

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

Inside

- Presidents Memo.....2
- PEC Experience.....3
- March Education Events.....4
- March Chapter Meeting.....5
- Supplier Showcase Recap...6
- WEC Committee Info.....7
- JPA Helping.....7
- Swing for a Cause.....9
- Education News.....10
- Membership News.....11
- Grapevine.....11

**For Up-to-date
Chapter Information
& Calendar of Events**

**Log on to
www.mpidfw.org**

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.

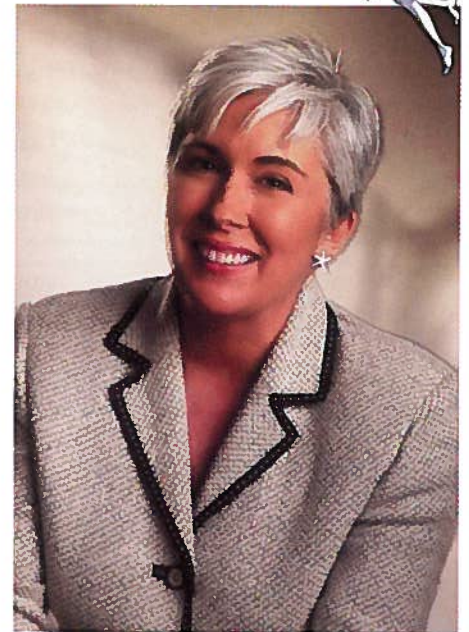
Fairy Tales Help Illustrate Truths About Our Modern Worklife



by Cary Broussard

We're all familiar with fairy tales. Perhaps someone read them to you as a child. Fairy tales are universal and date back generations and literally thousands of years. In actuality, fairy tales, and lessons learned from them, are a common denominator among cultures and therefore have touched almost everyone in the world who is working in business (who was ever a child!).

So how do the lessons of fairy tales apply to your *business life*? Fairy tales teach lessons that apply to *anyone* in any *place* at any *time*. And so these lessons are valid for every woman (and yes, man too) who works. However, women have more opportunities in business than ever before - to succeed and yes, to fail as well. Fairy tales have always been a way for people to share their fears, their beliefs and their stories. But now many of our struggles and dreams relate to our careers. So I've updated these fairy tales to fit the times.



Here is a sampling of some of the chapters in **From Cinderella to CEO** include:

- Cinderella:** Picture Yourself at the Palace and Find a Fairy 'Godmentor'
- Snow White:** Whistle While You Work and Win Loyal Allies
- Little Red Riding Hood:** Stay on the Right Path and You Can Fend Off the Wolf Yourself
- Hansel and Gretel:** Find Your Way through the Forest to a New Job
- The Ugly Duckling:** Paddle Your Way into a Group that Recognizes Your Strengths
- The Red Shoes:** Keep Your Work Life from Spinning out of Control

I believe that framing business lessons with fairy tales also provides an overall opportunity for transformation. Transforming a career and your work life is possible. Most of us won't turn into princesses or be rescued by a prince - far from it. But you can learn to transform your work life in a realistic way that suits **you** - to fulfill your own dreams. In fairy tale terms - **Rescue yourself** from an evil witch or a big bad wolf. This might mean a flex-time arrangement, starting your own business, climbing the corporate ladder, or just doing work that is more fulfilling. Fairy tales teach us about the importance of cultivating allies, and about integrity, persistence, and *survival*. Best of all, these stories show that good can triumph over evil - - even in the business world!

Continues on page 2



President

Tamra Hughston, CMP
Home Interiors & Gifts Inc. • 972-695-1361

Immediate Past President

Melissa S. Logar, CMP
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP • 972-724-2258

