



**2015 HFTP Chapter of the Year – Tier B**

Chapter Newsletter – November 2015



The Florida Manasota Chapter was selected as the winner of the Tier B (36 – 70 members) Chapter of the Year Award!

Chapters are ranked by points awarded for such things as the number of Chapter educational meetings held during the year, the number of members receiving CHAE or CHTP designations during the year, number of members attending HFTP Global events, member recruitment and retention, and student and community involvement.

Thank you to all of our members, Board of Directors, and Officers for all of your efforts in supporting the Chapter this year. Our President, Ron Robinson, accepted the award on behalf of the Chapter at the HFTP Annual Convention in Bellevue, Washington.

The award will be proudly displayed at our meetings.



Chapter President, Ron Robinson accepts the Chapter of the Year Award at the HFTP Annual Convention.



Florida Manasota Chapter Members: Sharon Litchfield, Lorraine DiOrio, Eileen Sarris, Ron Robinson, Rick Earl and Jerilyn Schnitzel, representing our Chapter at the Annual Convention.

*Thank You!*

Thank you to our Outgoing President, Glenn Price, for your dedicated service as the 2014-2015 Manasota Chapter President.

Thank you to our Immediate Past President, Larry Robbins, for all of your years of service on the Board and Executive Committee of the Manasota Chapter.



“James Bond” aka Ron Robinson and his “Bond Girl,” wife, Christa Robinson.



Lorraine DiOrio, Sharon Litchfield, Ron Robinson, Eileen Sarris, and Jerilyn Schnitzel.



Ron Robinson & Jerilyn Schnitzel.



Manasota Chapter and USF Sarasota/Manatee Chapter attendees enjoying the President’s Evening at the Annual Convention.



Installation of the new HFTP Global Board of Directors



Arlene Ramirez was installed at the 2016 HFTP Global President.

## Upcoming Meetings

### **December 3, 2015**

Chapter Holiday Social  
TPC Prestancia 6:00 – 9:00

### **January 28, 2016**

Chapter Meeting  
Hosted by the USF  
Sarasota/Manatee HFTP Chapter  
at the Culinary Innovation Lab,  
8130 Lakewood Main Street, Unit  
D104, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

### **February 17, 2016**

Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

### **March 24, 2016**

Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

### **April 20, 2016**

Chapter Meeting  
Location to be announced

### **May 18, 2016**

Chapter Meeting  
Annual Trends Presentation by  
McGladrey  
Location: Tara Golf & Country  
Club, 6602 Drewry's Bluff,  
Bradenton, FL 34203

**DECEMBER 3, 2015**

## **CHAPTER HOLIDAY COCKTAIL PARTY**

Mark your calendars and join us for our Chapter Social from 6:00 – 9:00 PM at TPC Prestancia.

Enjoy Hors D'Oeuvres, a Carving Station, a Pasta Station, a Dessert Station, Beer, Wine, Softdrinks, and entertainment, while socializing with our HFTP members and their guests. We will also be collecting new unwrapped toys for "Toys for Tots."

The party will be free for our Chapter members and their guest. Any additional guests, or non-chapter members will be \$40.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hftp-manasota-holiday-social-tickets-10068594437>



**WELCOME TO OUR  
NEWEST MEMBER**

**Jessica Nethery  
Accounting Assistant  
The Founders Golf Club**

# HFTP Launches Hospitality Industry Specific Search Site: [Pineapplesearch.com](http://Pineapplesearch.com)

(HFTP Press Release)

**Austin, Texas USA (October 23, 2015)** — The hospitality industry has a new, valuable resource in the just launched [Pineapplesearch.com](http://Pineapplesearch.com). Produced by Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP), and powered by [hsyndicate](http://hsyndicate), the site is an aggregated content destination that focuses on news, articles and reports of primary interest to the hospitality industry, with priority placed on information-based results. The site is a super-charged resource, with numerous functionalities to help customize a hospitality-specific search.

“There are multiple channels for locating information in our connected world, but it is actually a difficult task to sort through the layers of irrelevant results returned when doing a search. And that’s where the idea for Pineapplesearch came in,” said HFTP Global Vice President Lyle Worthington, CHTP a hospitality IT consultant. “HFTP’s goal is to be the authoritative, information source for the industry and we saw this as an opportunity to build something useful for our members and the industry at large. Pineapplesearch is the start and end point for hospitality professionals to research and read about industry-specific practices, reports, articles and more.”

Pineapplesearch brings together content from industry-specific RSS feeds, publications, reports, feature articles, white papers and more. The site goes beyond a basic search engine with its highly-

customizable features that allow users to narrow search results, as well as tailor the site to hospitality-specific interests. In a basic search, a user can narrow results by: date, information type, category and region. Registered users can also sign-up for news alerts on pre-selected topics, build a must read list and save queries for future use. It also has a leaderboard across the top with information blocks on the search topic and a database of hospitality-related companies.

“When we started developing Pineapplesearch with HFTP, we wanted to build something that was innovative and immediately recognized as a resource that fills a void,” said Henri Roelings, founder of [hsyndicate.org](http://hsyndicate.org). “We added in a collection of tools that a user will be able to use to make the site his/her own and, hopefully, not want to start anywhere else when looking for professional information.”

The site was launched to a crowded audience on Wednesday, October 21 at the opening of the HFTP Annual Convention & Tradeshow in Bellevue, Wash. USA. HFTP will continue to demonstrate the site at upcoming industry events, including the HSMIAI Digital Marketing Conference in London and the Hotel Technology Summit in Dubai, both in November.



Frank Wolfe, HFTP Chief Executive Officer