

MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

CURRENT

Meeting Professionals International

November 1994

Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter

President's Message

CMP Designation Provides an 'Edge'

By Diane Smith, CMP
Alcon Laboratories, Inc.

You've heard a lot recently about the importance of becoming a Certified Meeting Professional (CMP). Enhancing credibility as a meeting professional, securing a higher level of trust among peers, and achieving a personal goal were among several reasons I made the commitment to earn this important credential. These reasons are not uncommon among us.



Diane Smith, CMP
D/FW Chapter
President

If we are to keep up with the global marketplace and the level of excellence it demands, we must constantly strive to improve ourselves. Achieving CMP certification provides an "edge" in the meet-

ing planning business, a very important edge.

A Certified Meeting Professional is acknowledged as a "master" in the meetings industry, one who knows what needs to be done to ensure the best possible meeting or event for a company or client. Don't we all need to have that edge to be successful?

The D/FW Chapter of MPI continues to exhibit excellence in every area, from education and programs to community service. Ours is a role model for many chapters across the nation, providing a standard of

(continued on page 11)

MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

November D/FW Chapter Meeting

"Power Networking"

featuring

Donna Fisher

November 17, Thursday

Circle R Ranch

5901 Cross Timbers Road
Flower Mound, Texas 75028
817-430-1561

Orientation 6:00 p.m.

Reception & Registration 6:30 p.m.

Dinner & Program 7:30 p.m.

Western attire is encouraged!

Wear comfortable shoes!

R.S.V.P. to Sandi
by noon,
Tuesday, Nov. 15
214-343-0555

Advance Registration \$26
Late Registration \$35
Guest Registration \$30
Walk-ins \$35

See page 3 for more details and meeting reservation policy.

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CURRENT

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Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

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CURRENT Deadlines

Upcoming deadlines for copy and ads for the D/FW MPI chapter newsletter, the *CURRENT*, are as follows:

ISSUE	DEADLINE
December '94	November 11, Friday
January '95	December 16, Friday
February '95	January 14, Friday

Please mail or FAX copy to Gracie H. Hilton, *CURRENT* Editor, 3020 Glasgow Court, Arlington, TX 76015, phone & FAX: (metro) 817-467-7439.

Please send information on 3.5 disk, Windows format, preferably in WordPerfect or Microsoft Word.

Copy is cheerfully accepted early. Because of production schedules, information received after 5 p.m. on the deadline day will not be included in the newsletter in progress. Late-arriving copy will be included in the next month's issue, if information is still timely.

Upcoming MPI Events

November 17, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Circle R Ranch
"Power Networking"
6:30 p.m./Dinner

Nov. 18-19, Fri.-Sat.
CMP University
Venue TBA

November 19, Saturday
Weekend Charity Project
Trinity Ministry for the Poor

December 11-13
Professional Education Conference
Vancouver, BC

December 22, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Holiday Gala
Tower Club
6:30 p.m./Reception

January 26, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Westin Galleria
"Time Management"
11:30 a.m./Lunch

February 23, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Holiday Inn Brookhollow
"Art of Negotiating"
11:30 a.m./Lunch

March 18, Saturday
The Kids Charity Ball
Venue TBA

March 23, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Worthington Hotel/Fort Worth
Program TBA
6:30 p.m./Dinner

April 27, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Venue TBA
"Destination Discover Game Show"
11:30 a.m./Lunch

May 25, Thursday
Chapter Meeting
Awards & Installation
Grand Kempinski
6:30 p.m./Dinner

NOTE: Chapter meeting plans are subject to change. Check the CURRENT each month to confirm details. For more information about association events, call MPI Headquarters, 214-712-7700.

C H A R I T Y

By Linda Sergeant • Bill Reed Decorations • 214-823-3154

O R N E R

Food & Clothing Drive

The D/FW Chapter collects items for our Annual Food & Clothing Drive at both the November and December meetings. Nonperishable foods, coats, and, especially, socks, are much needed. These items will be collected at registration and donated to the North Texas Food Bank and Trinity Ministry to the Poor.



Linda Sergeant
Chair, Community
Services

North Texas Food Bank is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is to gather food for distribution to the community's hungry.

Trinity Ministry to the Poor offers assistance to impoverished families, enabling many to rebuild their lives. This ministry provides two meals a day to more than 500 people and maintains more than 200 families in housing.

Weekend Project

Our first weekend project, benefiting Trinity Ministry for the Poor, is set for Saturday, Nov. 19. Please call Linda Sergeant to volunteer!

The Kids Charity Ball 1995

Plans for The Kids Charity Ball 1995 are well underway. Read more about it on page 14.

November Highlights

Donna Fisher Teaches Power Networking Skills at Circle R Ranch, Flower Mound, November 17

By Phyllis Tackitt
Tower Club

Networking skills are essential to success in the meetings industry!

Did you know that . . .

- a referral generates 80 percent more results than a cold call?
- approximately 70 percent of all jobs are found through networking?
- that most people you meet offer at least 250 contacts?
- anyone you might want to meet or contact is only four or five people away?

Guest speaker Donna Fisher, a professional speaker and trainer, and author of *Power Networking: 55 Secrets for Personal and Professional Success*, will explore this essential skill at the November 17 dinner meeting at Circle R Ranch in Flower Mound.

Fisher's career spans the corporate world and the nonprofit industry. She leads training for both staff and volunteers in communication, relationship building, listening and teambuilding skills. This combination of corporate, nonprofit, sales, marketing and speaking experience provides the background for programs that are practical, refreshing and inspiring.

Her business, Discovery Seminars, is a training firm dedicated to the delivery of programs that inspire, teach and promote networking as a lifestyle for personal and professional fulfillment. The firm conducts corporate training and keynote presentations for conferences and conventions.

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).

New member orientation is at 6:00 p.m. Registration and a reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. The dinner and program will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Circle R Ranch, a family-owned meeting and special events facility, is a working ranch.

Western attire for this meeting is encouraged! Be sure to wear comfortable shoes!

Co-chairs for the November meeting are: Phyllis Tackitt (Tower Club), Sandi

Galloway (Canadian Consulate General), Debora Jerman (Cityplace Conference Center), and Gail Lemaire (Adolphus Hotel).

Among the facility hosts at Circle R Ranch are Alan Powdermaker, chairman; David Powdermaker, president; and Wendy Skalski, sales manager.

Remember the chapter's food and clothing drive. Bring canned food and clothing to the November meeting. Donations will benefit Trinity Ministry to the Poor and the North Texas Food Bank.

November Host Facility



Circle R Ranch, celebrating its 20th anniversary, is one of the state's premier facilities specializing in convention parties, getaway business meetings, company and employee outings, special occasion parties, or VIP entertainment.

