



# LOS ANGELES

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals

APRIL 2000 ISSUE

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great half-day seminar we had last month! I would like to extend a very sincere thank you to all of our great speakers for their time and for sharing their expertise with us. Any more questions on the IRS 8027? I would never have guessed that there would be so much confusion about that filing. In any case, I was glad that Ms. Kelly and Mr. Finkel were able to answer most of your questions. As promised, I will post the presentation on e-commerce as soon as I get the file from Ms. Shirin Javid, Managing Director at KPMG.

I appreciate all of you who attended and thank newly elected Orange County President Greg Kleminsky and the members of his chapter for joining us.

So, what's next, you may ask! For April we will have the pleasure of listening to Detectives Stephen Madden and Joe Paulo of the Los Angeles Police Department speak on the subjects of credit and check fraud. Please don't turn the other ear thinking this is a repeat subject. Yes, we have had speakers on this in the past but I believe it is a subject that

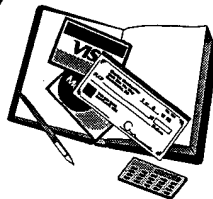
changes so frequently you can't afford to have the attitude that you already know what to look for. Be sure to read the following article for a more detailed description of our two speakers and mark your calendars today to attend.

A special thanks to Ms. Kathy Wilburn and Mr. Eddie Pacis who are graciously hosting April's meeting at the Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel. They're even giving us a choice on our dinner selection, so if you do not receive a pre-printed RSVP form along with this newsletter, please indicate whether you would like filet mignon or sea bass as your entree selection when you call, fax or e-mail your RSVP.

See you at the Regent!

*James Le*  
Los Angeles Chapter  
President

## THE MANY FACES OF FRAUD



Forgery, counterfeiting, embezzlement, credit card fraud! Sounds like the making of a good movie, eh? Let's hope they don't use your property as a model. To make sure it doesn't happen, join us at

*continued on page 3*

## THE REGENT BEVERLY WILSHIRE HOTEL

9500 Wilshire Blvd.  
Beverly Hills  
(310) 275-5200

Thursday, April 20th  
Doors open at 6:00 PM  
Cocktails 6:00 - 6:45 PM  
Speaker 7:00 PM  
Dinner 8:00 PM

## "Fraud"

Speakers:  
Det. Steven Madden  
and Det. Joe Paulo  
of the LAPD

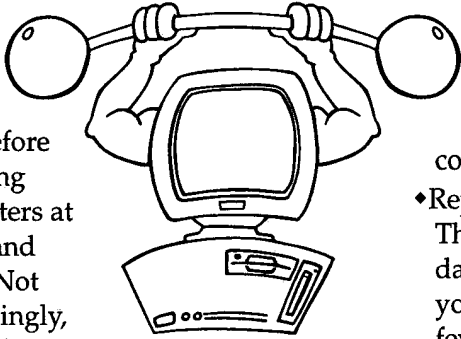
The price for the dinner meeting is  
**\$35.00 per person**  
(\$45.00 Non-members)

Please make checks payable to "HFTP"  
("No Shows" will be billed)

Call (626) 836-1222 for reservations or fax the enclosed RSVP form by Tuesday, April 18th.

## COMPUTERS: A PAIN IN THE NECK, THE WRIST, THE BACK

More of us than ever before are using computers at home and work. Not surprisingly, we're also suffering from more neck, arm, wrist and hand problems. Here's how you can protect yourself.



### PAY ATTENTION TO POSTURE

Sit straight, back against the chair and feet flat on the floor, or on a footrest. If your chair doesn't support your lower back, use a special support pillow -- or even a rolled-up towel. And keep your shoulders and neck relaxed. Craning your neck stresses the vertebrae and can cause headaches.

### DO A HEIGHT CHECK

Studies show that the lower the computer screen, the more a user tenses neck and shoulder muscles. Adjust the monitor so the top of it is at eye level if you are looking straight ahead. Adjust the height of the chair so when your arms are on the keyboard, your shoulders are relaxed, elbows bent at 90 degrees.

### WARM UP FOR WORK

Start with these exercises before you type:

- ◆Extend and stretch both wrists as if doing a

handstand. Hold for a count of five.

- ◆Straighten both wrists, relax fingers, then make tight fists. Bend wrists down while maintaining fists for a count of five.
- ◆Straighten both wrists and relax fingers for a count of five.
- ◆Repeat each exercise 10 times. Then with your arms dangling at your sides, shake your hands and arms for a few seconds.

### KEEP IT LIGHT

Typists who bang away at the keys are at an increased risk for hand and wrist injuries.

### ALTERNATE TASKS

Do something else for a while--make or return phone calls, fix a snack or sort your mail. Mixing up work tasks prevents you from overusing the same muscles.

### GIVE IT A REST

"Remember to take short breaks every hour or so to let your muscles relax," says Joseph Marty, R.P.T., Director of Occupational Health/Rehabilitation Services for Sharp Rees-Stealy. "Gently exercise your arms, wrists, neck and shoulders. And most importantly, get up out of your chair and move."

