

Texas Chefs Association

General Session Meeting

August 6, 2017

8:00 – 10:00 am

Omni Corpus Christi



I. Administrative

- a. **Call to Order:** Chef Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC called the General Session to order at 8:00 am.
- b. **Invocation:** Chef Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC performed the invocation.
- c. **Roll Call, Sign In & Quorum:** President Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC asked if a quorum was present. Sam Brewster confirmed the quorum. Those in attendance were:

Lauren Aleman
Deborah Bando-Duit, CEC, AAC
Eva Barrios, CEC
Leslie Bartosh, CEC
Klaus Baumbach
Carolyn Becerra
Luis Becerra, CEC
Andre Bedouret
Jack Bretzke, CEC, AAC
Janice Brooks
Michelle Brown, CEPC
Wesley Brown
Joanna Bryant
Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC
Dina Cooper
Chris Cukjati
Monte Davis, CEC, CCA
Santiago De La Cruz
Larry Delgado
Steve DeShazo, CEC, FMP
Sarah Dilling
Charles Duit, CEC, AAC
Juventino Espinoza
Francis Fauquenot, CEC
Jessi Fox
Aaron Guajardo, CSC
Anthony Gully
Michael Hackman
Lateisha Hayes
Patrick Hershorn
Alison Hodges, CC, CPC

Joshua Knight
Heather Kurima
Diana Larkins
Diane Larsen, CEC
Ruben Lemus
Christian Mailloux
Jeffrey Matthews
Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC
Klaus Mittelhauser
Phyllis Moynihan
Michael Mrugala, CC, FMP, CFBE
Rick Neal
Pete Nolasco
Douglas O'Neil
Dieter Paul
Len Pawelek, CEC
Lisa Pollakis
Gay Prewitt
Jorge Ramos
Agustin Rodriguez
Nicholas Ruiz-Pina
Morris Salerno
Veronica Samples
Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC
Tina Sparger-Buice
Dean Sprague, CEC
Dustin Stair, CEC
Michael Stephans, CEC
Hans Stettler
Ethel Stewart-Cooper
Caroline Taylor

William Hodges
Krista Holmes
Carol Irwin, CEC
Beverley Kellman
Michael Kirchman

Mark Torres
Stephen Trummel
Gayle Van Sant, CCC
Katrina Warner
Jackson York, CEC, AAC

- d. **Sergeant at Arms:** Chef Jack Bretzke, CEC, AAC was appointed as Sergeant at Arms.
- e. **Welcome:** President Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC welcomed those in attendance and thanked the Chefs of the Coastal Bend Chapter for hosting the TCA Convention in Corpus Christi.
- f. **Review of Minutes:** Chef Charles Duit, CEC, AAC referenced the minutes from the 2016 General Session. Chef Duit requested a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Chef Leslie Bartosh, CEC presented a motion, which was seconded by Jack Bretzke, CEC, AAC and moved by the members.
- g. **Agenda Approval:** Schneider reviewed the General Session agenda and asked for additions to New Business. No amendments were presented and Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC presented a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Leslie Bartosh, CEC and moved by the members.

II. Report of the Officers

- a. **Chairman of the Board:** Charles Duit, CEC, AAC had no grievances to report.
- b. **President:** President Schneider expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve the Texas Chefs Association members as President over the last four years. Among his achievements, Chef Schneider noted the publication of the Chef Connect newsletter, a 6.3% growth in membership, the growth of the Culinary Visions Partnership program, bylaw ratification and membership alignment, a new TCA website and bringing in an association management company to manage the TCA affairs. Chef Schneider spoke to his pride in TCA member's service in their communities and recognized Steve DeShazo, CEC, FMP for his involvement in recovery efforts following the Dallas police shootings. Schneider also expressed pride in the Apprenticeship Program, which has been revitalized at El Centro College. In conclusion, Chef Schneider recognized many of the culinary legends lost during his term as President. He once again thanked the members of the TCA for the honor to serve as President and promised to continue to serve the best interests of the association during his term as Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer.
- c. **1st Vice President:** Chef Ewart Jones, CEC, AAC was absent.
- d. **2nd Vice President:** Chef Santiago DeLaCruz commented on his goals for membership growth and asked Chapter leaders to contact him for assistance with Chapter development.
- e. **Secretary/Treasurer:** Charles Duit, CEC, AAC deferred his comments until the financial reports are reviewed.

III. New Business

- a. **2017 ACF National Convention:** President Schneider spoke to the honor to represent Texas at the ACF National Convention. He commented on the progress made to align the TCA with the ACF and announced that the Board conducted a conference call to discuss the ACF elections; adding that the TCA membership carries significant influence in the ACF voting process. He expressed excitement in the new ACF Officers, noting that many of them have ties and relationships with the TCA. Schneider recognized both Rick Neal and Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC for performing seminars at the Convention and spoke to the efforts of all Texas Chefs who rallied to support their fellow members.

- b. **State Convention Handbook:** President Schneider announced that the Executive Board is working to produce a State Convention manual to serve as a resource for future host committees.
- c. **Financial Statements:** Secretary/Treasurer, Charles Duit, CEC, AAC reviewed the 2017 balance sheet and profit & loss statements. Duit recognized the following Chapters for their contributions to the TCA: Brazos Valley Chapter (\$300), Rio Grande Valley (\$1,500) and the Heart of Texas Chapter (\$500). Additionally, Duit announced that the Heart of Chapter had contributed \$2,000 to offset expenses related to President's Travel. Duit stated that the Board had reviewed the reports in detail during the Summer Board Meeting. President Schneider presented a motion to approve the financial reports. The motion was seconded by Mark Torres and moved by the members. Chef Larry Delgado, Chapter Director of the Rio Grande Valley Chapter presented a \$2,000 check for the TCA's general fund. Chef Duit graciously accepted the contribution.
- d. **2018 Budget:** Charles Duit, CEC, AAC presented the 2018 budget. Duit noted that the Board had amended the budget, adding additional revenue (\$4,800) to the Culinary Visions line item and increasing the expense line item for President's Travel by the same amount. The projected net income is \$181.40. Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC presented a motion to approve the 2018 budget. The motion was seconded by Morris Salerno and moved by the members.

