

CURRENT MPI

DALLAS-FT. WORTH CHAPTER

July 1987

President's Message

by Pat Smith



Pat Smith

Who would have guessed that the twenty-five D/FW chapter members who attended the International MPI Conference in Winnipeg in June would have the thrill of seeing BOTH our candidates win the International Planner and Supplier of the Year awards. Yes, it happened! And how very honored our chapter is to have Greg Elam, International Planner of the Year 1986-1987, and Steve Powell, International Supplier of the Year 1986-1987, singled out to receive these highest MPI awards of achievement. A kind of search - FOR EXCELLENCE - found right in our own backyard!

Exciting? Yes! But this winning spirit of Winnipeg is not new to the D/FW Chapter. It has existed all year long. I've seen it in the dedication and commitment to the CMP study group! I've seen this spirit in our educational programming! I've seen it in our membership orientation and networking seminars! What better spirit could be portrayed than in our new PGA program? And it took a lot of "enterprising spirit" for our Board of Directors to make the milestone decision - to obtain paid management support in order to operate our chapter more efficiently and professionally.

And now the "spirit" of a new and exciting chapter year lies just ahead! Let's make it a winner!

As this chapter year draws to a close, I'd like to say "thank you" for all your support. It has been a most rewarding year for me. I can honestly say, "I've thoroughly enjoyed it!"

IN MEMORIUM

Gary E. Sawyer
Vice President - Convention Services
Showco, Inc.

Top Awards Go To Elam & Powell

by Michele Sanseverino



Greg Elam

On Tuesday evening, June 9, at the Winnipeg Convention Center, the spirits of the D/FW chapter members present were riding high. Prior to the convention, we felt we had two good candidates for the awards of International Planner and International Supplier of the Year. Our nominees were Greg Elam and Steve Powell respectively.

The winners are selected by the International Awards Committee from finalists submitted by chapters throughout the country. The Committee's selection is based on the Supplier's or Planner's contributions to MPI International, the meeting planning industry and their personal professionalism.

Steve Powell's International Supplier of the Year Award was the first to be announced. (He had talked himself out of the possibility of winning. How could he win when Charlotte St. Martin, Regional Vice President, Sales and Marketing of Loews Hotels, had won in 1982 this same prestigious award). The applause and cheers were magnified upon Steve reaching the stage to find his mother and son awaiting the presentation of the award.

As the Dallas Chapter members tried to contain their excitement for Steve, a second feeling of tension emerged to await the announcement of International Planner of the Year. (Could Greg Elam win, with Steve just winning? Would the International Awards Committee ever choose both recipients from the same Chapter?) As Nancy Holden, last year's winner described the International Planner of the Year, the realization came that yes, Greg Elam had been selected. The celebration



Steve Powell

and congratulations that followed were unbelievable.

Greg was as shocked at receiving the award as seeing his wife also appear on stage to see him receive it. When asking some of our fellow members their feelings on the evening, they shared the following with me:

Gary Clark, AVW Audio Visual, Inc.: "I was so excited for Steve Powell and proud he was from the D/FW Chapter - I then saw Greg Elam but assumed only one person could win from a chapter. It was about that time that I also realized the planner they were describing was Greg".

Marilyn McGuire, Texas Credit Union League: "It was so thrilling that I almost felt like it was me winning. They both have been such a part of our Chapter and are both deserving."

Pat Smith, Infomart: "It was a once in a life time thrill to have our Chapter win both awards. The adrenalin in the 25 members present was high. We are so proud of Greg and Steve."

Martin Conley, MPI International: "Steve Powell is who introduced me to MPI and the hospitality industry. I am thrilled for him and Greg and feel the awards were well deserved."

Ed Jordan, Hyatt Hotel: "I was excited for both and felt they each deserved the honor. It was a night to be proud of the D/FW Chapter of MPI."

Steve Powell is past President of International '83-'84 and has held many other
(continued on page 3)

MPI Profile

NANCY KIRK

by Sally Gibbons

Newly elected to the Chapter's Board of Directors, Nancy brings much from Fort Worth to us all...as Meeting and Travel Administrator for Color Tile and her four years as a member of MPI.

Born in Taft, California (near Bakersfield) to a "normal" family, her father's engineering job with General Dynamics brought her to Fort Worth as a baby. She's almost a "native" and a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin where history was her major. Of course...perfect for meeting planning!

