



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

May 2012



2012

Officers & Directors
Officers

President

Patricia Geer, CHAE
Hyatt Regency Orlando Int'l Airport
407-825-1308
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Vice-President

Terri Nobles, CHAE
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nobles.terri@gmail.com

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.
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Directors

Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP
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Kelly Montgomery
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407-503-9215
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407-387-0242
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John Cook
Peabody Orlando
407-345-4481
john.cook@peabodyorlando.com

Kevin Drinan
Millennium Technology Group
407-996-1270
kdrinan@mtg-fl.com

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

General Meeting -Tuesday, May 22nd, 2012

The Mid-Florida Chapter

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals

Bohemian Hotel Celebration

700 Bloom Street, Celebration, FL.

Directions: I-4 West (from Orlando) Take I-4 West (towards Tampa) to exit 64 (Hwy 192 East). Make a right at the third light (Celebration Avenue). Follow Celebration Avenue to the fourth stop sign (Campus Street). Turn left onto Campus Street, which will become Bloom Street. Continue on Bloom Street, and Bohemian Hotel Celebration will be on the right. For parking, there is free parking on the streets and lots around the hotel. There is also valet parking available at the hotel which is usually \$10 for event parking but is only \$5 for the event.

Speaker and Program

Larry Robbins, Vice President - Brown & Brown Insurance.

Topic: "Insurance Tune Up Before Hurricane Season Hits"

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

Monica Mixed Green

With feta cheese, toasted almonds, carrots and balsamic vinaigrette

Entrée

Grilled Center Cut Filet Mignon

With three potato au gratin, asparagus and Barolo reduction sauce

Dessert

Mascarpone Cheesecake With Martha Jane Blueberries

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

Reservations and cancellations before 12:01 pm Thursday May 17th. 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.

It couldn't be easier if you have a smart phone,
simply scan the QR code for a direct link to register! >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>



Please Route to:

GM
HR

President's Corner
By: Patty Geer, CHAE

Fellow HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Members,

Each May, the HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter's Nominating Committee is formed for the purpose of filling the slate of potential officers and directors for the new term that commences in September. This year's Nominating Committee consists of Chairperson – Diana Youngblood with committee members; Chad Curtis, Michael Dryden, Larry McCloskey, Bill Parrish and Kris Shoemaker. If you are a member in good standing and have questions about the steps to becoming a board member, please seek out one of these individuals, or any current officer or director.

At our April meeting I was happy to see many new faces, as well as some old friends that we haven't seen for awhile. We all enjoyed a fabulous dinner put on by the DoubleTree Resort at SeaWorld, and benefited from some great tips on what to do to better market ourselves if we are job hunting from Christina Finch with Smart Professional Resources. We also presented this year's scholarship winner, Corey Ryan, with the \$1,000 award that she will use as she continues her education at Saint Leo University. Finally, we performed the Installation of Officers of the HFTP Student Chapter at UCF. As you can see, we had a packed agenda for the evening! Don't miss our May meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 22nd at the Bohemian Hotel in Celebration. Please note that this is NOT the last Tuesday of the month. Details about the meeting can be found on our website and in this newsletter.

Your Board of Directors is working diligently on planning two important events for this fall; our Chapter's 10th Annual Charity Golf Tournament to benefit Camp Boggy Creek (date and location to be determined) and HFTP's 60th Annual Convention being held at Rosen Shingle Creek in October. Both events involve a tremendous amount of planning and coordination; and we welcome assistance from any member wanting to get involved. Please contact any officer or director to express your interest in assisting.

Here's another reminder to "like" our Facebook page and check out our Chapter website at (<http://www.midfloridahftp.org/>) so you are tuned into all of the HFTP news, events and fun. Remember that you can rsvp for our meetings and pay in advance to earn your "fast pass" at the meeting check in table on our website. I hope to see you all at the Bohemian Hotel in Celebration on May 22nd!

