

# Government Meeting

# Gazette



March/April 2004

Editor: Rita French

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## Presidential Thoughts

By Terry Boldt, CMP

We had a great turnout for our April chapter meeting that was held at Apple Creek Orchard in Centertown; I believe we had over seventy attending the meeting. After some great barbeque, the chapter heard from representatives from the Relay for Life event that will be taking place to benefit the American Cancer Society. It was good to learn how the money they raise is used to help find a cure for cancer. This year our chapter selected the American Cancer Society as our official charity.

We also drew the names of the winners for our charity raffle. I want to thank all the CVB's/ CVC along with all the suppliers that made donations to complete the outstanding baskets for this years event. There were a lot of great overnight stays, golf, meals vouchers and tickets to events that were donated. I also want to thank the raffle committee that did all of the hard work printing and distributing the tickets to the chapter members. They also collected the ticket stubs and the money, which is a huge undertaking. However, all of their work paid off. It was a highly successful event. There will be an article in the newsletter giving details on the raffle's success and listing all the winners.

Unfortunately we had too many items on our agenda for the April meeting. We were suppose to receive a presentation from Deanna Treu entitled *True Colors* but because of everything else we were trying to take care of at the meeting we ran out of time. Deanna offered to come back and speak at our August meeting.

I hope you took the time to vote for the chapter board. Every one of the positions on the board was available. We will be announcing the new board in May and they will be installed at our June meeting at the Inn at the Grand Glaize.

The annual SGMP Conference is just around the corner. I hope you have the opportunity to attend; it will be a great learning experience for all. It looks as if our chapter will be well represented at the Nashville conference. I hope to see you at the May meeting at Ramada Inn, Jefferson City.

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## Joint Meeting Planner Trade Show

By Lagina Fitzpatrick, CMP

**B**elieve it or not the MSAE/SGMP/MTC Joint Tradeshow is just around the corner!

The tradeshow and speakers showcase is scheduled for Tuesday, July 13 at the Ramada Inn, Jefferson City. The day will begin with registration at 8am and a continental breakfast and speakers showcase from 8:15am-12n. We will then have a joint luncheon and a keynote speaker. The tradeshow will open at 1:15 and run until 3pm. At 3pm there will be a reception and prize drawings.

The theme this year is "Viva Las Vegas". The SGMP board has voted once again to pay the registration fee for all SGMP planner members who would like to attend the event. Yes indeed, free meeting planner registration to this great event compliments of your local chapter of SGMP. Please watch your mail for more information on the event.



Suppliers, we still have booth space available! And we also still have sponsorships available. Please contact me if you need more information at 573-365-2334 or [laginaf@hotmail.com](mailto:laginaf@hotmail.com)

See you at the Ramada Inn on July 13 - Viva Las Vegas!!!

## 2004 National SGMP Silent Auction

By Lagina Fitzpatrick, CMP & Vicky Buschjost

**I**n the past, at the national conferences, there was a silent auction of various get-away packages, plus many more items. This year the silent auction is moving on-line! Now, those members who cannot attend the conference can still bid on wonderful items.

Information on the auction and a donation form can be found in the Member's Only/Chapter Resources page of the web site. The auction will run from April 1 to May 15. Funds raised from the auction go to support SGMP's educational programs and scholarships.

Only members of SGMP can bid on the items. You can go on-line to [www.sgmp.org](http://www.sgmp.org) to the member's only section and start bidding. You will need your password to get into the site; your password is the first four letters of your last name followed by your four digit SGMP membership ID number. The bids opened on April 1 and will run through May 15. New items will be added daily, so be sure to keep checking the site for new additions; packages from all over the country are available.

The National Board/Silent Auction committee is looking for more items and packages to add to the Silent Auction. If you or your areas CVB are interested in donating something, please contact Lagina at 573-365-2334 or [laginaf@hotmail.com](mailto:laginaf@hotmail.com) and she will get you the forms to fill out and notify the committee chair that it is coming.

Thank you all for your past contributions to SGMP and happy bidding!!