Actually, meeting planning has always been part of her jobs...except a stint at a pizza parlor (she ate her profits and knew this wasn't "banquet" food). One of her first official jobs was as administrative assistant with the anesthesiology department at Baylor in Houston and the coordination of an annual conference. Then to Denver where she worked for a stock brokerage firm planning due - diligence meetings (or stock offerings)...it **do** take diligence for those!

Nancy moved back to Fort Worth and joined Color Tile 5½ years ago where she spent most of her early time planning year end store managers meetings - 16 in two weeks! Now she plans 6 larger meetings for 100 to 200 people; again for those two weeks. Color Tile has changed over the years as a spin-off of Tandy Corporation to a public held corporation to the current ownership by New York based GIF-Knoll. The home office of this "do it yourself" home improvement company remains in Fort Worth with 3500 employees and 700 stores nationwide.

Get to know Nancy if you don't already. She's single, loves to travel for business and pleasure, and is always surprised at the great variety of friends she knows through MPI.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT MPI:

Educational opportunities and meeting new people.



Nancy Kirk

FAVORITE RELAXATION:

A good book on a sunny beach.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT FT. WORTH:

Excitement of the **whole** Metroplex.

PERSON MOST LIKE TO MEET:

Mr. Akio Mirota (President of Sony) and Carol Burnett (lots of laughs).

FAVORITE POSSESSIONS:

Photographs of my family from great grandfather and on.

TOUGHEST ASSIGNMENT:

Last February - the putting together of 25 meetings in three weeks - Whew!

FAVORITE VACATION:

Skiing in the winter at Winter Park; beaching in the Bahamas anytime.

ULTIMATE BANQUET:

Fresh lobster and ice cold shrimp.

BEST HOUR OF THE DAY:

6:00 a.m.

ACCOMPLISHMENT MOST PROUD OF:

Starting new incentive program at Color Tile. It took ages to approve, and is now working.

FAVORITE COLOR:

Blue

IF I COULD CHOOSE ANOTHER JOB:

Photo-journalist.

WORKING PHILOSOPHY:

Listen and learn from anyone and everyone.

New Kids On The Block

by Norb Dettmann

Levla V. Breckenridge.....	696-8458
Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas	
Helen J. Gatewood	691-1163
Womens Association Allied Beverage Ind.	
Mona T. Jones.....	398-3682
Texas Woman's University	
Tanya M. Magana.....	991-3800
Global Enterprises Inc.	
Janis G. Mitchell.....	827-4100
Hilton Inn, Dallas	
Walter H. Nixon	580-0404
Speciality Advertising Association	
Stanton D. Soderstrom	637-5037
Advantage Meeting Resource Group	
Linda K. Carrell	742-3766
Troy Marketing	
William A. Good.....	651-7625
GT Communications Inc.	
Diane M. Hunter.....	357-5601
Executive Inn & Conference Center	
Liz Kukielka	220-1090
Trusthouse Forte Hotels	
Mike Mahaffey.....	630-6700
Bauer Audio Video Inc.	
Jan Mosley.....	386-1143
Personal Way Aviation	
Helen E. Rolland	720-4657
Baptist Annunity Board	
Sarah A. Christian.....	980-7396
Dallas Arrangements	
Julie A. Gravel.....	754-1000
Central & Southwest Services, Inc.	
Michael Jacobson	243-1033
Cynthia Michaels Inc.	
Sue C. MacDonald.....	980-7396
Dallas Arrangements	
Debbie McCarthy	556-0800
Marriott Mandalay	
Neil Murphy	658-7089
Dallas Convention Center	
Mario Saenz, Jr.....	991-3800
Global Enterprises, Inc.	

Members Only

by Norb Dettmann

We've huffed and puffed to keep our chapter membership vital and growing. Even with the economic situation in the Metroplex this past year we all can say, "We knew we could!"

Our membership has grown 5% since September; we now stand at 318. This has to be considered a small miracle...but every bit of thanks has to go to those who put their shoulders to the effort. Excellent educational programs...Smooth leadership... Professionalism of our members - all kept MPI moving as the most important organization for meeting planners in

Dallas/Ft. Worth.

