



Inn-Sight



Newsletter of the Mid-Florida Chapter

Since 1973

HFTP Chapter of the Year 2010, etc.

*Gateway to HFTP * <http://www.hftp.org> * Mid-Florida Chapter Web Site * www.midfloridahftp.org

September 2011



2012

Officers & Directors

Officers

President

Patricia Geer, CHAE
Hyatt Regency Orlando Int'l Airport
407-825-1308
patty.geer@hyatt.com

Vice-President

Terri Nobles, CHAE
Orange County National Golf Center
407-905-2251
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Treasurer

Judy Holcomb, Ph.D., CHAE
Saint Leo University.
352-588-8005
judy.holcomb@saintleo.edu

Secretary

Lori Schefstad, CHTP
Caribe Royale Orlando
407-238-8445
lschefstad@cariberoyale.com

Chairman of the Board

Diana Youngblood, CHAE
Grand Cypress Florida, LP.
407-239-1979
dyoungblood@benchmarkmanagement.com

Directors

Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP
Agilysys (Formerly Visual One)
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Robert Del Mastro
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Kelly Montgomery
Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando
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Nasir Naseer
Nickelodeon Suites Resort.
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John Cook
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Kevin Drinan
Millennium Technology Group
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Please Route to:

GM
HR

Hospitality, Financial and Technological Professionals, Mid-Florida
Leadership, Scholarship, Participation, Service

Annual Meeting, Tuesday, September 27th, 2011

**The Hyatt Regency
Orlando International Airport**

Directions: The Hotel is located in the airport. If parking self park, follow signs to Terminal Top Parking take the "B" elevator to Level 4 to enter the Hotel.

The reception is in Lobby East adjacent to McCoy's Restaurant

Parking Fee: Self Park \$4.00 Valet \$7.00.

Do not use your Sun Pass or the above rates will not apply.

Installation of Chapter Officers and Board of Directors

Master of Ceremonies:

Joseph Romano, CHAE

Senior Controller, The Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

Join your Association in a celebration of 38 years of accomplishments and a view of the robust future for the Mid-Florida Chapter and HFTP.

All previous Global HFTP and Mid-Florida Chapter Presidents are invited to this gala event as honored guests of the Chapter.

Reception at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Menu:

Appetizer

Tomato Tart Tatin, Goat Cheese, Basil Oil and Balsamic Salad

French Served Local Greens with Preserved Lemon, Chick Peas, Fresh Parmesan, White Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entrée

Spiced Beef Tenderloin, Grilled Shrimp Chermoula, Fagine of Summer Vegetables

Dessert

Berry Crème Brûlée

Please RSVP on our web-site: www.midfloridahftp.org

Reservations and cancellations before 12:01 pm Thursday September 22nd.

Please, no walk ins.

No-shows and late cancellations will be billed.

Dinner : Members with RSVP \$40.00, Non-Members and Guests or no RSVP \$50.00,

Student Chapter Members \$25.00.

Use the express registration line at the meeting,
PAYPAL is available on the web-site.

President's Corner**By: Diana Youngblood, CHAE**

Fellow HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Members,

Another year has come and gone and I want to thank you all for your time and participation with the chapter. We have had a great year, with all the charity events we helped out with, the hugely successful HFTP Florida Regional Conference, Orlando and the variety of monthly dinner meetings we held and speakers that presented. With out the time and commitment the board members and volunteers gave, we would not be the greatest chapter in the universe.

I would also like to thank the nominating committee and all the members who stepped up to put their name on the ballot to be on the Board of Directors. While we say thanks to Mark Kressin as he steps down, I would like to welcome our three new board members, Kevin Drinan, Nasir Naseer and John Cook.

There are still several events planned for the rest of this year. The HFTP Annual Convention is in Atlanta this October. This is a great way to get educational points about current topics affecting our industry while networking with HFTP members from other chapters. We feel as a chapter that education is one of the main focuses of the organization so we will also be having our bi-annual mini-educational meeting in November. And we cannot forget the social event in December, so if you have any ideas please let one of the board members know.

Also at the next board of directors meeting we will be setting up the new committees, chair persons and recruiting for volunteers to help out with the committees. If you are interested in getting more involved with the chapter, please let one of the board members know.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport this month for the installation dinner, as I pass on the reigns to our new incoming president, Patty Geer.

Thank you again for a wonderful year,

Respectfully,

Diana

Diana Youngblood, CHAE
HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter President

Membership News, Embrace the vision, join the fun!

