

CURRENT

Meeting Professionals International

December 1999

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

Chaos and Crisis Management Put to Use with Fire Alarm

Coping with Chaos and Crisis Management was the theme for the November Meeting. Speaker Kevin Mellott shared with us how to prepare and get organized in crisis situations.

He provided a combination of role playing exercises, demonstrations, and a Power Point presentation to demonstrate the need for preparing yourself and your staff for controlling crisis situations. Drawing from his emergency management experience as a public safety responder and meeting planner, Kevin discussed the importance of delegation, organizational structure and personal accountability for getting control of crisis situations.

In fact, during the meeting, we came close to having a real fire drill and thought we would have to evacuate the building as a fire alarm went off!

(Later, we found out that a group next door was using a smoke machine for an event, which triggered the fire alarm!)

Needless to say, we all got a quick education about just how important Crisis Management is and how it can affect each of us.

The meeting was sponsored by the Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau. Likewise, we appreciate the Hampton Inn and Suites in Mesquite for Hosting our November Meeting.



Left to right: Leah Belasco, Belasco Consulting; Kevin Mellot, Erase Enterprises; Cynthia Del Toro, Erase Enterprises; Anna Squire, Stonebriar Country Club

Upcoming MPI D/FW BOD Meetings

December 15, 1999

Wednesday @ 5:45 pm
BOD Meeting
Westin Galleria Hotel
Contact: Steven G. Foster, CMP
(817) 430-1561
stevenfoster@mindspring.com

January 26, 2000

Wednesday @ 5:45 pm
BOD Meeting
Westin Galleria Hotel
Contact: Steven G. Foster, CMP
(817) 430-1561
stevenfoster@mindspring.com

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October Meeting Highlights



MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

Committed to Educational Leadership

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

CURRENT

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MISSION STATEMENT

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

The *CURRENT* is published 12 times yearly for the D/FW Chapter of Meeting Professionals International, the industry's leading educational and networking resource in meetings management. Statements of fact and opinion are the responsibility of individual writers and do not imply collective opinion of the officers or members of MPI. The *CURRENT* and MPI D/FW Board of Directors are not responsible for the content of advertisements. Any complaints concerning an ad should be directed to the advertiser.

Upcoming MPI D/FW Chapter Meetings

December 16, Thursday

Southfork Ranch
"Joint Holiday Party"
6:00 p.m.

January 27th
Lunch Meeting
Adams Mark Hotel

February 24th
Lunch Meeting at Dallas Conv
Center "C" Ballroom

Upcoming MPI D/FW Chapter Committee Meetings

(For Educational Opportunities, see page 6.)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 15, 1999
Wednesday @ 5:45 pm
BOD Meeting
Westin Galleria Hotel
Contact: Steven G. Foster, CMP
(817) 430-1561
stevenfoster@mindspring.com

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

December 8
Wednesday @ 5:45 p.m.
Education Committee
Omni Park West Hotel
Contact: Tony W. Cummins
(214) 922-0316
tlcc.dallas@att.net

FINANCE COMMITTEE

December 15
Wednesday @ 5:00 pm
Finance Committee
Westin Galleria Hotel
Contact: Cheryl Beasley, CMP
(817) 931-7923
cheryl.beasley@sabre.com

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

December 9
Thursday @ 5:30 pm
Program Committee
Southfork Ranch
Contact: O.D. O'Donnell
(972) 789-9340
od@nightlifetalent.com

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

December 21
Tuesday @ 5:30 pm
Membership Committee
Renaissance Meetings (2544 Elm Street, Suite 100)
Contact: LeeAnn Harle
(214) 742-3700

P.R./MARKETING COMMITTEE

December 9
Tuesday @ 5:30 pm
PR/Marketing Committee
Westin Park Central Hotel
Contact: Stephanie Schroeder
(972) 238-1008
stephanie.schroeder@starwoodhotels.com

ISSUE

January
inserts due Jan. 10

February
inserts due Feb. 7

March
inserts due March 6

DEADLINE

Dec. 17, Friday

Jan. 21, Friday

Febr. 18, Friday

CURRENT Deadlines



President's Message

Looking Back on Decisions Made in the Decade Past and Ahead to the New Millenium

Where will you be during the Holiday Season? I'll be home for Christmas, but on the job Dec. 31 when the clock strikes midnight and rings in the Year 2000. In the movie "Meet Joe Black" starring Brad Pitt as the Grim Reaper, even Death managed to take a break from his normal routine. Not so in our business which recognizes no holiday, official or otherwise.



