



Inn-Sight



Mid-Florida Chapter

Newsletter of the HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter *Since 1973* Eleven Time HFTP Chapter of the Year 2018

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

October 2018



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

2018-2019

Officers & Directors

Officers

President

Jack Griffith

Centerplate

407-685-7520

Jack.griffith@centerplate.com

Vice-President

Christina Finch

RemX Specialty Staffing

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Treasurer

Susan Black

Wyndham Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek

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Secretary

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Streamsong Resort

863-521-8252

brandielazorko@streamsongresort.com

Chair of the Board

Nasir Naseer

Holiday Inn Resort Orlando

Suites -Waterpark

407-387-1860

nasir.naseer@pyramidhotelgroup.com

Directors

Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP

407-732-5962

IT Consultant

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Gayle Edwards

PAS

386-233-5478

gedwards@profact.com

Luis Martinez, CHAE

The Kessler Collection

407-480-3055

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Daron Sandberg, CHAE

Rosen Hotels & Resorts

dsandberg@rosenhoteles.com

Terri Nobles, CHAE

Hard Rock Hotel @ Universal

407-503-2331

nobles.terri@gmail.com

Christopher Guzman

Embassy Suites LBVS

407-597-4066

christopher.guzman@hilton.com

Find us on:

Facebook at

www.facebook.com/MIDHFTP

Linked In at

www.linkedin.com/groups/13575981

(Group Name is HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter)

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”.**

**General Meeting -Tuesday, October 30th, 2018
The Mid-Florida Chapter Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals**

Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek

14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Lane

Orlando, FL 32821

Directions: Take I-4 W toward Tampa

Take exit 67 toward Epcot/Disney Springs (1.1 miles)

Merge onto Epcot Center Rd (0.7 miles)

Take the first exit to Disney Springs/Typhoon Lagoon (0.30 miles)

At traffic light make a left onto Buena Vista Dr (0.2 miles)

At the next light turn left onto Chelonia Pkwy (1.1 miles)

Turn right onto Bonnet Creek Resort Lane, Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek is the first right

Parking, guests can self park in the parking garage which is located just past the Hilton Front Drive. The crosswalk to the Hilton hotel is on the 2nd level of the parking garage. Once inside the hotel, guests should walk to the back of the lobby area and take a left. This will lead them straight into La Luce's restaurant which has glass front doors. Anyone on site can assist them with directions as well. We will, validate self-parking.

Speaker and Program

Accomplished author, speaker and industry expert Michael Schubach CHAE*, CHTP* has enthusiastically agreed to present on "AI in the hospitality industry."

Michael presented at this year's HITECH in Houston on this topic, is a regular contributor to the content of Hospitality Upgrade, is the Chief Technology Officer of Millennium Technology Group, and has recently joined our chapter.

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

Caesar Salad

Entrée

Family Style: Eliche alla Lina Pasta, Donna's Favorite Pork Meat and Porcini Ragu, Tomato, Parmigiano, Pollo Arrosto: Spicy Roasted Half Chicken, seasonal Contorni.

Complimentary Wine

Dessert

Flowerless Chocolate Cake

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

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

Reservations and cancellations before 12:01 pm Friday October 26th.

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**

Hello friends!

Last month we gathered at the beautiful North Side Restaurant in the Orange County Convention Center to carry out one of the most important activities of our Chapter, the installation of our new Officers and Directors. We were treated to a delicious dinner and desert prepared and served by Centerplate's award winning culinary and banquet staffs. After which Master of Ceremonies (and Past President) Kristopher Shoemaker took the stage. I asked Kris to be MC and install me as President since he was the person who sponsored me nine years ago as a member. I'd like to again thank him for doing so and Congratulate Nasir Naseer – Chairman of the Board, the Officers Christina Finch – Vice President, Susan Black – Treasurer, Brandie Lazorko – Secretary and the returning Directors Gregory Wilhelm, Gayle Edwards, and Luis Martinez and especially the new Directors Daron Sandberg and Christopher Guzman. I'd like to extend a special **Thank You** to Past President, Terri Nobles, for volunteering to serve our Chapter again as a Director finishing out the final year of Jose Aybar's term.

