

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](http://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.

## The Success Secret I Learned from Watching TV

by Steve Bedwell, MD

Watching unsuspecting bystanders become victims of an elaborate practical joke, I love it!

You've seen Candid Camera or The Jamie Kennedy Experiment. Some poor soul watches in horror as his car gets pushed off a cliff or arrives home from work to find a realtor closing a deal on his house. Hilarious stuff!

Interestingly, it's the victims' *perspective* on the bizarre situation - *not* the situation itself - that dictates how they approach it. Some see their predicament as weirdly amusing. These folks remain calm, attempt to get a grasp on exactly what's happening and concentrate on finding a solution. Other people, while dealing with the same situation, view it very differently. They choose to focus on their frustration, rant and rave and generally cope appallingly.



Do you think a victim is more likely to realize they're being pranked if they stay relaxed or freak out? When *you* face a problem, are you

more likely to find a creative solution if you stay calm or get annoyed? Bottom line: The way you choose to look at a frustrating situation can either make it more manageable or impossible to handle.

### A Systematic Approach For Dealing With A Frustrating Situation

- ❖ **Proactively seek alternative viewpoints.** Remember the importance of seeing the bigger picture. Acknowledge the possibility that accessing another angle on the situation might reveal a previously invisible solution. Seeking out alternative points of view will also damp-down feelings of frustration associated with your original perspective.
- ❖ **Don't act until you've identified three points of view.** For example, next time you find yourself in conflict with a colleague, client or supplier, try this: Firstly, write a paragraph explaining the situation from your point of view. Secondly, write a paragraph from the viewpoint of the other person. Finally, write a paragraph from the perspective of an objective bystander. Actually writing down each viewpoint forces you to think and provides much greater clarity than merely pondering each perspective inside your own head.
- ❖ **Dispute each view.** Argue with each of the three perspectives pretending, in each case, that you're actually disagreeing with another person. Most of us are much more practiced at arguing with other people than with ourselves. Why not leverage this natural ability?

Taking these three steps will both dilute your feelings of frustration and provide additional information you can use to manage your predicament. Take time to see the bigger picture and let the joke be at someone else's expense! 

Dr. Steve Bedwell is a national keynote speaker. Whatever your industry's hot issues, Steve's original, science-based strategies will enable your people to step back, look at their challenges differently and take effective action. <http://www.SteveBedwell.com>



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# President's Message:



*Interact, Inspire, Innovate...*

2006-2007



**Sally Goldesberry, CMP, CMM**  
2006-2007 President

Hello chapter members. We are experiencing a great start to our chapter year. Thank you to our volunteer members for your terrific energy and efforts in developing chapter programming. Thank you members for interacting with us by attending our chapter programs.

Thank you to our sponsors!! Our chapter could not deliver quality educational programs without the strong support of our monthly meeting sponsors. We are so very grateful to our sponsors who take the initiative to step forward and provide sponsorship funds for our events.

Sponsorships are still available for 2006-2007 and I personally invite your company to join in as a sponsor for the monthly meetings, annual trade show and/or annual golf tournament.

When your company evaluates its marketing dollars for the D/FW market, remember the importance of keeping your company's name in front of our membership. Participating as a sponsor is one of the most affordable and efficient ways for your company to reach its target buying audience and we've numerous sponsor benefits to help enhance your overall sponsor experience.

If you're a supplier and want to learn more about D/FW Chapter sponsor opportunities, please contact me and/or Terri White, the MPI D/FW Chapter's Director of Strategic Alliances, today.



*Become a strategic Partner for MPI DFW and enjoy the benefits of being spotlighted in your target market place. Return on your investment is really what kind of planning and execution you are willing to put into it.*

**Terri White**

*For me personally, as a Global Sales Director for InterContinental Hotels Group, becoming a sponsor gives me the visibility in my region. My network in MPI is the core of my business. Three years ago, I started my own territory without an account base. My revenues evolved from exposure, referrals and follow up in my MPI DFW community. Today, I lead in top revenue production for my company.*

*Imagine being the only sponsor at a monthly chapter event with time to exhibit, signage and a presentation to audience of 200-300 people. Pre-plan your trip and map sales calls on the front and back end of your designated date.*

*Funds not budgeted? Recruit suppliers from your Chain or City to share the costs with you. The "karma" effect begins with putting your name in front of your audience. Support the organization dedicated to the continued education of your industry and become a Strategic partner today.*

- Sponsorship provides great *Interaction* with chapter members where you're the star of the show!
- Sponsorship *Inspires* members to learn more about your company's services!
- Sponsorship provides your company the vehicle to learn *Innovative* ideas from our savvy members that will help your company generate new revenue.

