

Announcement & Registration Form - Please Post
39th Midwest Facilitators' Conference
Monday, January 23, 2006
 Midwest Facilitators' Network- <http://www.midwest-facilitators.net>

Location:

Catalyst Ranch

656 W Randolph - Suite 4-E
 Chicago, Illinois 60661
<http://www.catalystranch.com>

Conference Agenda

8:00am	Arrival, Registration, Continental Breakfast, Networking
8:15am	Conference Kickoff
SESSION 1 8:30am to 10:00am	Using Experiential Education AKA "Stupid Games" to Spice Up Your Facilitated Sessions Bruce Hodes - (CMI Teamwork - Oak Park, IL) In this fast paced session Bruce will share his methodology of Building High performance teams. A number of exercises will be reviewed and taught. Participants will explore how these teambuilding exercises can be used to explore their client's performance issues. Bruce will share techniques from which can enhance your ability to team build and focus groups. Ways that groups can utilize to measure and improve their performance will also be explored.
10:00am	Break, Networking, etc. (15 minutes)
TANDEM 2A 10:15am to 11:45pm	Building Success through Effective Impression Management Wayne Stone - (Waubensee Community College - Sugar Grove, IL) All the world is a stage and the role that each of us plays, intentionally or unintentionally, determines both our personal and organizational success. The ability of a leader to craft a role that reflects the vision, mission, goals, competencies and culture of an organization is critical to effectiveness and success of any organization. The purposes of this workshop include: helping participants create and structure their desired impression and roles and giving participants skills in helping others to define their impressions and roles.
TANDEM 2B 10:15am to 11:45pm	Wisdom Council: A New Approach to Transforming Large Systems Jim Rough - (Jim Rough & Associates - Port Townsend, WA) The Wisdom Council is a newly invented approach to involving and empowering people in large systems - like corporations, cities, churches, unions, professional associations and government agencies. Come hear about current experiments with this new model in corporations, schools, cities, and cooperatives and the impacts they are having.
11:45pm	Lunch, Networking, Etc. (60 minutes)
TANDEM 3A 12:45pm to 1:45pm	Beyond Expectations: What Coaching Can Do for You Jerilyn Willin - (JWillin Consulting - Bloomingdale, IL) Everyone possesses untapped potential. Explore how working with a coach can help you tap into your potential and find the courage to act on it. Learn what coaching is and is not, what to expect from a coaching relationship and how to find a reputable coach.
TANDEM 3B 12:45pm to 1:45pm	Exploring Leadership: An Innovative Program for High Potential Staff Robert Cyr - (People's Energy Corporation - Chicago, IL) "Exploring Leadership" combined readings from Harvard Business Review articles and interviews of local and nationally known leaders to broaden the leadership perspectives of high potential staff at Peoples Energy. This session will review the experience, its highlights and lessons learned through the program.
TANDEM 4A 1:45pm to 3:15pm	From Dream to Destination: Pursuing the Life You Prefer Jerilyn Willin - (JWillin Consulting - Bloomingdale, IL) The biggest obstacle to achieving our goals lies between our ears. Habits and beliefs can keep us from being open to possibilities and opportunities. Don't live on auto-pilot! This interactive program gets you on the road to the destination you desire. Discover the amazing power we each have to create a more fulfilling life. Make 2006 the year you DO IT!
TANDEM 4B 1:45pm to 3:15pm	The Effectiveness of Narrative in Facilitating Online Relationship Development Stephen Thorpe - (Auckland (NZ) University of Technology - Auckland, NZ) The focus of this research is the use of narrative (also referred to as story) because it potentially offers a useful catalyst in developing online relationships. The overall goal of the project is to develop some practical processes and techniques that are useful in building and maintaining relationships between members in online groups. Stephen will report on the status of the group's testing of approaches, methods and techniques to facilitate online relationships and will solicit narratives from MFN participants.
3:15pm	Break, Networking, etc. (15 minutes)
SESSION 5 3:30pm to 5:00pm	Dynamic Facilitation and Emergent Leadership Jim Rough - (Jim Rough & Associates - Port Townsend, WA) Dynamic Facilitation engenders a quality of thinking known as "choice-creating," which is more heartfelt than "decision-making" and forms the basis for emergent leadership. It's where each person rises to the occasion, contributes his/her genius and works with others to solve the most important issues. This process opens new doors of possibility because one dynamic facilitator can elicit this "zone of thinking" in a group or in a large system of people. This session is for leaders, group facilitators, internal consultants, therapists, dialogue practitioners, educators, and activists.
5:00pm	Wrap Up, Door Prizes, Adjourn