President-Elect

Sally A. Goldesberry, CMP, CMM
Society of Petroleum Engineers • 972-952-9380

Vice President of Communications

Jim Monore, CMP, CSEP
James C Monroë & Assoc. • 972-296-3336

Vice President of Education

Stephanie S. Schroeder
Associated Luxury Hotels • 972-312-1153

Vice President of Finance

Nancey Hernandez, CMP
Dallas CVB • 214-571-1052

Vice President of Membership

Tony Cummins, CMP
Independent • 214-343-9644

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director of Advertising

Bob Phillips
Town of Addison • 972-450-6202

Director of Marketing

Lianne J. Pereira, CMP, CMM
Susan G Komen Foundation • 972-855-1676

Director of Member Care

Jan Gillin
PRSM • 972-231-8910

Director of Monthly Programs

Ruth Gallenberg
Embassy Suites Love Field • 214-358-6905

Director of Professional Development

Laura Jordan, CMP
Wyndham International • 214-863-1151

Director of Public Relations

Lawana Gladney, PhD
Gladney & Associates • 972-889-9656

Director of Recruitment

Bedford Wynnne
Wynne Sedan & Limousine • 214-361-6125

Director of Special Events

Terry Ellegood
Freeman Companies • 214-620-9081

Director of Strategic Alliances

David Abadie
Medieval Times • 214-761-1801 x.106

President's Memo



Tamra S. Hughston, CMP
2005-2006 President

Although you are reading this article in the March publication of the CURRENT, I wrote it just one day past our Mid-year Board Retreat, which was held in February. In the January article, I listed a few of the items that your Board of Directors has accomplished so far this year but we were all able to take a proud stand during the retreat as we listed out each accomplishment that benefits all our members. In addition to our list of achievements, we created our list of tasks still yet to be completed. Please rest assured, we are not resting and we have every intention of achieving 100% of our goals. For more information on what your Chapter is planning, you can view our Strategic Business Plan online at www.mpidfw.org. We welcome your ideas, your volunteer efforts and most of all your support.

I, along with many other members have also recently returned from MPI PEC-NA, which was held in Charlotte, NC. There were so many relevant educational offerings that I found it difficult to decide what to attend. No matter what type of conference I attend, I can always judge the quality of the event by the notes I take. I set up a page for work, a page for MPI D/FW Chapter and a page for personal ideas. Any time I'm inspired with a new idea that helps make a difference in any of those areas of my life I believe it creates a more rounded and complete person. I'm able to show the value to my company by bringing back new ideas and new partners that I've made from the tradeshow. The leadership development classes I took as a board member will also be beneficial to me professionally and personally. I appreciated having a time management class to choose from but I've found I just haven't had time to do the exercises prescribed. I do have the notes to reference however so I'm sure I'll get that scheduled sometime in the near future. Maybe during Sally's term.

I encourage you to work toward creating a more rounded and more complete person in yourself over the next few months. Make it your commitment to "not miss a thing." The March meeting is a full education day filled with amazing content that enhances your professional knowledge. April will boast our Annual Golf Tournament but this year on a regularly scheduled meeting day. Yes this will be a fun event but it will also be beneficial to our non-golfer members. Again, you won't want to miss a thing!

Making A Difference!
2005-2006

Fairy Tales...Continued from page 1

When I decided to write my book, I knew that I had an opportunity to share lessons I had both personally learned on my own and those from others, especially as I traveled extensively, developing the Women On Their Way program for Wyndham the last ten years. Working to help establish MPI's Women's Leadership Initiative also gave me great insights and I share some of the findings in the book. So when you're reading your favorite fairy tales to yourself or a loved one - think about yourself as the modern day heroine and know that rising to the top and creating your own version of "happily ever after" is within your reach. 🌐

MPI D/FW Chapter is offering a special educational program at the Hilton Anatole Hotel on Thursday, March 23rd (1:45-4:30 pm), immediately following the monthly program/luncheon. This program "Play It Forward," is complimentary when you register for the March monthly program. Register online at www.mpidfw.org.

Join us for "Cinderella to CEO: Fairy Tale Lessons to Transform Your Work Life" with author Cary Jehl Broussard.

PEC - An Extraordinary Experience

by Sharon Roberts, Roberts & Roberts Associates

PEC - An extraordinary experience! Ask anyone who attended the PEC and get ready to hear all about it, from the networking events to the education sessions. Whatever your need, interest, or level of expertise you were sure to find at least one of the 80 education sessions to be just what you were looking for. The broad array of topics included Business Management, Technology, Sales, Marketing, Communication, and Lifestyle Improvement skills. Everywhere I went people were in animated conversations sharing the ideas, tips, techniques, and strategies they had learned in various sessions that would help them resolve vexing problems, from people to processes.

One of the most popular phrases I heard, "I've learned as much from the people I've met while networking, as I have at the sessions." For many they discovered the new person they were talking with had faced, or knew someone, who had the same or similar challenges. In a flash they were bouncing ideas around, others joined in and so it went, great bunches of new ideas and strategies were bouncing around all over the place. Proving again and again, MPI members are always happy to help. All you have to do is ask.

One of the most exciting topics of conversation was MPI Member Solutions.

"Building a profession will not happen overnight, but with MPI Member Solutions, career paths and lifelong learning for meeting professionals can now begin at the university level and evolve to a position of strategic influence."

"MPI is building a profession of choice and not of chance in which future leaders will be able to choose MPI as their professional home from training through retirement," said Colin Rorrie, Jr., PhD, CAE, president and CEO of MPI.