The people who provided the leadership on the Membership Committee this past year need a **BIG** pat on the back:

—Directory:

Laura Yarbrough

—Prospect Project:

Colleen Haggard/Mary Garner

—Guests:

Brenda O'Quinn

—Guest Registration & Prospective Member Reception:

Michele Green

—Member Follow-Up:

Michele Sanseverino

—Member Involvement:

Judy Smith/Barbara Fett

—New Members:

Lisa Renfro

—New Member Reception:

Suzi Fiveash

—Professional Growth Awards:

Gail LeMaire

—Supplier Blitz:

Lisa South

—Team Attendance:

Mary Cowart

—Welcoming Committee:

Linda Fain

Thanks!!

CHAPTER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

DATE: Thursday, July 23, 1987

PLACE: 2001 Club
Bryan Tower Building - 40th Floor
Dallas, Texas 75201

TIME: 6:00 PM — Registration and Reception
7:00 PM — Dinner
8:00 PM — Program

PROGRAM: Installation of 1987-88 Officers
10 Year Anniversary Celebration

MEETING COST: Advance Reservations: \$22.00
Late Reservations and Walk-Ins: \$27.00
(Space Available Only)

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 12:00 PM ON TUESDAY July 21, 1987

NO SHOWS WILL BE CHARGED

For Phone Reservations Call: Della Bolton, MPI Secretary
Between 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
(214) 689-4775

RESERVATION AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

- NOTE: Money will be collected at the door. Advance Payments are no longer being accepted. We would appreciate your cooperation.
- Advance reservations must be received by cut-off date; late reservations and walk-ins will be accepted on a SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS ONLY.
- CANCELLATIONS must also be received by the cut-off date — NO SHOWS WILL BE BILLED!
- Guests are limited to attending two meetings per chapter year before membership is required to attend future meetings. (Spouses not included)
- In case of overflow seating, members not present 15 minutes after the meal is served will have their reserved seats sold.
- Members are responsible for paying "no show" charges for their guests.

Suite Executive Selected to Assist Chapter

by Linda Hill

As many of the members know from past articles in the *Current*, this year's board decided to seek additional administrative support to enable them to re-direct efforts rather than getting bogged down with paperwork. After requesting proposals, the ad hoc committee chaired by Laura Yarbrough narrowed down the field of six interested parties to two; and after interviews, selected Comel Tiller of Suite Executives to assist with Chapter administration.

A new member of MPI, Comel's company is responsible for providing administrative support to the principal officers of companies ranging from manufacturing, advertising, data processing, recruiting, etc. In addition, she provides executive office

space, telephone answering, computerized bookkeeping, and data base management systems. Exactly the type of administrative support our growing chapter needs! Comel's office and our new central office is located at 2730 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 305. Our new telephone number will be published as soon as possible. Comel will come on board effective July 1 and will work very closely with the incoming executive board.

The addition of Suite Executives will permit your board to pursue the goals of the chapter in the areas of community outreach and quality educational programming by bringing long needed continuity and efficiency.

Heard It Through The Grapevine

by Margaret Brown

Debbie Shiflett has won a weekend at the Marriott Quorum and plans to spend it with her husband.

Peggy Gachet is completing a training course with Delta Air Lines.

David Powdermaker was seen flying 1st Class from Winnipeg, while his co-workers flew coach.

Lisa South has been named National Director of Meetings and Conventions at Associates Translo.

Top Awards

(cont'd from page 1)

key offices and committee positions. He was instrumental in the charter and development of the Rocky Mountain chapter. He is a frequent speaker and panelist in industry events. He has played an active role in the hospitality and meeting industry since 1969 in both Texas and Colorado. Steve has been back in Texas since December 1984 as Director of Sales and Marketing for Loews Anatole Hotel.

Greg Elam, Vice President of Communication for Great American Reserve Insurance, served on many Board of Directors and community service organizations including the Board of Directors of the Baylor Medical Center Foundation and Society of the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. Also, he has won numerous awards in the life insurance field as well as meeting planning and communication awards. His MPI Service spans 10 years of contributions at both Chapter and International level. Indicative of the respect Greg holds in our industry are the great number of national meeting management and supplier persons who volunteered to write letters on his behalf.

