

# SACRAMENTO/SIERRA NEVADA CHAPTER

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

# CONNECTS

The Quarterly Newsletter for the Sacramento/Sierra Nevada Chapter of Meeting Professionals International Volume 30, Issue 5 • Fall 2015



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# As the Sun Comes up over Raley Field

Did you attend the September 15th workshop session, luncheon and awards presentation? If you did, wasn't it great? if you didn't here is a recap!

What a great venue to hold workshop and luncheon - the newly built Raley Field's Legacy Club. Our program sponsor was Sonoma County Tourism! We were joined by Paula Johnson, CMP, CTA, Director of Group Sales and many of her hotel partners - thank you so much. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Our workshop and luncheon presentations were incredible and presented by Corbin Ball. Corbin's workshop focused on meetings and tradeshow automation and his luncheon presentation was on the paperless conference binders! Both were great - thank you Corbin!



Longevity pins were also presented and congratulations to Lynda Sagar (10 years), MaryAnne Bobrow (15 years) and Cheryl Cox (30 years)!



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The Crystal Platter, Rising Star and the Chapter Leader of the Year awards were also presented at the MPISSN Education Luncheon on September 15, 2015. The awards committee takes a great deal of time and effort in determining the winners of these meaningful awards for all the hard work and dedication each has demonstrated in our chapter and the meeting industry.

# **Crystal Platter Award**

This award recognizes the most outstanding venue in the area of facility, service, and food and beverage that hosted a monthly luncheon meeting. All of our hosts go far above and beyond the norm to help ensure the success of our meetings. This award was developed to call attention to their dedication and sponsorship of our Chapter.

### Winner: Arden Hills

Robin Rinehart accepted the award on behalf of Arden Hills. Arden Hills hosted our March Trade Show and Workshop this year. Arden Hills is the only wellness resort of its kind in the region. Setting the standard for wellness in the Sacramento area, Arden Hills has been at the forefront of inspiring young and old to embrace a vibrant life since 1954.

# <u>Rena McDonald – Rising Star Award</u>

This award recognizes a member who has devoted significant time and effort to the organization, but has yet to attain a leadership status. It is these devoted members who will become the future leaders of MPI-Sacramento/Sierra Nevada.

### Winner: Rich Heitke

Rich went above and beyond his role as the Public Relations Chair this year. He always got his job done and then he volunteered and stepped up to help others. He attends almost all events and has such a positive attitude. His dedication and enthusiasm to the chapter were the reasons why he was presented with this award.

# **Chapter Leader of the Year Award**

The purpose of the Chapter Leader of the Year Award is to recognize the local commitment and outstanding service of a chapter member.

### Winner: Lynda Sagar, Sales Manager, Sheraton Grand Sacramento

Lynda's dedication and leadership as the VP of Membership has been outstanding. Lynda and her team have done a great job in recruiting new members and retaining our current members which leads to good growth for our association. Lynda has made a point at each chapter event to introduce herself to new members and guests to help them feel comfortable and welcomed. B efore Lynda was VP of Membership she served as chair/co-chair for the Member Retention & Recruitment Committee, Awards Committee and Public Relations Committee and she also served as a committee member on various other committees prior to her roles as chair. We are honored to recognize Lynda as a Chapter Leader.







# President's Message

#### Hello MPISSN Members:

Once upon a time, a long long time ago (30 years ago to be exact) a group of passionate meeting professionals from the sleepy government town of Sacramento, CA were tired of making the journey to San Francisco every couple of months to meet and learn from other industry professionals.

A core group of people (mostly Suppliers) emerged and hoisted up their leader, Marilyn Hauck, to show them to the promised land - An MPI Charter. In June of 1985, after lots of hard work, the Sacramento/Sierra Nevada Chapter of MPI was chartered with 52 members.

