



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



Our heart goes out to those of you who have been affected by the flooding caused by Hurricane Ike's northward spiral into the St. Louis area. Longtime SGMP member, Tim North, owner of St. Louis Audio Visual, has been working non-stop performing disaster recovery on his business. Tim lost vehicles, computers, sound mixers, plasma televisions, and more due to flooding in his building on that Sunday morning. Throughout all of this, Tim and his employees have been honoring all job contracts and from the outside world it appears to be "business as usual". The outpouring of support from the community, as well as from caterers and other businesses has been overwhelming. Our hats are off to all of those who have been there in his time of need.

For those of you who could not attend the September meeting at Wapango's (which was delicious!), I will fill you in on the status of our (continued on next page)

Monthly Educational Meeting Opportunity

The Botanical Gardens—Past, Present, and Future

WHEN: Wednesday October 22, 2008
11:00 a.m. Registration and Networking
11:30 a.m. Business Meeting and Lunch

12:15 p.m. Program

WHERE: Missouri Botanical Gardens
4344 Shaw Boulevard
St Louis, Missouri, 63110
P: 314-577-9400

**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, October 20, 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.

Board of Directors. We currently have two positions open on the board:

- First Vice President: Former First VP, Marsha Seymour, has resigned from the board but is retaining her membership with the chapter. This position must be filled by a Planner.
- Director: The Director position can be filled by a Planner or Supplier.

Being a part of the Board is a very rewarding experience, and although it can require some time over and above your “regular” job, it is definitely worth while. It can also give you more points towards earning a scholarship to a future conference! Please, consider joining us on the Board of Directors!!

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting at the Botanical Gardens!



<http://www.wapango.com>

The restaurant's name has its roots in the Huapango, a lively dance popular in many Latin American countries.

Wapango's menu explores the cooking styles of Cuba, Central and South America, with dishes that reflect a creative fusion of the region's influences.

Appetizers such as ahi tuna ceviche, crispy yuca fries and hand-breaded coconut shrimp, set the stage for entrées such as crab and spinach enchiladas, grilled salmon, carne asada and chicken adobo.

“Although the influence and style is South American, the menu is flavorful without being overpoweringly spicy,” John Gianoulis, partner,

said. “We serve beautiful, flavor-rich dishes in a bold environment.”

Those who filled their bellies at Wapango's during our September meeting thought it couldn't get any better than that. Then it DID! Linda Lefebvre's presentation on “Business Etiquette” complemented a wonderful lunch experience.

Some of the things Linda told us:

--When an older person or a person who holds the highest position in an organization comes into your office, it is considered good manners to stand up to greet them.

--How to make an entrance and work a room? Maintain good posture at all times. To make a strong entrance, stop, decide where you will be heading first. Don't stand in the doorway.

--Power points of handshaking: be ready to receive a handshake; make sure your right hand is free and left hand is holding only one object; shake web to web; and shake from the elbow, not the wrist or shoulder

--Name badges should be worn on the right side of the shoulder area.

--During introductions, the biggest star gets top billing; when you introduce a younger person to an older one, you speak first to the older person. When introducing your CEO to the CEO of another company, you speak first to the CEO of the other company.

--A napkin remains in your lap throughout the entire meal and should be used to gently blot your mouth. Once the meal is over, you should place your napkin neatly at the side of your plate. If you need to leave the table during the meal, place your napkin on your chair to let the server know you will be returning.

--It is inappropriate to ask for a doggy bag when you are a guest.

It was a great meeting with a lot of great food and information. Hope you didn't miss it!

Congratulations to our Chapter's All-Stars!

At the July Awards Ceremony, President Jeanette Turnbaugh had the pleasure of awarding the following chapter members for their service during the preceding year.

President's Award:

Gwen Hudson, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, planner
Tim North, St. Louis Audio Visual, Inc., supplier

Supplier of the Year Award:

Angela Lang, Drury Hotels

Planner of the Year Award:

Nancy Pittman, St. Charles Community College

These members gave exceptional service to the chapter, making it a better organization for all of us. Great job, you guys!



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Contributions for articles always welcome!

Looking for a Few Good Hosts...

Nancy Pittman, our Program Chair, has been working very hard to put together quality programs at quality locations for our chapter. She's done a great job, but we still need a few venues for our meetings. Specifically,

March 25, 2009: The program is on the Changes to the Americans with Disabilities Act

April 22, 2009: The program is on Illegal Activities in Hotels

May 27, 2009: The program is Disaster, Safety, and Security—A Panel Discussion

June 24, 2009: Awards/Installation of Officers

As always, the chapter is flexible with the time of the meeting—breakfast meetings or happy hour socials are just as feasible as lunch meetings. Put your creativity to work and call Nancy (636-922-8314) with your ideas to make your property stand out!

Welcome to our Newest Members!

It's a pleasure to welcome our newest members.

Jakita McBride is a new planner member from the Federal Reserve Bank.

Julie Lochmann is a new supplier member from Pere Marquette Lodge and Conference Center. Julie has agreed to host our January 2009 meeting, so be sure to mark your calendars.

Look for Jakita and Julie at our meetings and give them a warm chapter welcome!

Future National Education Conference Dates/Locations

May 13-16, 2009: The Galt House, Louisville, KY

May 19-22, 2010: Hyatt and Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, MO

June 8-11, 2011: Sheraton Waterside and Marriott, Norfolk, VA

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Calendar of Events

Mark Your Calendar Now To Attend



October 22, 2008

Missouri Botanical Gardens
"The Botanical Gardens, Past, Present, and Future"

November 19, 2008


St. Louis Solid Waste
"Green Up Your Meetings"


December 17, 2008

St. Louis Convention
"Holiday Party"

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St. Louis Gateway Chapter SGMP Board Members 2007-2009



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