

JANUARY 2017

AMPs NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION OF MEETING PROFESSIONALS

AMPs January 2017 Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Hosted by FHI 360

Location: FHI 360
1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009

When: Tuesday, January 17, 2017
Registration5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
Program6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Reception7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Metro: Dupont Circle – **Red** line (7 minute walk
from metro station to hotel)

Theme: **Webcasting Works!** with Robert Feldman,
President, Total Webcasting.

AMPs MEMBERS:
FREE in advance and \$20 onsite

(Advance registration will close at
11:59 pm on Sunday, January 15.)

NON-MEMBER PLANNERS:
\$35 in advance and \$45 onsite

NON-MEMBER SUPPLIERS:
\$60 in advance and onsite.

NON-MEMBER STUDENTS:
\$25 in advance or onsite.

All no shows will be charged a fee of \$10. If you are unable
to attend please contact staff@ampsweb.org

this technology and its impact on our industry. Join us on
January 17 to gain insight from Robert Feldman, president at
Total Webcasting.

Do I have my registration confirmation?

AMPs is proud to have **Event Rebels** as our online mem-
bership platform and registration sponsor! To register, visit
www.ampsweb.org and click on "Register Here" to use our on-
line registration system. We no longer accept email registra-
tions. You must register online via www.ampsweb.org.

Do I have my registration confirmation?

Once you have registered for the meeting, be sure to print
your confirmation and bring it with you to the meeting; hav-
ing it is always a great back-up plan. If you did not receive your
registration confirmation, contact amps@courtesyassoc.com.

Would you like to learn more about extending the reach of
your meetings and conferences? January's meeting topic
Webcasting Works, highlights what Meeting Planners should
know to better prepare them to facilitate this value added ser-
vice. Learn the ins and outs of webcasting, videoconferencing
and webinars and how each might play an important role in
your next meeting. Through open discussion, ask questions
from the expert and share in successes and concerns about

Thank You to Our Sponsors



FROM THE CHAIR

Working from home is new to me. I feel that I am working more efficiently, with time to still do a load of laundry or the breakfast dishes if need be. There is a saying that I often use that reads "Work always gets in the way!". But in the way of what? Happy Hour? Fun? Personal time? Laundry and dishes? There is also an adage that goes "If you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life." Well, which is it?

My guess is that reality falls someplace in between. You can love what you do with an understanding that it takes work in terms of hours of phone calls, emails, contract development, and networking.

Although I have never been privy, I am told of the old horror stories of having Fax Parties on New Year's Eve night. Sales associates all gathered around the office fax machine waiting anxiously for those last-minute contracts to arrive to ensure they reach their annual sales goals. On the surface, this is an example of work getting in the way. But dig a little deeper. Imagine the comradery and relationships that were formed not just by the sales staff, but with their clients and customers as well.

Musical interlude: [Work Work Work Work Work!](#) Smile if you sang that in the voice of Rihanna rather than read it. Sorry for getting that song stuck in your head but it's been stuck in mine the whole time I've been writing this article! Now, back to business.

We are fortunate enough to work in one of the most exciting industries. We get to travel near and far, meet many different people from all walks of life, attend major sporting events and concerts, or attend A-list parties. Some outside of this industry will call these "perks", but to us, it's work. The actual "perk" is the relationship that is formed between the supplier and planner. Many of us have become very close, near and dear friends, genuinely caring and sharing for each other and our families (and pets!).

So, without work, and in absence of fate, these relationships would not have occurred. Let's salute to 2017, The Year of Work, and to new relationships.

Bryan Lane

International Association of Chiefs of Police - Consultant

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Newsletter Design & Layout

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CHRISTMAS TOWN HOLIDAY PARTY RECAP

Alex D'Imperio, Door and Hardware Institute

The AMPs Holiday Party was held on December 12, 2016, at The Hamilton Crowne Plaza. The Hamilton Crowne Plaza did an incredible job as our host and transformed their already beautiful ballroom into a Christmas Town themed event. From the food and specialty cocktails to the décor everything was outstanding!

Thank you to all our fabulous industry partners that donated a raffle ticket item. Winners of the raffle ticket items enjoyed some wonderful prizes.

Many thanks to our holiday party sponsors who also played a large role in the success of the event: **EPNAC** – provided our photo booth • **Freeman** – Platinum Sponsor • **Visit Spokane** – Platinum Sponsor • **Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention &**

Visitors Bureau – Silver Sponsor • **TWI Group** – Silver Sponsor • **Airways Freight Corporation** – Partner Sponsor • **Lowes Annapolis** – Partner Sponsor • **Visit Buffalo Niagara** – Partner Sponsor • **Discover Long Island** – Partner Sponsor

As always, we thank our Premiere sponsors: **Christies Photographic Solutions**, **American AV**, and **Event Rebels**. A big thank you to the special events committee and our volunteers for the evening.

