

HOTEL ASSOCIATION OF TARRANT COUNTY

SUMMER 2013

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Thank you for supporting the Hotel Association of Tarrant County. Of course your monetary support of dues, event fees and sponsorships are critical but your support by attending the great events and networking activities is crucial to the health of the Association. While we have had several networking opportunities this year, the best opportunity to spend several hours with your fellow hoteliers and vendors is to attend HATC's 25th Annual Golf Tournament as either a player or volunteer. Either way, you will have a very enjoyable and productive day. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Steve Haley or Tina Patel, Co-Chairs.



Our vibrant Association is one of many in Texas that helps make our voice heard. Locally, we were able to help the Fort Worth City Council make a decision that was in OUR best interest. The City Council was requested funding by the Fort Worth Arts Council that would have come from the Hotel Occupancy Tax which, if funded, would have decreased the amount of funding for the Fort Worth CVB. Because the HATC was present and represented by Executive Director, Julie Faver-Dylla at the meetings, the decision was made to find funding from sources other than the Hotel Occupancy Tax. On the state level, the Texas Hotel and Lodging Association is representing us to hopefully keep several harmful laws from passing. One of the proposed laws that would be most harmful is House Bill 1955 that would set new standards for hotel housekeeping workers. If passed, the bill would certainly have an immediate adverse affect on all hotel operators. Other bills on which the THLA is keeping a watchful eye are various tax bills that would either increase local occupancy taxes or eliminate the 30 day tax exemption that could affect almost all hoteliers in Tarrant County. We will learn more about this from Scott Joslove, President and CEO of the THLA, at our Legislative update on September 19, 2013.

Buying from Allied Members is another great way you can support HATC. Not only do we have great people that support and attend our events, they provide huge support by sponsoring our major events and donating prizes. Without our Allied members, we could not be as successful in providing the great benefits of our membership. Let's continue to support our Allied members whenever possible. Before you sign a contract or purchase a service, please consult one of our Allied Members before making your final decision - many of them even offer discounts to HATC members. You will be able to visit with most of our Allied members at the **25th annual Golf Tournament on June 6th.**

Another fun way to support HATC is to donate door prizes. Door prizes create a great deal of excitement at every event as an "arms length of tickets" can win some great prizes. The best and most effective way to contribute door prizes is to send Julie 10 or 12 prizes in January so she can use them for events throughout the year. We have several events left in this calendar year, so if you can send Julie 6 or 7 prizes, it will save Julie and the various committee member's hours of time trying to collect prizes. Prizes can be gift cards, logo merchandise, printed items, overnight stays, meals or items that some of your vendors can give to you to donate. Your hotel or business will be mentioned as each is given away.

And my final appeal for support is for you to consider being active in the Association as a Board member or Committee Member. At the last Board meeting, it was decided to expand the Board of Directors to allow for a more diverse board of hoteliers. The bylaws limit the number of Allied Members on the Board but not the number of Hoteliers. We would like to have several more Board Members from our Tarrant County and Fort Worth hotels, so please talk to any of our Board members about helping your association.

Thank you again for supporting your HATC and we hope that you have been able to enjoy the great benefits your membership offers.

Tim Campbell

Jim Campbell, President - Hotel Association of Tarrant County



HATC SUPPORTS FUTURE LEADERS WITH UNT STUDENT CHAPTER

We are pleased to announce that a HATC student chapter has been formed and is thriving at the University of North Texas. We believe that the UNT Students majoring in Hospitality Management are the future of our Industry and Association. Our goal with this student chapter is to provide resources to better the experience and education for the future of our industry.

Please help us welcome these students to HATC as you get to know them over the upcoming year and take any opportunity you can to share with them what you do at your hotel or business. The more information we give them now the better they will be in their role when they enter the hotel industry.

If you wish to become further involved with the HATC/UNT chapter please reach out to our Executive Director Julie Faver-Dylla. julie@tarrantcountyhotel.com There will be opportunities to serve as mentors or speak to students through at the year at the campus.

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STUDENT MEMBER BENEFITS

Current updates on industry trends & Topics – Including Legislative and Convention & Visitor Bureau updates

Access to Quarterly Newsletter featuring articles written by Local industry leaders

Information from city and law enforcement agencies that specifically focuses on the impact of the day to day operation of hotels

No cost Opportunities to Attend Bi Annual converge on the Capitol in Austin, Texas

Association with Career partners

Opportunities for Community Service

Any Student Member Resume that is sent to HATC Executive Director will be forwarded to every Hotel for review for potential job placement

Mentor Program
Introduction to Key Leaders in the Hospitality Industry

Access to membership contact information

First 8 Students to sign up for monthly HATC meetings/ luncheons attend for free – student rate to be offered after first 8 have signed up to attend



MEMBERS Helping MEMBERS

The community of West, Texas is still reeling from the massive explosion at a fertilizer plant earlier last month. The staff and management teams at the Hilton Garden Inn Arlington, Hampton Inn Arlington and the Hilton Garden Inn Duncanville felt a strong need to help support this local Texas community since numerous homes and businesses were severely damaged and, in some cases, even flattened.

The team at the Hilton Garden Inn had so many volunteers signed up to attend the work day in West, TX on May 1st that General Manager, Charlie Olissa didn't have a way to transport all of the volunteers to the work site in West. That's when Charlie reached out to HATC Executive Director, Julie Faver-Dylla, to see if anyone in the Association would be willing to help their efforts.

A few phone calls were made and HATC Members Thom Fox & Kyle Marty from ECHO Transportation/Gotta Go came to the rescue. Because of their transportation resources, volunteers were able to spend the day cleaning up debris and sorting donated goods that are still coming in to the city of West.

"Thank you so much for supporting us. We made it to West and back and the great people of West appreciate your help too. The bus driver is the BEST ever and we are totally indebted to you and we are singing your praises about your generous donation to everyone that will hear us," Charlie Olissa commented on this combined effort.



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CONTACT JULIE FAVER-DYLLA FOR MORE INFORMATION: JULIE@TARRANTCOUNTYHOTEL.COM | 817-741-0306



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GIFTING PAR

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