

President's Corner**By: Patty Geer, CHAE**

Fellow HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Members,

Thank you to those that joined us for the semi-annual mini-educational conference held last month at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress. If you weren't able to make it, you missed out on FREE CPE points at the informational afternoon sessions, a very interesting tourism update at the evening session and a FABULOUS dinner at a great venue. Thank you to all the presenters and to the staff at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress. Please be sure to join us at the April dinner meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 24th at the DoubleTree Resort at SeaWorld. At this meeting our scholarship winner will be honored.

Thank you also to the dedicated members who have volunteered your time and talent at the numerous philanthropic opportunities over the past few months. Because of your efforts, HFTP Mid-Florida continues to make a dramatic difference in our community and in the lives of those that rely on our services. I think most of you will also admit that we've had some fun along the way too. It's not too late to volunteer for the Cattle Baron's Ball to benefit the American Cancer Society being held on April 21. Please contact Chad Curtis at ccurtis@rosenhoteles.com if you can assist.

And, last but not least, thank you to Bob Del Mastro for your years of service on the Board of Directors of HFTP Mid-Florida. Bob has been a friendly and familiar face at our meetings, philanthropic events, and educational opportunities. We congratulate Bob on a new employment opportunity that will take him out of the area; however we will miss him serving on our Board of Directors. At our April Board of Directors meeting, Michael Dryden was appointed to the Board for the remainder of this year's term. Thank you, Michael, for your continuous service to our chapter.

Finally, another reminder that if you haven't "Liked" our Facebook page yet, please take a few moments to do so now. Click on the link on our website (<http://www.midfloridahftp.org/>) so you are tuned into all of the HFTP news, events and fun. While you are on the website, click around and check out all the chapter information, historical newsletters, photos and fun facts. You can rsvp for our meetings and pay in advance to earn your "fast pass" at the meeting check in table on our website as well. I hope to see you all at the DoubleTree Resort at SeaWorld on April 24th!

Thank you again for all your support,
Respectfully,

Patty

Patricia Geer, CHAE
HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter President

Membership News, Embrace the vision, join the fun!Committee Chair, **Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP**

YOUR Chapter currently has 160 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.

Your chapter is looking for new and exciting properties to host our General Meetings. We are blessed to be in an area of so many excellent hotels, resorts and clubs. We want to thank the properties that have hosted meetings already this year. Without their support and generosity our meetings would not be the great success they have been. If you are interested in hosting a General Membership Meeting please contact any Board member. We would like to offer the Membership a chance to visit a number of new sites this year. See you at the Meeting!

Welcome New Members

William Smith, Asst Director of Finance. WDW Swan & Dolphin

Stewart Clay, Director of Finance, Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Resort

Chris Arisso, Sales Engineering Mgr, HBS- Guest Connect/Hotwire Business Solutions

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, such as:

Dinner for 2 in Hemingway's at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress
Donated by: E. Lawrence McCloskey, Jr., CHAE
Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress

Dinner for two in Andiamos (excluding alcoholic beverages), at the Hilton Hotel located in the WDW Resort.
Donated by: Praduman Chauhan (Singh)
Regional Vice President - Operations Finance
Hilton Hotels Corporation

Dinner for 2 at Everglades in the Rosen Centre
Donated by Frank Santos, CHAE, CHA
Chief Financial Officer, Rosen Hotels & Resorts

\$100.00 Big Fin Restaurant (located in Doctor Philips) gift certificate.
Donated by Colin Findley
VP Business Development, ProfitSword

Dinner for two in the new Peabody Orlando Napa restaurant
Donated by Todd Rhoads, CHAE, CHTP
Controller, Peabody Orlando

A Kindle Fire
Donated by James E Bina, CHTP, CHAE
President, Millennium Technology Group

\$100 cash prize
Donated by Don Hay President, Digital Alchemy, LLC

Orange County National Golfers Grab Bag including shirt, hat, Etc.
Donated by Terri Nobles, Controller
Orange County National Golf Center and Lodge

Bay Hill Club Golfers Grab Bag including shirt, hat, Etc.
Donated by: William Parrish, CPA, CHAE
Controller, Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club & Lodge

Dinner for two at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport
Donated by: Patty Geer, CHAE Controller

HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter
Scholarship Committee
Terri Nobles, Chairperson

We will present our HFTP Mid-Florida Scholarship Award on Tuesday night, April 24th, at the Double Tree Resort on International Drive. The recipient of this year's award is Ms. Corey Ryan.

