



CURRENT

DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS™



Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

December 2005

Chapter of the Year
1989 ★ 1990 ★ 1994
1996 ★ 2001

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**For Up-to-date
Chapter Information
& Calendar of Events
Log on to
www.mpidfw.org**

Vision Statement

To be the pivotal force in positioning meetings and events as key strategic components of an organization's success.

Mission Statement

To be recognized as the leading global membership community to shaping and defining the meeting and event industry.



Enter Stage Left...

By Kimberly Marriott - *Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie*

No one ever forgets their first concert. The house lights dim, the crowd starts to roar, an array of colored lights splash across the stage, and with the heavy beat of the bass drum and the strike of a chord on an electric guitar, everyone is on their feet. Three hours later, you leave with your heart pounding and perhaps a slight ringing in your ears. And you will remember it...always.



In our industry, we are often tasked with planning events that require more verve and panache than the average meeting. And while it may not be the same as a first concert experience, we can strive to make it just as memorable utilizing the same tools - lights, sound, and video.

Technological advances in stage production have made it much easier and more affordable for planners today. Fifteen years ago it would have taken a coordinated effort between multiple lighting technicians to create even the most basic of light shows. Today, one lighting tech can pre-program the lighting cues on a computer and run the entire show with simple mouse clicks. This becomes a distinct advantage when producing the same event in multiple cities. Just save your show on a disc.

Of course with all this new technology comes the undeniable fact that there are more skills out there we just don't have. Once upon a time, I could run a light board in a pinch. Today - no way. Luckily, there are resources to assist. There are fantastic production companies planners can hire to manage all the production elements of an event. These are especially valuable when producing an event in a flat open space such as a ballroom or convention center. However, when planning an event in an existing theatre space, I would urge you to ask the venue about their in-house production department before out-sourcing this responsibility as a whole. Oftentimes, venues will have the staff and equipment on-site and their rental and labor fees will be much less than what you would pay elsewhere. They know the venue best so take advantage of their expertise.

Finally, remember to manage your schedule. Even the most basic stage presentation usually requires several hours to set-up. The more complex the event, the longer set-up will take, and this is not an area where you want to rush. Your stage manager will usually give you a labor estimate and it is tempting to try and save money in this area by shaving time or manpower. Consider that the stagehands are hanging and focusing lights, installing and testing sound and video equipment, and in some cases, even building an actual stage. All of which needs to be done correctly and safely before you can even consider starting a rehearsal.

If you take advantage of the state-of-the-art resources that are out there and find a creative and talented production manager, your next stage event will surely be as memorable as the best rock concert! 🌐



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2005-2006 President

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With all the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, don't forget that you have to take time for yourself. It is important to take care of yourself, have work-life balance and incorporate some "you time" into your schedule. But this month, I want to talk about how you are taking care of yourself professionally. Are you currently positioned with a seat at the table?

I have found through the years, both personally and through friends who are MPI members that continued education and industry awareness have played a large part in their professional growth and business success. Through your membership, you have many opportunities to capitalize on the top-notch education and industry resources that are literally at your fingertips. And what you put into and take away from your MPI membership can help you establish your seat at the table or move you to the head if you so desire.

Monthly meetings are a primary resource that can be consistently tapped into. Not only do the varied topics provide education and industry awareness, the networking opportunities and visibility you get are priceless. Suppliers are not the only people who need to network. As a planner, it's important to continually build relationships with current and future partners and to network with other planners for continued growth and idea sharing. So, mark your calendar NOW and don't miss a single upcoming meeting! From the Supplier Showcase to our education days in March and May, and the April Golf Tournament, these meetings are all designed with you in mind.

Conferences provided by MPI are another incredible resource for you. If you have not attended a PEC (Professional Education Conference) or WEC (World Education Conference) in a while, there is no better time than the present to do so. You still have time to register for PEC in Charlotte, January 22-24, 2006 by visiting www.mpiweb.org. And there won't be any excuse not to attend WEC next July when it's right here in our own back yard. With so many vital topics around SOX, APEX and Strategic Meetings Management, you can't get a seat at the table if you don't know how to speak the language. And these conferences are designed to help you learn the language and stay ahead of the game.

If you've already made the commitment to attend monthly meetings and are taking advantage of all the education you can get through your membership, then you may also wish to consider committee involvement. Out of 750 members, we have roughly 100 members who volunteer their time each year to help support our chapter endeavors. In addition to building friendships and business relationships, these folks have utilized or developed leadership skills that are surely noticed at work.

And finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention certification as a way to earn your seat at the table. MPI offers you resources to help you work toward and earn your CMP and CMM certifications. For those of you interested in earning your CMP (Certified Meeting Professional), there is an upcoming spring study session beginning next March for the exam offered in July. Visit www.mpidfw.org for more information regarding the CMP. For those aspiring for the CMM (Certification in Meetings Management) please visit www.mpiweb.org for further information.

You are in control of your professional destination. Be willing to work to earn your seat at the table, take others with you on the journey and be prepared to impact your life, both personally and professionally as well as the lives of others. You are Making a Difference!

