



Houston Chapter

# *NACE News...*

## *Houston*

February 2007

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[NACE.net](#)  
[NACEHouston.net](#)

## *A Message from NACE President, Lisa Hopkins, CPCE CMP*

“Batter Up!”

Don't worry Astros fans, this article is not about my 2006 World Series Champion St. Louis Cardinals.

Instead it's a call to the Members of the Houston Chapter of NACE. We are now stepping up to the plate for the 2007 NACE Educational Conference. As the Host Chapter for this premiere event, we have the unique opportunity of working together on numerous events as a group of industry professionals. We will never have a better opportunity to bring a sense of pride to our city, and to gain valuable synergistic experiences with our unique talents and resources.

Now that the Leadership Conference has concluded (more on that in a moment), the preparations for the Educational Conference will swing into high gear. The next six months will be very rewarding for our Conference Co-Chairs Margery Reinhardt and Gary Baumann, as well as for the Committee Chairs and Members who have chosen to be a part of this opportunity. There are many ways you can help. It's not too late to participate on a committee. If you can't, please be prepared to receive a phone call or email, give an idea, and assist these members in any way you can. And make a note on your calendar to take advantage of the great educational and networking experience you can receive July 15-18, 2007 at the Marriott Westchase Houston, the host hotel for the Conference.

Mitch Daniels, Karen Weaver, Robert Shipman and I are back from the 2007 Leadership Conference in Las Vegas. And although the saying goes that “What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas”, I'll choose to tell you the latest news about our association, and what I've learned from the sessions. Our Membership numbers are at an all time high, and plans continue at the National Office to increase the visibility of NACE through better marketing efforts, to raise the relevance of our educational offerings, and to re-invent the Certified Professional Catering Executive (CPCE) designation. Our new Executive Director Bonnie Fenchock is excited about bringing enhancements to these key elements of our future.



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In the short amount of space I have left in this Corner, I'll share some quotes I heard from the Closing Speaker that really spoke to my heart. Hockey Legend Wayne Gretzky said: "You miss 100% of the Shots you never take." And Winston Churchill, one of my favorite historical figures said: "I never worry about action, but only about inaction." The translation for me is: Take more risks – you may make a mistake, and that's okay. As a President, as a Board of Directors, and as Chapter Members, we need to move away from not acting on our goals and responsibilities, whereby missing the great opportunities right in front of us.

American Activist John W. Gardner said in his book *No Easy Victories*, that "The first and last task of a leader is to keep hope alive". When your Board voted to host the 2007 Educational Conference, we knew it would be the largest endeavor ever taken on by our chapter. And make no mistake, we will have setbacks, miscues, miscommunication, and at times chaos may abound. As your President, I promise to carry the torch of hope and perseverance. We will achieve total success in Mid-July, and we'll reach it together, as only our extraordinary group can.

So Houston, let's step up to the plate and swing away!

See you at the next meeting,

Lisa Hopkins, CPCE, CMP  
Houston Chapter President

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## **Meeting Recaps**

**August 16<sup>th</sup> - Lakeside Country Club**

Guest speaker, Attorney, William Madison Colgin IV

"Small Business Contracts - What You Really Need to get in Writing"

