

The Spur

July–August 2010

Volume 9, Issue 4



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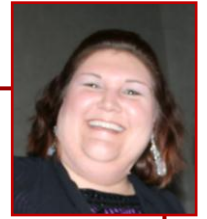


Check out the national SGMP
web site at www.sgmp.org





From the President's Desk



Hello Chapter,

Welcome to FY 11, at least for the state! As we begin a new fiscal year, we, your board of directors, have been planning for upcoming meetings and activities. We have an exciting schedule of meetings and are working to ensure that you get CEU's for all of our meetings. In July, we held our annual board retreat, so we could establish goals and expectations for the upcoming year. I am entering my last term as president, so I set some ambitious goals for my fellow directors. I am very confident that we can achieve these goals and we are already making progress on them. I assure you that the entire board is committed to move our chapter in positive directions throughout 2010–11.

In August we held our monthly meeting at Sooner Legends in Norman. We had an amazing turn out and a great meeting with fantastic food. Martin Piplitts provided some intriguing information on technology and ethics when applied to hiring practices and work place practices. It was an eye opener for me and I hope it was beneficial to you as well.

I remind all of you that we are in an election year! We need people who are interested in running for board positions. If you have questions about being on our board I invite you to attend a board meeting. Board meetings are held at 9:30 prior to the chapter meeting at the same location and are always open door. This is a great way to become familiar with how chapter decisions are made and voted on. All current officers can run for re–election to their current positions, except for Angela Salusky our treasurer, and me, your very grateful president. I encourage as many nominations for board positions as possible. A call for nominations will come from Carrie Rohr in February. If you have questions please let me know, I will be happy to discuss anything with you.

Sincerely,

Maggie McGowan
Wild West Chapter President

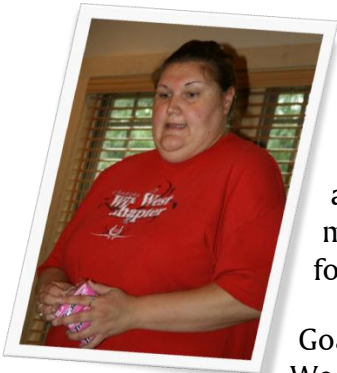
**Wild West
Chapter**

OKLAHOMA SGMP



JULY BOARD RETREAT

by Maggie McGowan, CGMP, CMP



July 8–9, 2010 the Board of Directors for the Wild West chapter went on retreat...no we were not engaged in any sort of battle, but we did want to discuss the upcoming year and set goals and agendas for 2010–2011. The retreat was held at Post Oak Lodge just outside of Tulsa. The retreat agenda followed closely our monthly meeting agendas, but with expanded reporting and goal setting time frames for ample discussion of what we could accomplish in this upcoming year.

Goals set for this year include, having all of our educational meetings CEU accredited. We have already made progress on this and I know we will achieve this goal. We have the entire year of programming scheduled. We are however looking for speakers to speak on topics. If you are contacted by a board member to speak please consider it. Speaking at our meetings will help you earn scholarship points to attend regional and national conferences. I have challenged our membership team to recruit and retain members throughout the year. We set a goal of 125 members by June 2011. That is an increase of 34 new members, if NO ONE drops during the year. We will be monitoring membership closely. If you work with anyone who might benefit from SGMP please send our membership team an email with their contact information. We also increased the bottom line on our budget by 22%. We did this because of anticipated increases in revenue from new members and an expanded Scholarship Holiday Gala invitee list. We have BIG plans for the Gala and I know the will make it happen. Scholarship awards are another area where we increased the budget. Please start planning for both the Partners in Education conference which will be held February 24–27, 2011 on South Padre Island, Texas and the National Education conference June 8–11, 2011 in Norfolk, Virginia. In addition to all of the items listed the board also renewed our commitment to the “Charity of Choice” for each monthly meeting, the OKC Memorial Marathon, and Toys for Tots. We have also rolled out a newsletter advertising rate schedule that is discounted if you purchase an entire year of advertising. We are looking at website advertising as well and hope to roll that out soon.



The items listed above are the highlights of our meeting, we will have other initiatives roll out during the year, but they are still being formulated. After adjourning for the evening the first day we held a small baby shower for Angela Salusky.

2010–11 will be a great year for the chapter and I am excited for it to unfold.





MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

As of August 31, 2010, the Wild West Chapter has:

45 Government Planners

4 Contract Planners

40 Suppliers

1 Educator/Student

1 Retiree

Membership Changes

Dee Anne Holcomb is now with the Southwest Center for the Study of Human Relations at the University of Oklahoma

Thanks to our members with July & August anniversaries for renewing!

Note from your Membership Chair: Keep Recruiting!

Our membership goal for this year is **125** members!

Make plans now to attend next year's
National Education Conference
June 8–11, 2011 in Norfolk, VA!



2010–2011 CGMP Courses

September 25–28, 2010

Washington, DC

Embassy Suites Convention Center

October 4–7, 2010

Austin, TX

AT&T Conference Center at the University of Texas

June 5–8, 2011

Norfolk, VA

Location TBD



HONORS & AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

★ SHINING STAR ★

TANYA BETHEL

by Crystal Mappes, CMP



Tanya Bethel received the “Shining Star” award on August 12, 2010 at the host property, Sooner Legends Norman. She has been in the hospitality industry for 18 years with various brands and positions such as AGM, Sales Manager and Director of Sales. Currently Tanya has been a sales manager for the Doubletree Warren Place Tulsa for five years.

She and her husband, Michael, live in Jenks and have been married for 10 years. They have two children, Jillian – 7 years old, Holden – 5 years old, and a Shih Tzu named Simon. Tanya enjoys spending time with her family, especially hanging out with her kiddos.

Ms. Bethel stepped up to the plate with the hospitality committee when Heather needed a helping hand. She solicited donations for the monthly luncheon give-a-ways and provided donations as well. We are very grateful for the support and dedication she has provided to the Wild West Chapter.

PLANNER PROFILE



Kati Schmidt, M.A.O.M., C.P.P.

Center for Professional and Distance Education
University of Central Oklahoma—*Director of Professional Education*

What advice can you give your peers?

Be flexible. The world is changing quickly and will never again be as we once know it. Be eager to learn new things and go with the flow.

Years in Industry: 20

Hobbies: Spanish Language (going to Mexico a lot), working in the yard

Education: BA, Spanish Language and Culture—University of Central Oklahoma

Children: Two Sons, ages 33 & 31; one daughter-in-law

Favorite Quote: “What goes around, comes around. Or in better words, do unto other.”

What is the best part of your job? Working the university “family” setting. There are so many talented People on campus and the university atmosphere reinforces every day that there is hope for the future of our kids.



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

August was a hot month to attend SGMP! Our amazing suppliers were kind enough to donate some fantastic door prizes. Tanya Bethel with the Doubletree Hotel Warren Place brought a tin of delicious cookies, as well as, a reed diffuser. Caitlin Murphy with the Downstream Casio Resort donated a wonderful one night stay for two at the Resort. Shelly Moisant with the Moisant Promotional Products graciously brought a men's utility Kit. Mona Springfield from CPM donated a SGMP T-shirt and a white fluffy robe. We truly appreciate and thank everyone who provided door prizes at the August meeting!

Suppliers, it is easy to take advantage of this opportunity at each luncheon. This is a creative way to promote your properties and services to SGMP members and guests.

If you have any questions or would like to donate items for our next luncheon please email Heather Sprunger at hsprunger@ou.edu

50/50: Tickets are just \$1 each, 7 tickets for \$5, and 15 tickets for \$10. Tickets may be purchased at registration.

We will draw a winner after lunch and the lucky winner will keep 1/2 the pot! The other half will go to the chapter to increase available scholarship money. If you are interested in participating, please bring cash and you're lucky charm! Congratulations to Ginger Thompson with the Oklahoma City CVB for winning the 50/50 drawing at our August meeting.

Thank you SGMP members who participated in the August drawing. We truly appreciate your continued contributions to SGMP scholarships.

RESILIENCY IN LEADERSHIP: CATCHING THE DREAM

SGMP Member Joyce Smith with the Oklahoma Office of Personnel Management is the 2010 President of the American Academy of Certified Public Managers® (AACPM) and a member of Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Managers® (OSCPM). OSCP is hosting the 22nd Annual AACPM Professional Development and Educational Conference in Oklahoma City. The conference will be held October 18–19, 2010, at the Cox Communications Convention Center.

