



Communiqué

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL



Instructions

Instructions

Now that you have the newsletter opened... the information below will help you navigate through it more easily. If you have any questions or problems, feel free to contact Stacie Cisco, Director of Publications, at 303.623.1492 or email her at stacie@arrangers.com.

Hints

1. Minimize Everything on Your Desktop and Center On Your Screen

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In This Issue

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Index

Page 4	Presidents's Message
Page 6	Board of Directors
Page 7	Save the Date
Page 7	MPIRMC/RMPCMA Annual Golf Save the Date
Page 8	April Program
Page 10 & 11	Gala Save the Date
Page 12	April Member Spotlight
Page 13	New Members
Page 13	Spring Networking Event
Page 14	Member Anniversaries
Page 16	CMP Exam Information
Page 17	6th Annual MPIRMC/RMPCMA Golf Tournament
Page 18	Leadership Series



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President's Message

President's Message

Steve Kinsley, Kinsley



Reflections from MeetDifferent

Spring is here, Lead the Change!

Conversations within the industry often come together to give me subject matter for these monthly columns. True again this month. In the last two hours I've chatted with Cas Strouse, our VP of Finance, and read a blog by Holly Duckworth, our soon departing Chapter Business Manager (good luck Holly!). Cas talked to me about springtime and emerging from the cold of winter and Holly's blog was about leadership and how we as meeting professionals are leaders. As we begin to emerge from this long dragging economy we as meeting professionals need to take a look at our situation and understand that we are in a position to assist with the rebirth of our organizations. The meetings that we painstakingly plan now are the meetings that will be guiding our organizations into a brighter future. We need to step up with our ideas for content and facilitate change that will best shape the new visions of our organizations.

We cannot be passive in our roles. When an executive asks about content, be ready. When the VP asks about speakers, be ready. When the Director asks about how to measure the ROI for this meeting, be ready. Be ready to be what Holly sees as leaders:

- Leaders are visionaries
- Leaders communicate
- Leaders move people to action
- Leaders are change agents

We as meeting professionals are all of these things and more. In this time of transparency and Return on Investment for meetings, you as a meeting professional need to have the tools at the ready to show your team that you have the traits of a leader.



President's Message continued...

President's Message continued...

You have a wonderful opportunity to "prove your worth" when it comes to the success of your organization. Take the time to continue your education within our industry (CMP, CMM, etc...) and take the time to know and understand your own industry and the business world at large. The perfect meeting room set is great, but if the content that is being delivered is not on target, no one cares about the chairs and the A/V.

You have to do things differently now. I recently read an article by a friend that spoke to change - how we are all about managing change in our daily lives and "the only people who like change are babies." If you as a leader are ready to embrace change - and not just the seasonal change of the onset of Spring - then you are positioning yourself for success moving forward.

Member Value Survey

It's the time of year when the request to fill out a survey hits your inbox daily. And most surveys are important... how do you see the industry changing, how is your chapter doing, and what can legislation do to help the meetings and events industry? Our Member Value Survey isn't any different; the results of this survey will be used by the Board of Directors to plan for next years activities. Please take the 10-15 minutes to share your input; the Board of Directors would greatly appreciate it. [Click here to take the survey!](#)



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2009-2010 Board of Directors

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Save the Date

Save the Date



Put these upcoming events on your calendar so you will be sure not to miss them.

April 15, 2010	Monthly Program	Denver Athletic Club
April 29, 2010	New Member Reception	Loews
May 13, 2010	MPI Networking Event	Hyatt Regency DTC
May 20, 2010	Monthly Program	Denver Museum of Nature & Science
June 8, 2010	Annual Golf Tournament	Inverness Resort & Golf Club
June 24, 2010	Annual Awards Gala	Cable Center
July 24-27, 2010	WEC	Vancouver, Canada

FORE!!!

Calling all golfers . . . AND non-golfers If you are looking for a day out of the office networking with your peers - we have just the event for you!

Registration is now open for the 6th Annual MPIRMC & RMPCMA Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at The Inverness Hotel and Conference Center.

Non-golfer activities include a golf clinic, chipping/putting contest, spa treatments, scavenger hunt and "The Spotted Dog Olympics".

SPACE IS LIMITED!!! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

Sponsorship opportunities are available. [Email JoAnna Eisler](#) or call her at (970) 920-7185.