Available now are three components of MPI Member Solutions, free to MPI members:

MPI Professional Pathways is an online skills assessment and development plan featuring the industry's-first standardized job descriptions for corporate, association and independent planners. The assessments are based on 13 defined skills families and more than 160 skills needed to be successful as a meeting professional driven by the job descriptions.

The self-assessment tool evaluates against all skills and then compares those skills to a job description that best matches a current job or against a job to aspire to in the future. Participants receive three reports as a result of the initial skills assessment: My Gap Report is an analysis of where a member is compared to the industry standard for a particular job he/she is interested in. (The industry standard reflects the benchmark established by the 1,200 planners and suppliers that MPI surveyed to validate job descriptions and skill proficiencies.) My Skills Assessment Recommended Resources, is a report with suggested events, books, articles, news and white papers that address needs identified in the Gap Report. My Job Best Fit will take all responses from the skills assessment and compare it to all jobs in the MPI system, and provide a report of how the member matches up against all jobs.

Go to mpiweb.org today and begin your skills assessment and member profile for MPI Member Solutions.



The MPI D/FW Chapter was represented in full force at the 2006 WEC in January!

Thank you to all the MPI D/FW Chapter members who shared your expertise and insights to assist me in customizing my presentations for the PEC. Thank you!!



All "signs" point to Dallas at PEC in January! Attendees from our chapter created festive signage to promote WEC, taking place in Dallas this July!



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.

CURRENT

Managing Editor

Patty Markley, CMP, DMM Group
(972) 789-5530
patty@groupdmm.com

Copy Editor

Laura Moore, CMP
Lennox Industries, Inc.
laura.moore@lennoxind.com

Newsletter Coordinator/Designer

Dana Conley
PDQ Results Printing

Newsletter Advertising Sales

Matthew Massengale, DMCP
Ultimate Ventures
972-732-8433
matthew@ultimateventures.com

Contributing Columnists

Heard It Through the Grapevine
Leah Belasco

MPI Advancing Women
Peg Wolschon, CMP, CTP
Tenet Healthcare

Contributing Writers

Carol Benavidez, CMP, HelmsBriscoe

Marti Fox, CMP, GlobalGoals

James Monroe, CMP, CSEP
James C. Monroe & Assoc.

Photographer

Jim Woods
J Woods Custom Photography

MPI Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter Office
Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter, PMB 259
7750 North MacArthur Blvd., Suite 120
Irving, TX 75063-7501
www.mpidfw.org

Chapter Administrator

Randie Chames
(972) 869-3836 • Fax: (972) 506-7485
rchames@msn.com

MPI D/FW IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION. ALL ARTICLES ARE SUBJECT FOR EDITING AND/OR REJECTION BASED ON CONTENT.

March 23, 2006 Education Events

PLAY IT FAST...



Patty Markley, CMP

The Amazing Race Hotel School

9:00am - 11:00am

By Patty Markley, CMP

Lace up your sneakers, get out your grooviest warm-up suit and register today to be part of the "Amazing Race" team!

On March 23rd from 9am-11am, join the "Amazing Race" through the Hilton Anatole for the most exciting Hotel School experience you've ever had!

Looking to reacquaint your self with what's really happening behind the scenes in hotels? Or, are you newer to the industry and desiring to pick up useful information that'll make you savvier when working with your hotel partners? No matter how long you've been in the meetings industry, you really can't ever know enough about the ins and outs of working with hoteliers!

Throughout the morning, you'll be a participant gaining hands-on experience as you race through the hotel from task to task performing challenges that force you to think cohesively as a team, collaborate directly with hotel personnel in many departments and be enlightened about the reality of how much time is actually required to complete logistical and/or analytical responsibilities inside the hotel that we may take for granted.

We'll give you the clues! You take on the Challenges, which may include:

- Meeting Space Puzzle
- Assigning Space per the RFP
- Housekeeping Standards 101
- Breakout Room and Setup Maze
- Wicked Weather: A Plan B Logistics Course
- Group Room Rate Math Quiz
- "I Need it Now": A Timed Communications Game
- Manifest Mania
- "I Have a Secret": VIP and Security

...And the cost for this valuable and entertaining morning of education?

FREE! When you register to attend the March monthly program, "Hotel School" is included in your registration fee.

RACE to www.mpidfw.org to sign up for this amazing educational experience!

PLAY IT FORWARD...



Peg Wolschon, CMP

Advancing Women

Women's Leadership Initiative Workshop

'Play it Forward'

1:45pm - 4:30pm



The Women's Leadership Initiative Committee presents "Play It Forward", a self-examination of your professional goals and concrete steps to get where you want to go (beginner to experienced professionals).

