

# CURRENT

Meeting Professionals International

November 1997

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

## The *CURRENT* is looking for . . . *Love Stories!*



We heard it through the Grapevine—and read it there too! A number of love matches—resulting in engagements and marriages—occurred through MPI relationships. Now that's some kind of *networking!* The *CURRENT* featured some of these love stories last February—and will feature others in 1998. Please let us hear from you soon!

Fax or e-mail your love stories to Director of Communications Kristi Carter (I&S Audio Visual), 972-243-8548 (KRISTIC@aol.com), or *CURRENT* Editor Gracie Hilton (The Write Stuff), 817-467-7439 (gracie@eaze.net)

## The MPI Kids Charity Ball New Name of Annual Fundraiser to Heighten Industry Recognition

The Kids Charity Ball—MPI D/FW's popular, award-winning annual fundraiser extravaganza, has a new name!

The 1998 edition of the five-year-old ball will be known as "The MPI Kids Charity Ball," followed by the tagline, "Produced by Meeting Professionals International Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter."

### Why the change?

"One of the primary purposes of the ball is to gain recognition for the MPI D/FW Chapter, within the industry and in our community," said Cheryl Beasley, CMP (SABRE Travel Information Network), chair of TMKCB 1998.

"Including MPI in the title of the ball should help gain that additional recognition," she said.

"Any member who uses the name of the ball in any correspondence is requested to always include the tagline," Beasley emphasized.

### TMKCB 1998 Plans Underway

"Even though it seems like 'bearly' yesterday that MPI D/FW proudly distributed checks to the beneficiaries of The Kids Charity Ball 1997, it is time to make preparations anew," Beasley said—the "bearly" in her statement referring to the popular Celebrity Bears that have been a part of the ball for the past three years.

TMKCB Committee held its first meeting in early October to outline structure and goals.



Cheryl L. Beasley, CMP  
SABRE Travel Information Network  
Chair, TMKCB 1998

One item of discussion at the October meeting was the selection of a facility for the 1998 ball. Solicitation of suitable properties in the Dallas/Fort Worth area has begun, Beasley said.

The targeted dates are: March 28, 21, 14 and April 4, in order of preference.

### 1998 Beneficiaries

The most important item covered at the meeting was the selection of the beneficiaries for the 1998 Ball, Beasley said.

Chair-elect Pat McCain, CMP (Krisam Hotels and Resorts) sent applications to

*continued on page 3*

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# CURRENT MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

*Committed to Educational Leadership*

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

Meeting Professionals International is the pivotal force in positioning meetings as a primary communication vehicle and a critical component of an organization's success. Meeting Professionals International leads the meetings industry by serving the diverse needs of all people with a direct interest in the outcome of meetings, educating and preparing members for both their changing roles and validating relevant knowledge and skills, as well as demonstrating a commitment to excellence in meetings.

The *CURRENT* is published 12 times yearly for the D/FW Chapter of Meeting Professionals International, the industry's leading educational and networking resource in meetings management. Statements of fact and opinion are the responsibility of individual writers and do not imply collective opinion of the officers or members of MPI.

## Upcoming Chapter Meetings

November 20, Thursday  
Monthly Chapter Meeting  
Arlington Marriott  
"Mediation & Arbitration"  
11:30 a.m.

December 18, Thursday  
Monthly Chapter Meeting  
Omni Mandalay  
Annual Holiday Party  
6:30 p.m.

January 22, Thursday  
Monthly Chapter Meeting  
Wyndham Anatole  
"Government Affairs"  
11:30 a.m.

February 26, Thursday  
Monthly Chapter Meeting  
11:30 a.m.

March 26, Thursday  
Monthly Chapter Meeting  
11:30 a.m.

## CURRENT Deadlines

#### ISSUE

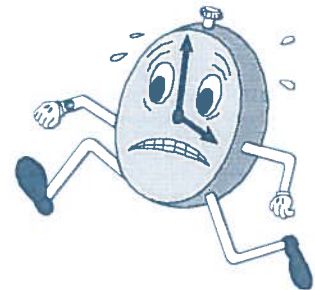
December  
inserts due Dec. 3

January  
inserts due Jan. 7

#### DEADLINE

Nov. 14, Friday

Dec. 19, Friday



## MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

*Committed to Educational Leadership*

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4455 LBJ Freeway • Suite 1200  
Dallas, Texas 75244-5903  
972-702-3000  
FAX: 972-702-3070  
<http://www.mpiweb.org>

### Chapter Meeting Reservation & Attendance Policy

Registration fees will be collected at the door; advance payments are not accepted. If paying by check, please have check completed before approaching registration table. Reservations must be made by RSVP deadline for advance registration fee to apply. Late reservations and walk-ins will be accepted on a SPACE AVAILABLE basis. Cancellations must be made by the RSVP deadline. **No-shows will be billed.** Members are responsible for "no-show" charges for their guests. Guests are limited to attending three meetings per year (spouses are an exception).

### Alcohol Policy MPI D/FW Chapter

The D/FW Chapter of MPI recognizes and supports the many legitimate uses of alcoholic beverages in the process of conducting our business and social activities. As a chapter, we also recognize that the use and consumption of alcohol at our functions carries with it the requirement to consume those beverages responsibly and in keeping with our professional code of ethics and conduct. We strongly oppose the abuse and misuse of alcohol. We further support those efforts that seek to inform our members of the issues concerning alcohol use and in offering assistance to any members seeking further information and/or assistance either personally or professionally.



## TMKCB

continued from page 1

more than a dozen local organizations meeting the eligibility criteria. The 1998 beneficiaries of The MPI Kids Charity Ball were selected from the ten responding applicants.

"The task of selecting the charities is never easy. However, with the criteria developed by last year's committee to use as a guideline—and a lot of thoughtful and lively discussion—the committee selected six beneficiaries," said Beasley.

They are: Bryan's House, Genesis Women's Shelter, Love For Kids, Inc., Richland College Scholarship Fund, A Weekend To Wipe Out Cancer and Our Friend's Place. The first five beneficiaries were also selected in 1997. Our Friend's Place is new on the list.

### Volunteers Needed!

"Much of the excitement of the planning process is yet to come," Beasley said. "We support MPI D/FW President Greg Pynes' challenge to gain 'Involvement Through Service' and encourage

## The MPI Kids Charity Ball

Produced by  
Meeting  
Professionals  
International  
Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

broad participation."

"Being a part of TMKCB provides the opportunity to participate in a terrific educational project, while providing a chance to give of yourself and your talents to those in our community who are less fortunate," she said.