Situated in Flower Mound in suburban Dallas/Fort Worth—just minutes from Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport—the Powdermaker Family has created, amid rolling hills, green pastures and grazing horses, a unique facility that can accommodate from 25 to 5,000 guests.

Facilities at Circle R—"a million miles from the everyday hectic realities of life"—include the 17,000-square-foot Main Pavilion, the 5,500-square-foot Chisholm Lodge and the Trail Camp in the woods. All facilities are air conditioned or heated according to the season.

Activities and recreational opportunities include volleyball, softball, fishing, and horseshoes, as well as guided horseback trail rides—including trail ride dinners.

Famous fare at Circle R is authentic Texas barbeque with all the trimmings. New this year is "Memories by Circle R," a complete catering company designed to serve off-premise functions—from board meetings to special events. Memories by Circle R can provide a wide variety of menu items, from sandwiches to gourmet fare.

In conjunction with Spectra Communications, Inc., Circle R Ranch recently added a special challenge course designed for teambuilding activities.

The Circle R Ranch has its own brand of gourmet foods suitable for personal or corporate gifts. For volume orders, the products can be privately labeled with a company or organization's name, logo or message.

Circle R Ranch is situated at 5901 Cross Timbers Road in Flower Mound.

Meeting attendees coming from Fort Worth: Take I-35N to FM 1171. Drive east 7.4 miles to the ranch.

The best route from Dallas (to avoid traffic and construction delays): Drive west on Hwy. 635 (or Hwy. 114) to Hwy. 121 (26). Travel north approximately one mile. Turn left on FM 2499; continue traveling north on FM 2499 until it ends (2nd traffic light). Turn left on FM 1171 and travel 3.2 miles to the ranch (on the left).

The Circle R Ranch has plenty of complimentary self-parking.

THE ONE WORLD ANSWER FOR ALL MEETING PROFESSIONALS

**MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

DECEMBER 11-13, 1994

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



PLAN ON ATTENDING a learning and leadership exchange of global proportions. MPI's 1994 Professional Education Conference features:

- 75 Workshops offering Continuing Education Units (CEUs)
- Two General Sessions
- Networking Opportunities

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®



MPI CHAPTER MANAGEMENT FORUM

**Focusing on the Marketing of Membership,
Educational Programs and Volunteers**

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Experienced chapter volunteers and newcomers with an interest in getting more involved are cordially invited to participate.

EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

It's a whole new world of opportunity.

- Network with peers
- Broaden your volunteer experience
- Become a more active participant in your local chapter
- Enhance your leadership skills
- Renew your commitment to professionalism

A TRULY INTERNATIONAL VENUE

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

CMF Reception

7 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Saturday, December 10, 1994
Pacific Ballroom—Hotel Vancouver
Sponsored by: Canadian Pacific Hotels & Resorts

Chapter Managers Forum

8 a.m. – 12 Noon
Sunday, December 11, 1994
Crystal Pavilion Ballroom—The Pan Pacific Hotel Vancouver
Sponsored by: The Pan Pacific Hotel Vancouver

THE FORUM OF GLOBAL PROPORTIONS

Register today! There is absolutely **NO CHARGE** for this forum! Check the appropriate box on your MPI Professional Education Conference (PEC) registration form or telephone MPI Chapter Relations at 1-214-712-7705 or fax 1-214-712-7770.

MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

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MPI's Voice in Government— Why should you care about Governmental Affairs?!

By Gregory Pynes (Town of Addison)

Reductions in deductions! Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)! Health Care Reform! These are just three issues that have had, or could have, a tremendous impact on the meetings industry. We need a voice in government!

That's why Meeting Professionals International established an International Governmental Affairs Committee and encouraged each chapter to do so. Working for a municipality, I appreciate the importance of the actions of governmental entities in the daily conduct of businesses. Therefore, I was pleased by MPI's relatively new interest in this arena.



*Gregory Pynes
Governmental
Affairs Liaison*

When the D/FW Chapter established a Governmental Affairs Committee in 1992, I was pleased to serve on it. Operating as a subcommittee of the Public Relations Committee, Governmental Affairs acts as a resource for our members on actions by federal, state, and local governments that affect our industry.

So much has happened since then! MPI has developed nine position statements: on ADA, music licensing, taxes on travelers, live performing arts, labor relations amendments, small business exemption from minimum wage, U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration authorization, employee tips, striker replacement, and targeted jobs tax credit extension.

These position statements reflect the official positions of MPI on these issues and were communicated publicly in the form of a press release. (If you have an interest in obtaining a copy of these, please call me at 214-450-6202.)

This past winter MPI members from across the nation participated in a Legislative Action Day in Washington. This program was designed to lobby individual representatives of Congress—to establish relationships and create a dialogue on the importance our industry has on the nation's economy as well as that of the global market. The work of members such as Bill Boyd, CMP (Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.) was tremendous; lawmakers as well as political appointees took notice.

President Bill Clinton pledged to host a White House Conference on Travel & Tourism in November of 1995. The conference will focus America's attention on our industry and establish some perspective on its future growth.

"The Conference will enable us to develop a national strategy to remain competitive for this lucrative and rapidly expanding market," said Greg Farmer, Under Secretary of Commerce for Travel & Tourism.

One hundred delegates will be appointed by the White House to address issues related to travel and tourism. You can count on MPI as well as other industry associations to be well represented.

As you can see, both your local chapter and the international association of MPI are leaders in ensuring that the meetings industry will continue to grow and be productive. It is everyone's responsibility to pay attention to the actions of governmental entities and to take an active role in keeping elected officials informed about your livelihood.

Take time to write your elected officials and tell them what you think!

Editor's Notes

CURRENTly . . .

The D/FW Chapter of MPI has a vested interest in a particular event at the **1994 Professional Education Conference (PEC)** Dec. 11-13 in **Vancouver**, British Columbia, Canada.

The Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Loews Anatole Hotel and the D/FW MPI Chapter, will sponsor a luncheon Tuesday, Dec. 13, in Vancouver—and planners for this special event are hoping for a large contingent from our chapter to help promote interest in the 1995 PEC in Dallas. Read more about this effort in **Greg Elam's** (Dallas CVB) column on page 12.



Gracie H. Hilton
CURRENT Editor

MPINet. We keep reading about it, hearing about it. How, exactly, does it benefit the meetings professional?

An on-line PC and Macintosh communications system, **MPINet is the first global on-line communications system designed specifically for the meetings industry.**

A spokesperson at MPI Headquarters predicts that one day MPINet "will take the place of redundant phone calls, numerous faxes, mail and voice mail."

In its fourth month, MPINet has 246 on-line users. Four of them are members of the D/FW Chapter.

One of the first to use MPINet is Betty Garrett (Garrett Speakers International). Betty will share her experiences with

this new communications system in next month's **CURRENT**. Look for her column—"A Member's Perspective"—in the December issue.

