

**Next Meeting:**  
September 18th  
Park Hyatt  
Century City



# IAHA LOS ANGELES

International Association of  
Hospitality Accountants

SEPT. 1997 ISSUE

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Out with the old --  
in with the new

I want to thank all of you for the support I received during my tenure as Chapter President. I truly enjoyed meeting and working with so many hoteliers, club controllers and industry-related professionals.

Our ranks grew from 84 to 100 which means we all will enjoy the benefits of membership growth -- expanded networking opportunities, speaker topic suggestions and an increase in the variety of locations for meetings. The additional members' talents and experiences will enhance the investment of your membership.

Every year, the previous years Board meets to "get the ball rolling" for the next chapter year. The Westwood Marquis Hotel hosted the August Board meeting and we established preliminary goals for the 1997-1998 season. Attendees also included those who expressed interest in becoming chapter members as well as those interested in taking positions on our Board. All members will be given the opportunity to sign up for Board positions at the September Board meeting which begins at 4:30pm at the Park Hyatt - prior to the dinner meeting. Keep in mind

that the association benefits from member input and this is your professional organization which has more industry support and prestige than ever before.

I'm a firm believer that change is good but not that things should change for the sake of change itself. I am happy to let you know that Eden Slegr, our chapter Vice-President, has accepted the nomination for next year's President position. Eden has been a major contributor to our chapter's success over the past two years: he has been a member for 6 years and a Board member for 2 years. He currently produces our chapter newsletter which has been recognized by the IAHA National office. Eden has also worked to create a database of chapter members and industry affiliates that contributes to our chapter's communication and networking advantage. I feel confident that Eden will continue to guide the LA chapter toward continued growth and success and that you will confirm his nomination at the September meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting which will mark the end of my presidential tenure. We should all look forward to a great year. Thank you!

*Mary Nowak*

## **Park Hyatt**

2151 Avenue of the Stars  
Century City  
(310) 277-1234

Thursday, September 18th  
Doors open at 6:00 PM!  
Cocktails 6:00 - 6:45 PM  
Speaker 7:00 PM  
Dinner 7:45 PM

Our speaker will be  
**Robert Rebhan**  
from  
**American Express**  
speaking on:  
**Protecting  
Your Property  
From  
Credit Card  
Fraud**

(see pg. 3 for more information)

The price for all members  
and first-time guests  
**\$35.00 per person.**  
All others pay \$45.00.  
Please make checks  
payable to "IAHA"  
(\*No Shows\* will be billed)

Call (626) 836-1222 for  
reservations or fax the  
enclosed RSVP form  
by Monday, Sept. 15th

Have an idea for a speaker topic?  
 Want to contribute to the newsletter?  
 Let us know!  
 Call 626 836 1222

## The Los Angeles chapter welcomes our **New Members**

Steven Adibe	Assistant Controller	Argyle Hotel
Catharina Burgess	Acct. Manager	Pacific Corinthian Yacht Club
Michael Carcier	Controller	Marina City Club
Michael Catuara	Assistant Controller	Hotel Nikko
Doug Elpern	Controller	Ramada LAX
Dwayne Fresco	Controller	Barnaby's Hotel
Thierry Grandsire	Controller	Ritz-Carlton Marina del Rey
Vicki Gregory	Credit Manager	Sheraton Long Beach
Kevin Lee	Controller	Sheraton Grande
Drew Liston	Credit Manager	Sheraton Long Beach
Neal McCracken	Acct. Manager	Sheraton Long Beach
William O'Dell	Internal Audit	Los Angeles Athletic Club
Anil Sharma	Vice President, CFO	Raleigh Enterprises
Ann Stoller	Acct. Supervisor	Sheraton Cerritos
William Sparks	Controller	Holiday Inn Beverly Garland
Lindy Tiedemann-Nielsen	Controller	Bel Air Country Club
Lana Tom	Controller	Hotel Sofitel
Bruce Wiseman	President	Inn Technology
Robert Wurst	Controller	Annadale Golf Club
Jeff Zarrinam	Acct. Manager	Ramada West Hollywood

### DIRECTIONS TO PARK HYATT

From the 5 freeway North: Take the 10 freeway West to the 405 freeway North. Follow directions below.  
 From the 405 freeway North: Exit Santa Monica Boulevard and turn right. Travel two miles East and turn right on Avenue of the Stars. The hotel is five blocks up on the right hand side.  
 From the 405 South: Exit Santa Monica Boulevard and turn left. Go about two miles East and turn right on Avenue of the Stars. The hotel is five blocks up on the right hand side.

### PARKING:

Valet parking is complimentary for our meeting.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR !

Thursday, September 18th - Dinner Meeting

Park Hyatt Century City

Thursday, October 16th - Dinner Meeting

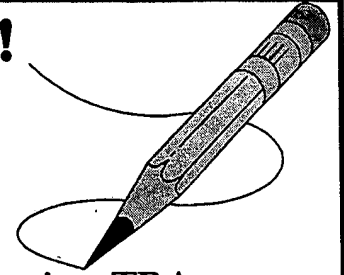
Wyndham Hotel at LAX Airport

Thursday, November 20th - Dinner Meeting Location TBA

Thursday, December 18th - Joint Holiday Mixer

Encounter Restaurant at LAX Airport

in association with Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association Int'l - L.A. Chapter



**Our chapter now has  
 100 members!**

*We have reached our goal for 1997  
 and we have room to grow.*

Do you know someone who's interested in IAHA?

