

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 in shaping and defining the meeting and event industry.

Volunteering • Donating • Making a Difference

This is what your Chapter Charity Relations Committee is all about. This year we experienced a rebirth of a philanthropic spirit within our chapter. Our charitable interests proved to be as diverse as our membership, which was demonstrated by the variety of monthly projects we embraced.

This past November in conjunction with Dr. Lawana Gladney and the PR Committee, we helped serve dinner to 50 family members still living in our community from Hurricane Katrina. In addition, the SPCA of Dallas was present at the November monthly meeting. They went home with crates/kennels, toys, food, and cash donations to help support Katrina animal relief efforts, ongoing community education programs and animal care.



We often hear the phrase, Christmas is for children, so it was fitting that December had many of our members out in force volunteering their time and talents at the “Love 4 Kids” Annual Christmas Party and the Neiman Marcus Adolphus Children’s Parade.

January started the New Year out with a bang. We stuffed the little red socks found at the monthly luncheon with over \$600.00 for the children at Bryan’s House in Dallas.

February’s clothing drive for Attitudes and Attire filled a car and an SUV. Deby Forester, Program Manager at Attitudes and Attire said, “Your donation will help us restore hope and open the door of opportunity for many women and their families. Thank you for choosing to give back to your community.”

Brighter Tomorrows was our beneficiary for March and the chapter responded threefold. The WLI Committee donated profits from the sell of T-shirts and books from their March 23rd education session. Silent auction items were donated for the charities annual fundraiser and several members put their green thumbs to work to clean up and beautify the grounds at the Irving women’s shelter.

It’s not too late for you to get involved. We still have many projects to complete and many ways to participate.

- May, we plan to help restock the food bank in Tarrant Country. Bring non-perishable items to the monthly meeting.
- In June we’ll be supporting the local Ronald McDonald house. Bring a bottle or box of laundry soap, fabric softener or dry sheets to the meeting. The following week, chapter members are preparing and delivering a hot meal for families at the Ronald McDonald House.
- July brings WEC to Dallas and we’re working on developing a community service project we can all support!

Congratulations! You, the members, have made this year a success. Doesn’t it feel great? Come join us - get involved as we continue to volunteer, donate, and make a difference.



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President's Memo



DALLAS/FORT WORTH CHAPTER

DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS™



Tamra S. Hughston, CMP
2005-2006 President

Dear Meeting Professionals International Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter,

MPI Member Solutions has arrived! This unprecedented initiative which will define our profession, build personalized career paths for you, and completely personalize your MPI membership experience is ready for you to log-on and dive in:

Visit www.mpiweb.org and log in to My MPI using your member number. Planners, take the MPI Professional Pathways skills assessment. Planners and suppliers should complete your online member profile.

However, MPI Member Solutions is much more than a new website. It is a new way of doing business for MPI but most importantly it's about defining our profession and helping you become more successful through education and career resources customized for you. **Best of all, its free to MPI members:**

- **MPI Professional Pathways:** your online skills self-assessment based on the industry's first core competencies, skills and job descriptions for meeting professionals. After completing the skills assessment, you'll immediately receive an online report of jobs, articles, books, courses and events best suited for your career goals.
- **My MPI:** your personalized website delivering education, content and information specific to your member profile, preferences, and results of your skills assessment.
- **MPI Resource Center:** your one-on-one center for membership services, jobs, career resources, conference registration, the MPI Bookstore, peer-to-peer assistance and more.

Our entire chapter will benefit. If every one of our planners take the skills assessment, our Chapter VP of Education can use that aggregate data to customize chapter programs based on our needs. (Don't worry, you individual results will be strictly confidential. Chapter reports are based on aggregate data.) **And, MPI Headquarters is offering free conference registrations, Platinum programs or \$2,500USD in cash to the chapter with highest percentage of completed planner skills assessments by June 2006 So planners - log on today!**

For suppliers, when MPI strengthens the profession and defines career paths for planners, that means enormous potential for more business. I invite you to take advantage of the personalization available from your My MPI page and the MPI Resource Center. And, encourage your clients to get involved in MPI Member Solutions.

MPI Member Solutions won't be a success without your participation! You will not receive the promise that this tool holds unless you complete your profile and planners take the skills assessment. Keep in mind this is just the beginning. Just as our profession evolves, so will MPI Member Solutions and the value it delivers.