Steven G. Foster, CMP
Circle R Ranch
D/FW Chapter President

That fact is a sobering thought, especially at this festive time of Glad Tidings, but for me it causes only a happy reflection on a choice I made in 1980 to leave a career in sports journalism and begin a new adventure into travel, tourism and meetings. That pursuit originated in Honolulu, relocated me to Dallas and eventually led to a ballroom at the Adolphus Hotel in December of 1991.

On that evening I attended my first MPI meeting. It was the chapter's annual Holiday Party. I was a new member and didn't know a soul. I remember that evening so clearly because of one person - MPI member Mary Cowart. She was all over that room in what I now know is typical MPI fashion: meeting and greeting in overdrive. She was a fireball of energy and very enthusiastic.

She told me to get involved in MPI. She made a lasting impression and I left the Adolphus that night saying to myself..."one day I'm going to be president of this group. Almost 10 years later and with overwhelming encouragement and support along the way, here I am with gavel in hand.

What a decade in Dallas it's been.

I've enjoyed three rewarding career experiences, first with Yellow Rose Touring & Special Events Company, then Gray Line of Dallas/Fort Worth and now Circle R Ranch. The opportunities at each have been quite extraordinary.

Involvement in MPI introduced me to so many exceptional people, many who have become special friends, among them Wendy Ezernack, Betty and Gene Garrett, Diane Smith, Phyllis Firebaugh, Gail Lemaire, Gregory Pynes, Mary Lynn Novelli, Cindy Hamilton, Colleen Rickenbacher and O.D. O'Donnell to name just a few.

I met and married my wife, Wendy, who it turns out is not only my partner in both business and pleasure, but best friend as well. I also became a father and two-year-old daughter Aubrey continues to teach me daily what a gracious thing life really is.

My life would be quite different had I stayed in Hawaii. I might be relaxing on my favorite North Shore beach, eyeing the waves and contemplating the best surf to chase. Later in the afternoon, I would drive to work and cover my next sports assignment. That evening, a few buddies and I would wind down in Waikiki at The Shorebird Grill. Ahhhhh, Paradise.

Instead, I'll be working New Year's Eve. But I'll be working in a city that's home, on an event at our ranch alongside my wife and business partner. I know that during the final countdown to 2000 my thoughts will race back across the past 10 years and recall special people and memories with impact on my Legacy.

I'll think of you and the wonderful things waiting for us all on the other side of The New Millennium - those we love and those who love us back.

Peace.
Prosperity.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL®

Committed to Educational Leadership

Meeting Professionals International is the world's largest association of meetings professionals with more than 17,000 members in 64 countries and 58 chapters and six clubs. MPI serves as the pivotal force in positioning meetings as a primary communication vehicle and a critical component of an organization's success. MPI leads the meeting industry by serving the diverse needs of members and nonmembers alike through its commitment to quality education, continuous improvement and excellence in meetings while upholding high ethical standards.

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INFORMATION FACT BOX

JANUARY 2000 PRESIDENTS-PLANNER BREAKFAST SERIES

MPI D/FW SPECIAL SERIES

"MEETING PLANNERS BREAKFAST WITH THE PRESIDENTS"

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2000 - 8:00 am - 9:30 am

The Radisson Hotel-Fort Worth

815 Main Street, Fort Worth, TX. 76102, (817) 870-2100

8:00am: Registration & Continental Breakfast-Check Reader Board for Room
8:30am-9:30am: Meeting Planner Roundtables

Hosted by

1999-2000 MPI D/FW Chapter President Steven G. Foster, CMP
President-Elect Steve Kemble
Immediate-Past President Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP

MPI D/FW MEETING PLANNERS ARE INVITED TO "BREAKFAST WITH THE PRESIDENTS" FOR A DISCUSSION OF ISSUES AND CONCERNS INVOLVING OUR CHAPTER AND ITS MEETING PLANNER MEMBERS. THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL D/FW MEETING PLANNERS ONLY AND DESIGNED AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE CHAPTER LEADERSHIP.

Self-Parking at the Radisson Hotel-Fort Worth

RSVP to Randie Charnes, Chapter Administrator by noon, Friday, January 7, 2000

Advance and On-Site Registration: \$15.00

Reservations received after the deadline will be placed on the waiting list.

FAX: (972) 506-7485 (see fax insert)

EMAIL: rcharnes@msn.com

ON-LINE: www.mpidfw.org

NOTELEPHONE RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED



Chapter of the Year
1989 * 1990 * 1994 * 1996

MPI

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL
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International Chapter Liaisons

The International Liaisons are appointed by the Chapter President to provide a vital communication between MPI D/FW members and MPI. Each liaison has a specific assignment and is responsible for providing information to chapter members on areas including Marketing, Government Affairs, Special Interest Groups, Public Relations and both the WEC and PEC Conferences.