Making A Difference!
2005-2006



BOARD BULLETS

Submitted by Sally Goldesberry, CMP/CMM
2005-2006 President-Elect

- Chapter Leadership for 2006-2007 – Formation of the Nominating Committee is in progress. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors or other leadership positions please contact us. Watch for the announcement of a leadership workshop to be scheduled in December. You can "Make a Difference."
- Our Director of Professional Development, Jane Ito, CMP, has stepped down from her board position. We thank Jane for her dedication to our chapter. We are pleased to announce, Laura Jordan, CMP, Wyndham International, will assume Jane's responsibilities.

"CURRENT" AFFAIRS



Circle your Calendars for Two Very Special Events

By Becky Halloran, CMP, Vice President of Finance

Becky Halloran, CMP

First, the MPI D/FW Chapter will host the **Annual Supplier Showcase "Roundup 2006"** at the Addison Conference and Theatre Centre on February 23, 2006.

Planners - We've rounded up a diverse group of Suppliers for you to meet and find out more about the many innovative, dynamic, quality products and services they offer that will make your meetings and events more successful.

Suppliers - Here's your chance to feature your products and services to both planning professionals and peer suppliers in the Dallas / Fort Worth area. The Supplier Showcase always sells out quickly, so access the Exhibitor Application online at www.mpidfw.org today!

Please contact Terry Ellegood, Showcase Chair, either at 214-670-9081 or terry.ellegood@freemanco.com for volunteer, sponsorship, and exhibitor opportunities.

The MPI D/FW Chapter is pleased to showcase this month our most popular event of the year, the **Annual Charity Golf Tournament**. Our theme for this year is **"Swing for a Cause"** at Cowboys Golf Club on April 27, 2006.

Invite your clients or colleagues for a great round of golf! This is not another golf tournament but an event for golfers of all skill levels: scratch players, occasional duffers, and beginners - even first-timers!

Please call Jeanne Feuille, CMP, Golf Outing Chair, either at 972-715-2472 or jfeuille@spearone.com for volunteer or sponsorship opportunities.

Chapter Nominations Process Begins

by Melissa S. Logar, CMP - Immediate Past President



Melissa S. Logar, CMP

One of the most important functions of the MPI D/FW Chapter begins this month with the call for Nominations for the 2006-2007 MPI D/FW Chapter Board of Directors. The Nominations process is so important and your participation is vital to ensure that we continue to secure qualified members to lead us. Please take the time to consider yourself and other members as potential candidates. Reach out to the current Board of Directors for their insight on the commitment needed to serve

on the MPI D/FW Chapter Board of Directors. The Chapter needs dedicated members who are ready to step into a leadership position of our organization. Don't miss this important opportunity to be involved in the future of our chapter.

The Candidate Interest Form (see insert) includes details about BOD positions available. Please review, complete the form and return by January 26th!



DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS™

Founded in 1972, Meeting Professionals International, with nearly 20,000 members in 60 countries and four chapters in formation, is the leading global community committed to shaping and defining the future of the meeting and event industry. For more information, visit www.mpiweb.org.

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WEC IS COMING TO DALLAS!!!!

by Steven G. Foster, CMP
MPI WEC 2006 Co-Chair

So much has changed since MPI last brought an annual conference to Dallas 10 years ago. At the July 2005 World Education Congress in Miami, some 3,500 of your fellow MPI members experienced what to expect at the "Dallas Now, Dallas WOW!" luncheon hosted by the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau. The excitement is there and the "BUZZ" is on.

Start planning NOW to be part of the show when the 2006 MPI World Education Congress rolls into town, July 9-11, 2006. The Host Committee is preparing to showcase the best Dallas/Fort Worth has to offer with key sponsorship and volunteer opportunities AVAILABLE NOW to interested meeting and event partners.

Contact the WEC 2006 Sponsorship Committee for details and information on the many exciting ways to be a VISIBLE part of the excitement when MPI Comes Home to Dallas.

WEC DALLAS 2006 SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE



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Sponsorships Available NOW for MPI WEC 2006

