

## 2013 TAPPA Conference

The TAPPA 2013 Conference and Business Meeting was held April 13-16 in South Padre, Texas at the South Padre Convention Center and was hosted by South Texas College. The Pearl Hotel was the designated as the Conference Hotel with overflow rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn, Isla Grand Beach Resort and Schlitterbahn's.

**Saturday, April 13, 2013:** TAPPA Registration - Pearl Hotel - (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)  
Business Partners – Set up & Registration – (Noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Convention Center)  
TAPPA Board Meeting (2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)  
Board Dinner - Blue Marlin Room, Pearl Hotel at 6:00 -8:00 p.m.

A Bay Fishing Tour was held at 8:00 a.m. til noon and a pleasure cruise was also held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 14, 2013:** Golf Tournament – South Padre Island Golf Club (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)  
TAPPA Registration – (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Pearl Hotel)  
Business Partners – Set up & Registration – Convention Center (8:00 a.m. to noon)

A pirate cruise was held from 12:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. and also the First Time Attendee Reception was held from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Pearl Hotel.

**Monday, April 15th 2012:** Late Registration (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) Convention Center

### **Welcome Opening Breakfast: - Monday April 15th**

The Welcome Breakfast was held in the Exhibit Hall at the South Padre Island Convention Center beginning at 7:30 a.m.

A short skit with props and costumes was given by several members of TAPPA while the song Gilligan's Island was being played in the back ground. Hollis Dyer, Skipper, began the skit while the song of Gilligan's Island was being played in the background. Being prepared was the main theme of being skit as Gerry Rodriguez appeared with his fishing attire on and leaving others in charge while he was off for a day of relaxation. The characters based on the show, Gilligan's Island, were: Doug Titus as Gilligan, Rhonna Endres as Lovey, James NORCOM, III – Thurston, Bob Casagrande – The Professor, Bettie Simpson-Weeks as Mary Ann and Laura Duncan as Ginger. The costumes and props were very original and lei's were distributed to everyone in attendance.

Mike Miller, President, welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked the business partners for their participation and sponsorships. A special "thank you" was expressed by Mike to ChemCal for being the 2013 Presidential Sponsor and to Dan Gould with SchoolDude for being the Golf Lunch Sponsor yesterday.

Mike announced this was the first year that CEU's are being provided for some classes.

The following sponsors were also thanked for their sponsorship and for the items received during the registration process, ThyssenKrupp Elevators – Bags, Walter P Moore, Luggage Tags, Fort Worth Promo-Ball Point Pens, Western States – Visors, Chem-Cal, waterproof pouches and lanyards, McMillan James – Mouse pads and Gilsulate for the 6 pack coolers. Assa Abloy provided the colorful Volunteer Tee Shirts this year. Mike mentioned this year's conference surpasses all others in attendance and sponsorships.

Mike Miller recognized Gerardo M. "Gerry" Rodriguez, Director of Operations and Maintenance, from South Texas College as the 2013 Conference Host.

Gerry expressed his appreciation to George McCaleb, Director of Operations at South Texas College as Co-Host. George was directly responsible for setting up the tours, golf tournament and driver's schedules. George's staff also handled all "last minute" needs.

Gerry also acknowledged the business partners and the facilities personnel for their participation at this year's conference. He expressed his appreciation for making this conference such a huge success; Gerry recognized his staff and congratulated them on a job well done.

The first time attendees were also acknowledged and Mike Miller expressed his appreciation to Bruce McNabb with TANDUS for being their sponsorship at the 1<sup>st</sup> Time Attendee Reception. Some great door prizes were given at that event.

President, Mike Miller announced some great things would be taking place during this year's event; Hairy Legs Contest, Scavenger Hunt, Casino Night, a Mystery Vendor Contest and Lander Medlin will be our keynote speaker at the banquet on Tuesday Evening. Also mentioned was the grand prize, Golf Car to be given away on banquet night and the numerous scholarships which are available. Everyone is invited to attend all of these functions. The Hairy Leg contest will be at 10:30 a.m. in the exhibit hall and prizes and trophies will be presented for various categories.

Several door prizes were given out during the opening breakfast meeting.

The opening breakfast was concluded at approximately 9:00 a.m.

### **Lunch – Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**

Mike welcomed everyone to the luncheon and thanked Sightlines for their luncheon sponsorship and also acknowledged Chem Cal as our Presidential Sponsor. Mike also expressed appreciation to all business partners for their important roll regarding purchasing booth spaces, sponsorships and scholarships, if it were not for them we could not hold such a conference.

Mike made an announcement regarding the scholarship drawings which would be held at the Tuesday Evening Banquet, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Any university who hasn't submitted an application on line should do so as soon as possible. A computer is available at the registration desk. Only one application per institution will be processed and a representative from that institution must be present to win.