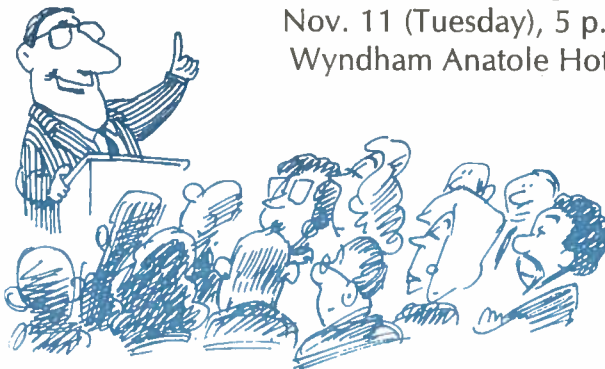
The committee will meet the first Tuesday of each month between now and February 1998. Check the MPI Event Calendar for locations.

For more information, contact TMKCB Chair Cheryl Beasley, CMP (SABRE), 817-963-2025.

## Chapter Leadership Forum

*Interested in chapter leadership?*

If you think you would like to take a more active role in your professional organization, the MPI D/FW Chapter Leadership Forum is an opportunity to learn more about the responsibilities—the *commitment involvement requires*—in serving as a committee chair or board member.



### Chapter Leadership Forum

Nov. 11 (Tuesday), 5 p.m.  
Wyndham Anatole Hotel

To register for the CLF, or to express interest in serving on the Nominating Committee, call Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP (Sterling Hotels & Resorts) — 972-726-9800

## MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®  
Committed to Educational Leadership

Meeting Professionals International is the world's largest association of meetings professionals with more than 14,500 members in 51 countries and 58 chapters and three clubs. MPI serves as the pivotal force in positioning meetings as a primary communication vehicle and a critical component of an organization's success. MPI leads the meeting industry by serving the diverse needs of members and nonmembers alike through its commitment to quality education, continuous improvement and excellence in meetings while upholding high ethical standards.

### D/FW Chapter President

Gregory Pynes  
Hand & Associates Communications  
214.979.4639

### President-Elect

Colleen A. Rickenbacher, CMP  
Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau  
214.571.1040

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Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP  
Sterling Hotels and Resorts  
972.726.9800

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### Kristi Carter

J & S Audio Visual, Inc.  
972.241.5444



# STARS

of the Month



"Stars of the Month" is a recognition program honoring chapter members for involvement in committees and special programs. All Stars of the Month are eligible for a special drawing for two educational scholarship awards to attend the MPI International Conference or other MPI educational opportunities.



**Linda Thornton**  
Fun Factory  
Decorations

Linda Thornton (Fun Factory Decorations), a member of MPI D/FW since December 1992, has been a loyal supporter of chapter projects—in many ways!—for many years. Especially notable is her highly visible and long-term involvement with The MPI Kids Charity Ball.



**Patrice Ewig**  
LeMeridien Hotel

Patrice Ewig (LeMeridien Hotel) put together a winning committee comprised of her clients and fellow suppliers as chair of the Celebrity Bears Committee for The Kids Charity Ball 1997—an effort that led to record-breaking bear sales. A member of MPI D/FW since March 1996, Ewig is a member of the 1997-98 Presidents Advisory Council.

To nominate a Star of the Month, fax Marcy Roitman (Grapevine CVB), 817-488-1048

## D/FW Meetings & Hospitality Industry

# JOB BANK

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- Free for applicants

To volunteer for the Job Bank Committee, call  
Patti O'Neil  
(Conference Planning, Inc.)  
972-608-0444  
fax 972-608-0533

## November Meeting Highlights

# Learn to "Disagree Without Being Disagreeable!"

By Billy Carter  
*SuperShuttle/ExecuCar*

Have you ever had a disagreement with a co-worker or vendor and you just could not get past the conflict to deal with the issues at hand?

With more than 85 million lawsuits filed in the United State Courts each year, it is obvious that disagreements are a serious national problem.

Peter Chantilis, a successful attorney and master mediator of thousands of disputes, will present "How to Disagree without Being Disagreeable" at the November 20 luncheon meeting at the Arlington Marriott Hotel.

A nationally known peacemaker, Chantilis has trained hundreds in the "Art of Gentle Persuasion."

In the October 19 edition of "Dear Abby," Peter's "Do Right Rules" were featured and he will share them at the November meeting.

His message: "You will be successful in avoiding conflict when you are non-judgmental, show respect, listen to understand, and deal with anger. You can be assertive without being abrasive, abusive or aggressive. Civility is a sign of strength not weakness."

Through a compelling teaching process, Chantilis will demonstrate how to:

- Acquire the "Concentration Discipline" to diffuse tension and stress
- Tune out your mind's constant chatter (the inner voice dilemma)
- Separate the person from the problem and search out, find, and agree on "Common Ground"

November committee members are Billy Carter, chairman (SuperShuttle/ExecuCar), Sherry Howell (The Arc); and Sy Retsky (A.L.I. of Texas).

Hosts from the Arlington Marriott Hotel are Bill Henderson, general manager; Michael Toney, director of sales; Raye Pollock, director of catering; and Stacey Burkhart, sales manager.

## MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

Committed to Educational Leadership

November D/FW Chapter Meeting



## "How to Disagree Without Being Disagreeable"

—featuring Peter Chantilis—

Thursday, November 20

Arlington Marriott Hotel  
1500 Convention Center Drive  
Arlington, Texas 76011  
817.261.8200

11:00 am Member Orientation—Triple Crown Room  
11:30 am Registration & Reception—Foyer Champions Ballroom  
12:00 pm Lunch and Program—Champions Ballroom

—Complimentary Parking—

R.S.V.P. to Joe  
by noon, Tuesday, Nov. 18  
•phone 972-233-9107 x1674  
•FAX 972-490-4219 (see fax insert)  
•74742.1725@compuserve.com

Advance Registration \$24  
Late Registration \$32  
Guest Registration \$27

## PLAN

to learn "How to Disagree Without Being Disagreeable"

Peter Chantilis, Attorney-Mediator

Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.

Arlington Marriott

November 20

this MNEMONIC will help you remember details about the Nov. meeting!

Help others less fortunate. Bring your hotel "toiletries" amenities to the November meeting.

Your donations of hotel toiletries such as shampoos, conditioners, etc. will go to the Visiting Nurses Association in Dallas and Fort Worth.