Committee Chair , **Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP**

YOUR Chapter currently has 170 members active in a wide range of activities such as; member education at the general meetings and mini-educational seminars. We provide HFTP CHAE and CHTP certification reviews and testing. We also give back to the community through participation in the Bacchus Bash, JDRF Walks and The Annual Golf Event to benefit Camp Boggy Creek.

Welcome New Members

L. Chesnut, Director of Finance
West Palm Beach Marriott

The 2012 Membership Contest has started!**New Member Contest IT'S HUGE!!!**

You only need to sponsor one new member to win. Back by popular demand, the Membership Drive Contest. For each new member sponsored you will have a chance to win a great prize at the July Chapter's general membership meeting.

Election Committee Report

By Wendy Knippel, CPA, CHAE, Chairperson of the Committee

The 2011/2012 Election Committee consisted of Wendy Knippel Chad Curtis, Michael Dryden, Bill Parrish and Kris Shoemaker.

One hundred seventy three ballots were mailed out on August 1st, 2011 with a due date of August 20, 2011. Of the 173 mailed out, 84 valid ballots were returned - a 49% participation.

On August 30th, 2011 and just prior to the General Business Meeting, the ballots were opened and counted. During the General Business Meeting the election results were announced to the members. The election results were confirmed by the Board of Directors on September 8th, 2011.

The election results are as follows:

Officers – to serve a one year term:

President: Patricia Geer, CHAE (Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport)

Vice President: Terri Nobles, CHAE (Orange County National Golf Center & Lodge)

Treasurer: Dr. Judy Holcomb, Ph.D., CHAE (St. Leo University)

Secretary: Lori Schefstad, CHTP (Caribe Royale Resort)

Directors – to serve a two year term:

Greg Wilhelm, CHTP (Agilysys)

John Cook (The Peabody Orlando)

Nasir Naseer (Nickelodeon Suites Resort)

Director – to serve a one year term:

Kevin Drinan (Millennium Technology Group)

Directors continuing with the second year of their term are:

Kelly Montgomery (Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando)

Robert Del Mastro

Congratulations to the new officers and directors and please join us at the installation ceremonies to be held on September 27th, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport.

MEMBERSHIP

RECRUIT NOW**RENEW NOW****Join HFTP**

HFTP Membership Dues are \$325 and include one chapter affiliation of your choice. HFTP chapter 16 is Mid-Florida.

Young Professional Membership Dues

Kick your career into high gear. Members under 30 can join for just \$150. Download Application at HFTP.org.

Conference Rebate!

Join as a new member before October 31, 2011 and receive a \$100 rebate off your registration for the 2011 Annual Convention & Tradeshow October 19-22 in Atlanta, GA. Download Rebate Form at HFTP.Org.

Time to Renew Your Membership?

Renew Online Go to My Account at HFTP.org.

Renew on time and get rewards!

Renew your membership before it expires and receive a \$50 rebate on registration for the HFTP conference of your choice. See the rebate form for details at HFTP.org.

Renewal Bundle Pricing

2 yrs of membership — \$625 (save \$25)

3 yrs of membership — \$925 (save \$50)

Download Renewal Bundle Form at HFTP.org.

Membership Bundling Discounts Available for Your Company

HFTP membership is individual, not company-based. HFTP does offer special pricing for several individual members joining from one company in one form of payment. 5-10 members joining from one company receive a 10% discount. 11 or more members joining from one company receive a 20% discount. For companies that wish to add new members or bundle existing members, we can work with you so that you can take advantage of the discounts. Contact membership@hftp.org to take advantage of this offer.

Give the Gift of HFTP Membership

Have you been a member of HFTP for 10 years or more? Do you want to help grow your chapter's membership? Well, HFTP has a special reward for you; A free one-year membership to be given to a friend or colleague. The new member will receive a one-year membership with HFTP, including all member benefits and one chapter 16 affiliation. All you need to do is to refer a new member to HFTP and they will contact the new member and complete the process. It is a simple, fast and painless process.

For more information contact Lillian White, Director of Member Services at lillian.white@hftp.org or contact the Mid-Florida Membership Chairperson Greg Wilhelm at gregorywilhelm@mindspring.com.

Sharpen your pencils, pack your notebooks and get ready for some FREE STUFF!

