

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

DEFINE



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL OHIO CHAPTER

MARCH - JUNE 2022

Happy 50th Meeting Professionals International!



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The Official Newsletter of MPI Ohio Chapter

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MPIOH Mission Statement:

To enhance the overall quality and awareness of the meetings industry by ensuring the professional development and growth of its membership through targeted educational programs and networking opportunities.

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President's Column

As they say, time flies when you're having fun – and this year as your president has certainly flown!

As we celebrate **MPI's 50th anniversary**, I wanted to share some of my favorite things:

- Connections made at events
- Current, past, and future board and committee members
- Learning at different events (hello my fellow Excel gurus!)
- Caesar's annual Las Vegas trip auction item – and getting to see the Backstreet Boys!
- Events being back in person!

All my favorite things have one big common denominator – **YOU!** As board members, we love our chapter and want our members to succeed. While I was intimidated to follow Shannon Sprau, I quickly learned that I didn't have to worry because you all welcomed me every time. I'm SO excited for Joan O'Connor's year as Madam President and know that you all will welcome her as well. (And I hear we're going to continue updating our MPIOH Spotify Playlist!)

On behalf of the entire board, thank you for being part of this journey.



Here's one last song to leave you with:

Here comes the Sun, doo-doo-doo-doo

Here comes the Sun and I say

It's all right

Little darling

It's been a long cold lonely winter

Little darling

It feels like years since it's been here

Here comes the Sun, doo-doo-doo-doo

Here comes the Sun and I say

It's all right

Little darling

The smiles returning to the faces

Little darling

It seems like years since it's been here

Here comes the Sun

Here comes the Sun and I say

It's all right

~The Beatles

All my best,

Adriane

Adriane Cisa

50 MPI[®]

YEARS

Celebrating 1972... when MPI began!

37th U.S. PRESIDENT

Richard Nixon

U.S. POPULATION

209.9 million

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

*NBA Finals - LA Lakers 4 to 1
over the New York Knicks*

*MLB World Series - Oakland Athletics
4-3 over the Cincinnati Reds*

*NFL Super Bowl VI - Dallas Cowboys
24-3 over the Miami Dolphins*

FAMOUS MOVIES

*The French Connection
The Godfather*

NEWS & CULTURE

*Watergate Scandal
Apollo 17 mission
HBO offers paid TV
Flared pants, Velour shirts,
& Platform shoes*

GENERATION X STARS

BORN in 1972

*Sofia Vergara, Dwayne Johnson,
Eminem, Cameron Diaz,
Marlon Wayans, Ben Affleck*

AVERAGE INCOME

\$11,800 a year

MINIMUM WAGE

\$1.60 an hour

COST OF LIVING

New home - \$27, 550

Monthly rent - \$165

VW Beetle - \$1,780

Gallon of gas - \$0.55

Kodak camera - \$28

Movie ticket - \$1.70

Postage stamp - \$0.08

Dozen eggs - \$0.52

POPULAR SONGS

*American Pie, The Candy Man,
The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face*

1972

Founded as
Meeting
Planners
International

1977

Chartered 7
new chapters,
including
OHIO



50MPI
YEARS

1991

First European
Chapter
chartered in
Italy

1994

Changed the
name to
Meeting
Professionals
International



NOT “GOODBYE”, JUST “SEE YOU LATER”

50 years of MPI. My time in this organization is just a small blip in the history books. While I haven't made a permanent mark on our industry yet, the MPI Ohio Chapter has certainly left an indelible mark on my heart.

I joined MPI in the summer of 2018 knowing I needed to do more industry networking, and assuming this would do the trick. Two years later, all I had to show for it was a couple of paid invoices for membership and 2-3 appearances at chapter meetings in Northeast Ohio. I can't say I remember anyone I met at those events, but that's because I was just “checking the box” of networking.

Fast forward to the spring of 2020 when the thing-that-shall-not-be-named fell into our laps, I realized I needed to kick it into high gear. Rather than relying on a membership in name only, I began to get involved by volunteering on the marketing committee for MPI Ohio. And that's when my eyes were opened for the first time to what networking truly is.

As a young professional I had viewed networking as a transactional exchange for purely business purposes - awkward, ingenuine and so not me. But actually, getting active with MPI Ohio taught me what networking really is - it's simply making friendships.

The friendships I made through MPI Ohio pushed me to be even more bold and make friends across the country, and around the world. It led to me volunteering on MPI Global's RISE committee, speaking at WEC, being invited to speak at IMEX, signing brand deals with industry tech companies and more.

