

# Capital Events

## Special Interest Articles:

- CPR Meetings
- Committee /  
Member Reports



## Individual Highlights:

President's Message	2
Member Profile	2
Committee Reports	3
Food for Thought	3
Next Meeting Date	4
About SGMP	4

## Hotel Budgeting and Negotiations

Tanya Robinson, Florida A&M University

### Hotel Budgeting and Negotiations

The November SGMP meeting was held at the new Hilton Garden Inn located on 1330 South Blair Stone. The meeting was sponsored by Jackie Rhody with the Sheraton, Orlando North Hotel. Jackie provided a nice Thanksgiving treat to the individuals at each table who had a birthday closest to Thanksgiving. The lucky person received a nice wine opener packaged in a beautiful wooden mahogany box. The menu selection was outstanding, lightly breaded oysters, crab dip, chicken kabobs, delicious mini sweets, and gorgeous chocolate covered strawberries. Yum..... good!

Mrs. Rochelle Trygar, Director of Sales, also with the Hilton Garden Inn, was our selected guest speaker. She did a great job on answering questions on Budgeting and Negotiations with meeting planners. Some helpful tips included when and where to make consideration that will be a win-win for both the supplier and the planner; how to keep the room or meeting space rate affordable; and, how surcharges are used to support different departments of the hotel. Rochelle also explained how important it is for Hotels to build personal relationship with meeting planners that will be long lasting and beneficial to both parties.

## President's Message – Arlene Roberts, Florida Capital Chapter President

The CPR met in Atlantic City, New Jersey October 26-29. The SLR did not meet this time. I want to highlight a couple of things covered by National; 1) Chapter Membership Reports as of October 1, 2006 shows the Florida Capital Chapter ratios for 2006 July-54.2/45.8; August-55.5/44.5; and September-54.8/45.2; 2) To celebrate SGMP's 25<sup>th</sup> year, a new membership enrollment program rate of \$25.00 for NEW government planners is effective starting December 1, 2006 through May 1, 2007. Bring on the planners!; 3) A new Regional Structure for CPR and SLR is developed and will begin next September with the start of a new term. The 27 chapters will be divided into six regions. Each region will select a regional representative from the six CPR and six SLR (this position may rotate to another member of the region in a 12 month period), and each region to be appointed a National Board member liaison. They will work through conference calls within their region and meet with the National Board in September and January. The full CPR and SLR will meet at the annual education conference in May. National will provide all funding for the quarterly conference calls and two meetings. National's objectives are to improve the quality and promote the cost effectiveness of government meetings.

---

## Member Profile –

Linda Rhea – Florida Department of Education

### SGMP Board

Arlene Roberts  
President

Claire Smith  
First Vice President

Jennifer Coto  
Second Vice President

Suzy Keenan  
Secretary

Karen Lambert  
Treasurer

Directors:  
Chantale Acacia  
Michele Bemis, CMP  
Ellen Sliger

Hometown: Born in Louisville, Kentucky, Moved to Ashtabula, Ohio (for a short period of time), now live in Crawfordville, Florida

Education: B.A. – Georgetown College, M.A.T. – Spaulding University, Master Teacher Program – University of Kentucky, A.B.D., PH.D. Program – Florida State University

Family/Pets: Husband – Richard, Sons – Sam & Chase, Daughters – Franci & Carrie, Grandchildren – Cailyn, Lauren, Jessica & Matt

Interests/Hobbies: Sewing, Painting, Reading – Biographies, Ancient Cultures and Mysteries, Red Hat Society – Queen, Community Theatre – Actress & Singer, Church work

Position/Years at Job: FCAT Accommodations & Special Projects / 17 Years at Department of Education (Title I, Evaluation & Reporting, and FCAT)

Most Rewarding experience: Other than Motherhood, I would have to say my trip to Oberammergau, Germany to see the Passion Play was most rewarding. It was so wonderful that words cannot describe the play adequately. The feeling of the town, the beautiful scenery and the great people I meet, all added to the experience. I stayed with the music teacher, in her home and explored the shops as well as the great outdoors.

Why she belongs to SGMP: SGMP has made my meeting planning a dream. I know who to work with and how to get the best results for my office and the state coordinators. I plan most of the meetings in our office every year. They range from 250+ down to groups of 40. Our office holds meetings for a large number of advisory groups, planning groups, statewide coordinator groups and director groups each year. I have found people in SGMP that I can count on, especially when there is a pressing need. I have learned many valuable planning strategies from SGMP.

