



# Inn-Sight



Mid-Florida Chapter

Newsletter of the HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter \*Since 1973\* Ten-time HFTP Chapter of the Year 2017.

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

February 2018



**40% of this chapter is HFTP CHAE or CHTP certified!**

2017-2018

Officers & Directors

## Officers

### President

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

### Vice-President

### Treasurer

**Christina Finch**  
RemX Specialty Staffing  
407-478-1956  
[Christina.finch@remx.com](mailto:Christina.finch@remx.com)

### Secretary

**Susan Black**  
Wyndham Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek  
407-390-2320  
[sblack1009@gmail.com](mailto:sblack1009@gmail.com)

### Chair of the Board

**Nasir Naseer**  
Holiday Inn Resort Orlando  
Suites -Waterpark  
407-387-0242  
[nasir.naseer@pyramidhotelgroup.com](mailto:nasir.naseer@pyramidhotelgroup.com)

## Directors

**Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP**  
407-732-5962  
IT Consultant  
[gregw176@gmail.com](mailto:gregw176@gmail.com)

**Jose Aybar, CHAE**  
Holiday Inn Resort Orlando  
Suites -Waterpark  
[jaybar1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jaybar1@cfl.rr.com)

**Gayle Edwards**  
PAS  
386-233-5478  
[gedwards@profact.com](mailto:gedwards@profact.com)

**Michael Dwulit, CHAE**  
Rosen Hotels & Resorts  
407-996-9840  
[mdwulit@rosenhoteles.com](mailto:mdwulit@rosenhoteles.com)

**Luis Martinez, CHAE**  
The Castle Orlando  
407-996-3105  
[luis.martinez@kesslercollection.com](mailto:luis.martinez@kesslercollection.com)

**Brandie Lazorko**  
Streamsong Resort  
863-521-8252  
[brandielazorko@yahoo.com](mailto:brandielazorko@yahoo.com)

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*HFTP Mid-Florida, Over 45 Years of: Leadership, Scholarship, Participation, Service*

“To lead and advance the hospitality profession by providing a forum for continuous learning and knowledge sharing”.

**Joint General Meeting -Tuesday, February 27th, 2018**  
The Mid-Florida Chapter Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals and  
The Mid-Florida Chapter of the IMA

## *The Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek*

14651 Chelonia Parkway  
Orlando, FL 32821

Directions: From Orlando, the attractions area & I-Drive Take I-4 West toward Tampa  
Take exit 67 toward Epcot/Downtown Disney - 1.1 miles. merge onto Epcot Center Rd - 0.7 mi.  
Take the first exit to Downtown Disney/Typhoon Lagoon - 0.3 miles.  
At traffic light make a left onto Buena Vista Dr - 0.2 mi.

At the next light turn left onto Chelonia Pkwy - 1.1 mi.

The meeting will be held in the Expedition. Enter through main entrance of hotel – turn to the left. Take the elevator or the stairs down to the lower level. Turn right out of the elevator or off of the stairs. Walk a few steps and you have arrived. Parking: Self Parking Free, Valet on your own

### *Speaker and Program*

**MBA Murat Kizildag, Ph.D**

Assistant Professor of Finance, Assistant Editor of Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Insights (JHTI),  
and Head Coordinator of Program Assessment - Rosen College of Hospitality Services Department

**Topic “The Calibration of Investments through Capitalizing vs. Expensing”**

*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*

*Bonnet Creek Salad – English Cucumbers Tied Young Baby Greens, Heirloom Tomatoes, Candied Pecans, Sundried Cherries, Feta Cheese, White Balsamic Dressing*

### *Entrée*

*Dr. Pepper Braised Beef Short Ribs, Green Peppercorn Demi-Glace, & Scampi Style Shrimp with Roasted Garlic and Scallion Whipped Potato Duet, Served with Chef’s farm-to-table Vegetable Medley*

### *Dessert*

*Nutella Cheesecake Brulee, Oreo Cookie Crust, Raspberry Cream Anglaise, White Chocolate Powder*

**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 Friday February 23rd.**

**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,  
HFTP Student Chapter Members \$25.00.

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

**From the Corner Office****By Jack Griffith**

Fellow HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Members,

For those of you unable to attend our January meeting, you missed a good one. Our speaker, Erik Liberman, spoke on “Engaging with our Customers” which he pointed out is much different than simply providing customer service. Give it just a little thought and you can/should practice engagement in your everyday life with everyone you meet. And the upgraded meal offered by the Wyndham Orlando Resort raised the bar for future dinners locations.

