

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

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Mark Your Calendars!

May 26, 2005
May Monthly Meeting

June 23, 2005
D/FW Chapter Awards Gala

Vision Statement

To be the pivotal force in positioning meetings and events as key strategic components of an organization's success.

Mission Statement

To be recognized as the leading global membership community to shaping and defining the meeting and event industry.

“ARE WE THERE, YET?”

Planning Off-Site Tours and Locating Unusual Event Venues



By: Richard S. Pollak, President, Rainbow Entertainment/Speakers
Carole May, CTC, CMP, National Account Executive, Galactic, Ltd.

In the past few years, Golf & Spa outings became accepted ancillary event offerings at meetings and conferences and are now commonplace in the thought process of planning.

Today, a new trend is emerging as Guest/Spouse program offerings become more and more popular to add on as an ancillary event; either as a way to encourage spouses/significant others to attend those smaller executive meetings or as a paid, ticketed offering at larger meetings, conferences & expositions to entertain guests while the delegates are attending sessions and visiting the trade show.


In order to show a return on investment, whether financial or as a loss leader that creates a “feel-good” experience for the participants, meeting planners are now being asked to provide off-site tours that aren’t as simple as “lunch and shopping!”

Today's challenges include tours that offer high level educational programs, introduce the participants to local cultural experiences, engage the participant's interest in a cities heritage or provide activities that yield a high entertainment value. We're even seeing companies create specialty tours specific to a client's products and services that integrate marketing into the touring equation!

The monthly program in April will focus on discussing the many different types of off site Guest programs, day tours and, as an extended topic, how to successfully seek out unusual venues for larger activities and events whether the group is in-bound to the DFW area or you're planning outbound programs anywhere in the world.

Our stellar panel will share their diverse industry experience and answer plenty of questions along the way including:

- How do you approach the C-Level Executives in your company or association and get their buy-in to offer guest/spouse programs?
- How do the guests demographics affect the type of tours planned or the venue you select? (age, interests, income bracket)
- What's a realistic distance to go when planning a day-long tour?
- How do you put together technical tours?
- What do you need to consider when selecting transportation for the tours?
- How do you prepare for “Plan B” and keep everyone happy?
- What liability issues must be addressed before taking people offsite for day tours?

Spouse/Guest programs are a wonderful option to begin including in your planning process: while they “look” easy, they actually require enormous care and attention to detail as the participants are usually a direct pipeline to the executives and VIP's attending your meeting, conference or exposition! Plan to attend and learn how to plan, sell and deliver programs that become something your participants look forward to every year! 

DALLAS/FT. WORTH
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A Message from the President

As the final quarter of this year's term begins, so begins the transitioning of the Board of Directors. Please join me in welcoming and congratulating the incoming 2005-2006 MPI D/FW Chapter Board of Directors. I know you will agree with me they are a stellar group of visionary leaders. Each one of these individuals conveys a high level of professionalism and is well respected within our industry. Their commitment to this chapter is commendable.



Melissa S. Logar, CMP
2004-2005 President

There are a lot of new faces on next term's Board of Directors. This is extremely exciting especially since 78% of our chapter membership have been members under five years. The incoming Board of Directors is very well rounded with representation from under five years to nineteen years as a chapter member. It can't get any better than this! These individuals understand the value of their involvement within MPI and have taken the additional step to be a stakeholder in our industry's future.

Communicating and demonstrating value of your membership is very important to this chapter's leadership. We want to ensure each of you is receiving some type of return on investment from your membership. At the chapter level, you can attend the monthly education programs, networking and special events. You also may draw additional knowledge from your chapter peers who have a wealth of experience. As always, you may participate on a committee to further develop your skills. At the association level, there are additional education and networking resources such as "MIX", Meeting Industry Exchange, and the e-learning series. Both are valuable education and networking tools you can access from your office or home. These resources are a great way to supplement your knowledge base.