## November Host Facility Arlington Marriott

Just minutes from DFW Airport and convenient to the entire DFW Metroplex, the natural surroundings at the Arlington Marriott Hotel make guests feel worlds away from the usual business distractions.

With 310 spacious guest rooms including 32 suites and a concierge floor, 16 meeting rooms totaling over 17,100 square feet of indoor conference space, two expansive outdoor meeting and reception venues, including a 4,300 sq. ft. covered plaza, the Arlington Marriott Hotel is perfect for theme parties and special events.



## Educational Opportunities at a glance



### November 15

CMP University  
DFW Lakes Hilton  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Brenda Miller, CMP 214.343.2000  
\$50 for members

### November 19

PO<sup>4</sup>Ds #5 & #8  
Taco Bell Corp.  
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sherry Richardson 972-258-2221  
\$10 per person

### December 6

Education Committee  
Business Interiors  
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

### December 6

CMP Exam  
Austin, TX

### December 9

Walk-a-While  
see box at right for details

### December 17

PO<sup>4</sup>Ds #1, #3, #4, & #6  
Speakers Showcase  
Nicki S. Jorski, CMP 972.385.9091  
11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
\$10 per person

### January 2

Walk-a-While  
Irving CVB/Las Colinas Studio  
5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Denise Howieson 214-819-3150

### February 10

Walk-a-While  
Fun Factory Decorations  
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Denise Howieson 214-819-3150

For more information  
about any of these educational opportunities call  
Marti Fox, CTC (BTI Americas)  
214-905-8550

## MPI D/FW, Malibu Speed Zone, Southwest Airlines 'Racing Toward Teamwork' Theme of Fall Super Session November 13

The 1997 Fall Super Session, "Racing Toward Teamwork" is November 13, 5:30-9:15 p.m. at Malibu Speed Zone.

A joint project of MPI D/FW, Malibu Speed Zone and Southwest Airlines, the Fall Super Session offers education, fun, and ideas you can use in planning your next event.

Featured will be an interactive super

session facilitated by Joey Connelly, a Southwest Airlines "University for People" learning facilitator.

The Fall Super Session is designed to help participants understand the meaning and implementation of teamwork.

For more information call Jill Heyerdahl (JH Travel Incentives, Inc.) 972.293.1509.

## 'Walk-A-While' Program Focuses on Marketing

In a recent Walk-A-While (WAW) program, Scott Witte and Andrea Taluc of Castleline made it easy for attendees to understand full service marketing.

"Walk a While in My Shoes" is MPI D/FW's popular "hands on" educational series.

With a concise agenda and a table full of example products, Witte and Taluc focused on how to assist a client in focusing on a goal, how that goal leads to a theme and how that theme is then carried throughout an event in graphics, printed materials and amenities.

Attendees were the pleased recipients of a cleverly-presented coffee mug and t-shirt from Castleline.



Denise Howieson (IGNITION! Creative Group), Scott Witte and other staffers from Castleline

Thanks to Witte and Taluc and the staff at Castleline for a great program which included margaritas and hors d'oeuvres, compliments of AJ Gonzales Restaurant.

The next WAW program is Tuesday, December 9. Patty Stern (Five Star Limousines) will discuss "Transportation for Special Events." The program will include a holiday lights tour.

Don't delay; registration is limited. Contact Denise Howieson (IGNITION! Creative Group), 214-819-3150, for more information.

### December 9

## Walk-a-While

Hosted by  
Five Star Limousines

## Holiday Lights Tour

5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

for more information call Denise Howieson  
(IGNITION! Creative Group)  
214-819-3150



### January 24-28, 1998

MPI  
Professional Education Conference—  
North America  
Orlando, Florida

## MPI D/FW PO<sup>4</sup>Ds Present

### 'Speakers Showcase' December 17

MPI members and guests will have another opportunity next month to witness some of the best professional speakers in this part of Texas.

On Wednesday, December 17, PO<sup>4</sup>Ds #1, #3, #4 and #6 will sponsor a Speakers Showcase luncheon meeting Wednesday, December 17, at DoubleTree Guest Suites in Irving.

Four speakers, provided by International Speakers Bureau, will showcase

their skills in a 15-minute presentation on topics ranging from customer service to leadership to teamwork.

It is a "noontime" event, with registration beginning at 11:30 a.m. and the program beginning at noon.

The Showcase is a great way for meeting planners to check out some talented speakers—and an opportunity for these speakers to display their expertise to individuals seeking professional presenters.

The speakers are Jim Bearden, CSP, Vincent Poscente, Francie Schwartz and Desi Williamson.

All chapter members—from all PO<sup>4</sup>Ds—and guests are invited to attend. TO RSVP, contact Bill Matyastik (Business Interiors), 817-858-2030.

A fee of \$10—which includes lunch—will be collected at the door. (No-shows will be charged.)

The Speakers Showcase is organized through the MPI D/FW Chapter's PO<sup>4</sup>D (Professional Opportunity for Development) program, organized to reach more MPI D/FW members by offering educational programs in various geographical regions throughout the metroplex.

#### Jim Bearden, CSP



Bearden's life experiences, from combat leader to owner of a successful business, formed his real-world perspective on individual accountability. Internationally acclaimed for an upbeat, entertaining

speaking and training style, Bearden's customized programs on Leadership, Teamwork, Change and Sales inspire audiences to make "New Choices for New Environments." Playing the role of "myth-buster" in his trademark presentation, "Happily Ever Afters Don't Just Happen" Bearden dispels myths about shortcuts to success.

#### Francie Schwartz



In a content-rich, inspiring presentation about making choices, listeners learn a systematic four-step approach to life improvement. Through "The Power of Choice," individuals can improve problem-solving

skills, communication strategies and interpersonal relationships. Receive an easy-to-remember success model for immediate application. Schwartz is a published writer and is featured in *Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work*. She is an active member of Meeting Professionals International and past-president of the North Texas Speakers Association.

#### Vince Poscente



During the 1992 Olympic Winter Games in Albertville, France, Vince Poscente raced to a national record of 135 mph on skis—emerging from being a recreational skier to the Olympic finals in just five

years. In his program, "Fast Forward: A Journey from Ordinary to Extraordinary," Poscente shares an inspiring story of human potential and tips to help listeners "reach Olympic-size dreams." Poscente is vice president of North America's largest real estate investment service; an award-winning real estate salesperson; president of Olympians Club of Canada; a member of the International Olympic Academy and the Board of Directors of the Olympic Hall of Fame.