Call Emily, membership coordinator at (626) 836-1222.

She can send out information and applications  
 or add someone to our mailing list.

Of course, we encourage anyone who is interested in IAHA to attend one of our monthly dinner meetings and experience our organization first-hand.

**1997 IAHA  
 Annual Convention  
 Where the World Meets  
 September 24-27, 1997**

The Pallister

Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Contact IAHA at (800) 856-4242 and visit our  
 website at [www.iaha.org](http://www.iaha.org) for more information

Please let us know if you plan to attend!

(626) 836-1222

## IAHA BOARD MEMBERS

**Mary Nowak**  
President  
(310) 842-9670

**Eden Sleg**  
Vice-President  
Hospitality Network  
International  
(626) 836-1222  
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**Lita Llana**  
Secretary  
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**Bruce Reichenbacher**  
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brucereich@aol.com

**Jerome Alper**  
Past President  
Sheraton Cerritos Hotel  
(562) 403-2010

**Don St. Hilaire**  
Education  
Cal Poly Pomona  
(909) 869-4534  
dsthilaire@csupomona.edu



## THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER:

**Robert Rebhan**  
from American Express

Since 1985, Robert Rebhan has been the American Express Western Region's Fraud Prevention Director. Bob specializes in Point of Sale Fraud Control and Merchant Fraud Awareness and enjoys teaching merchants how to avoid becoming fraud victims. Through his efforts in this area, American Express was awarded a Fraud Prevention "Best-in-Class" Award for Card Companies by an independent audit/survey company.

Prior to his involvement with American Express, Bob spent 22 years with the Los Angeles Police Department during which time he served on the Narcotics/Vice Squad, the Robbery/ Homicide Unit and the Swat Team.

On the personal side, Bob has a passion for fishing and mountain biking and is also an aspiring novelist. He is currently working on a book about murder and the drug cartels.

In his presentation, Bob will share information on the prevention of financial crimes, specifically credit card and travelers cheque fraud.

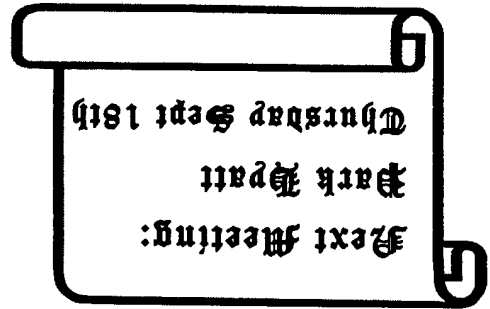
We can all learn and practice ways to help stop these crimes before they happen on our property. This is a speaker no one can afford to miss!

### IMPORTANT REMINDER !!!

If you make a reservation for a chapter meeting  
you WILL be billed if you do not show!  
If you need to cancel a reservation  
you MUST do so at least 48 hours before the event  
or you will be billed as a no-show!!

### *Congrats to the newest IAHA Chapter!!*

In March of 1997, IAHA added a new chapter ... the IAHA Northern Connecticut Chapter. In preparation for the charter, professionals held regularly scheduled educational meetings as a proposed IAHA chapter. They also held board meetings and created a monthly newsletter which is faxed to members in the area. Congratulations and best wishes!



International Association of Hospitality  
Accountants - Los Angeles Chapter  
c/o Eden Slegr, Partner  
Hospitality Network International  
Global Hospitality Search  
3579 E. Foothill Boulevard, #229  
Pasadena, CA 91107

## Connecting to IAHA Website

There is an abundance of useful chapter information on the IAHA website. The "Members Only" section (adults only please!) may be a bit confusing, so here are step by step instructions to help:  
⇒ Select the "Members Only" icon to the

left of the main screen.  
⇒ Select the topic you would like to view. A box will appear, asking you to type in your username and password.  
⇒ Your username is your IAHA membership ID#.  
⇒ Your password is your last name.  
(Type this capitalizing the first letter only and using no spaces, i.e. Jones = JONES,

MacDonnelly = Macdonnelly, De Rael = Derael. Designations and other abbreviations normally used with your name are not included!

## Sponsor advertising

The following advertising has been placed by companies who wish to support our chapter newsletter mailings.

### Executive Recruiters Exclusively Serving the Hospitality Industry

#### Eden Slegr

HOSPITALITY NETWORK INTL.  
GLOBAL HOSPITALITY SEARCH  
3579 E. Foothill Blvd., Suite 229  
Pasadena, CA 91107 USA  
tel: (626) 836-1222 fax: (626) 836-1223

Specializing in all executive-level positions for discriminating clientele worldwide with caring, confidentiality, integrity and timely results.  
*Offices in Los Angeles, Toronto, Montreal*

## POER

MARVIN F. POER & COMPANY  
STATE and LOCAL TAX CONSULTANTS

YOUR HOSPITALITY  
EXPERT FOR:

SALES AND USE TAX  
COMPLIANCE, AUDIT, APPEAL AND PLANNING

PROPERTY TAX AUDIT  
AND APPEAL

CALL KARYN FIALKO  
IAHA MEMBER



Creative Solutions  
to your unique  
Organizational &  
System Problems

We can provide  
the structure  
& Information  
you need NOW!

Contact Sharon verDoorn at  
(562) 989-7998