



# *Communiqué*

**March 2010  
Vol 1 Issue 49**



**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](mailto:stacie@arrangers.com).

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### MPI Rocky Mountain Chapter Contact

Freddie Templeton  
Rocky Mountain Event Consultants, LLC  
8155 Briar Cliff Drive  
Castle Rock, CO 80108-8215  
phone: 720.733.8000  
fax: 720.733.8999  
email: [MPIRMC@rmecllc.com](mailto:MPIRMC@rmecllc.com)  
[www.MPIRMC.org](http://www.MPIRMC.org)

### MPI Headquarters - MPIRMC Contact

Holly Duckworth, CMP  
Chapter Business Manager  
[hduckworth@mpiweb.org](mailto:hduckworth@mpiweb.org)



## President's Message

### President's Message

**Steve Kinsley, Kinsley**



#### Reflections from MeetDifferent

While attending MPI's MeetDifferent Conference several items came to my attention that I would like to share with you this month. They all revolve around what I believe to be the fact that the Rocky Mountain Chapter is an exceptional chapter within MPI.

1. **Volunteers** - We have an exceptional chapter at the volunteer level. More than 20% of our membership is actively involved in volunteering in some fashion. Whether as a volunteer leader, a committee chair or a committee member, our members are above average when it comes to volunteering. What is it that drives us to be so active? We care! We care about our fellow members and we care about ourselves. Volunteering is about giving back, but it is also about taking care of ourselves.
2. **Finances** - We have an exceptional chapter when it comes to financial strength. There are more than 60 chapters worldwide in MPI, not all of them are doing as well as we are financially. We hope that all of them make it through 2010. Please know that your chapter is fiscally strong and we manage the budget conservatively. We review each program on its own merits to make sure that it makes sense for our chapter.
3. **Innovation** - We have an exceptional chapter because we look at possible new programs annually. We know that we cannot rest on our laurels and that we need to evolve and try new things. Last May we did a half day of education with the Oklahoma chapter participating remotely online. We were only the second chapter to try this model. If you have an idea for a new program or event please let us know. Our constant attempts at evolving are what keep us strong.



## President's Message continued...

### President's Message continued...

4. **Members** - We have exceptional members in our chapter. Two of our members, Glenn Thayer and Jenn Winget, were intimately involved in the success of MeetDifferent. Jenn's company, J&S Audio Visual, was the production company in charge of the general sessions at MeetDifferent and they did a great job! Glenn Thayer was the emcee in all the general sessions and he did a wonderful job guiding us during each of the general sessions. It's the commitment of our members to the success of our industry that sets us apart.
5. **Fun** - All that being said we like to have fun! Loews Hotels sponsored one of the luncheons at MeetDifferent and yours truly was involved. The theme of the luncheon was "Iron Chef" and I was able to spend some time on stage showing off my knife skills, okay I was trying not to cut myself! Too bad the hat fit so well.

As a chapter leader of an exceptional chapter it is important to attend conferences like MeetDifferent, so that we have something to measure our chapter against. We attend sessions with other chapter leaders and compare notes about the various programs that our chapters engage in over the course of the year. Invariably our chapter leaders get asked many questions about our success. It is flattering, but more importantly it is a barometer of our success with our members.

We hope to see you at MIC, our local conference that is put on by the 12 organizations that make up Meetings Industry Council of Colorado. This is your chance to gain knowledge, network with your peers and meet suppliers to Buy MPI.

Our monthly meeting returns in April with an exciting extended education session. Our luncheon program starts with "Conflict Resolution, It's the Issue, Not the Person," followed by "The Power of Understanding People." Registration opens soon!



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### 2009-2010 Board of Directors

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Freddie Templeton, CFE  
Keith Templeton  
Rocky Mountain Event Consultants  
mpirmc@rmecllc.com

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Kinsley  
Steve@kinsleymeetings.com

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Utecht Diversified Event  
Resource, Inc  
Terri@utechtevents.com

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Kinsley  
Megan@Kinsleymeetings.com

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CH2M Hill  
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Destination Hotels and Resorts  
AErickson@destinationhotels.com

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The Arrangers DMC  
Heather@arrangers.com

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Kinsley  
Stephanie@kinsleymeetings.com

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Cheyenne Mountain Resort  
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WKlein@thepalm.com

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McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant -  
DTC  
banquetsdtdc@msmg.com

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B Distinct Events  
Julieb@mesanetworks.net

#### Director of Monthly Programs

Heather Hartland, CMP  
Colorado Convention Center / SMG  
HHartland@denverconvention.com

#### Director of Publications

Stacie Cisco, CMP  
The Arrangers DMC  
Stacie@arrangers.com

#### Director of Marketing

Judy Esterbrook  
The Hilton Garden Inn Denver Downtown  
Judy.Esterbrook@hilton.com



## Save the Date

### Save the Date



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

March 17, 2010	MIC	Sheraton Downtown
April 15, 2010	Monthly Program	Denver Athletic Club
April 2010	New Member Reception	Loews
April 2010	MPI Networking Event	TBA
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



Images from  
MeetDifferent -  
Cancun 2010





## 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

### 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

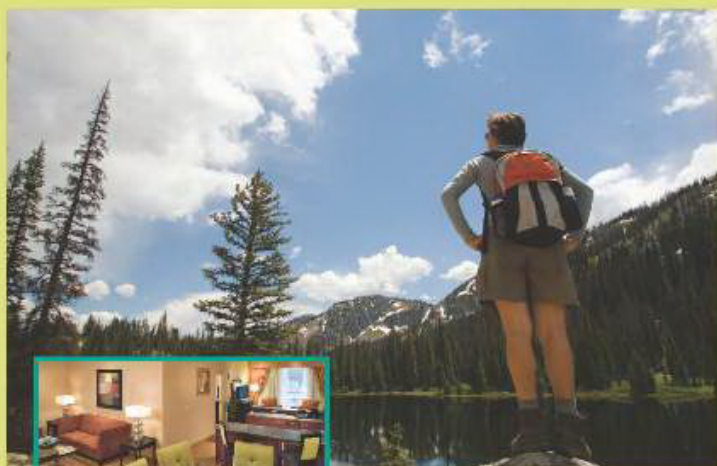
#### 2009 - 2010 MPIRMC Annual Awards Gala It's All About the Members

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!



