

North Texas Chapter
Society of Government Meeting
Professionals

Meeting Professional Perspective

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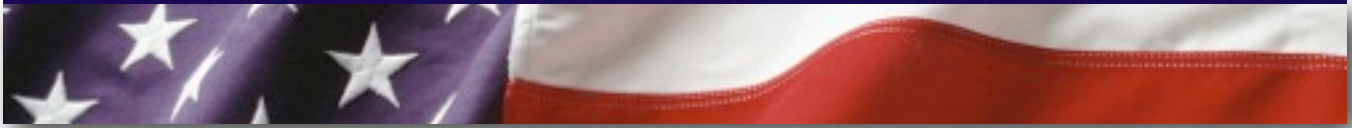
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

by C. Sue Thomason



Opportunities Abound for the North Texas Chapter

Our record-breaking heat wave is finally over and we're in the midst of changing over to a beautiful fall. September found your chapter leadership working hard on bringing core competency eligible programs to you. October's meeting was a celebration of the 30th Anniversary of SGMP. Shelley Mann did an excellent job in presenting not only the history of SGMP but also a look back over the last 30 years of fashion, television programs and technology. October also brought our first fund-raising project – tickets to see West Side Story at the Fair Park Music Hall.

Changing from summer to fall is not the only change our chapter is experiencing. In September, we said good-bye to Charlotte Davis as chapter secretary. Charlotte was able to move to Washington state to join her husband in his new job location. Terry Moore moved from Director for Special Projects to the secretary position leaving the director position empty for now. Professional duties required Don Copping to resign as chapter 1st Vice President. I hope to have these two vacant positions filled by the time you receive this newsletter.

We also have a unique opportunity to increase our planner membership. SGMP announced a reduced rate for planner members in celebration of the 30th Anniversary. From October 1st until December 31st, planners can join at a reduced rate of \$30 for the first year. I encourage everyone to pass the following link on to any planner with whom you have contact who may be interested in joining our chapter. <http://www.sgmp.org/membership/gpthirty.pdf>. Contact André Taylor for more information on chapter membership opportunities.

We always need volunteers on our committees and Gayle Jenkins will soon introduce an opportunity to serve others through designated charities.

I encourage everyone to always look for opportunities to serve the chapter and others in your communities.



THANK YOU

by C. Sue Thomason

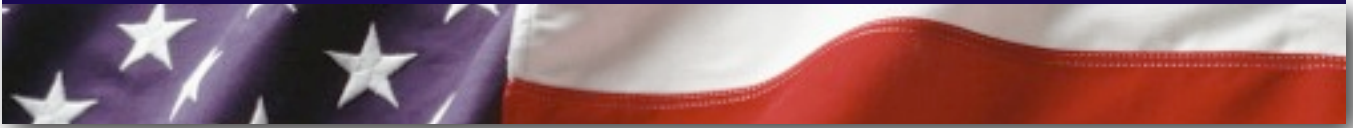
We wish to thank Charlotte Davis for her service to the chapter as Secretary and wish her well as she begins a new chapter in her life. Hope she has plenty of rain gear for her move to Seattle!

Thank you also to Terry Moore for being willing to move into the Secretary position and taking on the task of recording the board meeting proceedings.

Thank you to Steve Sherman for agreeing to step into the Director for Special Projects position vacated when Terry became Secretary. Unfortunately (for the chapter), Steve was promoted to Director of Sales before he had a chance to serve as Director for Special Projects and had to resign before he got started.

We also want to thank Don Coppinger for his years of service to the chapter as Director for Awards and Recognitions last term and as the current term's 1st Vice President. Don felt the need to resign as 1st Vice President after an increase in work responsibilities. He assures me he will remain in the chapter and be as active as his workload will allow.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our September and October meeting raffles. Raffle ticket sales allow the chapter to continue to support educational opportunities for all of our members through scholarships and monthly educational programs.



Board Bytes

By Terry Moore

- A fun time was had by all who attended the West Side Story Musical in Fair Park, along with the State Fair on October 22. This was our first fundraiser for the new year. We sold 30 tickets for this event.
- The deadline for submitting recipes for the cookbook honoring SGMP's 30th anniversary has been extended to February 15, 2012. We are now required to use a submission form for each recipe. The committee has received a total of 12 recipes.
- As always, we are in need of raffle items, so please remember to bring them to our monthly luncheon meetings.
- A special thanks to all who have and continue to contribute raffle items, support our fundraisers, and contribute in any way to the success of our committee efforts.

