

Parking Spaces

Quarterly Newsletter Of The Michigan Parking Association

Upcoming Events



MPA Golf Outing

July 23 at Timber Ridge Golf Course
in Bath, Michigan

Cost: \$105 per person or
\$400 per foursome

For more information, contact
Jeff Timar or Jon Frederick

MPA Fall Conference

Detroit, September 30 - October 2
See back page for details

For more information on events or to
register online, visit: www.michigan-parkingassociation.org or feel free to
call any MPA Board member.



www.MichiganParkingAssociation.org

President's Parking Space

by Jon Frederick, MPA President



Everyone remembers the adage wherein the older you get, the faster time will go by. Well in my case either I am getting old or time itself has just shifted into high gear. I like to think the latter of the two as we head towards the end of March with baseball's season opener just around the corner. Heck, I am still recovering from the Steelers 6th Super Bowl victory. For those new folks that don't know me, I grew up in the suburbs of Pittsburgh and am a diehard fan.

I am delighted to say the Michigan Parking Association was the highlight association in March's Parking Today's Magazine. We got to tell the country about our organization and all the good things we do with and for our members. It is always nice to have the opportunity to let others know what we are all about.

Some of you that didn't attend last year's Fall Conference may be wondering what happened to this year's training and spring workshop. Unfortunately, we (the board and I), decided to put both these events on hold this year due to the weak economy and the lower than expected attendance at these events over the past couple years. We hope there will be an upturn in the economy soon and that we can continue to host those events in the future. We will keep you informed of our intentions, and as always, if you have any input please contact myself or any of the board members and let us what's on your mind.

This year the MPA will host two events. First, our annual fund raiser/golf outing. Back by popular demand, the golf outing is being held at beautiful Timber Ridge Golf and Country Club on Thursday, July 23, 2009. Next is our extravagant Fall Conference. This year's event is going to be held in Detroit, September 30-October 2. Our conference theme is "Increasing Revenues In A Challenging Economy." We are really looking forward to both these events being spectacular and hope that you all will be able to join us. More information on both these events is forthcoming.

At this time we are putting out a call for sponsors for the golf outing. We need your support to keep this event strong and viable. Please contact Jeff Timar or myself. We are also looking to fill our speakers/presentations for the fall conference. If you are interested in giving a presentation, have a new product or implemented a cost saving or revenue increasing procedure that you can share with your fellow Parking Professional, we want to hear from you.

Also, don't forget about the MPA scholarship. We are looking forward to awarding a well deserving student \$1,500 extra dollars to help them further their education.

As always, I appreciate all your feedback and look forward to seeing you all throughout the year.

IPI Recap

{ International Parking Institute Winter Meeting } January 13-16, 2009, Orlando, Florida

By Casey Jones, CAPP, University of Colorado at Boulder

Much was accomplished for IPI and its membership recently at its Winter Meeting, January 13-16 in Orlando, Florida. More than 80 IPI Directors, Advisors, CAPP candidates, Committee members and state and Regional association leaders participated in IPI's winter meetings. Meeting highlights include:

IPI's Board of Directors approved funding for a second round of Emerging Leader Scholarships. The purpose of the scholarship program is to expose current state and regional association leaders with an opportunity to learn more about IPI and the industry, increase the number of first time attendees at IPI's annual conference, strengthen the value proposition for prospective members of state or regional associations, prepare talented members of state and regional associations for leadership positions in their associations and the industry and strengthen and stabilize state and regional associations.

This year 10 scholarships will be offered. The first 10 IPI allied state or regional parking associations with a qualifying scholarship program will be granted one complementary registration for the IPI annual conference to be awarded as follows.

- The award shall be matched by the state or regional association in one of the following manners: 1) award of a cash stipend of \$600 or more to the same individual to offset lodging, travel, or other costs associated with participation in the IPI annual conference, 2) purchase of a second IPI annual conference registration to be awarded to another candidate, or 3) award of a cash stipend of \$600 or more to a different individual to offset lodging, travel, or other costs associated with participation in the IPI annual conference.
- The state or regional will have a formal and well-documented application and review process.
- The state or regional association will have a clearly defined award criteria that is supportive of the scholarship's purpose.
- The award will be made to an individual who has not previously attended the IPI annual conference.
- In the event that the award is made to an affiliate member, they may not work at the trade show or participate in other commercial activities.

For more information please contact Casey Jones at 303-492-9600 or c.jones@colorado.edu.

IPI will be hosting a association "boot camp" program on Saturday, May 16, in Denver just prior to the International Parking Conference and Expo. The full-day session, geared toward association leaders will provide invaluable organizational development training specifically for volunteer associations. Topics to be covered include building strong volunteer organizations, by-law development, membership recruitment and development, communications, goal setting and strategic planning. More information on this exciting conference addition will be available soon.

The IPI Board of Advisors will now be known as the IPI Advisory Council. The Council will serve as IPI's "think tank" and will provide a first look at issues and provide guidance to IPI. At this meeting the Council discussed the value of parking and transportation professionals, IPI's role in public relations for the industry and collaborative research with the International Downtown Association, state and regional associations and other strategic partners such as the Association for Commuter Transportation (ACT), American Planning Association (APA), Society for College and University Planners (SCUP), and the League of Cities. *(continued next page)*

{ IN THE NEWS }

Detroit Metro Airport's new North Terminal which opened this past October is quite please to announce another milestone in the Airport Master Plan. On March 16, 2009 the new Ground Transportation Center that connects the North Terminal and the Big Blue Deck will officially open its doors to the general public. This facility provides customers with taxi cabs, luxury sedans, rental cars and all other commercial vehicle transportation.