Learn, Connect, Succeed

HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter 2011 Fall Micro-Ed



Date: November 29, 2011

CHAE & CHTP Exams, Possible

Afternoon Presentation:

Cost is\$ FREE

Reception:

6:00pm – 6:45pm

Dinner:

6:45pm – 9:30pm, standard price

8:00pm – 9:00pm Dinner Speaker 1 CPE

There will be excellent speakers on a wide variety of subjects. We will kick off the event at 1 pm, so plan to be there for a great afternoon and evening of informative speakers, good food and excellent company.

HFTP MID-FLORIDA SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly General meetings: Normally the last Tuesday of the month.

Location: Various hotel, club, resort and other hospitality venues.

Format: A dinner meeting setting with one 50 minute session.

Mini-Educational Conference: March and November.

Format: A half day event with four 50 minute speaking sessions starting at 1:00 pm and ending at 6:00 pm then dinner and a final 50 minute session.

Audience: Attendees are technology and financial professionals from all disciplines of the hospitality industry. The average meeting attendance is 70+ members.

Topics

All submitted information must be non-proprietary and educational in nature, not sales or product specific. Submitting information does not guarantee you an opportunity to present.

Please submit any topics relevant to an audience of hospitality finance and technology professionals to the Education/Programs Committee Chairperson Dr. Judy Holcomb at 352-588-8005 or any Board member.



Mid-Florida Chapter Member Spotlight
Robert J. Haywood

Robert Haywood, Corporate Controller for Paramount Hospitality Management with two Orlando properties – Floridays Resort Orlando and Point Orlando Resort, has been working in the hospitality industry for the past 14 years.

After serving in the US Air Force, Robert started his hospitality career in 1997 working for David Shapiro & Co. Within his first year, Robert was promoted to Front Office Manager and eventually became the youngest General Manager (at only 23) within the company.

While working for Cypress Hotel Management, Robert transferred from Georgia to Orlando in April 2000. During his 10 year tenure with Cypress Hotel Management and its affiliate companies, Robert held many positions for the company including: General Manager, Area Managing Director, Senior Accountant and finally as Corporate Controller. Robert attended continuing education at Valdosta State University and Valencia Community College.

Working for the last three years with Paramount Hospitality Management, LLC., Robert oversees all aspects of the company's accounting as well as IT and Owner Services.

A native of Huntsville, AL, Robert is a die-hard Alabama college football fan (roll-tide) as well as an avid US & Brazilian soccer fan.

At your right is a picture of Robert. Make sure you say a big howdy to him when you meet at the next HFTP Mid-Florida General meeting.



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MID-FLORIDA CHAPTER

P.O. Box 692004
Orlando, FL 32869-2004

2011 HFTP Mid-Florida CALENDAR

Note: Meeting fees for 2011 are \$40 Regular member, \$25 Student, \$50 all guests, Non-Members and failed to RSVP.

Prepay your meeting fee on the web-site with PayPal

- September 8th**, Board Meeting, 6 pm, Loews Training Room
- September 27th**, Installation of Officers, Chapter's Annual Meeting 6 pm, Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport
- October 4th**, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OPEN
- October 25th**, General Meeting, 6 pm, Renaissance Orlando-Airport
- October 19-22 HFTP Annual Convention & Trade Show, Atlanta, GA**
- October 18-19 HFTP Leadership Summit, Atlanta, GA**
- November 3rd**, Board Meeting, 6 pm, Loews Training Room
- November 29th**, Mini Educational, 6 pm, TBA
- December 6th**, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OPEN
- December**, Chapter Social-TBA

For more Chapter news visit the Universally acclaimed Chapter Web Site at:

www.midfloridahftp.org

The opinions expressed in the Mid-Florida Chapter newsletter and web-site are solely those of the editor, web master or author of the article and have nothing to do with HFTP Global and/or in some cases reality, political correctness or good hygiene.



HindSight..... The Year was 1996

Known then as the International Association of Hospitality Accountants

Monthly Meeting schedule for 1996

- January Peabody Hotel Ken Hopkins – The Internet
- February Sheraton World Resort Greta Snitkin – Tourism Related Crimes
- March Clarion Plaza Hotel Randy Johnson – Orlando Arena Sports Assoc.
- April Hyatt Grand Cypress Social – Western Town section
- May Radisson Bob Cox – Controlling Workers Comp. Cost
- June Bay Hill Club Carolyn Strandquest – YMCA Corporate Programs
- July Hyatt Airport Kendall Burkett – 1996 Legislative changes that may have a financial impact on the Hospitality Industry
- August Omni Rosen C.Dawkins & D.Dougherty – Resort Tax Compliance
- September UCF (main campus) Installation of Officers followed by a tour of the Hospitality Management teaching facilities
- October National Convention held at the Clarion Plaza Hotel
- November Buena Vista Palace Tim Norstram, CPA – Career Advancement
- December Social Sleuth’s Mystery Theater

At the January Board meeting, Joe Romano was welcomed as the newest Board Member.