*Please join us ...Interact, Inspire and Innovate!*



## Thank You!

In the August 2006 issue of *The Current*, we neglected to credit photographer John Boykin (*Commercial Imaging Services*) for the pictures we included from WEC 2006.

# What Lies Ahead for the Nation and Texas



by Liz Willding, Dallas Morning News' Texas Diversity Magazine  
Commentary submitted by Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP

*(Reprinted with permission)*

Without question, diversity is a hot topic. Guest workers, aging baby boomers, more women entering the workplace - all are expected to change the landscape of the national labor force during the next decade and beyond.

**Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP**

By 2014, only 21 percent of baby boomers are expected to remain in the workforce. "A lot of people in this bracket may decide to retire, which means employers will be searching for more workers," says Cheryl Abbot, regional economist in the Dallas office of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Although aging baby boomers may have the biggest impact on the labor market during the next ten years, Ms. Abbot says minority growth will have the next greatest impact. "Texas recently became a majority-minority state," Abbot notes. As of 2004, whites (including Hispanics) made up 84 percent of the national labor force, while blacks made up 11 percent and Asians 3 percent. In Texas, 34 percent of the labor force is of white-hispanic origin (roughly triple that of the African-American population), while 48 percent of the population is made up of white, non-Hispanics.

Equally significant are the occupations these groups are expected to fill. Nationally, 6 percent of today's managers are Hispanic or black, and 37 percent are women. By 2014, Hispanics alone will represent 6 percent of professionals, blacks will represent 9 percent and women will represent 56 percent. Texas has a much greater number of Hispanic workers compared to most other parts of the country. Indeed, Texas is expected to be a majority Hispanic state in 30 years.

State demographer Steve Murdock, a professor at the University of Texas at San Antonio, projects that by 2020, Hispanics will outnumber Anglos for the first time with 46 percent of the population, compared to 37 percent of Anglos. Blacks will represent 10 percent of the Texas population.

"Is this increase going to be noticeable? In the nation, as a whole, probably not" says Abbot, "but, in Texas, probably yes." 

**Commentary:** *As meeting professionals, it is critical that we sit up and take note of these demographic changes as it relates to working with the multicultural differences in our population. We all need to integrate customs, traditions and ethnic holidays into every event and meeting we are involved with. Those who do will thrive with the changing workforce.*

From the  
Heart



## Chapter Charity Relations Committee

Mission Statement: MPI D/FW Chapter Charity Relations is committed to providing opportunities for Chapter Members, families and friends to have a positive impact on the local needs based organizations through charitable endeavors given "From the Heart."

### Planned Programs: 2006/2007

- September:** Fundraiser for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) of Denton County, Inc.
- October:** Aids Arms - Life/Walk  
Alzheimer Assoc - Memory Walk  
Susan B. Komen Walk - Race for the Cure
- November:** Dallas Family Gateway - Joint Project with PCMA - Dallas Chapter
- December:** Love For Kids Christmas Party  
Neiman Marcus Children's Parade

To volunteer or for additional information about the Chapter Charity Relations Committee please contact: Denise Howieson, CMP 214-217-7700, ext. 213 or e-mail [dhowieson@zoom7.com](mailto:dhowieson@zoom7.com) or Kelly Roche 972-252-7476 or e-mail [kroche@ci. Irving,tx.us](mailto:kroche@ci. Irving,tx.us)

*Begin now to Interact, Inspire and Innovate!*



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](http://www.mpiweb.org).

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# Have you heard about the MPI Student Committee?

By Traci' Crews  
Student,  
Richland College Travel, Exposition and Meeting Management  
Richland DEX Chapter President, MPI D/FW Member and  
Graduate - MPI Future Leaders Forum, WEC 2006

The student committee consists of full-time students of college, universities and other educational institutions as well as part-time students working towards a degree, with emphasis in the meetings, hospitality, events or tourism industries.

The mission of the Student Committee is to provide a pool of future planners and suppliers who each have studied to achieve industry knowledge, have participated in MPI at the chapter and national levels for visibility, and possess the ambition to start working hard for your company now and in the future!

For one year after a student graduates from college, he or she is able to retain student membership status in the chapter. As such, this is a valuable resource for the companies and organizations within the MPI D/FW Chapter to reach out to for hiring new talent into the meeting, event, hospitality, and travel departments.

A core group has formed and they are working diligently to ensure the success of the committee. Committee members include: Crystal Simmons (Chair), Traci' Crews, Michelle Lemay-Patton and Jan Gillin. Tiffany Garrett, CMP, is serving as the committee liaison to the board. The MPI D/FW Chapter Student Committee falls under the direction of the membership committee. Please take the time to welcome and embrace this new committee. 