The program weaves fairy tales themes into concrete life lessons to transform your work life. You do not have to aspire to be a CEO to benefit from her book or this session. Cary Jehl Broussard will be our featured facilitator at this exciting and interactive workshop to develop your career path.

Cary Jehl Broussard is nationally known for her work in bringing women's groups together and uniting them to share a common focus. She is one of the top advocates for women in diversity and business, and is well known for creating Wyndham's WOMEN ON THEIR WAY® program, credited with improving travel services for women everywhere. Broussard is a sought after speaker on the lecture circuit and has been seen on CNN, ABC, CBS, and NBC. She has also been quoted extensively as an expert on women in business in major newspapers and magazines.

Chapter Meeting • Thursday, March 23, 2006 • 11:00 a.m.

PLAY IT SAFE...

Road Maps to Successful Meetings: Contracts, Legal Liabilities and Negotiations

By Marti Fox, CTC, CMP

Contracts and negotiations: Novices and experienced industry professionals all need to know how. And the best way to learn how is to learn from know Jonathan T. Howe, Esq. I have heard Jonathan speak on several occasions and he continually educates me on the fine art of conducting professional negotiations and creating sound contracts. I always leave with a new trend or detail that makes me a better planner and supplier.



Jonathan T. Howe, Esq

From the beginning of the journey to the end, one of a meeting planner or supplier's most critical responsibilities is negotiating and understanding contracts and legal liabilities. Learn what to include in a request for proposal (RFP), in facility contracts and in supplier contracts.

Gain insight into negotiations - what works, why and how. Jonathan will use case studies and sample contract provisions to ensure that participants gain an understanding of the obligations of both the facility and the organization you represent, such as attrition and cancellation requirements. Emphasis will be placed on how to draft or revise contracts to create a clear and specific road map to a successful meeting.

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

- Gain understanding of the contracting process from the beginning and the legal requirements of a contract and drafting a request for proposal (RFP).
- State the basics of reviewing, drafting and revising a contract.
- State the basics of contract negotiation: what works, what does not work.

Join us at one of Hilton's newest properties, the Hilton Anatole, for this great luncheon program or for a full day of incredible education...all geared to set you down the right path to success.

Morning workshop - Hotel School - This interactive workshop will educate you on the many facets and inter-workings of a hotel, important to the success of any program. (beginner to intermediate professionals)

Luncheon - Sound Contracts and Professional Negotiations

Afternoon workshop - WLI presents Play It Forward, a self-examination of your professional goals and concrete steps to get where you want to go (beginner to experienced professionals)

The March Luncheon Program Committee members are: Marti Fox, CTC, CMP - Chair, *GlobalGoals Inc*; Charlotte Davis, CMP, Co-Chair, *Event Source Professionals, Inc.*; Laurie Carroll, *National Association of Dental Plans* Angela DeLaGarza, *Premier Transportation LLC*; Sherry DeLaGarza, CMP, *MAC Meetings & Events LLC*; Janet Johnston, CMP, *Hilton Anatole*; Kim Reynolds, CMP, *AllianceData*.

Host Facility

The Hilton Anatole Hotel features more than 341,000 square feet of flexible meeting and event space. Space includes the 1,000 seat Stemmons Auditorium, Amphitheatre, six major ballrooms, five board rooms, 76 meeting rooms, three amphitheatres/lecture halls, 9,500 square feet of pre-function/lobby space and the Trinity Exhibition Center which offers more than 128,000 square feet of meeting and exhibit space. The hotel's state-of-the-art West Wing meeting space gives mid-sized groups optimum flexibility with five unique ballrooms offering meeting room divisibility. Additionally, the hotel offers conference services such as audiovisual capabilities, a full-service business center and one of the most sophisticated banquet kitchens in the country.

DIRECTIONS

From D/FW Airport: take Hwy 183 East exit. Follow 183 East to 35E (Stemmons Frwy.) South. Highway 183 East will merge into I-35E. Proceed South on I-35E, past Wycliff Ave, to Market Center Blvd and turn right. Hotel is 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. Hotel is on the right.

From 635 (LBJ Freeway): Proceed West on 635 to the I-35E South exit. Follow I-35E (Stemmons Frwy.) South to the Market Center Blvd. exit. Turn right onto Market Center Blvd. Hotel is on the right.

From the Dallas Tollway: 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.) Hotel is on the right.

Road Maps to Successful Meetings

MPI's PLATINUM series program

Thursday, March 23, 2006

Hilton Anatole

2201 Stemmons Freeway • Dallas, TX 75207
(214) 748-1200 • www.anatole.hilton.com

The morning and afternoon educational seminars are free for MPI members and their guests who register for the monthly luncheon! You may register for the luncheon and the educational seminars at the same time.

