



Chapter of the Year
1989 ★ 1990 ★ 1994
1996 ★ 2001

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HATTIE HILL - REMEMBERING THE BRIDGES THAT CONNECT US

by Dana Rhoden, CMP, CMM
Southwest Veterinary Symposium

Hattie Hill was recognized at WEC in Denver as the International Supplier of the Year. Hill, president of Hill Enterprises, Inc. in Dallas, was selected for her international leadership participation, article contributions, public speaking engagements and community service. Hill has been a dedicated member of MPI currently serving on the MPI Foundation Board of Trustees and MPI Chancellor, and was the chair of the MPI Multicultural Initiative (2002-2004). Hill is regularly quoted in national publications such as The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Black Meetings & Tourism and Minority Business Entrepreneur, and has spoken to more than 40 MPI chapters. Hill has been on the list of Meeting News Magazine's "25 Most Influential People in the Meetings Industry" and received Working Woman's Working Woman Entrepreneurial Excellence Award. She is the author of Smart Choices That Will Change Your Life and Smart Women, Smart Choices. (Excerpted from MPI International)



Hattie Hill and her husband Stafford (Christmas 2003)

When was the last time you sat down with a legend and became so enrapt at simply listening to your subject reminisce that you realized after the visit that you felt different...better? Well, such was the time I spent with the inimitable Hattie Hill, a long time DFW Chapter member and the International Supplier of the Year for 2004.

Dana: Hattie, everyone has a story about their first time at an MPI D/FW Chapter monthly meeting. Tell me what the topic was and which member stands out in your mind from your first time as a peer who would become your friend?

Hattie: Well, my first meeting was in 1986 and I remember the topic was on balance, which is somewhat ironic considering that 20 years later that conversation is still going on! The only difference is that not only do I still coach clients about balance, but I actually live my words about balance now! The topic was "Walking the Tightrope" and I remember that Latrelle Smart sat next to me and she said "Don't mess this one up."

Dana: When people in our industry hear your name, their immediate vision is of you as a professional speaker.

Hattie: Oh, good gosh, Dana, my business has done a total u-turn in the last two decades since I joined MPI. At first it was 80% speaking engagements and 20% consulting. Now my business is 20% speaking and 80% consulting. And, it's interesting you bring this up because we're always talking about the differences between planners and suppliers. I am a supplier member of MPI but I spend just as much time planning my client's functions as I do delivering my services! As part of my training services, I'm now frequently called upon to plan Corporate Training, Retreats and Conventions.

Continued on page 6

DALLAS/FT. WORTH
CHAPTER



DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS

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A Message from the President

I truly hope everyone had a great summer. With the kids back in school and vacations taken, we are back into a demanding season for our industry.

September is a good time to talk about the MPI D/FW Chapter Member Needs Assessment Survey results. It is important to understand that the chapter's programming has been planned out based on this valuable tool and on the crucial feedback you give us on the monthly program evaluations.

First of all, 25% of the members responded to the survey. This is exceptional! Typically, an average of 20% responds to a survey. Here are some more statistics from the survey:

- Out of the 188 who responded 82 were planners, 104 were suppliers, and two were unemployed/unknown. Fifty-two members had less than 10 years' experience and 134 members had more than 10 years' experience.
- In their jobs, 176 of the members recommend and make decisions. Salary for 41% of the members ranges from \$45,000.00 to \$65,000.00.
- We're getting older: 23% of our members are 36 - 40 years old, with 71% between 31 - 50 years old.
- Membership is still young: 14% of respondents are members under a year, 26% are members for 1-3 years, 31% are members 4-8 years, and 28% have been members for 9+ years.
- It's a "She" organization now: 84% female and 16% male responded to the survey.
- Both planners and suppliers rated Personal and Professional Development as the #1 factor to be a chapter member. #2 for suppliers is Networking and for planners, it is Education. #3 for planners is Networking while #3 for suppliers is Education. The #4 factor for both Planners and Suppliers is Leadership/Service Roles.



Melissa S. Logar, CMP
2004-2005 President

One of the questions was "If you could change one thing about the Chapter, what would it be?"

Suppliers' responses:

- More networking
- More planners attend chapter events
- More members involved on Committees and in Chapter Leadership
- Empower Committees
- Include Tarrant County facilities for chapter events
- New member table at monthly programs and enhance Buddy/Ambassador program
- Education programs for suppliers
- Increase supplier/partner recognition for the support they give to the Chapter
- Member support


Planners' responses:

- Stronger Focus on Industry Trends and Current Issues
- Networking with other planners
- More members involved on Committee and in Chapter Leadership
- Empower Committees
- Include Tarrant County facilities for chapter events
- Enhance a Buddy program
- Less announcements at monthly program
- Cliques
- Move programs from middle of day

The recurring themes were:

- Improve meeting logistics, rotate meeting sites (city) and times, and publicize the meeting calendar well in advance.
- Limit announcements, be creative and add variety, build member interaction and just have more fun.
- Elevate professional development, focus program on more strategic issues and have knowledgeable presenters.
- Ensure members feel welcome and increase meaningful opportunities for the members at the Committee and Board level and also at chapter events.
- Minimize appearance of cliques.
- New faces within chapter leadership.
- Establish Buddy System.
- Empower Committees.

