



Meeting News

June 2007

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President's Message



Dear Chapter Members:

As I am writing this I am realizing that this will be my last President's Message! I can't believe the year has gone by so fast. I guess the saying is true, time flies when you're having fun. It has been such a rewarding

June 12, 2007

MPI-NENY Annual Membership Meeting & Silent Auction

(for members only)



Join us for this complimentary members-only event! You'll have the opportunity for exclusive networking with fellow MPI Northeastern New York Chapter members and to meet and greet the volunteer board

members who drive our MPI Chapter. You'll witness the installation of officers and hear their reports on team activities for the year, highlights of the past year from our outgoing President, **Judy Rucinski, CMP**, and goals for the year from our incoming President, **Mike Snyder, CMP**.

Don't worry; it's not all about business! The fun begins with the **Silent Auction!** Did you know that as a member of MPI-NENY you have been earning points to "spend" at the Silent Auction? Here's how:

- Recruit a new member or join yourself!
- Bring a guest/potential member to an event
- Attend MPI national or industry specific events
- Write an article for the monthly newsletter
- Attend monthly chapter meetings
- Join a chapter committee team

experience to serve as your Chapter President.

I think back to our first meeting just three years ago when a small group of us got together to figure out how to start a local chapter of MPI. It involved a lot of heavy lifting from the initial steering committee and there were times when we didn't think we had the energy to see it through. But I am so excited to say that as of today we have grown to 140 members.

But it's not only about the membership numbers. It's what we have provided to our members. Our educational programs have been a tool to help our planners become more successful and evolve to positions of strategic influence within their organization. Our buy MPI philosophy has enhanced business opportunities for our suppliers.

As we grow we need help from you! Our new year commences in June at our Annual Meeting. At that time members can sign up to be on one of our five teams. Come and listen to what each team plans to accomplish for the upcoming year and join a team that interests you. It's another way to maximize your membership. So make this the year you get involved!

In closing, please join me at the Annual Meeting on

- Host or run an event
- And many more!

The points **YOU EARNED** could win some fabulous prizes during the auction! Get ready to spend your MPI points on prizes like a stay at the [Marriott Resort at Grande Dunes](#) in Myrtle Beach, SC, overnight accommodations at the [Tropicana Hotel & Casino](#) in Las Vegas, NV, a two night stay in a one bedroom Jacuzzi suite at the [Kaatskill Mountain Club](#), a one night stay with breakfast and golf for two at [The Sagamore](#), an overnight stay at the [Mohonk Mountain House](#) for two (including dinner) with \$200 to spend at the Spa, or a two night stay at [Foxwoods Resort Casino](#) with dinner - and that's just to name a few!

There are many more prizes to win - so get ready to place your bids! **Going once, going twice - SOLD!!**

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the auction! The auction would not be the immense success that it is without your support!

EVENT SCHEDULE

New Member Orientation: 4:00 p.m.

Registration: 4:45 p.m.

Business Meeting & Cocktail Reception: 5:00 p.m.

**New York State United Teachers
800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham**

It's never too late - [Click here to register today!](#)

Member Spotlight: Vanessa LaClair

New MPI member **Vanessa LaClair**, Membership Services & Events Coordinator for the **Independent Power Producers of New York, Inc.** is thrilled to be a part of a strong networking and goal oriented professional organization. She brings more than seven years experience in meeting planning (previously with another trade association) to the NENY chapter. Mike Snyder, CMP & Gina Mintzer, CMP impressed her from the onset with their attention to her personal goals and quickly assisting her in joining the Communications Team and the CMP study group. Vanessa has already attended worthwhile networking chapter events and met suppliers she was previously unfamiliar with. In just three short months, she has found MPI membership benefits far exceed other organizations she belongs to.



The number one reason she was compelled to join MPI was the opportunity for free CMP study groups. Heidi

June 12th at 5:00pm
when I pass the torch
over to our incoming
President, Mike Snyder,
CMP.

- Judy Rucinski, CMP



Join Meeting Professionals International and more than 3,000 of your colleagues from around the world for the **2007 World Education Congress July 28-August 1**. Rediscover your joie de vivre in Canada's sparkling **Montréal**, the host city to MPI's biggest and most exciting annual educational and tradeshow event.