9:00 am - 11:00 am	Hotel School Seminar
11:00 am - 11:30 pm	Chapter Orientation
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration & Networking
11:45 am - 12:00 pm	Doors Open
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch and Program
1:45 pm - 4:30 pm	WLI Education Seminar

Parking:

Self-parking is complimentary. Each guest will receive a machine-issued voucher coming into the parking lots. Pick up a Paid voucher at the MPI D/FW Registration Desk - must present both tickets to the parking attendant to receive complimentary parking. Valet parking is an additional charge.

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

Above pricing applies to one, two or all three of the day's events.

(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, March 20th
email: rcharnes@msn.com • fax: 972-506-7485

ON-LINE REGISTRATION PREFERRED

Go to the "Events" section at www.mpidfw.org

The MPI D/FW Supplier Showcase 2006 Highlights

by Terry Ellegood



Richard Pollak (Rainbow Entertainment) kept everyone "entertained" throughout the day announcing all the prize winners!



MPI D/FW Supplier Showcase

The MPI D/FW Supplier Showcase hosted its record number of exhibitors and participants ever this year at the Addison Conference Center on February 23rd.



Our Showcase Sponsor, Las Vegas Convention Authority, was represented by Michael Goldsmith, Mike Tarr and Cathy Hayes. We thank you for the support!

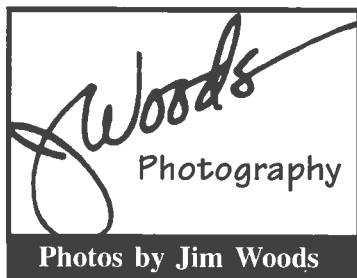


The networking started even before the doors opened to the show!

from their department. They were treated to luxury limousine transportation to the conference center and back to their office after the event. (Thank you to American Limos & Transportation, Premier Transportation and Wynne Transportation.)

With this year's "Round Up 2006" theme, we planned an event that gave our host city Addison the best possible exposure with the suppliers that were exhibiting on the show floor. Arthur's Prime Steaks & Seafood, Chamberlain's Steak & Chop House, Chamberlain's Fish Market Grill and Go Fish were the highlighted specialty restaurants. Additionally, Brinker International showcased three of their fantastic restaurants, Maggiano's Little Italy, Macaroni Grill and On the Border.

A special thank you to Kissimmee Florida and Gatorland for making our event a little more exotic by bringing lots of exciting jungle animals!



A record combined attendance of more than 400 attendees and exhibitors at this year's Showcase has raised the bar for next year to host an even larger, more exciting Showcase! 🌐

We started the morning with an education session that brought more than 50 members to learn about Mind Mapping with Judith Gausnell.

Along with the Addison Restaurant Review, 90 exhibitors joined in for some face to face marketing with Dallas/Fort Worth planners. From all reviews with exhibitors and evaluations, our marketing efforts paid off with a much higher attendance.

An added attraction this year was rewarding the top three companies who brought the most planners



Networking **WORKS**...and it shows, as was evident by the business conversations that took place between our exhibitors and attendees.



WEC Committee Information

MPI WEC - Dallas 2006

Planning for the Dallas WEC, July 9-11, 2006 is in full motion. This is a great opportunity to work with other local meeting professionals at one of the industry's most important conferences. The Hospitality Committee has several different areas that need your expertise. Here is a list of sub-committees and co-chair contacts that need your help. Don't wait to get involved!



Sandy Galloway



Bitsy Burns-Matthes, CMP

The **Airport Committee** is the first point of contact for attendees arriving from around the world. Members of this committee will meet and greet attendees in the baggage claim areas at both DFW International and Love Field.

- Lori Clark - 972-831-7483 Lori.Clark@Bostoncoach.com
- M.T. Hickman, CMP/CTP - 972-238-6097 mthickman@dcccd.edu

The **Hotel Committee** will staff Hospitality Desks in hotels to greet attendees and provide information on our city. If you know your way around Dallas and all the 'hot spots' for dining and shopping, this is the committee for you!

- Wendy Foster, CMP - 817-430-1561 wendyfoster@circlerranch.org
- Wayne K Wallgren - 214-827-3271 w2@w2igo.com

The **Convention Center Committee** is responsible for providing an information/hospitality desk, for helping attendees navigate the convention center and for greeting attendees at our opening night reception. If you are unable to attend the WEC due to financial constraints, but would like to be part of the conference, this is definitely your committee.

- Marti K Fox, CTC/CMP - 972-417-7232 globalgoals@aol.com
- Peg Wolschon, CMP/CTP - 469.893.2151 peg.wolschon@tenethealth.com

The **VIP Committee** will provide 'white glove' treatment to VIP's attending WEC.