As both a member of our chapter and as your Chapter President, I completely concur with the comments and recurring themes. Changes do not happen overnight, but please trust me, your Board of Directors and I are listening to you. We are your ambassadors. Your Board of Directors has put their department action plans into place along with their committees' input and based upon your valuable feedback. In the coming months I will be highlighting each department plan and how we are progressing on those plans.

Be assured the Member Needs Assessment Survey was not a negative communication vehicle about the MPI D/FW Chapter. For every area that we received suggestions on how the chapter can improve, we received a 2:1 ratio on how great our Chapter is and how our members truly love being a member. These kudos indicate we are definitely moving in the right direction. With your help, we can accomplish the rest. 

I am seeking, I am striving, I am in it with all my heart - Vincent Van Gogh

“CURRENT” AFFAIRS

MPI D/FW Chapter Supports the USO at “A Flight through Time!”

by Peg Wolschon, CMP, CTP

MPI D/FW supported our troops through a red, white & blue themed fundraiser event held on August 12th at the newly opened Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field. A portion of the proceeds from the event, which included door prize drawings, will be donated to the D/FW International Airport Chapter of the USO.

Members and guests of local area industry associations reveled in the fun and food catered by Blue Mesa, Celebration Restaurant, City Café To Go, Desperados, Food Glorious Food, Silver Tray Catering, The Classic Gourmet and Two Sisters Catering. Gil’s Elegant Catering also provided beverages and Su Vino Winery offered wine tastings.



Entertainment, sponsored by Rainbow Entertainment, included Jack Towle with his art of impersonation and Disc Jockey Bob Noell, pulling together the great tunes of the 1940’s. The

audience was treated to a special rendition of “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy” by our own version of the “Andrews Sisters,” starring M. T. Hickman, CMP, Marti Fox, CMP and Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP.

The highlight of the evening was the arrival of USO, Dallas Chapter executive director Patrick Little with military guests Specialist Jennifer Kramer and Specialist David Blankenship, who were able to attend the event. They received a standing ovation from the audience before returning to Iraq and Afghanistan respectively. Transportation from DFW Airport was provided by Wynne Sedan and Limousine Group.

Thanks goes out to the additional dedicated sponsors it took to create this exceptional event: Delene Bell with Lilands (décor), Frontiers of Flight Museum (facility, docents and volunteers), Dallas Stage Right (stage), Freeman Decorating (signage), J&S Audio Visual (A/V), and J. Woods Custom Photography (Photos).



Co-chairs: Kim Hentges, CMP and Peg Wolschon, CMP, CTP, and the event committee: Delene Bell, Jan Gillin, Annie Matthews, Jeanie Renner, Stephanie Schroeder and Gina Whetsel, pulled together an amazing line-up of door prize donations from: Blue Mesa, Celebration Restaurant, Frontiers of Flight Museum, Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, Grapevine CVB, Maggiano’s Little Italy, Smith & Wollensky, The Basket Tree, Addison CVB, Arlington CVB, Hyatt Regency Dallas at Reunion, Irving CVB, Loews Ventana Canyon Resort Tucson, Palm Restaurant, Silver Tray Catering, The Adolphus Hotel, Abacus Restaurant, Loews Don Cesar Beach Resort Hotel Florida, InterContinental Dallas, Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel, Loews Vanderbilt Hotel Nashville, The Grand America Hotel, Salt Lake City, The Woodlands Resort & Conference Center and Wyndham Anatole Hotel.



L to R: Captain Al Crawford, Magdalena Malczyk (Richland College), Patrick Little (USO), Specialist Jennifer Kramer, Bedford Wynne, Kim Hentges (Co-Chair), Specialist David Blakenship, and Peg Wolschon (Co-Chair).



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Photos courtesy of the Oklahoma City Convention and Visitors Bureau, Wichita Greyhound Park and Bradley Fair

Chapter Meeting: Thursday, September 23, 2004 • 11:00 a.m.

“Planning Dynamic General Sessions - A 360 Degree View”

by Jodi Adcock, Thomson RIA

Whoever said you can't please 'em all? With a dynamic general session, you CAN please everyone if you have the right mix of facility, concept, décor and program to fit your audience and your budget. Our 360-degree panel has more than 100 years of experience in planning dynamic general sessions. Representing a convention center, a production company, a media company, an association and a corporation, our experts will give you insight on planning your own dynamic general session; from site selection, program objectives and strategic and tactical processes and measuring the ROI to design, scheduling, execution, technology, utilities and costs.