Please take advantage of the resources MPI has to offer. Again, I use myself as an example: I was signing a multi-year contract and needed to add a clause that I had not personally utilized in the past. I contacted several chapter members and within 15 minutes I had three usable clauses emailed to me. If I had not reached out to these resources I probably would have spent a good hour on developing the verbiage. Now that is a return on investment. Time! 🌐

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

“CURRENT” AFFAIRS



Colleen
Rickenbacher,
CMP, CSEP

Get Ready to Live Large, Think Big!

Editor's Note: Each month, this column will present an industry profile, hot topic debate or industry event review to focus reader interest and discussion on “Current” Affairs. Your participation and feedback in this effort is both vital and welcome.



Steven G.
Foster, CMP

Dallas has been selected as the site for the World Education Congress sponsored by Meeting Professionals International, scheduled July 9-11, 2006. Approximately 3,500 of your fellow MPI members will be in town to experience the best Dallas/Fort Worth has to offer, and we need YOU - the members of the MPI/DFW Chapter - to help us SHINE!

Our first opportunity to promote the event is Tuesday, July 12, 2005 in Miami at the 2005 WEC. As the host city for the following year's WEC, the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau will sponsor the Tuesday promotional luncheon in Miami, and has teamed-up with Incredible Productions to produce a show-stopping event.

All MPI D/FW Chapter members who are planning on attending the 2005 WEC in Miami are invited to a pre-conference orientation, Tuesday, April 26 from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm in the Stemmons Auditorium at the Wyndham Anatole Hotel. 2006 WEC Co-Chairs Colleen Rickenbacher, CMP, CSEP

(Colleen Rickenbacher, Inc.) and Steven G. Foster, CMP (Circle R Ranch) will be providing an overview of WEC 2006, as well as opportunities for members to be involved in both the promotional luncheon in Miami and at WEC in Dallas.

“This is an exciting time for the Dallas/Fort Worth area and the D/FW Chapter,” said Foster. “It’s been 12 years since MPI was last here, and we all have a tremendous opportunity to showcase our great venues, hotels and people to the MPI family of meeting professionals.”

Even if you’re not planning to attend WEC in Miami, all chapter members are encouraged to attend the pre-conference orientation. The MPI WEC 2006 Committees need volunteers and sponsors and NOW is the time to get involved.

Rickenbacher stated “we want all the other MPI members to see how a great Chapter operates, and the wonderful hospitality we will show them from start to finish in 2006.”



Stay Tuned....

Committees at the Chapter Level are now being formed!
This will be a wonderful opportunity for all chapter members to be involved and ensure we dazzle our guests during WEC 2006!



DEFINING THE POWER OF MEETINGS™

Founded in 1972, Meeting Professionals International, with nearly 20,000 members in 60 countries and four chapters in formation, is the leading global community committed to shaping and defining the future of the meeting and event industry. For more information, visit www.mpiweb.org.

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Lorri Allen
Good News!


Everyday a Crisis in the Meetings Industry?

Meeting planners are familiar with crisis. Too familiar, perhaps. "I've had someone die, some get food poisoning, and a roof blew off our building in New Orleans and we had to get a cruise ship to use for hotel rooms," says Dana Rhoden, CMP.

Rhoden, MPI Meeting Planner of the Year in 2002, admits that some in the industry may be crisis junkies. Betty Garrett, CMP, agrees. "We are control freaks. We want to control everything, but you have to know what you have control over."

So how do meeting planners handle the unexpected?

1. Communicate with the client. Wayne Wallgren of WorldWide Incentives, recently had a trip almost ruined when the hotel opened two days before his group was to arrive on site. "Immediately let the client know what's going on with anything beyond your control," he suggests. "Then let the client know what you're doing to resolve it."
2. Prepare, prepare and then prepare some more, Tracey Smith, CMP, advises, "Role play, anticipate, be aware, and then hope it doesn't happen. Since 9/11, we have a toll-free number that attendees and their families can call. You can leave updates on the message."
3. Creatively brainstorm worst-case scenarios. Rhoden, with the Southwest Veterinary Symposium, holds a "Potential Problem Analysis" with all the stakeholders of the meeting. They create an extensive grid of problems, causes and who's responsible. Scenarios include: flood, fire, labor strike, toilets backing up, running out of food, protestors picketing and the meeting planner dying!
4. Have a Plan C. Plan B is not enough. "Attendees can get sick and die. I've seen sprained ankles, eye infections and intestinal problems. Know where the nearest hospital is," says Smith, a meeting manager.
5. Keep your staff informed. "The key is communication," notes Rhoden. "On site, we have a team meeting every morning between 6 and 7 a.m. We have a manual of operations—our Bible—and we keep everyone informed." Smith concurs, "We make sure the staff knows everything. We tell the client, 'If you see something that concerns you, grab a staff member.'"

