

President's Report
Rob Hudson CEC CCE
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Welcome to 2011! It is hard to believe that we are already starting a new year, and spring is right around the corner. As we get so involved in projects and studies we sometimes tend to forget the importance of the services we provide in this field. As culinarians, we impact so many lives whether we are chefs, educators, cooks or part of hospitality in general; we all do something for someone, somewhere, on a daily basis. We must never forget this.

As the new year quickly begins, planning the chapter's 2011 schedule is foremost. This includes meeting locations, fundraising events, seminars, competitions, etc. One thing that I have learned working with the chapter is that time is valuable, but scarce, and we must move swiftly to setting up those timelines. Our chapter Secretary has been working hard for the past couple of weeks, to get the year's schedule lined up, and posted to all the members. Our Board of Directors has also been busy with other chapter activities, and we are very fortunate to have such commitment in service to our chapter. This commitment is instrumental in the progress we have made, and the direction we intend to go. I have tasked the board with developing a 5-year long-range plan, which will be essential in helping to guide the chapter. We will also be revising our Chapter Bylaws, which we need to make sure are updated and applicable for all our current and future needs.

Although there are many business aspects we are working on, we do know that our members need to know about the more fun events we are projecting for this next year. First, if you have not been to a monthly general meeting this past year, you may want to stop by. Each meeting we provide an enjoyable educational segment, with a variety of guest presenters, followed by a quick chapter meeting. The educational segments have been interesting and fun, and everyone gains new knowledge to take home or back to their job site.

On January 7 we held our annual Holiday Party at the Warehouse restaurant, where we announced the chapter's Chef of the Year, Student of the Year and Vendor of the year. Once all the votes were tallied the winners were announced. The 2010 Chef of the Year was awarded to Michael Paradiso, CEPC, from Pikes Peak Community College; the 2010 Student of the Year was awarded to Stephanie Van Iwaarden, and the chapter announced Sinton Dairy as the 2010 Vendor of the Year. We are extremely proud of our each of our winners. Each has dedicated time and effort above and beyond expectancy. We also presented fifteen Presidential Awards for other members that have been vital to the chapter's success.

As a member, you are valuable to our chapter. Our board members make themselves available to listen to your comments and ideas. These members did not take chapter positions for their own benefits because they know this is *your* chapter and the purpose is to represent and assist you in the continued growth of Pikes Peak Chapter. We each share the vision of continued success. Although we hear the word "passion" all the time

in our fields, it is that passion that is our driving force. This is why we all choose to be members and support this great professional organization.

The ACF recently presented some new updates to the chapters from the national office. There are a couple items of interest that you may want to know. The first is the process of certification. The ACF Certification Committee has imposed a new guideline that all candidates must know and follow. This involves a pre-qualification for individuals that seek certification. Applicants will not be allowed to take the written and practical exam without being pre-qualified by the American Culinary Federation. The application can be downloaded from the ACF website (www.acfchefs.org). Also, *Chefpertise* Program has come back. The ACF wants to know of all individuals that have a certain specialty or are experts in that specialty. Their information will be put into a database and used for contacts for media and community needs.

We look forward to this upcoming year. As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Best to all of you,

Rob Hudson CEC CCE
President
ACF Pikes Peak Chapter