



CPM Times

Second Quarter, 2007

Florida Society of Certified Public Managers

Volume 13, Issue 2

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From The President

It would be an understatement, to say the least, that our organization has had an uneventful past couple of months. On the contrary, we have seen our shared CPM values of teamwork, communication, and determination overcome some challenging forms of adversity. Where, at one point in time, we had no means to teleconference other than our standard inter office 6 line conference call capability, Mr. Greg Holcomb stepped up and was able to provide us the necessary 30 line conference call capability. If that were to fail, we had another team member from our newest Florida Chapter, President Bob Daymon, offer a backup means of teleconferencing. Talk about redundancy and teamwork! Moving on, our 2009 AACPM Chairperson, Joanne Robertson, has taken ownership of this formidable project and is in the process of bringing our state and national CPM representatives together to review the "fine print" regarding the necessary contractual arrangements for this event. At the state level, Christine Taylor, Central Florida CPM Chapter President and the 2008 FSCPM Symposium and Awards Chairperson, has made outstanding progress and has already secured the Embassy Suites Hotel Orlando North for our next years (January 24th and 25th) gathering. Christina and her committee are awaiting response from Secretary Bob Butterworth and Governor Christ regarding an invitation to speak at this important event. Chairperson Taylor indicates that the symposium brochures should be ready for distribution in September, plenty of time for which to prepare those travel requests!

I would be remiss in not recognizing, in



the midst of all of this activity, the recognition and awarding of the Askew Award to the "Touchton Team", of Terri (Touchton), Chandra Greiner, Mathew Phillips, Mathew and Mike Nabicht, and Steve Nowak. Their project submittal was an audit entitled "Social Change and Its Impact on Public Management" Seminole County Department of Public Works Roads-Stormwater Division Audit." They should, in my opinion, be awarded a secondary award for their perseverance. With our new Askew Award Committee Chairman, Mr. Jeff Thurman, we anticipate light winds and following seas in future Askew Award processes and procedures.

On June 15, we saw more than 250 new managers graduate from the Florida Certified Public Manager Program at Florida State University. Of these, an additional 40 members joined the FSCPM! We thank the Graduation Committee Team of Dr. Ada Burnette, Bob Badger, and our Membership Chairman, Fred Levinson for their significant contributions to this successful graduation ceremony. As funding for travel became an issue for Monroe County, I must thank Jeff Pouliotte, President, North Florida CPM Chapter for standing in for me at the ceremony. All reports indicate that Jeff delivered an enthusiastic and eloquent presentation to our graduating class. Thank you Jeff!





With all of that said, I am also happy to say that we have several interesting and beneficial “works in progress.” Bob Daymon (again!), exhibiting his organizational and leadership skills, has recruited, thus far, approximately 40 members to his “Suncoast Chapter”. Ms. Jan Wright continues to pursue the “Florida Certified Public Managers Week” Proclamation from the Governor’s office, and, for on-line FSCPM registration and merchandise purchases, we continue to review the use of PayPal. With President Daymon’s considerable assistance, we are discussing implementation of a low cost / no cost software package for FSCPM on-line job applications. I would like to see the FSCPM “link up” with the Washington DC, DCCPM, website for this and other information sharing purposes. We have discussed this before and, now with a healthier budget, we may be able to give this initiative more serious consideration.

With state tax relief measures and budget cuts at our doorstep, this is a very timely initiative. On this note, I am happy to report that our past President, Chris Grasso has found a position worthy of his talents and, will for next few years be stationed in Houston, Texas. Chris has requested that we keep him active as a member of the FSCPM. In view of his many contributions to our organization he would actually have to direct us to the contrary! Congratulations Chris!

We’ve lost some talented people in critical positions, run into some bumps in the road, but, as evidenced by our continued growth in membership, we will continue to move forward in our “journey toward excellence.” We are now approximately 346 strong!

With the thought of our CPM family in mind, I could not but laugh to myself when I read this quote by Theodore Rubin:

The problem is not that there are problems. The problem is expecting otherwise and thinking that having problems is a problem.

Jerald L. O'Cathey, FPEM, CPM
Emergency Management Administrator
Office: (305) 289-6012
Cell: (305) 797-1167
E-mail: Ocathey-jerry@monroecounty-Fl.Gov

“BRAG! THE ART OF TOOTING YOUR OWN HORN WITHOUT BLOWING IT”

Review by Jerry O'Cathey

“In today’s cutthroat business world, where job security is virtually nonexistent, bragging is a necessity – not a choice!” “Remaining quiet about your successes only leads to being under-appreciated and overlooked.”