Mike reminded everyone about the golf car which is being donated by Shoppa's. Curtis King is their representative. All institutions that have paid their 2012-2013 dues will be submitted into the drawing. A representative from the institution whose name is drawn must be present at the banquet.

Mike also reminded everyone about Casino Night which would be held this evening and that several very nice prizes would be awarded. In addition a raffle for a slightly used Mac laptop valued at \$1300 is underway at this time and tickets are available at \$10.00 each.

An Ice Cream Social/Scavenger Hunt /Crab Races will be held from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall. Trophies and Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the crab races and also a very nice gift will be given to winner of the Scavenger Hunt.

A snorkeling tour will also take place from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

Buses will be available for Casino Night beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Louie's Backyard. Buses will run continually and there will be an open back beginning at 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Live music will be performing during dinner with a DJ available during the casino event.

A special thanks to CTCA for providing the DJ at Casino Night and also to SHW Group for the Casino Night Bar.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

### **Casino Night: - Louie's Backyard – Monday, April 15, 2013**

A great time was had at Louie's Backyard. The buffet was fabulous and the entertainment was great. Numerous nice door prizes were given out including a flat screen TV and laptop, along with raffled mac laptop.

### **Tuesday, April 16, 2013**

Registration Open from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Refreshment Break (AM) 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Refreshment Break (PM) 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

The Business Partner Exhibits were open from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall.

The Dolphin Watch Tour was held from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and the Pirate Ship Cruise was conducted from 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Numerous Educational Sessions were held in Convention Center from 9:30 a.m. – through 4:30 p.m.

**Breakfast:** Begin at approximately 7:30 a.m.

President Miller welcomed everyone and commented that everyone seemed to have a great time at Casino Night which was held at Louie's Backyard. For those who weren't able to attend some excellent food was enjoyed by everyone and some great prizes were awarded.

Mike once again thanked Chem Cal for being our Presidential Sponsor and also expressed appreciation to Vaughan Construction for being our Breakfast Sponsor. Recognition was given to Nouveau for being Tuesday AM Break Sponsor and Castro Roofing for the Tuesday Evening Break Sponsor.

Mike announced a group picture will be taken in front of the building and requested everyone to attend following the meeting.

### **Business Luncheon: Tuesday, April 16, 2013**

The luncheon was held in the Exhibit Area from noon to 1:45 p.m.

The business meeting was officially called to order at 12:45 p.m. by Mike Miller and thanked ChemCal for being the 2013 Presidential Sponsor and also Shoppa's for being the Grand Prize Sponsor which will be awarded this evening at the banquet.

**President's Report:** Mike Miller announced great progress has been made with this year's board relating to scholarships and membership drive as witnessed by our first time attendees and our business partner support. He hoped everyone liked the little memento give to all attendees, a TAPPA watch, from the board. At this time he announced we had 105 booth spaces sold and more sponsorship than ever before and over \$20,000 in scholarships.

Mike Miller requested Sallie Spotanski to provide the Secretary/Treasurer's report.

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Sallie stated the board had approved the minutes as listed on the website at the board meeting held on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and also provided copies of the treasurer's report which had also been voted upon. Itemized copies were available at each table of the minutes and for the treasurers report relating to the main account, savings account, merchant account; however, balances in each of the following account as of March 31, 2013 are noted for recording purposes.

- Main Account (0525) - \$38,221.68
- Savings Account (4750) -\$27,390.20
- Merchant Account (1837) - \$185,170.31
- Combined total for these accounts is \$250,782.19
  
- Scholarship Account (1639) - \$10,000 opened 3-15-13; ending balance is \$13,000

**Conference Accounts:**

- 2013 – Conference Account - \$73,869.50
- 2014 – Conference Account - \$22,639.93
- 2015 – Conference Account - \$19,923.00
- Combined total for Conference Accounts - \$116,423.43

Total Monies for all accounts is \$380,214.62

**IT Report** – Mike Billingsley stated he had nothing to report other than TAPPA's website has a new look and invited everyone to look at it.

**Scholarship Committee Report:** James Norcom, III, Chair, thanked all contributors and stated at this time \$20,450 had been donated by fourteen (19) business partners and fifty-one (51) campuses throughout the state had submitted their application and their names will be entered into drawing, this evening. With budget constraints being felt across the state and downsizing of companies he expressed his appreciation to the various business partners who contribute to our association. Tremendous

progress has been made since the inception of the scholarship program in 2009. TAPPA matches up to \$1,000 for each scholarship. Twenty-one (21) institutions have applied for scholarships at this time. Jim reminded a representative must be present from the institution whose name is drawn.

### **By-Laws:**

Robert Ramirez served as Chair of this committee during the past year and he and his committee did an outstanding job as announced by President Miller.