Smith reminds us that it is important to retain the employees we value most. Tough economic climates can make it difficult-to-impossible to offer salary increases. But often, money is not the most important thing to a good employee. Showing that you value their performance, creative and innovative ideas, loyalty, and their desire to grow professionally can be more meaningful. This is your opportunity to provide a tangible benefit, to enhance your employees' career development, while saving travel and lodging expenses. Additionally, conference attendees can earn CEUs offered by the Oklahoma Office of Personnel Management and CEUs from Texas State University.

The theme of the conference, Resiliency in Leadership: Catching the Dream, captures Oklahoma's strong spirit and its ability to weather tough times, while continuing to thrive and prosper. Nationally known headliners Dr. Alan R. Zimmerman, G. Eric Gordon, Rebecca Pace, and Andrew Ulrich, J.D. will keynote general sessions. A host of other local and national presenters will lead breakout sessions.

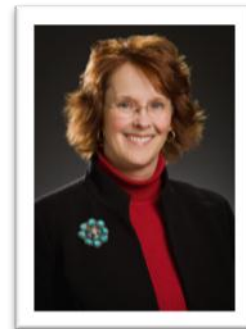
Registration for your employees is \$350 per person for the two-day (Monday and Tuesday) workshop, or \$175 per person for one-day (Monday or Tuesday) of workshops. On-line registration and detailed information about the conference is at www.aacpmconference.com. Information about AACPM can be found at www.cpmacademy.org. If you need more information about either, please contact Smith at Joyce.Smith@opm.ok.gov or 522-3617.



MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Sheila Scott–Halsell, Ph.D.

School of Hotel and Restaurant Administration
Oklahoma State University—*Assistant Professor*



What advice can you give your peers?

Open yourself up to new ideas and try new things. You never know if it might be a better method of doing something. If it doesn't work, it was a learning experience.

Years in Industry: 9 in academia, 17 in hospitality management

Hobbies: Reading, travelling, dancing whenever and wherever I hear music I like.

Education: BA, Advertising–Texas Tech University
BS, Hotel Administration–University of Nevada, Las Vegas
MS, Restaurant, Hotel & Institutional Management–Texas Tech University
PH.D., Hospitality management–Texas Tech University

What's on your iPod? Everything from Merle Haggard to Rick James

Favorite Quote: “Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.”

Fun fact: Due to my past hospitality career, I've moved over 30 times in the last 28 years. Since I have been here 4 years, it seems even more insane!

LAGUNA MADRE HUMANE SOCIETY ADOPTED FOR SGMP PARTNERS IN EDUCATION CONFERENCE COMMUNITY PROJECT

By Karla Starkweather, Texas Lone Star Capital Chapter

The PIE Conference Chair Angelia Johnson is pleased to announce that SGMP is adopting the Laguna Madre Humane Society as a community service project. The “no kill” shelter is located in one of the poorest counties in Texas and has been hit hard in these troubled economic times. “Donations and adoptions are down while pets are being turned in or abandoned in greater-than-ever numbers,” according to Jeff Aldridge, Acting Board President of the shelter.

The shelter has two mottos: “Providing Shelter from the Storm” and “Adopt a Pet – Save Two Lives (the one being adopted and the one that gets to move into the vacated space). One of the shelter's main projects is to modernize their facility as it has been expanding in a hodge-podge fashion since 1994, when the Humane Society finally took over from the City of Port Isabel. “Currently staff must run around bungee-ing tarps to all the cages as storms approach,” says Aldridge.

Laguna Madre is proud to be the only “no kill” shelter in the lower Rio Grande Valley housing close to 250 animals, but they need help in maintaining the facility and caring for the animals. Please give generously before and at the conference; which will be held February 25–27, 2011 at the Isla Grand Beach Resort, South Padre Island.

A golf tournament will be held Friday, February 25th.





MONTHLY MEETINGS

September 9, 2010



Venue: Doubletree Warren Place—Tulsa
Program: Become a Supplier for a Day
Speaker: Michael Trillo, Treasurer, SGMP National Board
Charity of Choice: Francis Scott Key Elementary

October 14, 2010



Venue: Sheraton MWC at the Reed Conference Center—Midwest City
Program: Hotel Safety & Security Looking Beyond the Peephole
Speaker: Kevin Thomas, Renaissance OKC
Charity of Choice: Second Chance Animal Sanctuary

November 11, 2010



Venue: Stillwater Convention and Visitors Bureau—Stillwater
Program: State of the Chapter Address
Charity of Choice: Smart Start Book Drive Program

Dec. 9, 2010



Venue: Embassy Suites Norman Hotel & Conference Center—Norman
Program: Professional Development Seminar & Holiday Gala
Charity of Choice: Toys for Tots

WE WANT YOU!