The City of Grand Rapids Parking Services Department is excited to announce that they have accomplished the hard work of compiling their first Annual Report. The Annual Report provides a snap-shot of the Grand Rapids parking system financial position, parking inventory (on street and off street), DASH ridership, Security escorts and additional parking programs that include 60 Minutes Free, Holiday Coupon, SAM (Smart Auto Meter), as well as, featuring a face behind the office. The Annual Report will be posted to the city's website at www.grcity.us in the near future.



The City of Jackson downtown business district does not have on-street parking meters. Twenty-five years ago the meters were removed at the urging of downtown businesses and an annual 'meterless assessment' was charged each downtown property owner based upon business type zoning requirements. Fast forward to 2008 and a local business owner filed a suit against the City of Jackson claiming that this annual fee is an illegal tax. In this action among other points was the use of the Headlee Amendment to argue the position. After due consideration, the State of Michigan Court of Appeals ruled in the City's favor. While the plaintiff still has the option to appeal, as of this writing that appeal has yet to be filed.

MPA member news...

Invoices were recently sent out for your annual membership renewals. Please contact Joe Morehouse, MPA Treasurer at jmorehouse@a2dda.org if you have any questions.

If you did not receive a renewal notice or are not a member and want to become one, visit our website for membership information. If you want to talk directly to a MPA Board member please, feel free to contact Mark R. Erby at 734-941-8930 (office) or email Mark at mark.erby@wcaa.us.

Over the next few months Board Members of the MPA will be working extremely hard to improve and strengthen the MPA Membership numbers. We realize that these are very difficult times and a lot of members and their businesses are struggling to make "ends meet." The Board understands those issues and concerns. The strength of our association is its MEMBERS. Please take a few minutes to talk to those folks who pay the bills in your organization and share with them the value you receive by being a member of the Michigan Parking Association.

(IPI Recap continued) The IPI Education Committee, formally the Programs Committee, has expanded its focus to cover more than just the seminar program during IPI's annual conference. Now, all facets of education are within the committee's purview including distance learning, specialized training offered through IPI and other educational efforts. Curriculum development will be done in the context of adult learning needs and process improvement will be done through evaluation and outreach directly to IPI members.

Starting in 2010 IPI will no longer have a vice chairman position on the Board of Directors. Instead, IPI's Directors will elect a chairman-elect who will serve as the incoming chairman of the Board. The Board will therefore be electing a chairman-elect every other year and the secretary/treasurer each year. The Executive Committee will be comprised of the Chair, Chair-elect, Secretary/treasurer and the immediate Past Chair.

IPI Technology Committee Chair Richard Easley and Mike Drow presented a session on Technology Trends in Parking. The session was developed after extensive work with IPI state and regional associations and is now available to any allied association. The session explores newly emerging technologies of the future such as credit card in/out, license plate inventory and recognition, hand-held devices, RFID (radio frequency identification) and AVI (automated vehicle identification), smart cards, central cashiering and pay-on-foot, web based parking management systems, wireless sensors, mobile phones and GPS systems, and wayfinding and variable message signs. Anyone interested in scheduling this session should contact Richard Easley at reasley@e-square.org.

{ MPA BOARD }

*President***Jon Frederick**

ah9818@wayne.edu

*Vice President***Elaine M. Kellicut**

ekellicu@ci.lansing.mi.us

*Secretary***Shawny L. DeBerry**

deberrys@mpdpo.ci.detroit.mi.us

*Treasurer***Joe Morehouse**

jmorehouse@a2dda.org

*Members at Large***Jeff Timar**

jeffT@trafficandsafety.com

Mark Erby

mark.erby@wcaa.us

Barbara Singleton

bsinglet@ci.grand-rapids.mi.us

Bob Dietz

bdietz@cityofjackson.org

Tanya Andrews

tandrews@piemanagement.com

*Associate Member at Large***John Jacobson**

john.jacobson@walkerparking.com

{ UPCOMING EVENTS }

SAVE THE DATE: 9/30 - 10/2**2009 MPA Conference:****“Increasing Revenues in a Challenging Economy”**

The Greektown Casino and Hotel will be the destination for the Fall Michigan Parking Association Conference, September 30 thru October 2, 2009. Don't miss this opportunity to see new products, hear innovative ideas from around the State that could help you cut expenses and increase revenues, network with fellow Parking Professionals, get your questions answered to improve your operation and have some well-deserved fun!

About the Greektown Hotel

This architecturally stunning, 30-story hotel opened in February and visibly changes the skyline of Detroit, displaying luminescent blue glass windows offering views of the Detroit River and Canada. Within are 400 contemporary guest rooms—including suites with two or three bedrooms—filled with spectacular amenities.

About Greektown

The historic Greektown district has been Detroit's favorite place to gather for generations. This high-energy district is located mere steps from professional sporting arenas, the theatre district, and more. Come on down - grab a bite, catch a show, and play awhile at Michigan's Best Casino! Let the party begin at Greektown!

Visit Detroit and you'll learn why over 2 million people work, live and play in Detroit's culturally diverse metropolitan area. It's all happening in Detroit! And it's all happening in the Greektown neighborhood!

Look for more information to in the next issue of *Parking Spaces*.



c/o City of Grand Rapids
PO Box 1968
Grand Rapids, MI 49501-1968