Community Service

by Terry Moore

"Tis the season for giving." We know it's that time of year when the United Way campaign is in gear; and when our offices ask for volunteers to head up the Angel Tree project. This is the time when we're all asked to stretch our pocketbooks (as they use to say), and wallets, and give what we can. As we enter the holiday season, please let us not forget our December service project with the Genesis Women's Outreach. Stay tuned for more information!

This is the last newsletter we will receive in 2011, so with the holidays in mind, I wanted to give everyone a sneak peek of one of the recipes submitted for SGMP's 30th Anniversary Cookbook, courtesy of Luke Hopkins, The Adolphus Hotel. This recipe is sure to be a holiday treat.

Green Bean Bundles

Ingredients:

4 cans of whole cut green beans
2 or 3 packages of bacon
1 cup of brown sugar

Pour the green beans into a strainer to get rid of the excess water.

Cut the packages of bacon in half vertically, directly down the center.

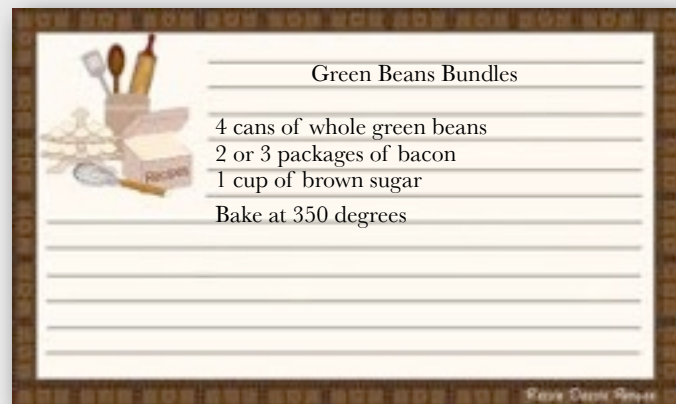
Take 3 or 4 of the green beans. Bundle them together. Wrap the half strip of bacon around the bundle of green beans. And place into a baking pan.

Repeat this process until out of bacon.

Once the pan is full, take the brown sugar and create a layer over the top of the bacon. Make sure to place extra sugar around the edges of the pan.

Bake at 350 until the bacon is done.

Please be careful when pulling the bacon from oven. There will be a lot of excess grease.



September Host

Mesquite Convention Center

1750 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, TX 75149

Year Built: 1999

Renovated: 2010

Amount of Meeting Space: 56,000 Sq.Ft.

S.F of Largest Room: 35,000 Sq. Ft.

Number of Guest Rooms: 160 (Hampton Inn CC Hotel)

Number of Suites: 52

Sales Person: Carol Abbott, Mesquite CVB

Sales Phone: 972.204.4927

Fax: 972.204.4926

Email Address: carol@realtexasflavor.com

Website: www.realtexasflavor.com

What Makes Your Facility Special?

The friendly professional staff is the key to successful events at the Mesquite Convention Center. With four major freeways intersecting in Mesquite, our location is convenient for all, and we're just 15 minutes from downtown Dallas.



October Host

Holiday Inn Dallas Market

4500 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75219

Year Built:

Renovated: 2008

Amount of Meeting Space: 5 room

S.F of Largest Room: 1,600 Sq. Ft.

Number of Guest Rooms: 200

Number of Suites: 16

Sales Person: Danielle Flud

Sales Phone: 214-219-3333 ext. 7582

Fax: 817-219-3335

Email Address: danielle.flud@prismhotels.com

Website: hidallashotel.com

What Makes Your Facility Special?

Our full service hotel offers all the comforts of home...and then some. Experience five star service with amenities such as complimentary parking, internet, and shuttle service. Full service restaurant, fitness center, lounge, pool, and 300 sq. ft of versatile meeting space with trained banquet staff at your fingertips.



October Program

By Blake Harrison

October 2011 – Holiday Inn Dallas Market Center

The Fall season began with a kick-off lunch to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals. Fond memories of days past, and excitement about future



opportunities, were celebrated at the newly renovated Holiday Inn Dallas Market Center. The thoughtful and caring Sales Team, lead by Dir. of Sales, David Brown, gave SGMP members and guests a warm and welcome reception.

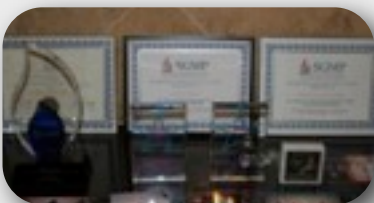
A display of photo albums and memorabilia gave ample opportunity for laughter, smiles, and in some cases tears. It might have had something to do with the hairstyles, fashion trends, or eye-ware choices.

