



Hospitality Room Remembered

Chilled jumbo shrimp that gave the word “jumbo” new meaning, a \$19,000 bar bill for two nights, a half-steamship round of beef that never ended, Eddie Adams hanging out with the fun crowd and \$29,000 in vendor contributions—these were just a few highlights of this year’s hospitality room in Dallas. The only missing ingredient was a Jimmy Buffett cameo appearance. Jimmy was in town Tuesday night, but I couldn’t get close enough to invite him. I’m sure he would’ve loved the jumbo gulf crabcakes.



The cake featuring MAGCS’s 75th anniversary logo was a great touch.



John Gurke, Al Frantik, Russ Stachlewitz and Kevin DeRoo.



Don Cross, Tom Brodeur, Jon Jennings and Brian Bossert.



Dave Schlagetter and Tom Healy.

You know how they say “everything is big in Texas?” Well, the hospitality room was no exception. Here are a few big things that come to mind: the room, food servings, the cake with our 75th anniversary logo, the shrimp, even our room captain (who, by the way, did a hell of a job). These were some of the things that were *really* big: the attendance, the total bill, the shrimp and vendor contributions. Our hospitality room has really evolved into a major attraction and popular function during the annual conference.

The attendance this year was incredible. I believe the poor weather and the lack of Bourbon Street right around the corner were factors contributing to this increase. However, I believe the main reason for the swelling attendance is in direct relationship with the growth of the Association. Every year new members join, current members move away but stay in touch and members make


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many friends and connections throughout the country. Each year, the biggest melting pot seems to be the Midwest hospitality room. As a result, we seem to go over budget each year. I don't think that's such a bad thing if everyone has a good time and our Association enjoys a good reputation for doing things right. As far as going over budget, our situation would have been a lot worse if it weren't for the generous contributions of our vendors. We were able to raise roughly \$29,000 for this year's event,

compared to \$23,000 last year—a substantial increase. To all those who supported the 2001 hospitality room, hats off: the MAGCS surely appreciates your efforts. See page 6 for a list of all who participated in the Golden Tee Club. If a sales representative from one of these companies comes by, be sure to thank them.

While I appreciate all the kind words and positive feedback about the hospitality room, I do want to recognize some of the people who helped

me. First of all, Brian Bossert made it a pretty easy job by providing me with his detailed standard operating procedures. The staff at the Adam's Mark also did a tremendous job. Obviously, the catering and banquet staff stole all the good help from the hotel. *On Course* contributing editor John Gurke and graphic artist Mark Karczewski helped me with the Golden Tee Club color ad. Last but not least, Kevin DeRoo was there to cut the check and also commissioned the big decorative banner.

Well, that's all I've got to say about that—see you in Orlando. 



Dave Buckley, Chris Pekarek, Tim Kelly and Tony Kalina.



Brad Anderson, John Nelson and Al Fierst.



John Lebedevs with Tom Lively.

Dan Albaugh . . . (from page 18)

this spring, when he conducts a controlled burn throughout the wetlands that will require communication and participation with the Ruffled Feathers residential community.

Dan works out seven days a week, as does his Chesapeake Bay retriever, Bubba, who is in charge of goose control, running 14 miles a day in this pursuit. Dan's other hobbies are hunting, fishing and motorcycling. Dan is especially fond of his two Harleys (a 1979 "Super-Glide" and a 2000 "Electric Glide Ultra Classic"), which he plans to trailer to the Daytona Bike Show annually each March.