Government Affairs Liaison

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Renaissance Meetings & Incentives DMC
(214) 742-3700
Fax: (214) 742-3723
harle@onramp.net

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Erin Longley
Imagine Events
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erin@imagineevents.com

PEC (Nashville) Liaison

Lynn Lewis, CMP
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(214) 665-5785
Fax: (214) 665-5005
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MCI Performance Group
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Fax: (972) 320-9603
ebaryshev@mcipg.com

WEC (Philadelphia) Liaison

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Wyndham Anatole Hotel
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Fax: (214) 761-7242
katterberry@wyndham.com

PR/Marketing Liaison

Lianne Pereira
Susan G. Komen Foundation
(972) 855-1676
Fax: (972) 855-1660
lpereira@komen.org

Legacy Committee Chair

Delinda Dudley
Fun Factory Decorations & Special Events
(972) 271-7444
Fax: (972) 271-7888
deldudley@aol.com

Volunteers Needed!

The MPI Kids
Charity Ball



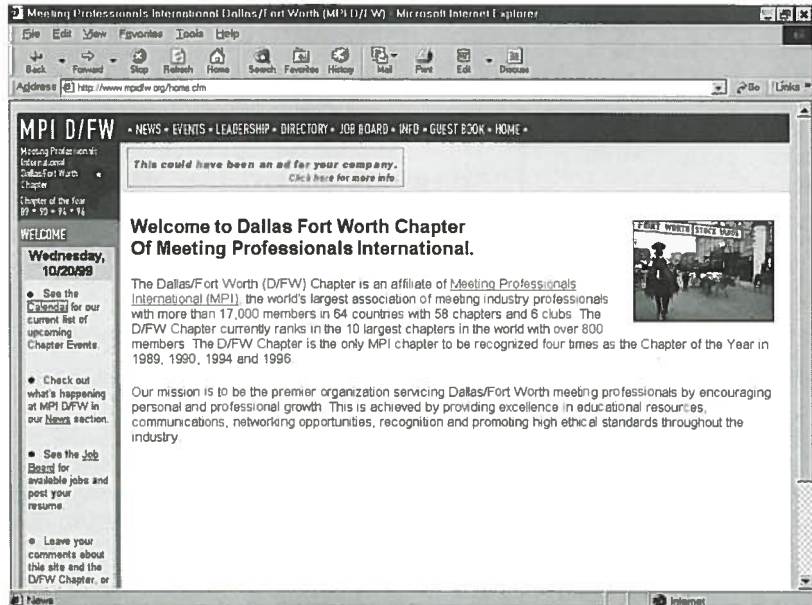
TMKCB Chair 2000
Marsha Singer
The Dallas Directory, Inc.
214-823-4370

Make TMKCB a priority on your
list of volunteer projects for the year 2000!

The MPI Kids Charity Ball

Produced by Meeting Professionals International
Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

August 2000



mpidfw.org



MPI D/FW

Holiday Celebration

Southfork Event and Conference Center
December 16, 1999

*304
REGISTERED*

6:30 PM — Registration and Reception • 7:30 PM — Dinner and Entertainment

Experience “Holiday Ice Illusions” at Southfork Event and Conference Center for the annual MPI D/FW Holiday Celebration! Dramatically recreating the frostiness of a cool Winter’s eve, the legendary facility will provide the perfect backdrop for all the good cheer and networking that holiday celebrating allows.

The evening’s activities will include a wide range of entertainment, including dancing, special theatrical presentations, and the chance of an appearance by the real honest-to-goodness Santa Claus. Stop misbehaving now in preparation for the big day.

A special invitation has been extended to all hospitality industry associates throughout D/FW. Members from DFWAE, GDRA, HATC, HMA, HSMIAI, IAEM, ISES, NTHSMIAI, NACE, NTSA, PCMA, SGMP, SITE, and TxACOM have been invited to join MPI D/FW chapter members for the celebration.

This will be the last MPI meeting of the millennium and is sure to hold some wonderful surprises. Plan now to attend this very special evening!

Attire: Holiday Cocktail

See fax/registration insert for bus transportation from Dallas to Southfork

Host Facility Information

Internationally recognized as the filming location for the long-running “Dallas” series, Southfork operates today as a full-service event and conference center. After \$ 12 million dollars in renovations to the Ewing Mansion and Event Center, the facility now hosts more than 1,400 events each year and attracts several hundred thousand visitors annually.

