



eCURRENT

A Monthly Digital News Communication for MPI D/FW Members

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President's Message

Happy New Year! Say yes to life

Dear Chapter Members:

Some of you know that I'm a big fan of a writer and author out of Austin, Texas by the name of Ralph Marston. Ralph publishes a daily email series called *The Daily Motivator*. It's one email I receive each day that I look forward to with great anticipation. Today, I choose to share with you, Ralph's recent message entitled "Say yes to life".

Life is begging you to achieve, to succeed, to live at your highest level. Every problem, every joy, every disappointment, every situation is ripe with opportunity for massive fulfillment.

Imagine what can happen when you open yourself up to more of those opportunities. Think of how life can be when you say yes to all it offers.

You don't have to hide from the challenges or let them shut you down. Say yes to the challenges, and engage your ability to transform them into strength and achievement.

Positive possibilities are embedded in everything that happens. Say yes to whatever comes your way, and be the person to forge those possibilities into great value.

Don't get bogged down analyzing how difficult or easy the task might be. Grab the opportunities life is begging you to take, and do what you know you must do.

Shout out a great big, enthusiastic yes to whatever life hands you. And transform it into something great.

Say yes to the opportunities that lie ahead! Happy New Year!



Tony Cummins, CMP, CMM
Chapter President

2016 January Chapter Education Experience!



ANDREW ORMSBY CATERING
CITYPLACE EVENTS

State of the Industry:

Driving Forces in the Hospitality Marketplace and Downstream Implications for Your Meetings

As the economic environment and hotel structure continue to change at a rapid pace, it is important to understand the current outlook, economic concerns and forecasts that will dictate behavior in the Meetings Environment. Our meeting's world has become much

more complex with a variety of issues from room piracy, cyber security, meetings advocacy and Health & Wellness leading the charge. In this dynamic session, industry veteran Michael Dominguez shares the latest trends in the hotel industry and how they affect your meetings and incentives. Gain a better understanding of the economic environment, how structural changes will have an impact in 2015 and beyond, identify ways to optimize your relationships with hotels as well as your key stakeholders. We will also explore the internal and external forces that will continue to pressure meeting design, content dissemination and the need to understand we no longer have attendees, but rather participants in meetings

Learner Objectives:

- Understand Pricing demands in today's meeting market
- Review industry forecast for major North American Markets
- Understand the need for change and rapidly changing technology
- Understand behavior changes in audiences of the future
- Review the future of Meeting Room design and the influences behind the trends.

Additional Agenda items: The Dallas Police Officer of the month will be recognized during this monthly meeting. Please join us to congratulate him/her and their family members, and say thank you for their service.

CityPlace Dallas
2711 North Haskell Avenue
Dallas, TX 75204
214.515.5100

<http://www.cityplaceevents.com>

When: January 28, 2016

Where: CityPlace Dallas

Time: 11:00am - 1:30pm

Early Bird Registration Fees: MPI Member: \$35.00

Non-Member: \$45.00

MPI Student Member: \$25.00

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSSES at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Advance Registration Fees: MPI Member: \$40.00

Non-Member: \$50.00

MPI Student Member: \$25.00

Reserved Table of 8: \$280.00

ON LINE REGISTRATION CLOSSES on Monday, January 25, 2015 at 5:00 P.M.

Walk-in registration will be taken for this program on a first-come, first served basis if seating is available.

Walk-In Fees: MPI Member: \$55.00; Non-Member: \$65.00; Student: \$35.00

[Click for
More Information](#)

Pre-Payment by Credit Card is required.

Driving directions: From the North-Take 75 South, Exit Haskell and take a left, take a right on Weldon. From DFW Airport area, Take 114 East it will merge with 35 E, Take 35 E to Woodall Rogers (To 75/45) then take 75 North, Exit Haskell and turn right, turn right on Weldon.

Self Parking in Parking Garage: COMPLIMENTARY and based on availability. SPECIAL NOTE: There are 4 underground garages. BE SURE to make note of which garage and which level you park on.

THANK YOU to our SPONSORS!



About the Speaker

Michael Dominguez

Senior VP and Chief Sales Officer – MGM Resorts International
Immediate-Past Chairman, International Board of Directors, MPI

Executive Committee, US Travel Association

Co-Chair, Meetings Mean Business Coalition

Co-Chair, APEX Taskforce on Piracy

Michael Dominguez has been active with the MPI Board of Directors for several years, recently serving as Chairman of the Board. He has spent many, many years in the hospitality industry, beginning with food-and-beverage positions and then moving into sales jobs. He served as vice president of sales and marketing for the Palm Springs CVA from 2002 until 2005, when he became vice president of global sales for Loews Hotels. Dominguez worked in that role until June 2012, when he started serving as senior vice president of corporate sales for MGM Resorts International. In June of 2015 he was

promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Sales Officer.