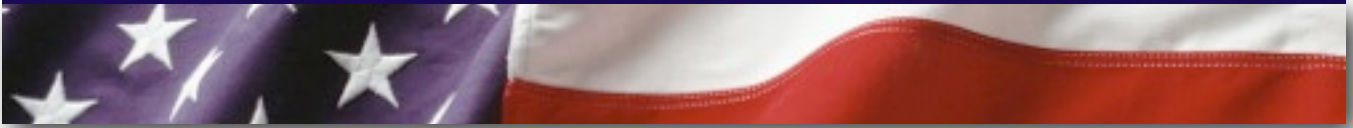
All were hot topics and everyone was fair game. In the end, it was more likely the success and accomplishments achieved during an eventful 30 years.

Shelley Mann presented a highly entertaining yet informative “do you remember when...” journey down memory lane. As each decade was remember, everyone enjoyed shouting out the popular song of the period, hot fashion do’s (and don’ts), and quirky meeting and convention themes – finding your inner child comes to mind!

Those members from Generation X and Y seemed particularly amused by mimeograph machines, thermal fax paper, brick sized cell phones, answering machines, and even email (texting and Facebook should make this list well before 2021).

It was impossible to leave this 30th Anniversary Celebration without feeling a genuine connection to each other. There was a genuine heartfelt appreciation for the organization and its past, current, and future leadership. As future meeting trends develop, change, and evolve during the next ten years, the 40th Anniversary is sure to reveal the continued success of SGMP and its dedication to education, service, and giving back to the community it serves.





PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATION

by Lynn Armstrong

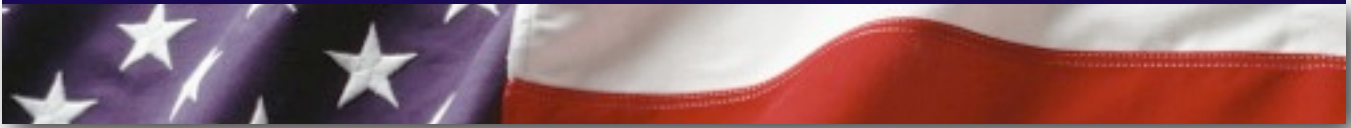


I am looking forward to continuing to serve as your Publications chair. I hope that we will be able to continue our award winning tradition. I depend wholly on those of you who contribute your articles each issue on a timely basis. I look forward to your feedback and suggestions.

One of my main goals this year is to solicit advertising. This is a very inexpensive way for our suppliers to get their hotel information out to all in the chapter, also nationwide, as this publication is forwarded to all of the chapters. Advertisement pricing is as follows:

- \$250 – Full Page
- \$125 – Half Page
- \$ 75 – Quarter page

Please keep us in mind as you plan your 2012 budgets. I think you will agree this is very affordable! You will also be supporting the chapter, as all funds will go to education and scholarships. Thank you for your support.



WANTED

PLANNER TO INTERVIEW FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

We were unable to find anyone willing to share with us for an article. Please let me know if you have not been interviewed and would like to be in the next issue. This is a great way for us to learn about our members.

Thank you for your support.

Supplier Profile – Ellen Brown, CTA

By Fannie Smith



The supplier spotlight is on our newest supplier member, Ellen Brown, Director of National Accounts for the Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB). She is responsible for Federal Government, National Association and Military bookings.

Although Ellen has been in her current position for only one month, she brings a wealth of experience to the Bureau, more than 20 years in the industry. Prior to assuming her current position, Ellen worked at Hanley Wood for the past 7 years selling exhibit booth space for The International Roofing Expo, World of Concrete and SURFACES/StonExpo. Ellen started her hospitality career as the Telemarketing Manager at the Irving CVB in 1991. In addition, she worked for the Dallas CVB for six and half years. Other hospitality experience includes various positions at Boston Coach, Abbott Laboratories and Renaissance Meetings and Incentives. In addition, she is a member of Dallas Fort Worth Association of Executives and Professional Convention Management Association. She recently took the Certified Tourism Ambassador (CTA) test and passed!!

Since joining the chapter in September, Ellen wasted no time in getting involved serving on the membership committee. Ellen states, “I am excited about becoming a member of the chapter and look forward to the networking and educational opportunities.” Speaking of networking, Ellen does that very well. She accredits networking for the leads she received from her friend, Lori Clark, for securing her positions with all three CVBs.

Ellen was born in California. She also spent several years in Chicago. However, she can officially be claimed as a “Texan” since she has lived here for 33 years. Ellen has one son, Austin. In fact, when asked what was her proudest moment or accomplishment, she states “the birth of my son”. Also, a little birdie told me that wedding bells are on the horizon for Ellen and her fiancé, Rick.