International Exchange

by Rosemary Hall

The Board of Directors of MPI met during the Annual Meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and some of the issues covered were as follows:

Report of the Vote for Changing Association Name

The ballots were received by MPI headquarters on May 15 in which the membership elected to maintain the name 'Meeting Planners International' as opposed to 'Meeting Professionals International'.

Selection of 1990 Conference Site

The Board of Directors ratified the action of the Executive Committee and approved the selection of Kansas City, Missouri, as the site of the 1990 Annual Conference over the dates June 17-20.

It was also recommended that Dallas be considered for the 1992 Annual Meeting, which would be the 20th Anniversary of MPI.

Governance Structure Action

After an in depth report of the Task Force on Governance Structure, the Board of Directors approved governance structural changes to the MPI membership. A complete report of the proposed governance structure change will be presented in the August issue of the **Meeting Manager** which will detail the pros and cons of the proposal. A ballot will be sent out to the entire membership in early fall to determine the acceptance/rejection of the proposal. In short, the proposed structure will allow for a 19 member Board of Directors which is inclusive of a 6 member Executive Committee and will meet 4 times a year as opposed to the current board meeting 2 times a year. The task force, through their research and study, has endeavored to design a plan that will allow an idea to be implemented in a more expeditious manner from its conception through its completion.

MPI also submitted a request to the Board for bonding of volunteer chapter officers and received approval.

As of May 31, MPI membership has topped 8,000 members with 8,022 members.

There have been some organizational changes at MPI with the recent resignations of Gail Eades and Jeff Waddle. Sonny Weaver has been named Executive Director and Webb Sharp, who will serve as Managing Director; and Tina Polipski, Director of Communications.

And speaking of Sonny Weaver...I want to thank Sonny for her extremely valuable input to this column. I could not have done it without her help.

July Meeting To Honor Past Present & Future

by Deborah Barnes

2001 CLUB

The July meeting will honor the outgoing and incoming Board of Directors of the D/FW MPI Chapter.

Dr. Jan LeCroy, Chancellor of Dallas County Community College District, will conduct the installation ceremony. Dr. LeCroy is a graduate of the Military Academy at West Point and is actively involved in the community serving on several boards and commissions. In addition to the installation of the Board, we will be celebrating the Chapter's 10 year anniversary.

A delightful evening has been planned at the beautiful 2001 Club in downtown Dallas. The 2001 Club, managed by Club Corporation of America, is located on the 40th floor of 2001 Bryan Tower.

Please join us in honoring the chapter leadership, and in celebration of the chapter's 10 years of growth while enjoying a spectacular view of Dallas after dark.



We may not have won 1st place in the MPI Olympic Team competition in Winnipeg, but of our "costumes" winning the Grand Prize, there can be little doubt.

"Current" Takes A Breather

by Bill Boyd

As most of you know, the month of August is one of transition for our local chapter. The new officers and committee chairs are busily setting their agendas and goals for their tenure in office; they are reviewing the activities of the "old regime" so that when September rolls around, the chapter year can start off at a running pace. Our newsletter "takes a breather" in August to allow the new Vice President of Public Relations adequate time to establish the new format by studying the old with the ever mindful goal of improvement foremost.

The outgoing Newsletter Committee wishes to thank all the members who have diligently contributed their time and expertise to make our newsletter the professional publication it continues to be. I would like to thank the Newsletter Committee for all their hours of unselfish commitment to making our **Current** the best. Without the contributions of the regular monthly articles by Pat Smith, Sally Gibbons, Rosemary Hall, Lisa South, Norb Dettmann, Charlotte Ponder, Nancy Kirk and Margaret Brown, the Newsletter content would be greatly reduced. Many thanks also to Sloan Photography for their tireless efforts to supply the membership with pictures to go with the words; and to Linda Hill and her staff for a timely mailing each month using labels supplied by Laura Yarbrough and her staff.

Good luck from the entire **Current** committee to Judith Houghton as you begin your year of enhanced content for our newsletter!

Editors Note

The new **Current** "masthead" design is courtesy of Lon Breedlove. Thanks, Lon, for a super design successfully combining the Dallas/Fort Worth and mid cities skylines.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE COURTESY OF SLOAN PHOTOGRAPHY. THEY DESERVE OUR SUPPORT FOR THEIR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION.

