

Government Meeting

Gazette



May/June 2004

Editor: Rita French

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Presidential Thoughts

By Terry Boldt, CMP

They say all good things must come to an end and so it is with my term as president. This will be my last article and you will be hearing from your newly elected president, Denise Evans, in the future. I was happy to see several people running for board positions during the recent election. I think the increase in interest indicates we have a very healthy chapter with several members wanting to be involved.



I want to thank Brenda Buschjost, Vicky Buschjost, Lagina Fitzpatrick and Rita French for their service on the board for the past two years. They helped to make my term as president very easy. Their hard work and dedication to the board will be missed; however, I know they will stay involved with future chapter activities.

I would also like to welcome the new board members Maurine Hill, Becky Steur, Holly Otto and Shannon Gill. I wish them the best of luck with their new jobs on the board. Debbie Alderson, Michelle Burrows, Denise Evans and Carrie Spicer will be staying on the board but will be assuming new positions. We will have a good mix of new members and experienced members on the board.

I also need to give a special thanks to Roger Schlatter for installing the new board at the June chapter meeting and to Debbie Alderson for all the work she and her committee did coordinating the awards.

What a conference in Nashville. This was my first and it was great. I attended several sessions pertaining to hotel contracts and got a lot of helpful information that I will be using in the future. If you couldn't make the conference this year, I recommend you plan on attending next year. Don't forget that the chapter offers scholarships to chapter members to attend the annual conference.

Don't forget the Joint Trade Show will be taking place at the Jefferson City Ramada Inn on July 13. The chapter is paying for all planners to attend but

you need to indicate that on the registration form before you send it in. Hope to see you at the Joint Trade Show.

In This Issue

New Board of Directors.....	2
Joint Meeting Planner Trade Show - Viva Las Vegas.....	2
Looking for Speakers.....	2
May Meeting Review.....	3
2004 Election Results.....	3
Relay for Life Finale	4
Membership Report	5
Treasurer Report.....	5
June Awards & Installation of Officers.....	6
National Conference - Photo's On-line.....	6
Supplier/Planner Profiles.....	7
Upcoming Events	7

Joint Meeting Planner Trade Show

By Lagina Fitzpatrick, CMP

The joint meeting planner tradeshow is quickly approaching. The tradeshow will be held on Tuesday, July 13 at the Ramada Inn in Jefferson City. Viva Las Vegas is this year's theme - it will be great to see all the booth decorations.



Every membership should have received either your planner registration form or your supplier exhibitor form to fill out. If you did not, please call the SGMP voice mail at 573-681-9306 and leave a message and we will get the information to you.

The day will begin with registration and continental breakfast at 8am. A great lineup of speakers will begin at 8:30am. A joint luncheon will be served at 12n followed by the trade show from 1:15 until 3pm. It will be a great day of speakers, food, and networking so please do not miss it!

Remember SGMP will pay for our planner members to attend. Just mark your registration accordingly. We hope to see you all there!!

Looking for Speakers

By Rita French

We like to alternate our educational meetings between meeting planning topics and new and/or exiting topics of interest to our membership. We are looking for speakers or presenters for the next calendar year.

The topics should have some relationship to SGMP and be new and innovative information with educational content beneficial to both planner and supplier. The membership of SGMP are people who like in-depth presentations. We are open to anyone who has new material or information that you would like to share with our membership. Unfortunately, we do not normally cover any speaker's expenses, which is why we search locally for talent, that way fees for such a presentation are normally waived.

If you know of anyone that would have a presentation of interest to SGMP or if any member of our chapter is interested in presenting, please contact your new program chair, Maurine Hill at MaurineH13@aol.com or give her a call at 573-522-2633.



