



MICHIGAN
CHAPTER

June, 2019 Newsletter

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Welcome New Members



This month we'd like to welcome Maureen Leonard, Chris Hiaeshutter, Melisa Lincoln, Courtney Wood, CMP and Michelle Yurcak to our membership. Hope to see you at a meeting soon!

Ask a CMP!

Member Spotlight



Alanna Klomp, CMP, has been with the West Michigan Whitecaps, a minor league affiliate of the Detroit Tigers, for 19 years. She has held numerous positions with the baseball club and is currently the Corporate Event Sales Manager. Her primary responsibilities include selling the more than 100 non-baseball events, such as company picnics, meetings, trade shows, training seminars, holiday parties and weddings, that occur at the ballpark. When she is not selling events at the ballpark she is planning events off-site for both the West Michigan Whitecaps and the Whitecaps Community Foundation. Events include the Foundation's annual Fundraising Banquet and Golf Outing as well as the 2014 Midwest League All-Star Game Reception and various private parties.

Alanna has been Director of Education for 2 years, Vice President of Education for 1 year, President Elect for 1 year and is currently serving as President for the Michigan Chapter. She loves spending time with her husband Rich and two children, Izzy and Nathan. Together they enjoy traveling and outdoor activities such as kayaking, hiking and camping. In her



This month, we spoke to CMP member Kristina Buckenberger.

Question: What is your #1 tip for other meeting planners?

Answer: In an age where technology can overpower how we communicate with vendors, suppliers, partners and co-workers, it is important to make time for face-to-face, telephonic or personal conversations. Building and maintaining strong relationships takes time and effort, even though email is some-times the quick answer and time-saver.

Pick of the Gallery



The MPI Michigan Chapter
2019/2020 Board

spare time she volunteers at her kids' school, Frontline Community Church co-leading a leadership class and for Kids Food Basket. Her hobbies include photography, baking, knitting and exercising.

What you Need to Know



MPI is thrilled to now offer **Corporate Memberships!**

MPI Corporate Memberships offer businesses with multiple meeting and event professionals on staff discounts on annual Preferred-level membership. All memberships will maintain the same renewal date and are owned by the company. Benefits include transferable memberships within the company, single invoicing, one transaction fee for all members within the company, registration discounts and eligibility to serve on the local MPI board (career support / growth)! Intrigued? Please contact [Karalee McKinstry](#), VP Membership, with questions.

Just Around The Corner



Mark your calendars for our next meeting, **September 19** at The DoubleTree in Bay City! This will be the first meeting of the MPI year and it will be a great kickoff you won't want to miss. Details to follow; registration will be open soon.

Conversations with Members



We spoke to MPI MI member Lindsey Brown for her feedback on the Women in Leadership Course held in April: "The Women in Leadership Course was a unique approach to discussing the topic of developing women leaders in the

workplace. The speaker was extremely engaging and took an interactive approach to the course, which makes the Michigan MPI educational offerings different from others. I loved how involved the attendees were and how everyone discovered their leadership traits, answered live survey questions, discussed case studies and openly talked about debatable topics in a friendly and respectful way. I feel like the knowledge I gained will be very beneficial to my career!"

Meet the new Board!

The 2019/2020 MPI Michigan Chapter board was recently sworn in at the annual awards gala Celebration! Meet your new Board of Directors, willing and eager to provide you with your best ever MPI MI membership experience:

President - Alanna Klomp, CMP; **President-elect** - Julie Oatman, CMP; **VP Membership** - Karalee McKinstry; **VP Education** - Terra Damchuk; **VP Communications** - Kristina Kauffman, CTA; **VP Finance** - Maryellen Jansen, CMP, CTA; **VP Leadership Development** - Debbie Hughes, CMP; **Director of Social Media** - Jennifer Berkemeier; **Director of Monthly Programs** - Jennifer Moeckel, CMP; **Director of Strategic Partnerships** - Roni Rogers, CMP; **Director of Membership Care** - Brie Kear; **Director of Regional Conference** - Nick Stratton; **Director of Fundraising and Special Events** - Sonja Wood, CMP, CTA, GMS

Questions? info@mpimichapter.org

Website: <https://www.mpiweb.org/michigan>

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