Due to the prodding of several MPI Ohio members I even launched a podcast in Fall of 2021. Networking is truly like the best friendships; your industry colleagues that have your back will push you to attain the things you never dreamed of, they'll suggest your name in rooms when you're not around, and they'll support you when you reach your dreams by clapping in the front row in the audience. I'll never forget the table of MPI Ohio members who supported me at WEC and were my biggest cheerleaders at the event. It's much easier to put yourself out in the world, when you know you've got a supportive fan base back home. and that's what MPI Ohio chapter will always be for me - home.

Some of you are aware that I have now officially relocated down to North Carolina and I'll be participating with the Carolinas chapter, but I'll keep an affiliate membership here in Ohio. So this is not goodbye but rather see you later because that's one thing about home, you can always return.

Thank you MPI Ohio for the love, the laughter, the support and more. You'll never know how big of an impact you've had on me in my career journey and I am eternally grateful.

Deanna is a hostess at heart. This led to her career in event planning which has allowed her to coordinate countless opportunities to connect with clients, vendors and stakeholders across all social strata. With more than 20 years of customer service related work, taking care of clients, members and attendees is second-nature and the driving force behind her work.

A CMP since 2017, and a DES recipient, Deanna is also an active member of Meeting Professionals International, currently serving as Director of Marketing for the Ohio chapter, and a previous member on the RISE Awards committee globally.

Deanna now works for REI as a Program Manager in the Employee Events and Recognition department. In 2021 she also launched the Experience Junkies Podcast featuring interviews with people across industries that seek the “joie de vivre” everyday.

Mark Your Calendar!

JUNE 15, 2022 SPECIAL EVENT

MPI Ohio Annual Recognition /
Appreciation Event & 34th Annual
Education & Scholarship Fundraiser
— Columbus, OH

SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 IGNITE INDUSTRY EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Hilton Columbus at Easton
— Columbus, OH

OCTOBER 19, 2022 CHAPTER MEETING

Cheap & Cheerful: Restoration Hard-
ware on Ikea Budgets Event Design
— Cincinnati, OH

**All dates and locations are subject to change*

JULY 27, 2022 PLANNER & SUPPLIER FORUM

— Virtual Event

AUGUST 17, 2022 CHAPTER MEETING

Retaining Talent — Cleveland, OH

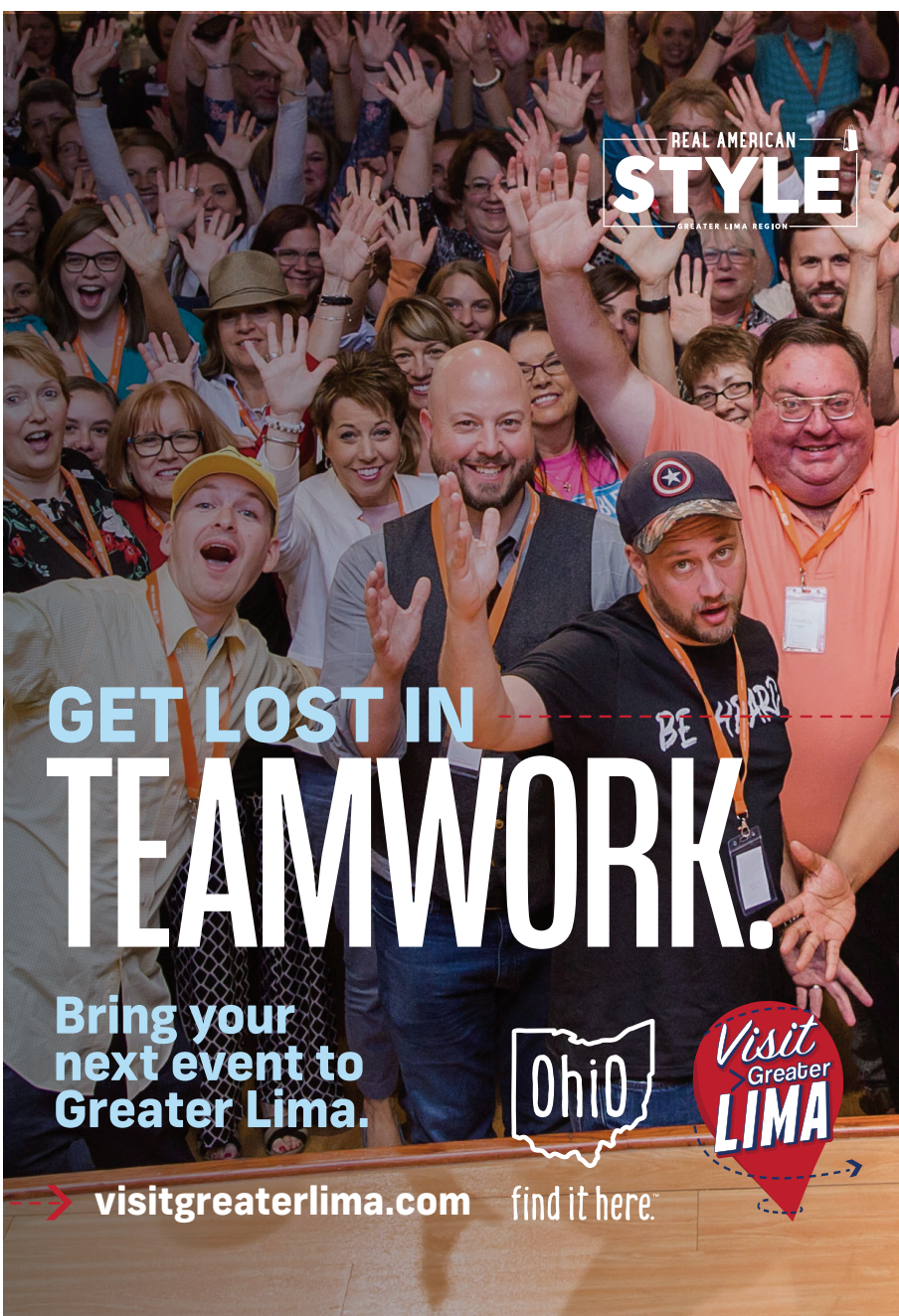
AUGUST 25, 2022 CORNAMENT NETWORKING EVENT