Registration Information

<p>HOST For This Conference</p>	<p>The Facilities for the 39th Midwest Facilitators' Conference are provided by Catalyst Ranch (known as Chicago's most creative meeting and events space), 656 W Randolph - Suite 4-E, Chicago, Illinois 60661, http://www.catalystsranch.com</p>	
<p>SPONSOR Nightingale-Conant</p>	<p>Since 1993, Nightingale-Conant (Niles, Illinois) has been a sponsor to MFN, providing the vast majority of door prizes. Nightingale-Conant is the largest producer and distributor of instructional and motivational audio and video tapes for Personal and Business Development, Wealth Building, Sales, Mind Technology, Health & Wellness and Spiritual Growth. N-C also provides Coaching Services and has a full-service Speakers' Bureau. Visit their website at: http://www.nightingale.com</p>	
<p>SPONSOR University Associates</p>	<p>Since 1993, University Associates, has been a sponsor and supporter of MFN activities, providing products and a number of high-value door prizes, such as tuition-free seats in their workshops. Visit their website at: http://www.universityassociates.com</p>	
<p>SPONSOR MG Rush</p>	<p>In 2005 MG Rush (a division of Morgan Madison & Company) became sponsor of MFN events. For 2006, MG Rush will award one complimentary seat in a future FAST Facilitator Training Workshop (a \$2,750 value) to someone who has attended all three MFN conferences for the year. The prize will be transferable and the winner will be selected at the October 2006 Conference. http://www.mgrush.com</p>	
<p>Conference Fee</p>	<p>Conference Fee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$110.00 per participant on or before 01/17 (Early Registration Discount) • \$125.00 per participant after 01/17 • \$135.00 per participant at the door (no guarantee without pre-registration) <p><u>Now accepting all major credit cards:</u> (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover/Novus, Diner's Club)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fee includes Conference, Materials, Continental Breakfast & Lunch. • Fee Does NOT include lodging (see suggestions below). • Cancellations after 01/17 or no shows may be assessed a cancellation fee 	
<p>How to Register</p>	<p>Register early to save \$ and to secure a place in this conference.</p> <p>Phone: (773) 463-2288 - Press the "2" key and leave message with company name, payment info and the name, phone # and email address for each registrant.</p> <p>Fax: (773) 463-1830 - Fax completed registration form with payment information for each registrant.</p> <p>E-Mail: register@midwest-facilitators.net – E-mail completed registration form with payment information and subject: announce "MFN Conference Registration".</p> <p>Snail-mail: Mail completed registration form with payment information to MFN c/o Jordan-Webb, 2656 W Montrose Ave, - Suite 110, Chicago, IL 60618-1559.</p> <p>On-Site: On-Site Registration and payment (\$135.00) is subject to availability.</p>	
<p>Lodging</p>	<p>Participants are responsible for arranging their own lodging. There are many options available. For a wider selection of hotels: http://www.catalystsranch.com/lodging1.html</p>	
<p>Other Nearby Lodging</p>	<p>Hotel Allegro Chicago 171 W Randolph St (312)-236-0123 or (800)-643-1500 http://www.allegrochicago.com</p>	<p>Hotel Burnham 1 W Washington St (312)-782-1111 or (877)-294-9712 http://www.burnhamhotel.com</p>
<p></p>	<p>Rodeway Inn Mid-City Plaza 1 S Halsted (312)-829-5000 http://www.qualityinn.com</p>	<p>W Chicago City Center 172 W Adams (312)-332-1200 or (800)-621-2360 http://www.starwood.com/whotels</p>
<p></p>	<p>Palmer House Hilton 17 E Monroe (312)-726-7500 or (800)-445-8667 http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/hotels/index.jhtml?c=tyhocn=CHIPHHH</p>	<p>House of Blues Hotel - Chicago 333 N Dearborn (312)-245-0333 or (800)-235-6397 http://www.loewshotels.com/hotels/chicago</p>
<p>Meals</p>	<p>Continental breakfast and lunch is included in the Conference fee. Participants with special dietary needs contact: david.dewitt@dsc-logistics.com</p>	