This is also a special gathering as we invite all our Past Presidents to this meeting and carry on the tradition they participated in years ago, some many years ago. A few could not make it due to prior commitments and they were sorely missed. However, I was happy to see ten (10) of our Past Presidents were able to attend and I would like to thank: Frank Santos 1979 & Global 1987, James Bina 1995 & 1996 (two timer), Larry McCloskey 2001, Bill Parrish 2002, Kristopher Shoemaker 2005, Michael Dryden 2006, Chad Curtis 2007, Dr. Judy Holcomb 2014, Lori Schefstad 2015, and Nasir Naseer 2017. Thank you!

I want to thank all the members for this opportunity to serve as your elected President. I mentioned three objectives I'd like to accomplish in this term. 1. Continue to build on the Chapter's firm foundation that we've inherited from the Past Presidents and members. 2. Build on the successes we experienced last year and continue to teach/share with the current Board so that they're prepared to succeed in the future. And 3. Have fun doing 1 & 2 because if you're not having fun doing this, what's the point.

I challenge all of you to get and stay engaged and participate the entire coming year.

A quick note, our 16th Annual Golf Tournament benefitting Camp Bogy Creek was again a huge success. Look out for next month's newsletter. Our dinner meeting this month will be held at the Hilton Bonnet Creek in La Luce. The speaker and program are still TBD so stay tuned.

Fiction and Fact from Jack's Almanac, "We strive for Perfection and accept Excellence".

Sincerely and respectfully,

Jack Griffith

President – HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter

HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter Annual Meeting, September 2018



We met at the Orange County Convention Center North Side Restaurant to Install our Chapter Board



From the left: Susan Black, Treasurer, Brandie Lazorko, Secretary and Chair Nasir Naseer. Missing is Vice-President Christina Finch



Past Chapter President Kris Shoemaker swears in the new President Jack Griffith and presents Jack with his flying hammer.



Your Board, L: Nasir Naseer, Brandie Lazorko, Gayle Edwards, Christopher Guzman, Jack Griffith, Daron Sandberg, Greg Wilhelm, Luis Martinez and Susan Black, missing Christina Finch and Terri Nobles



Past Chapter Presidents, L: Michael Dryden, Nasir Naseer, Lori Schefstad, Chad Curtis, Bill Parrish, Jim Bina, Judy Holcomb, Kris Shoemaker and Frank Santos

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 and Linked In at www.linkedin.com/groups/13575981 (Group Name is HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter) Come be "social" with us and watch for our Instagram coming soon!

Membership News, Embrace the vision, join the fun!

Committee Chair, Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP

407-923-5962 or gregw176@gmail.com

Back by popular demand HFTP Membership Contest 2019

You only need to sponsor one new member to win. The 2018 Contest ended on June 30, 2018. Drawings were 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!

President Jack, needs YOU!

Be all that you can be.

Join your Chapter Board of Directors in the operation of one of the most vibrant chapters of HFTP in the world.

The Mid-Florida Chapter needs your time and talent in serving on one of our standing committees.

There are a wide variety of jobs available to any member and we need dedicated chapter members so that we can continue our successes.

I won't lie, serving on a committee requires a contribution of your time. The upsides are the rewards you receive for a job well done and the camaraderie and experience of working on a winning team.

The word is service, not for compensation or recognition but for those personal rewards only you tally for yourself.

**So, stand and be counted,
it is time to give back to the
chapter and your community
call a Board Member
today !!!!!!!**

Welcome New Members

Ivonne Rodriguez, Controller, Holiday Inn Resort Orlando—LBV
Michael Schubach, CHAE, CHTP, Chief Technology Officer, Millennium Technology Group

Special pricing for Mid Florida HFTP new members

The Mid-FL chapter of HFTP is offering new members a \$100 discount on the annual dues (of \$375) until 12/31/2018. If you join on-line use this discount code "MIDFL18" at checkout. If you send the PDF form write "MIDFL18" in the payment section and submit your \$275 payment by check or credit card.