Cincinnati, Columbus,
Toledo, Cleveland

Host the Next MPIOH Chapter Meeting!

Spotlight your hotel, property or meeting space by sponsoring an MPIOH Chapter luncheon! In addition to gaining immediate exposure to meeting professionals attending the event, your hotel will receive exposure to MPI Ohio Chapter members and non-members throughout Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Indiana with over \$1,600 of sponsorship advertising.

Call or email Anita Washburn,
Director of Strategic Partnerships,
to secure your date at
education@mpioh.org



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Celebrate!

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT MPI...

I love that MPI connects me with like-minded people who are passionate about the events industry. Whether it be through an educational event or through volunteer opportunities, it's always a pleasure to meet and speak with other planners and suppliers. MPI has helped me grow my career by being engaged in their community.

~TAYLOR CORTOLILLO

Being a member of MPI Ohio means I have cheerleaders in the industry. Chapter members have referred me for consulting opportunities, suggested me as a speaker at events, attending speaking sessions and more - just to show support. It feels so good having people in the industry that support me time and again.

~DEANNA NWOSU

I love the organization for providing golden opportunities to network, gain industry knowledge and participate in an organization of caring, compassionate professionals.

~LISA SWAN

What I love about MPI is the sense of community and unconditional friendships.

~JOAN O'CONNOR

The opportunities to share ideas and learn within the MPI community locally, regionally, and internationally.

~JOSH ANDERSON

Sharing ideas, connecting with others and elevating our industry brings joy to my professional and personal life!

~ANGELA HOFFORD

Our industry is built on relationships, which is true of MPI Ohio. I have met planners and suppliers I would not have otherwise had an opportunity to connect with had I not been a part of the MPI Ohio community. For me, this is one of the reasons I find my membership in MPI so valuable.

~JENNIFER SAUBER

I love that no matter how long it's been since you've seen a fellow MPIOH member, when you see them it's like no time has passed at all.

~BETH HECQUET

You meet many new people, both planners and sales people. You can have great conversation because at this point, we are all going through the same issues, and it is easy to talk to each other because we understand each other.

~VIANETTA JOHNSON

The IMITATION PRINCIPLE

3 Ways to relate to Humans Again

By Mark Ostach

It's always been somewhat of a challenge for human beings to relate to each other.

The way we see the world.