I am thrilled to step into the role as Chapter President during this special 30 Year celebration. This year's Annual Gala was the perfect way to kick off the party. We had an amazing turn out with over 200 friends, members and most of our Past Presidents. It was definitely a memorable evening. If you missed it, visit our Annual Gala page and watch the short video recap.



Our recent Past Presidents' and their leadership team have done a lot to leave this chapter in a good place. Our satisfaction scores are higher than they have been in years and membership growth is on the rebound. As I mentioned at the podium during Annual Event, my main goal moving forward will be on membership growth and engagement. The growth will be focused on meeting planners. In the first two months of the year, we have already recruited 15 new members, 13 of which are planners! (To let me know that you are reading our newsletter, email me with the number of new members that have joined our chapter the last two months for a chance to win a fabulous prize!) We just rolled out a membership drive, so please help us grow this chapter! More information can be found on the membership drive in this newsletter. Once we have these new members, we need to have a strategic onboarding process in place to get them engaged. If we can hook them early, they WILL renew. Suppliers will see our growth of active members and redirect their marketing dollars back into our chapter. Ambitious? Maybe...But I feel we have the team to do this and as long as we keep membership front of mind – we will grow!

Be sure to check out our upcoming educational offerings and register to walk with team MPISSN at the Walk to End Alzheimer's, October 3.

I'd like to hear from you. If you have any questions about our chapter, feedback or interested in becoming more involved, please email or call me at any time. My cell phone number is 916.919.3426

Thank you,

Jeff Dougherty
MPI Sacramento/Sierra Nevada President 2015-2016

### Volunteer with us!

Link HERE to download MPISSN's volunteer a la' carte menu. See a range of opportunities that may be a perfect fit for you talents and available time.

Join a committee, get involved and make things happen for your profession and your career. Email President-Elect Felicia Price, CMP at fprice@aging.org with any questions.

Meet people, make connections and HAVE FUN!









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- Jessie Korosec, Meeting and Event Manager, Equipment and Tool Institute



# WEC 2015 Recap San Francisco, August 1-4

by Jennifer Flohr, CAE, CMP, Past President

MPI's World Education Congress came to San Francisco last month and what an event it was!

Many of our board members attended the chapter leader's education on Saturday. The Chapter Leaders Forum included breakout workshops to help chapter leaders in their specific leadership position, whether it be communications, educational programming or overall leadership. The forum ended with roundtable sessions where attendees could discuss successes and best practices with other chapter leaders from around the world. The forum also included general sessions to motivate chapter leaders and update them on changes from MPI Global.

Saturday night was the opening reception. An all California Chapter reception was held at Pedro's across from AT&T & Park.



It was well attended and a lot of networking was done prior to the official opening reception at Pier 48. The opening reception was a feast for the eyes and body. We experienced exceptional cuisines and libations in a fun, comfortable atmosphere at one of the most unique venues in San Francisco. A whole warehouse was transformed into a vintage type circus atmosphere with performers and acts continuously going on as well as a band performing.

Sunday there was a great general session entitled The Edge of the Modern Frontier presented by James Curleigh, President of the Levi's® Brand (and Executive Vice President of Levi Strauss & Co.) He spoke about the essential balance between leveraging authenticity with icons like Levi's 501 and at the same time creating excitement with new innovative solutions for today's lifestyle. He challenged us to think about what is next for our modern frontier.



Robert Best & John Mourelatos
Photo Credit: Express Event Imaging Curtis Tarpley

New this year was the general session was held over brunch and then we went on to a full afternoon of education sessions to choose from. One speaker who spoke to our chapter a few years ago was Your Nerdy Best Friend, Beth Z. She presented a few sessions, one being *A Day in the Life of a Nerdy Meeting Planner*. Her sessions included the scoop on some of the latest social media apps and new trends in how to create a more appealing visual for your target audience for a small price. She also offers "Friday Nerd Words" that go out every Friday with a brief overview of a nerdy tip we may want to practice.