Corey is currently attending Saint Leo University. She is working towards a Bachelor's in Business Administration- Major International Hospitality & Tourism, with a Minor in Accounting. Corey anticipates graduating in the spring of 2012, with one additional semester remaining to finish up her studies. She currently holds an overall 3.69 grade point average.

Corey developed her passion for the hospitality industry at an early age, and knew this was the path she would take upon entering college. Her focus is to gain professional knowledge in hospitality management and accounting in order to become a Revenue Manager or property Controller while providing excellent customer service and guest experiences. With a strong educational foundation in hospitality and accounting, Corey will have an invaluable tool for future success in the industry.

Through her generous spirit, and commitment to service and community, Corey remains active and involved. She participates as a member of Saint Leo University Women's Volleyball Team, Student Athlete Advisory Committee, National Society for Minorities in Hospitality (Co-Founder and Secretary), and the Pacioli Accounting Club. Through these leadership programs, she assists with organizing, event planning, and stewardship.

In recognition of her achievements, Corey has been the recipient of the Sodexo Women in Sports scholarship, and has been awarded for her community accomplishments as the Saint Leo "Community Award" recipient 2011.

Our thanks to the members of the 2012 Scholarship Award Committee: Mike Dryden, Diana Youngblood and Terri Nobles, Chairperson, for their volunteer services and commitment to the scholarship program.

We congratulate the 2012 Scholarship Award recipient and pass along to all scholarship program applicants our best wishes for their future careers in hospitality.

HFTP Mid-Florida

Chapter Member Responsibilities

1. **S**erve on the Board of Directors or as an officer, if asked.
2. **U**tilize HFTP, participate in regional and international activities as often as possible.
3. **P**articipate by attending Chapter meetings regularly.
4. **P**rovide ideas on speakers, prizes for events and projects and host meetings.
5. **O**ffer to serve on a committee or otherwise volunteer your time and talents.
6. **R**eceive the honor of certification.
7. **T**o always maintain a professional decorum, be familiar with parliamentary procedure.

HFTP is an association of diverse individuals focused on the financial and technological aspects of the hospitality industry. It can only succeed through your contribution of time, talent and effort. The rewards of this type of volunteerism will be evident through your own personal and professional growth.

We need your SUPPORT.

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 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.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2012

We need you !!! If you are interested in contributing to any of the committees, please contact the Committee Chairperson *

Education – Mini Ed Conf.

*John Cook 407-345-4481
*Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827
Susan Ferguson 407-876-8031
Nora Cameron 407-996-9840

Job Bank/Legislative/By-Laws

*Patty Geer 407-825-1308

Membership Relations/Recruitment

* Gregory Wilhelm 407-923-5962
Christina Finch 407-924-9980
Kelly Montgomery 407-503-9215
Mark Kressin 407-333-1450
Robert Reading 407-243-6006

Communications

* Lori Schefstad 407-238-8445
Webmaster: www.midfloridahftp.org
* Kevin Drinan 407-996-1270
Social Media
*Bill Parrish 407-876-8038
Newsletter Ed.

Admin/Program/Speakers

*John Cook 407-345-4481
*Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827

Scholarship Awards

* Terri Nobles 407-319-1031

Nominations

*Diana Youngblood 407-239-1979
Chad Curtis 407-996-9840
Michael Dryden 407-238-8049
Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827
Bill Parrish 407-876-8038
Larry McCloskey 407-239-3962

Chapter of the Year and Regional Conference

* The Board

Hospitality Committee

* Kelly Montgomery 407-503-9215
Terri Nobles 407-319-1031

Community Services

CFH&LA Ex-Officio Board Member

Patty Geer 407-825-1308

Bacchus Bash

*Larry McCloskey 407-239-3962

Michael Dryden 407-238-8049

Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

JDRF Walks & Finance Committee

* Michael Dryden 407-238-8049

* Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827

Charity Golf Event

It's all for the kids!

* Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827

Diana Youngblood 407-239-1979

Cattle Baron's Ball

* Chad Curtis 407-996-9840 x3501

Publications /Publicity

* Lori Schefstad 407-238-8445

Patty Geer 407-825-1308

Chapter Calendar

Terri Nobles 407-319-1031

Fun Committee

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

Chapter Historian

Michael Dryden 407-238-8049



Benefiting the CFHLA Educational Trust
Fund -for hospitality student scholarships and

Bacchus Bash
Friday, April 13, 2012,
Orlando Premium Outlets

HFTP Volunteer Information

Shifts run: 4:00pm – 7:00pm or 7:00pm – 10:00pm

First Shift Check-in time: 3:30pm

Attire: Remember to wear comfortable shoes and arrive early as parking is always a challenge!!