Take this opportunity to promote HFTP within and without your organization and win a prize in the membership contest as well, by sharing this link with prospective new members.

https://www.hftp.org/hospitality_association/professional/

Let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Gregory Wilhelm, CHTP; gregw176@gmail.com

Committee Assignments 2018-2019
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
Christopher Guzman 407-597-4066

Job Bank/Legislative/By-Laws

* Jack Griffith 407-685-7520

Membership Relations/Recruitment

* Gregory Wilhelm 407-923-5962 or gregw176@gmail.com
Brandie Lazorko 863-521-8252
Christina Finch 407-478-1956

Communications / Social Media

Webmaster: www.midfloridahftp.org

* Lori Schefstad 407-301-7368

Gayle Edwards 386-233-5478

Brandie Lazorko 863-521-8252



Newsletter Editor.

* Bill Parrish 407-876-8038

Jack Griffith 407-685-7520



Publications:

* Gayle Edwards 386-233-5478

Susan Black 407-390-2320

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

Admin/Program/Speakers

* Daron Sandberg 407-913-1327

Michael Dwulit 407-996-9840

Admin. Locations

* Susan Black 407-390-2320

Christopher Guzman 407-597-4066

Luis Martinez 407-480-3055

Scholarship or Awards

* Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

Nominations

* Nasir Naseer 407-387-1860

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

Any other past presidents

Or as chosen by the Committee Chair

Chapter of the Year and Regional Conference

* The Board

Hospitality Committee

* Nasir Naseer 407-387-1860

Brandie Lazorko 863-521-8252

Terri Nobles 407-503-2331

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

Rod Bitterling 407-468-3905

Chapter Calendar

Vice President

Fun Committee

Dr. Judy Holcomb 352-588-8005

Brandie Lazorko brandielazorko@yahoo.com

Terri Nobles 407-503-2331

Chapter Historian, Photography

Michael Dryden 407-597-4068

HFTP MID-FLORIDA CHAPTER **SPEAKING OPPORTUNITIES**

Monthly General meetings: Normally the last Tuesday of the month.
Location: Various hotel, club, resort and other hospitality venues.
Format: A dinner meeting setting with one 50 minute session.

Mini-Educational Conference: Spring and/or Fall.
Format: The event has two to four 50 minute speaking sessions in the afternoon, 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. The average meeting attendance is 45+ members.

Topics

All submitted information must be non-proprietary and educational in nature, not sales or product specific. Submitting information does not guarantee you an opportunity to present.

Suggested Topics:

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, Health & Property Insurance.

Please submit any topics relevant to an audience of hospitality finance and technology professionals (Controllers, CFOs, IT Directors) to the Admin./Programs/Speaker Committee Chairperson Daron Sandberg, CHAE dsandberg@rosenhoteles.com

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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

October 4th, Board Meeting, 6pm, OCCC
October 24-27, HFTP Annual Louisville, KY
October 30th, General Meeting, 6pm, Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek– Luce
November 6th, Board Meeting, 6pm, OCCC
November 27th, General Meeting, 6pm, Embassy Suites, LBVS
December 13th, Social Networking Event



Save the Date for our December Networking Event
December 13, 2018 at 6:00pm

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.

We want you



to become a member of,
The Mid-Florida HFTP Chapter.

Save \$100 off any new membership
through 12/31/2018

The Mid-Florida Chapter has 120 members made up of Finance and IT leaders of high level hotels and resorts in the Orlando area.



HindSight.....The Year was 2004 **HFTP Mid-Florida Chapter**



The year of the hurricanes – Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne.

In **January** our meeting was held at the Radisson Barcel'o Hotel Orlando and the speaker was Ross Federgreen from CSRIS and the topic was "Credit Card Security, Compliance and Fraud".