Thank you to Dr. Stephen LeBruto as the internet homepage is up and running for the Mid Florida IAHA website. www.bus.ucf.edu/iaha (I already tried, it’s not working anymore)

Bacchus Bash was held on April 19th.

On April 30th the Hyatt Grand Cypress hosted the Spring Annual at their “Western Town section” with a western style BBQ dinner..... and the “Margaritas are on the house”.

From the April 1996 newsletter:

One Minute Idea. Before purchasing new software, a good question to ask yourself is: *Is it better than a pencil?* The answer will help you decide whether the expense is really justified. Keep in mind that a computer is supposed to make your work easier and better.

On June 20th the Mid Florida Chapter sponsored a one day “Hospitality Educational Conference” at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in downtown Orlando. Member’s cost was \$45 and non-members paid \$55 – and that included lunch. A total of five CPEs were available.

HITEC was held in Nashville, TN at the Opryland Hotel from June 18th – June 20th.

The Florida Regional Conference, hosted by the South Florida Chapter, was held from July 25th – 27th in Naples, Florida.

The new Officers and Directors for the 1996-1997 term were installed on September 24th meeting.

Officers: President Bob Slappey

V.P. Steve LeBruto

Treasurer Brenda Taylor

Secretary Larry McCloskey

Directors for two year term:

Wendy Bonany

Bill Parrish

Joe Romano

German Plaza’s will complete his second year of his two year term

Directors for one year term:

Cindy Casper

Ron Dara

The IAHA National Convention: “Reaching for the Stars” was held in Orlando at the Clarion Plaza Hotel from October 23rd – 26th. With over 600 attendees, this was the largest convention to date.

The cost of mailing the newsletter: \$0.32

It was noted at the June 4th Board of Directors meeting that our chapter membership was currently at 103 members, down from 120 members from the previous June.

Michael Dryden, CHAE



HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter. What your Committees do:

Administrative/Programs/Speakers:

Plan and organize all General and Board Meetings; menus, speaker needs and contracts. Set all meeting dates and places and maintains the meeting calendar.

Plan the social events, secure door prizes for the General Meeting and communicate meeting details, contact person, and menu to the newsletter chair. Identify, secure and confirm the speakers. Assist in educational conferences, setup speakers, etc..

Introduce the speaker, send thank-you card, present gift, secure the speaker Bio. and welcome the speaker at the meeting.

Publications/Publicity:

Assure that the Chapter events and happenings are posted in the news media, Orlando Business Journal, etc. and HFTP Info-Line - monthly.

Assist in educational conferences, setup speakers, etc..

Community Services/Charitable:

Identify charities we can co-sponsor with. Complete all details for and recruit members to achieve success for each event. Current involvement:

CFHLA, Bacchus Bash

Camp Boggy Creek Golf Event

JDRF Walk Count Rooms-3

JDRF Finance Committee

Education:

Develop, organize and control the Mini Educational and Regional Conferences.

Organize CHAE & CHTP reviews & exams

Maintain the library and supply CPE forms at meetings and inform membership of educational courses available in the area.

Hospitality:

At the meetings: greets guests, welcome new members, assures pictures are taken, sells 50/50 drawing and maintains the member name tags.

Organizes and maintains the Ambassadors Program

Presents Member Spotlight at the general meeting and secure Bio. for the newsletter and web-site.

Send thank-you cards to the meeting host property.

Job Bank/Legislative/By-Laws: Chapter President

Reviews the by-laws yearly to assure they adhere with International's by-laws

Provide news on Legislation relevant to the Hospitality Industry

Provides job leads to members

Membership:

Greet and introduce all guests and new members at the general meetings and follows up with all guests after a meeting to secure memberships. Contacts all members on a regular basis.

Develop an action plan for the Membership Drive each year.

Nominations: Chair of Board

Identify persons willing and able to serve on the Board and plans and controls the election process as outlined in the Chapter By-laws.

Communication:

Website: development and maintenance of the Chapter website.

Newsletter: Create and distribute a newsletter monthly, secure sponsors.

Scholarship:

Contact schools with our requirements, setting deadlines for receiving applications. Present applications to the Board, present winners at a General Meeting.

Is it time for you to step forward and give back to HFTP and your community? Volunteer today!