Thanks for your support of MPI Member Solutions. If you have questions, please contact me or contact MPI Headquarters at 972-702-3000.

With best regards,

Tamra Hughston, CMP
President
MPI D/FW Chapter

Making A Difference!
2005-2006

2006 WORLD EDUCATION CONGRESS

9-11 JULY • DALLAS, TX



MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

Are you seeking more networking opportunities for a better return on your involvement (ROI) with MPI?

Don't miss the best opportunity to be with your peers...volunteer for the MPI World Education Congress, July 9-11, 2006.

The clock is running and the countdown is underway for the greatest show on earth... MPI World Education Congress here in Dallas at the convention center.

It's not too late to get involved with your chapter... MPI D/FW...the Host Committee or the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau.



That was then: MPI met in Dallas 10 years ago, hosting the Professional Educational Conference in January 1995.

This is now: The 2006 WEC will be produced by *MPI International in partnership with the Chapter and the Dallas CVB*. This is YOUR time to make the most of your membership in MPI D/FW...opportunity surrounds you...step up to the plate NOW!

By signing up as a volunteer by **May 19th**, you will receive a free golf shirt to be worn during the meet and greet at the airports, upon arrivals at the hotels and for a mass appearance at the Sunday Opening General Session. However, we need your size by **May 19th**.

Please go to the www.mpidfw.org web site for specific volunteer opportunities. Get involved...have fun...invest in your future NOW!

Canada Sponsors Platinum Series



The Canadian Tourism Commission and our partners, Tourism Toronto, the Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre, Tourisme Montreal, Travel Alberta and the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation, are pleased to be the exclusive sponsors of the entire MPI Platinum Series for 2006, inclusive of all 66 worldwide chapters.

We believe that education in this ever-changing industry is crucial to our continued success. We aspire to push boundaries, break new ground, experience that which we never have before. It's only natural, after all, for we are all born explorers.



www.meetings.canada.travel



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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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Disney Institute: Unparalleled Learning Opportunities For Groups

ANAHEIM, CA - When most people think of the *Disneyland*[®] Resort in California and the *Walt Disney World*[®] Resort in Florida, they think of world-famous attractions, shows, entertainment and fun. Professional development isn't always one of the first thoughts to come to mind. But the legendary Disney theme parks both hosts programs presented by the Disney Institute, an organization that is transforming the experience of education. Engaging and enlightening, each Disney Institute program offers business professionals the chance to discover the business behind the magic.

According to George Aguel, senior vice president for Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, the Disney Institute is unique in the world of training. "What makes the Disney learning experience so different and so meaningful," says Aguel, "is that we don't simply teach theory. We showcase philosophies and strategies that have made the Disney a success - ideas that are easily adaptable to other organizations. We do this by taking people inside the Disney operation, showcasing on-stage and behind-the-scenes operations so that attendees see firsthand how Disney does it."

The Disney Institute specializes in a wide array of program content, from people management and quality service to creativity, leadership and operational excellence. While content is applicable to any business group, the approach for teaching it is uniquely Disney. In addition to site visits, attendees meet with members of the Disney management team to hear firsthand how business philosophy becomes standard operating procedure.

Even more compelling, groups taking advantage of Disney Institute programs also experience the Disney product. "An enormous amount of learning happens outside of the actual program," according to Aguel. "Guests also visit our Theme Parks and Resort Hotels. It's a chance for attendees to test the magic. It proves to be very powerful experiential learning. We hear from groups, time and again, that the overall Disney experience is as inspiring and motivating as it is informative."

For meeting professionals, the Disney Institute offers an ideal blend of content options. With content modules ranging in length from 90 minutes to three-and-one-half days, Disney Institute programs can be complete meetings in themselves or complements to a larger meeting agenda. In addition, the Disney Institute program design experts will work with organizations to create programs tailored to specific needs and objectives.

Chapter Meeting • Thursday, May 25, 2006 • 11:00 a.m.

The Magical World of Loyalty...Disney Style

By Angela DeLaGarza



In today's competitive marketplace, the need for repeat business is a vital factor that contributes to your bottom line, whether you are planner or a supplier. At the *Walt Disney World*® Resort, they create loyalty by first providing a superior value, and second by creating a lifelong relationship with each Guest (customer). The *Disney Institute* and their professional facilitators will take you on an interactive journey through the living laboratory of the *Walt Disney World*® Resort in which you will have the opportunity to experience how they have developed loyalty by exceeding their Guests' expectations at every point of contact.