## CMP Study Group Fall Calendar

September 19, 2006:  
(5:30 - 8 PM) Organization meeting for  
Study Buddy Teams

October 24, 2006:  
(5:30 - 8 PM) Status Meeting and  
chapter reviews

CMP University:  
November 11 or 18, 2006, December  
2, 2006 and January 6, 2007

January 21, 2006:  
CMP EXAM

If you are interested in the fall  
CMP Study Group please  
contact:

Jim Monroe, CMP, CSEP  
MPI D/FW Chapter CMP  
Study Group Chair  
Email: [jim@jcmonroe.com](mailto:jim@jcmonroe.com)



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# Chapter Meeting • Thursday, September 28, 2006 • 11:00 a.m.



Dr. Steve Bedwell

## Flex Your Perspective Power!

Don't Miss, Dr. Steve Bedwell, as he teaches you to FLEX YOUR PERSPECTIVE POWER!

The way we look at the world can make a huge difference in the way we solve problems and make decisions.

Our speaker, Dr. Steve Bedwell is a medical doctor with expertise in the neuroscience of perception.

Perspective Power is a radically different approach to success using science-based strategies, not motivational clichés. ...And don't be fooled by the "MD" designation! Dr. Bedwell's program is riveting, provocative and explosively funny!

### You will learn:

#### The three action steps to flexing your Perspective Power.

- 1) How to solve problems, spot opportunities and make better decisions.
- 2) How to dilute toxic emotions and prevent them crippling your success.
- 3) How to take action in accordance with your highest priorities and consistently achieve your goals.

Dr. Bedwell's original strategies will enable you to step back, look at your challenges from a completely different viewpoint and take effective action. His program is full of compelling ideas that will help you successfully face and resolve problems in your professional and personal life.

ADULT LEARNING LEVELS: Planner/Supplier, All levels

CHAIR OF PROGRAM: Dvorah A. Evans, CMP, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

David Abadie, Abadie & Associates

Deborah Cohen, Urban League of Greater Dallas

Stephanie Rich, IMPROV Comedy Club

Crystal Simmons, MPI D/FW Student Committee

Krystal Simpkins, Dr. Steve Bedwell-Perspective Power! (Speaker)

Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP, MAC Meetings & Events LLC.

#### Host Facility & Sponsor

### Omni Mandalay Hotel Las Colinas

Patterned after the exotic charm of a Burmese city, the Omni Mandalay Hotel in Las Colinas is a unique oasis that puts you close to the business and cultural attractions of Dallas. Located on the Mandalay Canal in Irving, Texas' prestigious Las Colinas Urban Center, the Omni Mandalay invites you to experience the elegance of a luxury hotel with a sophisticated Asian touch. The Omni Mandalay Hotel is a four-diamond destination that offers the Dallas areas largest guest room accommodations, impeccable furnishings, contemporary amenities, state-of-the-art meeting facilities and a world-class art collection. Just 10-15 minutes from Dallas-Fort Worth Airport or Love Field.

#### DIRECTIONS

**FROM THE NORTH - VIA I-35E SOUTH:** From I-35E take highway 635 West, exit at Valley View Lane. Make a left turn onto Valley View. At 2nd light, (about 100 yards after 1st light), turn left (this is O'Connor Road, but it is not well marked). You will stay on O'Connor Blvd. for about 2 miles until you come to Las Colinas. The 3rd light will be Las Colinas Blvd. The Omni Mandalay hotel is the big, white building to the left.

**FROM DOWNTOWN DALLAS:** Take 35E North stay in LEFT LANE to 114 West (towards DFW Airport). Take 114 West to O'Connor exit. Take a right on O'Connor, go one block. Take a right on Las Colinas Boulevard. The Omni Mandalay will be on the left. *Drive time: Approximately 25 minutes*

**FROM FORT WORTH:** Take 35W North to 820 East. Take 820 East to 183 East. Exit on O'Connor. Take a left on O'Connor. Drive approximately 2 miles on O'Connor. Take a right on Las Colinas Boulevard. The Omni Mandalay will be on the left. *Drive time: Approximately 45 minutes*

## Flex Your Perspective Power!

Thursday, September 28, 2006

OMNI HOTELS

### Omni Mandalay Hotel Las Colinas

221 E. Las Colinas Boulevard

Dallas (Irving), TX 75039

Phone: (972) 556-0800 • Fax: (972) 556-0729

11:00 am - 11:30 am	Chapter Orientation
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration & Reception
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Luncheon and Program

#### Parking:

**Valet \$8 • Self-Park Garage Complimentary**

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. ONLINE**

**by 2:00 p.m., Monday, September 25th**

Go to the "Events" section at [www.mpidfw.org](http://www.mpidfw.org)