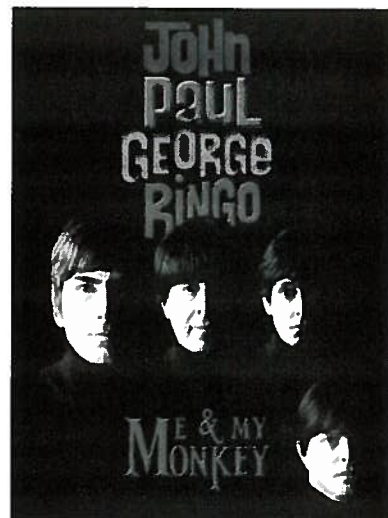
Sponsorship	Estimated Value	Description
In-room Gifts for 35 VIPs 3 sponsorships available	\$1,500 each night	Each evening a gift is delivered to the rooms of MPI's International Board of Directors and VIPs. This sponsorship includes an in-kind contribution of the amenity item and a cash contribution to cover the drop charges. (Approximately 35 per night) Opportunity is available for Sunday, Monday or Tuesday.
Airport Greeters and Registration Personnel Assistance	\$5,000	Volunteers to greet and welcome MPI attendees to the city.
Banners/Signage/Promotions	\$5,000	Special signage around the city.
Airport/Hospitality/Welcome	\$10,000	Special signage at the airport.
VIP Transportation	\$10,000	Transportation services provided complimentary for the transportation needs of the VIP guests and the International Board of Directors. (Approximately 35 people)
Pre-Conference Wrap	\$20,000	WEC envelopment used as a pre-mailer to conference attendees. Typically this piece is 4-color, cover-weight and 4-flap that carries the WEC pre-registration brochure. Inside can promote Dallas as a destination with a letter from the mayor and utilize the other 3 flaps to promote Dallas or other metropolitan cities for advertisement.
General Transportation	\$35,000	Transportation services provided complimentary for the transportation needs of the conference attendees including VIP transportation, pre-conference events and Rendezvous.
Opening Night Networking Reception (Sunday Night)	\$500,000	Reception for 3,500 attendees inclusive of décor, audio/visual, entertainment, food and beverage.
Final Night Reception and Gala/Entertainment (Tuesday Night)	\$600,000	Gala for 3,500 attendees inclusive of décor, audio/visual, entertainment, food and beverage.

Chapter Meeting • Thursday, December 15, 2005 • 11:00 a.m.

MPI D/FW Rock'n Rollin' Holidays

The Holidays are upon us, and who throws a better holiday party than MPI? The December chapter meeting is all about fun, from a rock star's perspective, of course. Join us on stage at Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie for some serious jamming (jamming = networking) before moving to our spacious atrium area for some rock and roll gourmet. We will then watch as the legendary Beatles come and rock the house. Actually the fantastic Beatles tribute band, Me and My Monkey, will be performing, so be prepared to scream and swoon. In the immortal words of Ed Sullivan, it will be "a really big shew." Finally, those who desire may stick around and be treated to a tour of the venue. Visit the dressing rooms where artists like Sting, Rod Stewart, Bruce Springsteen, and Motely Crüe have put their party shoes on. (If only those walls could talk...) Take in all the fantastic autographed artwork backstage and the luxuriousness of the suite level.

About the venue: Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie opened in February 2002 as NextStage. In February 2004, Nokia bought the naming rights and the name was changed to Nokia Theatre. The venue seats 6,300 at full capacity, but has the flexibility to scale down to as small as 2,000. The Nokia Theatre stage is one of the largest in the country and has played host to a range of musical artists and corporate events. The 8,000 square foot atrium lobby is the perfect space for a seated lunch or pre-show reception. There is no better place to watch a concert, and our artists have told us, there is no better place to play either!



IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION: You will not be entering the venue through the front main entrance. When you turn into the parking lot, head toward the back corner of the building. You will see an entrance labeled W1. This is where you will come in.

Join in on the fun and have the opportunity to win big during our Annual Holiday Party Raffle Drawings!

- Dinner for two at the Hotel ZaZa Dragonfly
 - Two tickets to the 2006 EDS Byron Nelson
 - Weekend night stay at the JW Marriott Houston
 - Holiday Package including two tickets to the Beach Boys Concert
 - Overnight stay at Hotel ZaZa (with Transportation)
- and many more great prizes just in time for the holidays!

Host Facility

Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie

Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie opened in February 2002 to a sold out crowd. Since then, the venue has played host to superstars like the Eagles, Rod Stewart, Bruce Springsteen, Bette Midler, and BB King, to name just a few. The versatility of the venue has also allowed for numerous corporate events, from trade shows, to diners, to private concerts. Conveniently located in the entertainment corridor along Interstate 30, Nokia Theatre is just minutes from both Dallas and Fort Worth as well as DFW Airport and Love Field. Whether for 6 or 6000, Nokia Theatre will make your event an event to remember.

DIRECTIONS

From Dallas:

Take IH 30 west. Exit Beltline Drive. Turn right (north) on Beltline. Turn right at the 2nd light, which is Lone Star Parkway. The first right is Performance Place.

From Fort Worth:

Take IH 30 east. Exit Beltline Drive. Turn left (north) on Beltline. Turn right at the 2nd light, which is Lone Star Parkway. The first right is Performance Place.

Nokia Theatre's address is 1001 Performance Place, Grand Prairie Texas 75050. However this does not come up on Mapquest. If you would like to pull up a map of the venue, use 1000 Lone Star Parkway. This is our neighbor, Lone Star Park's address.

"MPI D/FW Rock'n Rollin' Holidays"

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie

1001 Performance Place • Grand Prairie, TX 75050

Phone: (972) 854-5050

Sponsored by:



11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration & Networking
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	Doors Open
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch and Program

"Rock Star" Parking Entrance W1

Advanced Member Price	\$30.00
Advanced Guest Price	\$35.00
Onsite Price	\$40.00

(Walk-ins will be placed on a wait list on-site. Seating is not guaranteed after the guarantee cut-off - Monday 2:00 p.m.)