Dress Code	Business casual
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Travel Information

<p>Travel Suggestions</p>	<p>Catalyst Ranch (known as Chicago's most creative meeting and events space) is located just west of the Chicago's Downtown Loop in the Haymarket Square District. Area maps at: http://www.catalystranch.com/maps1.html. There are many public transportation options. Car pool! Use your network! We will connect people who can offer a ride or who need a ride.</p>
<p>(1) From Chicago via I-90/94/57/294 (Kennedy or Dan Ryan Expressways)</p>	<p>From the North – a) Take I-90/94 (Kennedy Expressway) southbound to Washington St exit; b) continue eastbound on Washington; proceed as (7-a) below.</p> <p>From the South – f) Take I-90/94 (Dan Ryan Expressway) northbound to downtown Chicago; g) continue northbound to Washington Street exit; h) proceed as in (1-b) above</p>
<p>(2) From Chicago via US 41 (Lake Shore Drive)</p>	<p>From the North – a) Take Lake Shore Drive (US 41) southbound to Randolph St Exit; b) continue westbound on Randolph to Jefferson St; c) turn right (northbound) to parking lots on Jefferson & Randolph; proceed as (7-b) below.</p> <p>From the South – e) Take Lake Shore Drive, (US 41) northbound to Randolph St exit; f) proceed as in (2-b) above.</p>
<p>(3) From Chicagoland (north/northwest), O'Hare Airport, Wisconsin, points north via I-90/94/294</p>	<p>a) Take I-90 Kennedy Expressway or I-94 Edens Expressway southbound to I-90/94 Junction; b) proceed as (1-a) above.</p>
<p>(4) From Midway Airport, Chicagoland (south/southwest), points south via I-55</p>	<p>a) Take Cicero Ave (Illinois Route 50) northbound to I-55 (Stevenson Expressway); b) take I-55 northbound to junction with I-90/94 (Kennedy Expressway); c) take I-90/94 northbound to Washington Street Exit; d) proceed as in (1-b) above.</p>
<p>(5) From Iowa and points west via I-290 and I-88</p>	<p>a) Take I-88 (East-West Tollway) eastbound to junction with I-290 (Eisenhower Expressway); b) take I-290 eastbound to junction with I-90/94 in downtown Chicago; c) proceed as in (1-f) above.</p>
<p>(6) From Iowa and points west via I-80</p>	<p>a) Take I-80 eastbound to I-55; b) take I-55 then proceed as in (4-b) above.</p>
<p>(7) Parking</p>	<p>Eastbound on Washington: a) Driving eastbound on Washington, there are two "Park 1" parking lots on the NE corner and NW corner of Washington and Des Plaines Sts; \$10 (in by 8am) or \$11 for all day; b) walk north on Des Plaines or Jefferson to Randolph; c) walk west on Randolph to Catalyst Ranch (just before I-90/94 bridge) at 656 W Randolph and dial 300 to be buzzed in. d) Optionally drive to Jefferson & turn left (north) to parking lots (below) on Jefferson & Randolph.</p> <p>Westbound on Randolph: e) Driving westbound on Randolph, there is a "Public Parking" lot at 116 N Jefferson; \$10 (in by 8am) or \$11 for all day and a "Park" lot on the NW corner of Randolph and Jefferson; \$11 for all day; proceed as (7-c) above. For a map of the area: http://www.catalystranch.com/maps1.html</p>
<p>(8) Commuting by Rail or Bus or Rail Travel by AMTRAK</p>	<p>a) Take Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) L-Subway Trains downtown; Blue/Red Lines to Clark & Lake Station; Red Line to Washington Station; Green Line to Clinton Station; Orange/Brown Lines to Washington Station; walk to Randolph then proceed as in (1-e) above.</p> <p>b) Take METRA Trains to La Salle Street Station, Union Station (also AMTRAK), Oglvie Transportation Center or METRA Electric/South Shore Station. Short walk North to Randolph St and proceed as in (1-e) above. More details in announcement on MFN Website: http://www.midwest-facilitators.net</p> <p>c) CTA Bus routes on Randolph St, Halsted St, etc...</p> <p>Public Transit Information:</p> <p>RTA (312)-836-7000 - http://www.rtachicago.com METRA (312)-322-6777 - http://www.metrarail.com PACE (847)-364-7223 - http://www.pacebus.com CTA (888)-968-7282 - http://www.transitchicago.com AMTRAK (800)-472-7245 - http://www.amtrak.com</p>
<p>(9) By Air</p>	<p>Take commercial flights into Chicago's O'Hare or Midway Airports. Rent a car and proceed as in (3) or (4) above, or take CTA Blue or Orange Line Trains downtown and proceed as (8-a) above.</p>