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

**Conflict Resolution - It's the Issue, Not the People
&
The Power of Understanding People
Thursday, April 15, 2010
Denver Athletic Club**

Conflict is stressful. Conflict can damage personal relationships and diminish professional results. Conflict can alter our lives in either a positive or negative way. Conflict is inevitable. Conflict is good.

All of these things are true. Dave Mitchell examines the dynamics of conflict and how we can turn a potentially harmful situation into a liberating experience. In this session, you will learn the origins of conflict, why neither party is right in the typical situation and how to separate the issue from the person and deal more effectively with conflict. Think about how much time is wasted and duress is endured simply because we don't see eye to eye with another person. This session will change the way you view conflict and turn one of life's most annoying experiences into a new way of thinking.

The Power of Understanding People-

We've all had this experience. You meet someone and you have instant rapport and instantly click. We've all had the opposite experience too. The relationship starts out on the wrong foot and the harder you try, the worse it becomes- it's clunky.

Dave Mitchell will help you pinpoint the reason behind this by examining your own interactive style. He will lead you through a brief overview of Jungian psychology and you will fill out an assessment that will identify your own style. You will learn about your own style, how to recognize others' styles and how to adjust your style to appeal to a wider audience. This information will help you become a more insightful communicator in both sales and leadership roles and a stronger ability to work through conflicts.



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

April Program - continued About the Speaker

Dave graduated magna cum laude from Eastern Illinois University with a degree in mass communications and business administration. He had already begun a career in broadcasting (starting in radio when he was 17) and upon graduation worked as a television reporter for a CBS network affiliate. He eventually became a **producer for CBS** and then decided to transfer his skills to a career in organizational development.

Spending 11 years in corporate human resources and organizational development, Dave's next career stop was at Marshall Field's and Company as their **Corporate Manager of Training and Development** and later worked at the Buena Vista Hospitality Group in Orlando as **Vice President of Human Resources and Quality**. His experience with these organizations and frequent requests to speak at professional associations provided a springboard, in 1995, for founding his career in training and speaking.

Dave's style is often best described by a term he coined - enter-train-ment. The over 40 courses and keynotes created and delivered by Dave are designed to bring laughter, joy and insight, hence the company's motto, "laugh and learn!"

In 2006, Dave released his first book "**[Live and Learn or Die Stupid](#)**" about his life experiences and the pursuit of happiness. In the first month of its release, it shot to the top of his publisher's best sellers list. Dave is also a Certified Advanced Wine Sommelier as recognized by the International Wine Guild.

Dave lives in the mountains of Colorado with his wife Lori, their two kids, Brooke and Slade, and a collection of pets including horses, Mozart, Diamond and Zander and a pair of twin yellow labs, [Martini](#) and [Rossi](#).



Programs & Events

2009 - 2010 MPIRMC Annual Awards Gala

It's All About the Members

By Brooke Schmidt CMP, Exclusive Resorts

These days, extra time is tough to come by with family and professional commitments. An important part of staying balanced and being happy is finding that slice of "me" time. As busy meeting professionals working hard and developing our talents together through MPI, we rarely stop to think or talk about what it is that our peers like to do for that ever-coveted personal time.

In an effort to not only recognize the professional achievements of MPIRMC members, but also their personal passions and achievements, the Gala Committee is planning to incorporate them into the 2009-2010 event programming. You may have noticed the informal polling at the luncheons and in various email communications asking you to reply with what you enjoy doing off the clock. So you may be wondering, "Why all the questions?" The Gala Committee is planning to highlight these responses, with the members' permission, in various ways throughout that evening. From displaying a quilt crafted by a member, to scrolling photos of your surfing vacation, and asking members to perform their talent such as playing an instrument, singing or juggling, the Gala Committee wants to make this year's event a showcase of our fellow MPIRMC members - both professionally and personally.

There are few times in life when you can take the opportunity to celebrate you ...and the 2009-2010 MPIRMC Annual Gala is one of them. Take advantage and allow yourself a moment to shine!



Programs & Events



MPIRMC Annual Awards Gala
A Celebration of You...
Our Members

Thursday, June 24, 2010
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Networking, Awards and Dinner

The Cable Center
at Denver University

Interested in Gala Sponsorship and Donation Opportunities?
Contact **Lindsay Richeaux** via email or at 303.228.8135
Registration Opens in May!