Share your knowledge and present on a topic of your choice that will educate all SGMNP members. You will be appreciated by your peers, & earn points for meeting planning certifications & chapter scholarships.

Your topic does not have to be solely on meeting planning or the hotel industry. Think outside the box about topics that are essential in everyday life at work, home, relationships, etc. All of us make up the body of the chapter and each of you ARE the chapter.

If you aren't comfortable presenting by yourself, buddy up with a colleague to do a presentation. You may have someone in your office who would give a presentation. The possibilities are endless! With the amount of expertise we all bring to one group, it will be a phenomenal year for the Wild West Chapter and we can keep bringing stellar programs to the 2nd Thursday of every month!

Please contact Jessi Rigney with your presentation ideas at jessi.a.rigney@usps.gov or 405.366.4974. Thanks!





Congratulations to Wild West SGMP Treasurer Angela Salusky on her adorable baby girl!

Name: Sophia Fay Salusky
Born: August 5, 2010 at 5:41pm
Weight: 7 pounds and 4 ounces
Length: 19 ½”



NEW DEPARTMENT, NEW CONFERENCE, NEW DUTIES

by Dee Anne Holcomb, CMP, CGMP

The National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education (NCORE©) was held in National Harbor, Maryland, at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. The conference, in its 24th year, is a program of the Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies at the College of Continuing Education, University of Oklahoma. My work with this conference started in February, 2010, before the May 31st opening day.

The conference consists of five days of institutes, major workshops, special feature presentations and films. Evening events included receptions, a pow wow, and dance lessons. This year workshop subjects covered everything from hip hop as a teaching tool to Civil Rights history. The session, “Unsung Heroines, Untold Stories: Personal Reflections About the Bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church – A Turning Point in the Civil Rights Movement” featured Sarah Collins Rudolph and Junie Collins Peavy Williams, sisters of one of the bombing victims, Addie Mae Collins.

My former experience included being the lead coordinator on conferences that were three days with 5,000 attendees and 60 presenters. This conference is 5 days, 1,500 attendees, and over 500 presenters! Yes, they all had to have signed presenter agreements. And on this new conference (new to me), all contracts were my responsibility. My other responsibilities were onsite management and food and beverage. Things went smoothly, and I learned a lot about mail merges! Also, I learned a lot about social justice subjects, as that is what the conference is all about.

Gaylord National is a beautiful, well-run facility, but several miles away from Washington, D.C. It is quite a bit smaller than Gaylord Opryland, and thus not near as confusing to get around in. My experience with Gaylord properties has been very positive.





WANTED NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

We want your contributions to *The Spur*. Let us know what is going on with you on a personal or professional level. We want your photos and news of events big and small. Articles can be about a new meeting planning experience or something that you learned to do or not to do. Give us your input and remember, articles count for scholarship points.

WANTED YOUR AD!

¼ page = \$50
 ½ page = \$75
 Full Page = \$125
Prices are per issue

Ad formats: .tif, .jpg, or .pdf

REWARD

Contact:
 lmorgan@pdcproductions.com

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NATIONAL SGMP DUES INCREASE

Effective Friday, October 1, 2010, there will be new SGMP annual dues in the following membership categories:

Government Planner	\$55	(from \$50)
Contract Planner	\$140	(from \$125)
Supplier	\$350	(from \$300)
Associate Supplier	\$250	(from \$225)

FY 2011 Oklahoma Per Diem Rates

Primary Destination*	County	Max lodging by Month (excluding taxes)												Meals & Inc. Exp.**
		2010			2011									
		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
Standard Rate	Applies for all locations without specified rates	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	46
Oklahoma City	Oklahoma County	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82	66
Tulsa	Creek County, Osage County, Tulsa County, Rogers County	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	61



THE UNCOMFORT ZONE

WITH ROBERT WILSON

Change Please

“Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.”

These are the words of the woman who became the poster child for overcoming adversity. A woman who was isolated into the two dimensional world of touch and smell at the age of 19 months. Yet, she went on to inspire millions around the world. Sightless and deaf, Helen Keller resolved to make something of her life. She lived with a keen understanding that change is inevitable, but growth is intentional. Unwilling to give in to her blindness, she chose to strive for a normal life.