MFN - UPCOMING EVENTS / NOTICES

To suggest a future program or presenter, or to become involved in MFN, contact us using the information below.

Please send your current e-mail address, phone & fax number and address changes so that we can keep you informed about MFN events in a variety of ways. E-mail: pcollins@jordan-webb.net; Fax: (773) 463-1830; Voice: (773) 463-2288.

Monday January 23, 2006 MFN Winter Conference	Hosted by Catalyst Ranch in Downtown Chicago, IL, http://www./midwest-facilitators.net , info@midwest-facilitators.net , (773)-463-2288
MG Rush FAST Facilitator Training Chicago Area: Jan 16-20, Feb 13-17, Mar 13-17, Apr 10-14, May 8-12, Jun 12-16; Sacramento, CA: Mar 20-24; Washington, DC: Jun 19-23	Terrence Metz, MG Rush, (630)-954-5880 x211 - t.metz@mgrush.com , http://www.mgrush.com
Seattle, WA: Feb 20-24, May 17-20, and Dec 6-9 Emotional Intelligence in Relationship Training	Learning in Action Technologies, (425)-641-7246, liat@learninginaction.com , http://www.learninginaction.com
Chicago: Mar 6-8, Jun 5-7, Sep 11-13, Dec 11-13 Leadership Strategies Effective Facilitator Training	Jamie Kaye, Leadership Strategies, (800) 824-2850, jkaye@leadstrat.com , http://www.leadstrat.com
April 26-28, 2006 Open Space Technology Training in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	Diane Gibeault: diane.gibeault@rogers.com , (613)-744-2638, www.dianegibeault.com ; Larry Peterson: larry@spiritedorg.com , (416)-653-4829, www.spiritedorg.com .
May TBA, 2006 MFN Spring Conference	Hosted by TBA, Details TBA, http://www./midwest-facilitators.net , info@midwest-facilitators.net , (773)-463-2288
June 12-13, 2006 IAF Facilitator Certification in Baltimore, MD	International Association of Facilitators (IAF) Facilitator Certification Sessions, in Baltimore, MD, Information: http://www.iaf-world.org , office@iaf-world.org or pbushee@mr.net , (952)-891-3541, (800)-281-9948
June 14-17, 2006 IAF Annual Conference in Baltimore, MD	International Association of Facilitators (IAF) Annual Pre-Conference & Conference, in Baltimore, MD, Information: http://www.iaf-world.org , office@iaf-world.org or pbushee@mr.net , (952)-891-3541, (800)-281-9948
November 10-15, 2006 IAP2 Annual Conference in Montreal, Quebec, Canada	International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Annual Pre-Conference & Conference, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, Information: http://www.iap2.org , iap2hq@iap2.org , (800)-644-4273
October TBA, 2006 MFN Fall Conference	Hosted by TBA, Details TBA, http://www./midwest-facilitators.net , info@midwest-facilitators.net , (773)-463-2288
December 6, 2006 MFN/MSPC Gala Holiday Celebration	Hosted by TBA, Details TBA, http://www./midwest-facilitators.net , info@midwest-facilitators.net , (773)-463-2288
January TBA, 2007 MFN Winter Conference	Hosted by Summit Executive Centre in Downtown Chicago, Presenter & Program Details TBA, http://www./midwest-facilitators.net , info@midwest-facilitators.net , (773)-463-2288

