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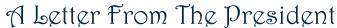
Official Newsletter of the Greater Atlantic City Concierge Association

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Articles, and MORE!



Congratulations to everyone on another successful and eventful year with the Greater Atlantic City Concierge Association! 2017 is already looking to be an exciting new year with more events, and new members from all corners of the Atlantic City area.

Our city is on the rise again, thanks to the many amazing businesses and organizations within America's Playground, many of whom have representatives within our Association. I couldn't be more honored to serve as your President.

As with years past, our Association has been able to support up-and-coming student professionals in the Hospitality and Business fields with a scholarship funded by one of our most prestigious events, The At the Shore Wine Tasting Art Show. It is

with these contributions that we are able to promote and honor students who truly embody what it is to be successful in our fields.

From ticket sales to the contributions made by the Artists, I thank you all for being able to participate in the scholarship of our student recipients, and for coming together as one Association for the betterment of the future of our city.

The 2017 Host Awards will be held on May 3rd, where we will celebrate and award the scholarship to the lucky students that have been selected.

I would like to extend my thanks to our generous sponsors, without whom this opportunity would not be possible.

As for the rest of this elite organization, and to the Hospitality Scholarship Foundation and its Board, our teamwork is what makes this event so successful, and may this year bring us the opportunity to grow, as well as a glimpse into the bright future ahead of us all.

Thank you again for all of your fervorous work, and cheers to the New Year!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Miltner







We Seafood, We Cat It!

By Diane Azzatori

A Seafood Lover's Dream! It doesn't get better than this when comparing a pound of Alaskan King Crab for \$36.99 at other establishments to All You Can Eat at the Seaview's Seafood Buffet for just \$45!

The very impressive evening began when we were personally greeted by Ryane Watkins, the Sales Manager for Seaview, which is a Dolce Resort. Her warm welcome made us all feel at home immediately! Our group of 17 was ushered into the main dining room, which had a sophisticated and elegant atmosphere. All of us were equally excited to begin our experience with the abundance of offerings that had been prepared for the re-opening of the Seafood Buffet last winter.

So, where does one begin? Well, when I see New England Clam Chowder, I must sample and compare with my mental list of others I have had in the past. This was the best ever as it was on over-load with clams, and I could not get enough. I made sure to save room for what we were being tantalized with next. My personal selections for the evening were the Broiled Lobster Tail, Crab Claws, Shrimp, Shrimp and Crab Salad, the fabulous jumbo Sautéed Scallops (can you tell this was my favorite?) There were various prepared fish dishes, Prime Rib, Mac and Cheese, Veggies, an assorted Cheese Board, Viennese table... The selection was simply endless.

Oh, and I must comment on the service... We had our exclusive server, for a group of 17, who was quietly efficient at making us feel as though her attention was strictly focused on one individual, rather than 2 tables.

Bottom line, the Seaview Seafood Buffet was a winner in all categories... Hospitality, Decor, Ambience, Service, and most importantly, FOOD!!



Paintball and Wing, What More Could We Want?

By Dana Campagna





AC Paintball is certainly a gem in western South Jersey. GACCA members were graciously invited to learn this first-handedly on Sunday, October 30th.

From the moment our concierge group arrived, the staff treated us like family. Bill Hayes, the owner, amiably greeted each one of us and our referees were eagerly awaiting and prepared, having all the equipment lined up and ready for our use. After watching a safety video, we received a demonstration of how to use the paint-ball gun and an overview of the rules of the game. As the majority of our group had never been paintballing, the staff's patience and accommodation of our needs was very much appreciated!

Our group of 14 split into two teams and Bill chauffeured us in an army-green school bus down a wooded trail for the first of three courses. Passing acres of trees and heading further away from civilization, we were certainly intrigued and anxious for what awaited us. We were dropped off in a marked off section of woods that consisted of a large plastic barricade "The White House" sitting amongst the trees. The object of game was that one team would be the defenders, protecting the barricade and keeping the other team, the attackers away from touching the base. Both teams would go to "war" firing the paintball guns in hopes of eliminating members of the opposing team. This was so much fun! The natural setting made for a more realistic experience and working strategically with your teammates was exciting and created a friendly competition.

