



The Official Newsletter of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals
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SGMP Headline News: Did You Know?

- **Bylaw changes** received an incredible return with 30 percent participation.
- **Joint Leadership Forum** (CPR, LSR, and National Board) will be held in Washington, DC January 13 – 15, 2005 at the Grand Hyatt.
- Submit articles for next issue of **Advantage** magazine; the theme is technology.
- **Exhibit booths** are selling fast; register today!
- **Silent Auction** solicitations will be sent mid-January. All proceeds will be used for scholarships to send members to the annual conference.

2005-2007 Nominations and Elections Timeline

December 2004: Nomination and Election (N&E) Committee verifies and approves candidates, solicits other candidates if needed, and establishes official nomination slate for approval by Board.

January 14, 2005: Approval of official nominations slate at Board meeting.

January 21, 2005: Release official nomination slate of candidates. Candidates may send information to chapters from this date through March 31, 2005.

February 11, 2005: Headshot and candidate profile due at national headquarters office.

March 3, 2005: Official election ballots prepared.

March 18, 2005: Ballots posted on secured Web site.

April 8, 2005: Deadline for members voting.

April 18, 2005: Ballots counted.

April 19-22, 2005: N&E Committee notifies candidates of results.

April 25, 2005: Official letter sent to candidates with election results.

May 2, 2005: Election results published on national Web site, press release sent out, etc.

May 20, 2005: 2005-2007 Board of Directors installed at Annual Education Conference.

July 1, 2005: New Board takes office.

Registration Fees for Annual Education Conference May 18-22, 2005

Government Planner (member):	\$300
Government Planner (non-member):	\$375
Contract Planner (member):	\$390
Contract Planner (non-member):	\$550
Associate Supplier (member):	\$425
Associate Supplier (non-member):	\$625
Supplier (non-exhibitor member):	\$575
Supplier (non-exhibitor non-member):	\$1,050
Retired:	\$300
Student:	\$250
Guest:	\$315
Banquet Only:	\$75
CMP Training Seminar (member):	\$250
CMP Training Seminar (non-member):	\$350
CHSP Review Course (member):	\$175
CHSP Review Course (non-member):	\$350
IACVB Sales Academy (member):	\$250
IACVB Sales Academy (non-member):	\$350
Looking for Leaders:	\$100

Exhibitors Act Now for 2005 Annual Education Conference

On-line registration is currently open for exhibitors **only**. We will be launching attendee registration the first week of March 2005, so mark your calendars!

For all hopeful exhibitors, the exhibition normally sells out by mid-February. We are ahead of this pace; do not delay. Register as soon as possible. Note: SGMP's policy requires that exhibitors must be SGMP members; only SGMP supplier members **who are exhibitors** will be allowed in the exhibition hall.

New Membership Rates Effective May 1, 2005

Beginning May 1, 2005, SGMP will implement new membership rates. If your anniversary is before this, you will pay the current rate. If it is on or after May 1, 2005, you will pay the new rates.

Government Planner:	\$50
Contract Planner:	\$125
Associate Supplier:	\$225
Supplier:	\$300
Retired and Student Educator:	\$25

Changes to Bylaws Receive Incredible Support and Participation

Recently, the members of SGMP agreed on bylaw changes. The complete report can be downloaded from the home page of our Web site, www.sgmp.org. All bylaws are effective immediately.

One accepted change was the creation of the Associate Supplier member. What are associate suppliers? The bylaws state that they are "individuals, organizations, or companies that are compensated through retainer or commission from suppliers (i.e.,

hotels, conference centers, cities, etc.) will be considered associate suppliers. This means that individuals, organizations, or companies whose income in the planning or placement of government meetings, conferences or conventions is derived from suppliers are also considered suppliers."

The membership rate for an associate supplier is \$225.

Plan Pre/Post Vacation Opportunities While in Sacramento, California

By Bruce Orinstein, CMP, Hyatt Regency Monterey Resort & Conference Center

If you have been California dreamin', next May will be the perfect time to make your dream a reality! Why not extend your annual conference visit to Sacramento and explore more of the West Coast?