With event capabilities for groups as small as ten and as large as 10,000, Southfork offers more than 63,000 square feet of indoor meeting and event space in nine different ballrooms. A wide variety of theme, décor and menu options are available for VIP entertaining, convention events, seated dinners, meetings, themed extravaganzas, and more.

A two-time winner of MPI D/FW’s “Facility of the Year Award”, Southfork is just minutes north of Dallas.

3700 Hogge Road, Parker, Texas 75002

www.southfork.com

(972)442-7800



Educational Opportunities & Upcoming Industry Meetings at a glance

Education

December 8
Wednesday @ 5:45 p.m.
Education Committee
Omni Park West Hotel
Contact: Tony W. Cummins
(214) 922-0316
tlcc.dallas@att.net

Walk-A-While Programs

December 14
Tuesday, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Walk-A-While Program
Selection Process & Committee
Development
Venue TBA
Contact: Patty Stern
(214) 638-5019 x 243
pstern@careydfw.com

Richland College/Technology Institute

December 11
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
**Introduction to Meeting Track and Ajenis
meeting planning software**
Richland College Technology Class*
Richland College SABRE Lab B014
Contact M.T. Hickman
(972) 238-6097

mthickman@dcccd.edu

**Students must enroll in Special Topics
Travel Industry Software class that includes
all four classes above. Students must have
working knowledge of Window 95. Lab
volunteers may select which classes and
hours to work.*

December 16 - 17
Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Ajenis Meeting Planning Software
Richland College SABRE Lab B014
Contact M.T. Hickman
(972) 238-6097
mthickman@dcccd.edu

*For more information about any of these
educational opportunities contact
V.P./Education Tony Cummins
(Adams Mark Hotel Dallas), 214-922-0316 or
tlcc.dallas@att.net*

MPI D/FW Super Session Fishing for New Ideas — A Teambuilding Safari

By Jill Heyerdahl, CMP, JH Travel Incentives and MT Hickman, Richland College

Cast your net and come aboard as the MPI D/FW Super Session Committee starts the New Year at Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World for an exciting teambuilding workshop. On January 10, from 6:00 – 9:00 PM, Super Session Attendees will explore a unique venue and discover a new and fun way to build teamwork.

The evening will begin at the Embassy Suites Hotel, connected to Outdoor World. Attendees will be assigned to a team and given Teambuilding Safari guidelines and clues. Team members will work together to navigate their way around the jungle, mountains, streams, ponds, and forest. Outdoor World is an attraction designed so that adults can play. So brush up on your skills for fishing, golf, camping, shooting, and more. Teams will be awarded prizes based on time, accuracy, and finding the most clues.

Registration begins at 6:00 PM with light refreshments with teambuilding guidelines from 6:30 – 7:00 PM. Teambuilding Safari will take place from 7:00 – 9:00 PM, with awards immediately following. Participation is limited so register now! Please contact Jill Heyerdahl, CMP, JH Travel Incentives, to register by phone at (972) 293-1509 or email at djem@aol.com. Cost is \$25 for Members and \$30 Non-Members. Pre-Payments can be made via credit card or payment on-site. Checks need to be made payable to MPI D/FW.

Super Session: Teambuilding Safari

Monday, January 10

6:00 - 9:00 PM

Embassy Suites & Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World
2501 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, Texas 76051



Our exchange rate works like this:
four quarters for a dollar.



Welcome to the New World

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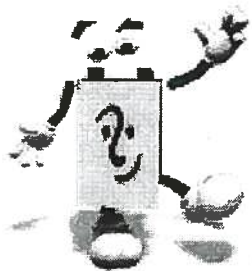
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-  **Browse Resumes**

Job Board Chair:
Beverly O'Laughlin, CMP (CompuCom)
(972)856-3686 * fax (972)856-7649
bolaughl@compucom.com

One for One

MPI/DFW has an affinity for the number One. As a group, we have pushed the envelope enough to have been awarded "Chapter of the Year" four times. We are certainly doing so again for 1999-2000. We like being number One.

Individually we probably wonder how one person (little ole me) could have in impact in where this chapter is going. How can one make much of a difference? Think about this...a hand, a voice, one vote, one member. At some time, each of these has been a powerful instrument in moving mountains.



*Submitted by
Esther Wigley*

The key here is *one member*. Each and every MPI/DFW member can have an impact. This year *you* can make a difference, you can push MPI/DFW to new heights, and not even have to join another committee. Did that get your attention?

This year make a commitment to recruit at least *one new member*. That's it...pretty simple. Just to make things a little more interesting, Membership will add your name to a very special drawing for each new member you enroll. *One for One*.