When: February 28, 2016

Where: Hilton Arlington

2401 E Lamar Blvd

Arlington, TX 76006

THANKS TO OUR SPONSOR:



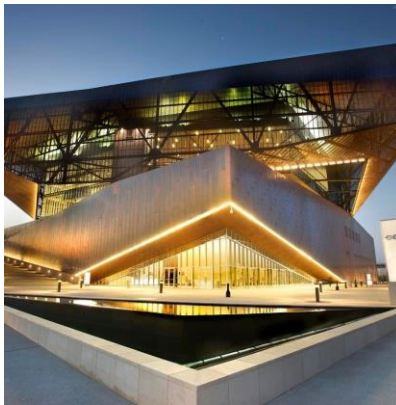


...for the biggest chapter event of the year!

TS Tech Summit Presented by MPI D/FW Chapter

When: March 24, 2016

Where: Irving Convention Center
500 West Las Colinas Boulevard
Irving, TX 75039



MPI TS March Tech Summit



Call For Volunteers!

Are you ready to roll up your sleeves and be a part of something BIG for our chapter and industry? Here's your chance.

Please email Elizabeth Petersen at epetersen@spe.org if you are interested in volunteering!

MPI D/FW March Tech Summit: Thursday, March 24th 2016 Irving Convention Center

- Communications Rockstar: work with press and Irving CVB on promoting the March TS
 - Restaurant Wrangler & Foodie: Taste of Irving
 - Designer: digital and print communication pieces
 - Content Coordinator: email communications
- Mizz Mark Cuban: organize "Shark Tank" type of experience
- Vendor and Sponsorship Liaison: keep close contact with vendors, in-kind donations, and sponsorship fulfillment
 - Technology Nerd: recruit high tech companies to exhibit

MPI D/FW Holiday Luncheon 2015 Recap



Thank you to everyone that joined us at our annual holiday luncheon located at the beautiful Hilton Granite Park Plano. It was a great time with old friends, and we got to make some new friends with the festive match making game - did you find your match? Were you one of the luck ones that got to take home a prize donated by one of our many sponsors? How about the fun layout of the room, and the amazing food provided by Chef

Anthony Bombaci of Hilton Granite Park Plano. It was so nice to have a relaxing atmosphere to enjoy each other's company to close out the year. We hope you took the time to make a slow motion video with AVSD Productions, or take a professional head shot with RC Photographic Productions. The head shots will be distributed no later than next week.

Hats off to the committee who did an outstanding job! The committee included Maggie Halligan with MH Concepts; Michelle Moos with Allied PRA; Peg Wolshon, CMP, CGTA with Calyx Software; and Pam Madewell with R. Fox Designs. Last, but certainly not least, our events would not be possible without our sponsors. Thank you to all of our sponsors that made this event possible, we truly appreciate your support.

Charity of the Quarter



Dallas Lighthouse
for the Blind
focus on opportunity

We have a goal of \$1000 to sponsor 5 blind students with their computer software at \$200 each. We are collecting all donations possible in the form of gift cards OR make check payable to Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind and we will gladly pick them up. We want to present at their Bingo Night dinner on Friday, January 15th. We're asking for volunteers to assist on Bingo Night. Please contact Erin Lucia, 214.214-764-3175.or vpleadership@mpidfw.org.

Updated Chapter Meeting Rates

Since our rate change took effect back in October, we know some of you may have missed the announcement, so here's an update.

We have had the \$35 member rate for ten or more years, and even though we are now making much needed rate changes, the good news is that the \$35 member rate will still be available as an "Early Bird" rate on many of our programs.

In past years, we have not had an early bird rate. We know there are many members who attend month-in and month-out, and to the benefit of our most frequent participants, the early bird rate was established for you. The "Advance Registration" rate is normally available up until 3 days prior. Our walk-in policy will still be based on the availability of seating upon arrival and subject to the "On-Site" rate. So, BE SMART! Register early and register often to maximize your MPI experience!

MPI D/FW Meeting Rates, Effective October 2015

RATE TYPE :	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER	STUDENT
Early Bird*	\$35	\$45	\$25
Advance Registration (Generally 3 days prior)	\$40	\$50	\$25
On-Site	\$55	\$65	\$35

*The Early Bird rates end on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m. Central Time for events held on the 4th Thursday of the month, unless otherwise noted. Special events and networking events held on the 4th Thursday, or on other dates, may have variable rates depending on the nature of the event. Early bird rates may or may not be available for those event types. Early Bird rates are included in the event announcements and published on the registration page.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS



The time has come to begin the nominating process for the 2016-2017 Chapter Board of Directors. MPI D/FW Chapter's continuing and future success depends on the quality of its leaders and is the responsibility of every chapter member. Accordingly, I hope you will consider giving your time, energy and talent to MPI D/FW by expressing an interest in becoming part of the Board of Directors.