Lastly, thank you to all that attended the event. With a remarkable turn-out of 141 registered attendees, a truly great time was had by all.

We look forward to continued success in the New Year! ■

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BATTLING THE WINTER BLUES

LeeAnn Carpentier, FHI 360

We all know that January feeling: the frenetic fun of the holiday season is over, it's time to get back to work, and here in the northern climes the temperatures plunge as Old Man Winter settles in for a long visit. Much as we might want to hunker down under the blankets until spring, life (and meetings) continue on. So how do you keep your meeting attendees energized and engaged when those winter blues hit?

Warm Things Up

Trade the standard continental breakfast for something hot, to warm up your attendees after a cold commute. A steel-cut oatmeal bar with a variety of toppings is a great way to keep your attendees full and focused through the morning. At lunch, a simple touch like a comforting soup paired with

a sandwich buffet can be a nice addition. Avoid the temptation to indulge in rich comfort foods like pasta dishes – unless you want your meeting attendees lapsing into food coma before the afternoon break. If budget allows, consider a specialty break station, like an espresso stand or hot cocoa station.

Keep Things Moving

Studies have shown that prolonged sitting is bad for the health, so energize your attendees and get them moving. Plan short stand-and-stretch breaks in your agenda, or incorporate movement into an icebreaker session (hula hoop contest, anyone?) Encourage walking networking breaks—even

(Continued on next page)

AMPs Photo of the Month



Left to Right: Alex D'Imperio, Elena Moisa and Teresa Denchfield.

Battling the Winter Blues...

(Continued from previous page)

if the weather isn't conducive to an outdoor stroll, a few laps around the event space while chatting is a great way to get the blood—and conversation—flowing.

Have a Plan B

Alleviate stress for you and your attendees by establishing a contingency plan for winter events. Let attendees know in advance how you will make the determination to postpone or delay the event due to weather, and how you will communicate that to them. Then, if winter weather impacts your meeting, you will avoid a last-minute scramble to adjust plans—something your attendees will appreciate!

With a few easy touches, you can make your winter meeting a fun and engaging event! ■

AMPs on Social Media

Keep up with AMPs and other exciting industry news!



@AMPsDC

DID YOU KNOW?

Annemarie Selvitelli, AWCI

All AMPs members have a unique login to the AMPs website to update contact information and check attendance at meetings?



It only takes a few clicks. Head to our [website](#), click the member login button at the top of the page.

You will be asked to enter a Username and Password. Username is your email address. Your password has two possibilities; it is a system generated password that was created when you initially registered OR a password that you created when you changed the system generated password.

Enter your Email/Username which is your full email that you initially registered. Locate the system generated email sent from AMPs and review your login details.

Enter your login details into the username and password section. Once logged in the system will bring you to the page where you can view and update your personal details.

The system will allow you to access the different options such as:

- View all the meeting that you have attended,
- View your account info and update your password,
- Register for an upcoming meeting and
- Log out of the membership profile system.

If you are experiencing any issues with logging into the system after following all the steps please contact AMPs to get assistance.

Please update your contact information as it allows AMPs to keep you informed on meetings, education, committee updates and volunteering opportunities. ■



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MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Annemarie Selvitelli, AWCI

C Our committee undertook the large project of contacting non renewed members prior to the holidays. As a result of the team efforts, we had many members renew their membership for the 2016-2017 year.

AMPs current membership is 199. The category breakdown is 63 allied, 24 associates, 72 planners, 8 students, and 32 life-time members.

Leslie Hastings is leading the Ambassador Program. She is pairing volunteers with new members for their first meeting.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Leslie Hastings at hastings@experiencegr.com. ■

Are you looking to earn points towards your CMP? Is there a literary genius in you that is aching to come out? **Write an article for *your* AMPs newsletter. The world will thank you, and you'll probably feel better.** For more information, contact Annemarie Selvitelli (selvitelli@awci.org).



Pictured left to right: (front) Teresa Denchfield, Simone Smith, Erica Adamo, Michele Licht, Kurt Titus, (back) David Sears, Annemarie Selvitelli and Michelle Coombs.

The AMPs community service committee hit another ball out of the park, serving dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter. On December 29, volunteers cooked up honey garlic chicken, lemon-parsley green beans, autumn apple salads, rolls and cookies for dinner.

Residents gave kudos for the creative menu. We were able to share leftovers with the individuals at David's Place.

A large thank you to Erica Adamo, Michelle Coombs, Teresa Denchfield, Michele Licht, David Sears, Annemarie Selvitelli, Simone Smith, and Kurt Titus for donating food and cooking dinner.