For our dedicated members, we still have Galleria Gold, \$ 10.00 for every two new members recruited, and the competition is gearing up for the \$ 500.00 Grand Prize for the top recruiter. Is it possible "Susie Fiveash" could find a new home?

Membership will be giving you all the details at the January meeting. So start counting because we will be counting on you.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

MPI D/FW Chapter Membership Report

800 Total Members

380 Planners • 405 Suppliers • 15 Students

23 New Members

7 Planners • 15 Suppliers

32 Renewals: 14 Planners • 18 Suppliers

32 Drops: 22 Planners • 25 Suppliers

These figures reflect a retention rate of 68.24%

Membership data based on reports valid Oct. 31, 1999.

Galleria Gold Membership Recruitment Standings

Member	New Members Recruited
O.D. O'Donnell	5
Marguerita Neubauer	3
Lisa South, CMP	2

The following members have recruited one new member: Arturo Aguirre, Melanie Arguello-Hoover, Dawn Ballard, Rajesh Batra, Carol Benavidez, Joshua Brown, Shirley Bruner, Bitsy Burns, CMP, Sherri Cook, CMP, Kellie Cote, Wendy Ezernack, Phyllis Firebaugh, CMP, Betty Garrett, CMP, James Genette, Sally Goldesberry, CMP, Gloria Hernandez, CMP, Sonja Horn, Lynn Lewis, CMP, Marie Mahan, Carol Marks, Gregory Pynes, Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP, Stephanie Schroeder, Lynn Stone & Linda Vest, CMP.

Grand Prize: \$500 – Let's Recruit for the Bucks!!!

Recruitment data based on reports valid Oct. 31, 1999.

TEC '99 Served up Some Powerful Resolutions

By Gregory Pynes

Over 180 members from the Texas Hill Country, Houston Area and Dallas/Fort Worth MPI Chapters participated in the third annual



Gregory Pynes
Hand & Associates
Marketing
Communications

Texas Educational Conference in Austin, Texas. A joint effort by the three Texas chapters, TEC is designed to provide superior educational offerings for those members who may not be able to attend the Professional Education Conference and the World Education Congress produced by International.

The TEC's theme was "Resolutions 2000, Your Commitment to the Future," and featured International Chairman, Ed Simone, CMP speaking on Marketing, Persuasion, and Communication, which explored the concept of event marketing and the role it prominence in the coming new century. Chapter members were also treated to a night on Austin's famous 6th Street, which consisted of a progressive exploration of alternative venues that cater to groups.

Over 50 companies participated in the trade show, and several pieces of business were written from the floor. TEC participants then had the option of attending one of three forums with topics that included "Transition in the Meeting Industry" to "Business Practices for the New Millenium." Each forum utilized a facilitator to develop the issues and solutions as described by the participants.

Dan Clark, CSP capped off the Saturday afternoon forum's with insight on how to create an experience for your programs through media, and music. All in all the educational content was first rate, according to chapter member Mary Lynn Novelli, CMP (Sterling Hotels & Resorts) "The TEC delivered focused education as well as strong Texas based networking opportunities. This year's education was specific to the future of our industry which offered me the awareness to think and plan ahead."

The final event for 1999 was a New Year's Eve party complete with a balloon drop, and a champagne toast. Members danced the night away. We would like to thank the Galveston CVB, Freeman Decorating, Coach USA, the Waco CVB, Connolly Group, David Perkoff Music, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the Austin CVB, The Driskill, Texas Court Reports Association, and the Houston CVB for their sponsorship of the 1999 Texas Educational Conference.

Have you been introduced to J&S Show Services

J&S Audio Visual, Inc. is a full service company committed to attention to detail, customized options, and lasting partnerships. Based here in the DFW metroplex, we provide audio visual services internationally.



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www.jsav.com

Our mission: We provide the technology, specialists, and personalized service that allow our clients to effectively communicate via conferences, meetings, and events with a focus on maintaining lasting relationships.



Your Partner In Success

J&S actively supports Meeting Professionals International. Our MPI D/FW members are Kevin Jast (General Manager, Dallas), Jeanie Renner (National Director of Hotel Sales), Kristi Carter (Director of Marketing), and David Walters (National Account Executive, Show Services).



Alaina Ryan, CMP
Excel Communications, Inc.
'Grapevine' Columnist

Heard it through the Grapevine!



Mitchell Cathey
'Grapevine' Columnist

Bethani Blair, director of sales for *The Guest Lodge at Cooper Aerobics Center*, and her husband Kevin had a baby girl, Avery Evelyn Blair. She was born on October 10th weighing 7 pounds 1 ounce.