Motivation is all about motion or movement. In other words, if you are comfortable, if you are happy and content, then you DO NOT move. You do not change. Why would you? On the other hand, if you are uncomfortable, if you're unhappy, then you want to change. You want to move back toward your comfort zone. There are millions of motivators in the world and all of us at any one time is being motivated by a dozen or more: Hunger, Safety, Sex, Love, Enlightenment to name just a few.

Interestingly, you can take all those motivators and boil them down to a variation of two basic emotions: Fear and Desire. You are either moving toward something you desire; or you are moving away from something you fear.

Fear, however, can become paralyzing and will keep us in one un-comfort zone because we fear the perceived discomfort that comes with change. We fear that change could open a Pandora's Box of more and scarier changes. I've seen it in relationships and in business.

I know a married couple who over the years have drifted apart and their marriage has become stagnant. I know they both desire greater intimacy with the other, but they both fear rejection and so they do nothing.

I know a small business owner who watched his business shrink in the recent recession. His self-esteem is closely tied to his success and his falling income triggered fears of inadequacy. Frozen by fear into doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results, he has not adapted to the changes going on in his market.

Helen Keller once again has wise words for such situations, “When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.”

When couples try new things together they actually stimulate the receptors in their brains that invoke the feelings of romance. Taking a class or starting a new hobby together is a great way for couples to renew their feelings for each other and discover a greater depth of intimacy.

For small business owners, a recession is a great time to try out a new idea or innovation. It attracts renewed interest in the business and can even create new customers and open new markets.

The trick is getting comfortable with change a little at a time. Start engaging in simple changes at home. Low risk changes will generate immediate rewards. Here are a few you can make that will help you get into a habit of adapting to change:

If you drink coffee every day, switch to tea for a week. If you always listen to rock music on the radio, switch to country, jazz, or classical for a week. Rearrange one piece of furniture in your house. Read a section of the newspaper that you've never read before. Take a continuing education class in a subject not related to your career. Join a hobby group on MeetUp.com. Taste an ethnic food that you've never tried before, (as an alternative revisit a food you think you hate).

Publishing Information

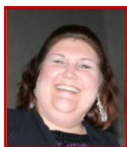
Robert Evans Wilson, Jr. is a motivational speaker and humorist. He works with companies that want to be more competitive and with people who want to think like innovators. For more information on Robert's programs please visit www.jumpstartyourmeeting.com.

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WILD WEST CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President



Maggie McGowan, CGMP, CMP
University of Oklahoma—CPM
405.325.4850
mmcgowan@ou.edu

Treasurer



Angela Salusky
Hilton Tulsa Southern Hills
918.523.5326
angela.salusky@hilton.com

1st Vice President



Sherry Roberts
Small Business Innovation Research
405.319.8418
sherry@sbirok.org

Director—Awards



Crystal Mappes, CMP
OK Assn of Comm. Health Care Providers
405.524.8338
cmappes@oachp.org

2nd Vice President



Jessi Rigney
NCED Conference Center & Hotel
405.366.4974
Jessi.A.Rigney@usps.gov

Director—Community Service



Laura Morgan
PDC Productions
405.360.5130
lmorgan@pdcproductions.com

Secretary



Alice Moore, CGMP
University of Oklahoma—CECPD
405.799.6383
ammoore@ou.edu

Director—Special Projects



Jamie Eason
Sooner Legends
405.701.8100
jamie@soonerlegends.com

Past President



Carrie Rohr
405.514.9162
crohr11693@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Budget and Finance: Angela Salusky—angela.salusky@hilton.com

Community Service: Laura Morgan—lmorgan@pdcproductions.com

Honors and Awards: Crystal Mappes, CMP—cmappes@oachp.org

Hospitality: Heather Sprunger—hsprunger@ou.edu

Membership: Mona Springfield, CMP, CGMP—mspringfield@ou.edu

Nominations & Elections: Carrie Rohr—crohr11693@aol.com

Publications: Laura Morgan—lmorgan@pdcproductions.com

Program and Education: Jessi Rigney—jessi.a.rigney@usps.gov

Scholarship: Maggie McGowan, CGMP, CMP—mmcgowan@ou.edu

Special Projects: Jamie Eason—jamie@soonerlegends.com