*R.S.V.P. to Randie Charnes
by 2:00 p.m., Monday, December 12th
email: rcharnes@msn.com • fax: 972-506-7485*

ON-LINE REGISTRATION PREFERRED

Go to the "Events" section at www.mpidfw.org

October Meeting Chapter Partners

Please salute the following companies and individuals for their contributions to the meeting.

Featured Speaker Sponsor



The Canadian Tourism Commission

Montréal
and **Tourisme Montréal**
Sandy Mukitarian



MPI International
Michelle M. AuBuchon

Featured Speaker

Patricia S. Eyres JD, CSP
Litigation Management & Training
Services, Inc.

Facility Luncheon

Hyatt Regency Downtown

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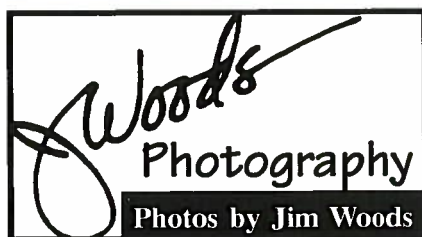
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October Meeting Highlights

The October monthly meeting not only highlighted Senators Sarbanes and Oxley's impact on corporate accountability with the "SOX" Act, but addressed our impact and our responsibilities to the companies we represent as meeting professionals. There wasn't enough time to pursue the intricacies of this law, but Patricia's handouts will prove to be of considerable value to leaders looking to develop effective workplace policies in accordance with ethical accountability.

The MPI D/FW Chapter greatly appreciates the Canadian Tourism Commission and Tourisme Montreal for their sponsorship of such an important program. Sandy Galloway and Sandy Mukitarian, who partnered with Michele AuBuchon, Professional Development Specialist of MPI's International Headquarters, deserve personal thanks for bringing us Patricia Eyres, CSP, the dynamic speaker so well versed on this issue. To top it off, they included a trip to beautiful Montreal as the monthly drawing prize!

Marti Fox, CMP received a standing ovation as Tony Cummins, CMP, VP of Membership, awarded her the coveted Spirit Award. Marti has long been the spirit of the CMP designation as she determinedly attempts to make sure that all 700+ MPI D/FW Chapter members receive this certification. Congratulations, Marti, and the committee for their wisdom in awarding such a deserving member.

The Hyatt Regency, Dallas was a gracious host. Dallas' skyline, made famous by this hotel, was emphasized by the cookie cutter gift given to each guest. Bill Reeser, CMP and the AVW-Telav team, including this month's chair, Rebecca May, once again came through with a quality production.



What an informative program on SOX!
Patricia Eyres - Guest Speaker with Litigation Management & Training Services, Inc.



October Monthly Meeting Sponsor Sandy Mukitarian with Tourisme Montreal with the October Monthly Meeting Committee members (from left to right): Michelle AuBuchon - MPI International, Sue Fry - Be Seen, Rebecca May - AVW-Telav, and Bill Reeser - AVW-Telav.



Thank you to our hosts at the Hyatt Regency Reunion Hotel! From left to right: Rawn Wilson, Katie Marion, Joe Vanden Heuvel and Brad Boatner.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH
CHAPTER



DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS

November Meeting Chapter Partners

Please salute the following companies and individuals for their contributions to the meeting.

Featured Luncheon Speaker

Andrew Erlich, Ph.D
Erlich Transcultural Consultant

Educational Seminar Speakers

Mauricio Navarro, RAIZ
Joe Chow, Mayor of Addison
Dvorah Evans, CMP
Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce

Educational Sponsors

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PCMA

Jennifer Harrington-Gordon
Irving CVB

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Michele Burk, Dir. of Sales
David Griffith, General Manager

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AVW-Telav Audio Visual Solutions
Bill Reeser, CMP, CTS

Entertainment

Rainbow Entertainment
Richard Pollak, MBA

Ground Transportation

Premier Transportation Services LLC
Angela DeLaGarza

Hotel Accommodations

Crowne Plaza - Dallas / Galleria

Photography

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Jim Woods

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Tina Bavemark
Society of Petroleum Engineers
Leah Belasco; Independent
Angela DeLaGarza
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MAC Meetings & Events LLC
Jim Monroe, CMP, CSEP
James C. Monroe & Associates
Bill Reeser, CMP, CTS; AVW-Telav
Terri White; Intercontinental Hotels



Our gracious host David Griffith, General Manager, Crowne Plaza Dallas Near the Galleria welcomed us to his property and shared exciting updates about the property.



Our Luncheon Speaker, Andrew Erlich, Ph.D with Karen Garcia Gonzales, Chapter Relations Manager Multicultural Initiative PCMA MPI, who flew in to



A Big Thank You to the November Monthly Program and Education Workshop Committee Members! (L to R Front Row) Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP, M.T. Hickman CMP/CTP, Jayna Monore, Angela DeLaGarza, Leah Belasco, Tina Bavemark (L to R Back Row) Jim Monroe CMP/CSEP, Bill Reeser, CMP/CTS.