#### Desi Williamson



Williamson combines 20 years experience building multi-million dollar businesses, developing human potential for Fortune 500 companies, and creating his own successful entrepreneurial enterprises. He blends

this experience into powerful programs that can yield measurable results. "Empower Yourself to Succeed!" details developmental skills necessary to maximize meeting planner potential and personal effectiveness. Learn how to thrive, not just survive, the challenges of change. Williamson's dynamic style will empower listeners to immediately apply principles to their personal and professional lives. That's why he's known throughout the country as "Mr. Impact"!

### Speakers Showcase

Hosted by PO<sup>4</sup>Ds 1, 3, 4 & 6

Dec. 17 (Wed.)

#### DoubleTree Guest Suites

4650 W. Airport Freeway  
Irving, TX 75062

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

\$10 per person (includes lunch)

For more information:  
Bill Matyastik (Business Interiors)  
817-858-2030

### Your Meeting Planning TIP Here

The *CURRENT* wants to publish some of your favorite meeting planning tips. E-mail your list to *CURRENT* Editor Gracie Hilton (The Write Stuff): [gracie@eaze.net](mailto:gracie@eaze.net)

State the tips *briefly* and include your company name.

# EDUCATION NEWS

## News from MPI D/FW's Educational Program Series

# PO<sup>4</sup>Ds Notebook

## PO<sup>4</sup>Dners Learn to "Change Your Tune about Stress"



Russ Yaquinto  
*The Change Connection*

Do the MPI D/FW members from POD #7 seem a little "different" lately?

Rather than singing the standard meeting planner's country & western song — "My Job Has Lots of Pressure; I Hope I Don't Blow up on You"—they may be humming a calmer, more relaxed tune.

The idea of "choosing your tune" was

recently introduced to PO<sup>4</sup>D #7 by MPI member Russ Yaquinto (The Change Connection), speaker, trainer and business coach.

In a presentation at the Radisson Central Hotel, Russ discussed "Stress: More or Less—The Choice is Yours."

In a thought-provoking program, attendees learned techniques for managing stress and "changing our tune."

Today, some are humming Tanya Tucker's tune, "Strong Enough to Bend."

## Berlitz International's Pointers for Successful Interpretations



The keynote speaker at your annual conference, trying to make a point, says "Show me the Money!" Unfortunately, the Japanese attendees heard through the translator, "Display now your currency!"

Hiring a well-qualified, professional interpreter can reduce these embarrassing gaffes.

*Berlitz International offers the following guidelines:*

- Give the interpreter the most up-to-date copy of your speech. Include a transcript of audio-visual presentation, handouts and any other materials.
- Prepare in advance briefing with the interpreter to answer any questions about terminology, meeting agenda, etc.
- To test the microphone, don't blow into it; it is amplified in the interpreter's ears.
- Don't speak closely into the microphone, it will distort the sound.
- Keep your headset away from the microphone to prevent feedback.
- If the speaker moves around, make sure to use a handheld or lapel microphone.
- Don't interrupt another speaker; only one voice can be heard at a time.
- Speak clearly and at a moderate speed. Avoid reading long lists of numbers and other data.
- Avoid slang, jokes, puns, or little-known words; they do not translate well.
- In the case of consecutive interpretation, pause after every two or three sentences to allow the interpreter to translate.
- A good interpreter will usually take notes while the speaker is talking; allow time for this.
- Take time to familiarize yourself with the culture of your audience.
- Understand the social and business etiquette of your foreign associates.



Professional  
Opportunity for  
Development

## Make yours the 'Top PO<sup>4</sup>D of the Year'

Attending a PO<sup>4</sup>D meeting provides • outstanding education, • networking and • a point for your PO<sup>4</sup>D.

Both you and your PO<sup>4</sup>D will benefit when you attend MPI D/FW Monthly Meetings and PO<sup>4</sup>D Programs.

Points will be tracked each month in the *CURRENT*.

The Top PO<sup>4</sup>D of the Year (Sept. through June '98) will be recognized with a grand prize to be announced at a later date.

As of Oct. 15, the standings are as follows:

PO <sup>4</sup> D	Points
#1 Lewisville/Coppell/Carrollton/Addison/Flower Mound	51
#2 Richardson/Plano	42
#3 Galleria	38
#4 Irving/Las Colinas	56
#5 Downtown & SE Dallas	46
#6 Inside LBJ (NW)	46
#7 LBJ (N & NE)	38
#8 Stemmons Frwy & SW Dallas (Duncanville/Desoto/Cedar Hill)	39
#9 Mid-Cities (Arlington/H.E.B./Grapevine/Southlake)	56
#10 Fort Worth	23



## 24% Increase Expected in '98

# MPI, ASAE Survey Indicates Growth in Meetings Industry

The meetings industry expects to produce 24% more meetings in the 1998 calendar year, according to the 1998 Meetings Outlook Survey released recently by Meeting Professionals International (MPI), Dallas, Texas, and the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), Washington, D.C.

For those predicting an increase for the next year, 18% will conduct more regional meetings, 21% more national meetings, and 14% more international meetings.

The measure of health and growth of the meetings industry based on this survey is far greater than many would have predicted, said MPI Executive Vice President/CEO Edwin L. Griffin, Jr., CAE.

"We are encouraged that all aspects of the industry are solidly developing successful revenue streams," Griffin said. "More meetings represents an enhanced financial impact which contributes to an even greater role that we play in the U.S. economy."

### Technology

Fifty-two percent (52%) of all respondents expect technology to be the most significant change anticipated in the meetings industry over the next two years.

Meeting planners imagine the greatest changes in technology will be satellite audio/video conferencing, online education access via Internet, online registration via Internet and online site selection Hot Dates/Hot Rates via Internet.

Computer-controlled multi-media/LCD panels continue to be used by the majority (88%) of planners for on-site meeting production and educational instruction.

Newer forms of technology are also more in demand and the Internet is already being utilized by 49%, running close to CD ROM (56%) as effective tools to help market meetings in 1998.

Faced with increasing competition, direct mail, including personalized letters and brochure mailings remain the most often used method for marketing meetings (67%).

However, it is widely thought that the Internet and e-mail will be the way of the future for promoting meeting participation.

Many corporate attendees are now being notified solely through e-mail that their pres-

ence is required at meetings.

Broadcast fax and fax on demand is no longer considered a primary means of communicating with attendees although they are both still employed by 38%.

### Education

Seventy-six percent (76%) of  
*continued on page 19*



The CMP designation is an important achievement because it shows associates a personal commitment to exceed.

Having taught the CMP study class twice has enriched my life and helped others to reach their CMP goals.