Sunday night the MPI Foundation and presenting sponsors Caesars Entertainment, Hilton Worldwide and Encore Event Technologies hosted a spectacular night of networking exclusively produced for attendees of WEC called the Big Deal. There was something for everyone; gaming tables, life size games, delicious desserts, and dancing. And we had fun cheering on many of our members who were hosted to have a seat at the night's poker game. WEC 2015 attendees played to win the ultimate prize: A seat valued at \$10,000 and a chance to win millions at the 2016 Main Event in Las Vegas. Our very own past-president Kellie Schroder came in fourth! Nice job Kellie!



Monday's FlashPoint Idea general session featured three very different speakers who delivered insights on the trending topic of the sharing economy, why it is gaining momentum and its impact on the meetings & events industry as we know it. First was *The Collaborative Economy* with Jeremiah Owyang, then *The Peer-to-Peer Economy: Who Said People Wouldn't Sleep on Couches?* with Evelyne White and finally, *To Airbnb or Not To Airbnb? That is the Question* with Chip Conley. Monday was a day filled with many concurrent education sessions to pick from, as well as evening dinners, networking and receptions to attend.

One of Monday's largest events was the MPI Foundation's Rendezvous, held at The Fillmore. Even though it was additional fee, many of our members were able to attend and they were glad they did – what a treat!

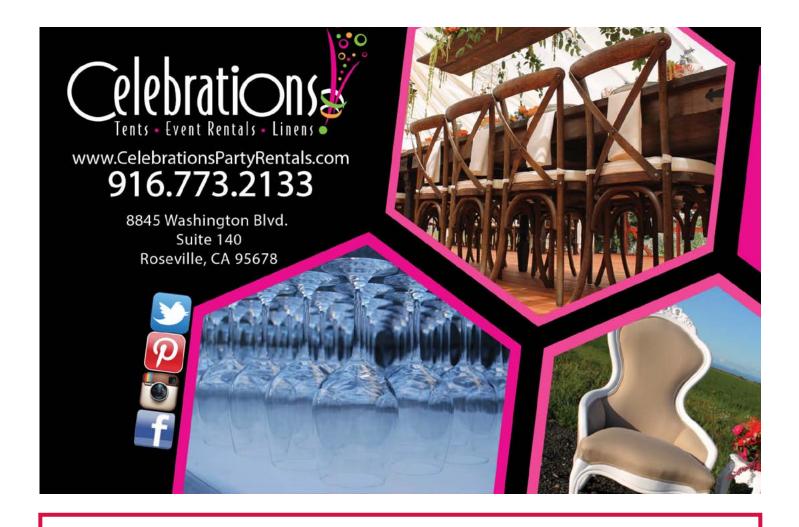
We stepped into one of the most historic music venues in San Francisco, *The Fillmore*, and were taken back in time to the tunes of the 1980s with a live performance by The Spazmatics. There was non-stop dancing and singing with many dressed in 80's outfits. Team San Jose provided headbands, fanny packs and glow-in-the dark jewelry to get everyone in the mood!





Tuesday was another full morning of education including a general session which was presented in MPI's popular Flash Point Idea Assembly format. Featured were three very different speakers sharing their knowledge, experience and insight. Each speaker had 15 minutes; From Homeless to Harvard with Liz Murray, Composing your World, Writing New Music in Your Industry with Kai Kight, and Getting to the Truth with Pamela Meyer.

On Tuesday at WEC 2016 Preview Lunch it was announced that next year's WEC will in Atlantic City at the all-new Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center, June 11-14, 2016. Food Network Star, chef and television personality Guy Fieri graced the stage with his dynamite enthusiasm to introduce the menu items, while showcasing the culinary culture of Atlantic City and the Jersey Shore. The lunch wrapped up with the Tony Award-winning musical Jersey Boys as they perform their hit songs, "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Walk Like A Man" and many more.



