



# Inn-Sight



Newsletter of the Mid-Florida Chapter, Hospitality Financial & Technology Professionals

*The HFTP 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](http://www.midfloridahftp.org)

March 2015



2015

## Officers & Directors

### Officers

#### President

*Lori Schefstad, CHTP*  
Caribe Royale Orlando  
407-238-8445  
[lschefstad@cariberoyale.com](mailto:lschefstad@cariberoyale.com)

#### Vice-President

*Kelly Montgomery*  
Loews Hotels at Universal Orlando  
407-503-9215  
[kmontgomery@loewshotels.com](mailto:kmontgomery@loewshotels.com)

#### Treasurer

*Nasir Naseer*  
Nickelodeon Suites Resort  
407-387-0242  
[nasirnaseer@nickhotel.com](mailto:nasirnaseer@nickhotel.com)

#### Secretary

*Christine Cipar*  
Florida Hotel & Conference Center  
407-816-5188  
[Ccipar@thefloridahotelorlando.com](mailto:Ccipar@thefloridahotelorlando.com)

#### Chairman of the Board

*Judy Holcomb, Ph.D., CHAE*  
Saint Leo University  
352-588-8005  
[judy.holcomb@saintleo.edu](mailto:judy.holcomb@saintleo.edu)

### Directors

*Christina Finch*  
Smart Professional Resources  
407-478-1956  
[Cfinch@smartprosource.com](mailto:Cfinch@smartprosource.com)

#### Ken Wear

[kwear@clf.rr.com](mailto:kwear@clf.rr.com)

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407-685-7520  
[Jack.griffith@centerplate.com](mailto:Jack.griffith@centerplate.com)

#### Gordon LeBlanc

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386-235-3875  
[Gordon.leblanc@mybrighthouse.com](mailto:Gordon.leblanc@mybrighthouse.com)

#### Arthur Kasper

Wyndham Vacation Ownership  
407-626-6760  
[arthur.kasper@wyn.com](mailto:arthur.kasper@wyn.com)

*HFTP Mid-Florida, Over 42 Years of: Leadership, Scholarship, Participation, Service*

**General Meeting-Tuesday, March 24th, 2015**

**The Mid-Florida Chapter**

**Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals**

***DoubleTree by Hilton, Downtown***

60 South Ivanhoe Boulevard, Orlando, Florida

*Directions: From the West I-4, Take I-4 East (you are now heading North) to Exit 84 (Ivanhoe Boulevard). At the bottom of the exit ramp immediately merge left & turn left onto South Ivanhoe. The hotel is on the immediate right. Hotel self park \$9.00, park in the street is free.*

### *Speaker and Program*

**Sean Kalinich, Millennium Technology Group and Steve Clinton, Brighthouse Network**

**Topic: "When good mail goes bad,  
how cyber criminals are using habits to compromise systems"**

*These educational sessions fall 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 50 minute session for a maximum of 1.0 CPE Credits*

**Reception Cash Bar at 6:00 pm**

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

**Dinner at 6:45 pm**

### *Menu:*

#### *Starter*

*Crisp Iceberg Wedge topped with Roasted Red Tomatoes, Chopped Apple Wood Bacon, Crumbled Goat Cheese & Scallions*

#### *Entrée*

*Flat Iron Steak with Mushroom Ragout & Demi-Glace Creamy, Mascarpone Polenta & Asparagus*

#### *Dessert*

*Classic Cheesecake with Raspberry Drizzle*

**Please RSVP on our web-site: [www.midfloridahftp.org](http://www.midfloridahftp.org)**

**OR on your personal e-vite from the Chapter Secretary.**

**Reservations and cancellations before 12:01 pm Thursday March 19th.**

**Please, no walk ins. No-shows and late cancellations will be billed.**

Dinner : Members with RSVP \$45.00, Non-Members and Guests or no RSVP \$55.00,  
Student Chapter Members \$25.00.

**[Use the express registration line at the meeting, PAYPAL is available on the web-site.](#)**



**THE 2015 FLORIDA REGIONAL CONFERENCE, July 23 and 24**  
**Embassy Suites Orlando, Lake Buena Vista South**  
**Sponsors please contact: Jack Griffith [Jack.griffith@centerplate.com](mailto:Jack.griffith@centerplate.com) 407-685-7520**

**And coming to a golf course near you in September!**  
**The 13th Edition of the Mid-Florida Chapter Golf Event**  
**to Benefit Camp Boggy Creek. It's all for the kids!**

Like us on Facebook

**President's Corner**  
**By: Lori Schefstad, CHTP**

Fellow HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Members,

I hope everyone enjoyed our joint meeting with IMA. I want to thank Christine Cipar and the staff of the Florida Hotel and Conference Center for being our gracious hosts.