April Member Spotlight

Introducing Devon Dossett - Corporate Meeting Planner - BCD Travel



"Whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger" - Having moved from Florida in March of 2009, Devon Dossett could tell us all a bit about survival, especially when it comes to unpleasant weather, as her favorite motto above hints on.

Although Devon is fairly new to Colorado, she is no stranger to MPI. Having been transferred to the BCD Travel office in Colorado Springs one year ago, Devon was involved in the Greater Orlando Area MPI Chapter since 2001. As a Corporate Meeting Planner, the networking opportunities and talking shop with other planners has been of great value to her. In addition, her most memorable MPI event was back in Orlando where the theme was Bikers; motorcycles driving through the room, tattoo artists, and photo ops with biker dudes and their Harley's.

Along with getting to know her way around Colorado, Devon has taken advantage of the outdoor opportunities that we have all learned to appreciate. From mountain biking and hiking to being in the *real* West to enjoy live country music favorites like Brad Paisley and Sugarland. However, with family and friends still in Florida, Devon and her boyfriend wouldn't pass up a trip to go back and hang out on the beaches (but they would have to leave their four cats in good hands).

When Colorado does give us those seldom poor weather days, Devon always enjoys a good book and movie. She recently finished an epic series of Wilbur Smith's books, and is always up for a good movie with a twist...notably *Fight Club*. However, a favorite quote of Devon's comes from a true classic movie, *Airplane*: "I am serious, and stop calling me Shirley."

Submitted by Todd Seymour
Wellshire Inn



New Members

This month we recognize new members that joined MPIRMC in February or March. Please welcome them when you see them at upcoming functions.

- Heather Christensen - The Children's Hospital
- Claudia Bieschke - IMCA
- Gena Streeter - Vail Resorts Hospitality/ RockResorts
- Maria Carabajal - Brede Exposition Services
- Nicolette Roig - CoBank

A special welcome to our new student members:

- Kylie Lorenz - Metro State College
- Whitney Shiflett - Metro State College
- Marcheta (Keda) Neagle - Metro State College

MPIRMC SPRING NETWORKING EVENT

Calling all animal lovers and pet owners!
Learn how you can make a difference in your community!

MPI Rocky Mountain Chapter Invites You To Join Us
Thursday, May 13, 2010
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

At The Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center

[Click Here to Register!](#)





Member Corner

April Anniversaries

1995

Allison Kinsley
Kinsley

1997

Rebecca Sundeen
Geological Society of America

2000

Ellen Robinson

2002

Craig Cook
Lindsay Rauch
Event Design Group

2003

Gary Schirmacher
Experient
Amy Drotar
CH2M HILL
Cari "Cas" Strouse
CH2M HILL

2005

Crystal Stephen

2006

Jonathan Wexler
PFP Sports & Celebrity Talent Agency
Keith Templeton
Fairway Graphics, LLC
Gareth Heyman
MorEvents

2007

Sherry Sainz
DIRECTV, Inc
Julie St. Croix
Event Marketer
Jeanna Gaydeski
Convention Designs, LLC

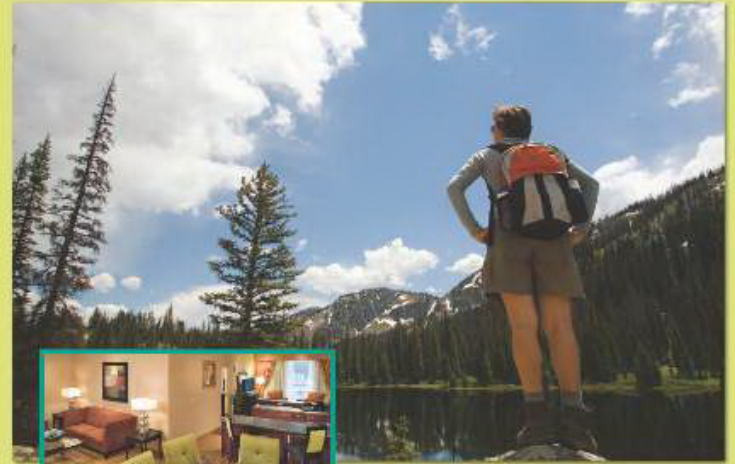
Benjamin Lusz
Gill Foundation
Rhett Wilson
Hyatt Regency Jacksonville

2008

Julie Blankinship
B Distinct Events
Stephanie Lasser
IMCA
Nicole Hernandez
HelmsBriscoe
Jean Elsener
Arapahoe Community College
Shannon Bigner
George Washington University