2004 – 2006 Board of Directors

President

Denise Evans
Department of Natural Resources
Jefferson City, MO
573-522-1594 or 573-751-1010

First Vice President

Maurine Hill
Department of Social Services
Jefferson City, MO
573-522-2633

Second Vice President

Michele Burrows
Ramada Inn
Jefferson City, MO
573-635-7171

Secretary

Becky Steur, CMP
Renaissance Grand Hotel
St. Louis, MO
314-418-5809

Treasurer

Debbie Alderson
Supreme Court of Missouri
Jefferson City, MO
573-751-7308

Planner Director

Holly Otto
Department of Social Services
Jefferson City, MO
573-751-5980

Supplier Director

Carrie Spicer
Best Western Capital Inn
Jefferson City, MO
573-635-4175

Planner/Supplier Director

Shannon Gill
St. Louis Airport Marriott
Renaissance St. Louis Airport
St. Louis, MO
314-253-5299

Immediate Past President

Terry Boldt, CMP
Department of Economic Development
Jefferson City, MO
573-751-9064

“Diploma Mills” – The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

By Rita French

What perfect timing for this presentation to occur. With so much in the news about bogus degrees and promotions based on academic achievement, I think our eyes were opened to how easily it is to buy into a less than reputable institution. Leroy Wade, Director of Proprietary School Certification with the Missouri Department of Higher Education, provided a PowerPoint presentation on what to look for in those less than reputable institutions lurking on the Internet. We were also given several Internet sites to access for help when attempting to separate the good institutions from the bad/ugly ones.



Leroy Wade

If you did not pick up a handout, or were unable to attend this educational opportunity, here are a few web sites you might find useful. Missouri Department of Higher Education: www.dhe.mo.gov; United States Department of Education (USDE): www.ed.gov; and the USDE web site on accreditation: www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ous/international/usnei/us/edlite-accreditation.html.

We would like to thank Ramada Inn-Jefferson City for the very tasty lunch that oddly enough looked like a rolled up diploma and the decorations that were in keeping with the theme of the presentation. The door prizes that doubled as table decorations were appreciated by all those lucky enough to have their name drawn at the end of the presentation.

2004 Election Results

By Debbie Alderson

The elections are over and the votes were tallied. The new officers for 2004-2006 are:

President	Denise Evans, Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City
First Vice President	Maurine Hill, Department of Social Services, Jefferson City
Second Vice President	Michele Burrows, Ramada Inn, Jefferson City
Secretary	Becky Steur, CMP, Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis
Treasurer	Debbie Alderson, Supreme Court of Missouri, Jefferson City
Planner Director	Holly Otto, Department of Social Services, Jefferson City
Supplier Director	Carrie Spicer, Best Western Capital Inn, Jefferson City
Planner/Supplier Director	Shannon Gill, St. Louis Airport Marriott
Immediate Past President	Terry Boldt, CMP, Department of Economic Development



l to r: Denise Evans, Maureen Hill, Michele Burrows, Becky Steur, Debbie Alderson, Shannon Gill, and Past President Terry Boldt. Not pictured: Holly Otto and Carrie Spicer.

A total of 79 ballots were submitted or 54.9 percent of the membership voting. There was some concern about why the member's names were on the ballot to be cast for voting. This is done in order to keep members from "stuffing the ballot box." The committee has to verify that a certified voter (or a member in good standing) casts the ballot. As the ballots came in they were checked against a list of members in good standing. There was only one person on the committee who saw the ballots. No person who was running for office saw the ballots. If this persists as a problem and keeps people from voting, a numbering system could be set up to verify voters. We are trying to preserve the integrity of the voting system in our organization and insure confidence in the leaders who are elected.

Relay for Life Charity SGMP Team Sets a New Record

By Michele Borrows, Relay for Life Team Captain

The Relay for Life started with the Opening Ceremony and Survivor's Walk at 6:00pm on Friday, June 4th, at the Jefferson City Fairgrounds. Our SGMP team cheered on over 450 participating survivors as they rounded the track past our campsite.

As 95 teams took to the track around 7:30 pm., the main part of the Relay began. At this unique, overnight celebration, teams walked around the track relay-style for the duration of the event...under the stars, until 7am the next morning. Many sold food and beverages, while others sold items to raise additional money for their team goal.



Relay for Life Survivor Walk.



Luminaries lit to honor those who have fought cancer.

Around 10 pm, the Luminary Ceremony began of which over 2,600 luminaries were lit and placed around the track. The candles are lit to pay tribute to those lost to cancer ... and to honor those still fighting. This ceremony of light symbolized the hope and perseverance with which we all continue to fight this battle. Several local singers sang songs of hope as the names were displayed on the big screen at the grand stage. This was a very touching moment as we watched the names of friends, family, and co-workers displayed.