## August Meeting Chapter Partners

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

### Facility

Arlington Convention Center  
Mark Wisness

### August Monthly Meeting Sponsor

Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Brenda Scott  
Robert Sanchez, CMP

### Food and Beverage

Arlington Convention Center Catering  
Leanne Parma

### Stage Décor and Centerpieces

Dream Captured Event Design  
Brian Smiley

### Photography

J Woods Custom Photography  
Jim Woods

### AV Services and Video Production

J & S Audio Visual, Inc.  
John Anderson

### Program Emcee

Celena Rae

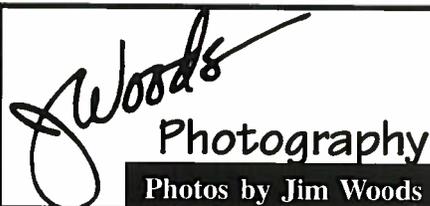
Provided by: Rainbow Entertainment  
Richard Pollak, MBA

### Panelists

Erin Donahue - Omni Hotels  
Pat McCain, CMP - Krisam Group  
Tim Parker - BeautiControl, Inc.  
Brenda Scott - Arlington CVB  
Lisa South, CMP, CSEP - Be Seen LLC  
Diane Steele, CMP - Experient

### Local Attraction Booths and Prizes

Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Arlington Convention Center  
Wyndham Hotel Arlington  
Hilton Hotel Arlington  
Crowne Plaza Suites  
Coach America  
Dallas Cowboys  
Portofino Restaurant  
Six Flags Over Texas  
Texas Rangers  
Legends of the Game Baseball Museum  
UTA Planetarium



## August Meeting Highlights by Carole May, CTP, CMP Director of Monthly Pro Meeting Planner Declares a Tied Contest in The Venue Dating Game!



Thank you Arlington CVB for your sponsorship support and involvement! Robert Sanchez, CMP (center), flanked by his colleagues from the Arlington CVB, exuded his usual vibrant enthusiasm while visiting with members and guests at the August program.

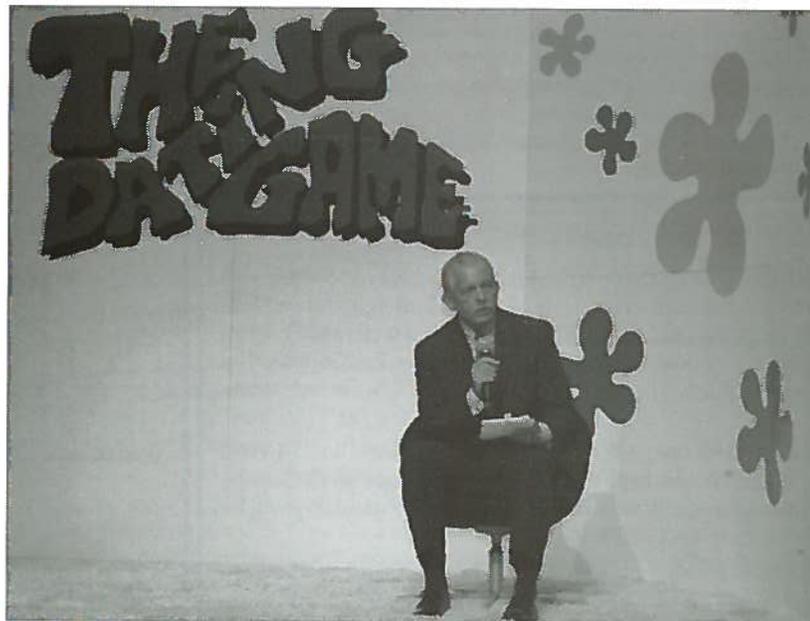
Lights, Camera, ACTION! Direct from Fun Central (Arlington, Texas), the August meeting proved to be both entertaining and educational for all who attended. With just under 200 guests, we had all of the components of a well-rounded program that included exhibitors from Arlington hotels and event venues, a large open reception area with lots of expertly-prepared appetizers, a large meeting space set with extensive A/V equipment provided by J&S Audio-Visual, a multicultural menu provided by Culinaire International and a long list of prizes provided by our meeting sponsor, the Arlington CVB and Arlington area businesses.

The Venue Dating Game set, provided by Dream Captured Event

Design, was complete with shag carpet, the Dating Game background mock-up and the Dating Game theme off by our Show Host, up-and-coming Dallas Stars National Anthem BeautiControl, Inc. played the role who was in the process of looking for sales meeting with 250 attendees represented a host of service providers identifying ideal meeting site planning services. Our convention at Arlington CVB (representing C&A representing NSOs, GSOs and Group (representing Hotel F&E Experient (representing site companies) and Lisa South (representing Independent M



Recording artist Celina Rae brought her vibrant energy to the stage as the "Venue Dating Game" Emcee.