Through this short examination of a heretofore *no man’s land* in the area of professional self-expression, author Peggy Klaus, illustrates, through several “real world” examples, how we, the public or private sector employee, can make our accomplishments known to both our peers and upper level management and still retain a sense of humility and dignity.

“BRAG” reminds the reader of the significance of those “daily reminders of the basics” (name, title, responsibilities, and the things which need to be accomplished “now”), as well as the importance of the timing of your delivery. Also highlighted in this cursory examination of self-promotion and human nature are the ever-present dangers of “credit theft” on the job, the proliferation of “brag hogs” and “corporate Pinocchio’s”, as well as the basic (when angry) “wait 24-hour rule” before allowing, as with shots once fired, an irretrievable response to fly off of the keyboard into cyberspace.

Reminding the reader throughout the book of the importance of self-promotional skills in today’s competitive job market, Peggy Klaus also discusses the art of “techno-bragging” where, given the absence of visual cues, one, with the advent of the electronic mail, becomes a “virtual” extrovert by making their presence felt daily through pro-active use of “virtual communication”.

A candid look at what “formerly” has been regarded as a social phobia, BRAG! THE ART OF TOOTING YOU OWN HORN WITHOUT BLOWING IT” was an enjoyable and informative read.





GOTCHA!

Several years ago the Florida Society of CPM implemented a special recognition program that each chapter was asked to use. This program is called “**GOTCHA**.”

GOTCHA's are designed to recognize an individual for doing something great, going above and beyond, etc. This recognition program is not restricted to CPM members; any person that you work or associate with can be recognized. The electronic form to be used for this recognition can be found at: <http://www.fscpm.org/pdf/CPM%20GOTCHA.pdf>.

North Florida CPM Gotcha Recognition!

Level VIII Graduation table and reception were extremely successful due to the work of Society members. These individuals spent an unusually large amount of time working the table, assisting graduates, and participating in activities related to the Wednesday reception. Without their dedicated work, these activities would not have been successful. Ada Burnette submitted the following names for extremely outstanding service: Dottie Gough; Len Franklin; Bob Badger; Joanne Robertson; Gayle Blankenship; Jan Wright; Angie Snodgrass; Jeff Pouliotte; Pam Krohn; and Ada Burnette.

Dottie Gough recognized Angie Whitaker for a fantastic job in planning and organizing the North Florida Chapter Public Service Recognition Celebration in 2007. Presenters Mario Palmentieri and Toni McDonald were great and many positive comments were received. Everyone had a lot of fun with the teambuilding exercise.

Dottie Gough also recognized the NFCPM Awards Team who worked with Angie Whitaker in coordinating the North Florida Chapter Public Service Recognition Celebration in 2007. Members include Amonda Gayle Daniels-Emanuel, Mazie Crumbie, Helen Leon, Delores Downing, Jan Wright, Sherry Valdes and Andy Davis. Thanks to your efforts, the 2007 celebration was a huge success. You all did a great job!

Dottie Gough was recognized for her work at the Big Bend Homeless Coalition for the Hope Community Center.

For their work at the Senior Center, Caribbean Nights Festival, the following are recognized: Jeff Pouliotte; Marian Pouliotte; Libby Grimes; Sally Carter; and Jacquelyn Rush.

For their work at the Senior Center for the Antique Show, the following are recognized: Sally Carter; Jacquelyn Rush; Dottie Gough; Brenda Wilson; Andy Davis; and Teresa Wood.

Andy Davis and Michelle Davis are recognized for providing the NFCPM meeting luncheons.

South Florida CPM Gotcha Recognition!

Ellen Daniel presented Gotchas to: Joe Williams; Fred Ochoa; Pete Nissen; Cassandra Johnson; Mel Pollock; Michael Bienvenu; Mark Plass; Tim Brock; and Abe Febles.

Leslie Wetherell was recognized by Betsy Jeffers for writing a great article about responses to comments in the Design Newsletter.

South Florida CPM Gotcha Recognition!

Jerry McCarthy presented Gotchas to: Nancy Kajatt and Barbara Julien.