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

Angela Flores, Business Development manager. Accounting Principals
 Sponsor: Melissa Morse

Mike Lewis, IT Director,
 Millennium Technology Group
 Sponsor: Kevin Drinan

Kelly Semrad, Associate Director, Eric Friedheim Tourist Institute at the University of Florida

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. Learn, Connect,
Succeed.*

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 monthly dinner meeting setting with one 50 minute session.

Mini-Educational Conference: Spring and Fall, the last Tuesday of the month.

Mini-Ed Format: A half day event with three or four 50 minute speaking sessions starting in the afternoon 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. Professionals employed by hotels, hotel management companies, clubs, resorts, convention centers, restaurants, and other related businesses attend these events. The average meeting attendance is 70+ members.

Topics

All submitted information must be non-proprietary and educational in nature, not sales or product specific.

Please submit any topics relevant to an audience of hospitality finance and technology professionals, including, but not limited to these suggestions:

- **Disaster Preparation and Recovery**
- **Controller's Year-End Survival Guide**
- **Tax Updates – all types, Audit Insights, Accounting/Audit Updates**
- **Network Security, Operational Reviews, Revenue Management, Internal Controls & Audits**
- **Guestroom Technology, Property Management Tools**
- **Business Intelligence**
- **Leadership Skills, Ethics**
- **Emerging Technology and Trends**
- **Club Related Topics and Trends**

Speakers/Topic Selection

Submissions are kept on file for consideration for at least one year and an HFTP Mid-Florida committee member will contact you if your submission is selected. For more information on the status of your submission, please contact the Education/Programs Committee Chairperson Kris Shoemaker at (407) 685-9827.

Presenters for educational meetings/conferences are generally from the hospitality industry and are known to be well versed in the selected topic. Topics are selected based on current industry focus.

Submitting information does not guarantee you an opportunity to present.

Help Wanted

Director – A chapter director performs duties as instructed by the president and officers assisting them in carrying out a specific function of the office. The director serves as a voice for the needs and concerns of the members at large.

If you are interested in joining a winning team, become a member of the Board of Directors. Please contact any one of the following individuals:

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

I WANT YOU



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

A Call For Nominations

* Officers & Board of Directors*

Mid-Florida Chapter, HFTP Nominating Committee

The Mid-Florida Chapter of HFTP announces the formation of the 2012-2013 Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is charged with presenting to the Board of Directors and the general membership a slate of officers and directors for the 2012-2013 year.

According to the Chapter Bylaws, the Nominating Committee is appointed by the President of the Mid-Florida Chapter at the May Board of Directors Meeting. The committee is chaired by the most recent Past President, Chairperson Diana Youngblood. Chapter members appointed to the committee will seek out those chapter members that are willing, ready and able to be future leaders.

At the June Board of Directors meeting the slate of officers and nominees for the vacant director positions will be presented to the board by the Committee chairperson and will appear in the June Mid-Florida Chapter Newsletter. Nominations from the floor for any officer or director position will be taken at the June membership meeting. The Secretary will mail out ballots to the membership before 25 days of the August membership meeting. Completed ballots are accepted up to 10 days before the August general meeting. The ballots will be opened and counted at the August membership meeting by the Election Committee.

Now, is a great time to take your first step in becoming a leader in the Mid-Florida Chapter of HFTP. This is about service and giving back to the organization and to your community!

Contact: Diana Youngblood 407-239-1979
or dyoungblood@benchmarkmanagement.com

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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

May 3rd, Board Meeting, 6 pm, Caribe Royale Orlando
May 22nd, General Meeting, 6 pm, Bohemian Hotel Celebration FL
June 5th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OCCC
June 26th, General Meeting, 6 pm, Wyndham- LBV
June 25th to 28th, HITEC Baltimore, Md.
July 5th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OCCC
July 24th, General Meeting, 6 pm, Rosen Shingle Creek
August 7th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, OCCC
August 28th, General Meeting, 6 pm, Hyatt Regency Orlando Int'l Airport
September 4th, Board Meeting, 6 pm, Loews Hotels
September 25th, General Meeting, 6 pm, OPEN

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



Your Board of Directors thanks the membership for volunteering their time and talent on the three Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation "Walks for a Cure". The count room volunteer service was started in 1998 and has become a tradition followed by the Chapter Members in expressing a desire to give something back to their community. Not to be outdone, the Chapter has been involved in handling cash consolidation and selling Bacchus Bucks at the CFHLA Bacchus Bash for the last 26 Years!!! All proceeds raised at the Bacchus Bash benefit the CFHLA Educational Trust Fund, Inc., established to provide scholarships and grants to area hospitality students and schools.