You can find Ellen reading and traveling in her spare time. She loves the beach and snow skiing. She and her son Austin like trying new restaurants, so they often leave their little town of Coppell to dine at various establishments.

One of Ellen’s most memorable events in her life is getting to go to the Ranger’s World Series game. She states, “I came to Arlington at the right time.”

Her favorite quote is “I can do everything through him who gives me strength”, Philippines 4:13.

Please join me in welcoming Ellen to the North Texas Chapter!

Membership Report

by Andréé Taylor, CGMP

New Members:

Terry Branch – EPA
 Ellen Brown – Arlington CVB
 Joshua Craft – Marriott International (transfer)
 Ebony Smith – Embassy Suites DFW South

July Anniversaries:

Amanda Johnson – 2 years

August Anniversaries:

Susan English – 4 years
 Stephanie Thompson – 6 years
 Fannie Smith – 19 years

Current Membership:

Total Members – 64
 Planners – 32
 Suppliers – 28
 Other – 4
 Ratio – 53.3%

Interested in Advertising?

- Full Page \$250
- 1/2 Page \$125
- 1/4 Page \$75
- 10% off your first month

Chapter Chat

by Kelly Roche, CGMP

RETRACTION

FROM LAST NEWSLETTER

Word on the street was that Theresa Nelson was marking the days off until her retirement and was going to retire at the end of the year from the IRS.

After some lengthy discussions with her husband Randy (who works in a home office), they have decided that for both of their mental & physical health issues she would hold off on retirement until September 2012. For clarification...the mental issues are that they would drive each other crazy and for physical issue they might kill each other!

After two months of maternity leave, Iris Garcia-Pineiro returned back to work The Sheraton Fort

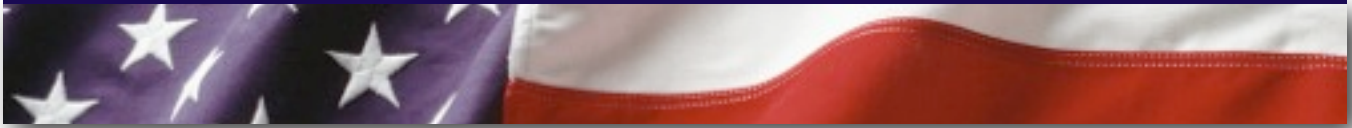
Worth! See below a pic of her my newborn, Michael along with her two year old, Paul.



Lori Mansell with the Embassy Suites DFW South has taken over the business travel market at her hotel and her replacement handling the government market is Ebony Smith. Congrats to both ladies!

The Arlington CVB has hired Ellen Brown to take over the federal government market. She was recently with Hanley Wood and worked for the Irving CVB and some of you old timers (like myself) may remember Ellen from when she worked at the Dallas CVB several years ago.

GOT NEWS? New job, new baby/grandbaby, got married or general juicy gossip about yourself or another SGMP member? Please contact Kelly Roche @ 972.401.7715 or email kroche@irvingtexas.com



SGMP Membership 101

by Andréé Taylor, CGMP

Who can name all 6 types of SGMP Membership?

- Government Planner
- Contract Planner
- Supplier
- Student
- Retiree
- Member at Large

Membership Ownership:

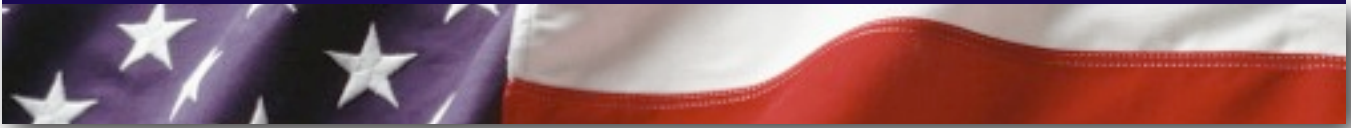
- Organizational
 - If the government agency or the supplier company pays the membership fee who owns the membership?
 - Is it transferrable? How?
- Individual
 - Membership fee is paid by an individual
 - Non-transferable to another member

Membership in multiple chapters:

- Are you able to be a member of more than one chapter? Yes.
 - North Texas/Nat Cap
 - North Texas/Texas Lone Star
- If you are a member of the North Texas Chapter and wish to attend a regular meeting for the Houston Chapter, would you pay member fee or non-member fee? Non-member.
- Our own Chapter By-laws allow for non-member to attend regular monthly meetings as follows:
 - 1st time – no charge
 - 2nd and 3rd time – non-member fee
 - After that you must become a member.