Sun Coast Chapter

By Bob Daymon, President

Fellow Board Members it has been such a pleasure to work with such a great group of professionals as we begin the journey to make the Chapter viable again. I have been truly blessed each day by the efforts of this group and your help as a Board. When we met in April and elected officers we had at that time twenty-one paid curious members. As of today we have forty-four members of which the greater majority are off and running.

I have to keep reminding them that this is not a sprint but a marathon. I think quite a few of the members are bionic in nature. We have had individuals accept almost all of the future roles of leadership for committees and are already at work. One group has reviewed the by-laws several times and participated at two Board teleconferences in May to report progress and bring to the State Board a final draft for review and approval.

Our Chapter discussed changing the Chapter name and voted unanimously to do so by submitting it as part of the bylaws as directed by the State Board. The new name is "Suncoast Chapter of the Florida Certified Public Managers Association". This name incorporates the counties of Citrus, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Sarasota along with other agencies not currently represented in the West Florida region. We have developed a Chapter Logo (we have several members with artistic talent too!) in anticipation of the by-laws approval representing this new name to be used for Regional Chapter letterhead, marketing items, etc.

The Chapter has a representative on the Level VIII graduation committee and another member from their agency assisting outside the committee structure. Our Events Committee Chair representative has lined up the facility for our June evening meeting at the Brooker Creek Preserve in Pinellas County, along with

a presentation by their facility staff.

A second presentation covering a cross-section of the membership is also being developed. The Board is now in discussion and calendaring the next two quarterly Chapter meetings. Board teleconferences are scheduled monthly through July. Our next Chapter meeting will be a full day event for leadership development and to get to network together as a group. As we move forward we ask for the Boards continued guidance and patience as we learn together through our successes and failures. Thanks to all of the State Board Members who have assisted us so far.

Fun at Work

By Pete Nissen

I originally wrote this article for FDOT's in-house newsletter, *Perspectives in Excellence*. In preparation, I took a look at other recent articles to see what inspired folks to take pen to paper. I found compelling topics like communication, customer service, achieving excellence and the 50th anniversary of the Interstate System. In an effort to join such weighty company, I decided to write about a subject that I feel is extremely and equally serious: having fun at work!

I have separated fun at work into three subsets and will do my best to touch briefly on each. They are: Fun for the sake of fun, Recognition and Progress.

Fun for the sake of fun is my categorization of the things we do to promote teamwork and as a part of our social fabric, both within our unit and within our District (FDOT District Four - Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, Indian River and St. Lucie Counties). It should come as no surprise to anyone that one of the key elements of this type of fun is food. In my home away from home, our District Construction Office, we celebrate with food as often as we can; trust me, it is obvious that I am not a spokesperson for the Atkins Diet. We have planned events like our annual Souper Bowl (you figure it out) and Thanksgiving luncheons. Other times, food just appears. Usually this is someone bringing in a plate of something for no reason other than to share, though bragging rights may enter into it on occasion. At the District level, our annual Heritage Lunch allows us to demonstrate our pride in our ancestry in addition to varying degrees of culinary skill.



These events, planned or otherwise, are popular not only for the obvious reasons but also for their social importance. Breaking bread has been an important form of socialization for millennia and it continues to be our best opportunity to learn those little, non work-related things about each other that enable us to be a cohesive and caring unit.

Recognition is another aspect of having fun at work. The annual awards ceremony is a huge event in District Four. It is well attended and a great time, but it only happens once a year. In my mind, the small forms of recognition that we practice daily are more important. The verbal pat on the back, the passing along of appreciatory e-mails from the executive suite or the public, the gift cards, etc... are all part of what it takes to build a culture where we appreciate each other for a job well done.

At some time, and probably more than once, we've all been to a management or leadership seminar or team-building exercise. It might have been CPM or Leadership Academy or any of a number of others but they **all** touch on the importance of recognition and celebration. They do so because it matters, because they recognize that we all have the need to be acknowledged for our contributions. Not all of them understand that it's fun. Think about it, how many people are shown in pictures receiving a plaque or certificate aren't smiling? In Tom Peters' words: "Celebrate what you want to see more of."