No question will go unanswered, as we will be soliciting questions from YOU beforehand so that YOU walk away with the knowledge YOU want! Don't miss this important educational forum led by our own local experts: Chuck Barry, Big Dog Productions, Erika Bondy, Dallas Convention Center, LaTrelle Smart, CMP, AMS Users Group, Diane Smith, CMP, Alcon Labs, and Tom Stimson, Alford Media. The panel will be moderated by Bob Walker from AVW-TELAV Audio Visual Solutions.

After participating in this session, you will be able to:

- Understand the planning process of a dynamic general session from the perspective of a planner or a supplier
- Learn new creative design ideas for your next general session
- See and hear about new trends in event production

September Program Committee Members: Chair, Bob Walker, AVW-TELAV, Patrice Ewell, Hilton Lincoln Centre, David Gisler, Freeman Decorating, Pam Madewell, Fun Factory Events, Rhonda Nowlin, CertainTeed Corporation, Bill Reeser, CMP, CTS, AVW-TELAV, Chris Torsy, CMP, Society of Petroleum Engineers.



“Planning Dynamic General Sessions - A 360 Degree View”

Thursday, September 23, 2004



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11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration and Reception
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Advanced Member Price	\$ 30.00
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(Walk-ins will be placed on a wait list on-site. Seating is not guaranteed after the guarantee cut-off - Monday 2:00 p.m.)

*R.S.V.P. to Randie Charnes
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Fine dining is available in the Monte Carlo restaurant for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and the Bristol Lounge (lobby) features entertainment nightly.

DIRECTIONS

From Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport: Take Interstate 635 East to the North Dallas Tollway North (Exit 22C). Take the North Dallas Tollway North to the Beltline / Arapaho Road Exit. Exit to Service Road and stay on Service Road to the 2nd traffic light (Arapaho Road). U-Turn at 2nd light (Arapaho Road). Hotel is 2nd building on the right side.

From Fort Worth: Take Interstate 20 or 30 East to Interstate 35E North. Take Interstate 35E North to the North Dallas Tollway North. Take the North Dallas Tollway North to the Beltline / Arapaho Road Exit. Exit to Service Road and stay on Service Road to the 2nd traffic light (Arapaho Road). U-Turn at 2nd light (Arapaho Road). Hotel is 2nd building on the right side.

HATTIE HILL - REMEMBERING... *Continued from page 1*

Dana: Why do you think your company expanded in this direction?

Hattie: Well, once I learned how crucial it is to "connect the message to the venue," the whole world opened up to me and I realized I had a valuable service to provide my clients as a planner.

Dana: Why have you chosen to volunteer your time to MPI?

Hattie: Common interests with other members, valuable education and relationships that have extended all over the world. I know if I need something, ANYTHING, I will find the person and/or the service within MPI. You know, I don't necessarily get more clients as a result of being in MPI; that's never been my purpose. My dedication to this organization has been borne of the fact that I've learned how to develop the best skills possible through participating in MPI; I simply provide these tools to benefit my clients and they think I'm a hero.

Dana: What are you able to glean from your relationships in the industry and in MPI?

Hattie: From the local to the International level I have always felt the value of MPI. Because of MPI, Jill Heyerdahl came into my life and she pretty much "runs my life" for me! She's planned events for my clients and, taking those MPI relationships to the next level, when I got married a few years ago, it was Jill who planned the wedding and we went straight to the MPI directory to resource our vendors since the wedding was in Baltimore-it was beautiful!

Dana: Many of us who've been in the industry a long time started out doing something else? What is your background?

Hattie: Good question, Dana! Believe it or not, my background is in psychology. I have always been the person who asks "why" and "how" so my career has been a natural progression since much of what we do in the meetings industry is ask questions so we can best define the purpose of bringing people together. This is how I best help my clients... I'm fearless about asking the 'why' questions; everything from food choices to the smallest of details.

Dana: Let's talk about the Multicultural Initiative, since you were instrumental in working with MPI International to build the foundation for this particular program. *Continued pg. 7*



Hattie Hill and Oprah Winfrey



Stafford and Hattie with Oprah and Stedman

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HATTIE HILL - REMEMBERING... *Continued from page 6*

Hattie: The Multicultural Initiative has been a wild ride so far and it's changed so much since we started. Let me share with you where our thought process is now on the Initiative. "Multicultural" actually consists of two tracks: One is more U.S.- based and attractive for supplier members because they're now aware of the multi-billion dollar market that's comprised from the African-American, Asian American and Hispanic groups who plan meetings, events and conventions. Now their selling marketplace has expanded AND they have the opportunity to encourage this new clientele to join in and part of MPI so they can also benefit from the education and resources. The second track is International and attractive to both planners and suppliers because it pertains to learning about cultural differences, protocol and addressing the ever-growing needs of participants at meetings who come from diverse backgrounds. It focuses more on the business concepts. As this Initiative has taken shape, we've formed alliances with PCMA, IAEM, and others in the industry.