Tim Parker (Beauticontrol, Inc.) was the perfect "Eligible Client" to parlay questions to the "Eligible Site Selection Providers" on the panel!



Panelists for the August Meeting at the Arlington CVB: Erin Donahue, CMP - Experient (former



ie always- eloquent Linda DiMario, resident & CEO of Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau, was bursting with pride for the city of Arlington while telling the audience about numerous projects in the works for future development.

music. The program was kicked off by recording artist and official host, Celena Rae. Tim Parker of one of our corporate meeting planner firms is helping to bring the ideal site for a company event. Our team of five contestants are providers who assist planners in selecting the ideal site and providing other vital meeting services. Contestants were Brenda Scott of the Dallas Convention Center (3s), Erin Donohue of Omni Hotels (4s), Pat McCain, CMP of Krisam Group (5s), Diane Steele, CMP of Conferon (6s), and Lisa South, CMP, CSEP of Be Seen, LLC (7s).

The game itself, played like the original Dating Game, consisted of a series of questions from meeting planner Tim Parker to determine which of the five contestants was best suited to assist him with his meeting plan. As the game continued, each of the five contestants rose to the occasion by outlining the advantages of using their respective services, and even tried to persuade the planner to come for a site visit.

The conclusion? To the surprise of the audience, planner Tim Parker declared the contest a tie. He agreed that they all had much to offer and decided to go back to his office and send them all an RFP. The show closed with the traditional "throwing of a kiss" to the enlightened audience.

Thanks to the Arlington CVB, Arlington Convention Center and other Arlington business partners who provided a long list of prizes for the JPA drawings, evaluation drawings and numerous random drawings. Our prize donors were the Hilton Hotel Arlington, Wyndham Hotel Arlington, Crowne Plaza Suites, The Dallas Cowboys, Six Flags Over Texas, Legends of the Game Baseball Museum, Portofino Restaurant, Coach America, The UTA Planetarium, Texas Rangers, and a gift basket chock-full of event tickets and special gifts from The Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau.

This month's program committee was chaired by Robert Sanchez, CMP of the Arlington CVB. Committee members included Tammy Herring (Wyndham Arlington Hotel), Carrie Elder, CMP (Texas Society of CPAs), Kim Reynolds, CMP of Alliance Data, and Dan Titchywy (Stage Right).



Our chapter loves to give "From the Heart" in support of the chapter's charity outreach each month. Kelly Roche, Irving CVB; Denise Howieson, CMP, Zoom.7 Genuine Meetings & Events; Amber Johnson - Verizon Place Hotel and Conference Center.



Peg Wolschon, CMP, CTP (left), visits with Nancy Bryan (Dallas Marriott Las Colinas) and guests during the reception.

A special thank you goes to Director of Professional Development, Kim Reynolds, CMP of Alliance Data who was responsible for engineering the script and overseeing the show production, and to the Arlington Convention Center Staff who went beyond the call of duty to in the facility logistics and assisting the committee. 🌐

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Chair:

Robert Sanchez, CMP - Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau

Tammy Herring - Wyndham Arlington Hotel

Carrie Elder, CMP - Texas Society of CPA's

Kim Reynolds, CMP - Alliance Data

Dan Titchywy - Dallas Stage Right

#### Contributing Support Team

Mark Wisness - Arlington Convention Center

David Kynard - Arlington Convention Center

Justin Grimsley - Arlington Convention Center



Program provided diverse perspectives of specialization for site selection! Brenda Scott (Dallas Convention Center); Erin Donohue-Omni Hotels; Pat McCain, CMP - Krisam Group; Diane Steele, CMP (Conferon); Lisa South, CMP, CSEP - Be Seen, LLC



# SPECIAL EVENT - A Night at the Opera!

By Tanisha Thrash Ward

The Dallas Opera invites you to join us in celebrating our 50th Anniversary Season by attending a performance of our season opener, Giuseppe Verdi's *Nabucco* on Saturday, November 18, 2006! We're offering complimentary tickets to the first 150 MPI D/FW members to RSVP (each member may request up to two complimentary tickets). Included with your ticket is an exclusive pre-performance champagne reception.

To reserve your seat(s), send an e-mail to [amici@dallasopera.org](mailto:amici@dallasopera.org) by Monday, November 6, 2006 and include "MPI" in the subject line. Tickets are limited to the first 150 reservations and will be granted on a "first come, first serve" basis.

## Performance Details:

**Nabucco** - This exotic, gripping and heart-rending drama contains some of Giuseppe Verdi's most powerful choral music, including the show-stopping Chorus of the Hebrew slaves, "Va pensiero."

