

PRAM

MISSISSIPPI BEACH

— Established 1993 —

prambeach.org

ImPRessions

December 2008

Mississippi Beach Chapter
Public Relations Association of Mississippi

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Celebrate the Holiday Season at PRAM's December Meeting

Please join PRAM MS Beach at 12 noon on Monday, Dec. 8, at the Great Southern Club to celebrate the holidays.

For our last meeting of 2008, PRAM will not host a guest speaker so all members and guests can enjoy each others company. To add to the fun, we will have a secret santa game to be played at each table.

If you would like to join in the secret santa fun, bring a gender neutral gift that costs no more than \$10. These gifts can range from a bottle of wine to a \$10 gift card.

Even if you don't bring a secret santa gift, join us anyway for a great time!



Help a Local Child This Christmas

We are continuing our December community service with the "Santa's Elves" project. Your participation in this community service project will help brighten the holidays for children living at Gulf Mist, a subsidized housing community located on Pass Road in Gulfport.

Members are asked to please bring an unwrapped children's book,

educational toy or game to the Dec. 8 PRAM meeting. Use your imagination! The age range of children is grades K-5. The gifts will be distributed during the children's Christmas party held at Gulf Mist Apartments.

If you have any questions about this or other community service projects, please e-mail Lauren at lauren.thompson@dmr.ms.gov.

Next PRAM Meeting

12 noon on Monday, December 8

Sunset Room

Great Southern Club

(15th floor, Hancock Plaza, Downtown Gulfport)

President's Letter

Dear PRAM members,

So have you jumped in?

After a fabulous afternoon learning about blogs, great web sites, and how social networking is changing the Internet, our speaker Ed Schipul advised us to start reading blogs and develop profiles on popular networking sites, specifically Facebook. His personal favorite? The photo sharing site, Flickr. My fave? The business-focused site, LinkedIn.



We've embedded his lunch and seminar presentations on our web site (prambeach.org), via a link to SlideShare. Even if you weren't able to attend, you'll find his slides helpful.

We won't have a speaker next week. Our December meeting will be simply a chance to us to chat, exchange gifts, and celebrate the holiday season with fellow PR practitioners. If you forget to bring a gift, come anyway and enjoy the fun.

The seminar and our regular monthly programs were just some of the activities we sponsored to make our chapter's 15th anniversary year truly special. Our membership social in May and our series of Lunch 'n Learn teleseminars at Tulane provided additional outlets for networking and professional development. As part of the anniversary festivities,

every member received a branded PRAM item to thank them for their support of our organization, and the SPRF and state PRAM presidents were on hand in August to help us celebrate.

In addition, we presented a record \$1,500 in scholarships to PR students from the Coast and gave back to our community with ongoing service projects. Our web site is up and running with its member profile pages and access to chapter information. This newsletter and our ongoing publicity efforts helped inform our members and the community about our activities. Our members brought home honors from the state PRAM and SPRF conferences and continue to draw positive attention to the vibrant PR community here on the Coast.

A HUGE thank you to my fellow board members who each did so much to make this year a special one - Joey Lee, Melissa Bryant, Stacy Simon, Hannah Bell, Charmaine Williams Schmermund, April Jordan, Keith Guillot, Susan Perkins, APR, Lauren Thompson, Leah Snyder, Jim Collins and past prez Ron Barnes. They were a joy to work with, and their dedication knows no bounds.

I've enjoyed working with them to bring these programs to you, and it's been my privilege to serve as your president. I'm also looking forward to sitting through our meetings next year and getting to know more PRAM members even better. Save me a seat at your table please.

Thanks for a great year.

Yours in PRAM,
Kristie Aylett, APR

Thank You for Pocket Flags

On behalf of my unit, A Co of the 328th BSB (56th Stryker Brigade), I would like to sincerely thank you for sending a box of pocket flags for our troops.

My unit is currently training at Camp Shelby, MS for deployment to Iraq. Our troops are training hard and after several months of active duty are beginning to feel the separation of being away from home.

During these times it is always good for us to hear from our friends and family back home, but that's something we naturally expect. A gift of support from someone we don't even know - such as the gift of pocket flags from your organization - is a huge morale boost for us, especially when it is unexpected.

Please accept the heartfelt gratitude of myself and my company. We will carry the pocket flags with us to Iraq as a reminder of why we fight - for the Constitution of our great nation and the citizens which it protects.

With great thanks and best wishes,

Andrew Campbell
1LT, TC, PAARNG
1st Platoon Leader,
A Co 328th BSB

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