# **Your Education Committee is Working Hard!**

The Education Committee is planning great education topics for the new fiscal year: technology workshops and hands-on training; food and beverage trends; an interactive hotel contracts/negotiation discussion; experiential meeting design; and more!

Check our Tuesday Weekly News & Announcements and www.mpissn.org for details.

# **SAVE THE DATE - UPCOMING MPISSN EVENTS**

October 13 - Cocktails, Coffee & Content

November 17 - Education Luncheon

**December 3** - CalSAE Seasonal Spectacular with MPISSN Education Breakout

**January 27** - Crab Feed

February 16 - Education Luncheon

March 15 - Tradeshow and Education Workshop

**April 14** - Sip & Swirl Member Appreciation Event

June 7 - MPISSN Annual Gala & Auction

# **MPISSN 2015-16 Leadership Team**

# **Introducing your 2015-2016 MPISSN Board:**



Jeff Dougherty President



Jennifer Flohr, CAE, CMP Immediate Past President



Mary Cook, CMP VP Finance



Jenn Wheaton VP Special Events



Felicia Price President-Elect



Marcia Durst VP Education



Lyndar Sagar VP Communications



Michael Hutchings VP Membership



There are still chair positions open - interested in getting involved as a committee chair or co-chair? Contact Jeff Dougherty at <u>idougherty@visitsacramento.com</u> for more information.



# **MEETING AND EVENT PLANNING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

Classes begin September 2015

When a meeting or event is well planned, you know it. Registration, program, meals, room set up – all aspects function as desired. If the unexpected occurs, it's well handled. Let this be your experience by learning the necessary skills to run a successful event through the Meeting and Event Planning certificate program. The program provides industry benchmarks for trends and practices as well as new information on current technology, applications, and techniques. The program equips newcomers with the tools necessary to succeed in the business and offers current professionals new information and training.

To register or learn more about this certificate program, please visit: www.cce.csus.edu/MEP

Or give us a call: (916) 278-4822

# **MPISSN Joins the Ranks of CMP Preferred Providers**



The MPI Sacramento Sierra Nevada Chapter has acquired The Convention Industry Council's Preferred Provider Status for meetings industry education.

As meeting professionals, we're always managing dozens of details at once. Now you can take tracking CMP continuing education units off your to-do list. Whether you're an aspiring CPM accumulating enough units to qualify for the exam, or you've already earned your CMP and are working toward recertification, when you attend MPISSN pre-qualified education programs, your credit hours are automatically entered into your CIC's online account and you have confidence that they will apply toward your goals. No tracking down proof of registration, saving documents, or determining which domain area to apply required.

# **Important Notes**

Be sure to register for preapproved sessions using the same email address as your CIC online account. All current CMP's have an existing CIC account and aspiring CMP's can set one up at <a href="http://www.conventionindustry.org/CMP/AccessYourAccount.aspx">http://www.conventionindustry.org/CMP/AccessYourAccount.aspx</a>.

Programs meeting the requirements for continuing education credit will be identified with the CMP Preferred Provider logo and will include the number of credits attendees will receive for participating. Due to approval lead times, registration for programs will often open without pre-approval. In those cases, you'll see the statement "This program has been submitted to the Convention Industry Council for CMP Preferred Provider review."

CIC is committed to providing education that aligns with one of the 10 domains included in the CMP International Standards (CMP-IS). The CMP- IS domains are: Strategic Planning, Project Management, Risk Management, Financial Management, Human Resources, Stakeholder Management, Meeting or Event Design, Site Management, Marketing and Professionalism.

Programs offered by CSAE that meet the requires for CMP continuing will be identified with the CMP Check Logo. For more information about the CMP credential or CMP Preferred Provider Program, please visit <a href="https://www.conventionindustry.org">www.conventionindustry.org</a>.