All the meeting planners agree that staying calm in crisis is the most important step. For those who love the thrill of problem-solving, that might take the fun out of your event. But Rhoden sums it up, "You don't need to be Superman to save the day." 

Lorri Allen. All Rights Reserved. 2005. Lorri Allen runs "Good News!" She's a speaker specializing in crisis communications, and she's a media consultant. You can find more by going to her website at www.Lorri.com.



Bill Boyd, CMP,
CMM, CITE



Making a World of Difference

Congratulations to Bill Boyd, CMP, CMM, CITE, President & CEO of Sunbelt Motivation & Travel, Inc. on being recognized by Richland College Travel, Exposition & Meeting Management program on April 6, 2005 at the TEMM Awards Luncheon for his contributions to Richland College and his unwavering support in furthering the education and knowledge of our next generation of industry professionals.

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Chapter Meeting: Thursday, April 28, 2005 • 11:00 a.m.

“Are We There Yet?” Planning Off-Site Tours and Event Venues

Planning Off-Site Tours and Event Venue - In order to fulfill this vital aspect of the conference program process, you must first know how to locate, plan, coordinate, and budget for any venture outside of the main meeting venue.

Our panel will present the essentials of planning tours and selecting the venues. About our esteemed panel:

Elizabeth Turner Calloway is, quite simply, a fascinating person with fabulous stories! She took a 2-person office and turned it into a \$10 Million Dollar international meeting services business. Proud of her “Texas home grown methods” of doing business, she has plenty of exciting stories to tell us.

Catherine Chalet develops and oversees the people, processes, reporting and technology necessary to ensure the success of Boston Coach’s clients’ events ranging from board meetings, corporate off-sites, client events, and many corporate sponsored events such as the US Open and other sporting events.

Paul Serff is a 30 year tourism veteran and President/CEO of the Texas Travel Industry Association. He loves Texas and it shows! He’ll tell us what to experience once we have selected a Texas destination.

Rita Bailey will facilitate the discussion with our panelists. As an International speaker and consultant, Rita has worked in Australia, Japan, Brazil, Mexico and several locations in Europe. She specializes in the areas of Culture, Customer Service, Leadership, People Success Strategies and Women’s Issues.

All aboard as we pack the bus and take an exciting tour of Planning, Marketing, Selling Guest Day Tours and Off- Site Events!

APRIL 2005 MPI/DFW program committee: David Abadie - Medieval Times (Chair), Lori Clark - BostonCoach (Sponsor), Richard Pollak - Rainbow Entertainment/Speakers, Bill Reeser, CMP/CTS - AVW-TELAV, Nicole Hahn - Southwest Securities, Elizabeth Chandler - Meadows Foundation and Carole May, CTC,CMP - Galactic,Ltd.



Rita Bailey
QVF Partners, Ltd.
Facilitator



Elizabeth Turner Calloway



Paul Serff
Texas Travel
Industry Assn.



Catherine Chalet
Boston Coach

“Are We There Yet?” Planning Off-Site Tours and Event Venues

Thursday, April 28, 2005

Wyndham Anatole

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11:00 am - 11:30 am	Chapter Orientation Wyeth Room - 2nd Floor Atrium
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration & Networking Wyeth Room
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch and Program Khmer Pavilion - 3rd Floor Atrium

*Self Parking will be validated compliments
of the Wyndham Anatole Hotel*

Advanced Member Price	\$30.00
Advanced Guest Price	\$35.00
Onsite Price	\$40.00

(Walk-ins will be placed on a wait list on-site. Seating is not guaranteed after the guarantee cut-off - Monday 2:00 p.m.)

