



HoustonChapter

HOUSTON'S NACE NEWS

Newsletter Date

Volume 1, Number 1

In This Issue

- [A Message from NACE President, Lisa Hopkins.](#)
- [NACE Has a New Look](#)
- [2004 Review](#)
- [Plana Trip to Florida](#)
- [2004 Award Winners](#)
- [Save the Date!](#)
- [Houston Member Named to Presidents List.](#)

Category of Links

www.nacehouston.net
www.nace.net

Visit the NACE

National Web-site if you are interested in viewing another NACE website. Links are located on the web link above.

Contact Us

If you would like to become a member or would like more information regarding our Chapter please visit our web at www.nacehouston.net and click on Contact Us.

A Message from NACE President, Lisa Hopkins

Is it still appropriate to say Happy New Year? The first month is over and 2005 looks to be another great year in the Houston Catering Industry.

Think back to one year ago ... We were all preparing for Super Bowl XXVIII to arrive. The excitement and momentum that came that weekend made 2004 a very special year indeed. With a last minute field goal, the Patriots were victorious over the Panthers, but Houston was really the winner that day as the entire community performed brilliantly in the national spotlight. More national sporting events are headed our way, as Houston is now **“on the map”** as a destination city with our outstanding sports facilities, hotels, restaurants, and special event venues.

After the NFL left and throughout the entire year, NACE members stepped up to the challenge of using their resources and talents to advance the catering professions. So many caterers and affiliates joined forces to create some memorable programs for NACE members to enjoy. Make sure you mark your calendars for the coming year – the third Wednesday of every month – as our Programs Committee will make it worth your while to be there!

Thanks to everyone for a great Awards Luncheon. I'm so pleased for Mark Caffey, Amber Fraser, Margery Reinhardt, and our two Programs of the Year – “Pizza Pizza” and “Don't Gamble on NACE”. All of you represent what happens when you give back to our group – professional success and personal achievement. Congratulations to all of you. And now, a plea from the President: Mark Caffey – please don't leave us! I will miss you more than you'll ever know!

Your new Board of Directors were busy on Sunday, January 30th planning a great 2005 for all of us. Our annual retreat was the first time our new board was together and I have to say that spending the day with a special group of volunteers was great.

If you know someone who's missing out on education and networking opportunities NACE offers, invite them to a meeting. I can't wait to see what great things we will achieve in the near future!

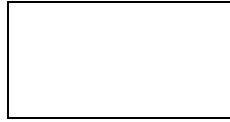
See you at the next meeting,

Lisa Hopkins, CPCE –Houston Chapter of NACE



HoustonChapter

NACE HAS A NEW LOOK



FROM THAT TO THIS



Yes, it is finally happening. NACE has a new look. The National Board of Directors introduced the new NACE logo at the 2005 Leadership Conference. You can see from above, that new logo on the right is very catchy and classy. By November of 2005 the logo on the left will officially be phased out.

The new logo can be printed in many different colors. Each Chapter logo will be very similar to the National Logo...the only difference is that the chapter name will be displayed at the bottom for the chapter it represents.

The Houston Chapter of NACE will be sending the new logo out to all members very soon. We understand that many of you have business cards with the old logo and that is fine for now. However, we ask that the new logo be used when ordering new business cards.

2004 Review & Special Thanks!

Looking back on 2004 will make you realize how wonderful NACE Houston really is. The NACE Missions statement reads: **To assist caterers in achieving career success by raising the level of education and professionalism of the catering industry.** Once you stroll down 2004 memory lane, I think you will agree that we upheld the meaning of NACE.

January – ‘Lunch with the Stars’ Annual Awards Luncheon – Houston Club

February – ‘Back to School’ – University of Houston Conrad Hilton

March – ‘Pop the Cork with NACE’ – The Hess Club

April – ‘Alice’s Analysis’ – Crowne Plaza Medical Center

May – ‘Where We’ve Been & Where We are Going’ – Hornberger Conference Center

June – ‘What is Icon?’ – Hotel Icon

July – ‘Clutter Busting’ – Greenspoint Club

August – ‘Pizza, Pizza’ – Hyatt Regency Houston

September – ‘How to work with a Wedding Coordinator on Your Team’ –
The Sam Houston Hotel

October – ‘NACE on Broadway’ Fundraiser – Houston Marriott Westchase

November – ‘Don’t Gamble on NACE’ – Hotel Derek

December – No Meeting



HoustonChapter

Special Thanks to all of our Monthly Meeting Sponsors...without you our meetings would not have been as successful.