Calling all volunteers; Bacchus Bash, "Orlando's Biggest Street Party", is right around the corner April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Orlando Premium Outlets. HFTP has proudly served as Bacchus Bucks Guardians for the past 28 years. But the last few years, we have come up short on HFTP member volunteers. It's time to give back to the chapter and the community. One Friday night a year isn't much to ask. You will receive \$10 in Bacchus Bucks (which can be used at any booth for food or drink, including alcohol), a free CFHLA t-shirt and the satisfaction of giving back to your industry. Future hospitality students are the real winners, as all proceeds go to the CFHLA scholarship fund, to which Bacchus Bash has donated nearly a million dollars.

Please show your support and email [larry.mccloskey@hyatt.com](mailto:larry.mccloskey@hyatt.com) to volunteer.

Check the Mid-Florida website for updates on the Florida Regional Conference. We hope to see you all there; it's a great way to get those CPE points.

March's meeting will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton in downtown Orlando. Hope to see you there.

Thank you again for your continued involvement in the Greatest Chapter in the HFTP Universe!

Respectfully,

*Lori*

Lori Schefstad, MCSE, CHTP  
 HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter President

## The CFHLA's Bacchus Bash 2015 60 Volunteers needed

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

Bacchus Bash Friday, April 10, 2015  
 Orlando Premium Outlets 5pm - 10pm



### HFTP Volunteer Information

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

**Larry McCloskey, CHAE will be contacting YOU to  
 volunteer for this event.**

**We need to have Chapter Member support!!**

**This is the 29th Year of  
 HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Support for this event.**

### Membership News, **Embrace the vision, join the fun!**

Committee Chair, **Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP**  
 407-923-5962 or [gregorywilhelm@mindspring.com](mailto:gregorywilhelm@mindspring.com)

### **The 2015 Membership Contest, IT'S HUGE!!!**

**You only need to sponsor one new member to win. Contest ends  
 on August 31, 2015. Drawing will be held at our September 2015  
 General Membership meeting. You need not be present to win.**

**Everyone that sponsored a new member last year  
 won a great prize, so can YOU! See page 4.**

### CHAE/CHTP Scholarship

As we've been telling you for the past couple of month's we are offering to our membership an opportunity to have the Mid-Florida Chapter pay for your CHAE or CHTP exam fee.

Here's what you need to do to become eligible for this awesome new program:

1. Before starting our process, please go to the HFTP Global website ([www.HFTP.org](http://www.HFTP.org)) and complete the requirements as prescribed by HFTP Global.
2. Once that is complete, make sure you're a member in good standing (have you paid your annual dues?)
3. Send us a letter requesting why you would like us to support you in your endeavor to acquire the CHAE or CHTP certification. Employer not willing to pay? Maybe you're between jobs and would like to enhance your resume? Let us know how we can help you help yourself getting your certification.
4. Also tell us in your letter of request, any volunteering opportunities you've helped our chapter with in the past year. Coming up on April 10<sup>th</sup> is the Bacchus Bash – we're always looking for volunteers for that! We also have coming up in the next few months our own Florida Regional in July, as well as our golf tournament to raise money for Camp Boggy Creek in September.

Once you have everything together, you can scan and email the information to myself or any of the members on the CHAE/CHTP Scholarship committee. Don't have access to a scanner? Send a copy of everything to our P.O.Box. The deadline for applying for our program is June 15<sup>th</sup> so we can announce the winners at our June Monthly Dinner Meeting. The first chapter sponsored opportunity to sit for the exam will be at our Florida Regional being held July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

Please keep in mind, that due to the requirement by HFTP Global to pay at the time of application, we will reimburse either you or your company the fees for the on-line testing.