***Texas Java***

***D. Jones Photography***

***Premier Bride***

***Darryl Murchison Designs***

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Houston Chapter

September

***Now...Crave This, A Perfect Pastry Competition***

Host Venue

***The Houston Club***

Wedding Cake Design

***Susie Edwards, Susie's Cakes***

***Tiffani-Janelle Johnson, Cake Creations***

***Robert Schaerer, Pine Forest Country Club***

***Jessie Lopez, Edible Designs by Jessie***

Plated Pastry

***Jennifer Kirby, The Houstonian Hotel and Spa***

***Plinio Sandalio, Noe Restaurant and Bar***

***Rebecca Jeffery, The Woodlands Waterway Marriott***

Hors d'Oeuvres Provided By

***The Woodlands Waterway Marriott***

***The Houston Club***

***Pine Forest Country Club***

***University of Houston Conrad N. Hilton College***

***of Hotel Restaurant Management***

***Menu Inspirations***

***Cordua Catering***

***River Oaks Country Club***

***Hotel Icon***

***The Greenspoint Club***

***The Golden Samovar / Café Caspian***

***Tokyo Gardens Catering, LLC***

***Houston Marriott Westchase***



Houston Chapter

In Kind Donors

*Fashionable Events*

*Imperia Vodka*

*Walter Odermatt*

*Elegant Beginnings*

*Darryll Murchison Design, LLC*

*Snappy Printing*

*Premier Bride*

*Catch the Moment*

*Avalon Music*

*Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.*

*The Dave Caceres Combo*

*The Sound Connection*

*University of Houston Chapter of NACE*

*Texas Java Company*

*D. Jones Photography*



**October 18<sup>th</sup> - Houston Grand Plaza Hotel**

Laughing Your Way Through Stress with Marion Pietz

*Elegant Beginings*

*Darryll Murchison Designs*

*Adam's and Green Entertainment Agency*

*Impressive Entertainment*



**November 15<sup>th</sup> - Houston Marriott Westchase**

Chapter Elections

*Distinctive Details*

*Floral Events*

*Party Props*

*Texas Java*



Houston Chapter

**January 17<sup>th</sup> - Intercontinental Hotel**

Chapter Awards

*Texas Java*

*Over the Top Linen*

*Lexis Florist*

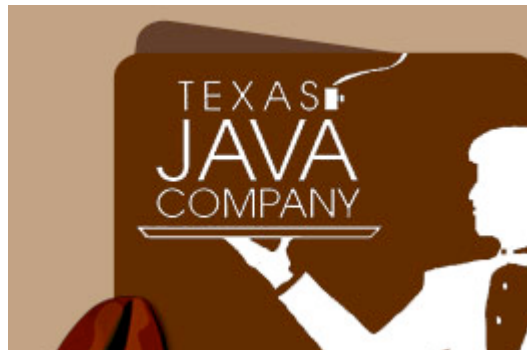
*Impressive Entertainment*

**Check out the photos from the meetings on our web page:**

[www.nacehouston.net](http://www.nacehouston.net)

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## ***Affiliate Spotlight*** ***Texas Java & Richard Colt***



NACE, wake up and smell the *affiliate* coffee! If you have attended a well planned special event lately you may have already noticed what's been brewing...Texas Java! And what exactly is Texas Java? Well, since 1992 Richard Colt and Texas Java have been serving up specialty coffee drinks at special events in Houston. With a background in coffee equipment and motivated by an entrepreneurial spirit, Richard noticed a unique opportunity to serve fresh, specialty coffee at the 1992 Republic Convention held at the Houston Astrodome. After overwhelming success at his first major event, Richard knew he had struck another kind of "black gold", and Texas Java was born.

Technically, no coffee beans are actually grown in Texas. Richard explains, "coffee beans were discovered and brewed into a beverage in Ethiopia around the 6<sup>th</sup> century. And today, coffee beans are grown between the Cancer and Capricorn lines of latitude around the entire globe." But Richard admits, "The name Texas Java just sounds good!"



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The National Coffee Association reported in 2000 that 54% of the adult population of the United States drinks coffee daily (NCA Coffee Drinking Trends Survey, 2000) and on average, American coffee drinkers consume 3.1 cups of coffee daily. As Richard quickly discovered, “coffee is a *growth* industry!”

As is the case with any business, sales volume is important. But Richard’s focus is “the quality of every individual cup of coffee Texas Java serves.” Richard continues, “Just like a chef, my recipe starts with raw ingredients - the freshest coffee bean possible. We roast and brew the fresh coffee beans with the very best equipment and finally, perfect and friendly presentation to the client.” Just like a connoisseur of fine wine, Richard and his experienced staff endeavor to educate their clients about the nuances of specialty coffee and make recommendations so as to not intimidate the novice coffee drinker.

Does Richard enjoy talking about anything besides coffee? Yes, NACE! Richard has been a NACE member for 7 years and he’s not bashful about the effect NACE has had on his business. Richard adds, “NACE has been great! It’s enabled me to meet and build relationships with very supportive and FUN people! It’s helped evolve my business to the point where clients are now demanding specialty coffee at special events”

Congratulations to Richard Colt and to all of his success with Texas Java! If you’re a NACE affiliate and you have something new or exciting to tell NACE Houston, please contact Joe Zuniga, VP of affiliates, and share “the spotlight” with Texas Java!

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## ***2006 Chapter Awards***

### ***Affiliate of the Year***

*Radhika Day*  
*Weddings in Houston Magazine*  
&  
*Jill Vidal*  
*Elegant Beginnings*

### ***Caterer of the Year***

*Robert Shipman*  
*Haute Soiree*

**Spirit of NACE Award**

*Bonnie Gardner  
Top Hat Catering*

**NACE National President's List**

*Robert Shipman  
Haute Soiree  
&  
Karen Weaver  
Hilton Houston Westchase*

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***Houston Hosts the  
NACE 2007 Education Conference***

Plans move Full Steam Ahead for EC07 in Houston The NACE EC07 committee met recently at the Intercontinental Hotel to discuss themes for the upcoming events we will be Catering. Did you realize that between coffee breaks, breakfast, luncheons, dinners and receptions there are over 14 different functions that require themed food and beverage, decor, and even entertainment! Well of course we have a very creative group of people at our disposal and the ideas were flying. Starting with an Art Car "Parade" to "A Passion for Fashion Luncheon", a Space Cowboy breakfast or a Medical Center ER break, you can just imagine the possibilities. If you want to be a part of this exciting opportunity to plan and execute a major National level conference to be held next July, be sure to contact Margery Reinhardt at the Hilton Houston Post Oak or Gary Baumann at the Intercontinental Houston. There are still committees looking for participation and this is our chance to show all of NACE how Houston exemplifies the Energy of Diversity!

