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5 Reasons to Visit the New Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego

- 1. The newest waterfront guestrooms in San Diego:** We have recently completed renovating all 1,628 guest rooms, suites and Grand Club at the tallest waterfront hotel on the west coast. Led by the vision of owners, Host Hotels and Resorts, and inspired by the waterfront location, the new guest rooms marry California coastal with a sophisticated contemporary design. Featuring floor-to-ceiling windows that open to allow in fresh sea breezes, sweeping bay and city views, a 46-inch flat screen TV, signature Grand Beds with plush bedding and luxury June Jacobs bath amenities, the new ambience defines comfort-chic. (www.manchestergrandhyattrenovation.com)
- 2. The Good Life starts at 33 stories above sea level:** Guests on the Grand Club Level will enjoy an unparalleled experience with access to our exclusive club lounge, a private refuge 33 floors above sea level. With colors and patterns inspired by the local U.S.S. Midway, guests will revel in this unique space with a personal concierge, complimentary food and non-alcoholic beverages, private work stations and breathtaking views of the San Diego Bay and city skyline.
- 3. Food. Thoughtfully sourced. Carefully served.** A Hyatt philosophy that is focused on offering our guests food from the most natural, local and sustainable sources. It's why our menus feature plentiful, healthful options alongside our more indulgent ones. So, whether you're grabbing a micro-brew and an appetizer at Redfield's Sports Bar or a 4-course seafood meal at Sally's Seafood on the Water, you can trust that a great deal of thought and care has gone into each dish.
- 4. Events are just better 32 stories up:** Perhaps the city's best well-kept secret, 32 Bayview Terrace is the perfect venue for all of your holiday parties, VIP events and special celebrations. Located on the 32nd floor of our Seaport Tower, impress your guests with stunning views of San Diego Bay and the beautiful San Diego skyline, as well as custom catering menus created by our Executive Chef and unmatched service. (Call 619.358.6635 for more information).
- 5. San Diego locals receive 20 percent off at Kin Spa:** Can one truly relax without serene bay views? We think not – which is why our Kin Spa provides the perfect sanctuary from the stresses of everyday life. Specializing in full body massages that revitalize and relax, facials using only the highest quality natural ingredients, manicures and pedicures, hair styling and much, much more. (Call 619.358.6699 to reserve your experience).

Submitted by Manchester Grand Hyatt

By Kristin Helms, Marketing Manager

Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego, 1 Market Place, San Diego, CA 92101
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 All proceeds help support our ongoing conservation and wildlife protection efforts.

Cut the Stress: 8 Tips to Make Planning Your Office Party All Play and No Work

After months of trying to forget about last year's stressful holiday party planning memories, the first thoughts of planning your 2013 holiday party have just begun to pop into your head. You might be having negative flashbacks of last year – running around at the last minute trying to solidify a menu and event timeline while juggling phone calls to the caterer, DJ, florist, rental company, venue coordinator...

No, don't stop reading! As much as planning the company party might scare you, we're just getting to the good stuff: how to plan your holiday party *without* any stress. Below, we have compiled a few of our best tips to ensuring a stress-free holiday season this year – and they all revolve around one major theme – start planning now!

Tip #1: Be persistent.

By this, we mean be persistent in asking your bosses and upper levels about what the projected budget might be. Yes, the party is a few months away, and quarter three's numbers aren't even in yet, but now is the time to strike. Thinking in advance will get you a lot of perks, some of them financial (in the form of discounts) and others in the form of attendance. You'll see what we mean as we move on to our next couple of tips.

Tip #2: The early bird catches the best deals.

Often times there are direct financial rewards to booking your party in advance, such as discounts on venues, catering, entertainment and more; or freebies and add-ons to help give your party a little something extra. For example, when you book your holiday party by October 1, 2013, Festivities Catering is offering free specially-created holiday cookies from The Cravory and a thank you note to send home with each holiday party guest. Bring these kinds of deals to your boss if you need a little help getting a firm "Yes" on your holiday party and budget.

Tip #3: Forward thinking means higher attendance record.

Remember those attendance perks we hinted at in the first tip? This would be it. The earlier you plan your holiday party, the earlier you can send out "Save the Date" notices and actual invitations. Catch those extremely popular guests early and often, and you should see a rise in invitation acceptances. Why



is this relevant? Those extremely popular guests just might turn out to be your next big client, sale, deal or contract – after all, there's a reason they're so popular this time of year. Holiday parties are great places to schmooze, and what better place to start the schmoozing than on your home turf during the holidays.

Tip #4: First to plan, first to reserve the best rentals, venue and entertainment.

Yes, there is tremendous value to planning your holiday party early. In addition to maximizing your attendance, you also ensure the best of the best rental equipment, such as linens and décor, a choice of perfect venue locations and top entertainment options. Many people don't think about it, but besides the DJs and bands, hiring a Santa Claus also should happen well in advance – believe it or not, they do book up fast!



Tip #5: As soon as you get the "Yes" from the bosses, gather your planning team.