To many, the idea of progress as fun, especially on the job, may seem a bit of a stretch. Perhaps it will help if you equate progress with achievement. Progress, like achievement, can occur in big or little steps. Big steps are accomplishments such as meeting production on a major

project (i.e., finishing the design effort), completing construction on time and on budget or wrapping up a year long task team with a successful implementation. More individual efforts might include graduating CPM or winning that promotion. Little bits of progress can include successfully dealing with unanticipated phone calls from the public or the media or responding to fire drills from Central Office (I am sure those of you who don't work for FDOT have their own equivalent of this exercise).

Big or small, progress means accomplishment and accomplishing a goal feels good. If you prefer to think of it in terms of satisfaction as opposed to fun, I won't quibble. In any case, getting it done takes planning, effort and discipline and one feels a certain amount of pride at having completed it. So, the next time you finish _____ (fill in the blank), extend your arm palm up, bend at the elbow and pat yourself on the back.

I appreciate your patience as I have tried to take a lighthearted approach to what is actually a very meaningful and important subject. I'm not naïve; I do recognize that not all days go well, or as a friend of mine liked to put it: "Some days you're the pigeon; some days you're the statue."

Fun will also not take the place of results. The bottom line is that we all have to meet our objectives and get the job done or there may be fewer opportunities for fun on the job. So, bring your "A" game along with your "A" attitude. On most days, a conscious decision at the beginning of the day to do your best to enjoy your job can make all the difference at the end of the day. So, one more quote, from Colleen Barrett this time, to finish up: "Work is either fun or drudgery. It depends on your attitude. I like fun."

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LEADERSHIP INFORMATION**



North Florida Chapter

By: Jeff Pouliotte, Chapter President

The second quarter of 2007 has been an active one for the North Florida Chapter of the Florida Society of Certified Public Managers. There were many interesting presentations, community service events and other activities that the North Florida Chapter was involved in.

The March Chapter Meeting saw Sabrina Hartley, the Chapter Vice President, show a film entitled “A Tale of Two Capitols”, which was a documentary film about a time when the new state capitol complex was being planned. The film showed how the capitol was nearly moved to Orlando, how the old capitol building nearly got torn down, how it became a museum, and how the new capitol was designed. The film showed how the absence of CPM principles nearly resulted in a dysfunctional process where no one got what they really wanted, and how this resulted in a new capitol building complex that no one was really satisfied with.

During the April Meeting guest speaker, Dr. Dan Vicker of the Florida State Center for Professional Development, gave a presentation entitled “Teaching CPM Principles – A Cultural Perspective.” This presentation showed the challenges of teaching CPM Principles in a different culture and what effects this effort produced on the students from that culture.

The May Meeting was the North Florida Chapter’s 2007 Annual Public Service Recognition Ceremony and Workshop. The Workshop focused on a team building exercise, and many North Florida Chapter Members were recognized for their contributions to CPM and the Community during the last year. The Awards Ceremony and Workshop were ably managed by Dr. Angie Whitaker and her Awards Committee.

During the June Meeting Dr. Steven Mills a Professor at Florida State University who teaches in the Department of Family and Child Sciences gave a presentation entitled “The Science of Happiness.” Dr. Mills is also a licensed therapist with patients in the Tallahassee area. The presentation

addressed what makes people happy or unhappy based on genetic predisposition, environment (work and home), personal challenges, life circumstances, etc. and gave insight as to what can be done to improve personal happiness.

Other activities for which the North Florida Chapter participated in are as follows:

1. On March 3rd and 4th, the Community Services Committee had six (6) volunteers help the Tallahassee Senior Center put on an Antique Show.
2. The Community Services Committee also solicited donations to help the Big Bend Homeless Coalition for the Hope Community Center to furnish one room, which included: sheets, comforters, towels, rugs, art work for the walls, etc.
3. On May 17th and 18th, the Community Services Committee had five (5) volunteers help with the Tallahassee Senior Center Exposition. The volunteers helped direct, answer questions and provide assistance to all visitors who came to see vendors and providers during the exposition.

The North Florida Chapter under the able direction of Dr. Ada Burnette and her Graduation Committee manned the membership and marketing table on behalf of the FSCPM and helped co-sponsor social activities at the 2007 Certified Public Manager reception at Florida State University in Tallahassee. The three day activities from June 12th through June 14th saw many North Florida Chapter Members help make the Level VIII course and CPM Graduation Ceremony a memorable and festive occasion for the 2007 graduates. As a result of the effort of Dr. Burnette and her committee, the FSCPM gained more than 40 new members.





