

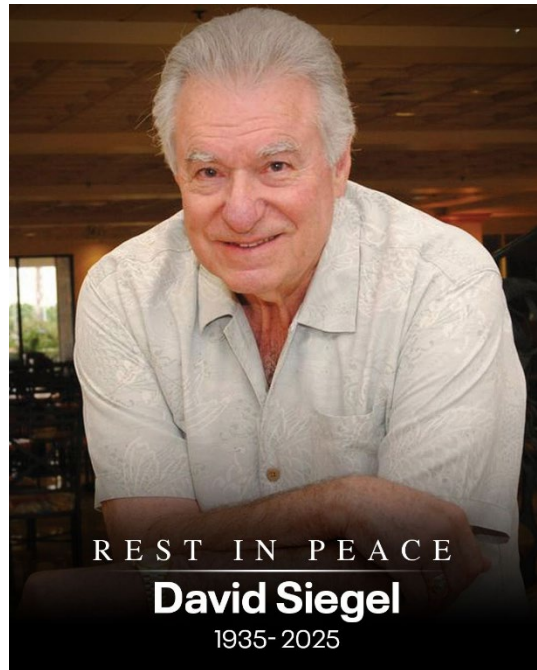


April 11, 2025

CFHLA Thanks Our Back of the House Sponsors

A promotional graphic for GFE Contractors. On the left is the GFE logo, which consists of the letters 'GFE' in a bold, stylized font with a lightning bolt symbol integrated into the 'E'. Below the logo is the tagline 'Shocking Standards, Electrifying Service.' To the right of the logo, the text reads 'CELEBRATING 20 YEARS' in large yellow letters, followed by 'Specializing in commercial, industrial, and hospitality electrical services, we are there for you when you need us most.' Below this, four services are listed in yellow boxes with lightning bolt icons: 'INDOOR & OUTDOOR LIGHTING', 'EMERGENCY SERVICE', 'PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE', and 'HURRICANE PREPARATION'. On the right side, there are three hexagonal images: a night view of a golf course, a close-up of electrical wiring and panels, and a view of a modern building interior. At the bottom, there are two contact options: '24/7 Service 407.207.1769' with a phone icon, and 'Contact Us info@gfecontractors.com' with an envelope icon. The background is a dark, textured surface with white lightning bolts.

Remembering David Siegel



This past week, our community mourns the passing of **David Siegel**, the remarkable founder of [Westgate Resorts](#) in Orlando. David was a visionary leader and a true icon within the hospitality and real estate industries. He was also a generous leader, a champion for his team, and a passionate advocate for addiction prevention following the tragic loss of his daughter Victoria. Furthermore, David's entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to growth reshaped the vacation ownership industry in Central Florida and beyond.

On behalf of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the entire Westgate family, his wife Jacqueline and their children, along with the countless lives touched by his work, compassion and generosity. His legacy at Westgate Resorts and his impact on the Central Florida community will not be forgotten.

CFHLA Welcomes New Members at Annual Reception



This week, CFHLA was thrilled to welcome dozens of new members at our annual New Member Reception.

A special thank you to our **CFHLA Board Member Colin Mills** for hosting this wonderful evening of networking at the [Sheraton Orlando Lake Buena Vista Resort](#).

With more than 80 in attendance, we'd also like to thank our **CFHLA Membership Committee Chair Erin Arpke**, **General Manager of the [Holiday Inn & Suites across from Universal](#)**, the **Membership Committee Members**, leaders from our **CFHLA Board of Directors**, and the **ARC Board Members** who joined us in welcoming these new members to the association!



[**Click Here to View
Photos from the New
Member Reception**](#)

Vacation Ownership Council Meeting

This week, the **CFHLA Vacation Ownership Council** held its most recent meeting of the year, which featured a presentation from **Yaralise Colon** and **Franklin Cabral** of [CareerSource of Central Florida](#). The team from CareerSource shared more details about their upcoming internship programs and encouraged our vacation ownership properties to participate this summer.

Additionally, we are grateful for the continued partnership with CareerSource of Central Florida and the outstanding work that their team continues to do for CFHLA and the entire Central Florida tourism and hospitality industry!



Furthermore, we'd like to thank our 2025 Vacation Ownership Council Sponsors for their fantastic support this year including, [Clean Tec Outsourcing](#) and [Sunbrite Outdoor Furniture](#)!



I-Drive/LBV General Managers Meeting



On Thursday, the **I-Drive/Lake Buena Vista General Managers** held their first meeting of the year at [Coco Key Hotel and Water Resort - Orlando](#) (Thank you CFHLA Board Member, Frank Dolley, General Manager).

We truly appreciate **Orange County Sheriff John Mina** and **Orlando Police Chief Eric Smith** for graciously providing key updates on behalf of the [Orange County Sheriff's Office](#) and the [Orlando Police Department](#) and for their willingness to listen to our industry's concerns.

Thank you again for their time, commitment to enhancing public safety along International Drive, and continued partnership with the hospitality industry. We're especially grateful for the opportunity to explore meaningful solutions, as we work together to keep our community and guests safe.



CFHLA would also like to thank [Global Sourcing International](#) for serving as the 2025 I-Drive/Lake Buena Vista General Managers meeting sponsor!



CFHLA Hosts Second Leadership Development Seminar

Thank you to **Dr. Murat Kizildag** for leading our second educational seminar this week on **Accounting and Finance Essentials for Hospitality Leaders**.

This seminar was the second of six in this year's Leadership Development Seminar Series. With over 30 attendees, this educational and interactive discussion included practical insights into industry trends, financial performance measurement, and operational efficiencies.