Pairing Planners with Suppliers

- Currently there is no matching program available through SGMP.
- All membership applications are processed at the National Office.
- Suppliers are required to provide the name of their Planner match. Planners are able to join at any time without a Supplier match.
- Both Planner and Suppliers being matched together must be joining the same chapter.



Awards

by Brenda Welborn, CGMP

The Awards Committee would like to remind all members to be on the look out for outstanding members. We are an Organization that has many members who go above and beyond so please let us know when you do witness these types of actions so we can make sure to recognize them with a "Shining Star" Award.

All year individuals and hotels work toward the Annual Awards, which are given out at the last meeting of the year. These Awards are:

- ◆ Supplier of the Year
- ◆ Planner of the Year
- ◆ President's Award
- ◆ Members' Choice Award
- ◆ SS Bragg Award (Hotel)

Join in and assist Committees and be a strong Team Member this year and we might see you accepting one of these Special Honors the end of the year.



Are you ready to be certified as a CGMP?

by Rhonda Wise, CGMP

Are you ready to be certified as a CGMP? The course will be offered at the Partners in Education Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, February 7-10, 2012, and again at the National Education Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 13-16, 2012. Other courses will be offered in the future, so you may want to check out the website at www.sgmp.org for updated course locations and dates.

To be eligible to take the course, you must be an SGMP member in good standing for six months. The \$595 registration fee includes the three-day training sessions, all course materials, and the exam, which is administered the following day.

To register for the course, you must be a current member and log in to SGMP's website. Once logged in, you will be able to register by selecting the course under "Upcoming Events" once the course registration has opened.

SGMP can reimburse planner and supplier members up to \$250 for the CGMP exam fees, under certain conditions, after they pass the exam. Applicants must be members in good standing for more than one year and must have demonstrated active participation in SGMP activities, such as service as a board member or committee chair, active committee involvement, or contribution of newsletter articles or presentations. The applicant must apply for reimbursement using the CGMP reimbursement form within 90 days from initial certification. The form can be found at <http://www.sgmp.org/certification/reimbursed.cfm>.

Chapters are also authorized to provide scholarships for CGMP fees if your chapter has the funds and the local chapter board approves the expenditure.

If you have questions on the reimbursement process for CGMP fees, please contact Lisa Silverman at lisa.silverman@sgmp.org.





Signature Savings for SGMP

SAVE 15% ON THE DALLAS LANDMARK

Book your next event at Hyatt Regency Dallas and save up to 15%. Our talented team will work with you to create your own signature meeting. With 160,000 square feet of function space and 60 individual meeting rooms we have the space, and the culinary options, for every possibility. Enjoy the excitement created by our newly transformed open-air atrium featuring a 42-foot multimedia bar. Take advantage of being close to the Dallas Convention Center, the largest urban arts district in the United States and DART light rail service. Come and experience the signature hotel of Dallas.

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Call 214 712 7255 or visit hyattregencydallas.com



YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME.

Offer is valid for new events booked at Hyatt Regency Dallas prior to 12/31/11. Visit hyattregencydallas.com for full terms and conditions. © 2011 Hyatt Corporation. All rights reserved.



Calendar of Events

December 8, 2011

Holiday Luncheon

Host: Marriott Suites Market Center

January 12, 2012

Facilities

Host: Hilton Lincoln Center

February 9, 2012

Logistics

Host: Holiday Inn Market Center

March 8, 2012

Technology

Host: Westin Galleria

April 12, 2012

Financial

Host: Hyatt Regency Dallas

May 10, 2012

Ethics

Host: Crowne Plaza , Addison

June 15, 2012

Chapter Awards Banquet

Host: American Airlines Conference Center

July 14, 2012

Planning Retreat

Host: TBD



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OF SGMP

PO Box 214834

Dallas, TX 75313-4834

2010 Newsletter of the Year

2007 Newsletter of the Year

1999 Chapter of the Year

1998 Newsletter of the Year

1998 Program of the Year

1997 Chapter of the Year

2011-2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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214-253-5203

sue.thomason@fda.hhs.gov

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2nd Vice President: Andree Taylor, CGMP

817-956-6242

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cabbott@ci.mesquite.tx.us

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dkbw1@verizon.net

Director-Planner: Gayle Jenkins

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Director-Supplier: Steve Sherman

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ssherman@warwickhotels.com

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lynn.armstrong@hyatt.com

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Theresa Nelson and Rhonda Wise, CGMP

National Board:

Rhonda Wise, 1st Vice President

Shelley Mann, 2nd Vice President

Kelly Roche, CGMP, Supplier Director