*R.S.V.P. to Randie Charnes
by 2:00 p.m., Monday, April 25th
email: rcharnes@msn.com • fax: 972-506-7485*

ON-LINE REGISTRATION PREFERRED

Go to the “Events” section at www.mpidfw.org

Host Facility

Wyndham Anatole Hotel

This is a deluxe hotel located in the heart of the Dallas Market Center and only a 5-minute drive to downtown Dallas and 30 minutes from the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport. Two atrium high-rises decorated with authentic artwork and sculptures from all over the world. Promenade of shops includes fine clothing, gifts, and art galleries. Private seven-acre park is beautifully landscaped and is home to live peacocks. Three swimming pools and a \$12 million fitness facility make this the ideal haven for keeping healthy and getting in shape. Twelve different restaurants and bars offer everything from dancing to a piano bar to a poolside swim-up bar. The Wyndham Anatole is home to the city’s premier rooftop restaurant, our five-star Nana.

Number of Rooms: 1610
Meeting Space: Over 341,000 square feet of functional meeting and exhibit space, including eight major ballrooms, four theaters, 70 flexible meeting rooms, including 73,000 square foot Trinity One Exhibit Hall and a 45,000 square foot general session room in Trinity 2.

DIRECTIONS

Dallas Tollway South - Proceed south on the Tollway. Take the Wycliff Ave. exit and turn right. Turn right at Harry Hines and then left onto Market Center Blvd. Proceed on Market Center Blvd under I-35E (Stemmons Frwy) and you will see the hotel on the right.

From D/FW Airport - Take the Highway 183 East Exit. Follow 183 east to 35E South (Stemmons Frwy). Highway 183 East merges into I-35E. Proceed south on I-35E, exit Market Center Blvd. Turn right at the light. You will see the hotel on the right.

From 75 South (North Central Expressway) - Stay in the right lane to exit I-35E Waco. Take the I-35E Denton/Stemmons Frwy exit headed North. Exit onto Market Center Blvd. Turn Left onto Market Center Blvd. You will see the hotel on the right.

From Fort Worth - Take I-30 East to I-35E north. Follow I-35E North through downtown Dallas and exit Market Center Blvd. Turn left onto Market Center Blvd and the hotel on the right.



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PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Barbara Stone

Program Committee Members

Michelle Greeson
Gia Staley, CMP
Bedford Wynne
Valerie Green
Shari Moore
Diane Smith, CMP



Guest Speaker Tim Richardson, CSP, with his great sense of humor, had the audience laughing and learning all evening about ways to better balance life and proactively seize the type of life you want to live!

The meeting began with a reception at the beautiful Renaissance Worthington Hotel with entertainment by Strings Plus and cowboy singer Kim O'Connor. We experienced an outstanding dinner with a special dessert featuring "MPI" written in chocolate. Tim Richardson, CSP, presented a lively program on "Success by Choice, Not Chance." He's been a Platinum Speaker for Meeting Professionals International since 2000 and he shared his engaging and witty ways with the audience. Tim took a microscope to the actions of winners and translated what he's discovered into easy-to-understand principles that you can easily roll into your life. He showed us how to stay focused, as well as taught us how to achieve - and keep a balanced life. 🌐

March Meeting Highlights

The March meeting conducted in Fort Worth was the perfect kick-off for a Easter Holiday weekend. The Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau hosted an outstanding city tour prior to the evening meeting. Several of the Fort Worth planners attended the tour and assisted the Bureau with the tour.

The tour began at the new Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth with lunch at Café Modern. After visiting the Cultural District, the group of about 35 planners and suppliers moved on to the Historic Stockyards to experience everything the Old West has to offer, followed by a reception hosted by Stockyards Station. All the participants were able to network with the Stockyards' partners at the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame before departing for the evening meeting at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel.

The meeting began with a reception at the beautiful Renaissance Worthington



MPI D/FW Chapter member Katha Black and distinguished guest Doug Harmon, President of the Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau "kicked up their heels" with a great conversation during dinner in Fort Worth!