Dana: Now let's talk a moment about the Women's Leadership Initiative, which you and I have both been involved with and support tremendously.

Hattie: You know, I always tell women "Don't just sit there, breath first". I find that we typically "do first" and don't think about what we do. We're so concerned about making people happy we forget about ourselves! This is what we can learn as part of the WLI, to develop leadership skills for our own personal and professional growth.

Dana: Okay, so now we're back to the balance question because, as women, we juggle so many things professionally and personally trying to keep everyone happy. Do you believe that we can "have it all"?

Hattie: Hmm...Yes, you CAN have it all. But here's the caveat that will change your life: You can't have it all at the same time!

Dana: You travel all over the world with your clients and on behalf of MPI. Do you have an interesting story to share?

Hattie: I recently went to Turkey for a conference as part of a panel of a multicultural group. In front of a large audience, I was asked, by a woman from Afganastan, "How does it feel to be blessed by birth?" I was utterly speechless and it left an indelible mark on me to always remember that to the rest of the world, to have been born in the US and to have the rights and privileges of an American is indeed a blessing.

Dana: What is your favorite topic to discuss if time isn't an issue?

Hattie: "Change"! How can we change the world? Technology has played such a large role in change in the world. Literally, technology can change your life in one moment. And you know what else? Technology requires great responsibility to be used for positive change.

Dana: These pictures all over the office are with famous people. One that's really sticking out is Oprah Winfrey, one of the most powerful and respected women in our country.

Hattie: Recently I met with Oprah and we sat down for a visit. What a profound woman she is. Oprah told me "If you can influence people with your words, it is a big responsibility - don't take it lightly." You see, we all have the power to make a difference with our words. And when you're invited to speak before thousands, that responsibility becomes bigger.

Dana: Name 3 attributes you think are important in this industry.

Hattie: Be positive not pushy. Deliver what you promise. Deliver more if you can!

Dana: Okay, a few fun questions for you now.

Dana: Favorite Book? **Hattie:** "Purpose Driven Life"

Dana: How much do you travel?

Hattie: It is a roller coaster based on the year - about 60%

Dana: What is the one thing you would not travel without?

Hattie: Vitamins / A form of communication (Cell Phone, etc)

Dana: Worst Trait?

Hattie: Impatient - the airlines are testing this

Dana: Best Trait? **Hattie:** Optimism

Dana: Any parting wisdom for us?

Hattie: Show value for the meetings you produce. Nurture relationships because they're important in this industry. Ask yourself who is in your inner circle and are they telling you the truth? Be about contributing to the world and not so much about yourself. Make a difference in the industry and bring people together whenever possible. Lastly, learn every day. If you aren't learning, why bother?

Editorial Contributions Wanted:



DALLAS/FORT WORTH CHAPTER

Dear MPI DFW Chapter Members:

Our newsletter, The Current, belongs to you!

If there are specific industry topics you want us to research and include this year or you'd like to make an editorial contribution by writing an article, please contact Patty Markley, CMP, Managing Editor, at 972-789-5530. You may email ideas and/or articles for the newsletter committee to review to patty@groupdmm.com

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August Meeting Chapter Partners

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

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Moderator: David DuBois, CMP, CAE
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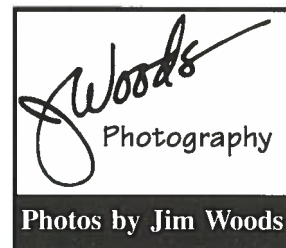
August Chapter Meeting Highlights



Engaged in a private tour with one of the Women's Museum's knowledgeable Docents, MPI D/FW Chap members and guests thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see the museum's many exhibits.



Elizabeth Chandler,
*M e a d o w
Foundation, Inc.;*
Dayna Tooley, *Events by
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Cindy Lindsley, *Thompson & Knight LLP* (seated on left); Angelle Bujol, *American Heart Association* (seated on right); J. Holt Foster, III, *Thompson & Knight LLP* (standing on left); Mr. David Dubois, *CMP, CAE MPI Foundation* (standing right)




Meeting Evaluation

COMMENTS BY SUPPLIERS

- Nice change to format of meeting everything was great.
- Great program!
- Great meeting - sound system only downfall.
- Thought the venue excellent & liked the networking time during lunch
- I like the old setup for lunch.
- Excellent location - especially enjoyed the opportunity to take a tour! I really liked separating the educational portion from the luncheon - much easier to concentrate. I also loved the separate food stations.