November Meeting Highlights Cultural Competencies...

by Tara Judd, Imagine Events, Inc.

The November luncheon afforded us the opportunity to view reality about diversity in our business world and highlighted tools to become more skillful in navigating a culturally diverse environment. It is important to know the truth about the changing face of business - and that acquiring cultural competencies are crucial to success in business.

I had the pleasure of visiting with our Platinum Series speaker, Dr. Andrew Erlich, President of Erlich Transcultural Consultants. His presentation underscored facts about diversity and business markets that should be key considerations in our strategic business development plans. Recognizing untapped markets is exciting, but a successful partnership within diverse cultures requires work! It is imperative that we accept the responsibility of researching cultures outside of our own; admitting and understanding our own biases; and realizing that we may make mistakes along the way.

Demographics and statistics show us facts about diversity and multiculturalism, but each person is also challenged to learn the truth about their own instincts and responses. We all share the human response of stereotyping when we interact with others. These stereotypes influence the way we interact personally and conduct business. Dr. Erlich gave an example of changing gears in a car. When we meet someone we often "shift" from first gear too quickly into overdrive. Our minds instantly catalogue and generalize about the person that we meet. We can go from 0-60 in 10 seconds! This happens on an emotional level and then we become locked into that gear. Remember to focus on the person in front of you - not what is going on in your mind.

Dr. Erlich recommends cultural research and putting knowledge into action. He mentions books and the internet as great resources but emphasized the importance of asking questions. We are encouraged to take the role of student, to remain humble and to realize that when we ask questions we may not always get a positive reaction. When this happens, don't give up! Ask another person and do not allow a negative experience to shut you down. If you make a mistake, apologize. If you are corrected by someone - smile and say thank you. With each interaction and with commitment to learning about other cultures, you will increase your cultural competency and will also learn a great deal about yourself. Remember that the need for these skills is not a matter of "IF" but "WHEN." Are you ready? 🌐

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EDUCATION NEWS



Starting the CMP Process

By Marti Fox, CTC, CMP

Starting the CMP Process is so much easier when you do it... ONE STEP AT A TIME

Next spring, MPI D/FW Chapter will offer a structured program to keep you on track to earning your CMP certification!

Some important dates to mark on your calendar are:

Today: Order you CMP Candidate Handbook & Application Kit - \$45

Jan. 30: Intro. Class - Review the CMP Process & Application - \$25

Feb. 13 - May 15: Twelve-session Study Group

- formal presentations by area CMPs - \$100

June 10, 11, and 24: The last push is the CMP University (two Saturdays and a Sunday) - \$125 MPI members, \$150 non-members

ALL classes to be hosted by and held at the Crowne Plaza Addison, 14315 Midway Road, Addison, 972-980-8877.

CIC continues to improve the scope of information covered for this Certification. The January/July 2006 CMP Exam will study from the:

- CIC Manual-7th Edition, - PCMA manual-4th Edition, - APEX Glossary, - new CIC International Manual-1st edition.

The CMP Handbook, all three manuals, and the APEX glossary are available at the CIC website: (\$220 value) www.ConventionIndustry.org/shop.

Remember - For you, this may be a 6-month, 12-month, or 18-month process - all based on your time commitment. Everyone is different! Contact CMP Chair, Robert Lockwood, CMP, to enroll or be placed on the contact list at 972-980-8877 or Rlockwood@CPAddison.com.



Advancing Women

The MPI D/FW Chapter
Women's Leadership Initiative Committee

Holiday Gift Giving and Parties

Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP, CSEP
By Colleen A. Rickenbacher, CMP, CSEP

Holidays should be a time of togetherness with friends and family, but so many of us associate the holidays with stress, excessive spending, too many trips to the mall, fighting for a parking space, and what to wear to the holiday parties. Here are some tips for holiday gift giving and the office parties that will hopefully eliminate some of the stress you may experience.

1. Office parties are a time to share holiday cheer and not more office talk. Enjoy the evening or time together. Show up, you will be missed. Remember the rules:

- Drink and eat moderately - do not stay at the bar or buffet all night. Remember to network.
- Arrive on time and don't overstay - meet your host and hostess as soon as you arrive.
- Dress appropriately - if the invitation does not provide attire advise, then ask. You want to be noticed, but not for wearing something that is more appropriate for a nightclub instead of the office party.
- Stay away from expensive and lavish gifts to impress - gifts for the hosts are appropriate, but kept within your budget and nothing personal. Do not bring a gift that needs the immediate attention of your host. Flowers are beautiful but it might involve them stopping to find a location, or even a vase and water. They may not fit their décor for the evening.
- The name on the invitation is all that is invited - do not just assume you can bring your partner or children. The way the invitation is addressed is all that is invited. Do not ask to bring a guest.

2. RSVP to all functions. Do not have them call or e-mail you to check if you plan to attend or not.

3. Thank your host or hostess. A gift can be appropriate, but definitely send a thank you note or flowers the next day.

The holidays can be tricky with gift giving and the various celebrations and religious beliefs. Who do you give a gift, how much do you spend, what happens if you receive a gift and do not have one in return?