- Patty L Stern Markley, CMP - 972-789-5530 patty@groupdmm.com
- Angela DeLaGarza - 214-351-7000 angela1@premierofdallas.com

The **Community Service Committee** has chosen the SPCA of Texas as their project. If you love animals, this is your opportunity to make a difference

- Nancey M Hernandez, CMP - 214-571-1052 nhernandez@dallascvb.com
- Erin Longley, CMP - 972-712-0035 erin@xcelevents.us

JPA Helping...

by Gail Grogan, CMP

My name is Gail Grogan, and I'm a single working mother of 3 small children. During the day I work for an amazing hotel. In the evenings, I am an instructor at one of the local swim schools. Over the past year and nine months, I went through a divorce that made "The War of the Roses" look like a bunch of comatose amateurs.

Amidst this ordeal, I discovered that my 'CMP Recertification File' containing the documentation of my points from activities over the past 5 years had suddenly and mysteriously disappeared from my home office.

Horrified, I realized that I needed points, and I needed them FAST.

The fastest way to earn these points before the CMP recertification deadline was to attend a CIC Conclave...in Canada. Unfortunately, my legal bills amounted to more than most people make in an entire year. I could not possibly afford to pay for that trip on my own.

I stepped JPA. The Jan Pollard Award Committee was formed to offer scholarships to members of our own chapter who need financial assistance to attend industry functions.

My registration fee was generously covered by a scholarship. My employer assisted in covering my hotel accommodations, and I paid for my airfare and bus transfers to and from the meeting.

In December 2005, I received the official word from CIC that my re-certification had been approved. I'm a CMP for another 5 years!

This story not only highlights how ridiculously over paid attorneys can be, but more importantly shows that contributions to the JPA fund help those among us in times of need.

While its laudable to give to worthy charities...and there are many out there, especially today, the JPA funds go to help people in our own community, our own industry...the very same people that you sit across the table from at our monthly luncheons.

I honestly hope that no one else has to go through the hellish situation we endured, however, if they do....I hope they'll find an avenue for assistance much like we found in JPA.

The next time you see a JPA volunteer selling tickets at the monthly luncheon, remember that you really can help, and isn't that what's truly at the heart of hospitality.....helping? 🌐



Passion. It's in everything we do.



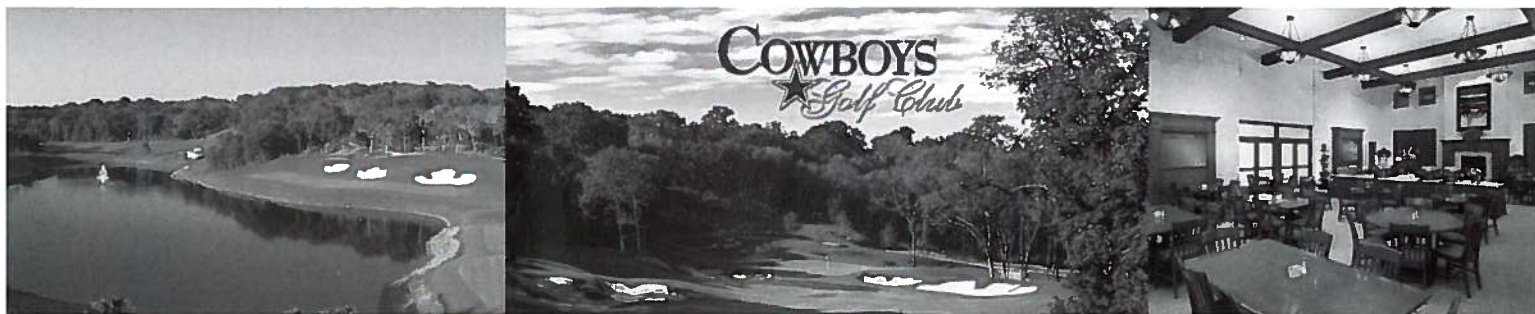
Sol Meliá

HOTELS & RESORTS

Asia • Caribbean • Europe • Latin America • Mexico • USA

To request a group proposal in any of Sol Meliá's 330 hotels & resorts in over 30 countries, call Casimiro Ramirez at 817.563.2522 or casimiro@sol-group.com





*Annual MPI Golf Outing
and Networking Event*



SWING FOR A CAUSE

We are proud to announce the Annual MPI D/FW Golf Outing being held this year at the beautiful Cowboys Golf Club in Grapevine, Texas.