Many thanks to the volunteers who donated food for the dinner: Beth Bushman, Bryan Lane, Jill Oxendine-Medley, and Michelle Morgan.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Erica Adamo, CEM, Freeman

Many thanks to the November meeting attendees who donated to our December 29 dinner at the Carpenter's Shelter. We were taken back by how many members donated food and cash to help purchase the food.

Due to the generosity of our members we were able to go above and beyond just cooking dinner. We received word from the shelter they were in need of gifts for residents.

With the additional funds, AMPs was able to provide a new winter coat and new boots as a secret Santa gift as well as purchasing some hats, gloves and scarves for residents and the clients at David's Place.

We still have a few dollars left over and are putting it towards the March dinner. Thanks to all for thinking of others—this is what makes AMPs great! Our next Carpenter's Shelter dinner will be on Thursday, March 30, 2017. If you are interested in signing up to volunteer, please contact Erica Adamo at Erica.Adamo@freemanco.com.

Carpenter's Shelter will be hosting their 15th annual Cook-Off on Sunday, April 23, 2017. Check out event details at <http://www.carpentersshelter.org/cook-off/>.

Did you know?

Each year uninsured clients make over 270 visits to the Carpenter's Clinic, which is open weekly and led by volunteer doctors and nurses. ■

HAPPY 2017 EVERYONE!

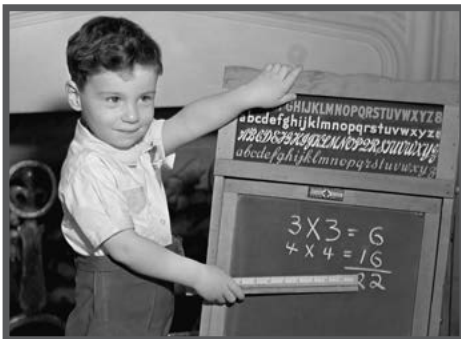
Jill Oxendine-Medley, CHSE, Loews Annapolis Hotel

I've decided that instead of making resolutions that I know I won't keep, I decided to think about some things I want to "change" in the New Year:

- Spending more quality time with family and friends. That "change" is also important because time is precious and in the end who really cares how many contracts I closed but how many contacts I treasured!
- My love of reading has fallen by the wayside. That "change" starts now. I want to read at least 1 book per month as a great way to occupy my mind.

- Reducing stress is another "change" that I can easily do by getting some special pampering treatment once a month to treat myself instead of always coming in 2nd or 3rd etc...
- Do a fun and unique activity more regularly! I can "change" my normal routines and patterns to be a little less mundane.

These are just a few things I thought of but I am sure this list could go on for much longer. I encourage you to take some time to also consider what you can "change" and my kudos to those who make resolutions and keep them! Best wishes! ■



Would you like some additional exposure?

AMPs has revised its sponsorship offerings. If you are interested in sponsoring an AMPs event, please [click here](#) for more information.



Sponsorship Opportunities



***Get in front of the crowd
by sponsoring an AMPs
Monthly Meeting!***

As a host or platinum sponsor you have the unique opportunity to take the stage and talk about your city, venue or services at one of our Monthly Meetings or Events. We are actively looking for partnerships for our 2016-2017 Membership year so please let us know if you are interested and contact Lisa Wagner at lwagner@ampsweb.org to discuss an opportunity today!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT — JANUARY 2017

Tracy Blithe, CMP, Heart Rhythm Society



Supplier

Linda D'Agostino, CMP

Sales Director ~ Visit Buffalo Niagara

How did you get started in the hospitality industry?

My first job in the hospitality industry was as a catering manager. From there, I went into group sales, then held several positions as Director of Sales at hotels and Convention Centers and that led me to the CVB.

What items are on your bucket list? I would like to go to a Super bowl—especially if the Buffalo Bills make it there again. I would also like to go to Italy where I would like to visit Florence, Rome and Venice.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? I like to spend time with my 23-year old identical twin sons as much as possible. Going to movies is something we like to do together. The last movie I saw with my boys was *Bad Moms* which we could relate to and laugh at.

Name something that some would find very surprising about you.

I was on the *Price is Right* in 1990. I won a dishwasher and a hot tub, but no Showcase Showdown. When new friends find this out about me, they make me get out the video recording so they can see. It was 1990 and I had big hair and kissed Bob Barker... it's pretty funny.

What industry topic is grabbing your interest these days?

Technology in meetings is grabbing my attention, specifically digital engagement and how to keep meetings interactive. I enjoy learning about new technology that would be appropriate for and help my customers.

What do you like about being a member of AMPs?

I am a new AMPs member I went to my first meeting in April where I found AMPs members to be warm and friendly, which is what made me join and led to Visit Buffalo Niagara sponsoring the November meeting.

Any closing thoughts? It is an exciting time for me to be back in in the national market. Buffalo has undergone a remarkable transformation in recent years. I look forward to meeting more AMPs members to tell them what we have to offer and hopefully have them come visit! ■