Florida Society of Certified Public Managers Continuing Education Program

By Dr. Ada Puryear Burnette, Chair

Since its founding in Georgia, the Certified Public Managers program expanded to a number of states. The provision to certify Public Supervisors and Public Managers offers an opportunity to train public sector personnel to provide higher quality service while decreasing costs and customer discontent. In order to become certified, each person must enroll in eight levels of vigorous courses, make presentations, read extensively, take examinations, attend many hours of training, and write a number of papers. These activities improve, enhance, and introduce participants to many research based features designed to strengthen their public service.

However, the receipt of the Certified Public Supervisors (CPS) and Certified Public Managers (CPM) credentials are deemed insufficient to meet the needs of an ever changing society. Thus, the FSCPM strongly encourages individuals who receive these high level certifications to continue developing their management skills sets by keeping them up-to-date. This effort is the Continuing Education Program (CEP).

CEP is voluntary for members and required for Chapter and Society Board Members and Officers. To qualify for CEP certification, an individual must earn and submit 20 points every three years after initial qualification for membership and every year for Chapter and Society Board Members and Officers. This means that members may be certified every three years or annually if qualifications are met. Chapter and Society Board Members and Officers are required to submit 20 points every year. Re-qualification is obtained by securing 20 points for each year or each three years for which certification is sought. Points may be earned through the following means:

- **Five Points** each for (a) mentoring a current CPM student, (b) holding a Chapter/Society/Academy Board and/or Officer position for the majority of each calendar year, or (c) being a Chapter/Society/Academy chairperson for the majority of each calendar year for which information is submitted.
- **Three Points** each for writing and submitting an article about management, leadership books read or original

management or leadership subjects. These articles must be submitted to the Editor for possible publication in the FSCPM Quarterly newsletter. **Three Points** may also be earned by (a) giving a management/leadership presentation at a Chapter/Society/Academy training symposium or (b) holding a Chapter/Society/Academy Committee position(s) for the majority of a calendar year.

- **Two Points** may be earned by (a) attending chapter general membership training/business meetings or (b) participating in a one-half day FSCPM/AACPM training symposium, level VIII Graduation, college classes, agency management/leadership classes, or web-based management/leadership training. Two points may be earned, for example, for each chapter general membership meeting attended.

A member may submit points earned on an annual or every three years bases by completing the form located at http://www.fscpm.org/form_CEP.htm. If you are too busy or know you cannot keep up with points earned, you may participate by sending your information as it is done to draburnette@wmconnect.com as you earn the points.

Once you have submitted your points for receipt by December 31 of each calendar year to the Continuing Education Committee Chair, you will be recognized during the annual Society Awards Banquet by your receiving a high quality Certificate of Achievement for initial certification and a Certificate of Achievement for each subsequent year or three years in which you qualify. Members who qualify for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, and 50 year participation in the CEP will receive special recognitions.

Each chapter must provide a contact person who will serve as a liaison to the CEP Society Chair. The President of each chapter is required to submit the name of the liaison for this year by September 1, 2007 and for each subsequent year by February 1.

Through CEP, members and officers are actively engaged in keeping up with the latest trends in management/leadership. Each member, officer, and committee head is urged to participate in the CEP. Please direct all questions, concerns, reports of CEP to Dr. Ada Puryear Burnette at P.O. Box 38543, Tallahassee, FL 32315 or draburnette@wmconnect.com for receipt by December 31 of each year.



AACPM Annual Report 2006

From Bill Herman

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Certified Public Managers, I am pleased to report that the 2006 Annual Report for the AACPM is now available on the Academy web site. We encourage you to check out the report and share any information you can with your members. If you would like to post the report on your Society web site, we would be very pleased for you to post a link for greater distribution.

Printed versions of the report will be provided to all CPM Societies at the September 12th meeting of the House of Delegates in Madison, Wisconsin as required by the Academy's SOPs.

The direct link to the 2006 Annual Report is as follows:

http://www.cpmacademy.org/newsletter/2006_report/index.html

Or, you can access it through the Publications Page of the AACPM web site at:

<http://www.cpmacademy.org/publications.htm>

Volunteer Needed

Serve Your State Society by chairing the Nominations/Elections Committee. See [FSCPM By-Laws](#) Appendix 2 for responsibilities.