1. If you are exchanging gifts in the office with all but a few, then the office is not the place to do this. Meet after work, and then do not talk about your gifts the next day in the office.

2. Do you give your boss a gift? Not necessarily. It becomes a contest of who gave what and how much did they spend. The boss can give gifts to the employees, but not necessary to reciprocate. A nice card showing your appreciation to the boss is always welcome, possibly something homemade, or the office going together on a gift is always a nice gesture.

3. Don't forget all your service workers including the mail carrier, trash collector, your child's teacher, and hairdresser. The standard rule for people that are employed or used on a regular basis is the equivalent to one session's fee, whether it's weekly or monthly. Tipping all depends and varies widely on the quality and frequency of the service, your relationship, where you live and most importantly, your budget. Teachers love gift certificates and homemade items. Hairdressers could vary from \$10 to \$60 each, plus a small gift. Remember the U.S. government restricts anything above \$20 for your mail carrier, trash collector or any other city service.

4. Be respectful of traditions and religious beliefs. It does not mean you exclude them from the holiday parties and gift giving, but give them the option to attend and participate. Much safer for all festivities and holiday cards to state Happy Holidays, Holiday Greetings, or The Best for the Season. Remember, it should be a "Holiday Party."

5. Personalize Holiday Cards. If your company name is embossed or printed at the bottom of the card, a signature should still apply. If at all possible handwrite the address instead of labels and use holiday stamps instead of the meter. Keep it personal and not a mass production.

6. Always have a few gifts in reserve. A gift certificate to the local bookstore in your briefcase could come in handy or a few candles in gift bags ready to go could save an embarrassing moment. But if you receive a gift with nothing to give in exchange, do not apologize that you do not have a gift, just be extremely appreciative and follow-up with a nice thank-you note.

Keep the holidays fun and enjoy this time to share with family and friends.



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(Austin/Bastrop opening June 2006)
Hyatt Regency San Antonio

The offer must be requested at time of booking. The offer is valid for new meeting or incentive bookings that utilize a minimum of 25 or more paid guestrooms on the peak night of the group stay. Qualifying meetings must be booked and held between July 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006 at a participating Hyatt hotel or resort in the U.S., Canada or the Caribbean. Hyatt Regency Lost Pines is scheduled to open June 2006. Book a qualified meeting at Hyatt Regency Lost Pines by 3/31/06 to be held between 6/1/06 and 12/30/06 in order to receive Hyatt Meetings Perks promotional offers. Offer is not valid at Park Hyatt Hotels, or in conjunction with previously booked or held meetings or any other meeting promotion or offer. Free coffee break consists of Starbucks coffee and tea only, for up to 30 minutes on one morning of your meeting. Service amounts are subject to the number of guest rooms utilized on the peak night of your meeting. The cost of additional menu items, people or length of service will be the responsibility of the company or organization holding the meeting. Starbucks coffee is served at over 100 Hyatt locations. Where not available, another premium coffee will be served in conjunction with the complimentary coffee service. Starbucks stored value cards, valued at \$3.50 each, will be shipped to the meeting planner in record in advance of the scheduled meeting. The number of cards provided is subject to the number of guestrooms projected on the peak night of the qualifying meeting. Offer is subject to availability at time of booking. Participating hotels may be subject to change. Offer is valid in conjunction with eligible bookings made by travel agents, and other qualifying third parties, at a commissionable rate. The earning and redemption of Hyatt Gold Passport bonus points in conjunction with the Hyatt Meeting Dividends® program is subject to program terms and conditions. You must be a Hyatt Gold Passport member, or enroll in the program to participate. For complete program information visit meetingdividends.hyatt.com. No cash or other equivalency will be provided in lieu of these offers, or for any unused portion of the offers. Hyatt reserves the right to alter or withdraw these offers at any time. Hyatt Hotels & Resorts encompasses hotels and resorts managed, franchised or leased by two separate companies—Hyatt Corporation and its affiliates, and affiliates of Hyatt International Corporation. ©2005 Hyatt Corporation.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Submit Your Points for the Lone Star Challenge



Tony Cummins, CMP
VP of Membership

If you have not submitted your points for The Lone Star Challenge, now is the time to get it done. The deadline for the first round of prizes is December 31, 2005.

Review the point list and submit all qualifying activities on the list from June 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005. The form is available online at www.mpidfw.org, and should be faxed to Tony Cummins at 214-594-9444.

The prizes for Round One are:

FOR THE PERSON WITH THE MOST POINTS ON DECEMBER 31



Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center -
A one-night stay with dinner for two (2) at Old Hickory Steakhouse, up to \$150.

FOR ANYONE WITH AT LEAST 60 POINTS BY DECEMBER 31, A RANDOM DRAWING WILL BE DONE FOR:



- Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament - Two (2) tickets for dinner and tournament.



- Sambuca Restaurant - Dinner for two at the Uptown or Addison location.

Prize winners will be announced at the January meeting.

