

Greater Oregon SGMP Chapter Connections

THE PRESIDENT'S LINK

GOSGMP President, Lila Duncan, CMP

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. September is here and students are heading back to school, vacations are over, and GOSGMP has held its first meeting of the year, September 4th. For this summer newsletter edition, we want to provide you a look back at the 2007-08 year. This edition is the GOSGMP Year in Review.

We had a big year with some excellent monthly education programs and a very successful annual conference in Bend. Several members traveled back to Dallas, TX for the National SGMP Education Conference where we were awarded 3rd place for the Education Program of the Year. In June, at our Annual Membership Appreciation meeting, awards were given to: Tammy Baumann, Planner of the Year, Jenny Baird, Supplier of the Year, and Kelly Moore, who received the President's Award. In late June, the GOSGMP Board held a retreat to plan for the year's activities and in July, the National SGMP Board visited Portland for their board retreat. Thank you to the board and members who helped make that National Board visit such a success!

This summer edition of the newsletter will be the first publication for our new Editor, Rocci Taylor. A big thank you to Rocci for taking on this responsibility. Thank you, also to our previous Editor, Tammy Baumann, who did a tremendous job with the newsletter these past few years.

In 2009, the Greater Oregon Chapter of SGMP will be observing its 20th Anniversary, and we will be celebrating our Past, Present & Future, 20 Years and Growing Strong! I know I can count on all of our GOSGMP members to make this the best year yet.

Thank you for your continued participation and support.

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PROGRAM COMMITTEE UPDATE

BY: NANCY AHLBIN

The new educational year is fast approaching! Our opening monthly workshop was September 4th at the Monarch Hotel & Conference Center in Clackamas. Our speaker was Lynette Schick, CMP. Lynette hails from Colorado and is a past president of SGMP. After years with the Colorado Department of Health, Lynette has started a new chapter in her life and started her own meeting planning business – Meeting Objectives Consulting. Lynette was a presenter at the 2008 SGMP Annual Educational Conference in Dallas and received excellent evaluation comments on her sessions. You can register for the meetings on line at: <http://www.gosgmp.com/>

Meeting Workshop Date	Topic	Presenter	Location
Sept 4, 2008	<i>Will You Be Ready When Disaster Strikes?</i>	Lynette Schick, CMP	Monarch Hotel
Oct 2, 2008	<i>Technology Tools to Optimize Your Time</i>	Philip Harpster	Keizer Renaissance Inn
Nov 6, 2008	<i>New Way to Execute Meetings: Planners and Suppliers Using APEX</i>	Sue Tinnish, APEX Board Director	Doubletree Portland

Mark your calendars for October 21, 22, and 23!

The 2008 ***Partners in Public Procurement Educational Conference and Exhibitor showcase*** will be held at the Salem Convention Center.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS UPDATE

COMMUNITY RELATIONS CHAIR - TRACEE GURNEY

I hope everyone enjoyed their very fast summer. I thank everyone for participating in such a successful year in regards to GOSGMP Community Relations.

Recapping our success:

- September 2007 – 15 chapter members participated in Race for the Cure
- October 2007 – chapter collected 75 pounds of school supplies for Boys and Girls Club of Central Oregon
- January 2008 – chapter raised \$600.00 and donated to the Ronald McDonald House of Bend
- May 2008 – individual participation in Letter Carriers Food Drive for the Oregon Food Bank
- June 2008 – chapter collected 69 pounds of food for NeighborImpact Food Bank in Redmond

I am excited to work with my committee to come up with new community relations activities for this upcoming year. If you have any ideas to share please pass them along to me.

Don't forget about Race for the Cure in Portland on September 21, 2008. Although we don't have an official team, you are welcome to sign up as an individual.

2008/2009 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - JENNY BAIRD

If the gas prices are getting you down, I have a great solution to those blues. Bring a guest! Starting September, for each planner guest you bring, GOSGMP will provide you with a \$10.00 gas card! Anyone can play; all you have to do is bring a new planner guest and you will receive a \$10.00 gift card on the spot. Plus, there are some great prizes at the end of this!

The membership drive will be effective September 2008 through June 4, 2009

In the end, who ever has brought the most planner guests to our meetings will receive \$150.00 in any of the following: CASH, credit towards the monthly luncheons, or credit towards National or Annual Conference.