Michelle Klutts, sales manager for *Speedzone* was married on October 9th to Shane Solis.

Sheri Pizitz, CMP, CSEP, *Events Unlimited*, has been asked to serve on the board of *Event Solutions* magazine. Sheri has also announced the opening of *Events Unlimited Austin* where **Keely Murphy** has been named director of sales.

David A. Granger has joined *Designs Behind the Scenes* as event designer and director of national sales & marketing.

Congratulations to **Kent Bush, Val Lenington, Debbie Meyers, Jim Monroe, CMP, and Linda Thornton** who all recently obtained their CSEP designation.

Tony Cummins, CMP with the *Adams Mark Hotel* and his wife are expecting a baby.

Gregory Pynes has left *Hand & Associates* to pursue other interests.

Brenda Miller, CMP has accepted a position as director of events for *World Bank* in Washington, DC.

Alaina Ryan, CMP, was wed to Peter Palmer on Saturday, November 20th at the Le Meridien Hotel.

The Dallas Business Journal interviewed **Cheryl Beasley, CMP, Rosemary Hall and Dana Nickerson, CMP** recently for their article on luxury meetings in Dallas.

To submit items for this column contact
Mitchell Cathey, 214-520-3901;
or **Alaina Ryan, CMP**
(Excel Communications, Inc.),
214-863-8926; fax 214/863-8576;
aryan@excel.com.

PEC-North America Features Top Speakers

The Professional Education Conference – North America 2000, a matter of balance, is set for January 30-February 1, 2000 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Featuring two powerful general sessions with Roxanne Emmerich, CSP, CMC and William Taylor, co-founder of *Fast Company* magazine, the conference will offer more than 65 workshops, a technology laboratory, the Executive Track and unique networking opportunities.

Early bird registration deadline is **Monday, December 20, 1999**. For registration materials and more information, call **1-972-702-3030** or visit the MPI headquarters website at www.mpiweb.org.



Submitted by
Erin Longley
(Imagine Events, Inc.)
MPI D/FW International
Marketing Liason

CAST YOUR VOTE!

The Education Committee has come up with the following workshop ideas for this spring. We want to hear from you! Send us an e-mail prioritizing these 1, 2, 3 based on your interests!

- International Protocol
- Business Ethics
- Contract Legales

E-mail Erin Longley at opportunity@imagineevents.com



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1999 – 2000 MPI D/FW Partners



MPI D/FW Partners are individuals and companies who support your involvement in Meeting Professionals International by donating their time, talent and services to MPI D/FW.

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MEI Designs
Morten H. Meyerson Symphony Center
MPI International
Renaissance Dallas North Hotel
Rough Creek Lodge
Sheraton Park Central/Starwood Hotels
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Texas Press
Tour 18 Golf Course
Valet Parking Service Inc. of Texas
Westin Galleria/Starwood Hotels & Resorts
Yellow Rose Touring & Special Events

If you have participated in an MPI-sponsored event with donated/discounted products or services, you need to be recognized in the MPI D/FW Chapter Partners Program.

MPI Chapter Partners receive recognition in the chapter newsletter, the CURRENT, and are recognized at the Annual Awards Gala in June.

For information on the MPI D/FW Chapter Partners Program, or to submit corrections to this list, contact Peg Wolschon (Coach USA), 972-263-0294 x103.

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EXCITING, SOMETIMES
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ERASE Enterprises provides safety and security consultation, planning, and personal protection services for executives, celebrities, dignitaries and their families. ERASE security agents are cross-trained with backgrounds in law enforcement, personal protective services, fire fighting and emergency medical services. With the increase of concerns for terrorist activities, street crimes and natural disasters, it is imperative that your executives are protected when traveling. When planning your next executive incentive trip or hosting a VIP at one of your meetings, call ERASE to discuss your security needs.

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MPI D/FW Seeks Leadership Nominations!

Looking toward 2000-2001 Leadership; Nominating Procedure Explained

As the new millennium approaches, the MPI D/FW Chapter once again seeks quality leadership officers and directors for the 2000-2001 chapter year.

The Nominating Committee requests your help in developing a pool of outstanding candidates in order to create a strong slate of officers and board recommendations for the March 2000 elections.

The Board of Directors is made up of 17 chapter members (nine officers – President, President Elect, Immediate Past President, Vice Presidents of Administration, Education, Finance, Membership, PR/Marketing, and Programs – and eight board members, divided equally between members who are classified as planners and suppliers.)

Active chapter members are eligible for 15 of those positions. The 1999-2000 president, Steven Foster, CMP (Circle R Ranch) will become immediate past president, and president elect, Steve Kemble (Steve Kemble Event Design), will be named 2000-2001 president.