For more information, or to listen to a synopsis, visit [http://www.dallasopera.org/the\\_season/060701-synopsis.php](http://www.dallasopera.org/the_season/060701-synopsis.php).

**Date:** Saturday, November 18, 2006

**Location:** Music Hall at Fair Park (909 1st Ave, Dallas, TX 75210)

**Time:** 6:45 PM - Pre-performance champagne reception

7:30 PM - Performance begins (promptly - there is no late seating)

**Deadline:** November 6, 2006; [amici@dallasopera.org](mailto:amici@dallasopera.org); include "MPI" in subject line

**Event Chair:** Tanisha Thrash Ward, 214-443-1013 or [Tanisha@dallasopera.org](mailto:Tanisha@dallasopera.org)

## Save the Dates for Upcoming Chapter Special Events:

- December 14, 2006 - Holiday Party with Auction/Raffle
- February 22, 2007 - Round Up Supplier Showcase
- April 2007 - Annual Golf Outing

More information to come soon!



Tony Cummins, CMP

## Putting it All in Perspective!

Tony Cummins, CMP  
VP of Education

Our September meeting has a lot to do with our perspective. That is, how we see things...how we process information and what we do with it. We've all heard the saying that "the more things change, the more they stay the same". So, how does that apply to our monthly Chapter meetings and the way we evaluate them?

As a 14-year member of MPI D/FW, and having served on the Board for a combined total of 5+ years, I have read hundreds of monthly meeting comments and will continue to do so with eager anticipation.

Let there be no question about your attendance at monthly programs:  
1) We're glad you're there! 2) We value your input! 3) Continue to be candid and tell us what you think!

That said, I believe Chapter activities are a learning lab for all of us...a place to experiment, to think out loud, to create and to step outside our comfort zone... knowing full well that a colleague is nearby to catch us when we fall.

So let's think about the "learning lab" perspective when we comment on meetings. Measure the work you see at a monthly program based on the standards and best practices of the industry (participating as a professional) versus your own personal preferences for chicken or fish (participating as a guest). Make the monthly meeting experience a miniature learning lab for yourself and an opportunity to comment accordingly.

What things were done well or not so well compared to your expectations as a meeting professional? How could we have done better? Did you notice that the flags on stage were properly set? Did food service personnel follow the proper steps of service (ladies first, serve left, pull right)? Were guest speakers and dignitaries properly introduced? What "best practices" were overlooked?

Check your own awareness level and share your good ideas along the way. In the mean time, and all in jest, here's my "List of Things That Do Not Change":

- The room was too hot (It's 105 degrees outside. How about a table on the patio?)
- The room was too cold (Says who? The poor woman next to you is having hot flashes!)
- Not a good location for people from Dallas (We're the Dallas-FORT WORTH Chapter)
- Don't serve fish (The fish might appreciate this comment. To quote a phrase, maybe we should "eat mor chikin."®)
- I had a hard time getting there (Lewis and Clark had similar difficulties)
- My entrée was cold (The menu card said Luncheon Salad Trio)
- Parking was a challenge (We asked them to move the lot for us. It was on the BEO)
- My name badge wasn't ready when I got there (we checked the roster and you failed to register)

Keep the cards and comments coming! See you soon! 



Jesh Batra

# Leadership Compass Points Us in the Right Direction

The first Leadership Event for the 2006-2007 term was presented on Tuesday, August 15th and was sponsored by InterContinental Hotels Group and hosted at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Park Central. Thanks to Terri White of InterContinental Hotels Group and to Karen Buda & Robin Farrell with Crowne Plaza Suites for making this happen!

Our distinguished speaker & friend Steven G. Foster, CMP, Managing Partner of Circle R Ranch spoke on the topic of *The Leadership Compass: Defining Leadership Roles with Authenticity and Accountability*, encompassing "Leadership Development," "Strategic Planning" and "Team Success."

This program was a golden opportunity for participants to learn from a highly respected industry colleague and award winning industry leader who has been recognized through the years as the recipient of many industry honors, including: MPI "Marion N. Kershner Memorial Chapter Leader Award", Event Solutions Magazine's 2001 "Event Site Professional of the Year Award" and MPI-DFW's 2000, "Supplier of the Year Award" and 2004 "President's Award." Steven has been an active member of MPI-DFW Chapter since 1991, serving as President of the Chapter in 1999-2000.

During the program, we discussed the four major leadership styles: Warrior, Visionary, Architect and Diplomat. We have a very diverse chapter, and every style brings strengths to the table, which can come together and create a successful organization.