Our # 1 objective this year is participation, as I’m written about in past letters. At our recent Board meeting, Greg Wilhelm informed us that our membership has dropped from 130 to 119 in the past year. This is a trend the Executive Committee will work hard in 2018 to reverse by not only asking for your participation but engaging you to participate and recruit others to become members of the “Greatest Chapter in the Universe”.

Again I mention our April meeting will be our first ever Breakfast meeting! It will be held at the Gary Sain Café in the Orange County Convention Center. Be sure to mark your calendar and come join us.

Following our breakfast meeting in April we’ll be holding a Mini-Ed where we will offer dinner on us for all that attend all four afternoon sessions.

Our Board also approved that Shingle Creek Golf Club will be the site for our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament benefitting Camp Boggy Creek. It will be held on September 21, 2018. We will be contacting you for your support and participation. **“Remember it’s all for the Kids”!**

This month our meeting is at the Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be annual joint meeting of HFTP Mid-Florida and IMA members. The speaker, MBA Murat Kizildag Ph.D will speak on “The Calibration of Investments through Capitalizing vs. Expensing”. Hope to see everyone there.

Fiction and Fact from Jack’s Almanac, “The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.....but you still have to mow it”.

Sincerely and respectfully,

**Jack Griffith**

President – HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter



**HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Member  
Spotlight  
Michael Dryden, CHAE  
The Embassy Suites Orlando LBV**



I was born in Baltimore, Maryland – go O’s

My Dad worked for Martin Marietta on the Missile Defense program and followed the Army around, so by the age of ten I had lived in Baltimore, Okinawa Japan, El Paso Texas, and Orlando (twice) where we finally settled down.

My initiation into the world of hospitality was by way of my first job At Disney World – I was a character in the “American on Parade” in the summer of ‘76 – I was Thomas Edison.

My first hotel job was as a busboy at the Carlton House on I-Drive, at one time known as the Holiday Inn Int’l Drive. I worked my way through the kitchen, decided I couldn’t stand the heat and got out. I landed a job working the Front Desk and relief night audit at the Holiday Inn Midtown in downtown Orlando, eventually moving into the full-time night audit position.

During my tenure as a full time auditor, I took advantage of the down time after completing the audit and attended Valencia, and UCF. I was undecided between a Business Degree and an Accounting degree, but after working as a Front Office Manager for three years I decided I’d had enough dealing with people and settled for Accounting - where I can stay in my office and make other people’s lives miserable!

After “building up my resume” I landed a job with Sierra Land Group at the Caribe Royale, where I was Assistant Controller for 15 years. I then transferred to Embassy Suites Orlando LBV South as a part of the opening team in June 2012 and remain there today.

I am married with two daughters, two stepsons, and 4 grandkids.....so far.

My likes are: history, photography, and when my budget allows.....travelling.

**Michael Dryden, CHAE**



HFTP Mid - Florida Board Member Brandie Lazorko presents Michael with the coveted HFTP Mid-Florida Padfolio at the last HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter General meeting.

## HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Events, Happenings and Other Stuff

### Hey! Did you know...

Your Chapter has their own Facebook and LinkedIn Pages? Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MIDHFTP](http://www.facebook.com/MIDHFTP) and Linked In at [www.linkedin.com/groups/13575981](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/13575981) (Group Name is HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter)  
Come be "social" with us and watch for our Instagram coming soon!

### Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals MID-FLORIDA CHAPTER

Invite you to attend our Spring

Mini-Educational Conference Free

**Back by popular demand – Members who attend**

**ALL afternoon sessions will get dinner FREE**

**Otherwise: Dinner; Members \$45,**

**Guests \$55 and Students \$25**

**Tuesday May 22, 2018**

**Location: Rosen School of Hospitality**

**9907 Universal Blvd.**

**Orlando, FL 32819**

### Tentative Schedule

9:00 am – Noon CHAE and CHTP – Exams – Pending Registrations

12:30pm – 1:00pm Event Registration

1:00pm – 2:00pm **Daniel Conti**

Chief Financial Officer at Jupiter Island Club

Topic: "The Art of Saying No"

2:00pm – 3:00pm **Lena Combs**

Withum

Topic: TBD - Blockchain

3:00pm – 3:15pm Snack Break

3:15pm – 4:15pm **TBD** – Accounting Topic

4:15pm – 5:15pm **TBD** - Ethics Topic

5:15pm – 6:15pm Cash Bar Reception and Dinner or Heavy Hors d'oeuvres

6:15pm – 6:30pm **Jack Griffith – HFTP - Welcome and Introductions**

6:30pm – 7:30pm TBD – General Knowledge Topic

7:30pm – 7:45pm Chapter Business

**Calling for all potential speakers:** If you have recently heard an engaging, informative speaker who might be able to speak for the upcoming Mini-Ed, a future Mini-Ed or a monthly meeting, please have them contact one of our Educational Committee team members:

Lori Schefstad, [lschefstad@profact.com](mailto:lschefstad@profact.com)

Gayle Edwards, [gedwards@profact.com](mailto:gedwards@profact.com)

Jose Aybar, [jaybar1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jaybar1@cfl.rr.com)

Michael Dwulit, [MDwulit@rosenhoteles.com](mailto:MDwulit@rosenhoteles.com)

### Welcome New Members .....

Heidi Krause, CHAE

Area Director of Finance, Streamsong Resort, Golf & Spa

Elizabeth Oliver, CPA, CHAE

Controller HOA, The Grove Resort and Spa

Committee Assignments 2017-2018

**We need you !!! If you are interested in contributing to any of the committees, please contact any Board Member.**

\* **Denotes Chair or Co-chairs**

**Education – Mini Ed Conf.**

\* **Lori Schefstad** 407-301-7368  
Gayle Edwards 386-233-5478

**Job Bank/Legislative/By-Laws**

\* **Jack Griffith** 407-685-7520

**Membership Relations/Recruitment**

\* **Gregory Wilhelm** 407-923-5962 or  
[gregw176@gmail.com](mailto:gregw176@gmail.com)  
Jose Aybar 407-535-6125

**Communications / Social Media**

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

\* **Lori Schefstad** 407-301-7368

Gayle Edwards 386-233-5478

Brandie Lazorko



**Newsletter Editor.**

\* **Bill Parrish** 407-876-8038

Jack Griffith 407-685-7520



**Publications:**

\* **Gayle Edwards** 386-233-5478

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

**Admin/Program/Speakers**

\* **Michael Dwulit** 407-996-9840

Jose Aybar

Luis Martinez 407-996-3105

**Admin. Locations**

\* **Susan Black** 407-390-2320

Christina Finch 407-478-1956

**Scholarship or Awards**

\* **Michael Dryden** 407-597-4068

**Nominations**

\* **Nasir Naseer** 407-387-0242

Chad Curtis 407-996-6143

Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

Kris Shoemaker 407-685-9827

Bill Parrish 407-876-8038

Larry McCloskey 407-947-7140

Susan Ferguson 407-490-4024

Any other past presidents

Or as chosen by the Committee Chair

**Chapter of the Year and Regional Conference**

\* **The Board**

**Hospitality Committee**

\* **Nasir Naseer** 407-387-0242

Brandie Lazorko

**Community Services**

**CFH&LA Ex-Officio Board Member**

Jack Griffith 407-685-7520

### Charity Golf Event

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

\* **Jack Griffith** 407-685-7520

Jeff Fernandez 407-685-7521

Kris Shoemaker

**Chapter Calendar**

Vice President

**Fun Committee**

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

Brandie Lazorko brandielazorko@yahoo.com

**Chapter Historian, Photography**

Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

**Membership News, Embrace the vision, join the fun!**Committee Chair, **Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP**407-923-5962 or [gregorvwilhelm@mindspring.com](mailto:gregorvwilhelm@mindspring.com)**2018 membership Contest**

You only needed to sponsor one new member to win. Contest ends on June 30, 2018. Drawing will be held at our July 2018 General Membership meeting. You need not be present to win.

Everyone who sponsored a new member last year won a great prize so can you!

Dinner for two at the Lake House Restaurant or Hemingway's tax and gratuity included at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress.

Donated by Josephine Baltar, Director of Finance

\$100 cash prize

Donated by Don Hay, President, Digital Alchemy, LLC

Dinner for 2 at A Land Remembered tax and gratuity included does not include alcoholic beverages valued at \$100

Donated by James Bina, Corporate Controller of Rosen Hotels & Resorts, Inc.

Dinner for 2 tax and gratuity not included at the Grand Bohemian, Orlando Florida. Donated by Tom Hull, Controller

Dinner for 2 at Wyndham Bonnet Creek's Deep Blu a \$150 value. Donated by Susan Black, Director of Finance

\$100 Amazon certificate

Donated by Gayle Edwards, managing director Professional Accounting Solutions

A \$150 Dinner and gratuity certificate for two in La Luce (alcohol excluded), in the Hilton Bonnet Creek

Donated by: Stephan Ludwig, Director of Finance

Dinner for two excluding alcohol in Spencer' steakhouse at the Hilton Orlando on Destination Parkway

Donated by: Francis Kahle, Director of Finance

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**HFTP MID-FLORIDA CHAPTER**

**P.O. Box 692004**

**Orlando, FL 32869-2004**

**2018 HFTP Mid-Florida CALENDAR**

Note: Meeting fees for 2018 are \$45 Regular member, \$25 HFTP Student Chapter, \$55 all guests, Non-Members and failed to RSVP.