# **Volunteer of the Quarter**

by Felicia Price, CMP, LeadingAge California

Congratulations to our Volunteer of the Quarter *Louise "Lu-Lu" Ramos*, Contract and Budget Analyst/ International Delegation Meeting Coordinator with CalRecycle. Lu-Lu serves as the MPISSN Membership Recruitment Chair. She has been hard at work recruiting new members for the Chapter and making sure they get connected right away. Since July 1, the Chapter has garnered 16 new members! Jeff Dougherty, MPISSN Chapter President says, "Lu-lu has gone above and beyond the call of duty by helping to revamp much of our recruitment collateral, organizing our recruitment campaign and by representing and supporting the VP of Membership and the Committee. A fun little fact about Lu-Lu is she was a junior in high school when she put together her first meeting at the Woodlake Inn, now the Red Lion Hotel Woodlake Sacramento.

We asked LuLu some questions, and here is what she said...

# Why do you volunteer for MPISSN?

People are the heart of any association and building a strong organization starts with recruitment. I enjoy a great challenge; Chairing Membership Recruitment is just that. I felt this was a good opportunity to expand upon my leadership skills.



I have been a member for 11 months

# What would you consider your most interesting job skill?

Networking with individuals of diverse background, learning about their culture and welcoming them into our culture.

# What excites you about the meeting planning industry today?

Seeing the perspective of the different generations and how they interact. How far the industry has progressed in technology and social events (the WOW factor).

### What do you like to do in your free time?

Laughing, what free time? I am an active volunteer with the San Pedro Association (a Portuguese association) where I am co-chair of their yearly silent auction and fundraising, this ties me back to my culture. I enjoy antiquing, spending time on the East Coast with friends and of course spending time with my close knit family.

# Thank you Lu-Lu! The enthusiasm with which you volunteer and your support of the Chapter is contagious!

If you would like to volunteer and have a lot of fun, contact President-Elect Felicia Price, CMP at <a href="mailto:fprice@aging.org">fprice@aging.org</a> or 916.469.3370. View our "Volunteer Your Way" A la carte Volunteer Menu.

# Link In and Move Forward With MPISSN Membership Challenge

The Recruitment Team is excited to announce the "Link In and Move Forward with MPISSN" Membership Challenge.

It will work hand in hand with MPI's Grow More, Earn More 2015 Campaign. The goal is to grow our chapter and earn more incentives. Our bench mark is 169 (number of members we had as of July 1, 2015). Our challenge will run from July 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015. At that point MPI headquarters will calculate our chapter's net growth and will pay out \$75 for each member our chapter has grown by.

Our goal is to recruit 25 new members by December 31, 2015. The challenge is off to a great start, as of August 25th our chapter has recruited 15 new members.

The Membership Team challenges each member of our chapter to recruit new members between now and the end of December 2015. As an incentive, for every two new members (can also be a combination of a new member and an affiliate member) you recruit during this challenge you will receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card.

If you have any questions regarding recruitment please contact Lu-Lu Ramos, Membership Recruitment Chair @ sactolulu2@gmail.com.



# SACRAMENTO/SIERRA NEVADA CHAPTER

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL



ABC, ASCAP and Working with Food Trucks. What you always wanted to know, but were afraid to ask.



October 13, 2015 | 5:30 p.m. Old Soul Coffee 1716 L Street

# **Chapter Education Highlights**

#### October 13

Now's the time to ask those nagging questions you've always had about ABC permitting, music licensing and working with food trucks, but were afraid to ask. The first Cocktails, Coffee and Content gathering of the chapter year will be October 13, 5:30-6:30 pm at Old Soul Coffee at 1716 L Street. This free, no-host event is a casual way to hone your knowledge of regulatory requirements in a facilitated roundtable discussion format. No pre-registration required!

SAVE THESE DATES – Registration Opens Soon

#### **November 17**

Workshop & Lunch

Behind the Curtain: How Hoteliers Evaluate your RFPs

Ever wonder why you only get a handful of replies to your RFP? Take a peek "behind the curtain" of the hotel sales and revenue management departments and gain insight into the real conversations venues have about potential business during this pre-lunch workshop at the Center at 2300. Registration and details coming soon!