**Bruce A. Wolpert, CMP**  
*Director of Sales—National Accounts  
Hilton Sales Worldwide*

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# October Meeting Highlights

## Participants are 'Dis-Illusioned' by Illusionist and Motivational Speaker Billy Riggs



**Billy Riggs** (Visions & Ventures Bureau of Speaking Services), motivational speaker and world-class illusionist, presented "Grand Illusions," an intriguing educational and entertainment program at the October 23 luncheon meeting at the Grapevine Convention Center. With a combination of classic magic, humor and life-changing education, Riggs illustrated steps in the path toward self-improvement—by exposing the illusory thinking that inhibits growth.



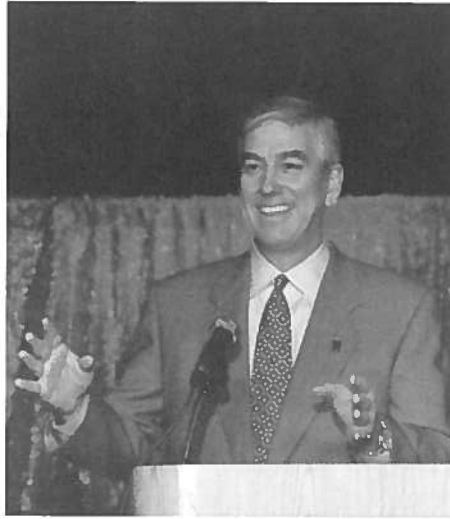
Once again Fort Worth and Arlington area MPI D/FW Chapter members and guests enjoyed complimentary transportation to the monthly chapter meeting. This time, **Melanie Arguello** (Fort Worth CVB), fourth from left, enlisted the generosity of Peg Wolschon (Kerrville/Gray-Line/Coach USA) to provide transportation to the October meeting at the Grapevine Convention Center. Almost a dozen riders took advantage of this offer, especially appreciating not having to drive in the Oct. 23 downpour.

### Photos by Jerry Hughes Photography



October Program Committee members were Chair **Sally Bresnahan** (American Airlines Training & Conference Center), **Anna Squire** (HackBerry Creek Country Club) and **Marcy Roitman** (Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau).

MPI D/FW Chapter member **William J. Boyd, CMP** (Sunbelt Motivation and Travel, Inc.), 1997 MPI International Supplier of the Year, was honored in a special tribute at the October meeting. Boyd, former president of both MPI D/FW as well as MPI International, thanked "the award-winning MPI D/FW Chapter—Chapter of the Year four times!" for support in this honor which, he said, "means more to me than any other honor I've ever received."



Grapevine hosts—eager to showcase all that Grapevine has to offer for meetings professionals—including **George Kakos** (Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau), **Marcy Roitman** (Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau), and **Tom Wayne** (Grapevine Convention Center).



Enjoying the pre-meeting reception with **Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP** (Sterling Hotels and Resorts), second from left, were guests from three Sterling Hotels and Resorts properties: **Ramona M. Hogman** (LaQuinta Resorts & Club, LaQuinta, CA); **Jodi Mosgkowitz** (Doral Golf Resort and Spa, Miami, FL); and **Kathryn Cooper** (Monterey Plaza Hotel, Monterey, CA).

## Hall of Fame

Please salute the following companies and individuals for their contributions to the October meeting at Grapevine Convention Center

Featured Speaker  
**BILLY RIGGS**

Facility, Reception, Luncheon  
**GRAPEVINE CONVENTION CENTER**

**TOM WAYNE**  
General Manager  
**MARCY ROITMAN, GRAPEVINE CVB**  
National Sales Manager

**SOPHIA STAECKER, HYATT DFW**  
Catering

**DALE BOYD, B4 PARTIES PLUS**  
Decor

**JERRY HUGHES**  
Jerry Hughes Photography  
Meeting Photos

October Program Committee  
**SALLY BRESNAHAN**  
American Airlines Training & Conference Center

**MARCY ROITMAN**  
Grapevine Convention Center

**ANNA SQUIRE**  
HackBerry Creek Country Club



Director of Chapter Communications **Kristi Carter** (J&S Audio Visual) presents **Bob Mitchell** (The Travel Group) with a copy of the MPI D/FW 1997-98 Resources Handbook. The chapter directory is a part of the handbook.

## Photos by Jerry Hughes Photography

MPI D/FW Chapter President **Gregory Pynes** (Hand & Associates Communications), congratulates Star of the Month **Patrice Ewig** (LeMeridien Hotel). Not present: Linda Thornton (Fun Factory), was also a Star of the Month.







**M.T. Gnad**  
Richland College  
'Grapevine' Columnist

# Heard it through the Grapevine!



**Mitchell Cathey**  
Old San Francisco Steak House  
'Grapevine' Columnist

**Chad Enloe** is the new sales manager at the Hyatt Regency.

**Gloria Ford-Hernandez** is the new director of catering, *Holiday Inn DFW North*.

**Steve Kemble**, *Steve Kemble Event Design*, was elected president of the Dallas Chapter of the International Special Event Society.

**Jennifer Price** joined *Excel Communications* as event specialist, promotions. On December 6, Jennifer will marry Randy Marval.



Congratulations to **Margee Ryan**, *Morton's of Chicago*, on her recent wedding to Stephen Austin.

Congratulations to **Cara Volmar** on the recent grand opening of *Grapevine Mills*.

**Alan Sims** accepted a position as director of sales and marketing, *Omni Richardson Hotel*.

Congratulations to **Mitchell Cathey** and the *Old San Francisco Steak House* for being awarded "Facility of the year" by the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International.

The Knights of Columbus recently asked **George Primo**, *George Primo Orchestras*, to perform; much to his surprise, the venue was on a cruise to Rome.



**Pam Douch** recently opened the *Chimpanzee Forest* at the *Dallas Zoo*. (NOTE: the photo is not Douch.)

**Dana Grant Lodge** is the sales manager at the *Trail Dust Steak House*, Arlington.



Congratulations to the MPI D/FW members selected by the Meetings Industry Council to kick off its Fall Symposium: **Betty**

**Garrett, CMP**, *Garrett Speakers International*; **Steven Foster**, *Circle R Ranch*; **Sue Fry**, *Rough Creek Lodge*; **Cindy Hamilton**, *CityPlace Conference Center*; **Gregory Pynes**, *Hand & Associates Communications*; **Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP**, *Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau*; and **Alainna Webb, CMP**, *Excel Communications*.

