

Notes from the T-PrO General Meeting March 20, 2007 [4:30-6:30 p.m. at Rosa's]

Members introduced themselves: Sharon Harn, Jean Slagel, Rosa Moreno, Wanda Baader, Jill Janis, Bea Rector, and Sue Zepeda. (Pam Laubscher arrived later)

Guests were: Ori Parnaby, who got her first client today
Kate Armstrong, who likes to "change energy in a space"
Wendy Webster of *Around To It* Concierge Services, LLC

Our speaker, Laurie Clark, is the Arizona Designer Account Executive for the Sherwin-Williams Company in Phoenix. The familiar 'paint stores group' is 140 years old and has over 3200 stores in the U.S. Laurie gave each member who provided her a business card, a 'sexy' COLOR BOX full of paint samples, a glossy brochure, a folder of product info & order forms, a *Concepts in Color* paint sample deck, and a 'Preferred Client Discount' card! Then she explained everything and answered questions. It was a very enjoyable and educational presentation. Did you know that the trait, "sheen" is not standard throughout the paint industry? That there's a paint ('*Harmony*') with **zero** VOC (volatile organic chemicals)? That some colors require a gray shaded primer to look like the sample? Or that sealing a wet paint brush in a Ziploc bag in the freezer keeps it usable the next day?? If an absent member would like to find out what she missed, Laurie can be reached at 602-570-7146 and laurie.clark@sherwin.com

Sharon started the business part of the meeting with news about the website. It should be done in about a week! However, it won't be completely finished and online until members have had a couple weeks to review text, test links, and suggest small changes. Sharon will send us an email when it's time to check it out.

Our individual styles will be accommodated in the text section of our bio page. There we can write whatever we want at any length. But the format for our basic business info and for 3 photos (one of your face at top left and two 'before & after' shots at the end) will be the same for all. Sharon isn't sure yet about logos for affiliations like NABO and NAPO.

The deadline for emailing Sharon our improvements to the new website will be **May 1**. Every year, members will have the month of May to make changes for free. (after paying the annual \$50 fee) After that, it will cost \$25/hr for Michelle Diaz's time. If a member doesn't want bio pages because she has her own website, so she can put a link to it in the general T-PrO directory.

A.S.A.P. please email to Sharon whatever you have for our website's lists of resources. Even if you think everyone is already familiar with a donation site (such as Goodwill), please include the address of the ones you frequent, as well as phone numbers and other helpful details, such as what items they particularly want. For example, Old Pueblo Knitters wants yarn, and the Hazardous Waste Disposal Site at Prince and I-10 is only free if you say it's all stuff from your own home.

We want to attract people to our website who are looking for places to donate, recycle, dispose of stuff, and buy organizing products. Please email Sharon the places where you find good materials for organizing, whether they be cardboard boxes from a dumpster or expensive shelving from The Container Store in Phoenix!

Miscellaneous announcements:

Wendy Webster (guest) is the president of International Concierge & Errand Association's Southwest chapter. She says they'll soon have a website with a link to ours.

Pam read a recent Newsweek article saying that the top organizer/authors in the country are charging \$2500 per day!

Readers Digest had an article about a compulsive hoarder losing her kids to Child Protective Services because of her home's clutter and filth.

The AARP Magazine (January/February issue) ran an article about organizing, "Conquer Clutter: How to dig out once and for all". Carolyn emailed a month ago it was available at http://www.aarpmagazine.org/lifestyle/conquer_clutter.html

Sharon welcomed all members to Board meetings (2 hours prior to general mtgs) and said the minutes will be posted on the new website in the Members Only section.

Bea and Pam passed out flyers for the next "Organized Kids" free workshop on March 31st at Woods Library from 1 to 2 p.m. All are more than welcome to bring participants!

Wanda announced that next meeting's speaker will be Sam Williams, a marketing whiz who will talk about making multiple visits to multiple decision makers. See you at Rrrrosa's on April 17th!