### **December 3**

MPISSN & CalSAE Joint Education at Seasonal Spectacular

MPISSN is partnering once again with CalSAE to bring a nationally recognized legal expert to our area for 90 minutes of intensive conversation about some the most troubling contract issues facing planners today.

Did you Hear the One about..? Good Contracting Intentions Gone Wrong.

Avoid costly contracting mistakes made by others by reviewing scenarios of agreements that didn't accomplish what organizers intended. Attrition, walking, rate protection, boycotts, cancellation and more: we know what we're trying to avoid, but are the contracts we're signing accomplishing these goals? Learn how to define objectives and successfully negotiate language that will produce the outcomes you're looking for.

About the Speaker

### Steven Rudner, Esq

Meetings and Conventions magazine has recently referred to Steven Rudner as "one of the most respected meetings-industry attorneys." Rudner's creative approach to legal issues has twice captured the attention of The Wall Street Journal, and has made him one of the most popular speakers on issues of concern to the hospitality industry.

Have your MPI membership number ready to receive the member rate when registering at CalSAE.org.

# We Need Your Support!

by Robert Best, Community Service Chair

The board of directors for MPI Sacramento/Sierra Nevada Chapter has selected the Alzheimer's Association, Northern California and Northern Nevada Chapter as the beneficiary of its charitable efforts and fundraising in the 2015-2016 program, this year.

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a progressive, degenerative disease that attacks the brain, resulting in impaired memory, thinking, and behavior. It gradually strips people of their mental and physical capabilities, robs them of their identities, and eventually renders them in need of round the clock care for all of their needs. Alzheimer's is the fifth leading cause of death in California and the only one of the top 10 leading causes of death in the country for which there is no way of preventing it, curing it or even slowing it down. There are almost 600,000 Californians living with Alzheimer's who are supported by over 1.5 million unpaid caregivers. These numbers are set to grow by 42 percent over the next 10 years, unless we can help find a way to stop/slow the progression of this disease.

Join MPISSN as we lend a hand and raise some funds in the coming year in support of the Alzheimer's Association. Our first opportunity to assist will be at the September luncheon. There will be opportunities to sign up to volunteer, opportunities to donate and opportunities to register for events. The next opportunity is that we have to support the Alzheimer's Association is with their annual walk at the state capital on Saturday, October 3.

Approximately 90 percent of the Alzheimer's Association funds come from individual donors through a variety of channels. The other 10 percent of their funding comes primarily from grants and corporate donations. The Walk to End Alzheimer's is one of two signature fundraising events for the Alzheimer's Association. The Sacramento Walk to End Alzheimer's will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2015, at the State Capitol (south



steps). Meeting Professionals International Sacramento Sierra Nevada is proud to have formed a team and members are encouraged to participate. Here are a few ways to get involved:

- Join our team and participate
- Donate to our team
- Volunteer at the Walk (or to help with the planning)

One family the Alzheimer's Association has served in Placer County involves a woman with mid to late stage Alzheimer's, who is being cared for at home by her husband and son. The son attends two of their caregiver support groups in Roseville. He has also attended the annual conference, education programs and has called the Helpline for assistance with challenging situations. The wife now requires a great deal of personal care, which puts emotional and physical stress on both caregivers, who do not have the resources to hire outside care. Besides providing education and support, the Alzheimer's Association provided a small Respite Grant to help them secure assistance.

The vast majority of services provided by the Alzheimer's Association are free, thanks to the generous donations of many in our community. Now is our chance to help support those in our community who are impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementias, while also helping to seek an end to this devastating group of diseases. SO...Please visit the Alzheimer's Association website <a href="http://act.alz.org/goto/mpissn">http://act.alz.org/goto/mpissn</a> to sign up for the walk and register under the "MPISSN" team so we can show our support, as the strong and caring group that we are.