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713-685-6305

We look forward to working with everyone, and showcasing all of the talent that our chapter has to offer.

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## *Meet your Board of Directors*

### **OLD AND NEW FACES**

The Houston Chapter of NACE recently held elections for the 2007/2008 Directors Positions. These individuals will be inducted at the January 2007 Awards Luncheon.

Please join me in **CONGRATULATING** the following:

- Communications Director – Jason Bailey – The Downtown Club of Houston
- Director of Marketing – Karen Weaver – Hilton Houston Westchase
- Director of Programs – Clara Hough – Over the Top Linen
- Recruitment Director – Jennifer Schafer – Premier Bride Houston
- Director of Fundraising – Robert Shipman – Haute Soiree
- Director of Community Service – Summer Hutchens – Summer For Your Memories

The above individuals will join the Executive Board Members that consist of:

- President – Lisa Hopkins – The Houstonian Hotel
- Immediate Past President – Shea Ashley – Hyatt Regency Houston
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Kathryn Creech – Hard Rock Cafe
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Jeremie Millwee – The Petroleum Club of Houston
- Secretary/Treasurer – Mitch Daniels – MDI Video
- Vice President of Affiliate Members – Joe Zuniga – Impressive Entertainment

### **Other important Rolls played on the board are:**

Student Chapter Representative

- Ana Teresa Garza

2007 NACE Educational Conference Co-Chairs

- Gary Baumann – Inter Continental Hotel
- Margery Reinhardt – Hilton Post Oak

Board members in Training

- Carita Felbermayar – Bow Tie Servers, Inc.
- Juliana Wathen – Party Props, Inc.
- Angela Eaton – Avalon Music

Advisory Council

- Amber Fraser – Cake and Culinary Creations

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## **Marketing Opportunities for Members**

**Marketing Opportunities available through [www.nace.net](http://www.nace.net)**

NACE Members: Did you know one of the benefits of membership include the ability to get a message about your products, services, and opportunities quickly and easily to other NACE members? All you need is your NACE Membership Number, the Internet, and a quick “how to” lesson from Kathryn Creech, the Houston Chapter’s Marketing Director.

Kathryn will provide you with your NACE Membership Number (in case you don’t have it), and a walk through of the Memberclicks on [www.nace.net](http://www.nace.net). You can reach Kathryn at 713-227-1392.

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## **New Members**

|                   |                                    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Suzanne O’Neal    | 43 <sup>rd</sup> Restaurant Lounge |
| Robert Hannusch   | Every Whim Catering                |
| Summer Hutchens   | Summer for Your Memories           |
| Dionicia McCallum | Movie Tavern Partners              |
| Terri Bishop      | Alden Hotels                       |
| Matthew Finnan    | Hilton Americas                    |
| Kim Graeter       | Houston Racquet Club               |
| Maureen Vickery   | Pen Dance Calligraphy & Engraving  |
| Karen Henson      | The Club at Carlton Woods          |
| Loree Summers     | Sheraton Suites                    |
| Gina Yobbagy      | Cakes by Gina                      |
| Gail Melancon     | Houston Hobby Airport Marriott     |
| Dawn Prestwood    | The Woodlands Country Club         |
| Jennifer Potts    | Catering Research Institute        |

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## **Save the Date**

**MARK YOU CALENDAR  
NACE MEETINGS  
3rd WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

***February 21<sup>st</sup> 2007***

*Royal Oaks Country Club*

*Hospitality Trends Part I - Event Management*

***March 21<sup>st</sup> 2007***

*Houston Hobby Airport Marriott*

*Managing Your Emotional Energy*

*Guest Speaker: Stephen Barth*

***April 18<sup>th</sup> 2007***

*Hotel Derek*

*Teambuilding and Membership Drive*

***May 16<sup>th</sup> 2007***

*Omni Westside*

*Trends In The Industry, Part II: All Things Wedding*

***June 20<sup>th</sup> 2007***

*Marriott Waterway*

*Trends In The Industry, Part III: Culinary Trends*

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