



THE GATEWAY EAGLE

**Society of Government Meeting Professionals
P.O. Box 78233, St. Louis MO 63178-8233**

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President's Corner By Jeanette Turnbaugh



Happy Spring to you all! As I write, the sun is shining and the trees are blooming and white puffy clouds are flying high in the sky. Days like this remind me why I love the seasons in St. Louis! It is a wonderful place to live and a wonderful place to host meetings, conventions and other special events! Show off our city to your meeting attendees, whether they are coming from ten miles away or a thousand miles away.

Our local Visitors Bureaus can assist you in many ways, helping you coordinate everything from hotel location to site-seeing itineraries. Our hotel sales representatives can make sure that all your needs are met under one roof. Other supplier members can provide you with audio-visual equipment and expertise. Please remember to utilize our supplier members when needs arise for meeting space and blocks of rooms. Take advantage of their experience and contacts. It will make your job a lot easier, and will help make you look good!

Monthly Educational Meeting Opportunity

“Protocol”

*Presented by
Gayle French, Protocol Officer
National Geospatial-Intelligence
Agency*

This presentation will cover ways to behave when you encounter high-ranking persons in society, government, clergy, and the military. U.S. flag etiquette will be explained and sample plans for properly seating guests at dinner will be provided.

WHEN: Wednesday April 23, 2008
11:00 a.m. Registration and Networking
11:30 a.m. Business Meeting and Lunch
12:15 p.m. Program

WHERE: Hyatt Regency
One St. Louis Union Station
New York Central Room
St. Louis, Missouri, USA 63103
Tel: +1 314 231 1234

RSVP by calling Nancy Pittman at –
636-922-8314, or e-mail
npittman@stchas.edu
All RSVPs need to be received no later than
Noon Monday, April 21, 2008

Mission Statement

The Society of Government Meeting Professionals, Inc. (SGMP) is a national organization dedicated to improving the knowledge and expertise of individuals in the planning and management of government meetings through education and industry relationships.

Spotlight On
**Hyatt Regency
 One St. Louis
 Union Station**



From start to finish, each event at our downtown St. Louis meeting facility is treated as our most important function. Whether planning a casual business meeting with a working lunch, a high-tech presentation to several hundred attendees, or a grand banquet, you discover our St. Louis, Missouri meeting facilities offer all you need, including:

35,000 square feet of flexible function space, including a newly renovated 16,200 square foot ballroom

Renovated Executive Conference Center, with capacity from 6 boardroom-style to 500 for a reception

Experienced Meeting and Event planners on staff, to assist you in everything from planning to the final good-bye

High-Speed Internet Access in meeting rooms, plus wireless access in all public areas and guestrooms

24-Hour Automated Business Center, featuring computer, printers and facsimile

Complete audio-visual equipment, with onsite experts

Delicious catering, ranging from traditional to tastefully unique

Valet and self-parking options, for the convenience of your guests

Acres of entertainment surrounding the hotel in Union Station, for after-work enjoyment

March 26, 2008, Drury Inn-Forest Park Photos submitted by Tim North.



Mr. Monopoly (Tim North) and Presenter Marsha Seymour engage the members in Meeting Monopoly and we find out just how much we truly know about meeting planning and different menu selections.



The overall rating of this program and the presenter Marsha Seymour was a 5= Excellent. We had great fun and food, only wished we had more time to play this game. Thanks Marsha!

Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP)

CGMP Course Dates-June 8-11, 2008 Dallas, TX

The Society of Government Professionals, (SGMP) and the Graduate School, USDA has developed a Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP) certification program. The CGMP is the first certification that focuses specifically on the field of government meeting planning, encompassing federal, state and local agencies.

Obtaining the CGMP designation further defines one's ability to "get the job done" and establishes one's level of knowledge and expertise in planning and executing government meetings.

Participating in the CGMP class enhances your credibility as a meeting planner and also reflects an achievement of professional competency within your agency.

Course Content:

Overview/Administration
Financial Management
Event Management & Coordination
Federal Travel Regulations
Ethics
RFP's
Site Selection & Negotiation
Logistics
Marketing & Promotion
Sponsorships
Registration/Reservations/Housing
Program Materials
Speakers & Press
Special Events
Risk Management

Classes typically run from 8:30am – 4:30pm each day; the exam takes place on the last day from 8:30am – 10:30am.