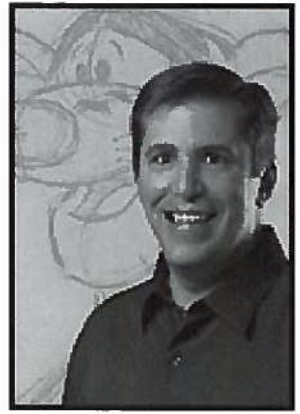
In a lively **90-minute** educational seminar, a Disney Facilitator will introduce you to the Disney model of customer loyalty. Through fascinating insights and insider information, you will:

- Examine the successful model Disney uses to build customer and employee loyalty in order to deliver their world-recognized brand promise.
- Identify techniques for building employee-to-customer interaction into every experience.
- Develop ideas for applying Disney principles to your organization.

Let Rob Morton and the MPI D/FW Chapter take you through the "Magical World of Disney" to "Experience the business behind the magic."

May Luncheon Committee

Annie Matthews (Chair) - AVW/TELAV
Charlotte Davis, CMP (Co-Chair) - Event Source Professionals Inc.
Laurie Carroll - NADP
Angela DeLaGarza - Premier Transportation
Sherry DeLaGarza - MAC Meetings & Events
Ruth Gallenberg - Embassy Suites Dallas Love Field
Laura Jordan, CMP - Wyndham Worldwide
Rebecca May - AVW/TELAV
Stephanie Schroeder - Associated Luxury Hotels



Rob Morton

The Magical World of Loyalty... Disney Style

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Westin Hotel DFW Airport

4545 W. John Carpenter Frwy.
(Hwy 114 & Esters Blvd.)
(972) 929-4500

Sponsor: **Houston**
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PLEASE NOTE: Due to the length of the program the agenda will be as follows:

11:00 am - 11:30 pm	Chapter Orientation
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Registration & Networking
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	Lunch and Program
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	90-Minute Disney Program

Parking:

Complimentary self-parking is available at the Trinity Ballroom Entrance.
Valet parking is available at the front entrance for \$5.00

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, May 22nd
email: rcharnes@msn.com • fax: 972-506-7485*

ON-LINE REGISTRATION PREFERRED

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

Host Facility

The elegant Westin Dallas Fort Worth Airport hotel combines boutique style service and quality encompassing 506 fabulous guestrooms, which include 58 luxurious suites. The hotel recently completed a Texas sized renovation with \$25 million spent lavishly throughout the entire hotel. Located on the north side of DFW airport with instant access to shopping, dining, entertainment and outdoor activities. Guest rooms feature wireless high-speed Internet access and the Westin Heavenly Bed® and Heavenly Bath®. Our 38,000 square feet of state of the art meeting facilities offer 31 meeting rooms all on one level and is perfect for a memorable meeting or event. Dine or enjoy a drink in our soothing "Blue Fire Grill" restaurant or take the elevator to our rooftop pool and watch the sunset. Whether traveling on business or pleasure, let the Westin Dallas Fort Worth Airport launch your experience with unmatched quality and service.

DIRECTIONS

FROM THE EAST ON 635: Proceed WEST on Hwy 635 to Beltline, go left. Proceed approximately 1/4 mile to Hwy 114. Go West, follow to Esters. Turn right on Esters Blvd turn left into the hotel.

FROM DOWNTOWN DALLAS ON I-35E: Proceed on I-35 NORTH to the I-35/Hwy 114 split. Take the Hwy 114 split. Continue on Hwy 114 to the Esters Blvd. Exit. Turn right Esters Blvd turn left into hotel parking lot.

FROM THE SOUTH (ARLINGTON, I-30 OR I-20): Proceed NORTH on Hwy 360. Option 1: Take the DFW Airport exit. Enter the airport to the North Entrance/Exit of the airport (\$1.00); Option 2: continue NORTH on hwy 360. Traffic from Hwys 114 & 121 merge with Hwy 360 in Grapevine and curves towards the EAST. Continue on Hwy 114, take the Esters exit. At the stop sign turn left proceed over overpass and turn left into hotel parking lot.

April Education Highlights

Scramble... Shamble... Shotgun?