Plans for The Kids Charity Ball 1995 are well underway! Corporate Sponsorship Committee member **Stephanie Davis** (Sheraton Park Central Hotel) reports that **J & S Audio Visual**, a **Bronze Sponsor** of this significant event, is **the first sponsor to sign on for the '95 ball**. Read more about sponsorship opportunities, and the beneficiaries of the Annual Charity Event (ACE) on page 14.

The **D/FW Chapter Job Bank** is a clearinghouse to match prospective employees with employers **Gretchen Parr-Silver** (Plaza of the Americas Hotel), Job Bank chairperson, and her committee, urge you to use this valuable service.

Love for Kids (LFK) liaison **Lesley Meyer, CMP** (Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.) reports a **need for 500 volunteers** to assist with more than 3000 "Kids" at the annual **LFK Christmas party Dec. 3 at Circle R Ranch**, Flower Mound.

Phone **Lesley** at 214-401-0210 to volunteer for this special effort.

Lesley says thanks to the MPI volunteers who worked the Pepsi-Kid-Around in mid-October. A children's arts and crafts festival, the event benefited The Family Place, a nonprofit agency established to assist victims of domestic violence.

When **J. William Boyd, CMP** (Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.) assumed the presidency of Meeting Professionals International, he cited strengthening alliances with sister organizations as a priority.

To that end, Boyd—long-time member of the D/FW Chapter—convened a **roundtable discussion among CEOs and top elected officials from 10 industry associations** last month in Dallas. Organizations represented were **AH&MA, IACVB, IAEM, NACE, NSA, PCMA, SCMP, SITE, TIA** and **MPI**.

This historic meeting explored ways associations could work more closely together. Specifically, each association foundation will work as a team on projects, and speakers as well as whole education modules will be traded. All will participate in this year's MPI Legislative Action Day.

When I assumed the editorship of the **CURRENT** in June 1992, I naively proclaimed a goal of limiting the monthly newsletter to eight pages. That happens about once a year! With the **many and varied activities of an extremely active chapter—and a successful advertising program—most issues are at least 12 pages, and we frequently fill 16 pages!** With this month's special insert—a report of September's roundtable discussions—the November issue weighs in at a hefty 20 pages!

—ghh ©



*Out of a job?
Looking for a
new challenge?*

*Seeking a qualified
applicant to fill a
position?*

*Check out
D/FW MPI's
Job Bank!*

To list your resume
with the Job Bank, send

- a **minimum of five (5)** resumes (more if you wish)
- a **check or money order** for \$15 (for MPI D/FW chapter members) or \$25 (for non-members) made payable to MPI D/FW Chapter
- a **note specifying the type of position that interests you**

Send these items to:

**Gretchen Parr-Silver
Chair, D/FW MPI Job Bank
2012 Van Buren Drive
Arlington, TX 76011**

All inquiries are confidential.

**D/FW MPI's
JOB
BANK**



News Briefs

News of Local Interest

Texas One of First States to Hold Tourism Meeting to Plan for 1995 White House Conference on Travel and Tourism

Greg Farmer, United States Under Secretary of Commerce for Travel and Tourism, joined nearly 300 representatives of the Texas travel industry at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio in late September for the Texas Governor's White House Conference on Tourism—an add-on to the three-day Texas Travel Industry Association's annual Texas Travel Summit.

In June President Bill Clinton called for statewide tourism meetings in all 50 states as forums to plan for the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism in October 1995. Texas was one of the first states to host such a conference.

Edwin L. Griffin, Jr., CAE, executive vice president/CEO of MPI was appointed by Farmer to serve on the Issues Task Force. As such, Griffin will serve as an official industry delegate to the '95 conference.

Texas will have 30 delegates at the national conference. Twenty were appointed by Governor Ann Richards. Ten, nominated by their peers, were elected.

MPI chapter leaders are urged to establish relations with the state departments of commerce and tourism to ensure that MPI's voice is heard on the state as well as the national level.

MPINet Has 246 On-Line Users

In its fourth month, MPINet—the first global on-line communications system designed specifically for the meetings industry—has 246 on-line users. Another 600 are expected to be on-line within a few weeks.

Using electronic forums to bring people together efficiently and economically, MPINet expands communication options through information sharing, networking and educational opportunities.

A long-term goal is for all chapter managers to be on-line so that documents sent out monthly from International Headquarters may be sent electronically.

Software and the first month of service is free for MPI members; service thereafter is \$15.95 per month.

(For more about MPINet, see "Currently" on page 6.)

For more information about MPINet, call the MPI Resource Center, 214-712-7744.

"Walk a Mile in My Shoes" Theme of Experiential Education Course

Coming soon—an educational experience you'll never forget!

Early in 1995, MPI's Education Committee will offer "Walk a Mile in My Shoes," a hands-on learning experience.

During this limited enrollment (20) evening course "walk in the shoes" of other meeting professionals in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. The class will meet weekly, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for six weeks.

Cost for this unique educational opportunity—including a binder, materials and special completion certificate—will be \$65.

Watch for more details in future issues of the *CURRENT*.

D/FW Chapter Membership is 581

Membership in the D/FW Chapter of MPI stands at 581, according to the chapter membership report as of September 30. That figure indicates a retention rate of 69.13%.

Chapter membership includes 263 planners (45.5%), 315 suppliers (54.5%) and three students.

First Executive Workshop Features Chapter Members

The first Executive Workshop of the administrative year, "The CMP Challenge," featured chapter members Diane Smith, CMP (Alcon Labs), chapter president; Pat McCain, CMP (Krisam Group), CMP chairperson; and Phyllis Firebaugh, CMP (A&C Enercom), president-elect.

The workshop, attended by 22 chapter members, was held in late September at the Four Seasons Hotel and Resort.

Upcoming Executive Workshop topics include "Managing Stress," "Top Ten Questions," and "How to Plan a Golf Outing."

International News

MPI Headquarters Names Robert Eilers Director of Global Chapter

Robert Eilers has been named Director of Global Chapter Relations/Information Systems at Meeting Professionals International.

In this newly restructured position, Eilers will be responsible for directing international operations, managing the strategic development of MPINet, and overseeing MPI's Resource Center, including the library, bookstore and book publishing.

He will oversee MPI's 47 chapters and four clubs and will also serve as executive Director of MPI's Foundation, coordinating fundraising, new research and product development.

Prior to joining MPI, Eilers served as executive director of the International Communications Association (ICA), a trade association comprised of 7,000 major companies representing a broad base of multi-national corporations averaging \$33 million per year in telecommunication equipment and service purchases.

MPI Chapters Offer CEUs

MPI chapters may now offer Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to attendees of chapter educational programs.