#### Committee Members

Michael Dryden: [Michael.Dryden@Hilton.com](mailto:Michael.Dryden@Hilton.com)  
 Chad Curtis: [CCurtis@Rosenhotels.com](mailto:CCurtis@Rosenhotels.com)  
 Nasir Naseer: [Nasirnaseer@nickhotel.com](mailto:Nasirnaseer@nickhotel.com)  
 Terri Nobles: [nobles.terri@gmail.com](mailto:nobles.terri@gmail.com)

#### Our mailing address

HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter  
 P.O.Box 692004  
 Orlando, FL 32869-2004

**Michael Dryden, CHAE**

## HFTP Florida Regional Convention & Tradeshow Call for Presentations

**July 23-24, 2015  
Embassy Suites Orlando, Lake Buena  
Vista South  
Kissimmee, Florida**

Submit your best session ideas for HFTP's upcoming program to help attendees reach their full potential and advance their careers. We're seeking presentation proposals that are designed for seasoned hospitality professionals and delivered in innovative ways by dynamic speakers. Topics may include best practices, healthcare reform, legal and government relations, operation solutions, business ethics, technology, human resources, risk management, fraud, personal development and more. Submissions will be reviewed by the Education Committee and must be non-proprietary and educational in nature, not sales or product specific. We receive many presentation proposals, so please understand that it is a difficult process for our team of volunteers to review and choose from many excellent submissions.

### Submission Deadline: May 1, 2015

Presenters will receive a complimentary Regional registration. Presenters will be responsible for their own travel and hotel expenses incurred by participating in the convention, unless requested in your submission.

### Notification of Acceptance:

You will be notified with a decision concerning your proposal by May 29, 2015. Upon acceptance, HFTP reserves the right to modify the session title and description to fit our style and format guidelines for the purpose of the brochure, website, and onsite guide.

### Guidelines:

1. Title of Session. (10 words or less)
2. Describe your session in no more than 150 words. The description should be clear and include how and why participants will benefit from the session.
3. Submit at least three learning objectives that should address the statement: "Participants will be able to:"
4. Contact information for all presenters to include name, address, phone number and email.
5. Presenter experience and biography. Describe your expertise and background in your chosen topic.
6. Session length should fit a 55 minute format.
7. E-mail submissions to Susan Ferguson at [sferguson@bayhill.com](mailto:sferguson@bayhill.com) by May 1, 2015.

### Questions?

Contact Susan Ferguson at (407) 876-8031 or or via email at [sferguson@bayhill.com](mailto:sferguson@bayhill.com).



## HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Member Spotlight Todd Rhoads CHAE, CHTP

Todd Rhoads has enjoyed over 35 years in the hotel accounting field with the last 33 years in Orlando, a fact rare in the hotel industry. He graduated with a degree in International Hotel Management from Florida International University and it became clear that he had an aptitude and passion for the back of the house operations vs the front of the house, initially completing the Hyatt management training program in accounting and being promoted to Assistance Controller at Hyatt Hilton Head Island in the first three years after college.

In 1981, the start of a new family resulted in a relocation opportunity to the larger I-Drive Orlando Marriott as Assistant Controller to be closer to family. After working through the doubling in size of the I-Drive Marriott, opening the Airport Marriott as newly promoted Controller, and finally back to I Drive Marriott as Regional Controller, it was time to leave the franchise after seven years, as a sale of all of the hotels in the region was pending. A chance meeting with a former associate while Christmas shopping at the mall led to the job as Controller at the Peabody Orlando Hotel for 25 years, through a major expansion and incredible growth of the I-Drive convention district.

As all good things must end, the Peabody was also sold, leading to a year's "sabbatical" which, fortunately, ended recently with a position at longtime good neighbor, Rosen Hotels and Resorts, as Assistant Corporate Controller.

Throughout his Orlando career Todd has maintained membership in HFTP, earning his CHAE certification in 1991 (not saying he's old, but it was numbered #125) and the CHTP in 2001. He has always worked with a "get 'er done" passion for service, staying abreast of technology enhancements, regulatory compliance, and ease of procedures to assist the operational departments function smoothly.

He is a firm believer in balancing work and family and has been married to the same patient saint for 36 years and has two awesome grown children, one a Gator grad and one a Seminole grad. He makes time for his life's other passions of exercise, boating, golf, tennis, table tennis, reading, and all Gator sports as well as serving on the board of directors of his church.