It was noted by Mike, the board had already approved the committee's draft at their board meeting on Saturday, the 13<sup>th</sup>; however, the By-Laws must be presented before the membership for their approval. The proposed By-Laws were displayed via the website and several copies were placed on each table.

A new board position is being created as noted in the proposed draft and this position would be Business Partner Liaison. The position will be a non-voting position and the person will be voted upon by his or her peers at the Business Partner Meeting this afternoon. The new board member will be announced at banquet tonight.

Also mentioned were the restricted and non-restricted scholarship revisions in the proposed draft.

A motion was made by Shelton Riley from TCU to accept the By-Laws as presented and Juan Ontiveros from UT- seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**The Nomination Committee and Special Awards Committee Reports will be announced at the banquet tonight.**

### **Dues:**

The dues will remain the same, twenty-five (\$25.00) for each ten (10) individuals from each campus as announced by President Miller and this amount was approved by the board during Saturday's board meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

The following individuals were elected to fill the officers and/or directors positions:

#### **Officers:**

- o Vice President – Roberto "Robert" Ramirez
- o Information Service Director - Mike Billingsley

#### **Directors:**

- o Gerry Rodriguez
- o Bettie Simpson-Weeks
- o Chad Crocker
- o Rick Lobato

The new board will take office on May 1, 2012. Mike Miller requested everyone to try and attend the Banquet and Awards Dinner tonight. For those who will not be able to attend the banquet tonight, the

2014 Conference will be held in El Paso, April 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> and Rick Lobato from El Paso Community College -Val Verde will be hosting the conference. A banquet reception will be held from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Lander Medlin will also be our keynote speaker tonight.

There being no other business to discuss James Norcom, III made a motion to adjourn and Hollis Dyer seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

For the first time business partners who had individual drawings at their booths were brought to the front of the podium and the winners names were drawn by them and a picture was taken of the business partner(s) presenting the recipient with their prize.

In addition several nice door prizes were also given.

The annual business meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

### **Business Partner Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 2013**

The informal meeting began approximately at 2:15 p.m.

Very positive feedback was given on the Mobile Guide App from various business partners; however, they wanted a little more information to be placed in the app. Gloria Fuller, Event Administrator stated she would see what could be done and requested anyone with suggestions or comments to contact her

The business partners liked the two day to set-up of their booths

Suggestions and comments made by numerous business partners were:

- Devote Monday strictly to the business partners as they did not want classes to be held that day.
- Additional time between sessions
- Reception for Business Partners (First Time Attendees). Gloria Fuller stated this was already in place for future conferences as the First Time Attendee which was implemented at this conference will also be held at future conferences. She noted we had a lot of business partners who were first time attendees this year.

There was a difference of opinion among several business partners about have a two hour break for business partners to make calls and answer emails, some were for this and others against.

The business partners liked having a business partner meeting following the close of the business partner fair. It was recommended for future meetings for this meeting to be held in a room where everyone could hear. A lot of distraction occurred this year due to business partners breaking down their booths while the meeting was taking place. Gloria explained this year was an "exception" as no other space was available but in the future conferences this suggest would definitely be addressed.

The business partners were very pleased that a "gold booth space" drawing was being held again this year as this was a great incentive.

Nominations for the new board position as Business Partner Liaison which would serve a two (2) year term this coming year included:

- Aaron Schultz

- Laura Duncan
- Doug Titus
- Blaine Nago
- Curtis King

Curtis King was elected by his peers as Business Partner Liaison to serve on the TAPPA Board.

There were 104 business partners listed on the sign in sheet and representatives from twenty-seven companies signed in so their name could be entered into the drawing for a gold booth space at the 2014 Conference. The winner for the 2014 gold booth space was CTCA.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

**Conference Banquet:** 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 p.m. by Mike Miller following a great meal. Mike recognized the volunteers who helped with the conference and thanked the business partners for their support and sponsorships which helped make the conference such a success. Special recognition was again given to ChemCal as this year's Presidential Sponsor and also to Shoppa's for providing the grand prize. Mike stated it took all of our business partners' participation whether large or small to have a successful conference.

Introduction and recognition of the South Texas College Staff was made by Gerry Rodriguez.

Mike introduced Lander Medlin, Executive Vice President of APPA who gave a very motivation speech and thanked everyone for a great time she had during this conference. Lander was presented with gift card as a token of TAPPA's appreciation to her. Lander announced an APPA Scholarship will be awarded later on during the meeting.

Following Lander's speech Mike presented the following awards:

**President's Distinguished Service Awards:**

- Business Partner – ThyssenKrupp Elevators
- Facilities Member – Bettie Simpson – Weeks - UT Austin

**Emeritus Awards:**

- Donna Budge – UT Austin
- Agatha "Aggie" Armstrong – Texas A&M Corpus Christi
- Will Stallworth – TCU

Mike Miller mentioned we had 495 attendees at the conference this year. The attendance this year set an all-time record and also there were 105 booth spaces which also set a record. Special recognition was given by Mike to Gloria Fuller and Sallie Spotanski for a job well done.