By Laura Jordan, CMP

Deciding whether or not to incorporate golf into a meeting was made so much easier for the participants of the Business Golf for Meetings workshop - thanks to presenters Jane Richards, Director of Sales & Marketing for the Cowboys Golf Club and Don Offill, Director of Tournament Sales for the Tribute Golf Club.

Here are the steps to a successful golf outing...

- Objective - team building, customer/member appreciation, product launch, recruitment, fundraising or social networking.
- Site Selection - the type of course you choose depends on your golfers, their skill level, amenities that they need and location to where the rest of your meeting is taking place. Public vs. Private course needs to be determined based on your objective. Some of the services that courses offer are pairings, bag drops, cart tags, markers, scoring, scorecards and scoreboards.
- Price Negotiation - look for hot dates/rates based on the time of year/season, weekday can be more affordable than weekend, start time (early times tend to be less expensive) and tee time vs. shotgun start.
- Build a Budget - items to include are green/cart/caddy/rental club fees, F&B, goody bags, entertainment, speakers, professional golfers, transportation, awards and additional gratuities.
- Event Formats - options to choose from are Scramble (everyone plays the best shot throughout each hole), Shamble (everyone plays their own ball after the best tee) and Best Ball (use the best score on each hole).
- Event Starts - options to choose from are Shotgun (everyone begins at the same time using all 18 holes), Modified Shotgun (shotgun, but not using all holes) and Tee Times (for higher end players and smaller groups).
- Pairings - be sure to ask for handicaps or how many times a year a person plays on your registration form in order to find out skill level or tie this process into your main objective. You should do the pairings yourself prior to sending the list to the golf course if you think there will be political ramifications from players.
- Sponsors & Vendors - procure your main sponsor first and be sure to communicate to previous and prospective sponsors prior to their budget season. Start small your first year and build from there and take into consideration hard dollars vs. soft dollars (sponsors asking for foursomes or other things in exchange for gift items or other goods). You want to make sure that your charity is rewarded as well.

All of the details of a golf outing or tournament can be overwhelming, but if you stick to your main objective and partner with your golf course professional, your outing will be a huge success! 🏌️



The Golf Workshop was well-received by participants thanks to the great teamwork of the committee: Patty Stern Markley, CMP (DMM Group), Don Offill (The Tribute Golf Club) and Jane Richards (Cowboys Golf Club).



Jane Richards shares her golf tournament knowledge telling the participants about planning tips to consider be-FORE the day of the event.



The club room was filled with participants for the golf program!

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EDUCATION NEWS



Advancing Women

MPI D/FW Chapter Women's Leadership Initiative

On Being Well Connected

By Tracey B. Smith, CMP, CMM

Tracey Smith, CMP, CMM


Whenever someone says or you read that a person is "well connected," certain characteristics come to mind: wealthy, highly educated, attractive, able to make things happen. The term really means a wide and deep network is in place and this person uses it frequently. So, how many people are in your network?

Every time you go to a committee meeting, monthly meeting, annual conference, to the grocery store or your hairdresser is an opportunity to network with your community. Just take an interest in the other person, find out who they are, then add them to your list.

Just this week, I was having my nails done when the client next to me mentioned her sister by name. The sister goes by an unusual pronunciation of her name, so when I heard it I recognized it immediately as a woman I'm friends with on a professional level. Yes, it is a small world, even to a Twin Cities transplant of less than three years.

That realization of a small world is what fuels networking, but more importantly, the smallness makes it easier to make it work for us. There's a feeling of power in being able to "hook up" your friends or colleagues with the right supplier for them.

Women are naturally good at networking, but may not recognize it as such. Often through our children, we know lots of classmates, parents, teachers, daycare workers and babysitters, the pediatrician's office staff, and neighborhood playmates. In the workplace, add coworkers, vendors, customers or clients to the network. Add in all the places where you shop or do business. Now how many people do you know?

In a networking session recently, the leader asked us this question and most responded in the low hundreds. When she came to me, I proudly answered, "More than 20,000!" And, I feel strongly that the number is valid, because every member of Meeting Professionals International is a connection for me. I feel confident that I may call on any one to help me with my meetings and they will respond. I'm probably not going to meet every one, but you can say that I am well connected. 



MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

2006 WORLD EDUCATION CONGRESS

9-11 JULY • DALLAS, TX

We're bringing the world to our own backyard!!

WEC 2006 is taking place in Dallas this year and the MPI D/FW Chapter has funds available to assist with a limited number of conference registrations.