Again, the sooner you can do this, the better. Gather a team of people with time management talent, create your checklist with reasonable deadlines, and get going. By starting early, you can work on smaller, less stressful tasks that lead up to the milestone goals instead of trying to tackle all of the big things at once.

Tip #6: Reward your team for reaching little goals.

Don't save the big reward for the end. Reward your team for hitting smaller deadlines and goals, such as hiring the band, solidifying the date or deciding on a theme. HINT: once you book your

caterer or planner, they can help facilitate all of those decisions. Once you do that, you can change your reward system to celebrating the things that your team is still responsible for, like hitting certain RSVP numbers or completing event marketing advertisements.

Tip #7: Use social media.

There are so many benefits to social media. Use it to promote your holiday party, to search for and discover party tips and ideas, to collect photos of your favorite decorations and party games, to share event ideas with your caterer or event planner and more. Pinterest is one of the best social media sites

for collecting and sharing event ideas, but you can't forget about Facebook and Twitter when it comes to event promotion.

Tip #8: Incorporate something personal into the party.

Here is where you can really add something special to your holiday event. Incorporate something personal in the evening somehow. That could mean using photos of employees as centerpieces or decorations, games involving "how well do you know your co-workers?" or speeches by various department leaders. Perhaps you'll give away fun prizes and awards based on some of the employees' funny personality traits to increase employee morale. Consider asking some guests with hidden talents to prepare a quick show to share with everyone on stage. Making the event personal will maximize your time outside of the office together. If you invite a few people who you're trying to schmooze, chances are they would get a kick out of getting to know the people behind the brand name just as much as your fellow employees.

Again, most of these tips involve getting a jump start on your planning – as in *start planning now!*

Even though the holiday season is a few months away, think about how busy you're going to be then, both personally and professionally. You're not going to have a moment of free time between Thanksgiving and the end of December. Get the basic plans down on paper now, contact your caterer or event planner and hand over the reins to him or her. Your stress level, blood pressure and sleep cycle will thank you for the head start come November.

Submitted by Festivities Catering and Special Events

FESTIVITIES
CATERING & SPECIAL EVENTS



How The World's Most Sustainable Brands Do Green Gatherings



For an environmentally-friendly holiday event that will make others green with envy, consider celebrating where the world's most sustainable companies come together to commemorate inspiration and innovation. More than 900 visionaries from eco-centric businesses including Target, Unilever, and Sony recently convened at the 2013 Sustainable Brands Conference hosted at Paradise Point, one of San Diego's top destinations for green events.

Chosen for its 44-acre island setting on Mission Bay and ongoing green initiatives, Paradise Point's expansive waterfront conference center was home

to workshops and lectures devised to drive innovation in sustainable design and business, with the hotel's eco-friendly practices serving as examples of how companies and events can be run successfully without harming the environment.

Some of Paradise Point's green practices can be easily replicated by other San Diego businesses: linen-less meeting rooms, LED lighting throughout the property, no-water urinals, "Green Seal Certified" cleaning products, and a paperless system for applications, paychecks, and purchase order forms. More unique projects include a specialized irrigation that prevents run-off into the surrounding bay, an island-wide compost program, an all-electric car2go car-sharing program for guest use, and only purchasing food and water sourced from within 500 miles.

Shortly before the Sustainable Brands Conference, additional recognition for Paradise Point's preservation efforts was announced at the Surfrider Foundation's annual fundraiser, held in the hotel's aptly named Sunset Ballroom overlooking Mission Bay. The 462-room hotel received an award for its sustainability and role as one of the largest contributors to the San Diego chapter of the foundation, a nonprofit that works to protect oceans, waves, and beaches around the globe.

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Submitted by Paradise Point Resort & Spa

By David Griffin, Director of Sales

Paradise Point Resort & Spa

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Celebrate the Holidays at Petco Park!

Make this year's holiday party one to remember! Offering many unique indoor and outdoor venue options, state-of-the-art amenities and endless possibilities, Petco Park is the perfect setting for a memorable event.

Customize an event with on-field photo opportunities, fireworks, a batting cage experience, Santa Friar visits, custom branding opportunities, specialty lighting and décor, player appearances and more. With our on-site catering staff, we can design a menu specific to your needs.

Our talented event management staff is here to coordinate every detail so your guests can eat, drink and be merry.

Petco Park, Where Everything is Possible

There's no doubt that Petco Park has become an established baseball venue in the country, but the ballpark also offers the City of San Diego so much more. Available on both game days and non-game days, this magnificent ballpark offers multiple venues with all different looks and feels. Home of the San Diego Padres, Petco Park opened in downtown San Diego and immediately became known as "The world's best ballpark in America's finest city". Situated in the heart of downtown San Diego, adjacent to the Gaslamp District and the Convention Center, the ballpark offers stunning views of the San Diego Bay and the San Diego skyline.

From the playing field, to the clubhouses, to the Western Metal Supply Co. Building, virtually every square foot of the ballpark can be transformed into an event space. The ballpark features an open-air rooftop, with sweeping views of the playing field and downtown skyline, as well as Park at the Park, located just beyond the outfield fence offering a little league field, picnic hill, and kids play area. With more than 20 exclusive venues, the ballpark is designed to host

events from 50 to more than 40,000 people.

