

# HOSPITALITY

The Newsletter of the  
Food and Beverage Association of America



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**T**O OUR FELLOW MEMBERS: Greetings! While we are all looking forward to a little less rain and a little more sunshine, I hope this finds you doing well.

The highlight of our winter season was the Ken Strong Memorial Scholarship Dinner held on March 7, 2003, at the incomparable Waldorf Astoria. The evening's program honored Eric Long, General Manager of the Waldorf Astoria, as our Association's 2003 Hospitality Professional of the Year and Francisco Camacho, General Manager of Evian North America as our 2003 Purveyor of the Year.

The staff and chefs of the Waldorf Astoria created a spectacular event with a menu that surprised and delighted us all, and with the theme of "An Evening Under the Stars," there could be no more perfect venue than the famed Skylight Ballroom.

Thanks to your generosity to the Food and Beverage Association's Ken Strong Memorial Fund, we were able to donate \$5,000 to Share Our Strength, one of our industry's premier charities that consistently focuses on feeding the hungry.

Your Executive Board had voted earlier this year to donate three scholarships of \$4,000 each, to be paid directly to a recognized program or school, on behalf of students studying to be in the hospitality industry or oriented towards a food and beverage industry career. Denise Capponi, our Scholarship Co-Chair, is presently developing the criteria and procedures for a further enhancement to our scholarship program, and we look forward to sharing them with members in the upcoming months.

New and long-standing members alike regularly enjoy our monthly dinners. Most recently, our May dinner held at the University Club on 5th Avenue was spectacular. Hosts John Dorman, the Club's General Manager, and Kevin Fiske, Director of Food and Beverage, along with Executive Chef Jean-Yves Picquet, surpassed everyone's expectations with the menu. It was my pleasure to bring wines from Chateau Beychevelle, donated by Eric Fourault from Bordeaux, for the event. Some of the highlights were enjoying the 1985 St. Julien from Chateau Beychevelle and the very instructive remarks from both Eric and Philippe



PHOTO BY MATTHEW MADURO

Leblanc, who came directly from Bordeaux to be with our members.

Iwona Sterk, our Membership Chairperson, and I are working diligently on increasing our membership. We recognize the loss in membership due to the continuing effects of September 11, 2001, and those of recent world, national, and local events on the economics of our industry. However, we remain a vibrant and active professional association, and, as such, we ask that you join us in sharing the value of membership with your colleagues. Please let me know directly anyone you wish us to send a personal invitation to join.

Agreeing to chair our Seminar Committee is member Donna Quadri-Felitti, who is planning this year's remaining educational event for the upcoming fall. If you would like to be involved in any of our committees or events, please write us at [fbassociation@aol.com](mailto:fbassociation@aol.com) or call me at 973.564.0115, extension 1212. We look forward to your joining us soon.

Always at your service,

Gladys Mouton Di Stefano, President

## Keeping in Touch With Some Past Presidents



Some of our Association Past Presidents, who know a great event!

From left to right: Brian Farrar, Ivan Brendt, Sal Tuccelli, Robert Freddy, and Charles Frowenfeld, with Gladys Mouton Di Stefano.