D. Jones Photography	Impressive Entertainment
Distinctive Details	Adams & Green Entertainment Agency
Floral Events	MDI Video
Par Excellence	Catering Research Institute
Dynamic Entertainment	Floral Events
Party Cloths	E&J Gallo Winery
Brown-Forman Wines USA	Lexis Florist
Fountains of Chocolate	Sound Connections
Elegant Beginnings	Karen for Your Memories
Aztec Party & Tent Rentals	B0dacious Baskets
Events A La Carte	Bailey Connor Catering
Franciscan Estate Wines	BBJ Linen
Swank Audio Visual	Chocolates by Mark
J&S Audio Visual	Monte Carlo & Associates
Ice Occasions	

Special Thanks to Our Fundraising Sponsors...without you we would not have been able to have a **FABULOUS FUNDRAISER!**

Bill Webster, Auctioneer	Boston Beer Company
Brown Foreman Wines USA	Catch the Moment Photography
Chocolates by Mark	D. Jones Photography
Danceforce	Darryl Murchison Design
Distinctive Details	Elegant Beginnings
E & J Gallo Winery	Scott Graham
Grateful Geezers	Ice Designs
Impressive Entertainment	J&S Audio Visual
MDI Video	Par Excellence
Snappy Printing	Juliana Wathen
Weddings in Houston	



HoustonChapter

Special Thanks to our local Celebrity Chef's for being creative during "NACE on Broadway" in producing creative food stations with delicious food findings.

- Robert Schaerer, Executive Chef Cakes and Culinary Creations
- AJ Junnarkar, Executive Chef Hotel Derek
- Patrick Flaischer, Executive Chef Hotel Derek
- Akmal Ibrahi, Executive Chef Crowne Plaza Houston Medical Center
- Ruth Meric, Owner of Ruth Meric Catering
- Jesse Llapitan, Executive Chef Houstonian Hotel, Cub and Spa
- Alfredo Lucero, Chef at Cassa Catering
- Randy Evans, Executive Chef Brennan's of Houston
- Sylvia Richmond, Executive Chef Crowne Plaza Cullen Center
- Sean Perrodin, Chef at The Culinarian
- Susie Edwards, Owner of Susie's Cakes
- Dennis Beauregard, Executive Chef Marriott Houston Westchase
- Richard Colt, Owner of Texas Java Company
- Jeff Barber & Mike House with Bertrand's
- ISA Foods

Plan a Trip to Florida

Plan to attend the NACE Education Conference July 10-13, 2005 at the Gaylord Palms in Orlando Florida. You'll learn new skills, find new ideas and experience the best in catering, décor and leadership education available. Friendships will be made to last a lifetime. This conference really is priceless, so don't forget to mark your calendar!

For more details visit www.nace.net.



HoustonChapter

2004 Award Winners

On January 19, 2005 the Houston 6th Annual Awards luncheon was held at the Doubletree Post Oak.. soon to be the Hilton on Post Oak. The Houston Chapter was proud to present Caterer of the Year, Affiliate of the Year, Spirit of NACE and Program of the Year to very deserving people. They were also please to induct a member into the NACE Hall of Fame. Please find listed below what these awards mean, whom they were give to and why.

Houston Chapter Caterer Member of the Year

This award honors the member whose contributions and dedication throughout the year have most significantly advanced the chapter's image and goals.

Lisa Hopkins

- Attended Leadership, Regional and Educational Conferences
- Instrumental in restructuring the Houston Board to mimic the National Board
- Participated with MDA – Walk-a-thon, Summer Camp and Jerry Lewis Telethon
- Recruited over 18 local celebrity chefs for food stations during the NACE Annual Fund Raiser
- Encouraged her staff to have the best food station at the Fund Raiser as voted by the attendees
- Actively recruits new members

Houston Chapter Affiliate Member of the Year

This award honors the member whose contributions and dedication throughout the year have most significantly advanced the chapter's image and goals.

Mark Caffey

- Attends monthly meetings
- Dedicated to helping out at registration
- Participates in many fundraisers and Galas around the City... getting his name out along with NACE
- Offers NACE members discounts
- Kept the chapter on track during a tough financial year
- Always willing to help with a little something sweet!



HoustonChapter

Best Program of the Year

This award is to recognize the best and most original event produced in our chapter for a monthly meeting. The winner was based on program, location, food presentation and over all services.

“Pizza Pizza” – Hyatt Regency Houston

Sponsors

David Jones Photography

Chocolates By Mark

Swank Lighting

BBJ Linen

Sound Connections

and

“Don’t Gamble on NACE” – Hotel Derek

Sponsors

David Jones Photography

Monte Carlo & Associates

Ice Occasions

J&S Audio Visual

The Spirit of Houston NACE Award

This award recognizes the chapter member whose commitment to the Houston community personifies the ideals of humanitarianism.