Course Benefits:

- Demonstrates your commitment and ability to perform the duties of a meeting planner.
- Enhances the image of excellence in coordinating and planning government meetings.
- Reflects professional and personal achievement designed for the federal/state/local government meeting planner.

- Builds self-esteem that measures the quality of education, experience, and ethics required of a meeting planner.
- Establishes a professional credential that serves as an endorsement of your knowledge and experience.
- Improves career opportunities and advancement that gives you an edge when being considered for promotion.
- Prepares you for greater on-the-job responsibilities indicating your willingness to invest in your professional development.
- Provides for greater earnings potential, monetary incentives and recognition.
- Improves skills and knowledge by confirming proficiency and knowledge.
- Offers greater professional recognition from peers and superiors.

Tuition: \$650 (Includes 3 days of classroom training, materials, CGMP exam)

CGMP Course Dates-June 8-11, 2008 Dallas, TX

If you are interested in registering for this, please go to

<http://www.sgmp.org/CGMPCurrentClasses.asp> for an application.

Community Service

By Tim North



Please remember to bring personal toiletries, clothing, toys and school supplies for our Community Service Project. Thank You!

Thanks' again SGMP Members for all you do. Your efforts bring smiles to many faces.

Tim North

Community Service Chair

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

By Karen Fraser
2nd Vice President
Membership Chairperson



The St. Louis Gateway Chapter is working on membership, membership, membership and I would like to see everyone show their support and get involved.

We do have some wonderful news! We welcome a new member Linda Adam, a Waste Specialist, who is with the St. Louis-Jefferson SWMD. When you see Linda at our meetings, make sure to say hello and introduce yourself.

If everyone would get involved in recruiting one member, that would double our membership. This is a win-win situation for everyone involved. By joining the St. Louis Gateway Chapter, you will be able to attend our monthly meetings to network, meet new people, attend our educational program and enjoy a great lunch.

As an SGMP member, you are able to access the SGMP National website and links to all chapters for planner resources, conference facilities, educational conferences, newsletters and more. You will also receive the Government Meetings Advantage Magazine published quarterly.

At our March meeting we had a couple of new people attend and I want to thank them for coming. Hope everyone enjoyed

the meeting and playing “Meeting Monopoly” as much as I did.

We do have a couple of suppliers wanting to join. However, in order for a supplier to join, they must bring in a Meeting Planner to join with you. This will keep our supplier/planner count at an equal ratio. Remember, you can bring in a qualified planner or supplier free for their first meeting.

So....let’s all work together and bring in those planners!! Make a difference, get involved!! You won’t want to miss our next meeting, April 23 at the Hyatt Regency at Union Station.

Karen Fraser
2nd Vice President
Membership Chairperson
Greater Saint Charles Convention & Visitors Bureau
230 South Main Street
Saint Charles, MO 63301
636-255-6102 or kfraser@historicstcharles.com

The Chapter Scholarship Deadline has passed.

By Linda Lefebvre

Scholarships will be awarded at our board meeting on **April 23, 2008.**

Thanks to all of those who applied.

Calendar of Events

Mark Your Calendar Now To Attend



May 28, 2008

Drury Plaza Hotel Downtown
“Saving Costs and Clients with Catering”

June 25, 2008

TBA
Awards luncheon



Conference Schedule at a Glance

The host hotel this year is the Hilton Anatole Dallas.

Sunday June 8-11, 2008: Pre-Conference Education and Training Courses

Wednesday June 11, 2008: Welcome Reception 6:30-9:30

Thursday June 12, 2008: 8:30-5:30 Educational Workshops

Friday June 13, 2008: 8:30-12:00 Educational Workshops

12:00-2:00 Gilmer Awards Luncheon

2:00-4:00 Exhibit/Tradeshow

6:30pm Farewell Fiesta

Saturday June 14, 2008: 11:00am First Annual Gilmer Open Golf Tournament

Join us for the First Annual Gilmer Open Golf Tournament

Saturday, June 14, 2008

11:00am Shotgun Start

4:00pm Post Tournament Awards Reception

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1. your organization's logo/photograph
2. website address/URL for a direct link to your website
3. Send to Gayle French at frenchga@nga.mil. Make checks payable to **SGMP** and send to: St. Louis Gateway Chapter Society of Government Meeting Professionals P.O. Box 78233 St. Louis, MO 63178-8233

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Contributions for articles always welcome!

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