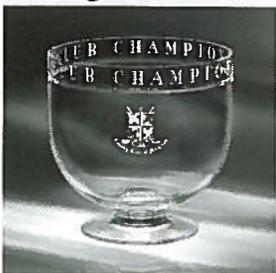
The afternoon brought together industry leaders: Past Presidents, new and senior chapter members and guests participated to support the MPI D/FW Chapter and influence our membership to take on challenging leadership roles within the chapter.

After the program wrapped up, we all stayed for the networking reception where numerous conversations took place encouraging members to join committees and consider leadership roles in the future within the MPI D/FW Chapter.

It was a great event..... 



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Tara Judd

## Advancing Women

MPI D/FW Chapter Women's Leadership Committee

### WLI Metamorphosis

By Tara Judd

*"If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse gift will find a fitting place."* -Margaret Mead

As we begin a new MPI D/FW Chapter year, the *Women's Leadership Initiative Committee* has undergone a metamorphosis into the *Women's Leadership Committee (WLC)*, which serves in a more integrated role in overall professional education for the chapter.

As we continue to work in an ever changing and more accelerated environment it is critical to review the skills needed to not only keep pace but to thrive and create success. WLC will continue the WLI tradition of helping members develop their leadership skills by planning educational workshops with topics that recognize the many variables affecting leadership.

The Women's Leadership Committee hopes to further the understanding of the general skills needed for success and to address the intrinsic strengths and challenges that different personalities, genders and individuals face that affect leadership style and development. In our industry, we are now fairly accustomed to the use of personality and management style identification techniques to improve communication and team building.

As we learn to work more effectively with team members who are introverted rather than extroverted or the scientific personality instead of the artistic one, we improve our skills. Understanding gender differences in the workplace and in leadership is as crucial as understanding the distinction between personality styles. An example involves communication:

We often laugh at the "she said -he heard" and the "he said -she heard" scenarios that flow through Internet dialogue, film and literature. In reality, this often-comedic situation represents a fundamental miscommunication issue that can affect business relationships within our industry, our company cultures and with our clients. Overcoming the communication (verbal and non-verbal) differences and addressing other gender related challenges in the workplace provide us with additional ways to lead more effectively.

The Women's Leadership Committee is committed to serving as a resource for MPI D/FW Chapter members to develop and hone leadership skills, to recognize and celebrate strengths, to overcome challenges, and to succeed together as industry leaders.

Members interested in participating on the Women's Leadership Committee are encouraged to contact Tara Judd, Chair. Tel: 972-468-2108 or email tarajudd@imagineevents.com. The committee meets once a month on Monday nights from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm.

In addition to education programming and our committee meetings (which also provide an opportunity for great networking and for support) the WLC is compiling a referral list including book titles, articles and web resources for members who are interested in self study on leadership issues in general and on the challenges that women face in the workplace. Please let us know if you have resources that you would like to recommend for the guide. 

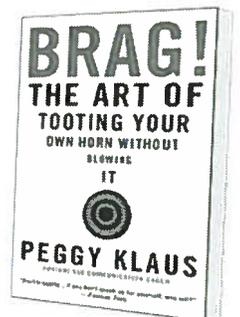
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### Resource of the Month:



***Brag! The Art of Tooting Your Own Horn Without Blowing It***  
by Peggy Klaus

Klaus briskly removes bragging from the list of deadly sins and sets it squarely among the corporate virtues. With pithy anecdotes and insight, she invites us to communicate our identity through well-timed, intelligent and artful bragging.



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS



## 2006 Member Needs Assessment Survey Results Now Online

by Tony Cummins, CMP  
VP of Education

On behalf of the 2005-2006 Membership Committee and the Chapter Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the results of the 2006 Member Needs Assessment Survey. The survey produced a high return of 18% and we obtained some very good results. As Chapter members who have a stake in our future and in the success of our Chapter, take time to review the results.

There are two ways to view, read and understand the results, by going online to [www.mpidfw.org](http://www.mpidfw.org).

A narrative, summary report has been posted on the Chapter website. The summary report provides background information on the development and administration of the survey, a breakdown of associated expenses, and a written summary of the results by area.

There is also a link on the web site that will take you a Zoomerang page where you can view the composite results of each question. You will not see every individual comment. However, comments entered in the survey have been summarized in the report and provided to key Board members who are responsible for follow-up.

As you read and review the results, please know that your Chapter Board of Directors is committed to utilizing the results as a tool for future direction and action. Our sole purpose is to serve you, the member.

If you have questions or comments about the survey results, please feel free to contact me at [tcummins.mpi@swbell.net](mailto:tcummins.mpi@swbell.net). 