Let go walk together, let's move forward together and let's make a difference! It's going to be fun, exhilarating and a little exercise that we all can use.

# IN THE KNOW

by Jeff Dougherty, Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau

# **Travel Industry**

# Transportation

Airports and airlines are turning to social media to keep air passengers updated on flight information. The results of the latest Airport IT Trends Survey by SITA found that 30 percent of airports used social media to improve customer relations in 2014. That number is expected to rise to 40 percent by 2017. Athens International Airport recently launched its messenger service – ATH Messenger – which delivers flight information via Facebook Messenger and KLM ran a campaign last fall called #HappytoHelp, using Twitter to answer questions or concerns from the airline's passengers. Future Travel Experience, 7/22/15

According to the 2016 Global Travel Price Outlook report, while most regions around the world will see only modest increases in meeting costs and sizes next year, North America can expect to see a 4-5 percent increase in cost per attendee per day due primarily to food and beverage pressures. GBTA.org, 7/21/15

#### **Our Neck of the Woods**

#### **Events**

A series of high-profile sporting events in Sacramento in May drove hotel occupancy to 80.6 percent, up from 74.7 percent in May 2014. The month started with the nationally-televised Bassmaster Elite Series, then the Amgen Tour of California, and ended with the NCAA Division I Women's Rowing National Championships at the Sacramento State Aquatic Center. Average hotel rates for the month were \$110.18, up 7.4 percent from a year earlier. SBJ, 7/20/15

With the backing of the California Craft Brewers Association, the Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation on Wednesday allowing craft brewers to let farmers market shoppers taste up to eight ounces of liquid before purchase. Manufacturers are eligible for a tasting permit if they sell less than 5,000 gallons of beer each year. SBJ, 7/15/15

#### Restaurants

Downtown Sacramento's former Café Roma at 1013 L St. will soon house Cornflower Creamery, a parlor-type shop specializing in artisan house-made ice cream that will use the term "farm to scoop" as part of its branding. In addition to ice cream cones and sundaes, the shop will serve soups, salads and sandwiches. SBJ, 7/10/15

### **Hotels**

The Red Lion Hotel Woodlake Convention Center Sacramento has a new owner. The 306-room hotel is the sixth largest hotel in the region and has the largest hotel conference space of 50,000 square feet. Spokane-based Red Lion Hotels Corp. announced that it would manage the hotel for owners, Columbia Woodlake LLC, who plan to invest an undisclosed amount of money into the property over the next few years. SBJ, 5/11/15

### **Venues/Sports**

Sacramento Republic FC has hired the firm Legends to oversee the process of building a railyard stadium that will include everything from financing to concessions to construction. Building a new soccer stadium with at least 20,000 seats will help the position to team to eventually join Major League Soccer. Legends is currently overseeing the handling of food and drink concessions for the new Golden 1 Center. SBJ, 7/13/15

Nightclub entrepreneur Bob Simpson, who currently operates Republic, Vanguard and Pour House, plans to open a tiki-themed bar called Rum Rok at 15th and H streets in Downtown. Rum Rok will offer rum and fruit craft cocktails. Simpson hopes to open the new nightclub by the beginning of 2016. SBJ, 7/31/15

#### **Our Friends**

### Reno/Sparks

Reno's three largest downtown hotels and casinos are merging. The Eldorado resort has plans to purchase Circus Circus, and the other half of the Silver Legacy, giving the Eldorado full ownership of all three properties. The transaction is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. What changes will be made to the properties following the merger remains to be seen. Mynews4.com, 7/8/15

#### San Francisco

Following Intercontinental Hotel Group's (IHG) \$430 million acquisition of San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels, major changes are being made to the branding of the individual hotels. According to the Kimpton Hotels website, only two Kimpton hotels are left in San Francisco – The Buchanan in Japantown and Sir Francis Drake in Union Square. The Argonaut, The Palomar, The Monaco, The Harbor Court, The Prescott, The Triton and The Tuscan Inn have all dropped the Kimpton name due to a battle over unionization. SF Gate, 8/1/15