We then walked our way to the next course which was a lot more of an open space layout. There were minimal barricades and hanging canvases to hide behind, and the goal of this one was to shoot the opposing team until all members were eliminated from the game. There was a lot more risk in this one with everyone in attack mode. It was really exciting!

Finally, we took a bus ride back to the entrance area where we got one last quick game in. We played in the Speedball Tournament Field which was an enclosed area equipped with barrels, large wooden spools, and inflatable objects to hide behind. With every man for himself, we played until there was one last person standing and it was a great way to end our paintball game.

After about two hours of play we ended our day with a wonderful wine tasting provided by Bellview Winery and a delicious southern-fare lunch supplied by Henri's Hotts BBQ which showcased some additional delightful offerings of the area. What a treat!

The day was a complete success and such a neat outing for the concierge members. From start to finish we received excellent hospitality and Bill and his staffs' knowledge of the game and compassion for the facility certainly shined through. Thank you AC Paintball for a wonderful experience!

Meet Our GACCA President, Jen Miltner!



1. Where do you work?

Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville and LandShark Bar & Grill

2. What is your position and how long have you been in it?

Sales Coordinator booking private events and also manage our Concierge guest referral program. I was fortunate enough to get picked up right after Showboat closed 3 years ago.

3. Why hospitality?

Creating an environment that makes people happy and have fun is very rewarding, even though sometimes it can be very challenging. I thrive in an ever changing environment where you have to be quick on your feet as I get bored very easily.

4. Favorite attraction?

Like many others, I enjoy going to the Steel Pier and walking the boardwalk. I have to play "visitor" at least once a summer when my schedule permits and have enough energy to come back into AC. We go on rides, play ski ball, eat boardwalk pizza and lots of funnel cake.

5. Favorite restaurant?

I love all restaurants and it depends on my mood where I go. For a nice formal sit down dinner, The Palm is worth every dollar and has a great menu. If I'm looking for fun and flair, you can't beat Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville and LandShark Bar & Grill; or if I'm in the mood for a casual and reasonably priced locals place, it's the Irish Pub.

6. Favorite dessert in AC?

Anywhere that serves crème brulee. That's how I determine where we go for Restaurant Week.

7. Favorite bar? Why?

Bars and restaurants go hand in hand, so it depends, but I'm pretty adaptable and can enjoy almost anywhere.

8. Please add 5 fun facts about yourself

I travel as much as possible
I love soup and hate mushrooms
I'm a Libra
I lived in Boulder, Colorado for 10 years
My fur child is a beautiful 15 year old cat named Sylvia



Abby's Light Shines Bright!



By Isabella Fiore

Allow me to take you back in time, back 160 years to when our humble island was still in its infancy, and the man considered Atlantic City's founder, Dr. Jonathan Pitney, had already been working for ten long years to build a lighthouse on the island in order to light the treacherous curves of the Absecon Inlet. Dr. Pitney won that battle when the U.S. Lighthouse Service received a \$35,000 appropriation from Congress to build our grand old "Abby".

The Absecon Lighthouse was up and operational on January 15th, 1857, when the first lighting occurred with a mineral oil lamp, and was the tallest Lighthouse in the state. As the beach it once stood on eroded, jetties were constructed to hold land brought in from the Camden and Atlantic Land Company, and it stood until electricity was introduced and the Lighthouse was decommissioned in 1933.

The Lighthouse was re-lit several times for special occasions over the course of the next 25 years and was officially marked as a National Historic Place in 1971. It was finally adopted and restored by the Inlet Public/Private Association, and re-opened fully for tours in 1999, with the Keeper's House restored and opened as a Visitor's Center/Museum in 2001.

Our "Abby" has withstood the test of time, and still stands as the tallest Lighthouse in the entire State of New Jersey, the third tallest in the entire country, with its original Fresnel lens to boot. She celebrated her 160th birthday this last Sunday, January 15th, with free tours to the top from 11am-3:30pm, and a special cake from BakeWorks Bakery in Northfield at 1pm. Atlantic City students submitted artwork and poems featuring the birthday star that were showcased during the event!

The Lighthouse is the one place in Atlantic City where you get a full 360-degree view of the AC Skyline 228 steps high in the sky!

The view is truly breath-taking, and is well-kept/restored not only by the IPPA, but also by members of the local working community, who help to maintain "Abby's" good looks.