COMMENTS BY PLANNERS

- Loved the facility! Had not been here before.
- Program was too basic and did not give tips to us. Liked the new format, not for every meeting, but once in a while this is nice.
- Thanks you for offering a topic for non-profits. The format was great - better opportunity for networking y having program then lunch - Loved it.
- Fantastic - unique - different - networking much better - program content good & glad to hear there will be a more focused one.
- Couldn't hear very well - AV was a little off!
- Looking forward to hearing more about this topic.

COMMENTS BY GUESTS

- Great experience - loved meeting - so many suppliers.
- Excellent venue - fabulous caterer - food quality - service - beautiful décor - great networking - presentation/speakers informative - thanks for a fabulous experience.
- Very professional group; very positive and supportive of each other's business - Very lively and informative.
- Thank you for offering a topic for non-profits - the format was great, better opportunity for networking, by having program then lunch. Loved it.



left to right: with *The Women's Museum* Iris Ervin, Frela Farrell and Joe Bell.

Advancing Women

Women's Leadership Initiative



Dana Rhoden,
CMP, CMM

Women Working Against Each Other: What is the Reality?

Are you Omarosa?

The recent reality television show, "The Apprentice" brought forth many questions, among them, the "male versus female" in business.

Why is it that on the program the women succeeded time and time again when working as a group of women, but when integrated into the men's group the dynamics changed and they worked against each other? What is reality?

One lesson - men seem to be much better at letting go and not holding a grudge. This is an important lesson for all of us. WLI is designed to help develop leadership skills, designed for women to better achieve their goals to make a difference in their own lives and profession.

Through programs presented by WLI, women are learning they don't have to compete with each other but will get a lot further a lot faster by supporting each other; that helping other women get recognized and achieve their own success helps everyone - both men and women.

We still have so much to learn and we honestly don't know if this initiative will make a difference. But, we must take note that times are changing and we DO have the power to make positive change through awareness and education. What we do know is that women are still paid less than men and women continue to accept lower pay for equal work.

Women tend to complain in the background rather than standing up for themselves. Terri Breining, CMP, CMM, Past Chairwoman of MPI International states that "Sometimes it's more convenient to blame men generally or a system or a structure than it is to take personal responsibility." Breining points out opportunities which didn't exist for women 50 years ago do today and women are present in positions of power.

Don't be afraid to speak up...you're WORTH it! Women need to support each other and fight for more money for equal work. Let go of the grudges and learn a new mantra: "Work is not personal - it's business."

Get involved in the WLI to learn leadership skills that empower your life!

Contact Tara Judd, WLI Chairperson at 972-491-1660 or tara@imagineevents.com



The Education "Steering Committee" made sure everyone was going in the right direction during the S.S. Education boating excursion on August 6, 2004! Pictured from left to right are: Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP, VP of Finance, Nichole Hahn, Director of Professional Development and Jim Monroe, CMP, CSEP, Chair of the Multicultural Initiative Committee.



Jim Monroe,
CMP, CSEP

Multicultural Calendar

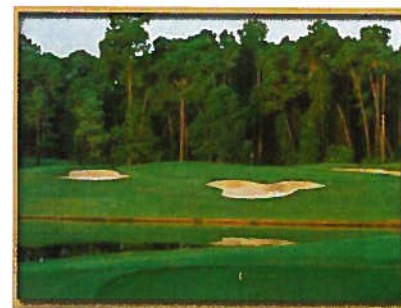
Calendar - brought to you by the Dallas / Fort Worth Chapter Multicultural Initiative (DFWCMI). Contact jim@jcmonroe.com if you are interested in joining or receiving information about us.

- September 1 Orthodox Christians mark the beginning of their ecclesiastical year.
- September 11-18 Jain Society observes Paryushana-parva, holiest period of the year.
- September 12 Muslims celebrate Mi-raj al-Nabli commemorating the ascension of the prophet Muhammad to heaven.
- September 16-17 Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year.
- September 18 Hindus celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi, marking the birthday of Ganesh, the god of success.
- September 19 Jains observe Dshalakshani-parva, for 10 days, each day devoted to a different virtue.
- September 21 Wiccans celebrate the fall equinox.
- September 25 Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement; the year's most solemn holiday for Jews.
- September 30 Sukkot, an eight day Jewish holy period commemorating 40 years Israelites wandered in the desert.

Fall "Flite" at Firewheel!

Time to tee it up at the Fall MPI D/FW Chapter Golf Outing!

Title Sponsors for this year are Firewheel Golf Course and South Padre Island Convention & Visitors Bureau. Proceeds from the outing will benefit *Love for Kids*.



Enjoy the crisp Fall weather and the turning of the leaves amidst babbling brooks at Firewheel Golf Park, a beautiful course that's challenging to players of all skill levels. Participation in the golf outing is a premiere opportunity for "leisure networking" while playing a great round of golf.

The Fall Golf Outing will be the most fun you have playing golf this year! This won't be just another golf outing...it's going to be an "experience!" Don't be shy about playing, either. The course is open to players of all skill levels: scratch golfers, occasional duffers and first-timers.

