



PRA 2005 officers Jim Flanigan, Kevin Joyce, Glenn Hawley, and Ray Hottenstein share a toast to kick off the new year.

PRA 67th Annual Meeting and Installation & Awards Gala

The Pennsylvania Restaurant Association's 67th Annual Meeting was held on November 14 and 15th, 2004 at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College, PA. Well-attended committee meetings highlighted the continuing efforts of the PRA on behalf of its membership and introduced new and exciting initiatives for the future.

The Membership Committee reported net membership growth of 8% year-to-date. The committee also announced the renewal of PRA's health insurance program with Capital Blue Cross in the central region of the state. Discover Card continues its program to pay membership dues for one year (up to \$500) for anyone who becomes a new Discover merchant.

In addition to the dues payment, Discover is offering a great introductory rate (1% + 10 cents per transaction fee). Members who qualify are encouraged to take advantage of this great offer! Endorsed partner Strategic Energy was on hand to discuss a new campaign to offset utility rate increases in many parts of the state and the "Associate Member Spotlight", a new initiative where PRA Associate Member literature is displayed and distributed during the two-day event, was implemented during this meeting.

The Trade Show Committee introduced new trade show manager, Sheila Weiner of The Event Group and discussed new and exciting plans for the upcoming Pennsylvania Restaurant and Foodservice Expo West. Be sure to join us on March 20 and 21, 2005 for the expo

at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh. We have quite an event in store!

The Education, Health & Safety Committee hosted a non-deadly force training demonstration by CDT. The program was developed to safely control unruly customers in a nightclub/bar setting. For more information on this program, contact Vera Lynn DiPietro at 800-345-5353. The committee announced a move to develop more educational programs outside the Food Safety Certification classes, citing FMP certification, re-certification, BarSafe courses and the promotion of the CDT non-deadly security training. Announced also was that county specific requirements to the PA Food Safety law are now posted on the PRA website.

The Government Affairs Committee focused on legislative issues concerning obesity lawsuits, the Common Sense in Food Consumption Act, exempting gift certificates from the escheat laws, monitoring the minimum wage bill while the Alcohol Service Committee continues its quest for relief from the Johnstown Flood Tax and is opposed to a newly introduced bill allowing variable pricing in PLCB stores. Under watch is another bill which would not allow anyone under 21 years of age to work as a bartender.

The highlight of the two-day festivities was the PRA's 67th Annual Awards Dinner and Installation of Officers on Sunday evening. The celebration began with a magnificent cocktail reception provided by the Nittany Lion Inn. Associate members Bacardi USA, Bartolomeo Pio, Capital Wine & Spirits, Charles Jacquinet Cie, Penn Brewing Company, Pitts-

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burgh Brewing Company, and Southern Wine & Spirits of PA, provided wine and spirits for the event.

Installed as 2005 officers were Glenn Hawley, owner of Monterey Bay Fish Grotto in Pittsburgh as president, Kevin Joyce, owner of The Carlton in Pittsburgh as Vice President and Jim Flanigan, owner of Flanigan's Boat-house as Treasurer.

The Brandywine Chapter and Western Chapter, with new 2004 chapter membership growth of 39% and 23% respectively, accepted awards for chapter membership development. Brandywine also achieved an award for securing the most new members from their Top 10 prospect list. While these chapters took home awards, all PRA chapters were involved in growing total PRA membership in 2004 and are to be thanked and



The Associate Member of the Year Award is presented to Fred Clark of Clark Food Service Equipment, Lancaster, PA.

commended for their efforts.

The second annual Excellence in Food Safety Awards were presented to the Tex Mex Connection in North Wales; Villanova University, Villanova; Hoss's Steak & Sea House, Duncansville;

Miller's Smorgasbord, Lancaster; Kegel's Produce, Lancaster; and Ferrante's Lakeview Inn, Greensburg. These members earned the awards by

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going above and beyond exceptional efforts in sanitation and safe food handling procedures.

The Associate Member of the Year Award went to Fred Clark of Clark Food Service Equipment. Clark Associates operates Clark Food Service Equipment, The Restaurant Store, Clark Service & Parts and has entered the e-commerce world with www.webstaurantstore.com. A member of the PRA for over 18 years, Fred Clark was honored for support of his local chapter and state association.

The Wilmer S. Lapp Keystone was given to Jim Duke, owner of the Manor House Inn in Center Valley, PA. Mr. Duke was honored for his community involvement in the "Daybreak" program developed to feed the indigent in the Lehigh Valley. A member of the PRA since 1987, Mr. Duke has served his association in many leadership capacities and as its president in 2000.

The Restaurateur of the Year honors went to Stephen Weinstock, owner of Stock's on 2nd in Harrisburg, PA. Stephen and his wife, K.J. were recognized for their part in bringing vitality

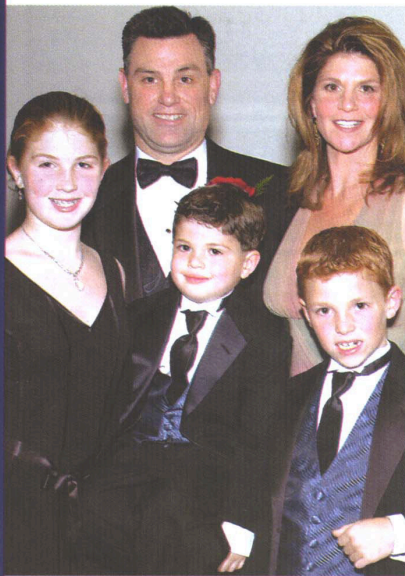


Jim Duke, proprietor of the Manor House Inn in Center Valley accepts the Wilmer S. Lapp Keystone Award for community service

to the restaurant scene in Harrisburg's rebounding downtown area. A member of the Association since the restaurant's opening in 1998, Stephen is a Central Chapter board member.

The PRA is grateful to the major sponsors of the 67th Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers. Their support is an integral part in the success of the PRA meetings and events. Our thanks to our Diamond Sponsors,

Altria Corporate Services and C.A. Curtze Company. Our Gold Sponsor, Clark Food Service Equipment. Our Bronze Sponsor, HRH Affinity Marketing Group. Our Pacesetter Sponsors, Global Payments, Inc, and Southern Wine and Spirits of PA. And our Donor Sponsors: Breadworks, Brothers Exterminating, Paychex, Inc. and The Securus Group, Inc. ■



PRA President Glenn Hawley & family



PRA VP Kevin Joyce presents the Restaurateur of the Year Award to Stephen & K.J. Weinstock of Stocks on 2nd in Harrisburg, PA