Keep up with personal news about fellow MPI chapter members—job changes, promotions, awards or special recognitions, weddings, or births—through "Heard it through the Grapevine."

Please contact **Mary-Therese Gnad** (A *Bunch of Grapes*) or **Mitchell Cathey** (Old San Francisco Steak House) about items of interest for this column.

Gnad can be reached at 972-866-8640; fax 972-613-4523, or [gnad@airmail.net](mailto:gнад@airmail.net).

Cathey can be reached at 214-357-0484; fax 214-357-6592.

Please submit photo ("head shot") with your news item.

Meet some  
new faces!

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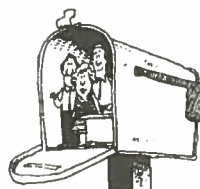
December 4  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

**all members welcome!**

Come "meet some new faces" and enjoy complimentary appetizers and beverages.

**New job?  
address?  
phone number?  
e-mail address?**

Report those changes to the  
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972-233-9107 x1674  
and the  
MPI International Headquarters  
972-702-3000



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## MPIWeb Site Adds New Enhancements

MPIWeb, a dynamic source of information for both its members and non-members, has been recreated with new enhancements and a new look.

Information is kept current through weekly updates containing new information, industry news, legislative issues, and the expanding resources available on the Web for meeting professionals.

### New Features

- Redesigned Home Page featuring more color and new graphics
- Direct e-mail links to MPI staff and other key contacts
- Downloadable materials to allow users instant access to documents such as membership applications and publication order forms
- Timeliness and accessibility of new information that opens up broader opportunities for the exchange of information
- NewsBytes (formerly MPI Express), a weekly bulletin of news impacting the meeting industry. Viewers can also link into several news services via anchors on the NewsBytes page
- Viewers can participate in MPI's public discussion centers where a gamut of specific tactical questions to strategic and global issues can be discussed
- The MPI Bookstore with over 100 books focused on the meeting industry can be viewed and ordered online securely
- MPIWeb's NetLinks provides anchored references to other Web sites related to the meeting industry
- MPIWeb Spotlight highlights who's who and what's hot in the meeting industry

All MPI members and nonmembers have the opportunity to browse the MPIWeb. Additionally, the Web site now features a members only area with discussion centers.

The MPIWeb enhancements provide an electronic tool for up-to-the-minute meeting industry information available 24 hours a day.

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Hurry! The application deadline for the 1997 Winter CMP Examinations is **September 8, 1997!**

### 1997 WINTER EXAM SCHEDULE

#### DECEMBER 6, 1997

Atlanta, GA	New York, NY
Austin, TX	Orange County, CA
Baltimore, MD (ASAE's Management Conference)	Philadelphia, PA
Chicago, IL	Phoenix, AZ
Denver, CO	San Diego, CA
Florham Park, NJ	San Francisco, CA
Minneapolis, MN	Seattle, WA
	Washington, DC

#### JANUARY 24, 1998

Orlando, FL  
(MPI's Professional Education Conference)



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# MPI D/FW Welcomes 25 'New Kids on the Block'

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 972/653-8484 fax  
 deborah\_churchill@afcc.com  
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## Why did I want to be a mentor?!

"My brain is like a fruit vine; the more fruit gets picked, the more fruit it produces. The more someone can 'pick my brain,' the more room it has to expand and get to see how others see and understand things."



**Fred Knieberg, CMP**  
 AFK & Associates  
 (retired)

## The Mentor Program

for more information about the  
 MPI DFW Mentor Program, call  
 Fred Knieberg, CMP  
 214.261.4316



# MPI/DFW Celebrates the Holiday Spirit Season

December 17  
6:00 p.m.  
Omni Mandalay Hotel



Please bring canned food gifts to the December celebration. Gifts will benefit the **Dallas Life Foundation**, which provides food, shelter, clothing and counseling for the poor and homeless of the Dallas area.



I have a new-found admiration and respect for those individuals who are Certified Meeting Professionals. Obtaining this designation shows a tremendous commitment to the meetings profession and the strong character of the individual who accepted the challenge. It is certainly a personal and professional accomplishment for me. Take the challenge – get certified! You'll feel so much more confident in your job and it'll give you that personal boost we all need from time to time.



**Deronda Jones, CMP**  
*Director of Membership & Meetings  
Automotive Oil Change Association  
Certified July 1997*

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## Community Services Update



# MPI D/FW Community Service Projects Selected

By Paige Braun (Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington Conventioneer)  
Chair, Community Services Committee

Many of us have good intentions about helping others within their community, but just don't make the time to look into volunteering.

If you're one of those people, the Community Services Committee (CSC) can help! The CSC has researched a number of volunteer opportunities and offers a variety of possibilities to help you plug into the volunteer scene via MPI D/FW.

In an effort to provide assistance to the community as well as provide community exposure for MPI, the D/FW Chapter's Community Services Committee has designated six "official" chapter charities:

They are: Oak Lawn Community Services; the Visiting Nurse Associations of Dallas and Fort Worth; Dallas Life Foundation; Love for Kids, Association for Retarded Citizens; and KERA/KDTN Public Radio/Television.

In addition, the chapter will, once again, produce The MPI Kids Charity Ball, with proceeds benefiting several children's charities.

Already, MPI D/FW has assisted **Oak Lawn Community Services**, a Dallas social services agency that provides living assistance for people living with AIDS. Under the direction of MPI member Joe Diaz (Delta Airlines) MPI D/FW members participated in the AIDS LifeWalk. (See article elsewhere on this page.)

This month, MPI D/FW will assist the **Visiting Nurse Associations of Dallas and Fort Worth**, through a "toiletory drive." Please bring to the November meeting the hotel toiletries/amenities collected during your travels to help the VNA, which "provides high quality, effective and efficient health services, health related social services, health support services and hospice services in the least restrictive environment possible."

Call Brenda Crouch (Dick's Last Resort), 214-953-1700 to volunteer to work in the toiletries collection booth.

MPI D/FW will assist in staffing the **Love for Kids** Christmas party December 13 at Circle R Ranch. Hundreds of volunteers are needed for this event which will draw more than 3,500 underprivileged children from some 100 area agencies. The party features games, horseback riding, food, gifts and a visit from Santa.

Volunteers will need to be at Circle R by 8 a.m. After the kids leave at 2 p.m., Circle R will provide a barbecue for the volunteers. Call Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP (Sterling Hotels & Resorts) 972-726-9800 to volunteer.

