janangiri** (Hair by Robear).



**Mary Cowart** (Mary Cowart Meeting Consultants), **Larry Cowart**, and **Sherri Cook** (Sherri Cook & Associates).



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MEETING PLANNERS INTERNATIONAL®

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter  
10935 Estate Lane  
Suite 400  
Dallas, Texas 75238  
214-343-0555

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**Current Editor**  
Grace Hatfield Hilton  
*The Write Stuff*  
Phone & FAX  
metro 817-467-7439

## President

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*Mary Cowart Meeting Consultants*  
214-248-4429

## Vice President/Membership

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**MPI Nat'l Headquarters**  
INFOMART  
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Suite 5018  
Dallas, Texas 75207-3109  
214-712-7700

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