----- Cut Here & Mail or Fax to Registrar -----

MFN c/o Jordan-Webb, 2656 West Montrose Ave-Suite 110, Chicago, IL 60618 or Fax: (773) 463-1830 or pcollins@jordan-webb.net

Registration Form - 39th Facilitators' Conference - Midwest Facilitators' Network - 01/23/2006

Name

Company

Address & Mail Code

City/State/Zip

Business Phone _____ Home Phone _____

E-mail Address and Website Address

Full Conference Registration: \$ _____
(by 01/17: \$110 - after 01/17: \$125 - on site: \$135)

Half-day Conference Registration: \$ _____
(by 01/17: \$75 - after 01/17: \$80 - on site: \$85)

Full Day Mark Session Choices: 2: A - B 3: A - B 4: A - B
Half-Day Mark Session Choices: 2: A - B or 3: A - B 4: A - B

_____-_____-_____
Visa-MasterCard-American Express-Discover-Novus-Diner's Club CARD NUMBER

SIGNATURE

EXP. DATE

V CODE

Your Company PO Number for Billing

About the Presentations and the Presenters I

Using Experiential Education AKA "Stupid Games" to Spice Up Your Facilitated Sessions

Bruce Hodes (CMI Teamwork - Oak Park, Illinois)

In this fast paced session Bruce will share his methodology of Building High performance teams. A number of exercises will be reviewed and taught. Participants will explore how these teambuilding exercises can be used to explore their client's performance issues. Bruce will share techniques from which can enhance your ability to team build and focus groups. Ways that groups can utilize to measure and improve their performance will also be explored.

If you have an interest in impacting groups of business people, this session is for you. Over the years, CMI has pioneered ways of working with business groups in the areas of teambuilding, customer service, and problem solving. Customer focused work teams are emerging as a key strategy of leading-edge companies. Find out how to measure team performance in your company. Discover the benefits of using experiential education as a practice field for organizational growth. We have developed a number of useful and powerful exercises and activities that allow groups to learn and grow together. All of our work allows for participants to be active and engaged in their own learning.

At this session, we will present the following:

- How you can structure simple exercises to teach superior customer service
- Exercises that can be conducted inside for team building and problem solving
- Ways to motivate and energize large and small groups of business people
- Data on building high performance work teams that can be taught to business people

Come join us for this dynamic and active session. All of the activities presented are capable of being used in conference and training rooms. We can provide a fun and non-threatening practice field for team building. Whether you are engaged in putting together a large conference or a planning session, this preview will contain information and techniques that you will be able to use immediately. You will also be able to get a flavor for the types of services CMI offers companies.

For the past twenty years, **Bruce Hodes** has dedicated his professional life to helping companies grow and develop into powerful performance cultures. Bruce has an MBA from Northwestern University and a Masters Degree in Clinical Social Work. As a business consultant and a recovering psychotherapist, Bruce brings a very diverse blend of skills and education to his work with teams, business leaders and executives. He has developed a number of unique and powerful tools to allow business people to improve their ability and perform individually and in groups. Bruce has also developed techniques for small and mid sized companies to conduct business planning and strategy sessions. This has been developed into a methodology called, ***Breakthrough Business Planning***. This methodology can also be useful for departments and corporate divisions.

In 1984, Bruce founded the firm CMI that is dedicated to creating vision in their clients work place, planning and commitment dictate actions, where employees are committed to the desired results rather than to the current circumstances and where out of the ordinary results can be produced continually and routinely. CMI has a practice in the areas of Strategic Planning, High Performance Team Development and Organizational Development. The coaches and facilitators of CMI have worked on projects throughout the United States, as well as, international projects in China, Mexico and Canada. Clients routinely compliment and are impressed at the service orientation and responsiveness they receive from the CMI staff.