MPI is a "CEU User Member" of the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET), which authorized MPI Headquarters and its chapters to award CEUs to participants in qualified education programs.

For more information about CEUs, contact the MPI Education Department at 214-712-7700.

DOLLAR\$ & CENT\$ D/FW Chapter/MPI

For the month ending September 30, 1994

Beginning of the Month	\$50,174.82
Income	22,182.69
Disbursements	(12,234.40)
EOM Balance	\$60,123.11*

*Includes \$10,350.00 PEC
Professional Education Conference

*Includes \$2,033.00 PGA
Professional Growth Award

*Includes \$2,121.77 ACE
Annual Charity Event

Report submitted by Carolyn Carey, CMP (Allian Life Insurance Co.), vice president/finance.

October Meeting Highlights

Peter McGugan Tracks Trends in the Meetings Industry at the Arlington Marriott



At the October meeting of the D/FW Chapter of MPI at the Arlington Marriott, visitors from MPI Alaska included **Ann Chadwick** (Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau), **Bob Ward** (Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau), and **Connie McKenzie** (Juneau Convention and Visitors Bureau).

*Photos by
Mark Lazarow
Photography*



Scott Wilson (Bauer Audio Visual, Inc.) was among the first chapter members interviewed for a new *CURRENT* feature. Watch for "Opinion, Please" in next month's issue.



Enjoying the pre-meeting reception were **Debora Jerman** (Cityplace Conference Center), **Cindy Hamilton** (Cityplace Conference Center), and **Lynn Erney** (Stouffer Hotel Dallas).



Co-chairs for the October meeting included **Melanie Arguello** (Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau), **Luis Sanchez** (Arlington Marriott), **Betty Garrett, CMP** (Garrett Speakers Bureau) and **Lisa South, CMP** (Ducky Bob's Party Rentals).

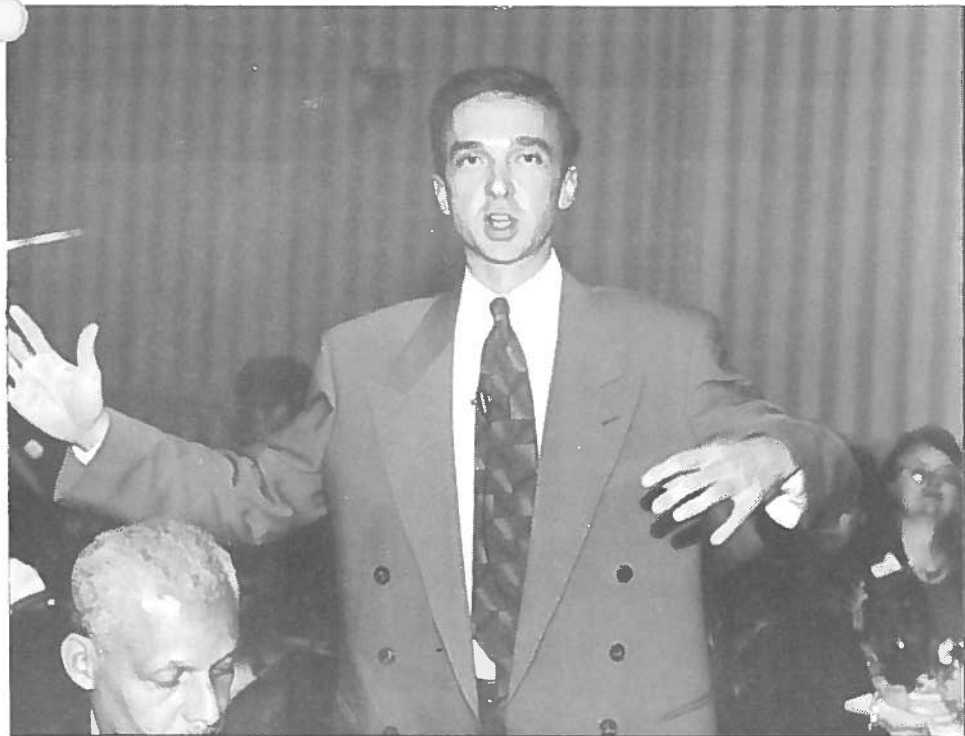


Eager to show off the Arlington Marriott to D/FW Chapter members were facility hosts **Jolene Panigot**, sales manager; **Steve Wilson**, catering director; **Terry Alder**, general manager; and **Luis Sanchez**, sales manager.

Photos by Mark Lazarow Photography



O.D. O'Donnell (Nightlife Talent and Management Agency), orientation chair (center), welcomes visitor **Ann Chadwick** (Sitka, Alaska Convention and Visitors Bureau) and new member **Patricia Burgher** (Travel Resources).



In ten years more than 60% of the population will be working out of their homes. What does that mean for meeting professionals? Where are the meeting industry's merge lanes on the information highway? Guest speaker **Peter McGugan**, an internationally recognized psychologist, best-selling author, broadcaster and therapist, discussed these issues and more in his presentation, "Tracking Trends in the Meetings Industry," at the October dinner meeting at the Arlington Marriott.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to the individuals and companies whose time, talents, and expertise contributed to the enjoyment of the October meeting. They include: • **Betty Garrett, CMP** (Garrett Speakers International) for providing the speaker, • **Deidre Gordon** (The Kerry Company) for providing the centerpieces, • **Scott Stamps and Forrest Harkrader** (J & S Audio Visual) for AV services, • **Mark Lazarow** (Mark Lazarow Photography), for capturing the monthly meeting on film. Special thanks to facility hosts at the Arlington Marriott: • **Terry Alder**, general manager, • **Luis Sanchez**, sales manager and • **Steve Wilson**, catering director. Thanks, too, to **Cindy Hughes**, **American Express Travel** and **Delta Airlines** for providing an airline ticket for the speaker. Thanks to • **Sandra Pitts** (Ruth's Chris Steak House) for providing the \$50 gift certificate to the winner of the report card drawing. Meeting details reported by **Cindy Hamilton** (Cityplace Conference Center). Photo identification by **Debora Jerman** (Cityplace Conference Center).

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Heard it through the Grapevine!

By M.T. Gnadl • WorldTravel Partners
'Grapevine' Columnist

Debbie Duggan has been named manager of local corporate groups for the *Adolphus Hotel*.

Dianna Case has moved to Albuquerque to accept the director of sales position for the *Albuquerque Convention Visitors Bureau*. Her former position was national sales manager, The Grand Kempinski Dallas.

Wayne C. Jeansonne, president and owner of *Supreme Travel Services*, has relocated to Austin. He can be reached at 1-800-455-6676.

Steve Kemble, *Steve Kemble Event Design*, will conduct a workshop on fundraising at the NACE National Conference in January 1995.

Mary Ellen Malsbury, *WorldTravel Partners*, has been named president and partner. She was formerly senior vice president, national account sales.

