

## SEM SP QUARTERLY REPORT January 2009

### SEM-SP Communications Summary

\* Our first official newsletter was received very well by our general membership, and we thank Sam for her work on this project! I understand that our newsletter, Sam, has been requesting contributions for our next edition, with some volunteers coming from the national SEM conference.

\* The national SEM Board reviewed our first official newsletter and approved continuing publication of such. This was a required step in the process, as per the chapter bylaws.

\* Our new SEM-SP website looks great, and we owe our thanks to Katchie for her design and maintenance! The site needs to be migrated to the URL we own (SEMSouthernPlains) once budgetary allowances are assured. One of the complications of migrating the site to this URL is that paying for hosting or for URL ownership usually is done online, and therefore requires a credit card. We have asked the national SEM board about the possibility of getting some kind of credit card for making online payments. We are waiting to hear back.

\* Ownership of the SEMSouthernPlains URL is currently under my name and my credit card, and should be switched to a corporate account no later than April. This will save incoming officers the trouble of having to set up a new account just to renew the URL.

\* Our Yahoo Groups board now has 35 members. The original listserv had approximately 60 or so members. Several people on the original list contacted me and said they were either no longer interested or had relocated and were now members of a different chapter.

\* Discussion on the Yahoo Groups page has been extremely slow. Based on experience with other groups (like the SEM Council), this seems to be normal behavior to me.

### SEM-SP Treasurers Report

Submitted by Martha Fabrique, Treasurer

Bank account number #742175961 is accessible to the Treasurer via Chase Online Banking. The balance on the account as of the last report in June 2008 was \$636.63. As of 11/28/08, a total of \$90.00 has been debited from the account for monthly service fees

resulting in a current balance of \$546.63. No other debits or deposits are noted.

President's Comment: I have asked Martha to explore banking options that might not debit so much of our money for monthly fees.

SEM-SP Program Committee Report  
Submitted by Rose Lange

The program committee was constituted with three members and prepared a call for papers. We have no submissions so far.

President's Note: The Program Committee has made noble efforts to promote this opportunity, and will be re-submitting the paper call to the membership momentarily. We need to encourage this call for papers to all interested parties. A copy of the call is attached to this email.

SEM-SP Local Arrangements Committee Report  
Submitted by Eileen Hayes

Blocks of rooms, reasonably priced, have been reserved for conference attendees at two area establishments within a three mile drive to campus. A third option (more expensive but with charm) is the Heritage Inns, a set of bed & breakfasts located near downtown Denton: [www.theheritageinns.com](http://www.theheritageinns.com). Phone: 888-565-6414. Ask about a possible 5% discount at the Heritage Inns.

Conference attendees are encouraged to make reservations early as this will be a busy week in Denton for out of town visitors.

La Quinta Inns & Suites  
700 Fort Worth Drive  
Denton, TX 76201  
Phone: 940-387-5840  
Fax: 940-387-2493  
[lq.com](http://lq.com)

Breakfast included. A restaurant is adjacent to the Inn. All reserved rooms have two double beds with a separate cove for a sofa. Price: \$85 + tax; the sink area is within the same space as the beds. When you call in your reservation, tell them you are with the Southern Plains group.

Comfort Suites  
1100 I-35E North  
Denton, TX 76201  
Phone: 940-898-8510  
Fax: 940-898-8235

Price: \$89.95 + city tax (1-4 people), two double beds in each room; Southern Plains SEM group. No additional charge for 4 in a room. [www.csdentontx.com](http://www.csdentontx.com)

It is assumed that most attendees will be driving in (and not flying). For those who are attending the conference and do not have a car, we can facilitate shuttles from the hotels to the campus using personal cars.

The Local Arrangements Committee has reserved blocks of 10 rooms at both of the chain hotels, and has volunteered to oversee roommate pairing if requested.

Restaurant and activity information is forthcoming.

Report respectfully submitted by:  
Cathy Brigham, Ph.D.  
President 0809, SEM-Southern Plains