Mid - Florida Board Secretary Christine Cipar presents Todd with the coveted HFTP-Mid-Florida padfolio



**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2015**  
We need you !!! ALL positions are up for grabs! If you are interested in contributing to any of the committees, please contact any Board Member.  
\* Denotes Chair

### Education – Mini Ed Conf.

\*Susan Ferguson 407-876-8031  
With Arthur Kasper 407-626-676  
And Christina Finch, Lori & Kelly

**Job Bank/Legislative/By-Laws**  
\* Lori Schefstad 407-238-8445

**Membership Relations/Recruitment**  
\*Gregory Wilhelm 407-923-5962 or  
[gregorwilhelm@mindspring.com](mailto:gregorwilhelm@mindspring.com)

### Communications

Webmaster: [www.midfloridahftp.org](http://www.midfloridahftp.org)

\* Ken Wear 407-463-3895

Lori Schefstad 407-238-8445

Social Media

\* Ken Wear 407-463-3895

Newsletter Ed.

\*Bill Parrish 407-876-8038

### Admin/Program/Speakers

\* Arthur Kasper 407-626-6760

Christina Finch 407-478-1956

Susan Ferguson 407-876-8031

Christine Cipar 407-816-5188

### Admin. Locations

\* Christina Finch 407-478-1956

With Arthur and Susan

### Scholarship Awards

\* Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

Nasir Naseer 407-387-0242

Terri Nobles 407-319-1031

Chad Curtis 407-996-6143

### Nominations

\* Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

Chad Curtis 407-996-6143

Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

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

\* Christine Cipar 407-816-5188

Ana Santiago 407-503-9225

Nasir Naseer 407-387-0242

### Community Services

[CFH&LA Ex-Officio Board Member](#)

Lori Schefstad 407-238-8445

### Bacchus Bash

\* Larry McCloskey 407-239-3962

\* Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

Gordon LeBlanc 386-235-3875

Arthur Kasper 407-626-6760

### Charity Golf Event

**It's all for the kids!**

\* Jack Griffith 407-685-7520

Jeff Fernandez 407-685-7521

Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827

Gordon LeBlanc 386-235-3875

Arthur Kasper 407-626-6760

### Cattle Baron's Ball

\* Chad Curtis 407-996-6143

### Publications /Publicity

\* Kelly Montgomery 407-503-9215

Patty Geer 407-825-1308

### Chapter Calendar

Kelly Montgomery 407-503-9215

### Fun Committee

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

### Chapter Historian

Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

## Current Membership Contest Prize List

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

Dinner for two in Andiamos (excluding alcoholic beverages), in the Hilton At Walt Disney World  
Donated by: Stephan Ludwig, Director of Finance

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

Dinner for 2 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport  
Donated by: Patricia Geer, CHAE, Director of Finance

Dinner for 2 at the Caribe Royale Resorts Suite's Venetian Room restaurant  
Donated by Lori Schefstad, CHTP, MCSE, Director of Information Systems

Dinner for 2 at the Lowes Portofino Bay Hotel Mama Della's Ristorante  
Donated by: Kelly Montgomery, Controller - Lowes Hotels at Universal Orlando

Dinner for two excluding alcohol in Spencer' Steakhouse at the Hilton Orlando on Destination Parkway  
Donated by: Francis Kahle, Director of Finance

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

Dinner for 2 in Marcelo's Bistro or Crickets Bar & Grill at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center valued at \$75.  
Donated by Christine Cipar, Controller

Watch this space for Many more prizes to come.

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**HFTP MID-FLORIDA CHAPTER**  
**P.O. Box 692004**  
**Orlando, FL 32869-2004**

### 2015 HFTP Mid-Florida CALENDAR

Note: Meeting fees for 2015 are \$45 Regular member, \$25 Student, \$55 all guests, Non-Members and failed to RSVP.

**Prepay your meeting fee on the web-site with PayPal**

**Mar 4th, Board Meeting, Amway.**

**Mar 7th set clocks ahead go back to bed.**

**Mar 24th, General Meeting, 6pm The DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown**

**Apr 7th, Board Meeting, Open.**

**Apr 10th, Bacchus Bash, Orlando Premium Outlets- we need you**

**Apr 28th, General Meeting, 6pm Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress!**



## THE 2015 FLORIDA REGIONAL

Hosted by The HFTP 1st Coast and Mid-Florida Chapters

**July 23 and 24th**

**Embassy Suites Orlando, Lake Buena Vista South**

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

**[www.midfloridahftp.org](http://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.

**A CALL FOR CERTIFICATION**

**Be the best that you can be!**