**No Shows are invoiced.**

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

**February 6th, Board Meeting, 6pm, OCCC**

**February 27th, Joint General Meeting w/IMA, 6pm, Wyndham Grand Bonnet Creek**

**March 6th, Board Meeting, 6pm, OCCC**

**March 27th, General Meeting, 6pm, Rosen Centre**

**April 5th, Board Meeting, 6pm, OCCC**

**April 24th, General Breakfast Meeting, 7:30am, Gary Sain Café @ OCCC.**

**May 3rd, Board Meeting, 6pm, OCCC**

**May 22nd, Mini-Ed, 1pm to 7:30pm, Rosen School of Hospitality Management**

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.

## HindSight.....The Year was 2006

### HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter

#### Meeting Locations:

January: Holiday Inn Intl Dr - "Excellence in Guest Service"  
 February: Citrus Club (joint meeting with I.M.A.) - "Going Paperless"  
 March: Rosen College of Hospitality Management - mini ed  
 April: Radisson Barcelo Hotel Orlando - "Counterfeit Seminar (Funny Money)"  
 May: No meeting - Golf Tournament to benefit Camp Boggy Creek  
 June: Renaissance Orlando Hotel Airport - "VoIP Solutions"  
 July: Hyatt Regency Orlando Intl Airport - "A Controller's Role in Making Your Hotel a Success"  
 August: Orange County Convention Center - "Employer Provided Benefits"  
 September: Rosen's Shingle Creek - Installation of Chapter Officers  
 October: International Plaza Resort & Spa - MC & VS requirements, Chargebacks and Retrievals"  
 November: The Villas of Grand Cyprus - mini ed  
 December: Social at Shogun Japanese Restaurant

Dinner meeting dues were \$30.00 for members, \$45.00 non-members, and \$15 for students.

The cost of mailing the newsletter was \$0.39

As of December, our membership was at 198 members.

#### Volunteer opportunities:

JDRF Walk in Orlando (UCF) - 18 people volunteered and we counted \$145,000 cash

JDRF Walk in Cocoa

Bacchus Bash - Orlando Premium Outlets - 60 volunteers and we counted over \$50,000

The Fourth Annual Charity Golf Tournament to Benefit Camp Boggy Creek was held at the Disney's Palm Golf Course on May 19, 2006 - we raised \$10,250 "for the kids"

HITEC was in Minneapolis, MN from June 19-22

18<sup>th</sup> Florida Regional Conference at The Mandarin Hotel in Miami - August 17-19

HFTP Annual Convention in Vancouver, B.C. Canada

At the March meeting the following Student Chapter Officers were installed:

Secretary/Treasurer: Shelly Freeman

Vice President: Jamie Soloman

President: Daniel Rodenbrook

The Chapter Member Spotlight for March 2006 was Nasir Naseer. In his bio he is quoted as saying that he is "looking forward to a long and prosperous affiliation with this chapter"

Installed as the incoming officers for the 2006/2007 at the Rosen's Shingle Creek - Master of Ceremony was Frank Santos, CHAE, CHA, CFO Rosen Hotels & Resorts.

**President:** Chad Curtis, CHAE, Rosen Hotels & Resorts

**VP:** Mark Roland, CHAE, Starwood Vacation Ownership

**Treasurer:** Susan Ferguson, CHTP, The Bay Hill Club and Lodge

**Secretary:** Wendy Knipple, CPA, CHAE, Ocean Partners Association, LTD

**Board of Directors:** Patricia Geer, German Uzcatogui, David Branson, Dave McRae, Nora Cameron, and Rena Ballot

A few demographics about our chapter (Sept 2006) - based on 192 current members

- 52 held CHAE or CHTP designations
- 156 from Orlando, 34 from greater than 50 miles from Orlando, and 3 are listed as out-of-state.
- 74 hold the title of Controller or CFO
- 33 fall into Accounting Management classes
- 19 hold the title of Director IS/IT or CIO
- 25 fall into IT Management classes
- 3 are GMs, 5 are college instructors, and 33 are Allied or other members.
- 127 (66.1%) are male and 65 (33.9%) are female

The Officers and BOD are 64% male and 36% female

*Michael Dryden, CHAE*