FDOT...It's Not Just A Job...

By Tim Brock, District IV Maintenance Engineer

FDOT offers each of us an opportunity...An opportunity to provide for our families...an opportunity to foster our careers and an opportunity to work and provide a necessary service for the benefit of the public at large.

The motto "Family First" means something a bit different to everyone, so I will explain my interpretation and philosophy on this and a few other points to ponder. Family first is not just 2 words. It is the fundamental belief (and practice) of putting your family and their wellbeing in the forefront of your mind and your actions.

How your career and your job affect your family is important not just to your family members at home but also to your "extended" family at work. No matter how you slice it if your home life is tumultuous your work day is negatively affected. If you have the opportunity for career advancement but you know the hours and demands exceed what you can truly give, your home family is shortchanged in that you cannot devote the time your family needs AND on the job you will more than likely cut a corner here or cut a corner there to try and give as much as you can to both family and career...with both ultimately getting less than what is truly optimal.

Here at FDOT we offer our employees the opportunity to continue learning, provide for their family, seek career advancement all while working in a pleasant professional atmosphere...I tell my wife this is the "real world" and she laughs telling me that in the real world you have unrealistic expectations, no continuing education, iffy benefits and often undesirable if not awful working conditions.



FDOT...It's Not Just A Job...

(Continued)

Maybe you can leave state government and find a position elsewhere that pays a bit more, but cares a lot less. Family first. Maybe you can make a change, get the big bucks, the big headaches and the big egos? Family first. Maybe that extra few thousand is worth missing your sons little league games...but maybe not? Family first. Maybe FDOT is more than just another workplace, here we help you nurture your career but not at the expense of your family or your career.

Your career. What is a career? Is this our job day in and day out or is it more? I say a career is something you devote time, thought and effort to. It is more than a day to day existence to collect a paycheck...it is what you do. It is how you define yourself in the professional sense. "I am a professional engineer" describes more than just a job...it is a culmination of education, time and devotion to a craft. It is something that happens over time.

When you emerge from school...you get a job...in a field and if you stay within that field it becomes a career, it becomes more than just a day to day task to pay the bills. In a sense it defines a big part of you and becomes a big part of your life. At some point you learn to balance family and career (hopefully) so both are satisfied.

A career is something you work on - continually. At FDOT we are offered the opportunity to continue our education, expand our horizons and keep learning. This keeps our minds fresh so that the product we produce is of the highest quality. Our customers, the residents of the state of Florida, have high expectations and for the most part, we deliver. The work we perform is good. What we do is a necessary part of maintaining the infrastructure of our state.



The quality of the product we produce directly affects millions of commuters each and every day. Think of that. What we do, our work, has a direct affect on every person who uses a state road. This is a huge responsibility and one we should all be very proud of. Sure there is the occasional hiccup and the media takes a stab...but by and large we do a quality job. And in my department we are continually looking for ways to improve.

"You don't have to be sick to get better" so we mustn't rest on our laurels and get complacent. The quality of our work and our production efficiency must be the guides by which we all measure our performance.

Remember...what we do affects millions of commuters every day. What we do maintains and improves the infrastructure of our state. What we do is necessary and vital. And most importantly, doing the best job we can is something we can all take pride in.

CPM Times

**Editor:
Jan Wright**

**Managing Editor:
Dottie Gough**

For more information,
e-mail Jan Wright at:

jwwright1949@comcast.net

Or mail to:
Jan Wright



Why Come Early & Stay Late?

... For the 2007 AACPM Conference in Madison, Wisconsin!!

For those of you trying to decide when you should arrive in Madison for our AACPM Conference, we invite you to seriously consider coming early and then staying late, to take advantage of many of the wonderful things Wisconsin has to offer, not just in Madison but within a short drive around Madison. For this reason, we offer you the following Web site links to aid you in making your own travel plans:

Web sites of general interest to the Adventurer:

[Greater Madison Convention and Visitor Bureau](#)

[Madison, Wisconsin - Tourism](#)

[Virtual Wisconsin Trip Planner](#)

How do I get there [Google Maps?](#)

What is the [Weather](#) like?