Spend the Weekend at

LOEWS ANATOLE HOTEL
RESTAURANT DISTRICT

Experience 19 restaurants and lounges, shopping and a complete health club.

For reservations and information call 214/748-1200.

LOEWS ANATOLE HOTEL

2201 Stemmons Freeway • Dallas, Texas 75207

MPI Profile

NANCY KIRK

by Sally Gibbons

Newly elected to the Chapter's Board of Directors, Nancy brings much from Fort Worth to us all...as Meeting and Travel Administrator for Color Tile and her four years as a member of MPI.

Born in Taft, California (near Bakersfield) to a "normal" family, her father's engineering job with General Dynamics brought her to Fort Worth as a baby. She's almost a "native" and a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin where history was her major. Of course...perfect for meeting planning!

Actually, meeting planning has always been part of her jobs...except a stint at a pizza parlor (she ate her profits and knew this wasn't "banquet" food). One of her first official jobs was as administrative assistant with the anesthesiology department at Baylor in Houston and the coordination of an annual conference. Then to Denver where she worked for a stock brokerage firm planning due - diligence meetings (or stock offerings)...it **do** take diligence for those!

Nancy moved back to Fort Worth and joined Color Tile 5½ years ago where she spent most of her early time planning year end store managers meetings - 16 in two weeks! Now she plans 6 larger meetings for 100 to 200 people; again for those two weeks. Color Tile has changed over the years as a spin-off of Tandy Corporation to a public held corporation to the current ownership by New York based GIF-Knoll. The home office of this "do it yourself" home improvement company remains in Fort Worth with 3500 employees and 700 stores nationwide.

Get to know Nancy if you don't already. She's single, loves to travel for business and pleasure, and is always surprised at the great variety of friends she knows through MPI.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT MPI:

Educational opportunities and meeting new people.



Nancy Kirk

FAVORITE RELAXATION:

A good book on a sunny beach.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT FT. WORTH:

Excitement of the **whole** Metroplex.

PERSON MOST LIKE TO MEET:

Mr. Akio Mirota (President of Sony) and Carol Burnett (lots of laughs).

FAVORITE POSSESSIONS:

Photographs of my family from great grandfather and on.

TOUGHEST ASSIGNMENT:

Last February - the putting together of 25 meetings in three weeks - Whew!

FAVORITE VACATION:

Skiing in the winter at Winter Park; beaching in the Bahamas anytime.

ULTIMATE BANQUET:

Fresh lobster and ice cold shrimp.

BEST HOUR OF THE DAY:

6:00 a.m.

ACCOMPLISHMENT MOST PROUD OF:

Starting new incentive program at Color Tile. It took ages to approve, and is now working.

FAVORITE COLOR:

Blue

IF I COULD CHOOSE ANOTHER JOB:

Photo-journalist.

WORKING PHILOSOPHY:

Listen and learn from anyone and everyone.

New Kids On The Block

by Norb Dettmann

Levla V. Breckenridge.....	696-8458
Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas	
Helen J. Gatewood.....	691-1163
Womens Association Allied Beverage Ind.	
Mona T. Jones.....	398-3682
Texas Woman's University	
Tanya M. Magana.....	991-3800
Global Enterprises Inc.	
Janis G. Mitchell.....	827-4100
Hilton Inn, Dallas	
Walter H. Nixon.....	580-0404
Speciality Advertising Association	
Stanton D. Soderstrom.....	637-5037
Advantage Meeting Resource Group	
Linda K. Carrell.....	742-3766
Troy Marketing	
William A. Good.....	651-7625
GT Communications Inc.	
Diane M. Hunter.....	357-5601
Executive Inn & Conference Center	
Liz Kukielka.....	220-1090
Trusthouse Forte Hotels	
Mike Mahaffey.....	630-6700
Bauer Audio Video Inc.	
Jan Mosley.....	386-1143
Personal Way Aviation	
Helen E. Rolland.....	720-4657
Baptist Annunity Board	
Sarah A. Christian.....	980-7396
Dallas Arrangements	
Julie A. Gravel.....	754-1000
Central & Southwest Services, Inc.	
Michael Jacobson.....	243-1033
Cynthia Michaels Inc.	
Sue C. MacDonald.....	980-7396
Dallas Arrangements	
Debbie McCarthy.....	556-0800
Marriott Mandalay	
Neil Murphy.....	658-7089
Dallas Convention Center	
Mario Saenz, Jr.....	991-3800
Global Enterprises, Inc.	