Our host facility, Firewheel Golf Park, has been voted the best municipal golf course in the State of Texas. Drum up your team now or register as an individual. Do it now - slots fill up fast.

Date: Thursday, October 7, 2004

Location: Firewheel Golf Park

600 W. Campbell Road • Garland, Texas 75044 • (972) 205-2795

Golf Courses: Play on the Lakes and Old Courses

Schedule of Events: 11:30am-12:30pm Player Registration, Sponsor Check-in and Practice Range
1:00pm Shotgun Start
6:00pm-7:30pm Awards Reception and Networking at the Jerry Andrews Tournament Pavilion

Cost per Player: \$125 plus one unwrapped new toy (to be donated to Love for Kids)

Golf Format: 4-player Scramble - Best Ball

Attire: Collared Golf Shirt, Golf shorts or slacks. Soft spikes only.

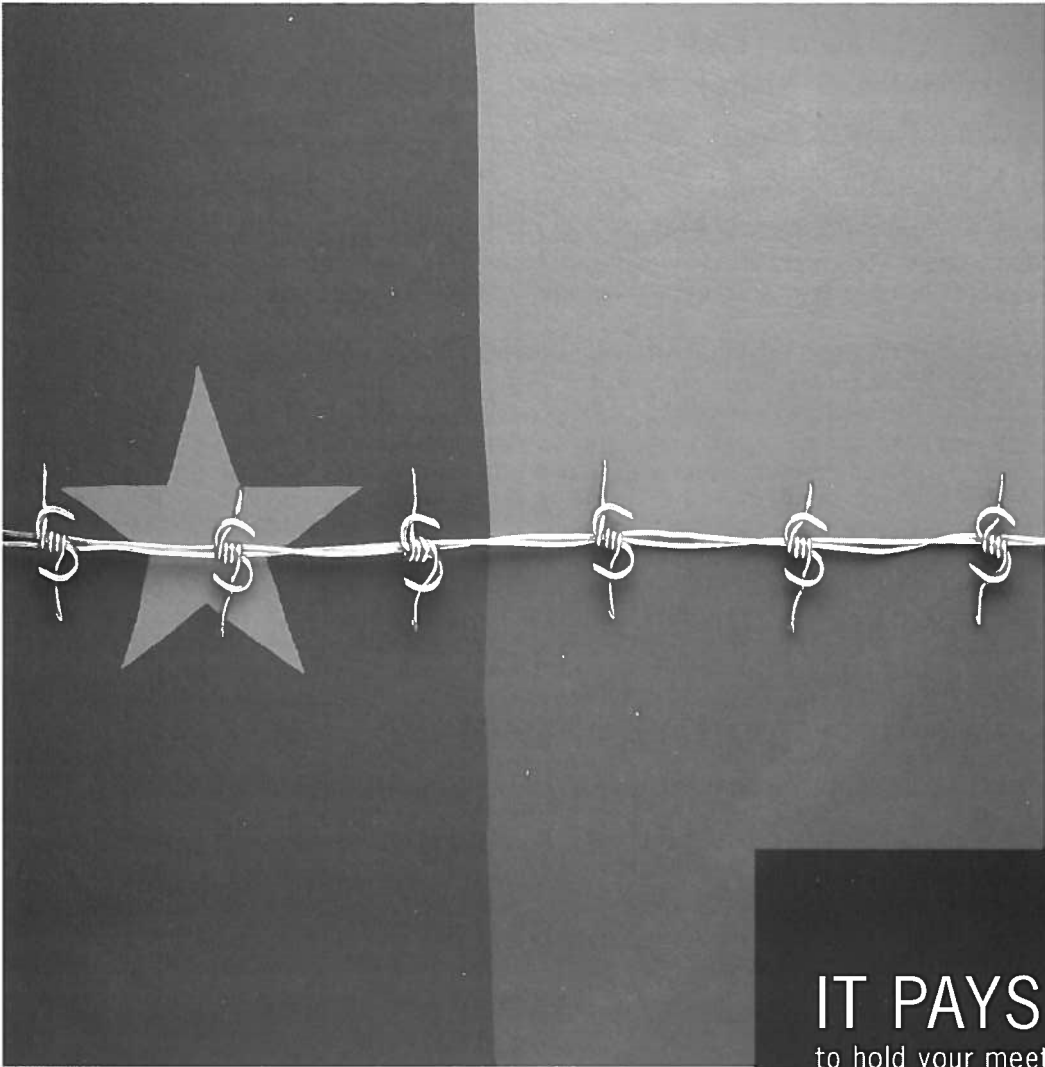
Not a golfer? Come join in after work for the Awards Reception and Networking from 6:00-7:30pm. Cost is only \$20 plus one unwrapped new toy for donation to Love for Kids.