Here's your opportunity for some extra money!

Ratio for the Chapter is currently at 50% Planner & 50% Supplier

PLEASE GIVE A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Maria Ahrendt with DPSST
Gwen Wolfram with OSU College of Business
Susan Fennern with Oregon Department of Education
Melissa Elmore with Austin Family Business Program, OSU
Connie Tapp with University of Oregon College of Arts and Sciences

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 16, 2008, DALLAS, TEXAS
SUPPLIER REPORT
BY JANET JOHNSTON

Wow! What a fabulous conference that we had this year. I have been to many in the past but I have to say that we had the best breakout sessions that we have ever had. I had the opportunity to hear some really great speakers.

Here I am back in Oregon and excited about all of the opportunities that we have within our chapter. Not only did I learn many new things for myself but I am charged up to bring my new energy to our chapter. This always seems to happen when I return from a national conference. I would encourage all of our members, if you have the opportunity, to attend the National conference next year in Louisville, KY. It's important that we represent GOSGMP and it's such a wonderful opportunity to gain more educational knowledge for our careers. Starting next year, we will be able to receive continuing education credits for these sessions and eventually our monthly meetings.

During the conference, some of the sessions I attended were:

- 7 Habits of highly successful business people
- Doing business with the Federal Government
- How to Motivate, Manage and Lead a Team
- How to be as tough as nails negotiator

I learned some new things, polished some of what I already knew and remembered what I had lost from my past experiences.

"How to Motivate, Manage and Lead a Team" was probably my favorite break out. Not only did we have a terrific presenter, Rebecca Pace, but I was able to take what I learned from the class back to my job and implement some of her ideas. In this class she talked about making your workplace fun and being a team player. If your team is having fun and wanting to come to work then they are generally more productive. She also recommended to anyone in a management position that they should have "life chats" (her words) with each of their employees. During your "life chats" you should ask your employees the following questions:

1. What do you do really well?
2. What would you like to do better in the next 6 months
3. What do you like about working there?
4. What do you like about working with me?

After your first "life chat," you then follow up in 90 days and again in a year.

This class stressed about being in a positive work environment and managing in a positive and healthy way verses being negative. She also suggested that you keep a bowl of candy at your desk and if an employee wants a piece then they need to answer this question: What do you like about your day today? Everything she taught was about promoting positive re-enforcement, creating better self-esteem and a more positive environment for your team.

In closing, she stressed that being a leader is sometimes uncomfortable. Be the leader that that your employees need you to be and not the leader that you think you should be. Building self-esteem is key to any team. Rebecca was in the corporate world for many years as a Human Resource Director and had a firm policy in every workplace. Her policy was ZERO tolerance with any negativity in the workplace. I don't know about you but I think a positive environment would make our workplaces far more enjoyable to come to every day. Wouldn't you agree?

The first day that I got back in to the office after hearing Rebecca speak I tried out some of the ideas that she gave to us. My office loved it! It was fun, it made them laugh and it made them think about what they like about themselves, their jobs and their boss (me).

During the coming year I would love the opportunity to share with those that are interested some of the things I took away from each of the breakout sessions I attended.

I encourage all of you to make it a goal of yours to really get involved in our chapter and make it a chapter that we can be proud of and gain knowledge that we can take back to our jobs. I want to challenge all of you to ask yourself for our coming year "What can I do for GOSGMP and what can I learn from GOSGMP?" It's our chapter and without our involvement we will not see it grow, nor will we grow from it.

Let's get excited and get involved!

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

JUNE 16, 2008, DALLAS, TEXAS

A "FIRST TIMER'S REPORT

BY JAN JOHNSTON

Attending the 2008 SGMP Education Conference in Dallas created a tremendous opportunity for me to meet members from other states and to build working relationships, learn how our Oregon chapter fits into the organization and to enhance my current skills so that I could become a more effective and supportive member of GOSGMP.

For me personally, this was the first time that I've had an opportunity to fly out of state and attend a National conference. I had great hopes of enhancing my skills, learning from professional speakers and presenters, and establishing working relationships with members from other states.

From the moment I arrived, I quickly recognized that I would not be disappointed. Attending the session "So You're New to SGMP" provided me with a great start to the conference. The informational and welcoming session provided me with an opportunity to meet other first time attendees, our National President and the National board members personally, to hear an overview of SGMP, the organizational structure and to see what educational tracks and workshops were being offered throughout the conference.