February's meeting was held in conjunction with the Central Florida IMA chapter at the Sheraton World Resort. Two sessions were held in the afternoon: Frank Appuzzo and Tim Raftis spoke about "Content Management Systems and Search Engine Marketing Ideas". Followed by Gene Romagna speaking about "Leveraging Your Human Capital". And who in attendance that night can forget Victor Ragucci from BarrierMed who's topic was "Building an Empire & How to get the Capital", but will be remembered for "latex gloves" (ask someone who was there to elaborate).

March was a mini-educational that was held at the Rosen School of Hospitality Management, which not only included four great speakers, but we were also given a tour of the school by some of the students. Opening remarks were delivered by our very own Tina Samson, then the current HFTP International President.

In **April** we traveled up the road to Hotel Orlando North in Maitland. Craig Dorris was our speaker and addressed us on "Loss Prevention and Control"

May was our Second Annual Charity Golf Tournament at Rosen's Shingle Creek Golf Club during the day and our dinner meeting was held immediately afterwards – no speaker, just good food, drinks, prizes and fun.

June's meeting was at the Portofino Bay Hotel and we learned about "Pay Cards and Payroll Processing".

In **July** we met on a Thursday night at "The University Club of Orlando". Our speaker was Michael T. David from Allied National speaking to us on how to "Keep the Customer and Collect the Money".

Our **August** meeting was at The Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort, Greg Larson from Shred-It Company spoke to us about "Record Retention and Proper Document Destruction"

September's meeting at the Orange County Convention Center– the Officer's Installation, originally scheduled for September 28th was postponed until October 12th, due to the arrival of our 4th Florida hurricane.

October's meeting at the Peabody was also postponed so we could all recover from the hurricanes.

In **November** we got back on track at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management. Steve D'Erasmo conducted a CHTP review in the afternoon, and our dinner speaker was Lex Veech giving us an update on "2005 Convention Business"

December's Holiday Social was held at the Fulton Crab House in Lake Buena Vista with 60 attendees enjoying the evening's festivities while braving the cold.

Dinner dues were \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members.

Some of the volunteer activities our chapter and members helped with during the year were Bacchus Bash held at the Orlando Premium Outlets on Friday April 2nd, and The Cattle Baron's Ball on May 15th. Unfortunately due to the back to back to back to back hurricanes, the JDRF walks scheduled for October 2nd (Orlando) and October 9th (Cocoa Beach) were postponed until March of 2005.

The 2nd Annual Golf Tournament was held on May 21st at the Rosen's Shingle Creek Golf Club. There were 122 golfers, 26 sponsors, and 17 Allied sponsors. We raised \$17,900 for Camp Boggy Creek.

HITEC was held in Dallas, TX at the Dallas Convention Center from June 21st - 24th.

The Florida Regional Educational Conference, from July 22nd - 24th, was held at the Hutchinson Island Marriott and sponsored by the Treasure Coast Chapter.

Annual Conference was held in Anaheim California at the Hyatt Regency from October 27th – 30th. We were awarded the Chapter Choice Award for our Charity Golf Event as well as the 2004 Recruitment Award.

Member spotlights for the year were: **January** – Donald Hay of Digital Alchemy, in **February** we announced Greg Wilhelm as the Member of the Year 2003, **March** – Ross Lobrutto of Nortel Networks, **April** was Kjell Olsson from Wyndham Palace Resort & Spa, **May** – Steven Doherty of Post Integrations, **July** – Richard Benoit of Gaylord Palms Resort, and **August** – Ian Cole of Starwood Vacation Ownership. The remainder of the year we focused on staying dry!

Scholarship winners were announced at the June meeting, they were I-Chieh (Lucy) Yang and Lori Graham, both were students at the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality.

Elections were held in August and the following were elected for the 2004-2005 term: President-Kristopher Shoemaker, VP-David Branson, Treasurer-Chad Curtis, and Secretary-Michael Dryden. New to the board were Patricia Geer, Wendy Knippel, Michelle Murphy, and Mark Roland. Returning to complete their terms on the board were Gregory Wilhelm and Susan Ferguson. Joseph Romano was the Chairman of the Board.

As of December we had 157 members – 52 holding either CHAE and/or CHTP designations.

Michael Dryden, CHAE