Interested in Sponsorship? We're seeking hole/tee box, contest and beverage cart sponsors, as well as donations for prizes. For more information, visit the chapter website at www.mpidfw.org or contact Pat Hill-Yandell, Director of Special Events at 972-530-0562.



About our beneficiary: *Love for Kids touches the lives of thousands of disadvantaged children each year. Children from over 100 area agencies including day care centers, women's shelters and various boys and girls clubs are treated to outings to the zoo, circus, rodeo, baseball games and other area events. Love for Kids hosts an annual Christmas Party where more than 3,000 under-privileged children enjoy a day of horseback riding, games, food, entertainment and a visit from Santa with new toys given to each child. Toys/cash donated through the MPI D/FW Chapter will be donated to defray the expense of Santa's gifts.*



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EDUCATION NEWS



Nichole Hahn

Education Update

By Nichole Hahn
Director of Professional Development

The D/FW MPI chapter is widely recognized as a chapter with exceptional educational programs. This has helped us become the only chapter that has won Chapter of the Year five times.

In keeping with this tradition of exceptional educational programs and everyone's hectic schedule your education committee met and came up with the following programs.

We're listening! Your time is valuable and so are your opportunities to learn new skills through the chapter's educational offerings. We will have "Mini Conferences" throughout the year. These mini one-day conferences will take place on a Friday or Saturday. They will include business computer training (Excel and PowerPoint) and many topics related to our industry such as WLI and MCI. These classes will build on our knowledge and will be broken up into Beginners, Intermediate and Expert classes.

- The first Mini Conference is being planned for November. We will go in depth on Planning Events for Non-Profits, which will be a continuation of the August monthly meeting. We will also start the Excel 101 class, which addresses basic Excel skills. WLI will explain "How to Negotiate A Raise" and Toastmasters will help you "Develop Your Speaking Skills" and "Give Positive, Constructive Feedback."
- Back by popular demand, we are currently planning the second session of Hotel School. This full day educational workshop will take you through the complete running of a hotel from reservations through room service!
- The committee is introducing a new "mobile education" series with several "All Around Town" bus trips where we drive to the education! Several topics under consideration include "All About Wine", "Business Etiquette" and "DFW Venues."

Thank you to all who stopped by the Education booth during the August monthly meeting, filled out the survey and offered great suggestions to incorporate into the chapter's educational programming. Please continue to submit new suggestions and ideas you have to nhahn@swst.com for upcoming educational sessions.

Watch the newsletters and emails for further details and firm dates. Looking forward to learning together!

The S.S. Education



It's amazing how much work gets done when you have a captive audience!

The "S.S. Education" took sail Friday, August 6th, 2004 on Lake Grapevine. Over the course of a brilliant day of sunshine, committee members in Education and Programs bonded, strategized...and just had plain old fun together!

Chapter Calendar:

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

October 7, 2004 - Golf Outing

December 16, 2004 - Silent Auction/Raffle at the December Holiday Luncheon

February 2005 - Annual Supplier Showcase

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR THE MONTHLY MEETINGS:

September 23- Planning Dynamic General Sessions, Intercontinental Dallas
October 28- Air Travel

November 18- Ethics & Profits

Check mpidfw.org calendar of events for locations and times

CHAPTER CHARITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE:

At a recent retreat, your Board of Directors voted to revive the Chapter Charity Relations Committee. Past projects handled by this committee included Shoes for Orphans for Buckner Children's Home, organizing a team for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Special Olympics volunteer coordination and collections such as the Towels, Sheets & Linens Drive and the Clothes & Toiletry Drive benefiting local charity organizations. If interested in helping to revitalize this committee, please contact VP of Finance, Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP at 469-255-6410 or sdelagarza@macmeetings.com.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

We meet the Second Monday of each month so please join in and get in the game!

Time: 5:45pm

Location: Doubletree Dallas Hotel (Midway & LBJ)

2004 Meeting Dates:

September 13 • November 8 • December 13



Institutes, MPI's highly acclaimed certificate programs, was created to help meeting professionals develop vital personal, professional and leadership skills that increase professional value and build a powerful base of knowledge.

Institutes are designed to focus on core competencies of today's meeting professionals and to provide tactical and strategic skills training on meeting and event management. In addition, they offer a variety of learning formats that include extensive interaction among colleagues through case studies, group work and hands-on activities.

We invite you to join professional meeting planners and suppliers from around the world for this dynamic, one-of-a-kind educational experience.

Questions regarding educational content for Institutes should be directed to the Professional Development Department at 972.702.3046. Questions regarding registration or lodging should be directed to the Conferences and Meetings Department at 972.702.3083.

Visit www.mpiweb.org to learn more about Institutes and to register online!



