



[President's Message](#)
[March 24, Meeting](#)
[Future Meetings](#)
[Membership Info](#)
[Board of Directors](#)

President's Message

Last month's meeting at Westin LAX was a great success! I would like to thank Gerry Peck, Controller of Westin LAX, for hosting our group. Ms. Janice Schnabel, of Marsh USA Inc, brought us up to speed on California Workers' Compensation reform. Sergio Urena, HR Manger of the Wilshire Grand Hotel; Lydia Leon, HR Director of the Portofino Hotel & Yacht Club; Thao Dinh, HR Director of the Clarion Hotel LAX; Diane LeSage, HR Director of the Crowne Plaza LAX; and Marga Llanez, Assistant HR Director of the Ramada Plaza LAX, were some of the HR guests who joined the group for Ms. Schnabel's Human Resources- focused speech. Kathy Adams, of Micros, once again made a tremendous sales effort for our monthly raffle, resulting in a whopping \$240 for Tsunami Relief. The prizes were as follows:

Heavenly Pillow from Sheraton Delfina, Chris Thullen
Shirt and Socks from Hyatt, Valencia, Angelina Parks
Champagne from Hotel Bel-Air, Ed Anonas
Gift certificates from Micros, Kathy Adams:
 \$20.00 Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf
 \$25.00 Barnes and Noble
 \$40.00 Marmalade Café
 \$50.00 GAP
Dinner for two from Barney's Beanery

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome three new official Members to our group. They are: Nicole Imlach, Accountant at the Regency Club; and Joy Ong-Newberry, Assistant Controller; and Ahmed Shalaby, IT Manger of the Bel-Air, Beverly Hills.

The location of this month's meeting will be the prestigious Wilshire Grand, Los Angeles. The meeting will be hosted by the Director of Finance of the Wilshire Grand, Bruce Reichenbacher. Bruce is an HFTP Member of long standing and a Past President of HFTP. Our speaker will be Joseph Hsieh of Wireless Hotspot, Inc., www.wirelesshotspot.com. Mr. Hsieh will address the subject of wireless high-speed Internet access and its implementation in the hospitality business. You might invite your IT Director, as this meeting should interest him or her!

I would like to remind those members whose memberships expired in January and February to renew their memberships this month. Please note that this month, March, is the last month new Members will be able to take advantage of the offer of reduced fees. New members,

through this month only, will pay just the national dues of \$225. For more information on this, please go to <http://www.hftp.org/join>

THE 2005 HFTP MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE remains on-going. Members who promote a colleague joining HFTP by August 31 will have a chance to win a free registration and trip to the National Convention in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Also, each sponsorship will be entered in a drawing for two \$500 prizes that will be awarded at the Convention. For more information, please go to <http://www.hftp.org/content.cfm?pgid=2289>

Members! This is a great opportunity to share the benefits of HFTP with a colleague and perhaps win a trip to the National Convention or \$500 in cash. Remember, new members this month will pay only the national dues of \$225.

So come on down on Thursday, March 24, to the Wilshire Grand and bring along a new member for cocktails, dinner, wireless know-how and networking! You may win a trip to the Convention in Myrtle Beach or \$500 in cash!

Ed Anonas
President
HFTP Los Angeles Chapter

Thursday, March 24, Meeting:

"UNWIRE YOUR PROPERTY FOR SUCCESS"

Your business depends upon providing your guests with all the comforts of home, including the latest amenities like wireless high-speed Internet access. Joseph Hsieh, of Wireless Hotspot, Inc., www.wirelesshotspot.com, will cover many of the business and technical questions that we have about integrating wireless networking into our guest offerings while meeting your operational needs:

- *How can providing HSIA be a competitive advantage for my hotel?*
- *How can I cost-effectively deploy wireless network connectivity throughout my facility without disruption to daily operations?*
- *How can I easily provide technical support for my guests and manage this resource?*

Thursday March 24, 2005 Meeting:

Wilshire Grand Los Angeles
930 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, California 90017
Phone (213) 688-7777

Schedule:

Doors open at 6 pm
Cocktails from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Speaker at 7:15 pm
Dinner at 8:00 pm

Cost:

Meeting price is \$38 per person for members and first-time guests.
All others, \$50 per person
Please bring a check made payable to “HFTP.” Or bring your credit card!
 (“No-shows” will be billed)

RSVP:

Please RSVP via email at:
rsvp@hftp-la.org
By Tuesday March, 22nd 2005
Or call (626) 836-1222

ABOUT WIRELESS HOTSPOT INC.

Wireless Hotspot, Inc. was founded in 2002 to address the emerging and rapidly growing need for public wireless Internet access. Working with our strategic partners and suppliers, Wireless Hotspot, Inc. aims to be the Wireless Internet Service Provider pioneer of the Southern California region.

Although the Internet has become a common necessity, most of its access is still tethered. Our vision is to realize a world of ubiquitous wireless Internet access with the same rich Internet experience you get from your office, school, or home. We strive to enable locations that are conducive for the Wi-Fi warrior, the mobile professionals, and the everyday laptop toting businessman or student.

Few technologies in recent history have dramatically changed the landscape of how we work and communicate. The progressive growth of Wi-Fi and its adoption across both large and small businesses, as well as through different vertical industries, are starting to become mainstream. Because of the increased awareness and adoption of Wi-Fi and the collaboration of standards between industry giants (such as Microsoft, Intel, Cisco), a new demand for public access market is growing. These publicly accessible wireless Internet “hotspots” are now appearing in airports, hotels, coffee shops, and restaurants all across the nation and around the globe.

Future Meetings

**Mark your calendars for the following meetings in spring 2005.
Speakers, locations, and topics to be announced.**

**April 21st at the Portofino Hotel & Yacht Club
May 19th at the Sheraton Delfina Hotel**

Summer Social to be announced

Membership Information

It's easy to become a member of HFTP! Go to the National HFTP Web site at www.hftp.org and click "Join HFTP" to access an online, interactive application to join.

Board of Directors

President	Ed Anonas Director of Finance and Operations Hotel Bel-Air (310) 909-1621 e-mail: eanonas@hotelbelair.com
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Editors Note

[HFTP Los Angeles](#) currently has a membership of 100+ hospitality professionals. The Chapter holds meetings once a month, generally on the evening of the third Thursday of the month. Our meetings are held at various hotels and clubs throughout the L.A. area. Meetings generally begin with a cocktail reception that offers attendees an opportunity to network and share industry news and ideas, followed by a speaker that touches on an industry or educational topic, and a three-course dinner.

The Chapter also raises money for a student scholarship fund, hosts social gatherings, contributes to local and national charities, and sponsors a half-day seminar for its members. The Chapter newsletter is published once a month (September—June) to keep members informed of Chapter events, share member news, and pass along valuable information and articles.

Want to write an article? Do you want to host or speak at a meeting in the future? Call (626) 836-1222, Fax (626) 836-1223 or drop us a line at rsvp@hftp-la.org.

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