New Kids on the Block

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

We are delighted to welcome our newest chapter members. We invite you all to attend our monthly chapter meetings in an effort to help further your desire for education and networking. For more information on chapter events, please visit our website at www.mpidfw.org.

Jennifer Hunt.....Private Jet Services Group, Inc.
Jauana Williams.....Savoir Faire Event Coordinators, Inc.
Angela Goodell.....Rosewood Hotels and Resorts
Leska Scanio.....Longview Convention & Visitors Bureau
Lisa Jones.....Methodist Health System
Karen Konecny.....Peterbilt Motors Company
Keri Wootton.....JCAA
Carrie Pace.....Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau
Daniel Ketelsen.....Hyatt Regency DFW
Antoinette McElhinney.....Promotional Products Assoc. International
Gail Heathington.....Warren Equipment Company
Lance Peters.....Four Seasons Resort & Club



Marti Fox, CTC/CMP

Spirit Award

by Tony Cummins, CMP
VP of Membership

Marti Fox, CTC/CMP, President of Global Goals, Inc. was honored at the September meeting as a recipient of the MPI D/FW Spirit Award. Nominated by peers, the Spirit Award is given periodically to a member who contributes significantly to the Chapter in some special way. Four different individuals nominated Marti for this award. That, in itself, speaks volumes about her Chapter involvement and her positive influence on other people. Some of the comments that were written about her were:

"She's dedicated to MPI and gives freely to others."
"She continually strives to teach and prepare her CMP class and has a very high success rate with students passing the CMP test."
"She has a positive attitude, she's strongly committed and always on top of things."

In addition, Marti is that person who reaches out to people without first being asked and she's not one to back away from lending a helping hand to her industry peers. Congratulations Marti! You are special individual who reflects the Spirit of MPI.



Leah Belasco
'Grapevine' Columnist

Heard it through the Grapevine!

Congratulations are in order for a few of our members who were honored at the Third Annual Texas Star Awards, which was presented by the Dallas Chapter of ISES on October 30th:

Jayna Monroe, James C. Monroe & Associates, for "Best Marketing Design" for Krisam Group Trade Shows.

Todd Richter, BBJ Linens, for "Best Achievement in Rental Support" for MPI WEC 2005 Dallas Luncheon and for being one of the team partners for "Best Industry Team Effort (\$50,000-\$100,000.00) for A High Tech Christmas.

Denise Howieson, CMP and Zoom.7 for 4 Awards presented for "Cruisin' Along Party"-"Best Technical Production", "Best Event Design/Décor over \$35,000.00", "Best Entertainment over \$25,000.00" and "Best Event for Corporate/Association \$100,000.00+" (which was a joint entry with Freeman Decorating)

Matthew Massengale, DMCP and Ultimate Ventures for "Best Event for Corporate/Association \$50,000-\$100,000.00 for "Face It, Fix It."

Bitsy Burns-Matthes, CMP has been named Director of Operations for Southwest Veterinary Symposium.

Cary J. Broussard, formerly with Wyndham International, Inc. has authored a new book *From Cinderella to CEO: How to Master the 10 Lessons of Fairy Tales to Transform Your Work Life* (Wiley Publishing)

To submit member news and information, please contact:
Leah Belasco • 972-818-4811



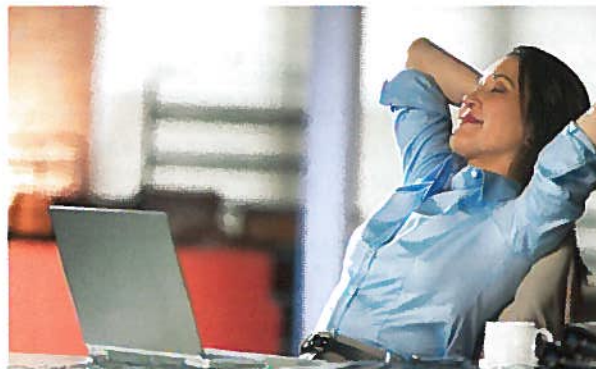
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DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS™

**MPI D/FW CHAPTER
2006-2007 CANDIDATE INTEREST FORM**

By submitting this form, you are stating your intention to be considered as a Chapter Director or Officer of Meeting Professionals International (MPI) D/FW Chapter. Please complete this form fully as this information will be used by the Nominations Committee for consideration of the slate of candidates.

Mail or fax the completed form by **January 26, 2006** to:

Melissa S. Logar, CMP, Immediate Past President and Chair, Nominations Committee
MPI D/FW Chapter
7750 N. MacArthur Blvd., Suite 120-259
Irving, TX 75063-7501
Fax: 972-506-7485

MPI Member # _____ Member Since: _____ Planner Supplier

(Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

I am applying for the following position on the 2006-2007 MPI Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter Board of Directors: (check one)

- President-Elect
- VP of Communications
- VP of Education
- VP of Finance
- VP of Membership
- Director of Leadership Development
- Director of Strategic Alliances
- Director of Monthly Programs
- Director of Recruitment
- Director of Professional Development
- Director of Member Care
- Director of Special Events
- Director of Public Relations / Marketing

See following pages for a brief description of each position.