Don't Delay!

Apply for a JPA WEC Grant today.
Deadline for application submissions: May 31st.

[Go to www.mpidfw.org](http://www.mpidfw.org) to download the application.

Time is of the essence...
Early bird registration WEC closes June 9th.



Robert Lockwood, CMP

CMP Corner

By Robert Lockwood, CMP

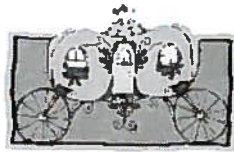
Local CMP luminaries Marti Fox, CMP, CTC, Mozella Brown, CMP, and Robert Lockwood, CMP have been tapped to lead the CMP "Boot Camp" at WEC in Dallas. CMP "Boot Camp" is an MPI sponsored event that transpires the day prior to the actual CMP exam, which is administered at thirteen locations (including at WEC) across the United States, simultaneously. The class is the final preparatory step prior to a candidate sitting for the exam and is unique to the WEC conference. The CMP "Boot Camp" will take place at the WEC on Friday, July 7, 2006, from 11:00am-5:00pm. Included in the criteria will be test taking tips, tough terminology, and practice testing.

For more information and registration information visit the MPI WEC website at: www.mpiweb.org/WEC2006/WECHomepage.

For the Dallas aspiring CMP's, it is time for the "Next Step". MPI DFW Chapter will also be offering CMP University on June 10 and 11; and June 24. These all day classes will concentrate on test taking, terminology and review. The cost for these three days is \$125 for MPI members and \$150 for those who are not. CMP University will be held at the Crowne Plaza North Dallas*Addison, at 14315 Midway Road, Addison, Texas. For more information please contact Robert Lockwood, CMP at rlockwood@cpaddison.com. Registration will begin in May.



"Play it Forward" ~ The Sequel!



Thursday, May 25, 2006 • 1:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Westin DFW Hotel • Dogwood Room

Dr. Larwana Gladney will guide participants through the Game Board in the Follow Up to Fairy Tale Lessons to Transform Your Work Life

For those not able to attend the March WLI Program,
Tara Judd will provide a brief over view of the lessons learned.
If you had the opportunity to attend the March Program - Remember to bring your Game Board.

Workshop is Complimentary when you register for the May monthly program - there is a 50 person limit!

For additional information contact Peg Wolschon, CTP, CMP at 469-893-2151
or peg.wolschon@tenethealth.com

*A Special Thank You
to Sambuca*

by Tony Cummins, CMP VP of Membership

The Membership Committee would like to thank Sambuca Restaurant for hosting our chapter members and underwriting the cost of the MPI D/FW Chapter Happy Hour held at their Addison location on March 15, 2006.

Our evening was coordinated by Membership Director Bedford Wynne (Wynne Sedan & Limousine Group) and Jennifer Fortman (Director of Catering and Sales) with Sambuca. Approximately 60 Chapter members and their guests attended.

Bedford, who is slated to be the chapter's incoming Vice-President of Membership, says, "I think our members like to have the occasional opportunity to network in an unstructured environment...to have the opportunity to get to know each other better." Wynne is currently working on another Chapter night out, possibly in July. Stay tuned... More to come!

8th Annual
CMP/CMM
Recognition Event

**The Breakfast
of ChaMPions**

Mark Your Calendar!
CMPs and CMMs

Date: Friday, June 9, 2006

Location: The Hilton Anatole

Time: 8am-10:30am

Free Association with...

MPI D/FW Planner and Supplier of the Year 2005-2006

Peg Wolschon, CMP, CTP Planner of the Year



1. FIRST HOSPITALITY JOB?

My first job in hospitality was a waitress at a very upscale restaurant in Winnetka, Illinois. I was working my way through college. The first meeting I worked on was a conference for 30,000 in Washington, DC in 1979. I had no clue to what I was doing at the time, but was told by my boss to find housing, air and ground transportation for all 30,000. The program turned out to be a great success.

2. BENEFITS OF JOINING MPI?

Definitely the wonderful contacts I have made and the many educational opportunities I have enjoyed. The personal friendships I have developed have been long lasting and inspirational.

3. SUCCESS STORY BEING AN MPI MEMBER?

Every day is a success story by being an MPI Member. There is not a day that goes by that I do not call on someone I have met through MPI to help make my meetings successful, from hotel space to audio visual to florals, sedans and speakers.