The 2016-2017 Nominating Committee is responsible for submitting a slate of candidates for the positions listed below. Nominations for all of these positions will be in accordance with the MPI D/FW Chapter Bylaws. Any planner or supplier member in good standing is

eligible for nomination and election to these positions.

Please consider becoming a candidate for one of the elected leadership positions within the MPI D/FW Chapter. Your interest form should include the skills and talents you can bring to the board, any past involvement with the chapter, recognition of the time commitment involved in a leadership role and a declaration of your employer's support. If you believe you will add strength to the chapter leadership, please do not hesitate to recommend yourself. If you believe a colleague has great leadership skills, please encourage him or her to submit a completed Candidate Interest Form.

Please note that each Leader within our Chapter has followed a different leadership path to their current position and the nominating committee reviews all qualifications and background for each individual who applies for a position on the Board of Directors.

The recommendations to serve are as follows:

- The ideal candidate should have actively served on at least one committee and served in a leadership position within MPI D/FW or another industry association.
- To serve as a Vice President, the ideal candidate should have (but it is not required) one year of Board service with the MPI D/FW Chapter.

Responsibilities of being on the Board:

- Attend a minimum of 10 out of 12 Board meetings – usually held on the second Tuesday of every month
- Attend two Board retreats typically held in June and January
- Attend all other MPI D/FW educational and networking events to the best of your ability

Benefits of serving on the Board:

- Recognition as a leader of one of the largest MPI chapters in the world
- Increased exposure in front of over 600 members for you and your company
- Improved ability to directly impact your industry and local community
- Opportunity to build long lasting relationships with other leaders

Miscellaneous Items to Note:

- All Board members take their positions on July 1, 2014
- All positions are for 1 year terms
- A Vice President may only hold the same office for a maximum of 2 consecutive years
- A list of open positions for the 2016-2017 Board year is [AVAILABLE HERE](#)

Applications must be received on or before Friday, January 15, 2016 to be considered.

Please complete the form and then email to: Amanda Wells, CMP at amandawellscmp@yahoo.com

On January 22, 2016, the nominations committee will meet to determine the slate that we will present to the membership. On or before February 1, 2016, the slate will be emailed to the membership and posted on the Chapter website. Members will have the opportunity to

contest the slate and offer other individuals for consideration no later than February 19, 2016. If less than 10% of the membership contests the slate; the proposed slate will be confirmed. If more than 10% of the membership contests the slate we will conduct an election for all contested positions. The final and binding list of elected chapter officials will be sent to MPI headquarters by March 1, 2016, and announced on the MPI D/FW Chapter Website.

If you have interest in serving on the Board, please complete and remit the [interest form](#), by January 15, 2016. The [interest form](#) is only to identify your interest to serve on the Board and is not a confirmation of your nomination. All forms will be reviewed and verified for qualifications. Qualified applicants will be notified and informed of the additional application steps. In the interim, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at amandawellscmp@yahoo.com or (817) 504-1739.

Best regards,
Amanda Wells, CMP
MPI D/FW Immediate Past President
Chair – Nominating Committee

[2016-2017 CANDIDATE INTEREST FORM](#)

[2016-2017 MPI D/FW AVAILABLE CHAPTER LEADERSHIP POSITIONS](#)



[Leadership Brain Byte](#)

Initiative - You Won't Leave Home Without It

Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit.

-Conrad Hilton, Hotel Executive

Of all the things a leader should fear, complacency should head the list.

-John C. Maxwell

In *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, John shared that leaders are responsible for initiating a connection with their followers. They must always look for opportunities and be ready to take action. What qualities do leaders possess that enable them to make things happen?

1. They Know What They Want

As Napoleon Hill says, "The starting point of all achievement is desire." If you are going to be an effective leader, you've got to know what you want. That's the only way you'll recognize opportunity when it comes.

2. They push themselves to Act

There's an old saying: "You can if you will." Initiators don't wait for other people to motivate them. They know it is their responsibility to push themselves beyond their comfort zone. And they make it a regular practice.

3. They Take More Risks

When leaders know what they want and can push themselves to act, they still have one more hurdle. That's willingness to take risks. Proactive people always take risks. But one of the reasons good leaders are willing to take risks is that they recognize there is a price for not initiating too.