If the Nominations Committee does not place you on the slate in the position for which you are applying, would like to be considered for another available position?

- YES
- NO

If YES, please indicate other area of possible interest:

Please answer the following questions. Attach additional pages as needed.

1. Please describe your professional leadership strengths or areas of expertise that will enhance your value as a volunteer leader.

2. What do you feel are the most important goals of MPI D/FW, now and for the future?

3. Please list your past leadership positions within MPI D/FW and the year(s) those positions were held. Note any special achievements made during this time.

4. Please list other meeting industry leadership positions you have held.

5. Please share any other information that you believe may help the Nominations Committee determine your qualifications for the position for which you are applying.

MPI D/FW Nominations 2006-2007 Positions

President-Elect

President-Elect shall act in the place of the President at any required function of the Chapter or International organization where the President is unable to perform; serves on the Nominating Committee; establishes and facilitates an orientation program for the incoming Board of Directors; develops and implements a leadership succession/mentoring program.

Director of Leadership Development

The Director of Leadership Development works closely with the PE identifying future leaders for the chapter and streamlining the process of leadership development; develops and implements a mentoring program encouraging participation in chapter leadership and ensures promotion of leadership development efforts.

Vice President of Education

The VP of Education responsibilities include managing and supervising chapter educational efforts including Monthly Programs, Professional Development and any Special Educational Projects such as leadership institutes, WLI, CMP/CMM programs and Multi-Cultural Initiatives; develops annual educational plan and researches current trends and topics pertinent to the meetings industry.

Director of Monthly Programs

The Director of Monthly Programs develops, implements and manages RFP process for all monthly educational programs; performs site selection for programs; coordinates all logistics for programs including menu selections, audiovisual needs, room setups, registration and hotel arrangements; assists in the development, implementation and manages a system of collecting and summarizing attendee evaluations; develops, implements and manages a system for providing CEUs at chapter programs.

Director of Professional Development

Director of Professional Development develops annual educational plan; ensures content of educational programs is relevant to all members; ensures content of educational programs achieves maximum attendance at programs/meetings; serves as primary point of contact with speakers to provide for their arrangements, including fee negotiation and transportation requirements; oversees all special educational projects including but not limited to chapter/regional education conferences, WLI, CMP/CMM programs and Multi-Cultural Initiative.

Vice President of Finance

The VP of Finance responsibilities include managing and supervising all chapter financial efforts such as fundraising activities (auctions, fundraising events), special events (golf outing, trade shows, special networking events), strategic alliances (sponsorships, partnership marketing), investments and reserves such as CDs, mutual funds, prudent reserve; ensures investment allocations are in compliance with the approved Chapter investment policy; ensures contribution to the reserve fund is budgeted for, and made, during the fiscal year; coordinates all financial transactions with the Chapter Administrator to ensure financial stability of the Chapter.

Director of Special Events

The Director of Special Events develops strategies to establish fundraising/special events such as auctions, fundraising events, golf outings, trade shows or other special networking events; monitors meetings industry to discover best practices in special events by other organizations and ensures promotion of special event efforts.

Director of Strategic Alliances

The Director of Strategic Alliances develops strategies to establish strategic partnership with chapter members; works with the appropriate committee to develop and/or manage strategic alliance programs and ensures promotion of said efforts.

Vice President of Membership

The VP of Membership is responsible for the planning and execution of all programs that directly relate to the recruitment (member recruitment, new member orientation), member care (member retention and hospitality), awards and scholarships (recognition programs, scholarship).

Director of Recruitment

The Director of Recruitment acts at the direction of the VP of Membership to implement the various Committee initiatives related to developing and maintaining an active and ongoing campaign to attain membership goals; welcomes and orients new members and submits articles to newsletter and website in support of recruitment activities.

Director of Member Care

Director of Member Care responsibilities include working closely with the Chapter Administrator in maintaining complete and accurate records of the chapter's membership; reconciling monthly reports; develops and maintains an active, ongoing campaign to retain members; performs annual chapter needs assessment survey; manages and facilitates chapter appreciation program for the recognition of outstanding members and ensures promotion of awards program to chapter members.

Vice President of Communications

The Vice President of Communications is responsible for the planning and implementation of publications (newsletter, directory, annual report), marketing (website/technology, job bank), advertising (newsletter ads, website ads), public relations (media relations, press releases), community outreach (philanthropic activities) and advocacy efforts (government affairs) of the chapter; updating chapter members on local legislation affecting the meetings industry; develops a means for the chapter to have a voice in government to promote its interest; ensures chapter programs, activities and accomplishments are highlighted on an international level by communicating with MPI.

Director of Public Relations / Marketing

The Director of Public Relations/Marketing will work closely with the VP of Communications to develop, maintain and communicate with media contacts promoting chapter events. Ensure that Chapter brand and marketing standards are utilized in all communication vehicles to include the coordination of publishing and distributing monthly newsletter, updating and managing chapter website, promotion of chapter activities and coordinating any other chapter publications.