---

# Committee / Member Reports

## New Members – Welcome to our newest members!

Debbie Fitzpatrick, Programmer Analyst II, Florida Department of Education  
Ysonde Jensen, Executive Assistant, Governor's Commission on Volunteerism

## Member Changes

Melissa Cabral, Senior Sales Manager, Crowne Plaza Tampa East  
Mary Jo Ortiz, Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort (hotel name change)

## Community Service – Suzanne Kelly, Community Service Chair

The Children's Home Society is the organization you chose to support during the Holiday Charity Event, scheduled for December 12 at the Raymond C. Sittig Hall, located at 301 South Bronough Street. (next to Harry's Restaurant in the FL League of Cities Bldg.)

The Children's Home Society is the oldest statewide child services organization, created in 1902 and is 104 years old. Last year, approximately 5,000 children were served through various programs within this organization. The majority of children were served through the Foster Care – Special Needs Adoption Program. Items to bring to the December 12 meeting include; pull-up diapers for toddlers (not for babies), nighttime pull-ups, toothbrushes (child size/soft bristles), bubble bath, kid soaps, children's shampoo/detangler, combs/brushes, educational toys, games, electronics suitable for young adults, dolls/stuffed animals, cars/trucks, building blocks, coloring books, crayons, other art supply items (drawing pads, paints, etc.), tub toys. We look forward to a good turnout and plenty of items from each of you. Thank you for your support to a worthy cause.

## WANTED – Authors... Writers!

We need your assistance in bringing articles to the monthly newsletter. Submit your article on personal or professional development, industry news, values of membership, and other topics of interest to the chapter. Send your submission to Arlene Roberts or H A Scott.

# Food for Thought

## Chocolate Passion Bowl

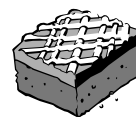
3 cups cold milk  
2 pkg (small) JELL-O chocolate instant pudding and pie filling  
1 (8 oz) COOL WHIP, thaw and divide  
1 baked 9-inch square brownie layer, cooled, and cut into 1-inch cubes  
2 cups raspberries

BEAT milk and dry pudding mixes until well blended, stir in 1-cup cool whip

Place half the brownie cubes in a pretty glass-serving bowl, top with half of the pudding mixture, half of the raspberries, and half of the remaining cool whip. Repeat layers ending with cool whip.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Arlene Roberts  
Florida Department of Education



## Committee Chairs

Archives  
George Fong

Bylaws  
Arlene Roberts

Community Service  
Suzanne Kelly

Honors & Awards  
Sandy Stevens, CMP

Member Services  
Jennifer Coto

Membership Recruitment  
Jennifer Coto

Membership Retention  
Suzanne Kelly

National Conference  
Suzy Davis

Programs  
Tanya Robinson

Publications and  
Communications  
H A Scott

Special Events  
Ellen Sliger

## SGMP Florida Capital Chapter

P. O. Box 1563  
Tallahassee  
Florida 32302

If you have an article you would like to submit, please contact either Arlene Roberts, President, or H A Scott, Publication Committee Chair, Florida Capital Chapter

According to Policy: The newsletter will be used to promote chapter matters only. The newsletter will not be used to promote a member's business or hotel site.



We are on the Web!

[www.sgmpfl.org](http://www.sgmpfl.org)

National's Web Site

[www.sgmp.org](http://www.sgmp.org)

## Membership Report

As Of Our 11/6/06 Report

52.3% Planners

47.7% Suppliers

Govt. Planners – 52

Contract Planners – 3

Suppliers – 50

Assoc Suppliers – 1

Educator/Student - 2

Retired – 7

Total Members - 116

## Looking Ahead

National Conferences:

May 2-5, 2007

Atlantic City, New Jersey

2008

Dallas, Texas

2009

Louisville, Kentucky

## December Membership Meeting

### Holiday Charity Event

Tuesday, August 15

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Raymond C. Sittig Hall, at 301 South

Bronough Street

Sponsored by

The Florida Hotel and  
Conference Center



RSVP

Marcia Marinello

[mmarinello@thefloridahotelorlando.com](mailto:mmarinello@thefloridahotelorlando.com)

### Monthly Board Meetings

The Board meets the same day and place as the membership meeting beginning at 4:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend, and minutes are available upon request.

### *About Our Organization...*

The SGMP Florida Capital Chapter chartered June, 1989 with 35 members. The chapter offers a variety of services to its members, including monthly educational programs, leadership opportunities, social activities and a strong code of ethics.

### *Mission Statement*

The Society of Government Meeting Professionals is a national organization dedicated to improving the knowledge and expertise of individuals in the planning and management of government meetings through education, training, and industry relationships.

## A Need to Know - A Need to Know – Upcoming Programs

**December 12, 2006** - Charity Event/Holiday Party

**January 16, 2007** - How to become more involved with SGMP. Everyone can make a contribution

**February 20, 2007** –

**March 20, 2007** – Supplier Appreciation Dinner

**April 17, 2007** –

**May 2007** – no meeting due to the National Conference

**June 19, 2007** – Honors & Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers 2007-2009

[arlene.roberts@fldoe.org](mailto:arlene.roberts@fldoe.org)