## 2002 – 2004 Board of Directors

### President

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

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### Immediate Past President

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

## Bosses Day Luncheon with Charles Sadler

By Joann Russel

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What an honor it was to have Charles Sadler, National SGMP Board Member, speak to us at this particular educational opportunity. Mr. Sadler talked about the many wonderful benefits we get from our participation in SGMP. The Society of Government meeting professionals was established in October 1981 in Washington, DC. The motivating force behind the organization was Sam Gilmer. Organizers of government meetings saw a need for a forum in which to discuss mutual objectives and techniques for conducting business meetings of the government; they sought to create an opportunity to meet on common ground with the providers of meeting services and facilities to review the latest trends in planning and implementing these events. Today, the Society spans the nation with 26 chapters and more than 2,700 members. Although there are not yet chapters in all states, the Society is working on that issue.



Charles Sadler

I know that my boss came away with a better understanding and appreciation for my activity with this organization and how it benefits our entire office.

We would like to thank Bone's Banquet Center for the wonderful food and we would especially like to thank Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort at Lake Ozark for the door prizes and table favors. Additionally, we'd like to extend a special thank you to SGMP for the fabulous travel alarms given to everyone in attendance.

## Charity Event – Apple Creek Orchard

By Joann Russel & Denise Evans

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What a gorgeous location Apple Creek Orchard is to have an event. It was a simply gorgeous day and a lot of fun too. We were honored to have Ruth Braun and Julie George from the American Cancer Society speak to us on the benefits of Relay for Life. They helped us to realize that nearly all of us have been affected in some way by cancer and about the great things our charity event helps do each year. Ruth is a coordinator for the Relay for Life in central Missouri. Ruth talked about the many people who are served right here in central Missouri by the money Relay for Life events bring in each year. Julie told us about how such events have brought awareness about cancer and the need for each of us to help support research for those stricken by the disease and about how thankful those patients are when they can get the things they need, from wigs to transportation. This helps to remind us we are doing a good thing keeping the funds we raise here in Central Missouri.



l to r: Ruth Braun and Julie George with the American Cancer Society.

We were ready to hear a program called True Colors by Deanna Treu from the Department of Social Services, Human Resource Center, however, by the time we ate and got through the business of drawing for the winners of the charity gift baskets, we had run short on time. So as not to deny Deanna the full time she needs, she graciously agreed to speak to us at a future meeting.

The gift baskets were gorgeous. Lots of wonderful goodies could be found in each and every one. You'll see the list of winners on page five in this edition of the newsletter so I won't duplicate that effort. We'd like to thank Lutz' Bar-B-Que for the fantastic food and the **Lodge of the Four Seasons and Holiday Inn Six Flags** for the door prizes and table favors. Also, a thank you to St. Louis Airport Marriott-Shannon Gill for the Cardinal Baseball tickets, which were also used as a door prize drawing.

It seems that the suppliers involved in our chapter always come through in time of need. We think you are all exceptional and hope you realize how greatly we appreciate you.

# Chapter Members Receive Full Scholarship to National Conference

By Vicky Buschjost

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The scholarship committee received eight scholarship applications for the 2004 SGMP National Conference being held May 26-30, 2004 at Nashville, Tennessee. The committee reviewed each application, the board approved them, and at the March 11<sup>th</sup> monthly chapter meeting, I announced the eight recipients. They are:

*Debbie Alderson, Supreme Court of Missouri*  
*Brenda Buschjost, Dept. of Health and Senior Services*  
*Vicky Buschjost, Department of Higher Education*  
**\*\* Denise Evans, Department of Natural Resources**

*Lagina Fitzpatrick, Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Lake Ozarks*  
*Rita French, Department of Higher Education*  
*Maurine Hill, Department of Social Services*  
*Carrie Spicer, Best Western Capital Inn, Jefferson City*

Congratulations ladies!

I want to encourage all members to get involved in chapter activities and earn points toward a scholarship to nationals next year. The more you are involved in your chapter, the better the rewards. The scholarship points are tallied from February 2004 through January 2005, so now is the time to get involved.