The MPI D/FW Golf Outing is open to players of all skill levels - scratch golfers, occasional duffers and first-timers. Our host facility, Cowboys Golf Club, is the premier resort-style, daily-fee golf course in Texas. Inspired by excellence, an innovative golf and entertainment experience awaits you. As the world's first NFL-themed golf course, this is the ultimate destination for business entertainment, corporate tournaments, and executive meetings and special events. Put together your own team, or register as an individual - but do it now - slots fill up fast.

When: Thursday, April 27, 2006

Where: Cowboys Golf Club

1600 Fairway Drive • Grapevine, TX 76051

817-481-7277

(located just minutes north of DFW Airport off State Hwy. 26)

Forms for registration are available on the chapter website at www.mpidfw.org or by contacting Brandy Gonzales at brandygrl@sbcglobal.net or Jeanne Feuille at jfeuille@spearone.com.

Schedule of Events:

- 11:30am-12:30pm Player Registration, Sponsor Check-in, Box Lunch & Practice Range with Walk-the-line Clinic/Instruction with Cowboys Club Golf Pro at Practice Range
- 1:30pm Shotgun Start
- 6:00pm-8:00pm Awards, Fabulous Door Prizes & Networking Reception

Hole-in-one prize: 2006 Honda FourTrax Rancher Four Wheeler valued at just over \$5,000

Cost per player: \$150 or \$575 for a 4-some (Savings of \$25)

Golf format: 4-player Scramble - Best Ball

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

Not a golfer? Come join us for the Awards and Networking Reception from 6:00-8:00pm.

We are seeking hole/tee box, contest, and beverage cart, and reception sponsors, as well as donations for prizes. For more information, visit the chapter website at www.mpidfw.org or contact Brandy Gonzales at 817-239-7814 or brandygrl@sbcglobal.net.

We hope to see you there!

EDUCATION NEWS



**M.T. Hickman,
CMP, CTP**

Spanish Communication

By M.T. Hickman, CMP, CTP & Bill Reeser, CMP, CTS

- Quita esta mesa, por favor.
- Por Favor pon una cuchara de postre en cada lugar.
- Este plato esta sucio, traeme otro por favor.

Can you communicate your needs to the hotel banquet staff? Many times these individuals only speak Spanish. You hear "No hablo English" again and again. You try to communicate in broken Spanish or draw pictures to show what you want, the efforts are often unsuccessful and lead to more frustration.




**Bill Reeser,
CMP, CTS**

This spring, the Multicultural Committee is planning eight two-hour educational sessions to help you learn Spanish. This class does not start with vowels and constants like a traditional Spanish class. It is designed to help you learn key phrases that you need to be successful in your job. The course is based on a program used to communicate with hotel operations staff and is being customized for MPI D/FW members.

The three sentences at the beginning of this article are:

- Please remove that table.
- Please add a dessert spoon to each place setting.
- This dish is dirty, please get me another one.

If you are interested, please e-mail Monica Salazar at msalazar@spearone.com (Committee chair) or M.T. Hickman at mthickman@dcccd.edu (Co-chair) by March 31st. A minimum of 16 people is needed for the classes to take place and the cost will range from \$75-125 per person (non-member rate will be higher). 

Advancing Women

MPI D/FW Chapter Women's Leadership Initiative Workshop




Laura Jordan, CMP

Amazing Education!

By Laura Jordan, CMP
Director of Global Event Marketing, Wyndham Worldwide
and MPI D/FW Director of Professional Development

Too often we think about exercising our body, but do not forget to give your mind a workout too. I was fortunate to have attended MPI-PEC NA in Charlotte, NC. Since I am planner with a supplier company, my objectives for the conference are two-fold: Communicating all aspects of the conference, from registration, air, hotel, trade show booth, appointments, etc. to ensure that our hotel and national sales associates attending have a productive trade show and conference experience; and to obtain as many continuing education credits/units as I can! Just a few of the amazing sessions I went to were: "You Win or Lose with the Words You Choose: WORDpower for Performance, Teamwork and Customer Service"; "Making APEX Work for You! (Hands-on with the APEX Meeting & Event Toolbox program)"; and "Trends in Event Marketing."

On March 23rd, your Chapter is presenting an amazing day of education and I strongly urge you to attend. The morning will feature Hotel School with an "Amazing Race" through the Hilton Anatole. The Luncheon program will feature Jonathan Howe, Esq., who will help us gain a better understanding of the contracting process from the beginning and the legal requirements of a contract and drafting an RFP. In the afternoon, the Women's Leadership Initiative is presenting "Play It Forward", a workshop that will help you focus on your personal and career goals in a way that is interesting, simple and fun! The workshop features Cary Jehl Broussard, author of "From Cinderella To Ceo: How To Master The 10 Lessons Of Fairy Tales To Transform Your Work Life." You must register for the Luncheon program in order to attend one or both of the complimentary morning and afternoon sessions. Hope to see you there! 