IV. Old Business

- a. **Bylaws & Constitution:** President Schneider commended the committee's work on revising and aligning both the TCA Bylaws and Constitution documents. Charles Duit, CEC, AAC presented a motion to approve the TCA Bylaws and Constitution. Rick Neal seconded the motion, which was moved by the members.
- b. **Membership Drive:** President Schneider moved to defer the membership drive results until the Awards Luncheon.
- c. **CVP Drive:** President Schneider reviewed the CVP membership drive, which returns a commission to any Chapter who recruits a new CVP partner.
- d. **New Chapter Development:** Schneider provided updates on progress made towards establishing TCA Chapters in Galveston and Longview. He added that Chef Delacruz would be tasked with following up to assist these Chapters in forming. Schneider concluded by stating that local Chapters require eight members to form and six members to maintain their charter.
- e. **2017 State Convention:** Chef Michael Stephans, CEC welcomed attendees to Corpus Christi and expressed appreciation of his fellow Chefs of the Coastal Bend Chapter members for their assistance in planning the Convention. Stephans addressed the theme of "Kickin' it Old School," referencing the fact that current culinary trends seem to be reverting back to classic techniques. The education programming was designed with this in mind.
- f. **Staff Feedback:** There was no report from the State Office.

V. Nominations & Elections

- a. **State Officer Elections:** President Schneider announced that Chef Larry Delgado had withdrawn his name as a candidate for President. Schneider commended Delgado for his thoughtfulness in coming to the decision to withdraw and thanked him for his significant service to the TCA. Schneider explained that Chef Delgado recognizes the importance of certification and felt convicted that the leader of the TCA should hold this designation. Following President Schneider's comments, Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC addressed the membership. Chef Cook thanked Chef Schneider for his leadership and expressed gratitude for the honor to serve another term as TCA President. Among his goals at TCA President, Chef Cook noted efforts to develop future leaders and maintain student

members after they finish their culinary programs. Cook added his desire to raise the profile of the TCA to be the culinarian authority in Texas.

Following Chef Cook's comments, Larry Delgado addressed the membership. Delgado stated that the decision came down to timing and he is not currently prepared personally or professionally. He promised his continued involvement with the TCA and devoted his full support to Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC.

President Schneider called forward candidates for the office of 1st Vice President. Pete Nolasco expressed gratitude for his nomination and addressed accomplishments during his tenure as Director of the Dallas Chapter. His goals included new Chapter development, assisting with state finances and promoting certification. He added that he was, personally, more motivated than ever to become certified.

Chef Len Pawelek, CEC stated his pleasure to be among Texas Chefs and spoke to the nobility of the culinary profession. Chef Pawelek's goals included work with the Finance Committee to standardize financial reporting, increase the Culinary Visions Partnerships, focus on community outreach and work with the AAC Chair to increase the Academy in Texas.

President Schneider called for a five minute recess for voting and appointed Jack Bretzke, CEC, AAC, Charles Duit, CEC, AAC and Lisa Pollakis of the Chefs of the Coastal Bend Chapter to tally the votes.

President Schneider called the meeting back to order and announced the election results and the 2019 – 2019 officers of the Texas Chefs Association.

President	Kelly Cook, CEC, AAC
1st Vice President	Len Pawelek, CEC
2nd Vice President	Santiago "Jimmy" DeLaCruz
Secretary/Treasurer	Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC
Chairman	Mark Schneider, CEC, CCE, AAC

President Schneider announced, in accordance with TCA policies, the incoming Secretary/Treasurer and President will be added as authorized signers on the TCA accounts.

- b.** Ratify Elected Chapter Directors: 2017 – 2019: President Schneider called for a motion to ratify the following Chapter Directors:

Dallas Chapter – Gene Christiano

Fort Worth Chapter – Heather Kurima

Permian Basin Chapter – Rudy Underwood

Rio Grande Chapter – Dustin Stair, CEC

Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC presented the motion, which was seconded by Morris Salerno and moved by the members.

- c.** President Schneider announced the following hosts for future TCA Conventions:

2018 – Houston Chapter

2019 – Rio Grande Valley Chapter

- VI. Closing & Roundtable:** President Schneider once again thanked the membership for the honor to serve them as President of the Texas Chefs Association. He acknowledged those who have helped him along the way and stated that he wouldn't be the man he is today with out the association. Those in attendance stood and announced their name, Chapter and number of conventions

attended. Dean Sprague, CEC presented the TCA with a \$2,000 check on behalf of the Chefs of the Coastal Bend Chapter. President Schneider recognized Patrick Mitchell, CEC, AAC on his achievement as ACF Chef of the Year and asked members to rally in support of his efforts towards competing for Global Chef of the Year. Chef Mitchell described the competition, which will take place in Malaysia. Carol Irwin, CEC committed \$2,500 to Chef Mitchell towards his endeavors. Deborah Bando-Duit presented a motion to adjourn the General Session at 10:00 am. The motion was seconded by Rick Neal and moved by the members.