This month **Alice Roberts** will marry Bill Donahue, general manager for the *Radisson Hotel—South Padre*. Alice, formerly with the *Worthington Hotel*, moved to South Padre last year to start a career in real estate.

Alex Vurpillat has been promoted to vice president of sales and marketing for *Destination Management by Carey (DMC)*, a new division of Carey Transportation. The new company incorporates Carey's transportation services with complete nationwide meeting and event planning services.

Doug Wieser has been named director of sales for the *Plaza of the Americas Hotel*.

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 Gnadl (214-702-1014, extension 3031 • or FAX 214-702-1023) about items of interest for this column.

The "Inn" Way to Mix Business and Pleasure.



Nestled in the trees along the bank of the Paluxy River, the historic Inn On the River has perfected the concept of mixing business and pleasure.

- State-of-the-Art Conference Center
- Audio and Video Equipment
- Electronically-Controlled Screen
- Fax Machine, Conference Phone, Copier
- 22 Rooms
- Gourmet Meals
- Tranquil and Creative Haven

INN ON THE RIVER

For meeting information and brochures, contact Kathi Thompson at 214-424-7119
205 S.W. Barnard St. • Glen Rose, Tx. 76043 • 817-897-2101 • Fax 817-897-7729

Volunteers Needed

Love for Kids Christmas Party Circle R Ranch

Dec. 3
10-1



More than 3,000 disadvantaged children, ages 6-12, will attend the annual Love for Kids Christmas party. 500 adult volunteers are needed to supervise outdoor games and activities. Volunteers—who should dress comfortably—are needed from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

To volunteer call
Lesley Meyer • Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc. • 214-401-0210

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

D/FW Chapter • Meeting Professionals International

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President's Message / CMP Designation Provides an 'Edge'

continued from page 1

excellence, a yardstick by which others measure their progress and achievements.

The D/FW Chapter can also set the standard in the area of CMP certification. I believe more and more of our members are eager to become a part of a group widely acknowledged to represent the top one percent of meeting professionals worldwide.

Thirty-nine members of the D/FW Chapter—about 7% of our membership—are CMPs. Their names are listed on page 12.

With educational opportunities such as the CMP Study Group and CMP University, I predict a record-breaking number of our members will "go for it" and obtain this significant accreditation.

Our lives are hectic; our plates are full. The time and effort necessary to earn this important credential takes a commitment. I challenge you to make this commitment and improve your future

by charting a course for your CMP designation now.

The 39 of us in this chapter who have already taken the trip, may have traveled different roads to get there, but we all agree on one thing—the journey to attaining this certification is a trip worth taking, one we'll never regret.

I urge you to take the **MPI Challenge**. Pull out your roadmap to success, pack your bags, and take the "CMP Trip." You'll be glad you did!



PEC '95— Countdown to DALLAS!

By Greg Elam

Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau

The countdown continues! One of MPI's all-time biggest meetings is coming to Dallas next year! The '95 Professional Education Conference (PEC) will be in Dallas Dec. 10-12, 1995.



Greg Elam
Co-Chair
PEC '95 Promo &
Public Relations

The most immediate concern for the Host Committee is the "Come to Dallas in 1995" luncheon at the Vancouver PEC next month.

The Dec. 13 luncheon—jointly hosted by the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau, Loews Anatole Hotel and the D/FW Chapter

of MPI—will have a "Texas" theme with western wear, western music, "Texas-style" food, fun props and colors and an upbeat feeling about everything.

There will be great entertainment. D/FW MPI chapter members will be a part of the hosting at this luncheon, *and a part of the entertainment.*

Part of the fun will be involving the luncheon attendees in line dances, the cotton-eyed joe, and other Texas-style dances.

No, you don't have to be a terrific dancer—we'll have professional entertainers mixed among us. *What we do need is your enthusiasm, your smiling face, your friendliness—to encourage people to come to Dallas for PEC '95.*

Want to polish your boot scoot'n' skills—or work on your coordination a bit? There will be a rehearsal of sorts Thursday, Nov. 17, 4:40-5:30 p.m. at Circle R Ranch in Flower Mound (preceding the November chapter meeting). Another practice session is planned for Thursday, Dec. 1, 4-6 p.m., at the Loews Anatole Hotel.

Our chapter generally averages about 70 members in attendance at an annual MPI conference. *We need at least that many to greet 1,200-1,500 guests.*

As soon as you register for the Vancouver meeting, alert Colleen Albert Rickenbacher, CMP (Dallas CVB) via FAX (214-746-6688)—so the committee can count on your presence at the Dec. 13 luncheon.



The Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of Meeting Professionals International proudly salutes 39 chapter members who have earned the Certified Meeting Planner (CMP) credential.

Maurine Allen, CMP
Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.

Dana D. Bellantone, CMP
American College of Emer. Physicians

Judy Benaroche, CMP
Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.

J. William Boyd, CMP
Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.

Edye Brookshire, CMP
Army & Air Force Exchange Service

Margaret M. Brown, CMP
Convex Computer Corporation

Bitsy Burns, CMP
HD Vest Financial Services

Carolyn Carey, CMP
Allianz Life Ins. Co. of North America

Susie Carr, CMP
Annuity Board, So. Baptist Convention

Sherri A. Cook, CMP
Sherri Cook & Associates

Barbara J. Derksen, CMP
American Electronics Association

Norbert Dettmann, CMP, PhD
Prof. College Management Int'l

Phyllis Firebaugh, CMP
A & C Enercom/EPRI

Betty E. Garrett, CMP
Garrett Speakers Int'l

Sally A. Goldesberry, CMP
Independent

Linda D. Hill, CMP
Meeting Management/Festivities

Fred H. Knieberg, CMP
ADK & Associates, Inc.

Marta A. Lilly, CMP
Young Presidents Organization

Patricia K. McCain, CMP
Krisam Group

Marilyn McGuire, CMP
National Athletic Trainers Assn.

Jeffrey J. Means, CMP
SEI Incentives

Lesley Meyer, CMP
Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc.

Carmen D. Murphy, CMP
Associated Locksmiths of America

Dana L. Nickerson, CMP
Square One Productions

John Nowak, CMP
Promus Companies, Inc.

Sheri Pizitz, CMP
Events Unlimited

Carey Richmond, CMP
Meeting Professionals International

Colleen A. Rickenbacher, CMP
Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau

Gay C. Robson, CMP
Center for Community Cooperation

Susanne Ruffner, CMP
AMS Users Group

Nadine F. Shafer, CMP
Dr. Pepper/7 Up Co., Inc.

Latrelle Smart, CMP
Smart Outsource Solution

Diane Smith, CMP
Alcon Laboratories, Inc.