The national conference is a great opportunity to meet with other state meeting planners to see how they are getting along with their state's budget cuts. The full slate of sessions is very informative; attendees can learn how to cut corners when working with hotels and contracts, how to determine the best way to use what little money is available for food and beverages, there's even an attorney presenting who specializes in meeting planning contracts and has great tips to offer. If you plan meetings out of the state, this is another great way to network with suppliers from all over the United States.

\*\* We were recently notified that Denise was chosen to receive an SGMP Planner Development Scholarship from the national scholarship office. This scholarship will pay for the conference registration, lodging, and airfare. Our chapter will pay for mileage from her home to the airport and back, ground transportation, and meals not provided by the conference. **Congratulations, Denise!!!**

Mark your calendar for the future sites of the SGMP National Conferences:

## 2005-2007 SGMP Annual Education Conferences

May 18-22, 2005

May 24-28, 2006

May 2-5, 2007 (25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

Sheraton Grand Hotel, Sacramento, California

Hyatt Denver Convention Center Hotel, Denver Colorado

Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel, Atlantic City

## SGMP Merchandise

By Carrie Spicer

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The Missouri State Capital Chapter of SGMP will have shirts and lapel pins available for sale at each monthly meeting! The new lapel pins are here! The pins are brass in the shape of Missouri. They are very nice with our chapter colors. These are available for only \$3 each.

If you plan to attend the national meeting in Nashville, you might want to get a chapter shirt to let other chapters know where you are from at-a-glance. The board has selected a bright green colored golf shirt. The shirt has been so popular that we are currently sold out but are trying to get more. If we can locate more at J.C. Penney's, we will have them for sale at the May meeting so you will still be able to purchase one in time for Nashville.

If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Spicer at 573-635-4175 or by email [gerstnerbw@aol.com](mailto:gerstnerbw@aol.com). Thank you!

## The National SGMP Discussion Board is Now Open!

By **Connie Lockwood**

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**W**hen SGMP announced access to their new Discussion Board, I decided to give it a test drive. The Discussion Board has been created for all members as a new means to exchange ideas, seek advice, or discuss meeting planning and other professional issues with others in SGMP.

To access the Discussion Board, log onto [www.sgmp.org](http://www.sgmp.org) and enter the members-only section (password needed). Once there, just click on the Discussion Board link and you are in. One of the first topics is a welcome from Steven Hilberg, which explains the rules and conditions for using the board. You may easily respond to a message already posted or start a new topic of your own. Just click on a topic and a new screen will appear with your name and email address already filled in. Post your comments, or reply in the message box and hit submit. Nothing could be easier!

Please take advantage of this great opportunity to network and exchange ideas with your nationwide fellow SGMP members. I think this will become a great resource for all members.

## Charity Fundraising – Another Successful Year!

By **Vicky Buschjost**

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**F**or anyone who attended the Chapter's Monthly Educational Luncheon on April 8<sup>th</sup>, you discovered that even the best meeting planning sometimes doesn't go as planned. There were just too many agenda items and not enough time to address every item. The presenter, Deanna Treu, with the Department of Social Services, who was going to present on "True Colors", graciously offered to present at a future meeting. "Thanks, Deanna!"

The big winner of the day was the American Cancer Society. The Chapter's Relay for Life Team was presented with a check for \$4,068!! I can't say thank you enough to all the members who sold and/or bought tickets, please remember that every little bit counts – no amount is too small!

Another event held during this meeting was the top raffle ticket seller pay-off. The chapter member who sold the most raffle tickets won \$100. We had 60 members turn in tickets and this year the top seller was Lagina Fitzpatrick who sold \$582.00! Congratulations, Lagina!! The top ten sellers are listed below.

1. <b>Lagina Fitzpatrick</b>	<b>\$582</b>	6. <b>Tammy Bagley</b>	<b>\$249</b>
2. <b>Debbie Alderson</b>	<b>\$424</b>	7. <b>Rita French</b>	<b>\$202</b>
3. <b>Vicky Buschjost</b>	<b>\$402</b>	8. <b>Mia Harris</b>	<b>\$143</b>
4. <b>Carrie Spicer</b>	<b>\$357</b>	9. <b>Maurine Hill</b>	<b>\$132</b>
5. <b>Michele Burrows</b>	<b>\$340</b>	10. <b>Mary Wise</b>	<b>\$122</b>

As you know, the chapter asked the CVB's/CVC to donate a basket with "goodies" from their area of the state and chapter members were asked to sell raffle tickets for these baskets. We received 10 baskets and winners of these baskets are showcased on page six.

