

Meeting NEws

August 2007

In This Issue
We Want You!

President's Message



Dear Chapter Members:

**It is now Track Time,
so the commercial tells
us!**

It is time to get on track. I want to personally thank all of the members of our chapter who are volunteering for positions on committees and events that are planned for the upcoming year. You are the Chapter,

MPI NENY Day at the Races

August 20, 2007

sponsored by:

EXPERIENCE
SARATOGA
Perfect from Start to Finish

Join your MPI Chapter for a full day of fun in Saratoga Springs on **Monday, August 20th!** Get in the "starting gate" at the National Museum of Racing at 10:00 AM.



Get a leg up on their new race simulator, tour meeting space, exhibits and the Hall of Fame. "Down the Stretch" with **Valerie Oropallo** of Javao Consulting Services you'll learn new networking, name memorization techniques and relationship building skills. Remembering names is a skill you'll need to succeed at picking the winning horses!

As we round the turn, track "maven" **Jack Roddy** joins us at the National Museum of Racing at 11:30 AM to handicap the day's races. Lunch and an afternoon of winning (results not guaranteed!) will follow starting at



your involvement, enthusiasm and commitment can only help with our survival and growth. It is important to continue your involvement and invite another member to join you in the fun.

Ask someone who you have not seen at an event in a while to attend one. The November event will be a great one, we have three platinum events scheduled and a few fun member events, so something for everyone. **And with the availability of MPI points for each event, like the lottery you got to be in it to win it!**

With visions of summer passing us by, the fall is a great time to get out of the water and spend some time on the links. SO you feel like you cannot play, find someone in your organization that can and let them represent you at the **First Annual Golf Tournament, September 25th** is right around the corner. Proceeds will benefit educational opportunities within the chapter.

The silent auction will benefit the **Make -A- Wish Foundation**. Have you donated or secured an item for the silent auction yet? Even if you cannot hit a ball, you can feel good about the event by helping in some way.

Did we tell you about the new web site? Check it out and tell us what you

noon in the Paddock Pavilion at America's oldest thoroughbred track, Saratoga Race Course.

Registration limited to 25 planners, 25 suppliers. Register early (click here)! Tickets to the Paddock Pavilion will be held at the National Museum of Racing until noon on Monday, August 20th. If you are arriving late, please contact [Cindy Sullivan, CMP](#) at (518) 693-1002 or [Molly Brindle](#) at (518) 584-1531 to make other arrangements.

Member Spotlight: *Saratoga CTB Hosts FAM Tour*



SCTB has been a member of NENY chapter since our inception four years ago. A proud supporter of MPI NENY, SCTB is a non-profit, private membership organization, dedicated to building the economy and positive image of Saratoga Springs through tourism and convention

development, major events and the marketing of Saratoga to the marketplace worldwide.

Their dedicated and knowledgeable employees conducted a FAM tour recently for out of state planners, treating them to the complete **Saratoga Experience**. Over 30 guests enjoyed a polo match, polo picnic, SPAC concert, Lake George boat ride and, of course, the Saratoga Racecourse. We had several winners at the track and **former bureau President Gavin Landry** provided some "horse sense" to guests.



The group was also joined by the new **SCTB President, Dave Zunker**, who traveled all the way from South Carolina for the event. Tom Durkin, the Voice of the Triple Crown, and Sam the Bugler provided fanfare for guests and posed for photos at our breakfast on Tuesday.

Annual Outing & Golf Tournament

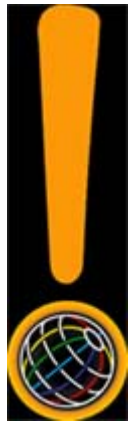
September 25, 2007

think: www.mpineny.org

We will have an official unveiling next month (In September like the new fall TV shows) stay tuned!

Thank You!

- Mike Snyder, CMP



MPI NENY Website Released!

MPI NENY is happy to announce the release of its redesigned website!

Thank you to:

Ed Barone and Cheryl Hislop at Souders Promotions for all their hard work and time in putting the new site together! Please take a moment to check out the new website at: www.mpineny.org

September Platinum Program: 60 Cost Savings Tips in 60 Minutes



Whether you have been a planner for years or you are new to the

business this fast paced content rich program is for you. Covering tips in

Join MPI Northeastern New York Chapter for our First Annual Outing and Golf Tournament to Benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation!