Parking: Using the International Drive entrance, please park at the former Dixie Stampede or at Mary Queen of the Universe Shrine.

Check In: H.F.T.P. volunteers must check in at the Orlando Premium Outlets Mgmt. Office. From the parking lot, use the entrance between “Mikasa” and “Bass”. Turn left in front of the Food Court. The Mgmt. Office is located on the left, next to “Samsonite”.

At check in, you will be given your assignment.

Please contact Larry McCloskey by Thursday, March 29th with your volunteers and with shift selection information

larry.mccloskey@hyatt.com

(407) 239-3962

Your HFTP Mid-Florida Board of Directors thanks you for volunteering your time and talent to this event!!

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MID-FLORIDA CHAPTER

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

2012 HFTP Mid-Florida CALENDAR

Note: Meeting fees for 2012 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

April 5th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OCCC

April 24th, General Meeting, 6 pm, DoubleTree Resort Orlando I-Drive

May 3rd, Board Meeting, 6 pm, Caribe Royale Orlando

May 22nd, General Meeting, 6 pm, Bohemian Hotel Celebration FL

Community Services:

JDRF Walks: March 3rd UCF, **March 24th** Daytona, Embry Riddle, **April 14th** Cocoa Beach, Lori Wilson Park. Count rooms for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

April 13th, Bacchus Bash, Orlando Premium Outlets, sell bucks / have fun.

April 21st, American Cancer Society Cattle Barron's Ball, Rosen Shingle Creek, assist with the auction.

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.



HFTP Annual Convention & Trade Show
Oct. 17-20 2012
ORLANDO, FL



FOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES "Your Chance to Give Back"**Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International
Count Room Volunteers Needed**

Contact Michael Dryden at 407-238-8049 or mdryden@cariberoyale.com

March 3rd at UCF in Orlando...DONE Great job to all!!!!

March 24th at Embry Riddle Campus, Daytona Beach...DONE!!

April 14th at Cocoa Beach....To Do

The **JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes** approaches. You can obtain your pledge form and register a walk team on the web at www.centralflorida@jdrf.org. Please contact as many people as possible to obtain pledges and note HFTP Mid-Florida as the sponsor.

The Chapter supports JDRF, and will be handling the cash consolidation on Saturday the 3rd of March in Orlando and also helping Saturday April 14th in Cocoa Beach and Saturday March 24th in Daytona Beach. Your assistance is requested. Your association is calling you to duty! We need 15 people to work in the count rooms, doing whatever is needed, at each location on the day of each walk. Call any board member for count room details, Walk details or for a pledge card. You can also sign up for duty at the Chapter's general meetings.

This is a wonderful family oriented event! It is a 5k walk, which equates to 3.2 miles. The Orlando walk is at the University of Central Florida main campus at 8:00 am. The Cocoa Beach walk is at the Lori Wilson Park (Beach Walk) at 8:00 am. And the Daytona Beach Walk is at the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. You can walk, run, bring the kids and have some fun.

**10 Check-Out Volunteers Needed For The
American Cancer Society's
Cattle Baron's Ball!**

Saturday, April 21st 2012, 6:00 pm to 12:00 am

**Rosen Shingle Creek Resort
9939 Universal Blvd**

Various Shifts Also Needed For Friday & Saturday

If interested, please contact Chad Curtis at 407-996-9840x3501 or ccurtis@rosenhoteles.com

The CFHLA's Bacchus Bash

Benefiting the CFHLA Educational Trust Fund -for hospitality student scholarships and hospitality school grants.

Bacchus Bash Friday, April 13, 2012

Orlando Premium Outlets 5pm - 10pm

HFTP Volunteer Information - 60 Volunteers are needed

Shifts run: 4:00pm - 7:00pm or 7:00pm - 10:00pm, First Shift Check-in time: 3:30pm

**Please contact Larry McCloskey at 407-239-3962 or larry.mccloskey@hyatt.com
or sign up at the general meeting.**

**And finally, the 10th Annual Chapter Golf Event to benefit
Camp Boggy Creek
will be held this September: More to follow on this great event.**