For more information visit: <http://www.cmiteamwork.com>

About the Presentations and the Presenters II

Building Success through Effective Impression Management Wayne Stone - (Waubonsee Community College - Sugar Grove, IL)

All the world is a stage and the role that each of us plays, intentionally or unintentionally, determines both our personal and organizational success. The ability of a leader to craft a role that reflects the vision, mission, goals, competencies and culture of an organization is critical to effectiveness and success of any organization. In effect, the leader reflects the organization to the world and everything that he or she does and is reflects what people expect the organization to do and be.

The purposes of this workshop are to:

- Familiarize participants with concepts of impression management for themselves and their clients
- Introduce participants to tools that help define their own roles and those of their clients
- Using a customer expectations model to identify characteristics expected of people in consultant, facilitator and coaching roles
- Help participants create and structure their desired impression and roles
- Give participants skills in helping others to define their impressions and roles

Dr. Wayne Stone is currently VP of Planning, Quality and Organizational Development at Waubonsee Community College in Sugar Grove, IL. He has held posts at other community colleges and was the Director of Plans and Operations at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) in Dayton, OH. While at AFIT, he consulted widely within the Department of Defense (DoD) on strategic planning and execution, leadership, quality, employee empowerment, and organizational restructuring. He was an ad hoc advisor to the Air Force Chief of Staff at the Pentagon, has testified before a presidential commission on the assignment of women, and worked with the DoD Comptroller on implementation of the Government Performance and Results Act. He is currently very involved in quality programs for higher education institutions and serves as a Strategy Forum Facilitator and Systems Portfolio reviewer for the North Central Association's (one of six regional accrediting organizations) Academic Quality Improvement Program.

Wisdom Council: A New Approach to Transforming Large Systems Jim Rough - (Jim Rough & Associates - Port Townsend, WA)

The Wisdom Council is a newly invented approach to involving and empowering people in large systems - like corporations, cities, churches, unions, professional associations and government agencies.

With little cost or time investment, it promises to establish a new kind of creative, system-wide conversation. It facilitates a way everyone can think together on the most difficult issues while building trust and community, creating new options, and reaching near-consensus. For example, it promises to

- Awaken the spirit of quality and participation among physicians in a hospital, geographically diverse employees in a government agency, or citizens in a city.
- Overcome conflicts and help people who feel marginalized to join with all.
- Enliven individual uniqueness and genius by valuing and celebrating diverse voices.

Come hear about current experiments with this new model in corporations, schools, cities, and cooperatives and the impacts they are having. (see www.Tobe.net)

About the Presentations and the Presenters III

Dynamic Facilitation and Emergent Leadership Jim Rough - (Jim Rough & Associates - Port Townsend, WA)

The best, fastest way for a group of people to reach consensus on a tough issue is to have a breakthrough. Then, the results are exceptional and each person feels involved, knows what to do, and is committed to the group results. Normal meetings practically eliminate this possibility. Dynamic Facilitation is an energy-based form of facilitating that maximizes it. Dynamic Facilitation engenders a quality of thinking known as "choice-creating," which is more heartfelt than "decision-making" and forms the basis for emergent leadership. It's where each person rises to the occasion, contributes his/her genius and works with others to solve the most important issues. This process opens new doors of possibility because one dynamic facilitator can elicit this "zone of thinking" in a group or in a large system of people. This session is for leaders, group facilitators, internal consultants, therapists, dialogue practitioners, educators, and activists. (see www.ToBE.net)

Jim Rough is a consultant, author, speaker and social innovator. He originated *Dynamic Facilitation* and has been presenting public and private seminars on it since 1990. Jim also originated the *Wisdom Council*, which is now being tested in a number of settings as a way to transform large systems. He is author of the book, *Society's Breakthrough! Releasing the Essential Wisdom and Virtue of All the People*. For the past four years he has been host of "The Jim Rough Show" on community access television. Jim's has an MBA and MSEE degrees from Columbia University and a BA in physics from Occidental College.