This event will be hosted at **Saratoga National Golf Club**, the premier destination golf course in Upstate New York.



This great day includes:

- Lunch prior to tee-off
- 18 holes of championship golf with cart - scramble format
- Great food on the course from the area's finest restaurants
- Lots of prizes to win
- Dinner reception
- Silent auction to benefit Make-A-Wish Foundation
- ...and more!

Don't wait to register, we expect to this to be a sell-out event! (REGISTER HERE) Just enter the additional three names as guests when you register.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration: 11:30 a.m.
Lunch: 12-1 p.m.
Shotgun Start: 1:30 p.m.
Reception: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE

Saratoga National Golf Club
458 Union Avenue
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
www.golfsaratoga.com

EVENT REGISTRATION FEE

Golf, Lunch & Reception \$195
Foursome, Lunch & Reception \$700

KINDLY RSVP BY

Thursday, September 20, 2007

World Education Congress à la Montreal: Connect Yourself

MPI has a new vision lead by new chairwoman, **Angie Pfeifer**. The theme of this year's event and the direction of the organization are to build a global meeting industry community through co-creation. MPI recognizes that there is a great diversity in the MPI community and a wealth of knowledge that has not been fully cultivated. Not all chapters have the same needs and International has a strategy to move away from a top down compliance focused organization to a global community built by the members it serves.

negotiations, transportation, food & beverage and other timely topics you will be "WOWED" with the wealth of tips that your organization can benefit from. Suppliers learn some of the hot buttons for planners. Planners learn how you can best serve your stakeholders. This is a must for all members.

Take-Aways:

- Understand more than 60 cost savings tips in contract negotiations, pre-planning, F&B, onsite work, ground transportation, Audio Visual, and Entertainment.
- Hear from tips participants
- Learn if your meeting is a good piece of business for a hotel or venue.

Doug McPhee has worked with Experient since April 2000. After teaching for 20 years he started working with schools and organizations on improving the instructional process. He has extensive meeting planning experience and was an Experient client prior to working as a National Account Manager. As executive for two organizations he gained important knowledge about the meeting planning industry from the client perspective. As a

One of the strategies for implementing this vision began at the Chapter Leader Forum on Saturday, where chapter Presidents and President-Elects spent the day in workshops brainstorming the answers to the following questions:

I believe that:

- Value to a chapter means _____
- A chapter leader delivers value by _____
- As a chapter leader, to deliver this value I need _____
- Success is measured by _____
- _____ would be a great way to recognize chapter leaders and chapters that achieve success.

The ideas that came out of the session were fantastic! Having the opportunity to network and share ideas with other chapter leaders was a fabulous opportunity for me. **I would encourage all of our members to "connect yourself" with our NENY chapter by thinking about these questions and providing us with your feedback on how NENY can add value for you.**

I look forward to sharing the outcomes of this forum with all of you as we move forward and continue to grow and establish ourselves as the authority on the meeting industry community in Northeastern NY.

**Carrie Hillenbrandt, CMP
President-Elect**

World Education Congress à la Montreal: A First Time Attendee's Perspective



WOW, what a conference! **From hotel to hotel; bus to bus and drink to drink, MPI took excellent care of their nearly 4000 guests from start to finish.** To begin, Montréal is an ideal conference destination where old world charm meets modern fun.

The locals spoke English very well (except for my very cute espresso barista at Ted Hortons) and we were all very impressed with their ability to transition between two languages so deftly. I was very impressed by the education offerings and the caliber of speakers, but the networking events were phenomenal. MPI organized several *event experiences* for attendees throughout the four days.

professional speaker, trainer, and consultant, he has traveled widely and presented to groups in the US and abroad for the last 35 years. He works with companies and organizations to increase productivity and performance through their meetings.

Doug has been active member of San Diego MPI and was recently on MPI's Professional Development Strategy Group. He has recently moved his membership to the MPI Northeastern NY chapter. He received his CMP in 2000. He was honored as Planner of the Year for San Diego Meeting Professional International 2005-2006

He and his wife Cecelia are renovating an old farmhouse in Duanesburg, New York.