March Program Committee members made the entire day an incredible success for everyone who participated! March Committee Members include: Top from left to right: Doug Harman (President of FWCVB), Barbara Stone (FWCVB), Diane Smith, CMP (Alcon Labs) Front from left to right: Erin Gunter (Renaissance Worthington) Michelle Greeson (Renaissance Worthington) Shari Moore, CMP (Arlington Convention Center) Denise Babineaux (Stockyards Station) Valerie Green (Radio Shack) Gia Staley, CMP (Healthpoint, Ltd.) Bedford Wynne (Wynne Transportation).



EDUCATION NEWS



Lisa Fleischer Margaret Moore

The CMP Quest: Relationships and Resolutions

by Lisa Fleischer and Margaret Moore

When thinking of the hospitality industry there are often two things that always come up right away: Relationships and Resolutions.

It should come as no surprise that we tend to do business with people we like. Most people, especially in our business, find it hard to balance work and personal life. So how do we compensate for that? We often become friends with - develop Relationships with - the people we work with. (This phenomenon makes it so much easier to justify talking shop after work!)

In January 2005, we had the pleasure of attending PEC in San Diego as part of a joint resolution to further our careers by being front and center at the conference to learn more about our profession and meeting industry trends that will affect us. During our conference-going experience at PEC, we discovered we both needed to make a change and fast track our educational development and enhance our professional stature by obtaining our CMP designation.

The two of us proceeded to count how many times in the past we resolved to fill in that long CMP application and study for the exam...it seemed like too much to handle alone. So we decided to rely on and support one another in the steps toward becoming a Certified Meeting Professional. Attending the CMP class and stopping at the CMP booth provided us with a great deal of information that we needed in order to accomplish this task, and we committed at that very moment to press forward and get it done!

So, this became our resolution for the year! Aesthetically, we recognize the word "resolution" is mostly used at the beginning of the year when one resolves to lose 10 pounds or clean out the garage so the car fits! But, what about the Resolutions we make to ourselves every day? Is it the word "Resolution" that makes an idea or task seem so daunting? Maybe, just maybe, if we don't use the word "resolve or resolution" it might be

easier to attain. Either way, we have resolved to stay on course all year! Mainly as it relates to achieving our CMP - so, we are going to fight off the desire to file this one away after a few short weeks and will focus on completing our applications and attending our local MPI Chapter CMP Study Group...as for losing the 10 pounds and cleaning out the garage - we make no promises!!

Fast forward to April 1, where are we now? Margaret and I have stuck to our Resolutions and have already completed our CMP application and have already attended our first DFW Chapter Study Group session. We have committed to see it through to the end, side by side, one step at a time.

I guess you could say that MPI and the meetings industry is now helping to support our ever growing relationship. We will be seeing each other every Monday from mid-February to May at our weekly study sessions. Thanks, MPI and CIC (Convention Industry Council), for sponsoring such a wonderful program that incorporates our industry's hot topics. This information enables us to go back to our offices with the ammunition we need to prove our value within our company and in the industry. Thanks to the DFW Chapter for providing the new up and comers like Margaret and I with such a wonderful support and educational network.

For all of you out there who desire to obtain your CMP, we strongly encourage you to go for it! A word of advice, get a partner to make the journey together...everything is always easier (and more fun) when you do it with a friend. Good luck to you in achieving your resolutions, whether they are to obtain your CMP or to get that garage cleaned out! 🌐

You do not have to have your CMP in order to qualify for the CMM!!

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MPI accepts CMM applications year round.

- Visit http://www.mpiweb.org/education/cmm/app_info.asp to learn more about the process.
- You must be accepted into the program before registering for the next program which occurs October 23-27, 2005 in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada.
- Scholarships are available through the MPI Women's and Multicultural Leadership Initiatives. Visit www.mpiweb.org for more information.



Dana Rhoden,
CMP, CMM

Advancing Women

The MPI D/FW Chapter Women's Leadership Initiative Committee

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR YOUR LIFE, YOUR CAREER, YOUR SUCCESS

by Dana Rhoden, CMP, CMM
Southwest Veterinary Symposium

What is truly important to you? Do you get fulfillment exclusively through work? Do you say you need to spend more time with family and friends but never do? Are you guilty you don't have children and it doesn't bother you? Do you have your finances and your health in shape? How can you change any of this? The recent workshop held on March 11, "Strategic Planning for your Life, Your Career and Your Success" presented by Jane Sanders helped attendees answer these questions and develop a strategic plan to implement those changes.