Amber Fraser

- Co-Chaired NACE on Broadway
- Participated with MDA – Walk-a-thon, Summer Camp and Jerry Lewis Telethon
- Regularly attends Chapter Board Meetings and Monthly Meetings
- Initiated the “Kudos” Program
- Underwrote a food station at the Fundraiser
- She’s a great spokesperson for NACE
- This individual recently received the Presidents Award at the 2005 Leadership Conference. (only 5 in the country were named for going above and beyond)
- Opened her own Business – She once told me that with the relationships she’s established through NACE, the ultimate goal of owning her business became a reality. She shares that testimony with many prospective members of our Association and has helped recruit many new members.



HoustonChapter

2004 Hall of Fame Inductee

This award goes to an individual that has dedicated their time to NACE that far exceeds what is expected from a member.

Margery Reinhardt

- Served on the Houston Board in various capacities
- Served on the NACE National Board as Regional VP
- Houston Spirit of NACE in 2002
- Co-Chaired several Fundraisers
- Was named Caterer of the Year Nationally in 2001

Induction of 2005 Board Members

CONGRATULATION AND BEST OF LUCK TO THE 2005 NACE HOUSTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

- President: Lisa Hopkins
- 1st vice President of Education: Melanie Campbell
- 2nd Vice President of Membership: Jeremie Field
- Secretary/Treasurer: Mitch Daniels
- Immediate Past President: Shea Ashley
- Student Chapter Representative: Kanwal Kabiruddin
- Vice President of Affiliate Members: Joe Zuniga
- Communications Director: Jason Bailey
- Programs Director: Laura Mistretta
- Marketing Director: Clara Hough
- Recruitment Director: David Jones
- Community Service Director: Dennis Doughty
- Fundraising Director: Diane Knoche

SAVE THE DATE

February, 16, 2004

U of H at Conrad Hilton

March 16, 2004

April 20, 2004

GET INFORMATION AT RETREAT FOR THIS SECTION



HoustonChapter

Houston Member Named to Presidents List

Before I spill the beans and tell you about who was named to the Presidents List, I would like to answer a few questions that many people have asked recently.

Q: What is the Presidents List?

A: The "President's List" recognizes NACE members that truly exemplify efforts and achievement beyond the ordinary member.

Q: Who is eligible?

A: Any member with the exception of the current Chapter Presidents and National Board Members.

Q: How are you nominated?

A: Nominations are made by the Chapter President or Vice President directly to Kevin Brant, NACE National President. The nomination consists of the nominee's name, why he/she should receive this award, and two reference from the chapter board.

As the Immediate Past President of NACE, I am please to inform Houston that at the Leadership Conference in January that Kevin Brant named 5 members to the Presidents List and our very own **Amber Fraser** received this honor.

Lisa Hopkins, Houston's Chapter President sent the following nomination letter to Kevin:

On behalf of the Houston Chapter of NACE, I'm pleased to nominate Amber Fraser to your President's List.

The Houston Chapter has been extremely fortunate for many years to have members who continue to contribute to the chapter, serving in various capacities throughout their NACE careers. Amber Fraser is one of these members. In 2003 and 2004, Amber started her own business, Cakes and Culinary Creations, yet continued to support the chapter by serving as our Fundraising Co-Chairman. Amber has also introduced our NACE chapter to other opportunities to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association through Kid's Camp contributions, Walk a thons, and their Labor Day Telethon, and actively recruited volunteers t support these activities. She regularly attends Chapter Board Meetings and Monthly Meetings, and helped initiate the "Kudo s" Program – a program designed to held NACE members publicly recognize referrals to and from each other.

Amber has served as a great mentor to many current board members. I know I often call on Amber for "Presidential Wisdom". Through her work on our Chapter's Board of Directors, she has trained current members to be committee chairs and taken on greater roles, including our current Fundraising Director Diane Knoche. Amber approaches each of her roles for NACE with grace and humor, and never gives up on anyone or anything once she has her goal in mind. Amber's ability to form relationships with members of NACE has been her strength and she has used it to make our Board a cohesive group of professionals.

As Cakes and Culinary Creations becomes a Premier Company for Special Event Cakes, Amber has made sure that they are a recognized contributor to the Houston Chapter of NACE. They donated to our Fundraiser's Silent Auction, and also participated by underwriting a food station. Amber once told me that with the



HoustonChapter

relationships she's established through NACE, the ultimate goal of owning her business became a reality. She shares that testimony with many prospective members of our Association and has helped recruit many new members, including our current Vice President of Affiliates (and business owner) Joe Zuniga. In fact, it was Amber's invitation to become a Board Member in Training in 1999 that started my service to the Houston Chapter. She's a great spokesperson for NACE.

Dennis Doughty and myself made the two references from the chapter board.

Congratulations Amber we are proud of you!