Beyond Expectations: What Coaching Can Do for You Jerilyn Willin - (JWillin Consulting - Bloomingdale, IL)

Everyone possesses untapped potential. Explore how working with a coach can help you tap into your potential and find the courage to act on it. Learn what coaching is and is not, what to expect from a coaching relationship and how to find a reputable coach. (see <http://www.jwillinconsulting.com>)

From Dream to Destination: Pursuing the Life You Prefer Jerilyn Willin - (JWillin Consulting - Bloomingdale, IL)

The biggest obstacle to achieving our goals lies between our ears. Habits and beliefs can keep us from being open to possibilities and opportunities. Don't live on auto-pilot! This interactive program gets you on the road to the destination you desire. Discover the amazing power we each have to create a more fulfilling life. Make 2006 the year you DO IT! (see <http://www.jwillinconsulting.com>)

Jerilyn Willin is a consultant and coach with twenty years experience in the field of performance consulting, team effectiveness and career strategies coaching. In 1996 Jerilyn followed the call of her entrepreneurial spirit and founded **JWillin Consulting, Ltd.**, through which she helps organizations, teams and individuals connect their potential to their business performance. Her work has taken her all over the United States as well as to Canada, Australia and New Zealand. In 2005 Jerilyn added pre-retirement coaching to her services. Pre-retirement coaching helps people contemplating retirement focus on the critical, non-financial aspects of retirement planning.

Speaking to groups is a particular joy. Jerilyn has presented to associations such as the Chicago Industrial/Organizational Psychologists, the Midwest Society of Professional Consultants, Windy City Writer's and numerous civic organizations. She hosts "A Coach's (re)View" a monthly business/motivational book review at the Schaumburg District Library in Schaumburg the last Tuesday of every month. On January 31 she will review [Breakthrough Networking: Building Relationships That Last](#). She would love to add you to her invitation list. Jerilyn lives in Bloomingdale with her husband Tim Boyd and two Old English Sheepdogs named Abbey and Greta.

About the Presentations and the Presenters IV

Exploring Leadership: An Innovative Program for High Potential Staff Robert Cyr - (People's Energy Corporation - Chicago, IL)

"Exploring Leadership" combined readings from Harvard Business Review articles and interviews of local and nationally known leaders to broaden the leadership perspectives of high potential staff at Peoples Energy. The program was comprised of 12 sessions, each beginning with group discussions of key concepts from the HBR articles, followed by one-hour interviews of leaders of corporations and organizations in the Chicago area. Featured speakers included the Rev. Jessie Jackson, Congressman Luis Gutierrez, John Rowe (Chairman, Exelon), Arne Duncan (CEO, Chicago Public Schools), and Christie Hefner (Chairman, Playboy Enterprises). Rob Cyr, Senior Employee Development Specialist, will review the experience, its highlights and lessons learned through the program.

"Exploring Leadership" combined readings from Harvard Business Review articles and interviews of local and nationally known leaders to broaden the leadership perspectives of high potential staff at Peoples Energy. This session will review the experience, its highlights and lessons learned through the program.

Rob Cyr is Senior Leadership Development specialist for Peoples Energy, Chicago, Illinois. His career in the Employee Development field encompasses positions in which he was responsible for organizing and managing corporate and technical training functions, academic instruction at Northwestern and Loyola University, and project work as an independent consultant. He is adept at working collaboratively with internal and external clients to design training and organizational development solutions that have a measurable impact on group productivity, efficiency and morale. His passions include leadership development, performance management, coaching, and quality improvement. He encourages his clients to tie training design and delivery to the goals outlined in their strategic plans. He specializes in developing pragmatic solutions that require accountability for all stakeholders for all coaching and training outcomes. He has helped implement quality improvement systems and instructed quality management techniques to maximize team effectiveness. Among the international programs he has created are *Doing Business with the Japanese*, *Client Relations - Korea*, *Chinese Business and Communications Style*, and *Client Relations - East Asia* for working with businesses in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore. He has spoken on leadership, intercultural and client relations issues at national conferences of the American Society for Training and Development, the National Society for Performance and Instruction, the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals, and the Society of Intercultural Education, Training and Research. His experience includes employee development, public relations and community organization work at Underwriters Laboratories, the Easter Seal Society and the Urban League. He has been published extensively in business and professional journals.