The **Dallas Life Foundation**, which provides food, shelter, clothing and counseling for the poor and homeless of the Dallas area, and helps the needy return to society in a productive and positive manner, will be the beneficiary of the December canned food drive.

The **Association for Retarded Citizens** (ARC) mission is to provide information and support to mentally retarded persons and their families and to promote their interests in the community. Volunteer opportunities for ARC will be announced later.

**KERA/KDTN** strives to serve the community through the production, presentation and distribution of television and radio programming, telecommunications services and related activities that educate and entertain. Volunteer opportunities for KERA/KDTN will be announced later.

Want to make good on those good intentions? Call me—Paige Braun (Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington Conventioneer), 214-691-8073, to volunteer!

## MPI D/FW Members Participate in Dallas AIDS LifeWalk

By Joe Diaz (Delta Airlines)  
*Les Voyageurs Team Captain*

On October 5, a hot but beautiful day in Dallas, approximately 15 MPI D/FW members participated in a fun and worthy cause, the Dallas AIDS LifeWalk.

The largest fundraising event in the state of Texas, the 3.5 km walk benefited Oak Lawn Community Services, a Dallas social services agency that provides living assistance for people living with AIDS.

This marks the first year of MPI D/FW chapter involvement with an AIDS LifeWalk team called Les Voyageurs Contre Le Sida (Travelers Against AIDS). This team, made up of travel professionals, has raised more than \$30,000 in the last three years.

This year the team raised approximately \$8,000, and more than \$1,500 was raised by MPI D/FW members

Thanks to all D/FW MPI participants—and a special thanks to Mitchell Cathey (Old San Francisco Steakhouse), who raised more than \$500 in sponsorship funds.

## Santa needs your help!

**Love for Kids  
Christmas Party  
Circle R Ranch**



**Dec. 13  
8 a.m.-2 p.m.**

More than 3,500 disadvantaged children, ages 6-12, will attend the annual Love for Kids Christmas party.

Hundreds of adult volunteers are needed to supervise outdoor games and activities.

Stick around after the party for a volunteer appreciation lunch featuring Circle R's famous barbecue.

To volunteer call  
Paige Braun (Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington  
Conventioneer), 214-691-8073

## CURRENTly Coaster Enthusiasts, Olympics Visionaries Drawn to that Proverbial 'Hyphen'

A few miscellaneous observations:

- Arriving early is almost always a good thing ... and ...
- Parking next to a tree on a hot summer day is always a good thing ... and ...
- Arriving early at Six Flags Over Texas means you can almost always find a tree somewhere on that vast asphalt parking lot... and ...
- Going directly to the Texas Giant at Six Flags is a good move for a roller coaster aficionado ... and ...
- It's also wise to arrive early at the FlashBack ... and ...
- A fast walker can usually get in four or five rides on the ShockWave before the lines begin to form ... and ...

•The bigger thrill on the Judge Roy Scream is sharing the excitement with a delighted 75-year-old on her first-ever roller coaster ride ... and ...

•A visit to Six Flags the week after school is back in session is a good time to get a dozen straight hits on the Texas Giant ... and ...

•If a person is fortunate enough to live in Arlington ... and has a season pass and a flexible schedule ... that person can rapidly develop into a roller coaster enthusiast (*maniac* would be rude nomenclature ☺).

And Six Flags Over Texas is but one of Arlington's many treasures!

There's The Ballpark at Arlington; Hurricane Harbor, the Jolly Jubilee and other great special events; terrific

accommodations and a plethora of outstanding restaurants ...

There's much anticipation among Arlington MPIers about the November 20 meeting in "our town"—the "good times" city—which is much, much more than the hyphen between Dallas-Fort Worth!

The November Program Committee plus Arlington Marriott host and MPI member Stacey Burkhart—and all the rest of the Arlington MPI D/FW members—extend a hearty welcome to this month's meeting in the city with enough moxie and "can do" spirit to go after the 2012 Olympics!

(And don't forget! Mr. Freeze is scheduled to open "soon.")

—ghh ☺  
gracie@eaze.net

CURRENT Editor  
(and Proud  
Arlington Resident!)  
Gracie Hilton  
The Write Stuff



## PLANNING ON CANCUN, LOS CABOS OR PUERTO VALLARTA?

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## Public Relations Corner



# Chapter of the Year— It's Worth the Effort!

By Dana Nickerson, CMP (Square One Productions)  
Member, Chapter of the Year Committee

After many months of attention and work, the MPI D/FW Chapter's submission for the international Chapter of the Year award, based on activities and projects for 1996-97, is at MPI International for judging for "Chapter of the Year."

The winner will be announced at the Professional Education Conference—North America (PEC-NA) in Orlando in January.

Why is this award important to our chapter? Why do we go through this process? What's in it for you as a member?

As a record-breaking four-time winner of the prestigious Chapter of the Year Award, MPI D/FW has a lot to brag about. However, it's much more than simply winning an award!

### What is 'Chapter of the Year'?

The Chapter of the Year award is presented by MPI International for overall educational excellence, what it provides its members, and how the chapter is run.

A total of seven awards are offered: two overall "Chapter of the Year" awards with separate categories for large and smaller chapters; and five special Awards of Excellence, one each for: Education, Administration, Communications/PR, Membership & Special Projects.

### How are we considered?

The process to win the award is broken into separate areas with very specific criteria. Each category is judged separately by a point system. Total overall points accumulated in all five categories determines the "overall" Chapter of the Year award.

The process is simple. International determines criteria; the Chapter of the Year Committee then compiles a standard 3" notebook documenting the goals and results for the year.

The criteria for five categories are as follows:

**Administration** (10%); **Communications/Public Relations/Marketing** (15%); **Education** (40%); **Member Growth & Retention** (25%); and **Special Projects** (10%).

A Special Award of Excellence is presented to the highest in each specific category. MPI D/FW has won Awards of Excellence in Special Projects and Education.

### Everyone Benefits

Each MPI member gains considerably by the chapter's involvement in this process and/or winning this award. The criteria alone is a benchmark for success as a chapter.

Increase in and retention of membership means larger networking and educational opportunities for everyone.

A large membership also means more income to the chapter. As a non-profit organization dedicated to education, income is important to provide quality speakers, venues and programming and the ability to provide tools such as a membership directory, monthly newsletter or educational workshops.

A chapter that has proven itself means a higher awareness of the meetings industry. This means more jobs, contacts, clients and business in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. More than 80% of MPI members do business with other MPI members

As the chapter offers better educational programs, its members benefit. Ongoing education and being on the cutting-edge is critical to marketability to clients or employers.