Lisa South, CMP
Ducky-Bob's Party Rentals

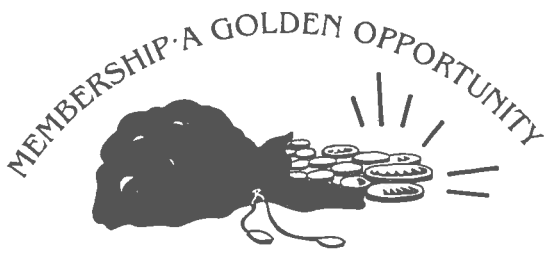
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AVW Audio Visual

Patricia A. Tripp, CMP
Princess Cruises & Tours

Mary C. Upton, CMP
Specialty Advertising Assn.

Patti A. Wilke, CMP
Independent

Laura B. Yarbrough, CMP
Electronic Data Systems



By Karen Fogle
Star Brand Ranch

Attention Gold Diggers! Have any of you ever wanted to wear skimpy clothing and dance before thousands of people? OOPS—wrong Gold Diggers!

MPI offers the opportunity to become a GOLD DIGGER. We are digging for gold in an effort to increase our membership. Just sign up two new members and earn \$10 in Galleria Gold. The individual recruiting the largest number of new members will receive the Grand Prize of \$500 in Galleria Gold.

Here are some GOLD NUGGET tips for mining new members:

- Education is the key to staying on top and we have the best educational programs around. Take advantage of the "How To" Educational Breakfast Series, "Brown Bag" Lunches, Executive Workshops, CMP courses, monthly meetings and, new this year, the "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" experiential learning program.

- Talk about networking opportunities!

Our chapter's include the local Job Bank, the Buddy System for new members, our membership directory and committee involvement.

- Keep reminding potential new members to attend our meetings as a guest. Once is never enough, but three's the limit before joining.

When a new member submits an application to the vice president of membership, be sure your name is listed as the member responsible for recruitment. You will STRIKE GOLD!

If you have questions regarding membership, contact Vice President/Membership Sherri Cook, CMP (Sherri Cook & Associates, (214) 732-9396.



Karen Fogle
Chair,
Recruitment
Committee

MPI MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

• Did you know your MPI membership is transferable?

Membership in MPI is individual, not by an employing organization. If a member leaves a company or decides, for any other reason, to transfer his/her membership to another individual within the same company, a written request should be submitted to MPI Headquarters.

Be sure to include the name and address of the individual assuming the membership. A \$50 processing fee and the original member's membership card must accompany the notice of resignation. The individual assuming membership must complete an MPI membership application. Once the transfer has been approved, the individual will fulfill the term of membership, renewing on the original expiration date.

• Need a planner/supplier match?

Applicants for MPI membership should send their applications to Sherri Cook, CMP, vice president/membership, 1805 Keats, Plano, TX 75093 (214/732-9396) for immediate planner/supplier matching.

'New Kids on the Block' D/FW Chapter Welcomes Eight New MPI Members!

Lisa D. Barharm
DFW Reader Board Services
17218 Preston Road #400
Dallas, TX 75252
214/732-1940
Supplier

Francie K. Schwartz
Spectra Communicational Inc.
25 Highland Pk Vlg, #100-178
Dallas, TX 75205
214/528-5653
Supplier

Robert E. Cowan
Four Seasons Resort & Club
4150 N. MacArthur Blvd.
Irving, TX 75038
214/717-2418
Supplier

Kaye Sparks
Northern Telecom Inc.
2221 Lakeside Blvd. MS C0706
Richardson, TX 75082
Planner

Jackie S. Ladapo
Jidera
1510 Oak Glen Trail
Dallas, TX 75232-3732
214/670-8355
Planner

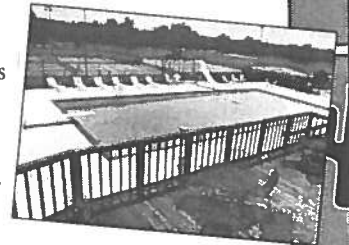
Paula K. Tillman
Rexene Corporation
5005 LBJ Frwy
Dallas, TX 75244
214/450-9170
Planner

Lori A. Schirpke
Meeting Professionals International
1950 Stemmons Frwy; #5018
Dallas, TX 75207-3109
214/712-7728
Planner

Esther Wigley, CAS
Appointments
5336 Alpha Road; #4
Dallas, TX 75240
214/788-1702
Supplier

TAKE ON A LITTLE COUNTRY

Score a coup by taking over the Double Tree Ranch for your next event, whether your group numbers several hundred or a couple thousand. Set up by the lake, the pool, under the Pines, in the ranch house or the pavilion.



The Double Tree Ranch – you can capture it all within range of Dallas and your budget. Call today for a brochure and to check open dates.

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from Hotel
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214-317-5000 FAX 214-317-8491
310 Highland Village Road Lewisville, Texas 75067



The Kids Charity Ball

Proceeds from The Kids Charity Ball 1995 will benefit the KIDS of these four worthy organizations:

GIVE KIDS THE WORLD is a non-profit organization that provides children with life-threatening illnesses, and their families, a memorable six-day, all-expenses paid trip to Central Florida. Families stay at the Give Kids the World Village, a 35-acre complex specially designed to accommodate the needs of its special guests and their families. Guests enjoy VIP treatment at Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, Sea World and other Florida attractions.

Give Kids the World provides more than just meals and accommodations. The organization creates special family memories that will last forever. Nightly gifts for the children, Disney character breakfasts, pool parties with Shamu, plus Parents' Night Support Groups provide opportunities to strengthen family relationships.

Fifty percent (50%) of the net donations go to Give Kids the World.

LOVE FOR KIDS, a local charitable organization, was founded in 1975 with the specific purpose of providing a Christmas party for 200 children that were relocated from Southeast Asia.

Since that time Love for Kids has touched the lives of thousands of D/FW underprivileged children and senior citizens. Throughout the year, Love for Kids sponsors outings to the Dallas Zoo, Mesquite Rodeo, Rangers Baseball and other area events.

Other special events include an annual Christmas party at Circle R Ranch where 3,000 kids are treated to horseback riding, food, games, gifts and a visit from Santa!

Thirty percent (30%) of the net donations go to Love for Kids.

TRINITY MINISTRY TO THE POOR (TMP) is a multi-purpose human services provider for the economically disadvantaged of the D/FW community. Services are designed to address aspects of each of the major current syndromes of poverty.

TMP's basic goals include providing relief of their clients' suffering, fostering a sense of self-responsibility in the individual, and encouraging self-reliance.

Ten percent (10%) of the net donations go to the KIDS of TMP.

NORTH TEXAS FOOD BANK was established in 1982 as a private non-profit organization whose mission is to gather food that otherwise would be discarded and distribute it to the community's hungry.