4. PROFESSIONAL GOAL?

Being the best at what I am doing.

5. ADVICE TO A NEW MPI MEMBER?

Get involved in several committees, it is an easy way to connect with other members and learn new skills.

6. INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE TO YOU WITHIN THE MPI D/FW CHAPTER?

Current members - alphabetically, thanks to each of you for the many contributions in my work and my life: Sherri Cook, CMP, CMM; Phyllis Firebaugh, CMP; Marti Fox, CTC, CMP; Sue Fry ; Sally Goldesberry, CMP, CMM; M.T. Hickman, CMP, CTP; Patty Markley, CMP; James Monroe, CMP, CSEP; Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP; Dana Rhoden CMP, CMM; Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP, CSEP; Stephanie Schroeder; Linda Sergeant; Tracey Smith, CMP

7. FAMILY?

First and foremost there is Jim Lubniewski, my soul mate for 19 years. He has a beautiful daughter and granddaughter. I have 4 awesome sisters who are alike in so many ways, yet so different and special. I am fortunate both my parents and Jim's parents are alive. I am also very fortunate to have had some amazing girls from all over the world in my life and home who have been daughters to Jim and I: Alfiya Pope (Kazakhstan), Tina Bavemark (Sweden), Magdalena Malczyk (Poland) and Renata Lopes (Brazil).

8. HOBBIES?

Hot air ballooning, painting, reading

9. FAVORITE FUN ACTIVITY/VENUE IN LOCAL AREA?

Visiting the many wonderful art museums. Lunch at the Nasher. Shakespeare in the Park with friends, a bottle of wine and some great food. Attending performances at the Dallas Opera and Theatre Three. Going to see a movie with friends at the Studio Movie Grill.

10. WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU WOULD BUY IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY?

A new house with an elevator for Jim.

Tony Cummins, CMP Supplier of the Year



1. FIRST HOSPITALITY JOB?

Cooking at The Mansion on Turtle Creek. I ran into Dean Fearing at Neiman's one day and asked him to interview me. He did, after I spent a few months working at Sfuzzi on McKinney.

2. BENEFITS OF JOINING MPI?

Too many answers for this one. The road goes on forever. But mostly, people I can call on in good times and bad.

3. SUCCESS STORY BEING AN MPI MEMBER?

My service on the Board of Directors has afforded me the opportunity to work with top people in our industry. Connecting with great people. Being selected as Supplier of the Year in 2005...a great honor for me.

4. PROFESSIONAL GOAL?

To grow my business as an independent planner.

5. ADVICE TO A NEW MPI MEMBER?

Get involved and stay involved. Really! You'll get it all back. And don't just come for the business benefits. They come and go. The good relationships are long-term.

6. INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE TO YOU WITHIN THE MPI D/FW CHAPTER?

Mostly the various Board Presidents I've served on the Board with...Mary Lynn Novelli, Gregory Pynes, Colleen Rickenbacher, Steven Foster, Melissa Logar and Tamra Hughston. One other person in particular...O.D. O'Donnell. You just know you can call this guy and get something done.

7. FAMILY?

The best a man could have...a loving, supportive wife who's my best friend and two beautiful daughters who look up to me.

8. PERSONAL GOAL?

To wake each day with a passion to get up and do whatever it is I'm doing that day. Just do it, and enjoy the moment.

9. HOBBIES?

The word hobby always makes me think of those guys that used to build model trains in their basement, or their own TV set from a mail-order kit. Sorry, I don't have any hobbies.

10. FAVORITE RESTAURANT IN LOCAL AREA?

Primo's for Tex-Mex, Margaritas and sightseeing.

11. FAVORITE FUN ACTIVITY/VENUE IN LOCAL AREA?

The State Fair of Texas. You can't beat it with a corny dog stick.

12. DO YOU COLLECT ANYTHING? IF SO, DESCRIBE WHAT YOU COLLECT AND YOUR COLLECTION?

I collect music. I have hundreds of record albums, tapes, CD's and digital tunes. I still own a turntable and love to hear music on vinyl. It's really better than CD's.

13. WHAT IS THE FIRST THING YOU WOULD BUY IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY?

Whatever my wife asks for first. Then a new car. You need a nice ride when you go out on the town.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Mark the Date - Membership Pin Distribution

July's chapter meeting will focus on Membership Recognition. In a tradition started just last year, pins will be awarded to those who have been MPI D/FW Chapter members for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years.

