

# The Spur

March–April 2011

Volume 10, Issue 2



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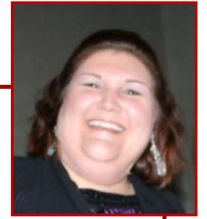


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## From the President's Desk



Greetings Chapter,

I am excited to share the latest chapter news from our March and April Meetings as well as other events that have happened since the last installment of our newsletter. In March we hosted a great meeting at the Tulsa Downtown Doubletree. Angela Salusky and the staff at the Downtown Doubletree did a fantastic job of hosting us. The meeting was our annual State of the Chapter Address, where members of the current board shared their information about their positions and chapter initiatives. We also met the individuals running for positions on the 2011-2013 board. Later in March we held our elections and I was thrilled with the returns. More than 60% of our membership voted for candidates.

I am honored to congratulate the elected officers for 2011–2013:

- President: Alice Moore, CGMP
- First Vice President: Mona Springfield, CMP, CGMP
- Second Vice President: Jessi Rigney, CMP
- Secretary: Crystal Mappes, CMP
- Treasurer: Ginger Thompson
- Director: Jamie Eason
- Director: Sara Furr
- Director: Angela Salusky
- Immediate Past President: Carrie Rohr

In April we held our meeting at Sooner Legends Inn and Suites, where we participated in “Uncovering Norfolk’s Meeting Planning Treasures”. The program consisted of pirate and Norfolk trivia questions as well as CGMP test questions. This meeting was a CEU accredited meeting, and everyone who participated received .125 CEUs. Jamie Eason and the staff at Sooner Legends served us a spectacular spring meal.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings. Please remember that the board meetings are open to all members. Also, we need your RSVP’s before meetings so that the host property can be prepared.

At Your Service,

Maggie McGowan, CMP, CGMP  
West Chapter President

**Wild West  
Chapter**  
OKLAHOMA SGMP



# MARCH MEETING

## State of the Chapter Address

DoubleTree Downtown—Tulsa  
March 9, 2011



Wild West SGMP members gathered at the DoubleTree Hotel Tulsa—Downtown for the annual State of the Chapter Address. The interactive meeting allowed members to ask questions and get more information on the operations of the chapter. Current board members spoke about their specific contributions to chapter management and members were introduced to the candidates running for positions on the 2011–2013 Wild West board.



Congratulations to 50/50 raffle winner  
Gail Ezepek!



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Join us for the Wild West Chapter Officer Installation  
& Supplier Appreciation  
June 2 at Embassy Suites Norman



# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

**As of April 30, 2011, the Wild West Chapter has:**

39 Government Planners

7 Contract Planners

37 Suppliers

1 Educator/Student

1 Retiree

## **New Members**

Ashley Applebaum—DOD, Fires Center of Excellence & Fort Sill, Government Meeting Planner

Melissa Egan—Crowne Plaza Oklahoma City, Supplier

Mindy Layon—Embassy Suites Tulsa, Supplier

Catherine Vanderpool—OU Center for Public Management, Government Meeting Planner

**Thanks to our members with March & April  
anniversaries for renewing!**

Do you know someone who might benefit from SGMP? Too busy to invite them yourself? Send your membership leads and we will invite them for you, plus, you can earn scholarship points for qualifying leads!

Send your leads to Jessi Rigney at [jessi.a.rigney@usps.gov](mailto:jessi.a.rigney@usps.gov).

Our membership goal for this year is 125 members!

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**Make plans now to attend the National Education Conference  
June 8–11, 2011 in Norfolk, VA!**





## **SOCIETY OF GOVERNMENT MEETING PROFESSIONALS ELECTS NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Society of Government Meeting Professionals (SGMP) announced today its newly-elected national board of directors for 2011 – 2013. Current SGMP first vice president Rob Coffman, CGMP, was elected president. Coffman serves as deputy director for the Office of Conference, Event and Meeting Services at the U.S. Department of the Treasury in Washington, DC.

"I am thrilled at this opportunity to serve my fellow SGMP members during this critical time. The important roles government meeting professionals play with our supplier partners on the federal, state and local levels have never been more meaningful as we face so many new challenges every day. I know this new board of directors will work tirelessly to expand SGMP's increasing effectiveness on their behalf and to continue growing our organization nationwide."