MPI D/FW Board of Directors Eligibility Requirements

Any member in good standing (current on dues) may be considered for office.

Candidates must submit a written "Consent to Serve," indicating a willingness to fulfill the obligations of office in the capacity indicated.

Written consent of the candidate's employer is required prior to that person's name being publicized as part of the proposed list of board members.

Candidates must submit biographical information for inclusion on the ballot.

How does the process work?

Step 1: The Nominating Committee is formed with the Immediate Past President, Colleen A. Rickenbacher, CMP serving as chair as approved by the Board of Directors. The composition of the Nominating Committee is reflected in Policies and Procedures.

The Nominating Committee will be comprised of an equal number of planners and suppliers.

No member of the committee is eligible for election to the board. The president and president elect serve on the committee to provide insight on the coming Board year, and while both will serve in 2000-2001, each has been previously elected.

Step 2: The Nominations Committee is to seek the input of the membership through the use of the insert "Request for Nominations." Referring to the insert note the information needed by the Committee in order to make an informed decision. Any member wishing to serve must complete the enclosed form and return it as indicated by January 14, 2000.

You can nominate yourself or identify a member you feel has demonstrated through involvement and service to the Chapter a commitment to serve and lead.

Step 3: The Nominations Committee will meet the week of January 17, 2000 to create a slate of officers and ballot of board members.

Step 4: The proposed slate and ballot will be presented to the membership as an insert in the February issue of the CURRENT along with a call for additional nominations.

Step 5: The ballot and slate will be mailed to the membership on February 28; it must be returned by March 17, 2000.

Step 6: The new Board will be presented to the membership at the March Chapter meeting.

Effective Leadership for MPI D/FW

*The Meeting Professionals
International Dallas/Fort Worth
Chapter seeks leaders who:*

*Can contribute time, energy and
creativity to the chapter*

*Have a history of involvement,
accomplishment and dependable
service to the chapter*

*Have a positive, professional
recognition as active participants
in many areas of the meetings
industry*

Involvement and Commitment

The Nominations process is so important and your participation is vital. Your active participation in the process will ensure that we can continue to secure qualified members to lead us into the 21st century.

Take the time to consider yourself and other members as potential candidates. Talk to current or past board members to ascertain their insight on the commitment needed to serve on the D/FW Board of Directors.

Questions? Contact Colleen A. Rickenbacher, CMP by email (cricken@dallascvb.com) or by fax (214.652.4263)



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February 2000

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FAX REGISTRATION FORM

**MPI D/FW Chapter Meeting
"Holiday Gala"**

December Chapter Meeting – Southfork Ranch - Thursday, December 16, 1999 – 6:30 p.m.

Fax this form to chapter headquarters: 972-506-7485 or e-mail info to rcharnes@msn.com

NO TELEPHONE RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED

Deadline: noon, Tuesday, December 14, 1999

***** Please retain the fax confirmation sheet and bring it to the registration desk the day of the meeting.*****

MEMBER REGISTRATION: (Please print legibly)

I am a Planner Supplier Membership #: _____

Member Name: _____

Company: _____

Phone _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Web Site: _____

Pre-Paid Credit Card Express Registration: **(Must include payment for guests)**

Type of Card: VISA MasterCard American Express Exp Date: _____

Name on Card: _____ Card number : _____

Total Amount to Charge: _____ (Member Price \$37 - Guest Price \$42 Walk In/On-Site/Late \$47)

Please note: All guest Associations pay MPI member price at the Holiday Party

Transportation will be available at the Wyndham Anatole or the Westin Galleria

Please circle one if interested and note number of people.

I agree to pay this amount according to my credit card agreement. No refunds for registrants who fail to attend.

Signature: _____

Guest's Name: _____

Guest's Company: _____

My Guest is a Planner Supplier

VEGETARIAN MEAL CARDS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION TABLE

(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR REGISTRATION RULES)