Everyone should mark your calendar - July 27, 2006. Whether you are receiving a pin or not, come show your support for our members who have made a difference in our chapter.

How do you know if you are eligible? Anyone with continuous membership for 5 or more years as of July 31, 2006 will receive a pin on July 27, 2006.

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.

Valerie A. Mortimer.....	Hotel Palomar
Jennifer Brown.....	Westin Galleria Dallas
Victoria Binder.....	The Center for Biomedical Continuing Education (CBCE)
Melanie K. Whiley.....	Quest Diagnostics
Lou D. Canakes.....	AMF FUN FEST
Kathy Collins Burns.....	Travel Focus
Melissa K. Wilkins.....	Hard Rock Cafe Dallas
Virginia Teguns.....	Event Travel International
Thomas E. Yates.....	Rosewood Hotels & Resorts
Bridgett Williams.....	Circle R Ranch
Charlotte K. Corn.....	Palm
John J. Hinton.....	i2 Technologies
Sarah E. Naughton.....	i2 Technologies, Inc
Jami Schell.....	Pearl Real Estate
Sharon N. Andersen.....	i2 Technologies
Madeleine F. Sweigart.....	TPI, Inc.
Cheryl Adams.....	
Monica Y. Rivera.....	Software Spectrum
Blake T. Myers.....	360 Limo Inc.
James D. Parker.....	James Parker International
Don Feneziani.....	Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie
Amy Duncan.....	Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie
Paula K. McCartney.....	MGM Grand
Barbara Ferguson.....	Hilton Hotels Corporation
Travis C. Harper.....	Catch The Moment
Lee B. Batson.....	Deloitte Services LP
Jeff Koeninger.....	
Katherine W. Willey.....	Smith and Wollensky Restaurant
Dorly Margarita Cuellat.....	Student
Kevin M. Keliher.....	Buckner & Company
David J. Sharple.....	Marriott
Jennifer A. Haisten.....	HelmsBriscoe
Jessica S. Taper.....	Taper Communications
Michael A. Cousineau.....	InSITE Selection Services International
Byron K. Frazier.....	PRA Destination Management DFW
Kristi Rustin.....	Brookhaven Country Club
Cystal C. Rivers.....	PMI Inc



Leah Belasco
'Grapevine' Columnist

Heard it through the Grapevine!

Terri White was awarded the Key Account Director of the Year for Sales & Marketing for *InterContinental Hotels Group* in March.

Another testament that involvement in the MPI D/FW Chapter pays off: Upon receiving the award, Terri stated, "This award would not have been possible without my powerful MPI network."



Best wishes to **Debra Kerr, CMP**, who relocated the end of March to Pearland, Texas (near Houston) where her husband returned to active Air Force duty at Ellington Field. Debra, formerly with the *Irving CVB*, expects her second child the end of May. Debra plans to remain active in the industry as an Independent meeting planner.

Joe Soto, CMP, is now with *Conferon Global Services*. Previously Joe was with *Harvey Hotel D/FW Airport* (recently rebranded *Westin D/FW Airport*)

Lisa Moore is the contact for private dining groups at *Stephen Pyles*, the new millennium Southwestern cuisine dining experience in downtown Dallas near the DMA. Lisa previously was at *Smith & Wollensky*.

Congratulations to **Blair Miller, CMP** and her husband Greg on the February 6th birth of son Grant William. Blair, formerly with *Dallas Fanfares*, is enjoying staying home with Grant.

Chris Chung, General Manager of *USA Hosts Destination Service* Dallas/Fort Worth area, and his team sponsored an April luncheon for the D/FW area Tour Guide Association. The D/FW TGA provided information to encourage the increase of Certified Tour Guides so that the most accurate information will be presented to attendees of meetings, conventions and tourism groups in this area.

Jim Monroe, CMP, CSEP and **Jayna Monroe** have changed the name of their company from *James C. Monroe & Associates* to *JCM Special Events, Inc.*

Kay Burke, CMP has added **Severine Massengale** to the external meeting services team at *JC Penney*, which also includes **Iris Hendricks**.

Pat Hill-Yandell, CMP has joined *eWomenNetwork* as Manager of Special Events. Pat was formerly an Independent meeting planner.

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



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