For those about to count...We salute you!

**Fourteen Years of Caring! Over a Million dollars tallied!
HFTP, Mid-Florida Chapter**

JDRF 2012- Orlando Walk - Cocoa Beach Walk - Volusia Walk

On behalf of JDRF Central Florida Chapter and the HFTP MidFlorida Chapter, I would like to extend a "Thank You" to all of you who volunteered for the Orlando, Daytona Beach, and Cocoa Beach Cash Counts! I realize how valuable everyone's time is, especially on weekends, but I think I can speak for us all when I say "It was time well spent".

Below are the results of the donations received to date including sponsorships as well as on-line donations.

Walk Reports, Totals as of April 20, 2012

On behalf of JDRF, we'd like to thank all the walkers who came out and supported our walks! Orlando - \$440,000 Brevard - \$130,000 Volusia - \$32,000

Again, thank you and I hope to see you all again at next year's events!

Michael Dryden, CHAE

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The Bacchus Bash Buck Brigade

Fred Ditto, HRGC
Jimmy Rakowski, HRGC
Natalie Bronkema, HRGC
George Raben, HRGC
Don Hood, HROIA
Paul Blanchette, Peabody
Randy Weiss, Peabody
Charles Byrne, HROIA
Jamie Carl, Bluetree
Trevor Srobo, Rosen School
Lauren Destafano, HROIA
Mary Gunderson, HROIA
Rachel Aul, HRGC
Kathy Utera, HRGC
Corey Ryan, St. Leo University
Joe Pfeiffer, HRGC
Monica Carpenter, Rosen School
Larry McCloskey, HRGC
Kris Shoemaker, OCCC
Jeff Weinland, Night Auditors
Michael Dryden, Caribe Royale

Don Hood, HROIA
Kris Michalson, HRGC
Amanda Ditto, HROIA
Michelle Tran, HROIA
Bill Parrish, Bay Hill Club
Kathe Parrish, Universal Creative
Greg Wilhelm, HFTP
Dawn Richardson, Nickelodeon
Carmen Rodriguez, Nickelodeon
AJ Stevenson, HROIA
Paul Webber, HROIA
Christine Nappa, HROIA
Margaret Chang, HROIA
Nasir Naseer, Nickelodeon
Michelle Krueger, Nickelodeon
Greta Higinio, Nickelodeon
Minly Espinet, Nickelodeon
Ana Varela, Caribe Royale
Patty Geer, HROIA
Robert Austin, HRGC
Chad Curtis, Rosen Hotels

Corinne Guillery, HROIA
Arlene Diel, HROIA
Ramona Lalla, HROIA
German Rodriguez, HROIA
Marie Berube, HROIA
Lori Schefstad, Caribe Royale
Terri Nobles, HFTP
Susan Ferguson, Bay Hill Club
Jorge Shadah, HRGC
Ana Madera, HRGC
Shana Roopani, HROIA
Alyssa Cerrito, HROIA
Caitlin Crumbo, HROIA
Mark Roland, HFTP
Tyler Roland, HFTP
Jeffrey McIntosh, Villas of GC
Diana Youngblood, Villas of GC
German Rodriguez, HROIA
Brenda Rodriguez, HROIA
Jose Rodriguez, HROIA

We would like to sincerely thank all of the volunteers above who volunteered their time and helped make this year's Bacchus Bash one of the best ever with over \$115,000 earned and over 25,000 attendees, Your Board of Directors.