#### San Jose

Intercontinental Hotels Group (IHG) just announced the launch of its new hotel delivery robot at the Crowne Plaza San Jose-Silicon Valley Hotel. The robot, named Dash, will enhance the guest experience by providing quick delivery of snacks, toothbrushes and other amenities to hotel guests. Dash is designed to travel at a human walking pace, stands 3 feet tall and weighs just less than 100 pounds. The 300-room Crowne Plaza is the largest hotel to use Savioke's robot technology. Hotel News Resource, 8/5/15

# Volunteer with us!

Link <u>HERE</u> to download MPISSN's volunteer a la' carte menu. See a range of opportunities that may be a perfect fit for your talents and available time.

Join a committee, get involved, and make things happen for your profession and your career! Email President-Elect Felicia Price at <a href="mailto:fprice@aging.org">fprice@aging.org</a> with any questions.

# Meet people and make connections!

### **Did You Know?**

The average salary in 2014 for a professional with a CMP was \$85,793, about \$10,000 more than those who have not earned the designation whose average salary was \$75,265.

Source: PCMA Convene Salary Survey

For full survey results, click here.

Interested in getting your CMP?

Please contact Heather Tanfani, CMP ht@eventswebpage.com

# **Thank You to our Key Partners**









**Emerald Level** 





Ruby Level





# **Introducing your 2015-2016 MPISSN Committee Chairs:**

Robert Best, Community Outreach Chair

Lisa Bispham, Awards Co-Chair

Jessica Counts, Social Media Chair

Paula Currie, Annual Event Chair

Cassandra Grauer, Education Programs Co-Chair

Richard Heitke, Public Relations Chair

Christina Hake, Strategic Alliance Chair

Krissy Jasperson, Advertising Chair

Debra Kurtti, Publications Chair

Julie Martinez, Education Programs Co-Chair

Robin Rinehart, Crab Feed Chair

Lu-Lu Ramos, Membership Recruitment Chair

Kellie Schroeder, Awards Co-Chair

Terri Shrader, Audit Chiar

Monica Slingerman, Member Retention Chair

Heather Tanfani, Professional Development Chair

Jenai Wyatt, Other Special Events Chair



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# **CONNECTS**

Meeting Professionals International Sacramento/Sierra Nevada Chapter shapes and defines the meeting and event industry in the greater Sacramento/Sierra Nevada region.

# Next Editorial and Advertising Deadline:

Winter 2015-2016 – November 25, 2015

EDITORIAL/GRAPHIC DESIGN

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# **ADVERTISING**

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# **Business Card Ads**

If you are looking for a lower cost way to Advertise in the MPISSN Connects Newsletter; we have the thing for you. For only \$100.00 as a member or \$150.00 as a non member you can advertise your Business Card. What a way to be seen!



Contact Krissy Jasperson at <a href="mailto:krlee@harrahs.com">krlee@harrahs.com</a> for more information.

Meeting Professionals International, the premier global association community for meeting and event professionals, believes in the unequalled power of events and human connections to advance organizational objectives.

# Stay up to date at www.mpissn.org!

### **Website Login Instructions**

### Login/Passwords

For the membership log-in areas, your login username is your last name and your password is your MPI membership number given to you from headquarters in Dallas.

### Example

Login: Smith (be sure to capitalize the first letter of your last name)
Password: 222222 (member number - your number may be 5-7 digits)

Some of our members have identical last names. If you are one please use this slightly different method.

#### **Example**

**Login:** SmithA (be sure to capitalize the first letter of your last name AND your first initial)

Password: 222222 (member number - your number may be 5-7 digits)

If you need help logging in, please contact the Chapter Administrator, Lynette Magnino at lynette@mpissn.org or (916) 509-7270.