



Inn-Sight



*Newsletter of the Mid-Florida Chapter * Since 1973 * Seven time HFTP Chapter of the Year.*

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

February 2012



2012

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407-387-0242
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407-345-4481
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407-996-1270
kdrinan@mtg-fl.com

Please Route to:

GM
HR

HFTP Mid-Florida: Leadership, Scholarship, Participation, Service

Joint General Meeting - Tuesday, February 28th, 2012

The Mid-Florida Chapters:

Institute of Management Accountants

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals

The Kessler Castle Orlando

8629 International Drive, Orlando, FL

Directions: From Orlando go on I-4 West take exit 74A. Turn left onto Sand Lake Road. One big block to International Drive and turn right. Go 6 blocks and turn left onto Austrian Row. The hotel will be on your left.

Speaker and Program

John Finnigan - Finnigan Law Firm, P.A.

Topic: "Unpaid Overtime Lawsuits - Why Are They Continuing to Occur."

This educational session falls under specialized knowledge and applications geared to basic knowledge on the topic and there are no prerequisites for attending. One CPE credit hour may be earned for participation in each session.

Reception at 6:00 pm ~ Dinner at 6:45 pm

You may come early if you wish to spend more time networking.

Menu:

Salad

Castle Garden Salad with Herb Vinaigrette.

Entrée

Roasted Chicken Breast with Chardonnay and Thyme Cream- Fire Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes- Baby French Beans

Dessert

Chef's Special Selection for Dessert

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

Reservations and cancellations before 12:01 pm Thursday February 23rd.

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: **Patty Geer, CHAE**

Fellow HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Members,

Well, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, which means six more weeks of winter; but if winter means six more weeks of 75 degrees and sunny, bring it ON! Regardless of what Phil says, spring is right around the corner; and with it come several philanthropic opportunities: JDRF walks (3/3, 3/24 and 4/14), Bacchus Bash (4/13) and the Cattle Baron's Ball (4/21). Please sign up to help at one, or all, of these events for very worthwhile causes. Reach out to Michael Dryden (JDRF), Larry McCloskey (Bacchus Bash) and Chad Curtis (Cattle Baron's Ball) and let them know you can help. Please refer to this newsletter and our Chapter website (<http://www.midfloridahftp.org/>) for more information about these events.

A big thank you to the team at the Hilton Orlando Resort in Lake Buena Vista for hosting our January dinner meeting. Thank you, too, to Shailendra Poddar, Tom Guglielmello and the NEC team for their presentation on Leveraging Business Analytics. The February dinner meeting on Tuesday, February 28th is our opportunity to network with our friends at IMA. This annual joint-meeting between the Mid-Florida Chapters of HFTP and IMA will be held at the Castle Hotel with John Finnigan, from Finnigan Law Firm, P.A., teaching us how to avoid unpaid overtime law suits. Looking forward to March, please mark your calendar for our semi-annual Mini-Educational conference at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress on Tuesday, March 27th. This event offers multiple CPE opportunities at no cost to our members.

Finally, 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. Happy clicking!

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 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.

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

Wayne Hulme
Director of Finance
Starwood Vacation Ownership
Sponsor: Johnathan Ho

RENEW NOW

Cathy Brand, VP Finance
Access Hotels & Resorts

Paul Carney, VP
Extra Holidays by Wyndham

RECRUIT NOW

Jennifer Trevino
Customer Success Manager
Libra OnDemand
Sponsor: Greg Wilhelm

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.



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

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!!



**Mid-Florida Chapter
Member Spotlight
Greta Higinio**

Greta was born in New York and grew up in Puerto Rico. She studied for and received an Associate Degree in Hospitality Accounting from the University of PR. She moved to Florida in 1995 and began working as a front desk agent at the Howard Johnson MGE in Kissimmee. After a year, she applied for the position of accounts payable in their accounting department. Following that she was promoted to Assistant Controller for the 4 properties owned by Gulf South Income Prop. (Best Western Plaza, Howard Johnson, Rode-way Inn and Best Western Movieland until 2008. Greta has worked her way up and now is an Accounting Manager at the Nickelodeon Suites Resort. She enjoys work and helps her fellow team members and she appreciates every moment working at the finance department and feels she is a productive asset for the company. She is currently finishing her BA in accounting and later will pursue her masters in Finance. Greta enjoys baking, reading and spending time with her 12 yr old son who is a competitive soccer player for Hunters Creek Soccer Club. She helps as a volunteer student advocate for her college at the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of Central Florida.



Director Kelly Montgomery presents Greta the coveted HFTP Mid-Florida shirt.

**HFTP Mid-Florida and You
Leadership**

Your chapter provides you a vehicle to grow in your personal and professional life through serving on chapter committees and the Board of Directors. Learn how to run a small business and lead the greatest HFTP chapter in the Universe. You will learn public speaking skills and gain confidence in your expertise. You can get the opportunity to develop and execute chapter programs developing valuable leadership skills.

Scholarship

Your chapter provides the HFTP CHAE and CHTP reviews and the testing for those two HFTP certifications in accounting and technology. We need you to help yourself and get certified. This should be a normal progression in your professional career. Your Chapter also provides Continuing Professional Education seminars at the General Meetings and Mini-Education events.

Participation

Your chapter provides a chance for you to give back to your community by assisting at the CFH&LA's Bacchus Bash, three Junior Diabetes Research Foundation Walks for a Cure and the chapter golf event to benefit the kids at Camp Boggy Creek. Don't shy away, the chapter needs your time and talent. It also gives you the unique opportunity for chapter leadership at these events being part of the solution.

Service

Your chapter provides the avenue for you to give of yourself in serving your fellow members and your community. We encourage you to get involved in your Mid-Florida HFTP Chapter. We need places to hold the monthly general membership meetings. We need our members to support the chapter events by supplying prizes and helping make these events successful. We need speakers for the General Meetings and the Mini-Educational.

Your chapter needs you to join the fun in serving others and gaining the satisfaction of personal growth through leadership, scholarship, participation and service.

Embrace the vision, join the fun!

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 240-629-2826
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 407-905-2251

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 407-905-2251
Bob Del Mastro 407-828-8985

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 407-905-2251

Fun Committee

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

Chapter Historian

Michael Dryden 407-238-8049

Chapter Announces 2012 Scholarship Program

By: Chairperson Terri Nobles, CHAE

The Mid-Florida Chapter announced the launch of its 2012 Scholarship Award program in January through communications sent to several area Colleges and Universities. The program will award a \$1,000 scholarship to students enrolled in an Associates or Bachelor degree program with a major or concentration in accounting, MIS or hospitality management at an accredited institution of higher education with at least one semester or quarter remaining after the scholarship is awarded. Applicants must demonstrate interest in a career in hospitality accounting, hospitality MIS or hospitality management through an essay of 250 words or less, provide references and have earned a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4 point scale.

The deadline for completed 2012 Scholarship applications is March 1, 2012. The Scholarship Committee will make its recommendation for the recipient at the April Board meeting, after which the Scholarships will be presented at the Chapter's April dinner meeting.

Detailed information and application forms are available at the Chapter's web site, www.midfloridahftp.org, and click on "Scholarships".

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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

February 7th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OCCC

February 28th, Joint General Meeting with IMA 6 pm, Castle Hotel

March 6th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OCCC

March 27th, Mini-Ed, Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress

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 407-996-1270 or mdryden@cariberoyale.com

March 3rd at UCF in Orlando

March 24th at Embry Riddle Campus, Daytona Beach

April 14th at Cocoa Beach.

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.**