## 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](http://www.mpidfw.org).

Brenda J. Scott.....Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Sherry L. Miles.....American Airlines Group & Meeting Travel  
Mary T. Butler.....American Airlines  
CJ Comu.....SUN Management Group Inc.  
Susan K. Cormier, CMP.....SKC Resources  
Colette M. Bennett.....Aviall Services Inc.  
Brenda Hartl.....The Transcend Group  
Elise Jones.....Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Cindy Wright.....The Staubach Company  
Heather Stantic.....ExxonMobil  
Brian Alden.....Hotel St. Germain  
Noel Pearce.....Quest Drape  
Diane M. Knippa, CMP.....Nortel  
Wayne R. Medina.....Accenture  
Mike Weiner.....International Speakers Bureau  
David McWhorter.....The Peabody Little Rock  
Pat Davis, CMP.....  
Diane R. Allen.....Spartan Consulting  
Lauren Ozanus.....Student  
Margaret Willis.....KPMG LLP  
Jane Mozingo.....The Westin  
Aleigha Frazier.....Society of Petroleum Engineers  
Tonya Clifton.....Renaissance Worthington  
Diana A. White, CTC.....American Express Global Services  
Lauren Randa Hasson.....Lauren Randa Hasson  
Angela M. Kell.....The Capital Grille  
Corrie J. Hale.....Comfort Suites  
Joe A. Mecca.....Superior Expo, Ltd.  
Amanda Heston.....Pizza Hut Park  
Susan M. Miller.....AVHQ  
Jerri J. Johnson.....Peppermill Hotel  
Shannon E. Heign.....Event Link International, Inc.  
Amanda A. Webb.....Fox Sports Grill  
Coleen M. Brooks.....Baptist General Convention of Texas  
Larry W. Campo.....Eddie Deen's Ranch and Catering  
Noel Collins.....Vino 100



Leah Belasco  
'Grapevine' Columnist

## Heard it through the Grapevine!

**Peg Wolschon, CTP, CMP**, has joined *Physicians' Education Resource* as Senior Meeting Manager. Peg previously was with *Tenet Healthcare*.

Moved to California! **Ruth Gallenberg** is now Senior Sales Manager-Corporate and Government groups-at *Embassy Suites (A John Q. Hammons property)* in Monterey, California. Ruth had been at *Embassy Suites Dallas Love Field* for 8 years. Thanks to Ruth for a great job as our chapter's Director of Monthly Programs 2005-2006. Ruth plans to be active in the Northern California Chapter.

**Jamie Graham** is in the newly created Dallas-based position of National Sales Manager for Texas and the East Coast for *Sonoma County Tourism Bureau* in California. Jamie previously was with *Crescent Court Hotel* and *Mansion on Turtle Creek*.

**Angela Kell** has joined *The Capital Grille* as Sales and Marketing Manager. Angela formerly was with *The Palm* restaurant and *Andrew Ormsby Catering*.

**Ricky Robichaud, CMP** has joined *Rx Worldwide Meetings* as Meeting Manager.

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



www.mpidfw.org

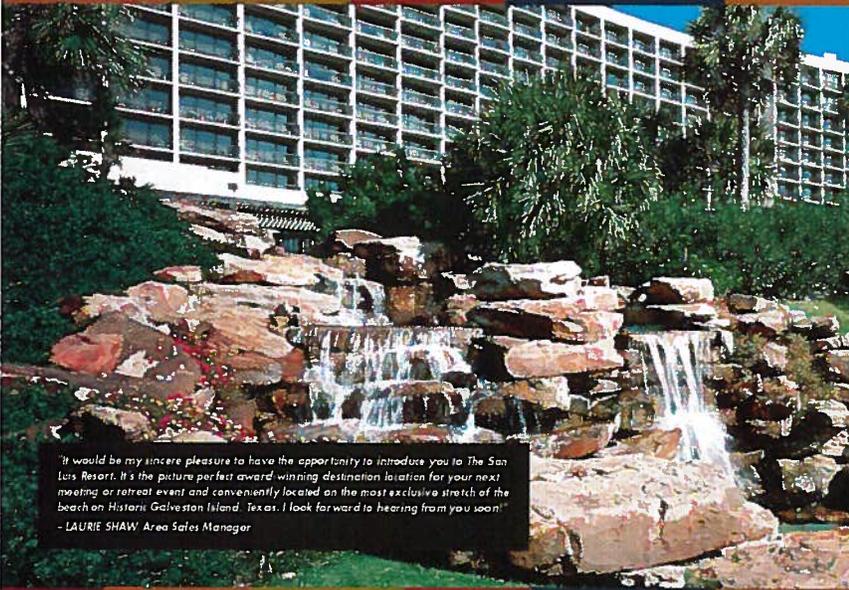
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- LAURIE SHAW Area Sales Manager

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