Registration Guidelines

Via FAX

1. Always use **BLACK INK**. Blue ink or pencil will not fax well.
2. Always print all information legibly. This will help prevent misspelled names.
3. Always give complete credit card account information; type of card, account number and expiration date. Again, write legibly.
4. If you pay by credit card and have a guest or guests, you must pay for them as well. Partial payment will not be allowed. If this policy is not followed, your RSVP will not be considered pre-paid.
5. If you pre-pay by credit card and become a NO SHOW, your fee will not be refunded unless you cancel before 5:00 P.M. on the Wednesday prior to the meeting.
6. If you pre-register but do not pre-pay and become a NO SHOW, you will be billed for your fee unless you cancel before 5:00 P.M. on the Wednesday prior to the meeting.
7. Fax reservation closes at 12:00 noon on the Tuesday before the event. **AT THAT TIME THE FAX MACHINE WILL BE TURNED OFF AND WILL NOT BE RECONNECTED UNTIL 9:00 A.M., THE FRIDAY AFTER THE EVENT.**
8. FAX RSVP's are not acknowledged - keep your FAX verification from your fax machine. All fax forms received are brought to the event by the Chapter Secretary. Without your verification, we will rely on our records.
9. E-mail RSVP's will be excepted after the 12:00 noon deadline on the Tuesday before the event, **providing they have an origination time stamp prior to 12:00 noon.** All e-mail RSVP's are acknowledged.
10. **NO TELEPHONE RSVP's ARE ACCEPTED!!!**
11. Pre-registered and Pre-Paid RSVP's will be held at the appropriate registration desk until 10 minutes after the meeting starts. At that time, any remaining RSVP's will be considered NO SHOWS and seats will be released to Walk In Registration desk.

Via E-Mail

1. Always give complete credit card account information; type of card, account number and expiration date.
2. If you pay by credit card and have a guest or guests, you must pay for

them as well. Partial payment will not be allowed. If this policy is not followed, your RSVP will not be considered pre-paid.

3. If you pre-pay by credit card and become a NO SHOW, your fee will not be refunded unless you cancel before 5:00 P.M. on the Wednesday prior to the meeting.
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6. Pre-registered and Pre-Paid RSVP's will be held at the appropriate registration desk until 10 minutes after the meeting starts. At that time, any remaining RSVP's will be considered NO SHOWS. The seats will be released to the Walk In Registration desk.

Walk-in Registration

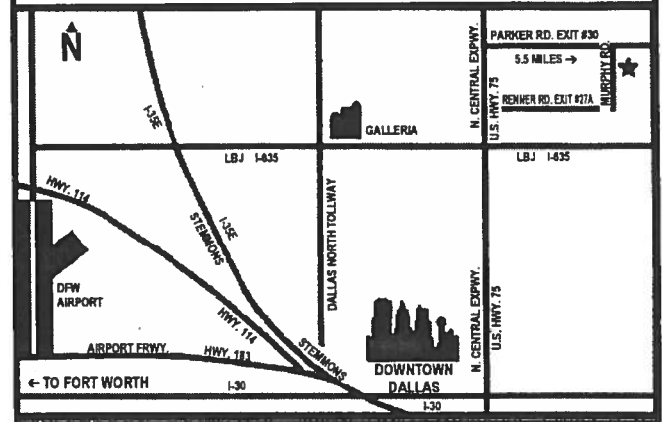
1. Walk In Registration (On Site) is handled on a first come first served basis, regardless of a individual's status with the association.
2. Your fee will be collected at the time you register and will not be refunded if you cannot be seated due to space limitations.
3. Walk In participants will not be seated until 15 minutes after the program starts. All Pre-registered and Pre-paid participants will be seated first.
4. Walk In Fees are: **\$40 - Lunch , \$45 - Dinner**
5. There are no exceptions to the Walk In Rules unless authorized by the President or VP of Programs.

No Show Policy

A **NO SHOW** fee equal to the amount charged for the event shall be collected from individuals who have registered, but fail to attend. This includes monthly

Directions to Southfork Ranch

(972) 442-7800



meetings, educational offerings with pre-registration and other events for which posted or faxed RSVPs are required for attendance.

Members with outstanding **NO SHOW** charges are not eligible for scholarship awards. Any reimbursement payments due to individuals with outstanding **NO SHOW** charges will have the amount of the outstanding fees deducted from the amount reimbursed

NSF Checks

NSFs shall be collected from individuals and a fee of **\$15** shall be collected in addition to the amount of the original check. Any payment of **NSF** items that proves uncollectable will require the individual to make payment in cash, cashiers check or some other guaranteed bank draft.

Any member that has incurred three **NSFs** in one fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) will be required to pay all Chapter events with cash or other guaranteed funds for the remainder of that year. In addition, any member with one or more outstanding **NSFs** shall not be eligible for scholarship awards and will have the amount of the outstanding **NSF** and bank charges deducted from any reimbursement due from the Chapter.

Credit Card Declines

Notice shall be posted at all events for which credit card payments are accepted stating that any declined credit card charges will be assessed a **\$15** fee in addition to the amount of the original charge by cash, check or a different credit card. If a second decline of a card is received an additional **\$15** fee will be charged and cash only will be accepted as payment.