A five story, red brick structure, the historic Western Metal Supply Co. Building anchors the left field and is home to many of the most popular event venues. "Walk through the Western Metal concourse on a game day. Would you ever think that it could turned into a red carpet for a movie premiere, a winter wonderland holiday party, a gaming zone, an obstacle course, or a corporate business meeting space?" remarks Jeremy Horowitz, Vice President, Petco Park Events. "That's the beauty of this raw event space and our in-house design team. We have been able to do all of these and so much more."

The ballpark is ideal for unique events such as receptions, private concerts, holiday parties, company picnics, corporate meetings, tradeshow, or fantasy baseball games. Offering sumptuous catering, first-class service and impeccable attention to detail, our full-time staff of event management professionals cater to your every need. The Petco Park Events team will help you plan your event from start to finish, working closely with top-quality vendors to coordinate exciting enhancements and decor to take your event to the next level. With its remarkable versatility, architectural detail and ideal location, Petco Park is truly a venue like no other. Whatever your plans may be – big or small, elegant or casual – we will bring them to life and create a truly memorable event that will be sure to WOW your guests.

Enjoy your next event at Petco Park, where everything is possible!

Submitted by San Diego Padres

For more information, please contact the Petco Park Events team at (619) 795-5025 or visit our website at www.petcoparkevents.com.

THE 2013 Nonprofit Giving Guide



The San Diego Business Journal will be publishing The 2013 Giving Guide on October 28, 2013. Offering a wealth of information, The Giving Guide is designed to help busy philanthropic-minded executives choose the community partners that best fit their initiatives.

The Giving Guide will feature an in-depth 2-page profile of your organization while placing you in front of interested sponsors, donors and other supporters, in addition to raising overall awareness of your cause. This guide includes the Nonprofit Organizations Lists.



Corporate sponsorships are still available.

For more information, contact Dale Ganzow at 858-277-4832 • E-mail: dganzow@sdbj.com

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* Off of our current menu prices. Excludes Saturday Nights.

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Events are Special Occasions at San Diego's Town & Country

The Town and Country Resort Hotel & Convention Center is one of the largest resort-oriented convention and meeting complexes in the Western United States. The property is undergoing a multi-phase, multi-million dollar renovation of its 1,000 guest rooms including bedding, 32 Inch HDTV's, two new Wi-Fi Systems and more.

The Town and Country features three pools, four restaurants, two lounges, two gift shops and a car rental agency. Add the adjacent premier Fashion Valley shopping mall, Riverwalk Golf Club with 27 holes of challenging golf and the San Diego Light Rail Trolley station to complete your experience.

◆Holiday Parties:

The Town and Country Hotel surrounded by lush foliage, palm trees, flora and rose gardens transforms its grounds during the holidays into a winter wonderland and offers several unique venues for your holiday event.

A variety of intimate to elegant function room selections include: Trellises Garden Grille (accommodating groups of 10- 100); the Windsor Rose & Chanticleer at Le Pavilion with valley views (accommodating 50-150); the Atlas and Grand Pacific Ballrooms (accommodating 150-1,000).

Our excellent culinary staff, award winning service and special holiday guest room rates give you the perfect recipe for a memorable event and our central location makes it the ideal gathering place.

The Town and Country offers several business, social and leisure options to groups and individuals.

◆Meetings & Special Events:

Whether you're looking to hold a Meeting, Trade



Show, Training, Seminar, Product Launch, Incentive Program, Social Event, Reunion or Fundraiser, the Town and Country's legendary service with state-of-the-art technology and flexible function space including a 41,000 sq. ft. exhibition hall that can accommodate groups from 10-4,000.

◆Weddings

Our Rose Garden with Gazebo offers a unique venue for wedding ceremonies. Several small to large function rooms are perfect for rehearsal dinners, bridal showers or wedding receptions with wedding

packages to fit every budget. Couple this with our on-site wedding cake bakery, our wedding specialist, and special guest room rates making it easy to execute your perfect wedding day.

◆ **Bachelorette Parties:** The 14,000 sq. ft. Bella Tosca Spa, Salon and Fitness Club offers Bridal "SPARTIES", Bride stress reducing treatments, Bridal Party makeovers and Wedding party gifts.

◆ **Executive Star Club:** A free membership program for frequent travelers with a guaranteed lowest commercial year round rate. Your membership includes complimentary breakfast buffet, nightly beverages, airport shuttle, local calls, fax service and daily newspaper. Benefits also include discount parking, discount spa services and a complimentary night's stay for every 10 nights accumulated. As a member, you also will receive specials, discounts and promotions throughout the year.

◆ **Getaways:** Town and Country Staycations – A unique in-town getaway including Kids Eat Breakfast Free. Many Staycation packages offer attraction tickets or passes to many points of interest.

For more information call 619-291-7131 or 800-772-8527 or visit www.towncountry.com

Submitted by Town and Country Resort Hotel & Convention Center

By Peggy Johnson
Advertising and Marketing Manager
Town and Country Resort Hotel
& Convention Center
500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108



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