The Embassy Suites Hotel at the Galleria was host to over 60 men and women for the recent WLI program. Attendees ranged from MPI members to many new faces from other industry organizations and students from Richland College. The full day workshop allowed the participants to learn the tools required to develop a long-range strategic plan for not only their career but their life in general.

Ms Sanders facilitated the workshop that included a comprehensive workbook. The book enabled participants to:

- Access the status of your life, from personal to professional. Areas included assessing the state of your career, family, relationships, health, financial, service and spirituality.
- Identify how your workplace affects home life and how home life affects your work.
- Measure how much time and energy (and money) you give to various aspects of their life in relationship to how much you value each of those same areas.
- Measure and identify your values, passions, natural talents and strengths and how they impact your life and career.
- Identify goals for their life, short term and long-range and the roadmap to make achieve those goals.



Jane Sanders, *Authentic Leadership Resources*

The program included a networking reception the night prior, stretching classes in the morning and a full-day workshop with hot table topic discussions plus the full-day workshop. Attendees were able to receive eye-opening insights of how they limit themselves with their own behavioral patterns and identify the people who hold them back. Attendees also donated unwanted business attire to Attitudes and Attire the chosen charity of this WLI program.



WLI group L-R: M J Calnan (MPI), Sherri Cook, CMP, CMM (WLI); Jane Sanders (speaker), Peg Wolschon, CMP, CTP (WLI Chair), and Magdalena Malczyk (Embassy Suites).

Women's Leadership Initiative presented this program for the DFW Chapter but it was also a test project for MPI Foundation to develop this program for a multiple day retreat with more in-depth learning.

Sponsors included: InterContinental Group for their support of the speaker, the Embassy Suites at the Galleria for the venue.

Personally, this workshop was one of the best learning experiences I have been a part of. I was able to immediately put a plan into action and learn to evaluate my passions and values and put them into perspective. I found it valuable to be able to measure how I prioritize things, yet my life does not reflect how I live it. I suggest everyone consider taking the time to asses your value, time, talents and put your passions into action with a plan. If you don't make a plan, it's just a dream... 🌐



Jim Monroe,
CMP, CSEP

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Date: May 5, 2005

Reception: 6:30pm • Dinner and Program: 7:00pm

Location: Ojeda's Mexican Restaurant 4617 Maple Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75219

Grab your sombrero and mark your calendar to celebrate Cinco de Mayo this year!

The MPI D/FW Chapter Multicultural Initiative Committee proudly offers a new education program of interactive learning.

Be among the first to learn the cultural demographics of the DFW Chapter of MPI. Be entertained and educated, motivated and elevated, bedazzled and amazed, as the Not Quite Ready For Daytime TV Quiz Masters challenge your perceptions of the feisty band of meeting professionals that make up the DFW Chapter.

Our fun and entertaining presentation will serve to introduce the serious educational component of the evening. Dr. Lawana Gladney of Gladney & Associates will be presenting the results of the recent chapter survey focusing on cultural demographics. A short analysis by the Multicultural Initiative Subcommittee will follow under her skillful guidance.

Cost: Members: \$30.00 (JPA funds are available. Access the form from the chapter website)

Guests and Non-Members: \$40.00 Walk-ins: \$45 (on availability only)

Includes: Dinner, education and entertainment (Cash Bar will be available.)

Register by noon, Monday, May 2nd

R.S.V.P. to Jim Monroe, CMP, CSEP, DFWCMI Chair Telephone: 972-296-3336

Mark Your Calendar!

Fifth Annual Asian Festival

Presented by The Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce and The Crow Collection of Asian Art

Date: May 14, 2005

Time: 11:00am - 5:00pm

Location: Annette Strauss Artist Square
1800 Leonard Street in the Arts District
of Downtown Dallas

Complimentary Admission

Lion dances, martial arts, sumo wrestling and Japanese drums will again grace the Annette Strauss Artist Square as a part of the 2005 Asian Festival.