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## FRAUD continued from page 1

the Regent Beverly Wilshire for a most informative dinner meeting with Detectives Stephen Madden and Joe Paulo from the Los Angeles Police Department.

Detective Stephen Madden will address issues dealing with check fraud. A twenty-six year veteran with the LAPD, Detective Madden has spent the last fourteen years with the Financial Crimes Division. Over the years he has handled forged checks, counterfeit checks and embezzlement cases. In his present assignment, he is supervisor of the counterfeit check detail of the Metropolitan Forgery Section within the division.

Detective Joe Paulo, also of the Financial Crimes Division, will cover credit fraud issues from the law enforcement point of view. Detective Paulo has over thirty-two years with the LAPD, with the last fifteen years having been spent with the Financial Crimes Division. In his present position, he is the supervisor of the credit card fraud detail of the Metropolitan Forgery Section within the division.

Be sure to make a note on your calendar to join us at this month's meeting.

### **NEEDED: DOORPRIZES FOR NEXT 3 MEETINGS!**

**PLEASE CALL JAMES LE IF YOUR PROPERTY  
CAN CONTRIBUTE!  
THANK YOU!**



## HFTP BOARD MEMBERS

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## BOARD MEMBER



## SPOTLIGHT

### Sharon Collins

After careful consideration, Sharon has decided to resign from the HFTP Los Angeles Chapter Board. Sharon recently accepted a position with Plutus Enterprises, a small technology implementation and integration consulting firm, and left Arthur Andersen at the end of March.

Sharon stated that "It has been a privilege to be associated with the HFTP Los Angeles Chapter for the last ten years. I have enjoyed being on the Board this year and hope that I may be able to serve again when time permits me to contribute in a way that I know can add value. While I have started a new chapter of my life, I hope to stay in touch with many of you."

Sharon has been a very active member of HFTP and has served several terms on the board in the past. We wish her all the best in her new venture and extend a "Thank You" for all her contributions to the success of our Chapter.



## LUNCHTIME AIN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE

Talk about leaner and meaner: As Americans labor under growing pressure to become more productive and globally competitive, work is eating into other important parts of their lives. Like eating.

Nearly 40% of American workers now don't break for lunch at all, says a survey by the presumably distressed National Restaurant Association. Even those who do take a break are not doing much more than quickly refueling. The typical U.S. lunch hour, says a survey commissioned by office-furniture giant Steelcase, is nowhere near an hour; it's a 36-minute stint at or near the employee's regular place of work. Luncheon al desco.

There's more! The Steelcase survey discovered that more than half the workers who take a lunch break don't actually eat anything. They instead take care of one or more personal errands. About 28% make personal phone calls, 27% use the time to go shopping, 6% check on their kids in day care, and a restless 1% of U.S. workers are out looking for another job.

A bright note: At least some workers who take a break are spending the time enriching body, mind, or both. The survey showed that 37% read a book or newspaper during their lunch hour, and 14% hit the gym or the jogging trail.

By: Sheree R. Curry  
The Valley of the Sun Chapter of HFTP

<b>HITFC</b> June 20-22, 2000 Dallas Convention Center Dallas, Texas	<b>Annual Convention &amp; Tradeshow</b> October 17-18, 2000 The Regal Constellation Hotel Toronto, Ontario Canada
<b>HFTP LA Chapter Meeting</b> May 18, 2000 Hotel Bel-Air Los Angeles, California	<b>HFTP LA Chapter Meeting</b> June Social Location To Be Announced
<b>Club &amp; Hotel Controller Conferences</b> April 17 - 18, 2000 Reno Hilton Reno, Nevada	<b>HFTP LA Chapter Meeting</b> April 20, 2000 Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel Beverly Hills, California

## CALENDAR

**Exhibitor Opportunities** - The 2000 Hospitality Financial and Technical Professionals Annual Convention & Tradeshow is an opportunity for your company to reach financial and technology professionals in the hospitality industry. These professionals play a key role in the purchasing process for their organizations. Exhibitors have two days, October 18-19, to promote their hospitality-related products or services. Some of the services and products that attendees are focused on are: accounting firms, credit card service companies, investment companies, payroll services, technology companies, consultants, furnishing companies, guest room amenities, insurance companies, and travel services. Other promotional opportunities include advertising, corporate sponsorship, and direct mail campaigns. Please contact Teresa Pulley in the HFTP meetings and expositions department at 1-512-249-5333, 800-646-4387, or [tpulley@hftp.org](mailto:tpulley@hftp.org) to reserve exhibit space.



## HFTP 2000 ANNUAL CONVENTION & TRADESHOW IN TORONTO, CANADA PREVIEW

**Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals**  
**Los Angeles Chapter**  
**Global Hospitality Network**  
 3579 E. Foothill Boulevard, #229  
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Address Correction Requested