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### Menu topics include:



- ☆ ● What's New
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- Legislative Issues
- Educational Opportunities
- ☆ ● About MPI's Resource Center
- ☆ ● MPI Chapters
- Membership
- ☆ ● Meeting WOW



Visit MPI's Internet site on the  
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## MPI, ASAE Survey

*continued from page 9*

tional program topics are specifically benefit targeted in order to reinforce an organizations' and/or associations' message and/or mission.

Additionally, increased training and product awareness (47%) and an increase in top level (including CEOs) educational programs (42%) were listed as priorities in order to reinforce each organizations' and/or associations' message and/or mission.

More certifications (32%) are being offered in 1998 as groups strive to keep their members/staff on the cutting edge of their industries.

### Return on Investment (ROI)

Ninety-two percent (92%) of the respondents considered Return on Investment (ROI) as somewhat to very important.

Pre and/or post event tests and surveys are the most often used tool for measuring ROI (64%), followed closely by meeting revenue/direct expenses and overhead costs (59%), and budget met or coming in under budget (49%).

The documented ROI is reported to management by fifty-eight percent (58%).

### Considerations

When planning meetings, seventy-eight percent (78%) of the surveyed audience consider ADA as well as AH&MA rules and guidelines to be somewhat to very important when selecting a meeting site, although meeting planners continue to rely heavily on destination management to be in compliance with these criteria.

Spousal/children programming was considered somewhat to very important by thirty-one percent (31%) of those polled, while incorporating fitness into meetings continues to gain interest and support among association planners, up from twelve percent (12%) in 1997 to twenty four percent (24%) forecast for 1998.

Hotel and airfare pricing structures and availability were a source of concern as the meetings industry is faced with the challenge of finding adequate meeting space and rooms at competitive rates.

### International Meetings

Fifty-eight percent (58%) of those polled plan meetings outside the United States. The three top locations in ranking order were Canada with meetings ranging in size from 100-10,000, followed by Mexico with meetings ranging in size from 85-400, and finally, England with meetings ranging in size from 50-400.

A number of other countries were named as meeting destinations, including: Argentina, Australia, Bermuda, Brazil, Caribbean, Columbia, Europe, Germany, Greece, Guam, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Puerto Rico, Russia, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland and Thailand.

Many of these countries were named for the first time since this survey began in 1991, a clear indication that Americans show no signs of hesitating to travel internationally. The new

countries/destinations include: Columbia, Guam, Hong Kong, Puerto Rico, Scotland, South Africa, Thailand and Russia.

The Meetings Outlook Survey of 100 meeting professionals is conducted annually by Meeting Professionals International and the American Society of Association Executives, two major meeting industry associations, to determine the pulse of the meeting industry for the year ahead.

Of the 100 respondents surveyed in July, 50 were association planners; 50 were corporate or independent planners.

*Trying to figure out how to come up with the funds to attend an MPI conference or workshop?*

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# MPI

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## The MPI Kids Charity Ball

Produced by Meeting Professionals International  
Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

Each year The MPI Kids Charity Ball Committee (TMKCBC) selects beneficiaries to receive the proceeds from the Ball. (See the article in the November Current for information on how the beneficiaries are selected.) This year the Committee has selected six local organizations:

**Bryan's House** – A day care facility for families affected by Aids or HIV

**Genesis Women's Shelter** – A safe haven for women and their children who need protection from abuse or neglect.

**Love For Kids, Inc.** – An organization that provides hope and encouragement through its social programs for disadvantaged children.

**Our Friends Place** – A foster home facility for girls from 10-17 who have been abused, abandoned or neglected was selected for the first time this year.

**Richland College Scholarship Fund** – An educational opportunity for deserving young people in the Meetings and Tourism Program at Richland College.

**A Weekend To Wipe Out Cancer** – An organization whose funds are used to further Pediatric cancer research through Children's Medical Center.

These are all wonderful organizations whose efforts in the community will undoubtedly be enhanced by having been selected as beneficiaries of The MPI Kids Charity Ball. However, there is another beneficiary who is not always recognized, and that is YOU!

With your participation on this committee you will give of your time, your talents and your resources – and in the giving, you'll become the greatest beneficiary of all. For when the last dance is over, the last auction item sold and the lights are turned off for the 1998 Ball, you'll know that the lives of countless children and young adults have been made better because of your efforts.

Please see the back of this form to see how the Committee is structured so far, and decide where you would like to add your name. Sign up today, and you too can . . .

**Be A Beneficiary of The MPI Kids Charity Ball**

**The MPI Kids Charity Ball Committee  
A Public Relations/Marketing Committee**

Chair: Cheryl L. Beasley, CMP  
Chair Elect: Patricia McCain, CMP  
Chairs Emeriti: Steve Kemble  
Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP  
Gregory Pynes  
Patti Wilke, CMP

Auction: Melissa Logar Percy Salis \_\_\_\_\_

This sub-committee is core to the Ball's success as it provides the items auctioned off to raise the funds donated to our beneficiaries.

Celebrity Bears: Patrice Ewig \_\_\_\_\_

This sub-committee has increased in scope and value to the Ball each year. The bears not only raise funds for the Ball, they underline the fact that our Ball benefits children.

Corporate Sponsorship: Council of Past Presidents Wendy Ezernack Keith Hickman  
Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP Francie Schwartz Rick Tabone  
Esther Wigley

The growth of corporate interest and sponsorship of our event has been tremendous. The COPP has made a great impact on this important aspect of the Ball's success.

Event Coordination: Cathy Frigo Sandy Galloway Wes Hansen  
Debbie Meyer C.W. Kendall Ann Renneker

One of the goals of TMKCB Committee is to project the high level of competence and professionalism that is within our Organization. It also provides an opportunity for supplier members to work hands-on in the planning of the event.

Raffle: Steven Foster Wendy Foster O.D. O'Donnell

Raffle tickets will be available for Holiday sales thanks to the work already completed by this committee. The raffle is another important means of raising the funds for our beneficiaries.

Registration: Carol Mazingo Anna Squire \_\_\_\_\_

This sub-committee is also of critical importance to the Ball's success. Getting out the invitations, receiving the RSVPs and managing the receiving of guests on the night of the Ball is just a part of this group's participation.

*As you can see, the work has begun. The people you see above have made a commitment and are moving forward. However, we need YOU! Having all these positions filled will allow the challenge for a few to become the success of many. Place your name and fax number on one of these lines and fax it to me at (817) 963-1622.*

We all look forward to sharing the benefits of participation in this Committee with you.