

## Offbeat and On-Target

### Hollywood Story

Using film location scouts to find off-site venues

When film directors need to find the perfect location for their shoots, they call Debbie Regan. For 15 years, Regan, who runs Debbie Regan Locations out of her home in Old Westbury, N.Y., has been finagling her way into private homes, estates and penthouses in the New York tristate area, with film crews in tow. Projects she's worked on have starred the likes of Woody Allen,

Robert DeNiro, Derek Jeter and 50 Cent.

Meeting and event planners also can lean on Regan or other location scouts who have established relationships with homeowners, to find properties not otherwise available to the public.

Want to organize an unforgettable dinner at an estate on a breathtaking mountaintop? Or in an Italian villa near the Golden Gate Bridge? Per-

haps a château would do the trick? These venues are all part of the portfolio of Mint Locations, formed last year in San Francisco by location scout Cindi Osborn and former event planner Nancy Frumkes, and which specifically targets meeting planners as clients. "Our homes are 'wow' homes," Frumkes explains. "When you walk up the driveway, you think, 'Oh my God!'"

Nancy Grigor, who operates Hamptons Locations in Amagansett, N.Y., says her corporate clients generally hold meetings at other properties and rely on her to find memorable places to spend the evening.

Scouts are used to satisfying a wide range of requests. "I just got a call for a 1-year-old's birthday party for 250 people that specified it had to be a place nobody's ever used before," Regan says. "I'm thinking Mars." ■ T.I.



Exclusive: A Mint Location home in Northern California



### On the spot

What do you miss most while on the road?

"I miss my own home — my bedroom, bathroom, living room and kitchen. I also miss the comfort of having what I need at my fingertips, or at a nearby store."

**Sharon Marsh, CMP, CMM**  
Vendor Relationship Manager  
Cisco  
San Jose, Calif.

"I always miss my family the most while on the road. Our offices are mobile, and our clients and suppliers can find us anywhere with today's technology, but those who anchor and ground us in what is truly important are always waiting for us patiently with love and open arms upon our return."

**Gloria Nelson, CSEP**  
Chief Experience Officer  
Gloria Nelson Event Design LLC  
Winneconne, Wis.

"I would get in a lot of trouble if I didn't say my wife and son, but I'd also have to say my bed. Over the years, I have stayed in some plush, amazing beds, but regardless of where I am or what hotel chain I am staying at, nothing beats sinking into my own mattress with my own broken-in pillows for a good night's sleep. Plus, being home is good for having someone to share it with!"

**Eli Gorin, CMP**  
President  
gMeetings Inc.  
Aventura, Fla.