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Jan Gillin
Director, Member Care

2006 Member Needs Assessment

Coming soon! The MPI D/FW Chapter Membership Committee is currently working on the development of the 2006 Member Needs Assessment. Your Chapter Board of Directors and

Committees are committed to providing the very best in education, networking, and member services. The Member Needs Assessment is your opportunity to provide valuable feedback that will be used to enrich your MPI experience.

Focus groups are underway now, and it is anticipated that the Assessment will be conducted in late April or early May. Additional notifications will be sent as we approach the launch date. Your participation is the single most important element of a successful assessment program. More to come....



Tony Cummins, CMP
VP of Membership

Lone Star Challenge Update!

SUBMIT POINTS NOW!

Now is the time to submit your points for The Lone Star Challenge. The person with the most points as of March 31, 2006 will win a free registration to MPI's World Education

Conference (WEC) here in Dallas in July 2006. There will also be a random drawing for an overnight stay at Embassy Suites Frisco. Point tracking forms are online at www.mpidfw.org. Completed forms should be faxed to Tony Cummins, CMP at 214-594-9444. Have questions or need help? Contact Tony at tcummins.mpi@swbell.net.



TEMM Luncheon & Silent Auction

Wednesday, April 6, 2006

Mark your calendar and Support our Richland students!!

TEMM New Frontiers Luncheon and Silent Auction
Benefiting TEMM program at Richland College

11:00 am - 2:00 pm City Place

Cost \$ 35.00 per person

Guest Speaker: Jake Billingsly, Survivor Celebrity and Speaker

For tickets or to sponsor students attending: contact M.T. Hickman for more details at 972-238-6097 or mthickman@dccc.edu



Leah Belasco
'Grapevine' Columnist

Heard it through the Grapevine!

Cathy Bullard has changed from western wear at *Gilley's* to professional dress at *Bring It On! Dallas Destination Management Company* as Accounts Manager.

Ruth Bilbo is National Accounts Manager at *The Adolphus*. Ruth previously was with *DoubleTree Campbell Center*.

Congratulations to *Ultimate Ventures! Matthew Massengale, DMCP*, announces that *Ultimate Ventures* was recently named one of the "TOP 50" women business enterprises in Texas by *Women's Enterprise Texas* magazine. Also, for the second year in a row, *Ultimate Ventures* was named one of the top destination management companies in the industry by *Special Events* magazine.

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

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.

Leanne Osborn.....eWomenNetwork, Inc
Susan A. Rosenbluth.....Christus Health
Alyson E. Farmer, CMP.....Fort Worth Sister Cities International
Amy E. Porter.....Hilton Sandestin Resort
Jessica L. Furlow.....Las Colinas Country Club
Andrea M. Quevedo.....Las Colinas Country Club
Claudia N. Stephenson.....Freeman
Teri C. Courson, CMP.....Ultimate Ventures
Jackie L. Brinkley.....Adam's Mark Hotel
Wade Rosenburg.....Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Becky Hartgraves.....Perot Systems
Gary Pace.....Dallas Show Services
Brooke Hess.....HOME
Linda Briggs.....HOME
Tina Crawford.....Stimulys Performance Marketing
Dana A. Lodge.....Trail Dust Steak House
Cynthia L. Marion.....VT2 Media Design and Communications



www.mpidfw.org

Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter
PMB 259

7750 North MacArthur Blvd., Suite 120
Irving, TX 75063-7501

PRE-SORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DALLAS, TX
PERMIT NO. 1930

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

YOU MAKE THE PLANS. WE'LL MAKE THEM EASIER.



Photo by Murray Images Photobooks

Photo by Murray Images Photobooks

Planning the perfect meeting is no simple task. Addison makes it easier. Everything you need is right here, just minutes north of Dallas. Addison boasts more than 4,000 hotel rooms (economy to luxury), 180,000 square feet of meeting space, more than 170 restaurants for every taste, and the finest shopping in Dallas.

Our Addison Circle Park, "a conference center without a roof," offers 10 beautifully landscaped acres that are perfectly suited to virtually any type of event.

And Addison is just a short drive from DFW and Love Field airports, making us a convenient destination for out-of-town guests.

Best of all, we'll help you locate and plan everything needed to make your next meeting a success. To coordinate your next Addison event or to order a free Addison Meeting Planners Guide, please call us today and discover how Addison makes all the details come together!

Blueprints Sculpture at Addison Circle

Addison!

addisontexas.net
1.800.ADDISON