For information on donating your time and/or money to help keep our area's oldest standing structure alive, call 609-449-1360.

So make your climb to the very top of AC's history, and as always...

See You in Atlantic City and the Jersey Shore!



Another Year at The Palm with the GACCA

Submitted by Isabella Fiore

On January 16, the time had come for the Annual Greater Atlantic City Concierge Association Banquet, which was hosted by our home-base, the amazing Palm Restaurant. As usual, the night was filled with revelry, announcement, and great food. The Palm never ceases to amaze us with their culinary prowess, and this year was no exception.

We were greeted by our gracious host Anthony Romano, the Assistant General Manager, and his powerhouse team of wait staff. The night delved straight into the food, after a message of gratitude from Anthony. The night's menu featured their signature New York Strip, Chicken Parmigiana, Jumbo Shrimp Linguine, Three Cheese Potatoes Au Gratin, Lobster Bisque, and a smorgasbord of dessert, including their house-made cakes and donuts. The Palm will be hosting Murder Mystery dinners within the coming weeks, as well as a Molly Deker Wine Dinner, which will feature the Molly Deker wine brand, complete with a four course meal of the finest dining this city has seen in years. The dinner will take place on February 17th, at 7pm at \$120 per person, and reservations are required, so call 609-344-0483 for more information and to book your seat.

The evening's guest speaker was none other than the mayor of Atlantic City himself, Don Guardian. After making a toast for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and all of his sacrifices for the freedoms we now enjoy today, Mayor Guardian went on to mention The Palm as his favorite steakhouse, and address the state of our fair city. "We have been facing challenging days in Atlantic City...", the Mayor boomed, "... but we keep fighting on." He eluded that two major acts will be coming to Atlantic City this summer, surrounded by new events and festivals to round out the season and hopefully attract more tourists to the area. We, as concierges, are a fatally optimistic group, and with our city's growing arts district and new marketing strategy to focus on what makes us a great city, we share our Mayor's belief that AC will come back better than ever. The banquet was finished with thanks from the GACCA President, Jennifer Miltner to The Palm and their team, and the announcement of the 2017 Board of Directors. Ladies and Gentleman, here they are...

President - Jennifer Miltner
Vice President - Gail Marrandino
Treasurer - Halina Marincsin
Membership Director - Jeanine Osendowski
Communications Director - Isabella Fiore
Social Director - Julio Driggs
Secretary - Moira Kirkpatrick
Allied / Web - Allen Solovitz
Philanthropist - Lisa Fagan



As you can see, I have also been elected. I thank you all, my dear readers, for your constant support by reading week after week about events, concerts, holidays, and more in our beloved area, and I look forward to the grand new year ahead of us all in America's Playground. So go out and enjoy the city, ask your local concierge for things to do and places to see, enjoy an amazing meal at one of Atlantic City's gems, The Palm restaurant in the Tropicana, and as always...

See You in Atlantic City and the Jersey Shore!



Stacy Foster-Godwin, Tour Administrator for A1 Tours, with the night's menu.



Madame Communications Director and Madame Philanthropist enjoying the evening.



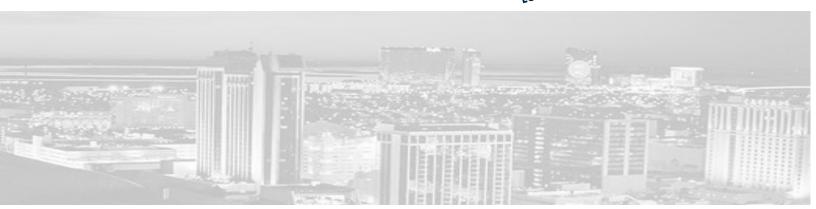
Atlantic City Mayor Don Guardian, giving his speech.



Some Board Members with Anthony Romano, **Assistant General Manager at The Palm**



Lobster Bisque, pictured above.











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Our 2017 Board of Directors....

President - Jennifer Miltner

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Treasurer - Halina Marinesin

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Communications Director - Isabella Fiore

Social Director - Julio Driggs

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We all want to wish a speedy recovery to Julio on his upcoming surgery! Our hearts and minds are with you, GET WELL SOON!

Upcoming Events are on the way, with updates to come! Keep your eyes out!