As a new attendee I felt welcome, and even though there was a lot going on through the conference, board members made a point to check in personally to ensure that the conference was meeting our expectations. The extra effort by the National board and the support from Oregon chapter members really made the conference a very meaningful, successful, and positive experience for a first time attendee.

Olympian Gold Medalist, Dominique Dawes, a dynamic, energized, motivated individual was the speaker to kick off the opening general session. Dominique shared with us her journey to achieving her goal and her personal philosophy "D-3", determination, dedication, and desire which gave her the strength and confidence to handle professional and personal challenges. In closing Dominique left us with the thought that, Success is a Journey, NOT a Destination.

From that point forward, through the end of the conference, there were many energetic, professional speakers and presentations. Regardless of what state or SGMP chapter you represented, there was always a wide variety of workshops to choose from that provided us with great opportunities to network with other planners and suppliers, to share information about meeting planning, and to learn and grow professionally from each others experiences.

The hardest part for me was deciding on which session to attend, since there was always more than one workshop that would be beneficial to me as a meeting planner, and ultimately enhance my professional and personal growth within GOSGMP.

Another highlight was the Awards luncheon. I felt very proud to be a member of GOSGMP, as we placed 3rd for the Education Program of the Year and to say that I knew Kim Blanding who worked and studied hard to complete the CGMP certification course prior to the conference.

Overall I feel the National conference was very successful and educational personally and professionally and I would strongly recommend attending the 2009 conference.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

It's A BOY!

Congratulations to Julie, Don, & Mallory Saul
Mother and baby are doing wonderful!

Lincoln William Saul
7 lbs 11 oz's
21 inches long
born at 5:02 am 7/22/08



Best wishes

to Tracee Gurney on her
upcoming marriage to
Chris Johnson

Congratulations!

To Jenny Baird on her recent
promotion at the Doubletree
Hotel to Director of Sales.

To Kim Blanding who recently
earned her CGMP designation

Members moving on...(we'll miss them...)

Julie Atwell has moved from the Embassy Suites - Washington Square to the Nines in downtown Portland.

Dorcas Holzapfel has moved from the Holiday Inn Wilsonville to the Marriott Courtyard - Beaverton

THE TREASURER'S LINK

DESIREE EVERETT, GOSGMP TREASURER

August 12, 2008

Over the summer, we wrapped up our fiscal year for 2007/2008 with a strong finish. Our ending balance as of June 30, 2008 was \$24,461.96. As Treasurer and the watchdog of our chapter's finances, I am proud to share our financial accomplishments of the year:

The \$4,500 that we raised at the silent auction in 2006/2007 was dedicated to our scholarship line item for 2007/2008. We used every penny of the \$4,500 to send two members to our chapter's annual education conference in Bend and four members to our national conference in Dallas.

Tracee Gurney and her committee did a great job spear heading our fundraising efforts. We raised over \$600 in donations for our charities this year and donated another \$600 from our account. All in all, our charitable contributions for the year were \$1,200.00. GOSGMP definitely has generous members.

So in the coming year, what can you expect? First, an enhanced online registration system with point of sale credit card processing at the door. Second, a new mandate by SGMP Headquarters that 80% of our budget be spent on education. Nancy Ahlbin and her Programs Committee and Kelly Malnar-Stevens and her Annual Conference Committee have been allocated additional funds to enhance and invigorate the educational component of our meetings and conference.

And last, but by no means least, if you are interested in helping at the registration desk for our meetings, we could use your help. It is my goal to have a different person assisting at the desk each month. Please email desiree@travelportland.com if you are interested in assisting with our registration.

HOSPITALITY - FUNDRAISING UPDATE

HOSPITALITY/FUNDRAISING CHAIR - FLETCHER BECK

The Hospitality/Fundraising committee had a fantastic year!

This year we were able to raise over \$4500 that went to providing scholarships for GOSGMP members attending the SGMP National Conference and/or the GOSGMP Educational Conference. I would like to personally thank everyone for the donations and support that we received this past year. I will once again be chairing this committee for the upcoming year.

Thanks again for everyone's help and lets make the 2008-09 Education Year just as successful, if not more so. If you would like to be part of this great team please feel free to contact me. Thanks again.