Charitable organizations served by the North Texas Food Bank include church pantries, emergency shelters, soup kitchens, children's homes, rehabilitation programs, senior citizens centers, neighborhood outreach programs and day-care centers.

Ten percent (10%) of the net donations go to the KIDS of North Texas Food Bank.

The Kids Charity Ball '95 Classified Ads

GREAT OPPORTUNITY—to meet top leaders in the meetings industry! Volunteer for The Kids Charity Ball - 1995. Requirements: fun-loving, hard-working, organized individuals who like to meet new people and learn new things! Volunteer opportunities available in every aspect of the event, from decorations to invitations to registration to auction merchandise solicitation and much more. Call Sandy Summers (Jerell), 214-637-5300, x578.

SPONSORS NEEDED!—Join first sponsor—J & S Audio Visual! Wide range of opportunities available for sponsors for The Kids Charity Ball. Call **Bob Berry** (EFI Communications) 214-869-9751 or Mary Ellen Malsbury (WorldTravel Partners), 214-702-1014 for details.

The Kids Charity Ball '95 Sponsorship Opportunities

Underwriter Sponsorship \$15,000

Three Tables for 10
(Premium Seating for 30)
Listing in all Media Promotion
Name on Invitation
Premium Full Page Ad in Program
Premium Signage at Event
Logo on Pre-approved Sponsor Provided
Attendee Memento
Appreciation Plaque Presented at Event
Sponsor/Media Reception

Platinum Sponsorship \$5,000

Three Tables for 10
(Premium Seating for 30)
Listing in All Media Promotion
Full Page Ad in Program
Preferred Signage at Event
Platinum Plaque Presented at Event
Sponsor/Media Reception

Gold Sponsorships \$2,500

Two Tables for 10
(Preferred Seating for 20)
Listing in All Media Promotion
Half Page Ad in Program
Signage at Event
Gold Plaque Presented at Event
Sponsor/Media Reception

Silver Sponsorships \$1,500

One Table for 10
(Preferred Seating)
plus four tickets
Quarter Page Ad in Program
Signage at Event
Silver Certificate after Event
Sponsor/Media Reception

Bronze Sponsorships • J & S AUDIO VISUAL • \$1,000

One Table for 10
(Preferred Seating)
Business Card Ad in Program
Signage at Event
Bronze Certificate after Event
Sponsor/Media Preparation

Table for 10 \$700

One Table for 10
Recognition on Program
for Corporate Donorship

Gift of Love
Recognition on Program
for Corporate Donorship

Individual Tickets \$75

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To make sure your meeting runs smoothly in Arlington, Texas, we double check everything.

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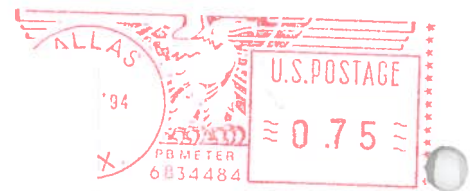
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Call 817-265-7721 ext.32

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MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter
10875 Plano Road • Suite 115
Dallas, Texas 75238



DALLAS/FORT WORTH CHAPTER

MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

Meeting Professionals International is the world's largest association of meetings professionals with more than 12,000 members in 42 countries and 49 chapters and clubs. MPI's mission is to provide educational opportunities and recognition for those in the meetings industry. The association is committed to excellence in meetings, continuous international growth, research, a strong chapter network and high ethical standards.

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214-712-7700

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Summary of Round Table Discussions

D/FW • MPI September Meeting

At the September chapter meeting, in a unique program format at INFOMART, more than 20 facilitators led discussions regarding various departments and projects of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of Meeting Professionals International.

A comprehensive report of these discussions is included in this special report, an insert to the November issue of the *CURRENT*, the newsletter of the D/FW Chapter of MPI.

Each discussion group was unique in its presentation style; because the Program Committee wants to reflect exactly what each discussion group said, these styles and formats are presented as submitted, with minimal editing.

Thank you to Chris Summey (American Airlines) for compiling and typing this information.

Topics of Discussion in Order of Presentation

1. Fund Raisers
2. Programs
3. Membership
4. Public Relations
5. Awards
6. CMP Program
7. Administration
8. MPI International Issues
9. Nominations
10. Education
11. Special Projects

1. Fund Raisers

A. The Kids Charity Ball

- Provide better breakdown of beneficiaries
- Sell additional tickets at the chapter meetings, push table sales
- Begin marketing campaigns earlier so corporate sponsors have a jump with promotions
- More members' surveys for ideas and feedback

B. Educational Foundation

- Better education ideas for chapter members could come from the foundation
- Allocate \$25 from membership renewal fees for the foundation
- Possible ideas for events—trade shows, Six Flags and State Fair

Comments/Suggestions RE: Fund Raisers

- Schedule the fund-raisers at least 6 months apart
- PEC suggestions were to associate with "Dallas" television series, or theme of "Holiday in the Park" or the "Total Texas Experience at Southfork"
- Need to develop strong professional collateral for the The Kids Charity Ball to target big underwriters
- Elaborate more on which events support the Educational Foundation
- Focus events, fund raisers and topics on the needs and interest of the chapter members
- Open fund raisers to other large associations, not just chapter members
- Utilize coupon books or Christmas cards for sales
- Become a distributor of Passbooks
- Charge a management fee for an event and get corporate sponsors to provide more support

2. Programs

A. Monthly Meetings

- Prefer evening meetings, but would enjoy a better mix of day and night meetings
- Would like to try a chapter breakfast meeting

B. Locations

- Rotating locations is nice and acts as a informal site review

C. Planning/Topics

- Avoid consultants who tend to speak from their own agenda
- Utilize executives who are making the trends in our industry

Comments/Suggestions RE: Programs

- Quarterly opportunities to showcase smaller member facilities
- Conduct special interest groups for planners who plan meetings for under 50-100 people
- Topic suggestion—"Day Meetings"
- Create an exhibitor fair for "small facilities" or themes so both planners and suppliers can sell
- More small group opportunities within the monthly meeting and push table talk

- Create an "Existing Member Buddy Program" to introduce planners and suppliers and create a better networking environment
- Better insight to what meeting planners need in areas of support
- Topics suggestions: "Technology as an Aid in Meetings," "Customer Service," "Communication," "How to Make the Most of Your Supplier"
- More notice on meetings from current mailer
- Organized appointments to meet different planners/suppliers at meetings
- Plan to have 1/3 chapter meetings in the HEB and Fort Worth area, possibly night meetings
- Clearer directions to meeting locations
- More planners are urged to get involved

3. Membership

A. Recruitment

- Track trends of guest attendance

B. Orientation/Buddy System

- Expand program to last 12-18 months. Have each buddy sit with new member and encourage new member involvement
- Offer a "Buddy of the Year" award