Special sites to see in Madison:

Museums:

- Art: [Chazen Museum](#) ¼ mile from the Concourse Hotel
[Madison Museum of Contemporary Art](#) 2 blocks from the Concourse Hotel
- Geology: [Geology Museum](#) on the UW-Madison campus ¼ mile from the Concourse Hotel
- Historical: [Wisconsin Historical Museum](#) on the Capitol Square, 1 block from the Concourse
[Wisconsin Veterans Museum](#) on the Capitol Square, 1 block from the Concourse
- Children: [Madison Children's Museum](#) on the Capitol Square, 1 block from the Concourse
- Science: [L.R. Ingorsoll Physics Museum](#) 475 Charter St. & [UW Space Place](#), 1605 S. Park St.

Other Special Sites:

- [UW- Madison](#) down State Street, ¼ mile from the Concourse Hotel
- [Babcock Hall Dairy Store and Plant](#) – A recent renovation has transformed this 50 year-old store into a sparkling new place to purchase and enjoy many kinds of eats and treats!
- [Wisconsin State Capitol](#) – FREE Guided Tours Daily!
- [Henry Vilas Zoo](#) -an outstanding county zoo, with FREE admission, 1.5 miles from the Concourse Hotel
- [Madison Farmers' Market](#) all around the Capitol Square, Saturday morning, starting before the sun comes up! If you don't wish to buy fruits & vegetables to put in your travel luggage, you can at least get a nice cup of coffee & a pastry, take a walk through around the market & enjoy the sights!
- Horticultural gardens: [Olbrich Botanical Gardens](#) about 4 miles east of down town... the place to visit if you like large tropical greenhouses and out-door gardens of plants from around the world. Special exhibit 9-5-07 to 1-5-08 "Mystical Medicine" open daily 10 am to 4 pm, Sundays 10 am to 5 pm ... or the [UW - Madison Arboretum](#) about 4 miles SW of down town for 800 acres of native prairie plants, forest and plantations laced with walking and bike trails ... or the [Allen Centennial Gardens](#) on the UW- Madison campus about ¼ mile east of the Campus Library Mall.



Special sites to see in Wisconsin:

Milwaukee (90 miles east of Madison): see <http://www.milwaukee.org/>

- [Milwaukee Art Museum](#) spectacular outside & inside!...on the shore of Lake Michigan
- [Milwaukee Public Museum and Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater](#): one of the finest natural history museums in the world.
- [America's Black Holocaust Museum](#) America's only memorial to the victims of the Black Holocaust.
- [Milwaukee County Zoo](#) ... a spectacular urban zoo on the west side of Milwaukee
- Milwaukee Brewers and Millers Park...
- [Harley Davidson Factory Tours](#) Closest location for a tour is Wauwatosa a Milwaukee suburb.

Spring Green (45 miles west of Madison) <http://www.springgreen.com/> out along the scenic and historic Wisconsin River:

- [Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin](#) take a 2.5 hour tour that will inspire you the rest of your life!

Green Bay (130 miles northeast of Madison) <http://www.packercountry.com/>

- [Green Bay Packers](#) and Lambeau Field
- [Heritage Hill Historical State Park](#) – Celebrating 30 years Heritage Hill is a not for profit living history museum located on 54 acres of property at the intersection of Highway 172 and Webster Ave in Green Bay. This site is devoted to the education, preservation, and interpretation of the history of northeastern Wisconsin. The museum includes an education center and 25 historic and replica buildings including the oldest home in Wisconsin, Tank Cottage, dating to 1800.
- [Bay Beach Amusement Park](#) No admission to this beautiful historic amusement park located on the shores of the Bay of Green Bay.
- [National Railroad Museum](#) – Explore America's railroad heritage by sitting in the cab of the world's largest steam locomotive, the Union Pacific Big Boy or by examining Dwight D. Eisenhower's World War II command train.

Wisconsin Dells (56 miles northwest of Madison) <http://www.dellschamber.com> ... known as the Waterpark Capitol of the World, "The Dells" has an amazing diversity of entertaining events designed to excite children of all ages.

Other things in Madison:

Shopping:

- [State Street](#)
- [Hilldale Mall](#)
- [East Towne Mall](#)
- [West Towne Mall](#)

Restaurants:

- [Listings by Cuisine Type](#)

Music Venues:

- Memorial Union Terrace - [Music](#)
- [Tunes on the Terrace - Free!](#)
- [Nightlife & bars](#)

Sept.2007's Ironman!! ... [Ironman Wisconsin 2007](#) on Sunday, September 9, 2007!