SAVE THE DATE!



Ignite Your Imagination:

MPI NENY Special Education Event

Save the date for MPI NENY's third annual special education event including exhibits, a networking reception and the opportunity to earn continuing education units!

When

November 1, 2007
1:30 to 6:30 PM

Where

Bulmer Telecomm Center
HVCC

Please register by:

During the Saturday welcome reception, NENY chapter members had a first row seat in front of the suspended acrobats over a staircase! We also had a taste of experiences to come in multicultural Montréal by enjoying drinks and hors d'oeuvres from around the globe. The Sunday opening general session was a multi-media showcase for the eyes, using multiple LED screens and projections screens so not one of the guests in the back row would miss Bruce MacMillin in a Maple Leafs jersey or the backbreaking feats performed by Cirque du Soleil. The MarketPlace contained an overwhelming 600+ exhibitors and I don't think all of us combined visited every aisle or booth. Tuesday's luncheon sponsor, the **Las Vegas CVB**, escorted guests down a center aisle of servers adorned with flashing lapel pins and hats to our seats where *Mosaic*, an à capella and beat box group from the Flamingo Hotel, as well as, superstar comedian George Wallace served up an oversized dose of laughter. Tuesday evening's closing reception at the pier was another WOW experience.



MPI arranged five tents each with a different seasonal theme and showcased various entertainment acts and appetizers by restaurants from around Montreal ready for your group business. Once you drank a blue martini from the Celsius tent and discoed down with

the Boogie Wonder Band in the Summer tent, you knew you had arrived!

I can't wait to have fun with more of you next year in Vegas baby!

**- Megan Kiessling, CMP
Site Solutions Worldwide**



Want to Be a CMP?

The Winter 2008 Application deadline is 9/12! See below information for more deadline information. MPI NENY will once again hold study sessions beginning in October to prepare for the February 2, 2008 exam. If you are interested in participating in study classes, please contact [Carrie Hillenbrandt](#) to register for the fall classes.

October 30, 2007
[Register Today!](#)

Welcome, New Members!



Emily Bruce, Italian
 American Community
 Center - Mallozzi Grisup

Shanta Popo James,
 Financial Guaranty
 Insurance Company

Laureen Rego,
 Macquarie Holdings USA
 Inc.

Don't wait to get involved! Boost your career and increase your network by joining the premier meeting industry association today!

[Download the MPI Membership Application Today!](#)

Got News?

We'd love to hear from you! Please e-mail your announcements to **Robin Granger**, VP of Communication. [Click here](#) to view the MPI NENY Newsletter Production Schedule.

If you're having trouble viewing this newsletter with graphics, please visit www.mpineny.org to download a PDF version.

Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

February 2, 2008 Exam Deadlines

Application: September 12
Registration: November 14
Examination: February 2*

CIC Manual Update

Because the 8th Edition will not be released until September, CIC will be using the 7th edition for the February 2, 2008 exam.

August 9, 2008 Exam Deadlines

Application: April 9
Registration: June 11
Examination: August 9

Please visit the CIC website for information on exam locations and costs associated with each application or registration.

Exam materials and applications are now available for download at:

www.conventionindustry.org

We Want You!



**Are you creative? Innovative?
 Motivated? Are you ready to make a difference?**

Join a Chapter Committee Team Today! If you are interested in learning more about Chapter Teams, please contact any of the following:

MEMBERSHIP

Gina Mintzer, CMP, Director of Sales
 Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau
 518.434.1217 x301, gmintzer@albany.org

EDUCATION

Cindy Sullivan, CMP, Sales Manager
 The Saratoga Hotel
 518.693.1002, csullivan@luxuryresorts.com

ADMINISTRATION

Ed Barone, President
 Souders Promotions
 518.452.3000, ed@souders1918.com

COMMUNICATION

Robin Granger, VP Communications & Member Relations
 Chamber of Schenectady County
 518.372.5656, rgranger@schenectadychamber.org

FINANCE

Tim McCullough, Sales Manager
 Crowne Plaza Albany Hotel
 518.427.3008, sm2alb@lodgian.com

FALL SYMPOSIUM

Debby Goedeke, Convention Services Manager
 Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau
 518.434.1217x100, dgoedeke@albany.org

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