2009

Erica Spoor
Impact Point Marketing
Dawn Dunnewald
Encore Planning
Rhonda Jensen
Embassy Suites Loveland
Colleen Erbsen
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Frank Orduno
Harras Entertainment
Christina Pageaud
Fairmont Scottsdale
Sonya Thayer
The St. Regis Aspen
Ashley Barndt
University of Colorado, Boulder
Susan Danna
Great-West
Mary Malmberg
Booz Allen Hamilton
Julie Nikolai
Estes Park Convention & Visitors
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Education

2010 Summer CMP Application and Local Study Group

The next CMP Exam will be held on Saturday, July 24, 2010 in various cities across the country, including Denver. If you have applied to sit for the exam, your next step to your success in passing the exam is to participate in the Denver Study Group. This study group will give you valuable information in how to prepare for the test, sample test questions and key areas to focus on.

Orientation for the next Denver Area Study Group will be held in mid-May. Please contact either of the group leaders listed below if you are interested in participating. The study group will then meet each Wednesday evening (excluding holiday weeks), ending with a practice test on Wednesday, July 21, 2010, followed by the actual CMP exam that following Saturday.

Each session will be hosted by (2) different industry professionals who have earned their CMP designation. Each week there are chapters assigned from the reading material and each participant will be guided to create questions the group will discuss the following week. The study group is designed to be informal and to promote discussion.

Reading material each week will be assigned from The Convention Industry Council Manual, 8th Edition, The Convention Industry Council International Manual, 1st Edition and The Professional Meeting Management, 5th Edition and suggested reading in the APEX Glossary. You can purchase all books at the [CIC](#) website. The Denver Area Study Group is coordinated and hosted by volunteers and there is no cost to participate in the study group.

Those interested in joining the Denver study group or have any questions about obtaining their CMP in the future should contact:

Devon Binder, CMM, CMP

Kinsley
Littleton, CO
P: 303-798-3664
C: 303-946-2522

[Kinsley Meetings](#)

Gena B. Erwin, CMP

Meeting Planner
Medical Group Management
Association
Englewood, CO
P: 303-522-6429



Volunteers needed! Contact [Tiffany Carson](#) via email or at 303-877-2799.

For sponsorship information contact [Carolyn Van Way](#) via email or 303-664-1303.



Education

MPIRMC Leadership Skills Series off to a Strong Start


Have you heard about MPIRMC's dynamic new program this year? The *Leadership Skills Series* debuted in December 2009 with the first of many topic-focused workshops. The objective of this program is to offer engaged members a series of specific skill development sessions in order to provide them the tools needed for effective leadership within the chapter. Several topics will also apply as radiant skills that can be beneficial to individuals within their professional career or personal life.

The premier topic was "Chapter Structure and Communication Chain". The content was designed to give chapter committee members and leaders an in-depth understanding of how our chapter teams are structured, their areas of responsibility and how to effectively communicate within that framework. The first session was such a success a second session was scheduled for January. Congratulations to the attendees who completed this first workshop!

Steve Kinsley, Kinsley Meetings
Tiffany Carson, Lucky Strike - Belmar
Sonja Sabath, AAA NCNU Colorado
Sheila Lewis, CH2M Hill
Aaron Lackey, SuperShuttle
Megan Snider, CH2M Hill
Patricia Graham, CH2M Hill
Terri Utecht, Utecht Diversified Meetings
John Niemi, Artistic Promotions

Joyce Reilly, McCormick & Schmick's DTC
Carolyn Van Way, ConferenceDirect
Stacie Cisco, The Arrangers
Keith Templeton, Fairway Graphics
Megan Larsen, Crowne Plaza Denver Airport
Amy Drotar, CH2M Hill
Russ Aagaard, Splash Promotions
Rowland Cheeks, Cheyenne Mountain Resort
Freddie Templeton, Rocky Mountain Event Consultants

The second workshop, "Marketing Your MPI Program or Event" was also a popular topic, this Skills Series session was held on March 11 th at The Palm Restaurant at the Westin Tabor Center. Future workshop announcements will be sent to board members, committee chairs and committee members. However, if you are not yet involved on a committee, but would like to learn more please feel free to contact Leadership Skills Series Chairs, [Kristin Hutton](#) or [Cherie Hogue](#).




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AND ENTERTAIN
ALL IN ONE SETTING

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