Phenomenal places like Lake Tahoe, Reno, Napa Valley, San Francisco, Monterey, Silicon Valley, Yosemite National Park, and more, are all in the neighborhood. None of these fabulous destinations is more than a scenic three-hour drive away from Sacramento.

So, start thinking about which locations you most want to discover. Get out your atlas and see how many places you can visit before the conference, after the conference, or both!

Coming soon on our SGMP Web site, there will be a special annual conference pre/post page. You will want to peruse this section; properties will be listed with offers and hyperlinks to their Web site. In fact, do not book your airline tickets until after you have visited the pre/post page and determined which destinations you will visit before and after the conference. The most difficult decision may not be which break-out to attend, but rather which West Coast cities you want to travel to around conference time!

For more information contact Bruce Orinstein, CMP, Hyatt Regency Monterey Resort & Conference Center, at borinste@mrydmpo.hyatt.com.

Government Meeting Professional is published six times a year by the Society of Government Meeting Professionals, a national organization of meeting managers and suppliers. Send all suggestions and inquiries to: Society of Government Meeting Professionals, 908 King Street, Lower Level, Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 549-0892; fax (703) 549-0708. All members are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Article submissions should be sent to: Lynnette Simpson, at LSimpson@sgmp.org.

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CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETINGS CALENDAR

Atlanta Chapter

- Dec. 17: Holiday Celebration, Westin
- Jan. 19: Town Hall Meeting, Sheraton
- Feb. 16: TBD, Marriott Century Center
- Mar. 16: TBD, Holiday Inn Roswell

Central Florida Chapter

- Jan. 15: CMP, Paramount Resort
- Feb. 19: Silent Auction, Daytona CVB
- Mar. 18: Speakers, Hotel Orlando North

Florida Capital Chapter

- Jan. 18: Tax Exempt, Homewood
- Feb. 15: Room Setup, TBD

Greater Oregon Chapter

- Dec. 15: Holiday Party, Doubletree

Heart of America

- Dec. 17: Economic Development Part 1, Embassy Suites Plaza
- Jan. 19: Economics Part 2, Embassy
- Feb. 16: Security/Terrorism, Marriott
- Mar. 16: Education Conference, TBD

Heart of Illinois

- Jan. 25: Ethically Speaking, Hilton
- Feb. 22: Spring Training, Hoogland
- Mar. 29: Wow Planners, Illini Club

Michigan State Chapter

- Jan. 19: TBD, TBD
- Feb. 16: TBD, TBD

Missouri State Capital Chapter

- Jan. 13: TBD
- Feb. 10: TBD
- Mar. 10: Boss's Luncheon, TBD

National Capital Chapter

- Jan. 19: Meet the President, Doubletree
- Feb. 8: A Better You, Hilton
- Mar. 16: Ethics/Protocol, Holiday Inn

Old Dominion Chapter

- Jan. 5: TBD, Sheraton Park South
- Feb. 2: Protocols/Traditions, Wyndham
- March 16: Education Conference, TBD

Pacific Northwest Chapter

- Jan. 12: Revenue Management, Bellevue Mercato Restaurant
- Feb. 9: Evolution of Convention Center, TBD
- March: Spring Conference, TBD

Rocky Mountain Chapter

- Jan. 25: TBD, Holiday Inn
- Feb. 25: TBD, Hampton Inn
- Mar. 22: TBD, Red Lion Hotel

Sacramento Chapter

- Jan. 6: Bosses' Day, Marriott Hotel
- Feb. 17: Education Conference, Doubletree
- Mar. 3: Leadership, Holiday Inn

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

- Jan. 20: Looking Ahead 2005, Canterbury Hotel
- Feb. 17: Green Meetings, TBD
- Mar. 17-18: Education Conference, Boomtown Hotel & Casino

St. Louis Gateway Chapter

- Jan. 26: VIP Protocol, Airport Hilton
- Feb. 23: CVB and APEX, Holiday Inn Select
- Mar. 23: TBD, Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort

Texas Lone Star Capital Chapter

- Jan. 13: Chapter Birthday Evaluations, Omni Downtown
- Feb. 10: Committee Exhibits, Crowne Plaza
- Mar. 6: Educational Fiesta, La Posada Hotel
- Mar. 10: Conference Etiquette, TBD

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