The Effectiveness of Narrative in Facilitating Online Relationship Development Stephen Thorpe - (Auckland (NZ) University of Technology - Auckland, NZ)

Aim

The research project aims to investigate how story and narrative can be used to facilitate relationship development between participants in an online group.

Focus

The focus is the use of narrative (also referred to as story) because it potentially offers a useful catalyst in developing online relationships. It provides an accessible form for developing inclusiveness, deepening rapport and for people to present aspects of themselves in an environment lacking in human presence. The overall goal of the project is to develop some practical processes and techniques that are useful in building and maintaining relationships between members in online groups. The study group will also explore other areas of online facilitation throughout the research process including areas of trust, power, conflict, inclusion, community, motivation, best practice, metaphor, learning, process and system design, conferencing, tools and culture.

About the Presentations and the Presenters V

Method

The method of co-operative inquiry will be used within a participative approach. Co-operative inquiry produces data that has a strong grounding in participant experience and multiple perspectives of phenomena. Co-operative inquiry also aligns strongly with facilitator values of equality, shared decision-making, equal opportunity, power sharing and personal responsibility.

Plan

The research will happen in two stages. An initial 6-week pilot will begin with investigating agreed themes of interest within the area of the research question. This pilot stage will have a particular focus on how we might research cooperatively together and we will try a few things out to see if they are useful ways to research. At the end of this pilot stage, we will likely have a major evaluation to see what has worked well for us and where our energy is for investigating further in more depth.

The second stage of the research will see us follow through several cycles of planning, action and reflection. The planning will involve discussion about our choice of focus or topic and what type of inquiry we wish to apply. In the action phase we will explore, in experience and action, aspects of the inquiry. The reflection phase reviews what has been experienced and we may decide to modify our topic in light of making new sense of the data we have collected. At the end of the cycles we will complete a major reflection phase for pulling the threads together, clarifying outcomes and deciding on dissemination of what we have learnt.

Benefits

- This research will forward our profession by contributing in-depth research into the emerging area of online group work.
- We will generate and test some practical approaches, methods and techniques to facilitate online relationships.
- We will explore the usefulness of several research methods for investigating our individual and group experience online (such as cooperative inquiry, narrative inquiry, sociometric processing, others brought by individuals in the research group and those that emerge from our group process).
- Through fully immersing ourselves in the research topic we are likely to tap into the collective wisdom and synergies of our research group.
- Through conscious attention to the differing perspectives of our experience we are likely to better understand many of the difficulties faced in online groups.
- We will all learn from one another and potentially build stronger peer networks.

Stephen will report on the status of the group's testing of approaches, methods and techniques to facilitate online relationships and will solicit narratives from MFN participants.

Stephen Thorpe is a PhD student at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT) in New Zealand. He is an IT consultant and has been researching online facilitation over the last 4 years. Stephen is responsible for the IT functional area for Zenergy, a New Zealand based group of facilitators, mediators and transformational coaches. Stephen holds a Bachelor of Business with first class honours from AUT where he has a background researching computer-assisted group work as part of a team who researched, developed and commercialised a multi-site interactive digital whiteboard. Stephen has also co-developed a CD-ROM based tutorial for online training and has been a part-time lecturer teaching Computing, Globalisation and Business Information Management on the Bachelor of Business Degree. Stephen is a member of the International Association of Facilitators (IAF) and Global Facilitators Service Corps (GFSC) and has recently co-written a chapter on Facilitator Values and Ethics in the IAF Handbook of Group Facilitation with Dr. Dale Hunter. Stephen has recently accepted to be an Associate Editor of the IAF's Group Facilitation Journal. (see <http://elena.aut.ac.nz/homepages/phd-students/stetho09>)

An Offer & Challenge for MFN Members

In 2005 MG Rush (a division of Morgan Madison & Company) became sponsor of MFN events. For 2006, MG Rush will award one complimentary seat in a future FAST Facilitator Training Workshop (a \$2,750 value) to someone who has attended all three MFN conferences for the year. The prize will be transferable and the winner will be selected at the October 2006 Conference. <http://www.mgrush.com>