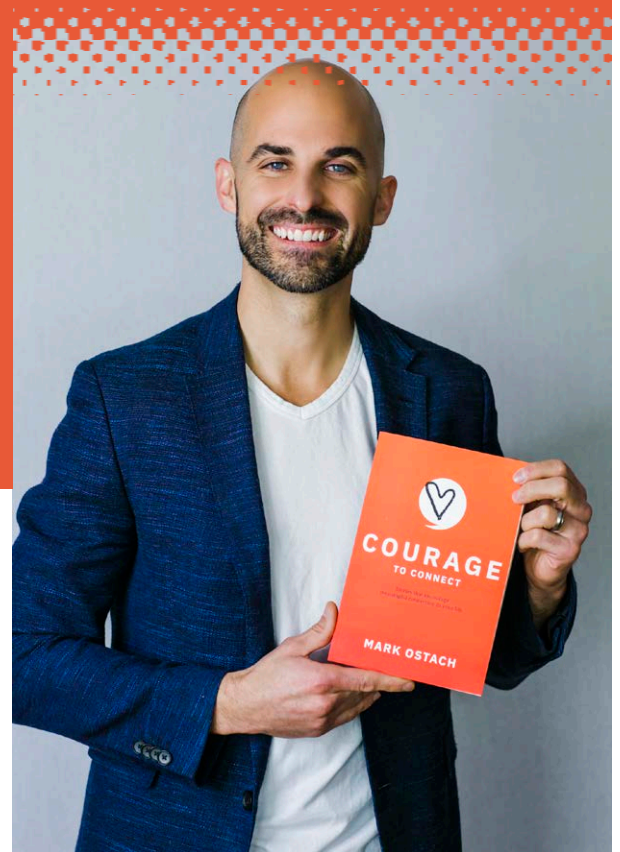
The make-up of our personalities.

The differences in our opinions.

These things often create a natural distance between us. Unfortunately, this distance has grown over the past 18 months amid remote work and mask wearing, along with polarizing views on masks, vaccinations & politics and many of us living in a spirit of fear. But what if I told you the most significant factor separating you from those around you sits at the center of your thinking? Let me introduce you to the Imitation Principle

The Imitation Principle

It's pretty straightforward: You reflect what you receive. That's it. The things you think about, talk about, and tend to obsess about, are the things you reflect. And the people you come into contact with each day receive those things. Like a sponge ringing out water, your life rings out the water that you've previously soaked up. When we soak up thoughts from the fountain of our future fears, we clamp a stronghold on the water that is intended to fuel our present state of life.



Unfortunately, the more we focus on the things we don't want, the more fuel we give them leading to those things pouring out of us and onto people around us. This can hinder our ability to relate to one another, differences in all. If you want to change the way you relate to your family, co-workers, neighbors, or friends, the imitation principle may be a concept worth exploring more.

Three Ways to Relate to Each Other

I'd like to offer you 3 suggestions to get started:

Take Inventory of What You Consume:

You've heard the saying, 'you are what you eat', but have you heard the saying, 'you are what you consume'? Tracking the daily news for your sense of safety will leave you frazzled. Calling your friend to gossip or complain doesn't move the needle on your goals & aspirations. Stop doom scrolling & rethink your digital caloric intake and intentions before calling a friend to catch-up.

Reevaluate Your Top 5 Connections:

The people you most connect with are the people you most reflect with. This can be a hard truth to face. We tend to surround ourselves with people who think like us. It creates a sense of connection even if we are coming together to celebrate our fears! Consider connecting with new people who reflect the things that you desire to receive (such as peace, joy, & kindness) so that they may help you see things from a different perspective. As Albert Einstein once said, "No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it."

Practice Modeling Forgiveness:

Mitch Albom recently wrote an open invitation to our nation to practice forgiveness. In the article, he wrote, "It takes enormous fortitude to forgive. The falsely accused man who loses decades in prison yet forgives his jailers? The parents who lose a child to a drunk driver, yet forgive the person behind the wheel? The Amish community in Pennsylvania who forgave the gunman who shot and killed children in their one-room schoolhouse, and even raised financial support for his widow? These are examples of strength, not weakness. And if that strength can be found in such extreme cases, you wonder why we find it so hard to forgive in our daily interactions."

Closing Reflections

To be clear, I'm not discouraging safety measures in your health nor am I suggesting that we all need to think or act the same way. However, I am encouraging you to take inventory of what you are reflecting into the world.

We were created for community, unity, and a deep sense of belonging. We were made to be together.

Taking personal accountability for what we are reflecting onto each other and into the world will bring us closer to accepting each other for our differences while laying a foundation of hope for a better future.

Attract what you expect.

Reflect what you desire.

Become what you respect.

Mirror what you admire.

-Unknown

About Mark Ostach:

Mark Ostach helps people find the courage to connect. A globally recognized speaker on Digital Wellness and frequently featured in the USA Today, Mark has done two TED talks, written 2 books, and spoken to thousands of people encouraging them to embrace a spirit of courage through vulnerability.

Ostach's goal is to restore energy and focus to organizations battling modern life's non-stop pace and growing sense of disconnection. He's done this with organizations that include Universal Studios, Detroit Pistons, Rocket Mortgage, Comerica Bank, DTE Energy, Consumers Energy, Michigan Economic Development Corp, Honigman LLP, Thermo Fisher Scientific, BASF, Allstate, Hitachi, and others.

He is determined to remind the world that human connection is the most powerful connection we have. More can be found on his website. <https://www.markostach.com/>

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