C. Phone Tree

- More specific notice of monthly meetings
- Distribute agenda of programs and meetings to aid in the call reminders
- Alert the phone tree committee to who is not "active" so they can adjust the script accordingly
- Committee needs assistance to communicate to the chapter

D. Involvement

- Track the members who are not involved and assign a buddy to help increase the attendance and support

E. Retention

- Recognize renewals at monthly meetings and offer "Service Pins"
- One month before membership expires, contact member to encourage renewal and ask what the chapter can do for them

F. Prize Committee

- Offer prizes for "Perfect Attendance," "Buddy of the

- Year," "Bring Back a Member," and service awards presented at the member's company
- Offer "Galleria Gold" to motivate members to educate themselves and co-members on the benefits of membership

4. Public Relations

A. Newsletter

- Not all members receive their newsletter
- Members should submit pictures from their committee meetings and activities which is another way to promote programs
- Recognize more members with photos
- Shorter articles are preferred for a quick read
- Revise the 1st page for important news
- Would like to see a fun grapevine column with pictures

B. Advertising

- Contacting suppliers and hoteliers should be considered
- Swap articles with other MPI Chapters
- Allow advertisers to submit a story or picture of an event held at their facility by one of the MPI members
- Utilize the current membership directory

C. Community Awareness

- Target service firms
- Make available the list of "local" members
- Integrate more information in the press releases of chapter activities, especially charity events (more exposure)
- Advertise in trade publications to get new members
- Submit the charity events releases into the "Park City News"
- Events to focus on with The Kids Charity Ball are "Love for Kids Christmas around the World," "Trinities Ministries," and the yearly flight to Orlando for the terminally ill children
- Better promotion for projects

D. Community Services

- Utilize outside sources to refer people to MPI
- Assist-out-of town members by offering references and referrals
- Advertise to the members and community that this organization is a great source for matching vendors and planners and creating professional relationships

- Utilize the phone tree to remind members of community activities
- Communicate to the D/FW area the importance of the hospitality industry

E. Government Affairs

- Topics of interest to be discussed: "Legislative Issues—State and Local," "ADA," "Music Licensing," "Legislative Action Day—Lobby Congress".
- More discussion on the "Wright Amendment," (needs to be changed)

F. Chapter of the Year Book

- More communication on what this is, how it works and how important it is for the chapter
- All projects/events must have (3) concepts outlines and identified: Goal, Strategies, Results
- Compile all accomplishments for the year as well as important changes

Comments/Suggestions RE: Public Relations

- List all meetings for MPI on the published list of the *Dallas Morning News*
- Discuss all meetings which included ALL members, such as PEC, Institutes I & II and Annual
- Communicate how much time is needed to participate in a committee
- Place all educational information on the front page of the newsletter
- Include self-improvement and opportunities in the business
- Work proactively in resolving local MPI issues
- Investigate advertising opportunities
- Target a mass mailer to corporations for memberships and community support

5. Awards

Comments/Suggestions RE: Awards

- Make sure the objective of the awards discussion is the education of the members from both the evaluation process and the nomination process
- Inform through newsletters and meetings
- Let membership guide committees on nominations
- Bring involvement to new members by partnering (Brown Bag example)
- Emphasize "Professional Education Organization and Involvement"
- Use campaigning for nomination (i.e. luncheons)

6. CMP Program

A. Study Group

- MPI should offer study groups for a nominal fee

B. Exam Preparation

- More textbook knowledge needed

Comments/Suggestions RE: CMP Program

- Communicate how much time is involved
- Explain how the study groups work and what they discuss
- Outline the benefits of the CMP
- The process of this program needs to be clearer
- Who are the contacts and where are the resources for this program?

7. Administration

A. Administration

- Rules set by MPI are not changeable

B. Policies & Procedures

- Better communicate the policies to members, make resources available

C. Directory

- Categorizing areas like management consultants, travel agents, hotels and others together

D. Registration

- Add additional people to the registration desk—make this process smoother
- Add more people to the "D" name section
- Make one person in charge of the local/regional office
- Register EVERY guest

8. MPI International Issues

Comments/Suggestions RE: MPI International Issues

- Discuss ensured benefits of MPI International (i.e. educational, opportunities)
- Promote MPINet, the possibilities of what is coming
- Share some of the problems in trade barriers—shipping, etc.

- The "Meeting Manager" needs to be more global (metrics and 24 hr. clock)
- More international subjects offered at AC or PEC
- Headquarters needs a course on protocol and a consular board to help with local rules and customs

C. Executive Workshops

- Topics to be discussed: "Multi-Media in the Meeting," "Legislative Issues Effecting our Industry"
- Meetings are easy to attend
- More topics need to be focused on the supplier

9. Nominations

A. Structure

- Make the terms at least 2 years, perhaps in different positions
- Allow past president to choose representatives, based on different chapter experience and levels

B. Process for Officers

- Allow for more conference calls

Comments/Suggestions RE: Nominations

- Process seems very secretive
- Qualifications for positions need to be clearer
- Process is very political
- Nominations should be more diplomatic, less controversial
- Evaluate other chapters' procedures
- Educate the membership on responsibilities and criteria of positions
- Have electors at chapter meetings; ensure follow-up
- Have those interested in positions rank from 1-8 which areas they are most interested in
- Nominating procedure/task force to handle nominating procedures
- Recommend that the International group create a universal nominating process that is "non-cliquish"
- Make committee involvement mandatory

Comments/Suggestions RE: Education

- More professional awareness of this industry
- Solicit more topics from members on an on-going basis
- Table talk should include general information on committee activities
- Use topic suggested on the program report cards for workshop
- Utilize internal talents to educate members
- Topics to discuss: "Software Systems for the Industry," "Dealing with Voice Mail," "Small Business Loans"
- Some discussions should be videotaped
- Panel discussions are less interesting and hard to hear
- Topics need to be timely, educational and fun
- Need to conduct business etiquette training

11. Special Projects

Comments/Suggestions RE: Special Projects

- Gemelli Chapter—Group enthusiastic about seminar in Italy. More information will be forthcoming
- Gemelli Pen Pal Program—Interest in joining this group once additional Italian members are available for pen pals
- Special Interest Groups—Educational programs must offer a benefit to attendee, i.e, How will attendance at this special program benefit me and my career as well as my company?
- Education 2000—General enthusiasm RE: Education 2000 Task Force. Agreement that education must be taken to a level of excellence that promotes success for members. Agreement that an educational "strategic plan" was the first step in the right direction

10. Education

A. Brown Bag Luncheon Forum

- Make available software for planners and suppliers

B. How to Breakfast

- Topics to be discussed: "Marketing Products at Trade Shows," "Transportation—the Logistics of Routes and Airport Equipment," "Attracting Attention with Gadgets"