4. They Make More Mistakes

The good news for initiators is that they make things happen. The bad news is that they make lots of mistakes. IBM founder Thomas J. Watson recognized that when he remarked,

"The way to succeed is to double your failure rate." Even though initiating leaders experience more failure, they don't let it bother them. The greater the potential, the greater the chance for failure. Senator Robert Kennedy summed it up: "Only those who dare to fail

greatly can ever achieve greatly. If you want to achieve great things as a leader, you must be willing to initiate and put yourself on the line.

Reflecting On It

Are you an initiator? Are you constantly on the lookout for opportunity, or do you wait for it to come to you? Are you willing to take steps based on your best instincts? Or do you endlessly analyze everything? Former Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca said, "Even the right decision is the wrong decision if it is made too late." When was the last time you initiated something significant in your life? If you haven't pushed yourself lately and gotten out of your comfort zone, you may need to jump-start your initiative.

Bringing It Home

Change your mind-set. Find the source of your hesitation and address it. You won't be able to move forward on the outside until you can move forward on the inside.

Don't wait for opportunity to knock.

Opportunity doesn't come to the door knocking. You've got to go out and look for it. Take stock of your assets, talents and resources. Doing that will give you an idea of your potential. Now, spend every day for a week looking for opportunities. Where do you see needs? Who is looking for expertise you have? What unreached group of people is practically dying for what you have to offer? Opportunity is everywhere.

Take the next step.

It's one thing to see opportunity. It's another to do something about it. As someone once quipped, everyone has a great idea in the shower. But only a few people step out, dry off, and do something about it. Pick the best opportunity you see, and take it as far as you can.

Don't stop until you've done everything you can to make it happen.

Quoted from: The 21 Indispensable Qualities of A Leader - John C. Maxwell



BECOME A SPONSOR

Want Exposure? Consider becoming a sponsor at for our next event!

5 Reasons to Sponsor the next MPI event: Reach 1500 Potential Business Prospects--
New Business Development--Professional and Personal Network Development--Penetrate
a Market--Increase awareness of your service or product.

Why aren't you sponsoring the next MPI event? For more insight or info contact
VPFinance@mpidfw.org

Updates from Global MPI

Monthly Renewal Drawing for January 2016!

Attention Current Members: Renew your MPI membership in January to be entered into a drawing for one of two great prizes. The winner will pick either a Complimentary CMP Study Kit or 1 year extended MPI membership. Renew today! www.mpiweb.org/renew

December Vice President of Membership Competition

The winner will be announced in January 2016.

MPI Global Has Moved!

Prior to the holidays, the MPI Global Headquarters office moved to a new office building.

In order to assist you and your members in a timely manner, please review your chapter documents, website, literature, to update our address.

Old Physical Address: 3030 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1700, Dallas TX 75234-2759

New Physical Address: 2711 LBJ Freeway, Suite 600, Dallas TX 75234-7349

All documents which contained our old physical address have been updated and are available on the CLRP in Membership tab.

Please note the change of address is only needed for documents with listed the 3030 LBJ address. Any document which listed the PO Box did not change.

Transfer Fee Reduced for 2016.

Effective January 1, 2016 the membership transfer fee will be reduced from \$100 to \$50.

Any member who wants to transfer the remaining months of membership to another individual must contact the MPI Global Member Engagement Team to receive the proper paperwork.





Often times members ask, "How can I get more ROI out of my MPI membership?" Getting involved on an MPI D/FW committee is the best way to develop the kind of relationships that have provided MPI members the kind of ROI they have been looking for. We applaud you for taking your membership to all new levels. We look forward to welcoming you onto an MPI D/FW committee.

Click here for [MORE INFORMATION!](#)

30 day Facebook campaign #new30mpidfw

Are you ready to do something new with your first month of the year? We are here to help you start 2016 successfully. Volunteer in our Chapter and make a difference in your life just like many other members have - MPI marriages, life changing career opportunities, long lasting friendships, great business deals are proof of that. Follow our 30 day January campaign **#new30mpidfw** and learn more about MPI stories of our wonderful volunteers.

Are you ready to get involved? Join a Committee here: [VOLUNTEER!](#)



January 2016

FEB 25: MPI DFW Chapter Experience/Luncheon

February 2016

FEB 15: CMP Orientation

FEB 25: MPI DFW Chapter Experience/Luncheon

March 2016

MAR 24: 2016 MPI DFW TS Tech Summit - Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas

April 2016

APR 28: 14th Annual CMP/CMM Breakfast

May 2016

MAY 26: May Chapter Experience/Luncheon

June 2016

JUN 23: MPI DFW Awards of Excellence Dinner



DALLAS/FORT WORTH CHAPTER

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

January 2016 Newsletter

Our mailing address is:

MPI Dallas Fort Worth Chapter

PMB 259

7750 North MacArthur Boulevard, #120

Irving, Tx 75063

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