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TEXAS-SIZED ★ REWARDS

WHAT'S YOUR REQUEST? Do you need a prime location for your "Remember The Alamo" meeting? Or someone to watch over the smallest details while you focus on your meeting in the lone-star state? We'd like to hear about it.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Leah Belasco
'Grapevine' Columnist

Heard it through the Grapevine!

Bruce Wolpert, CMP, has joined the *Adam's Mark* as Director of Sales-Texas market.

Debi Kensell is pleased to announce several new positions at *PRSM Association*. **Diane Clancy**, formerly with *Nortel*, is Education Manager. **Severine Stephenson**, formerly at *Stoneleigh Hotel*, is Marketing Manager. **Jan Gillin**, formerly with *Dallas CVB*, is Administrative Assistant.

Karen Fogle is the new Sales Manager for Association and Corporate groups for *Plano CVB*. Karen formerly was with *Rough Creek Lodge and Star Brand Ranch*.

Also at *Plano CVB*, **Shaun Mefford** has been promoted from Convention Services to Sales Manager-SMERF and Government groups.

Mary Sanger, we will miss you at *Blue Mesa Grill* and look forward to still seeing you at MPI events! Mary left the restaurant biz to focus on her education for a Masters in counseling degree. Her goal is to be a licensed marriage and family therapist.

Cathy Bullard is the new Event Sales Manager at *Gilley's*. Cathy previously was at *Movie Studios at Las Colinas*.

Thanks go out to **Wayne Wallgren** for the upgrade to First Class while in Denver...from you know who!

New chapter member **Angela Kell** is the new Catering Sales Manager at the *Palm Restaurant*. Angela previously was with the *Plano Chamber of Commerce* and *Bickel & Brewer* law firm.

There have been some recent changes at *USA Host*, which moved offices to North Central Expressway. We welcome **Chris Chung**, new General Manager of the USA Host DFW office. Chris moved to Dallas and transferred his membership from the Potomac/Washington DC chapter. **Alica Fuqua**, Sales Manager, is also a new chapter member.

Welcome to new member **David Abadie**, Corporate/Convention Sales Manager at *Medieval Times*. David has previously been in hotel group sales in the Dallas area.

Note to all members: We "heard it through the grapevine"...The VP's and Directors are looking for committee volunteers! We heard that getting involved enhances your member experience!

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

NEW ONLINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

HARD COPY DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

by Tony Cummins, CMP, VP of Membership

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce the online availability of the 2004-2005 Chapter Member Directory. MPI D/FW members can now go to the Chapter web site (www.mpidfw.org) and download an alphabetical, last name directory of Chapter members. The directory is a PDF file that can be downloaded directly to your desktop or hard drive. You can now enjoy the convenience of paperless access to member information with the click of your mouse. For those of you with laptop computers, you'll enjoy the portability of the directory as you travel with your laptop in hand. Plans are on the horizon to make available a second online document of members listed by company name.

In order to access the new directory, go to www.mpidfw.org, click on Membership/Membership Directory, then log in with your member number and password. After logging in, you'll see a link at the top left, "Download Membership Directory". Click on the link and save the document to your location of choice.

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the Chapter Member Directory, please complete and fax a Member Directory Request Form to Randie Charnes, Chapter Administrator at 972-506-7485. A directory will be mailed to you. The request form is available online at www.mpidfw.org, or can be picked up at the Chapter Membership Table at our monthly meetings.

New Kids on the Block

Welcome to Our Newest Members!



We are delighted to welcome our newest chapter members. We invite you all to attend our monthly chapter meetings in an effort to help further your desire for education and networking. For more information on chapter events, please visit our website at www.mpidfw.org.

David Abadie.....	Medieval Times
Maria Alvarado.....	Blockbuster, Inc.
Derek Argo.....	Cort Tradeshow & Event Furnishings
Fernanda Barros.....	Wyndham Dallas Market Center
Kurt Baxter	Ascendium Inc.
Arlette Bernard.....	Chandler's Cuisine
Francisco Cachafeiro De La Loza...Administracion y Desarrollo Turistico S A	
Donna Duncan.....	Advo Care International LP
Tanya Emerson-Eisel.....	Palm Beach County CVB
Susan Fox.....	Frito-Lay
Alicia Fuqua	USA Hosts
Priscilla Garcia.....	Hotel ZaZa
Janell Gilman.....	Curves International
Gail Grogan.....	Rough Creek Lodge
Julie Hylton.....	American Express
Debbie Juett.....	Deloitte & Touche Tax Technologies
Angela Kell	The Palm Restaurant
James Kennedy.....	Dallas Market Center-Market Travel
Patrice Long.....	Walt Disney Parks and Resorts
Pam Mansell	Galderma Laboratories
Diana McClure.....	Wyndham Anatole Hotel
Craig Murchison.....	ABCO Inc
Neil Pflum	Musical Motivator Productions
Diana White.....	American Express Global Services

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