Five individuals were elected to the national board for the first time. Current director Kelly Roche, CGMP, CTA, was re-elected as a director and former director Debra Kilpatrick, CGMP, was elected as secretary. Here are the members of the 2011- 2013 SGMP national board of directors:

President: Rob Coffman, CGMP (Washington, DC)  
First Vice President: Rhonda Wise, CGMP (Dallas, TX)  
Second Vice President: Shelley Mann, CGMP (Dallas TX)  
Secretary: Debra Kilpatrick, CGMP (Richmond, VA)  
Treasurer: James Lynton, CHSP (Sacramento, CA)  
Director: Maggie McGowan, CMP, CGMP (Norman, OK)  
Director: Beth Miller-Tipton, CMP (Gainesville, FL)  
Director: Kelly Roche, CGMP, CTA (Irving, TX)  
Immediate Past President: Melody Kebe, CMP, CGMP (Falls Church, VA)  
Executive Director & CEO: Charles Sadler, CGMP, CHSP, CHSC (Alexandria, VA)

"This year, SGMP had competing candidates in every elected position for the first time I can remember," according to Donna Carey, CGMP, who serves as immediate past president and chair of the nominations & elections committee. "But what SGMP should be most proud about is the fact that all of our board members hold esteemed certifications in the meetings and hospitality industry."

The newly-elected board members include six individuals who have attained the Certified Government Meeting Professional ("CGMP") designation. The incoming board of directors holds a total of 15 meetings and hospitality industry certifications, including three members with a CMP. Full profiles for the new members are located on the SGMP website.

"I am honored to hold an ex-officio position on the national board and look forward to the leadership and partnership this new board will provide our organization during two very exciting anniversary years," said SGMP executive director & CEO Charles Sadler, CGMP, CHSP, CHSC.

SGMP is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year and will hold its 30th annual convention in 2012. The new board of directors will be installed during the Sam Gilmer Awards Banquet on June 9, 2011, at SGMP's National Education Conference in Norfolk, Virginia, for a two-year term of office that begins on July 1, 2011.

(SGMP) is the only professional organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to government meetings. SGMP is a national non-profit organization of nearly 4,000 members in 31 chapters who are involved in planning government meetings. SGMP's objectives are to enhance the knowledge and expertise of government meeting professionals—through education, resources, and networking—in order to improve the quality, and promote the cost-effectiveness, of government meetings.



# APRIL MEETING

## Uncovering Norfolk's Meeting Planning Treasures

Sooner Legends—Norman  
April 14, 2011

SGMP members met at Sooner Legends Inn and Suites to participate in “Uncovering Norfolk’s Meeting Planning Treasures.” The meeting was an interactive opportunity for members to learn about Norfolk, Virginia and its history, as well as answering meeting planning questions. Answering questions correctly allowed members to keep their pirate treasure, but missing the answer caused their booty to disappear. The person with the most treasure at the end won a prize! Members were encouraged to channel their inner pirate to get extra treasure throughout the presentation.

Congratulations to 50/50 raffle winner Gail Ezepek!





## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

### 50/50 Raffle

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 your lucky charm!

Thank you SGMP members who participated in this month's drawing. We truly appreciate your contributions to SGMP scholarships. Be sure to try again at the upcoming luncheons!

### Door Prizes

In March our extraordinary suppliers went above and beyond by graciously contributed a number of door prizes. The Doubletree Hotel at Warren Place Tulsa thoughtfully donated a dream deal overnight stay. The Hyatt Regency Tulsa gave away a gift certificate for a Regency Club King to include parking and a movie. The Downstream Casino Resort was courteous enough to provide a complimentary overnight stay. Moisant Promotional Products gave three amazing door prizes which included an outdoor adventure kit, deluxe wireless weather station, and a roadside auto caddy.

The Enid CVB gave a fantastic Farmers Market tote bag with handles and a pound of locally grown organic all-natural granola. The Renaissance Tulsa Hotel & Convention Center donated lunch for 2 at Cypress Grille to include basil bread and pesto. We also had a contribution from the Oklahoma City CVB provided a wonderful door prize. March was a great month full of amazing door prizes. We send our sincerest thank you to all the suppliers who donated magnificent prizes in March.

April Showers bring May flowers! The spring season is upon us. In April our suppliers graciously supplied our SGMP Wild West chapter with a handful of door prizes. The Embassy Suites Norman-Hotel & Conference Center donated one night stay and the Doubletree Hotel Tulsa-Downtown provided a tin of Doubletree Chocolate Chip and Walnut Cookies.

Suppliers don't forget about this opportunity each luncheon. This is an inexpensive way to get your name out to your target market during tough economic times. If you have any questions or would like to donate items for our next luncheon on May 12th, 2011 at Doubletree Warren Place—Tulsa, please email [hsprunger@ou.edu](mailto:hsprunger@ou.edu).



## 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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## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month!

Please contact Jessi Rigney with your presentation ideas at [jessi.a.rigney@usps.gov](mailto:jessi.a.rigney@usps.gov) or 405.366.4974. Thanks!





# AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

## Shining Star for Dedication

*by Crystal Mappes, CMP*



Ms. Alice Moore, CGMP, was presented the shining star award April 14, 2011 at Sooner Legends in Norman for her dedicated years of serving on the Wild West Chapter board for several years in various capacities. Alice became a member in 2002 and has served as the Texas-Oklahoma Partners in Education Conference Co-chair in 2003-2004, and as the Conference Chair in 2005. She has since served on the Board as Director, currently the Secretary and soon to be our 5<sup>th</sup> chapter president.

Although Alice is an Oklahoma State University alumna, she works for the University of Oklahoma, College of Continuing Education Outreach at the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development. Not only is Alice dedicated to SGMP, she is also very dedicated to her job coordinating statewide leadership trainings specifically for licensed child care center directors, assistant directors, and administrators.

Ms. Moore lives in Purcell and spends her spare time with family and enjoying activities with her nephews and nieces. Congratulations Alice on both receiving the well deserved shining star and leading our chapter to new horizons!

## Membership Chair Shines

*by Crystal Mappes, CMP*

Ms. Mona Springfield, CGMP, CMP received the shining star award April 14, 2011 at Sooner Legends in Norman. Mona became a member of SGMP in November 2005 and has served as membership chair since June 2010.

Ms. Springfield lives and works in Norman. She is employed as a Project Manager for the Center for Public Management at the University Of Oklahoma. Her favorite pastime is traveling to tournaments and watching her daughter play Volleyball and Basketball.

Mona is married to Scott Springfield and they have 2 children, Joe & Mary. The Wild West Chapter is appreciative to have such a devoted member to the success and growth of our membership. Ms. Springfield will be serving as 1st Vice President for the Wild West Chapter for the next two years. Once again, thank you Mona! A deserving shining star recipient.





# THE UNCOMFORT ZONE

## WITH ROBERT WILSON

### *Be True to Yourself*

One afternoon, back in 8th grade, I was hanging out with my pal Charlie, when I noticed copies of Sports Illustrated and Car & Driver magazines on his desk.

"Hey, I didn't know you were into cars and sports," I said.

"I'm not," he replied.

"But these magazines are addressed to you."

"I read them, because that's what the guys at school are talking about, and I want to join in. I want them to like me."

"Why don't you talk about what you like?"

Charlie just shrugged.

I couldn't believe Charlie would waste his time doing something he didn't like or care about, but a year later I was guilty of the same thing - only worse.

I was looking wistfully at pictures of cute girls in my highschool yearbook when I said to my friend Tony, "I sure wish I knew how to talk to girls."

Tony replied, "The girls always talk to guys on the football team, you should go out for football."

It was all the motivation I needed. So, without ever having played the game before, without even knowing the rules, I joined the football team. I immediately found that I hated it. I had to run, in full pads, two or more miles every day in the hot sun. I had to lift weights, do sit ups and push ups, but the roughest part was tackling. I was six feet, two inches tall and weighed 150 pounds; I was a skinny bag of bones with no cushion and getting my body slammed to the ground really hurt. And, I was getting bruised for nothing; the girls still weren't talking to me.

I wanted to quit, but that would've meant losing face, so I stuck it out. Then one day, because of my height, I was asked to scrimmage on the defensive line with the Varsity team.

"Ten, twenty-two, seventeen, hut!" The quarterback yelled. I burst through the line and lunged forward to tackle him. I was inches from grabbing him, when suddenly I was hit so hard it lifted me in the air. I crashed to the ground face first, and when I tried to stand, I felt an explosion of pain that made me black out. Seconds later, I came to, but my leg would not move. When I looked down, it was bent in the wrong place, and I could see the bone pushing against my skin.

My decision to pursue a sport, not for the joy of it, but instead to impress someone that I did not even know, put me in the hospital for two weeks. I had two surgeries, screws put into my bone, and a cast on my leg for six months. Adding insult to injury, walking on crutches didn't get the girls' attention either! It was a Lose/Lose situation.

You would think that I might have learned a lesson from that experience, but for years afterward, I repeated it again and again. I would pursue jobs, relationships, even leisure activities for the wrong reasons. In short, I was not true to myself. Sometimes when others are persuading us, we find ourselves doing things that make us feel uncomfortable. We ignore those feelings because we want to be accepted. Peer pressure doesn't end at age 18, it continues until we learn to listen to our feelings.

When we are motivated by something that makes us feel anxious, nervous or ill at ease, we need to pay attention to that feeling, and find its root. When we do, we will most likely find that we are uncomfortable because we are living a lie. I have learned that pursuing interests that bring me joy, also give me confidence. My confidence then attracts people who want to be with me for who I am; and situations that generate greater satisfaction. I have finally found the formula for a Win/Win situation!

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#### *Publishing Information*

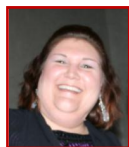
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# WILD WEST CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Publications:** Laura Morgan—lmorgan@pdcproductions.com

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

**Special Projects:** Jamie Eason—jamie@soonerlegends.com