In addition to our raffle in April, we sold Old Chicago Pizza, Chez Monet Desserts, chips, soda, coffee, and Glow-Lite Necklaces. We also participated in the Silent Auction providing a package valued at \$1,700. Our highest bidder was Mary and Stanley Kolb with a bid of \$510. Thank you to all the SGMP members who donated items towards the basket. Maurine Hill won overall best costume at the Relay and was presented with a plaque at closing ceremonies.

Our SGMP team decorated our booth using a "Stay'n Alive" -70's Theme. In



SGMP's Stay'n Alive Booth.

Our team raised over \$10,100 which qualified us for a Platinum Team Award. We exceeded our \$4,300 goal (2003 money raised), which is an awesome achievement! Overall, the Relay raised over \$255,000 in team contributions. They extended the closing of books until July 31st, in case extra money comes in after the Relay Event.

Our SGMP Relay team was made up of the following SGMP members: Michele Burrows; Maurine Hill; Denise Evans; Cori Day; Holly Otto; Sandy Maassen; Debbie Alderson; Connie Lockwood; Steven Scofield; Theresa Flippin; Barbara Wilson; Barbara Eichholz; Shannon Gill; Lorie Jaegers; Carrie Spicer; Rita French; and Lagina Fitzpatrick.



Our team's last victory lap around the track.

A special "THANKS" to those who helped at the Relay: Cori Day's husband Jon and her mother and step-father, who helped make the Old Chicago Pizza's. Also a special thanks to Sandy Maassen's daughters, who helped be cashiers for our Pizza Combos.

For the final lap around the track prior to the closing ceremony, we very proudly held the SGMP banner along with our Platinum Team Award!

Again, thank you to all the SGMP members who helped support our team!

Membership Report

By Lagina Fitzpatrick, CMP
Membership Chair

Our membership is currently at 146!

Welcome to our new members:

Jennifer Brenneke, Dept. of Health & Senior Services
Cynthia Bowser, Dept. of Natural Resources
David Brothers, MO Head Injury Advisory Council
Sheri Fry, Dept. of Natural Resources
Jeannie Hoyle, Dept. of Natural Resources
Tammy Theilen, Dept. of Natural Resources
Sherry Fischer, National Alliance for Mentally Ill
Heidi Rice, Dept. of Natural Resources
Ramona Huckstep, Dept. of Natural Resources
Nancy Pittman, St. Charles Community College
Jill Allen, Hyatt Regency, St. Louis
Barbara Eichholz, Information Services

We have the following changes in our membership:

Tina Brown replaces Becky Imhoff, SEMA
Breanne McLeod replaces Lloyd Wilson, MO Dept. of Agriculture
Glenda Kerr replaces Kristie Blakey, Radisson, Branson
Rachel Sugar replaces Jane Lackey, Stoney Creek, St. Joseph

Please welcome all of our new members when you see them!! Remember you can bring a guest to the meeting free of charge; just let us know so we can include them in the count.

I would like to take this time to thank you for allowing me to serve as your membership chair over the last two years. It has been a great personal and professional experience for me. I wish the incoming board the best of luck in the upcoming years.

The following members have June & July membership renewals:

The following members have June membership renewals:

Marla Ashley
Tracy Baker
Courtney Cassil
Mary Pat Luebbering
Shae Snow.

The following people have July renewals:

Barbara Barnard
Cori Day
Renee Greenshields
Julie McCollum

Joy Millard
Lana Rothermel
Kathy Stuart
Tate Womack
Pam Zimmermann.

The June and July renewals have already been sent to you by the National office, if you have not received yours please let me know.

We have a long list of members to renew in the next few months. The chapter has many great educational opportunities as well as networking events this year, so please do not miss out-get your renewals in! And remember planners, it is only \$25 to renew. Please make sure to send in your planner profile sheet with your payment. Thank you and let me know if you have any questions.

Treasurer Report

By Brenda Buschjost

As of June 21, 2004 the ASGMP - Missouri State Capital Chapter is carrying a balance of \$5,067.40.

This balance includes all scholarship recipient and President travel expense reimbursements for attending the SGMP National Educational Conference in Nashville. This balance also includes registration fees, 50/50 raffle and lapel pin sales from the June meeting and luncheon at the Inn at the Grand Glaize, Lake of the Ozarks.

Thank you!

Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers- June 10, 2004

By Denise Evans

The June meeting was well attended and graciously hosted by the Inn at the Grand Glaize on the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks. A special thank-you to Judi Buchanan for making sure that the Missouri State Capital Chapter of SGMP was made to feel so special at her location.

We would also like to thank Lake of the Ozarks CVB for the door prizes and table favors; they were very nice and will be put to good use by the membership.

Since this was a special meeting, we would like to recognize the hard work of Debbie Alderson and her committee in preparing for the awards ceremony, noting all the extra time and work involved in preparing for this event. Great Job!

A special congratulations to:

- ❖ Debbie Alderson - Planner of the Year
- ❖ Michele Burrows - Supplier of the Year

And to the three members receiving the Perfect Attendance Awards:

- ❖ Tammy Bagley
- ❖ Bev Buschmann
- ❖ Maurine Hill

In conjunction with the Perfect Attendance Award, a special thank-you to those suppliers who came through to provide the two baskets, received by Tammy and Bev. Maurine was the grand prize recipient who will now be able to attend the National Conference in Sacramento next year – thanks to the chapter scholarship from the Missouri State Capital Chapter of SGMP.



Debbie Alderson, Planner of the Year and Michele Burrows, Supplier of the Year.

A very special “THANK YOU” to Terry Boldt, who has led the State Capital Chapter for the last three years in such a spectacular way. We realize that you are counting the days to retirement, but we are very hopeful you will continue to play an integral role in our future growth and development. We wish you luck and happiness in all your future endeavors – you will not be forgotten!

National Conference Pictures Available On-line

With all the State email address changes, the National office apparently doesn't have everyone's correct email address and many people may not have received the email about the photos. Even if you were not able to attend the conference, you might be interested in viewing/purchasing pictures:

Conference photos are now available for you to view/buy. Directions are as follows:

- 1) Go to www.premierphoto.org
- 2) Click the "Event Photo" link on the top left side of the page
- 3) Type "annual" in the guest password box at the bottom of the page
- 4) Select from the link list to view photos
- 5) Select (by check mark) the photos you would like to purchase, these will be added to your shopping cart as you browse; then select the quantity
- 6) When you've finished, press the "checkout" tab
- 7) You will be asked for your payment information and mailing address; please allow 4 weeks for delivery



Supplier Profile Meet Shannon Gill

Name:	Shannon Gill
Current Employment:	Marriott and Renaissance St. Louis Airport
Title:	Sales Manager
Years in Industry:	6 years
Hometown:	Jefferson City
Last Movie Seen:	Shrek 2
Favorite Book:	Fear of Flying – Erica Jong
Favorite TV Shows:	Sopranos, Six Feet Under & Apprentice
Favorite Celebrity:	Paul McCartney
Favorite Vacation Spot:	Kiawi Island, SC – North Georgia
Hobbies:	Yoga, reading, floating, camping & shopping
Favorite Quotes:	“The fish rots from the head down” – unknown “We are the music makers, we are the dreamers of dreams” – Willy Wonka
Mentors:	My grandmother & Mom – two strong and generous women



Upcoming Events For 2004

July 13	Joint Meeting Planner Trade Show Ramada Inn - Jefferson City
August 12	True Colors - Capitol Plaza Hotel
September 9	Department of Conservation – Best Western Inn - Jefferson City
October 7	Stress Management – Stoney Creek Inn - Columbia
November 18	Survivor Skit – Quality Inn - Jefferson City
December	Holiday Extravaganza & Silent Auction Location & Date - TBD



Planner Profile Meet Maurine Hill

Name:	Maurine R. Hill
Current Employment:	Missouri Department of Social Services Division of Legal Service - STAT
Title:	Child Fatality Review Program Manager
Years in SGMP:	Nine
Hometown:	Waynesville, Missouri
Last Movie Seen:	My Big Fat Greek Wedding
Favorite Book:	Chicken Soup for the Soul
Favorite TV Show:	Sex and the City
Favorite Celebrity:	Julia Roberts
Favorite Vacation Spot:	Hawaii
Hobbies:	Keeping up with my three cocker spaniels (Augustus, Caesar & Melissa) and one cat (Julius)
Favorite Quote:	Life is what you make it
Favorite Singer	Neil Diamond
Favorite Movie	Dr. Zhivago
Favorite Food:	Nothing specific. Enjoy trying ethnic dishes!