Members Only

by Norb Dettmann

We've huffed and puffed to keep our chapter membership vital and growing. Even with the economic situation in the Metroplex this past year we all can say, "We knew we could!"

Our membership has grown 5% since September; we now stand at 318. This has to be considered a small miracle...but every bit of thanks has to go to those who put their shoulders to the effort. Excellent educational programs...Smooth leadership... Professionalism of our members - all kept MPI moving as the most important organization for meeting planners in

Dallas/Ft. Worth.

The people who provided the leadership on the Membership Committee this past year need a BIG pat on the back:

—Directory:

Laura Yarbrough

—Prospect Project:

Colleen Haggard/Mary Garner

—Guests:

Brenda O'Quinn

—Guest Registration & Prospective

Member Reception:

Michele Green

—Member Follow-Up:

Michele Sanseverino

—Member Involvement:

Judy Smith/Barbara Fett

—New Members:

Lisa Renfro

—New Member Reception:

Suzi Fiveash

—Professional Growth Awards:

Gail LeMaire

—Supplier Blitz:

Lisa South

—Team Attendance:

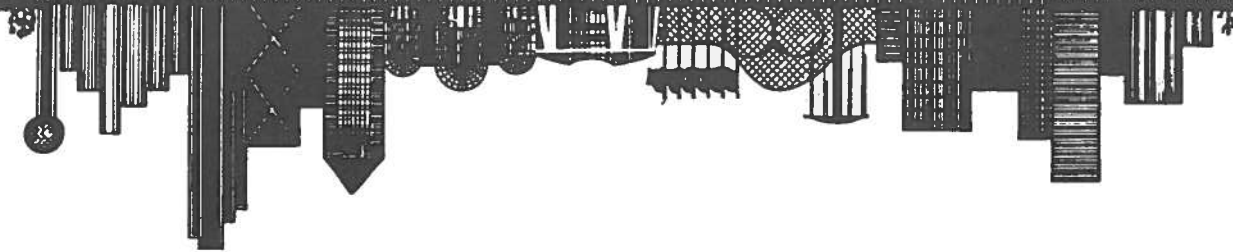
Mary Cowart

—Welcoming Committee:

Linda Fain

Thanks!!

DALLAS-FORT WORTH CHAPTER



P.O. Box 560992
Dallas, Texas 75356-0992



CALENDAR UPDATE

July 23, 1987 (Thursday)
Dinner - "Ten Year Anniversary
Celebration"-2001 Club
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

December 6 - 9, 1987
Professional Education Conference
Miami, Florida

June 19 - 22, 1988
Annual Conference
Seattle, Washington

December 6 - 9, 1988
Professional Education Conference
Nashville, Tennessee

Institutes
July 19-24
Boston, MA

Small Business Seminars
July 10-12
New York, NY

MEMBER ALERT

Please phone in your reservations for the Thursday monthly meetings by the Tuesday 12:00 noon deadline!

We are having **too** many walk-ins and this is effecting our guarantee count and eventual seating capacities. We don't want to turn walk-ins away — but if the excessive number of walk-ins continues, we will be forced to establish such a policy. We ask for your support.

Thank you!

OFFICERS

President	
Pat Smith	(214) 746-3578
Vice President Membership	
Norb Dettmann	242-0827
Vice President Programming	
Suzi Oliver	954-1419
Vice President Administration	
Linda Hill	386-9403
Vice President Finance	
Mary Cowart	353-7567
Vice President Public Relations	
Bill Boyd	258-0210
Board of Directors	
Judith Houghton	824-0331
Laura Yarbrough	661-6000
Ed Vant	689-4813
Michele Sanseverino	717-2415
International Directors	
Ellen Beckert - Supplier	638-6450
Greg Elam - Planner	953-7285
Immediate Past President	
LaTrelle Smart	421-1083
Chapter Secretary	
Della Bolton	689-4775
MPI-D/FW Current	
Bill Boyd	258-0210
Committee Chairperson —	
Sunbelt Motivation & Travel	
P.O. Box 162709	
Irving, Texas 75016-2709	