



Leadership, Mid-Term Elections, The Economy And Networking Dominate The 2006 Annual Meeting Agenda

By Rob Kiener, Director, Marketing and Membership Communications

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The PMPA Annual Meeting is the premier networking event for owners and senior managers of North America-based precision machined products companies. The 73rd Annual Meeting will be held September 30 to October 4 at the Ritz Carlton in Amelia Island, Florida. During the meeting, company executives and their spouses will participate in daily educational sessions and networking events designed to facilitate the exchange of ideas for a unique educational experience.

The keynote speaker of the 2006 conference is Brig. Gen. Nick Halley (U.S. Army retired), a noted expert on leadership and terrorism. He has commanded thousands of our soldiers in combat in three conflicts—Vietnam, Grenada and Desert Storm. He is an Army paratrooper, Army ranger and a special operations veteran.

His final active-duty assignment was as the commanding general of artillery and rocket forces in Desert Storm. Since his retirement from the Army, Gen. Halley has had a distinguished civilian career at the director, vice president and general manager level with several prestigious international electronics firms, including Motorola.

Gen. Halley is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the Army War College. He holds a master's degree in nuclear physics from the University of Virginia. He has made numerous appearances as a terrorism analyst on Fox News. He is also the on-air military and terrorism expert for WGN-TV Chicago, which is seen nationwide on cable television.

During Gen. Halley's presentation, "Leadership Under Fire! From the Battlefield to Corporate America," we

will learn how military principles can be applied to managing a business in today's world.

Following Gen. Halley will be Dr. Michael Economides, a professor at the Cullen College of Engineering, University of Houston, and the managing partner of a petroleum engineering and petroleum strategy consulting firm. His interests include petroleum production and petroleum management, with a particular emphasis on natural gas, natural gas transportation, LNG, CNG and processing, advances in process design of very complex operations, economics and geopolitics.

He is also the editor-in-chief of the Energy Tribune. Previously, he was the Samuel R. Noble professor of petroleum engineering at Texas A&M University and served as chief scientist of the Global Petroleum Research Institute (GPRI). Prior to joining the faculty at Texas A&M University, Dr. Economides was the director of the Institute of Drilling and Production at the Leoben Mining University in Austria. He also worked in a variety of senior technical and managerial positions with a major petroleum services company.

Dr. Economides authored or co-authored 11 professional textbooks and books, including "The Color of Oil," as well as 200 journal papers and articles. He does a wide range of industrial consulting for national oil companies and Fortune 500 companies. He also appears regularly as a guest and expert commentator on national and international television programs.

Dr. Economides' presentation will focus on energy as a strategic factor in global politics. He will also



concentrate on issues related to global energy consumption and production, as well as alternative fuel technologies.

Day Two of the conference will feature Bill Sammon, senior White House correspondent for the Washington Examiner. Because of his 6' 7" frame, Mr. Sammon is known as "Superstretch," a nickname given to him by President George W. Bush.

Mr. Sammon began his career in Cleveland, Ohio, with the News Herald and later the Plain Dealer. During his stint in Cleveland, he uncovered stories of voter fraud at the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. His reporting led to a variety of federal and state investigations and resulted in numerous criminal convictions.

In 1995, Mr. Sammon moved overseas to cover the civil war in Bosnia for The Stars and Stripes. After two years in Bosnia, he traveled to The Hague in the Netherlands for the opening of the first war crimes trial in half-a-century. He moved back to the United States in 1997 to become a reporter for the Washington Times. While there, he uncovered the Teamsters tentacle of the Democratic fund-raising scandal more thoroughly than any other journalist in the country. His coverage of corruption in the nation's largest labor union was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. In 1998,

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Training—Perform, Document, Manage Effectiveness

By Miles Free, Director, Technology Services mfree@pmpa.org

The need for training in our shops and businesses is indisputable. No one graduates from high school with the skills and knowledge to perform as a journeyman machinist. If your company is ISO 9001:2000, Section 6.2.2 describes the records of training that must be maintained; if you are TS16949:2002, the requirement is found in Section 6.2.2.2. If you are FDA Medical Device-compliant, 21CFR, Part 820.25 describes the training requirements for your company.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has countless

regulations, many of which require an effective training program. Some of the most obvious and applicable to precision machining shops include Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout-Tagout), Hearing Protection, Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Personal Protective Equipment, Hazard Communications (HAZCOM), Powered Industrial Trucks (forklift operator training) and Mechanical Power Presses.

Examples of two lesser-known regulations requiring formal training are Dip Tanks

(1910.94 (d)(9)(i) and 1910.94 (d)(9)(vi)); and Portable Fire Extinguishers (1910.157(g)(1), (2), (4)).

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Mr. Sammon was named senior White House correspondent and covered the impeachment of President Bill Clinton.

Today, as senior White House correspondent for the Washington Examiner, Mr. Sammon travels with President Bush wherever he goes. The journalist was with the president on September 11, 2001, when the presidency was forever transformed by the terrorist attacks.

A frequent guest on Fox News, Mr. Sammon has turned his extraordinary access to the White House into a series of best-selling books chronicling the Bush presidency. He will take PMPA Annual Meeting attendees behind the scenes of the West Wing by sharing his experiences as a member of the White House Press Corps. He will also preview the November 2006 congressional elections as part of his presentation.

Day Three will begin with an in-depth analysis of the economy led by PMPA economist, Dr. Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics,

LLC. Dr. Mayland provides PMPA members with monthly and quarterly analyses of the domestic economy and major manufacturing sectors.

Dr. Mayland is a member of the Blue Chip Economic Forecasters and Financial Forecasts survey panels, as well as several wire service and newspaper survey panels. He has been a past member of the Economic Advisory Committee for the State of Ohio under various governors, and he has held several leadership positions with the National Association for Business Economics.

Frequently quoted in the local and national media, Dr. Mayland is listed in Who's Who in America and has won several awards in recent years from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for "best forecasts." As a member of the Business Week Annual Economic Forecasting Survey panel, he predicted the 2002 gross domestic product, unemployment rate and CPI inflation projections within one tenth of a percent.

Dr. Mayland was the second-best forecaster in USA Today's forecasting panel for 2003. In November 2004, Bloomberg Magazine identified Dr. Mayland as the nation's top forecaster in its mid-2003 to mid-2004 tally of forecasts. For the most recent forecast year (mid-2004 to mid-2005), the same magazine listed him as tied as the best forecaster of the unemployment rate and as the fifth-best forecaster of the inflation rate.

During his presentation, Dr. Mayland will provide information on economic trends, currency and global markets to assist owners and senior managers in making business decisions with greater confidence in today's complex world.

On the closing day of the meeting, PMPA's newly elected president will share his views on the challenges facing the association, its members and the industry. More details on PMPA's business sessions, networking events and scenic Amelia Island, Florida, can be found at www.pmpa.org.