For more information on the conference, please go to www.mpiweb.org. Conference registration and housing are now open. Hope you can join us!

REQUIREMENTS FOR U.S. CITIZENS TO ENTER CANADA

For travel by air: Valid passport required to enter Canada or re-enter the U.S.

For travel by land, ferry, or sea: Proof of U.S. Citizenship Required. *Usually Acceptable Proofs of U.S. Citizenship:* Valid U.S. Passport or one of the following carried together with Official Photo ID: Certified Copy of Birth Certificate, Certificate of Citizenship, Certificate of Naturalization, Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen.

Save the Date!



1st Annual MPI
Northeastern NY Golf
Tournament benefiting -

Longton, CMP of Northeastern Retail Lumber is her most inspirational instructor so far and she is grateful to have the extra study time before the January 2008 exam. The CMP coincides with her personal and professional goals to expand her skills and hopefully work on international destination events one day. She applauds the board and all MPI members she has interacted with so far for being very open to new ideas and immediately implementing them wherever possible.

Vanessa would love it if anyone she hasn't met yet, would introduce themselves at the next event so that she can continue to get to know our group.

CMP Program Dates Scholarship Available!



Last summer, Heidi Longton, CMP was recognized for 10 years of service at the Northeastern Retail Lumber Association. In honor of her achievement, her employer set up a fund in her name to provide a scholarship award to MPI NENY members who pursue professional development in the CMP program

to benefit both themselves and the MPI NENY Chapter. The scholarship, up to \$550, may be used as reimbursement to cover the expenses of the CMP application and registration so that the expense may be lightened. Anyone who has taken the CMP Exam within the past 12 months is eligible to apply.

The application deadline has been extended to June 8!

[Download Application](#)

Application, Registration & Exam Dates

Summer 2007 Exam
July 28, 2007

Winter 2008 Exam Deadlines
Application: September 12, 2007
Registration: November 14, 2007
Examination: February 2, 2008

Summer 2008 Exam Deadlines
Application: April 9, 2008
Registration: June 11, 2008
Examination: August 9, 2008

Please visit the CIC website for information on exam locations and costs associated with each application or registration. Exam materials and applications are also available for download.

www.conventionindustry.org

[The Make A Wish Foundation](#)

Date: Tuesday,
September 25th
Where: Saratoga
National Golf Club

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information!

Welcome, New Members!



Karen Mary Bannon
Corporate Events,
by Karen Bannon

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!](#)

Update Your Profile!



Please take a moment to update your MPI

International profile.

Visit www.mpiweb.org, log in and click on **update profile**. If you need help logging in, please contact Gina Mintzer, CMP, VP Membership and at 518.434.1217 x301 or gmintzer@albany.org.

A Special Thank You to NYSUT



At this time, I would like to thank all of the Board members who have made the past year so special and rewarding for MPI-NENY and our members.

Specifically, I would like to thank **Judy Rucinski, CMP**, our Past President for her dedication, leadership and vision to take us to the next step in our growth and

development.

As many of you know, it was the foresight and determination of Judy and **Julie Ann Price, CMP** from the New York State United Teachers that started the effort that has led to our Chapter. It is only fitting that we had our Annual Meeting at their facility in recognition of the outstanding contribution that they have made to our organization.

A big thank you to Judy, Julie Ann and the people of NYSUT for helping us achieve our success!

- Mike Snyder, CMP
Incoming President

MPI Chapter Leadership Conference



MPI-NENY Chapter members attended the recent MPI Annual Chapter Leadership Conference (CLC), in Dallas, Texas.

The conference focused on the skills and knowledge

necessary for the leadership of MPI's 59 chapters to grow and develop membership at the local level. With several MPI chapters now exceeding 1,000 members, this leadership program addresses the inherent challenges of managing leadership organizations during a time of widespread industry change and emerging opportunity.

Be an active chapter member and keep an eye on all the upcoming MPI events by visiting their website at www.mpiweb.org!

We Want You!

Remember: We can update your local profile, but **only you** can update your international profile. 25 points will be given to all those who check and update their profile. If your profile doesn't need an update, but you check it, you will still receive points.

Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)
[CMP Information](#)
[Chapter Leadership](#)

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.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

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

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