



# Monterey County Hospitality Association

The Voice of Your Hospitality Community

## E-Newsletter

April, 2016 Vol. XXIV

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### Upcoming Events

April 12th [BI-Monthly Membership Lunch](#)

April 27<sup>th</sup> – MCHA Education Seminar: Creating a Culture of Sustainability

May 11th Job Fair for Rancho Cielo graduates

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Monterey Bay Action Committee Candidates Beach Party Fundraiser

June 15<sup>th</sup> – [Employee Appreciation Day](#)

June 22<sup>nd</sup> - MCHA Education Seminar: "Digital Marketing"

August 29<sup>th</sup> – [Nick Lombardo Memorial Golf Tournament](#)

In case you missed Monterey Herald "Between the Sheets"

[01/02/2016](#)

[02/05/2016](#)

[03/04/2016](#)

[04/02/2016](#)

If you would like to participate on any one of our Committees please contact Bonnie Adams

[info@mcha.net](mailto:info@mcha.net)

**Hospitality's International Man of Mystery Annual Dinner & Awards Celebration!** Event host, Portola Hotel & Spa, was the setting for our internationally themed evening. Nearly 100 event sponsors and their guests were greeted by the Samurai Gypsies and then treated to a fun VIP Sponsor Reception complete with sparkling wine from Folktales Winery, wine from Joyce Winery and Stoli martinis. A near record crowd mingled among the awesome silent auction items sipping wine from A Taste of Monterey and enjoying Pendleton cocktails. The doors opened to a colorful and fun themed ballroom, compliments of Illusions of Grandeur, and to everyone's favorite, the Mike Marotta Band. Teddy Balestreri was welcomed as the new 2016 Chair of MCHA and we were proud to honor our 2015 Hospitality Professional of the Year, Janine Chicourrat, General Manager of the Portola Hotel & Spa. We also



awarded the first ever Lifetime Achievement award posthumously to William Lawson Little III, former President and Golf Professional at Quail Lodge & Golf Course. The dinner wines, donated by Carmel Road Winery, Wrath, Odonata and Pierce Ranch Vineyards, were a perfect complement to the international menu.



The event was a success on so many levels and we could not have done it without the support of our valued members who purchased sponsorships, donated fantastic auction items, purchased raffle tickets, attended the event and bid on silent and live auction items. And of course, we had a fantastic committee headed by Ken Rauh, A Taste of Monterey – A Wine Bistro & Market and Mia Jarick, GuestLife Magazine. Please click here for a [list of sponsors](#). And thanks to [DMT Imaging](#) for the [fantastic photos](#)! We would also like to thank a Pocketful of Plans for her fun internationally themed photo booth. [Click here to see the great pictures!](#)

**Employee Appreciation Day:** Get your teams ready for Employee Appreciation Day scheduled for June 15th at the Monterey Fairgrounds! Start practicing for the friendly competitions including bed making, bartending, bell staff, food and beverage, napkin folding, chowder cook-off....and the popular GM competition, in addition to the exciting soccer tournament! At the conclusion of the competitions we will have a barbecue for all employees and their families. Everyone in MCHA is invited to participate so mark your calendars for June 15th. Details on how to sign up will be coming soon.

**Government Affairs:** 2016 is an interesting year politically. For the first time in many years there is a possibility we could have contested conventions to determine the candidates for President of the United States. Does anyone remember the last time that happened?? And California's primary may go a long way to determining if that happens. No speculation here as to how that will play out, but it is a fascinating process ... [more](#)



**Coalition of Peninsula Businesses:** The Coalition of Peninsula Businesses has remaining questions concerning the recycled water project, also known as GWR or Pure Water Monterey, as part of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. GWR's success so far-certified EIR, project approval-has led many to conclude that the smaller desalination plant will suffice for the rest of our water needs. But the Coalition has apprehensions regarding this claim. . [more](#)



**Industry News:** The City and its contractor, Stronghold Engineering, have agreed to extend the completion date for the Monterey Conference Center to late March 2017. Construction at the Conference Center slowed slightly when crews gutting the building encountered unexpected hurdles, such as structural issues that needed to be solved, a building that was constructed slightly differently than the 40 year-old plans showed, and additional asbestos abatement. The revision will deliver a fully completed Conference Center at one time, rather than opening the ground floor first and the upper floors at a later date.

The City and Stronghold have found almost \$2 million in savings that will offset additional costs associated with these construction challenges. The \$60 million Conference Center revitalization is the largest project in the City's history. The Conference Center is the centerpiece of Monterey's downtown revitalization and future economic vitality.

**Ambassador Club** - Get connected and join a committee! If you're a business in this region, no matter the size or the type, you likely benefit in some way from the efforts of hospitality. Whether visitors are staying at your hotel, dining at your restaurant, buying from your shop or using your services while they're here, Hospitality plays a key role in generating income for all of us on this Peninsula. So it's essential that we support those that work so hard all year to support us. There are many issues facing the hospitality industry today, not only here in our region but across the state, and MCHA is committed to providing the support needed to keep us all going strong. Through participation in committees, events, education & sponsorship, MCHA provides a great network of specific resources for all members.

If you are interested in volunteering at Employee Appreciation Day, June 15th or participating on the Golf Tournament committee contact one of the committee chairs or Bonnie Adams. The Ambassador Club is a great way to get started on an MCHA Committee. You are always welcome to join this fun group. Sign-up to assist at our lunches and events to ensure members feel welcome, and connected with our Membership.

Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Crossroads Carmel Management Office. Contact [Vicki Tackett](#) or [Cynthia Buhl](#).

**Member Highlight:** [Folktale Winery](#) Nestled in beautiful Carmel, California, just 5 miles from the Pacific Ocean, is Monterey's most unique winery destination. Situated on 15 acres of sustainably-farmed vineyards and gardens along the Carmel River, Folktale Winery is an idyllic setting to discover and enjoy the great wines, food, natural beauty, and hospitality of Carmel Valley. Come kick back and be part of the story.



**Members Spotlight:**

[Anton & Michel Restaurant](#)

[KRML Radio](#)

[InterContinental The Clement](#)

[Alliance Career Training Solutions](#)

[Casa di Campagna](#)

[Scales Seafood & Steaks](#)



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