I'd like to thank the many members who donated a prize for the incentive drawings. This year, as an incentive, for every \$25 worth of tickets sold, the seller's name was placed in a special drawing.

While I'm thanking everyone, I want to recognize and thank my co-chair, Michele Burrows, Ramada Inn-Jefferson City, and the charity committee members who printed, stuffed envelopes, made phone calls and helped at the meeting: Carrie Spicer, Best Western Capital Inn, Rita French, Department of Higher Education, Lagina Fitzpatrick, Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort, Brenda Buschjost, Department of Health and Senior Services, Diane Gillespie, Springfield CVB, Maurine Hill, Department of Social Services, Kay Samuelson, Lodge of the Four Seasons, Debbie Alderson, Supreme Court of Missouri, Shannon Gill, St. Louis Airport Marriott, Denise Evans, Department of Natural Resources, and Connie Lockwood, Department of Higher Education.

Thanks again to everyone who participated and made this charity event such a great success!

## Winners of the Charity Raffle Baskets!



Tina Grothoff, winner of the Branson basket.



Tammy Bagley and Beth Mead showcasing the Columbia basket won by Jean Sadler.



Roger Schlatter winner of the Joplin basket.



Carrie Spicer accepting for Lori Smith, winner of the Jefferson City basket.



Roger Schlatter, accepting for Irene White, winner of the Kansas City basket, presented by Michele Williams.



Connie Hovis presenting the St. Charles basket to Joann Russel, accepting for Ronald Russel, winner of the basket.



Sarah DeGuire presenting the Springfield basket to Michele Burrows, accepting for Ann Kleffner, winner of the basket.



Lagina Fitzpatrick accepting for Josh Fitzpatrick, winner of the Lake of the Ozarks basket.



l to r:: Tammy Bagley, Mary Supple and Beth Mead. Tammy and Beth were accepting the St. Joseph basket on behalf of winner Jodi Russell.



Denise Evans winner of the St. Louis basket, presented by Helen Comer.

## CAST YOUR VOTE!

By Debbie Alderson

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Time is drawing to a close for casting your ballot for officers and board members for the 2004-2006 term. Hopefully everyone received their ballot in the mail. Your name is on the ballot that has to be returned in order to check that you are a verified voter. Please do not remove the sticker from the ballot or your vote will not be counted. It is the only way to check that you are a verified voter. Only the Elections Committee will see the ballots and verify the results. The ballots will be destroyed after verification. If you need another ballot please contact Debbie Alderson (573-751-7308), Maggie Burch (573-751-7342), Mary Lee Stegeman (573-751-7332), Maurine Hill (573-522-2633) or Carrie Spicer (573-635-4175). Another ballot will be faxed to you. Results of the elections will be announced at the May 13 meeting at Ramada Inn in Jefferson City. PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

## Membership Report

By Lagina Fitzpatrick, CMP  
Membership Chair

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Our membership is currently at 139! We have several new members, but we have had some members drop their membership as well. Everyone keep up the good work and continue to spread the word about SGMP. Thank you to those who have brought a guest to the meetings.

Welcome to our new members:

- Tina Grothoff, MODOT
- Sue Bushor, Wingate Inn, St. Louis
- Cathy Gebert, MO Public Utility Alliance
- Sara Clark, Osage National Golf Club, Lake Ozark
- Ann Waters, MO Veterans Commission
- Karen Bagot, Crowne Plaza St. Louis Airport
- Lori Leeper, MO State Employees Retirement Systems
- Jennifer Commuso, Doubletree Club, St. Louis

We have the following changes in our membership:

- Shae Snow replaces Krista Gurley, Drury Inn, St. Louis
- Michelle Williams replaces Eileen Braun, Doubletree Hotel Kansas City
- Shannon Gill replaces John Malkus, St. Louis Airport Marriott
- Linda Amptmann replaces Shawna Luethkenhaus, Doubletree Chesterfield
- Marie Manno replaces Darren Erxleben, Holiday Inn North Airport
- Benny Shepack replaces Tim Brown, Quality Inn, St. Charles
- Glenda Kerr replaces Kristie Blakey, Radisson, Branson
- Brenda LaBella replaces Christine Ketterer, Division of Family Services
- Judi Nichols replaces Kimberly Davidson, Hotel Phillips, Kansas City
- Kathy Stuart replaces Kathryn Szwarguiski, Holiday Inn Westport

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 me know so I can include them in the count.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments or if you would like to join the membership committee 573-365-2334 or [laginaf@hotmail.com](mailto:laginaf@hotmail.com).

### The following members have May membership renewals:

Chris Booker, Brenda Buschjost, Denise Evans, Maggie Forbes, Stacy Hughes, Brenda LaBella, Sandy Maassen, Katina Manion, Eric McGeorge, Christy Niemeier, Mary Rockelman, Kay Samuelson, Benny Shepack, Becky Steur, CMP, Melody Thuss, and Julie Warren.

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

As you can see, we have a long list of members to renew. 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

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As of April 20, 2004 the SGMP Missouri State Capital Chapter is carrying a balance of \$6,262.76.

Everyone's effort to RSVP for the monthly meetings and pay on time is appreciated.

Thank you!



## Supplier Profile Meet Steven Scofield

Name:	Steven Scofield
Current Employment:	Jefferson City Convention & Visitors Bureau
Title:	Sales Manager
Years in Industry:	18
Degree Received:	University of Missouri-Columbia
Hometown:	Columbia, Missouri
Last Movie Seen:	Pirates of the Caribbean
Favorite Book:	John Grisham - A Time to Kill
Favorite TV Show:	West Wing
Favorite Celebrity:	Bill Cosby
Favorite Vacation Spot:	Summer - Door County, Wisconsin; Winter - Jekyll Island, Georgia
Hobbies:	Biking, Reading, Mizzou Sports, Cardinal Baseball, Family
Favorite Quote:	What is right is right even if no one is doing it. What is wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it
Mentor:	Mother, Father and all four of my Grandparents



## Upcoming Events

May 13, 2004	What's a Diploma Mill? Ramada Inn Jefferson City
May 26-30, 2004	National SGMP Conference - Nashville, Tennessee
June 10, 2004	Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers - Inn at the Grand Glaize
July 13, 2004	Joint Meeting Planner Trade Show Ramada Inn - Jefferson City
August 12, 2004	True Colors - Capitol Plaza Hotel
September 9, 2004	Department of Conservation - Best Western Inn - Jefferson City
October 7, 2004	Stress Management - Stoney Creek Inn - Columbia
November 18, 2004	Survivor Skit - Quality Inn - Jefferson City
December	Holiday Extravaganza & Silent Auction Location & Date - TBD



## Planner Profile Meet Eric McGeorge

Name:	Eric McGeorge
Current Employment:	Missouri Department of Natural Resources - Soil and Water Conservation
Title:	Management Analysis Specialist I
Years in SGMP:	5
Hometown:	Jefferson City, Missouri
Last Movie Seen:	Lord of the Rings - Return of the King
Favorite Book:	The Stand - Stephen King
Favorite TV Show:	The Shield
Favorite Celebrity:	David Letterman
Favorite Vacation Spot:	Any spot with a golf course
Hobbies:	Golf, Guitar, Running
Favorite Quote:	Electricity originates inside clouds. There, it forms into lightning, which is attracted to the Earth by golfers. After entering the ground, the electricity hardens into coal, which, when dug up by power companies and burned in big ovens called 'generators,' turns back into electricity. where it is transformed by TV sets into commercials for beer, which passes through the consumers and back into the ground, thus completing what is known as a 'circuit.' --Dave Barry
Favorite Singer	James Dewar (Robert Trower Band)
Favorite Movie	Get Shorty
Favorite Food:	Any type of bar-b-que prepared by my father-in-law, Jerome Jacobs