This annual event showcases authentic Asian cuisine, cultural entertainment and activities for children into a daylong festival celebrating the National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

CMP'S AND CMM'S...MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Breakfast of ChaMPions

The Seventh Annual
CMP/CMM Recognition Breakfast
is coming up soon.

- DATE:** Friday, June 3, 2005
- TIME:** Registration: 7:30 am - 8:15 am
Program: 8:15 am - 10:30 am
- LOCATION:** Dallas Marriott Las Colinas,
223 West Las Colinas Blvd., Irving
- EVENT CHAIR:** Dara Hall, CMP - Program Chair
817-267-6698
or dara@espinc-usa.com

Watch your mail for the special invitation!

Have you moved or changed jobs since last year? Please let us know!

Contact Leah Belasco at 972-818-4811 with so we can update your information.

**Chapter Policies Now
Online at
www.mpidfw.org**



New Kids on the Block Welcome to Our Newest Members!

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

- Gloria Sleutel.....Hyatt Regency DFW
Mark Morris.....Brand Advantage
Kimberly Newton.....
Jamie Williams.....Isle of Capri Casino Resort
Patricia Vires.....Aetna
Amy Lyness.....DoubleTree Hotel Dallas
Jeanne Jones.....Richland College
Diane Shearer.....Meeting Professionals Intl
Jean-Paul Valdes.....Society of Petroleum Engineers



Get into the MIX this May!

If you haven't gotten into the MPI MIX—the Meeting Industry eXchange—you're missing out on a powerful new member benefit. Sponsored by the Hilton Family of Hotels through the MPI Foundation, MIX (www.mix.mpiweb.org) is an online resource

equally beneficial to planners and suppliers, new and senior members, individuals and groups. Some of the MIX features include discussion boards, interactive business cards, document sharing, Industry Expert Chats, Online Roundtables, giveaways and more.

As MIX is coming up on its first anniversary and as May is Member Care Month, we want to celebrate by having a contest between our biggest 10 chapters! **From May 1 to May 31, 2005, the 10 biggest chapters will compete to see which one can get the most chapter members logged on to MIX.** Each chapter will use their private area however they like – for collaboration, document sharing, online meetings, and more!

The winning chapter will get a complimentary registration to the 2005 World Education Congress 2005 in Miami. Coinciding with the chapter contest is a sweepstakes that all MPI members may enter once a day for another chance to win a complimentary registration to 2005 WEC!

On May 18, our monthly Industry Expert Chat is with Bruce Christopher on "Dealing with Difficult People," so be sure to log on for that, too. If you have any questions, please email kwade@mpiweb.org.



Leah Belasco
'Grapevine' Columnist

Heard it through the Grapevine!

Pat Hill-Yandell has joined *Houghton Mifflin* as Senior Events Coordinator. Pat previously was with *EventsPlus+ Consulting Associates*.

Laura Hallock has returned to *USA Hosts-Dallas* as Regional Director of Operations.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Vicki Kempe, CMP, on the sudden loss of her husband, Allan, on February 19, 2005.

Congratulations to Jane Richards, Director of Sales & Marketing at *Cowboys Golf Club*! She was recently awarded the 2004 Tournament Salesperson of the Year by Evergreen Alliance Golf LTD. Additionally, of the 31 Evergreen Alliance golf courses throughout the U.S., the Cowboys Golf Club was named the 2004 Number ONE Golf Club of the Year!

Congratulations to Matthew Massengale, DMCP, Senior Program Manager with *Ultimate Ventures*, for recently earning the designation of DMCP (Destination Management Certified Professional). The DMCP designation was established by the Association of Destination Management Executives in order to create impetus for organizational self-improvement and to stimulate a general raising of standards in the destination management industry. Matthew's achievement is especially notable as currently there are only four (4!) DMCP's in the entire state of Texas!

Dvorah A. Evans, CMP, Director of Conventions & Tourism with the *Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce* was recently nominated to serve a second consecutive term on the MPI 2005-2006 International Board of Directors.

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

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