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Another exceptional hotel by John G. Harwood



### March Member Spotlight

Introducing Ashley Leist - Sales Manager, Omni Interlocken Resort.

Work Hard...Play Hard.

Her motto rings true; Ashley knows how to have fun, but just as anyone dedicated to the hospitality industry, she knows what hard work is too.



As a member of MPI for three years, Ashley's hard work takes her to monthly meetings where she finds value in the great speakers, as well as the opportunity to make and maintain relationships. However, she also knows where to look within MPIRMC to play hard, especially at the Golf Tournament this past year at the Broadmoor!

At home, her hard work is reflected in her wonderful 5-year old daughter, Emily. But the hard work has paid off, as Ashley was recently married to Garrett Vap on March 6th, 2010. Her family plays hard as well, getting full use out of a membership to the Denver Zoo, and fun family meals at Buenos Tiempos or a nice romantic evening at Del Frisco's.

When time allows, Ashley has been working on her golf game and is looking forward to an upcoming Black Eyed Peas concert. With a favorite movie of *Newsies* and currently juggling three different books, it is not surprising that when asked what she would do with lottery winnings, she humbly stated "Something that made a difference."

While, obviously, she lives by her motto of Work Hard and Play Hard, it is also evident that Ashley lives up to her favorite quote by Zig Zigler, the American author and motivational speaker, "What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals."

Submitted by Todd Seymour - Wellshire Inn



### February Leader of the Month

Melissa Weisner - Since rejoining MPI, Melissa has jumped into volunteering with our chapter with both feet! Her enthusiasm for the PDSG team quickly brought her to serving as a venue lead for the monthly programs team where her industry expertise in production has been a wonderful contribution. Melissa is a great example of serving with your skills while seizing opportunities to grow and network.



Interested in Gala Sponsorship and Donation Opportunities?  
Contact [Lindsay Richeaux](#) via email or at 303.228.8135  
Registration Opens in May!



**Member Corner**

**March Anniversaries**

**1992**

Jennifer Winget  
J&S Audio Visual

**1998**

Pam Heroux  
Farm Credit Council Service  
Katherine Reak  
Colorado Springs CVB

**2000**

Linda Caldwell  
Holiday Inn Sheridan  
Kim Soldavin  
American Express CMS

**2001**

Debra Taylor  
Taylor Made Events & Speakers

**2002**

Connie Bright  
SunGard

**2004**

Valerie Proni  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
Rickie Hall  
Rickie Hall & Associates Inc  
Buck Wilson  
B Wilson & Associates LLC

**2005**

Kristi Fugate  
Thermo Fisher Scientific  
Megan Larsen  
Crowne Plaza DIA

**2006**

David Rayment  
Gaylord Hotels  
Scott Collinsworth  
Image Audiovisuals, Inc.  
Donna Horii  
Breckenridge Resort Chamber

**2007**

Stacey Pina  
iPlanIt Meeting and Conference Management  
Russell Aagaard  
Splash Promotions

**2008**

Meagan Nelson  
Encore Planning  
Joyce Reilly  
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant-DTC  
Cindy Hiatt  
Dave & Busters  
Dick Durrance  
Dick Durrance, Speaker

**2009**

Jennifer Baker  
Miller Tanner Associates  
Lorlyn Cozzi  
USA Triathlon  
Devon Dossett  
BCD Travel  
Lindsey Gage  
Colorado Oil & Gas Association  
Robert Costigan  
Rave Reviews



**Member Corner**

**MPIRMC Roadshow!**

Earlier this month, several MPIRMC Board Members hit the road and met members in both Colorado Springs and Copper Mountain.

The Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs hosted a reception for about 15 members that live in the southern part of the state. These members were excited to be supported by MPIRMC, they appreciated the opportunity to meet other members and came up with plans to continue meeting with each other on a continuous basis.

Copper Mountain Resort Conference Center hosted the mountain community for an informal luncheon. Five board members were joined by 12 mountain members coming from Vail, Breckenridge, Keystone and Copper Mountain. During this luncheon, board members were able to gain insight from our mountain members on how their chapter membership can be more valuable for them.

We look forward to making the MPIRMC Roadshow a constant in our Chapter and thank all of the members that participated in our Inaugural Roadshow!

**New Members**

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

- Lisa Baumgarner - Spring Creek Ranch
- JoAnna Eisler - Aspen Chamber Resort Association
- Kendal Ingram - Loews Denver Hotel
- Kristi Kavanaugh-Bradley - Snowmass Tourism
- Kerri Pinkney - Denver Marriott South - Park Meadows
- Chad Sahhar - Colorado Springs Marriott
- Brian Stanwood - Renaissance Denver Hotel
- John Thierfelder - All Mountain Transportation



**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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