Mike expressed his appreciation to those who served on the various committees this past year and also on the board.

Terry Pritchett was presented the President's gavel. Terry gave a brief speech and expressed his appreciation to everyone and is looking forward to a great year ahead.

The new board members were recognized and sworn into office:

**FY 13 Officers:**

- Immediate Past President – Mike Miller, University of Texas -Austin
- President – Terry Pritchett – Tarleton/SSC Service Solutions
- Vice President – Roberto "Robert" Ramirez – Texas A&M Kingsville
- Secretary/Treasurer – Sallie Spotanski – UNT Health Science Center Fort Worth
- IT Information Service Officer – Mike Billingsley – Wharton County Junior College - Wharton

**FY 13 Directors:**

- James G. Norcom, III – University of Houston (2015)
- Gerry Rodriquez, Jr. – South Texas College (2016)
- Bettie Simpson- Weeks – University of Texas (2016)
- Marshall Lasswell – Texas A&M University – San Antonio (2015)
- Chad Crocker – Tarrant County College District (2014)
- Richard "Rick" Lobato – El Paso Community College – Val Verde (2014)

Also introduced was Miles Abernathy, TAPPA Photographer and Gloria Fuller, Event Administrator. Mike Miller was presented with the Past President's Award and also a gift card from the TAPPA Board for his leadership during this past year.

**Scholarships:**

James Norcom III, Scholarship Chairman, expressed his appreciation to all of the business partners for their support this year with and stated over \$20,450 had been received. James explained only one entry per university was permitted and a representative from that university must be present to win. TAPPA will match the donation up to \$1,000.00. The scholarships were awarded as follows:

1. **LMC Corporation** - \$2,000.00 – Wharton County Junior College – Fort Bend accepted by Mike Billingsley
2. **Marcis & Associates** - \$2,000.00 – Alamo Colleges – Palo Alto
3. **Walter P. Moore** - \$2,000.00 – UNT Denton- accepted by Dick Milan
4. **Siemens** - \$2,000.00 – Alamo Colleges San Antonio
5. **Gilsulate** - \$1,500.00 - Lamar Institute of Technology
6. **APPA** - \$1,495.00 UT- Austin accepted by Juan Ontiveros
7. **Brave Architecture** – \$1,000.00 - Tarleton/SSC Service Solutions accepted by Fran Teten
8. **JonMar Electric** - \$1,000.00 – accepted by Genero Lopez – SMU/Armark
9. **SHW Group** - \$1,000.00 – UNT Denton - accepted by Gail Henderson
10. **Centennial Contractors** - \$500.00 – Texas Tech Operations
11. **School Dude** - \$450.00 – University of Houston - Main
12. **McMillan James Equipment Co.** - \$500.00 – Texas A&M University College Station accepted by Bob Casagrande
13. **HC Enterprises** - \$500.00 - University of Houston - Clear Lake



14. **Cotton Commercial** - \$500.00 – Eastfield College accepted by Michael Brantley
15. **P2MG LLC** - \$1,000.00 – presented to UNT Health Science Center Fort Worth accepted by Jason Hartley
16. **The Trevino Group** - \$500.00 – Texas A&M –Kingsville
17. **Low Group/American Seating** - \$500.00 – TWU –Dallas
18. **Castro Roofing** - \$500.00 – Sul Ross University
19. **Steve & Patty Dumler** - \$3,000.00 – TWU – Denton accepted by Ward Sheeder

Several nice door prizes were awarded to business partners and facilities personnel during the banquet, some of the gifts included, flat screen TV's, laptops, kindles, digital camera, beach towels.

A short video was shown regarding the 2014 Conference by Rick Lobato. Rick also introduced his wife Socorro Saenz Lobato, his Senior Administrative Assistant, Maria Gomez, Ricardo Torres, Managing Director and Javier Cisneros, Building Hardware Specialist. Rick invited everyone to attend the 2014 Conference next April as a great time will be held by all. The theme for the 2014 Conference is "Preparing for the Future". Mexican candies and a variety of coasters were placed at each table for attendees.

The grand prize this year was a utility vehicle which was donated by Curtis King of Shoppa's. Curtis reinstated "To be eligible for the drawing, the current year's dues must be paid and only one entry per institution will be entered into the drawing; also a representative from that institution had to be present at the banquet. The winner utility cart was El Paso Community College – Val Verde and Rick Lobato accepted the vehicle on behalf of his university.

The 2013 conference came to a close at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sallie Spotanski, Secretary/Treasurer