We appreciate Dr. Kizildag for his time and expertise, along with **Ally Martin, General Manager and CFHLA Board Treasurer**, and the team at [Hyatt House Orlando Airport](#) for hosting this seminar!



For more information on future CFHLA education seminars, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Support the CFHLA CARES Collection Drive Next Week



CENTRAL FLORIDA HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION

Collection Drive for Students in Need



April 17, 2025

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM



CFHLA Office Parking Lot
6675 Westwood Blvd., Orlando, FL 32821



Collecting Items for:



Orange County Public Schools



School District of OSCEOLA COUNTY FLORIDA



Seminole County Public Schools

School Supplies Needed:

Spiral Notebooks | Wide Ruled Paper | Pencils | Dry Erase Markers
Water Bottles | Printer Paper | Wired Earbuds/Headphones
Highlighters | Scissors | 3 -Ring Binders & Folders



Hygiene Items Needed:

Shampoo | Conditioner | Bar Soaps | Body Wash | Deodorant
Hair Brushes | Small Blankets | Travel Size Dental Care
Pillowcases | Feminine Products | First Aid Kits & Bandages
NEW Pants, Shoes, Socks, & Underwear



Or Donate Here:

www.cfhla.org/cfhla-gives
(General Donations)



CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE BODY AD

Celebrating Excellence in Hospitality: 1st Quarter Security and Safety Service Award Honoree



This week, CFHLA proudly recognized the CFHLA Security and Safety Council's 1st Quarter Service Award Honoree, **Roxana Ramirez**, Security Officer at the [Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista](#).

With more than 29 years of experience within the hospitality industry, Roxana's commitment of going above and beyond in her role has made a lasting impact on both guests and colleagues. Plus, her recent role in helping to reunite a lost child on New Years Eve, is a story of exemplary service that stands as a shining example of what hospitality is all about.

Congratulations again Roxana, and thank you for your unwavering dedication and exceptional service, as your daily actions truly reflect the heart and soul of the hospitality industry!

Partners In Action - Evermore Orlando Resort Hosts Future Hospitality Leaders



Recently, [Evermore Orlando Resort](#) welcomed 34 students from [Lake Buena Vista High School](#) for an inspiring day focused on exploring a variety of careers that are available within hospitality and culinary industry. Held in the property's scenic Boathouse overlooking Evermore Bay, the career exploration opportunity featured speakers from Evermore's executive team, [Walt Disney World](#), and [SeaWorld Orlando](#).



Thank you, **Fred Sawyers, Managing Director and CFHLA Board Historian**, and the team of Evermore Orlando Resort for hosting this impactful night for our local high school students, who will be the next generation of hospitality professionals.

CFHLA Supports Osceola Cooks Culinary Competition



Last week, CFHLA was proud to sponsor the **3rd Annual Osceola Cooks Culinary Competition** which featured **more than 150 students** from **five local high schools**. This important competition gave culinary and hospitality students a chance to showcase their skills and learn from industry leaders along the way.



A special thank you to **Dennis Hale, General Manager**, and the entire team at the [Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South](#) for hosting this incredibly important workforce development initiative. Lastly, we

appreciate all of the CFHLA members who helped volunteer and congratulations to all this year's competitors and winners!



CFHLA looks forward to continuing to partner with [The School District of Osceola County](#), as we prepare students for their future careers within Central Florida's hospitality industry.

Congrats to Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South on the Conrad Achievement Award

Congratulations to the [Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South](#) on being awarded the **Conrad Achievement Award for 2024** from the Embassy Suites Brand! The Conrad Achievement Award recognizes the **TOP 1% of the Embassy Suites Brand** in terms of Total Quality Score (TQS), out of 267 eligible hotels, which is measured by our Guest Feedback and Quality Assurance Inspection results.

This achievement is a true testament of the hard work from the entire team, and providing the highest level of product quality, along with a focus on a positive work environment. Keep up the great work!



CONGRATULATIONS

Embassy Suites by Hilton
Orlando Lake Buena Vista South, FL


Bonnie Campagnuolo
Brand Leader - Embassy Suites by Hilton

Presented to the top 1% of hotels ranked
in the Total Quality Scorecard metrics.



FIFA President Visits Orlando Ahead of 2025 Club World Cup

This week, CFHLA joined **Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer**, the [Greater Orlando Sports Commission \(GO Sports\)](#), and our regional partners, to welcome **FIFA President Gianni Infantino** in anticipation of this summer's **FIFA Club World Cup**.

Infantino praised Orlando's transformation into a global sports destination, including **Inter&Co Stadium** and **Camping World Stadium**, which are set to host key tournament matches this summer.

Orlando will host six matches during the tournament, including **Juventus vs. Manchester City** on **June 26** and a **July 4 quarterfinal clash**. These world-class sporting events reinforce Orlando's international reputation and the region's strength in attracting top-tier global sporting events, which greatly supports our local economy.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR APRIL MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

Meet Our April Members of the Month

CFHLA is proud to recognize our **April Lodging Member of the Month, Cindy Staley, General Manager** for [Mission Resort + Club](#). We are all grateful for Cindy's incredible help in hosting the recent CFHLA St. Patrick's Day Golf Event, as well as her continued support for many of CFHLA's initiatives and participation at our signature events. Furthermore, Cindy has been a huge support in recruiting new lodging participation from Lake County, which will be integral to the future success of our organization and the Central Florida Hospitality industry.

Moreover, we are also proud to recognize our **April Allied Member of the Month, Maribel Alicea, Tourism Strategy Manager** for [AdventHealth Orlando](#). CFHLA is extremely grateful for Maribel's outstanding involvement, participation, and phenomenal support as a VIP Member of CFHLA. This

includes her continual participation and involvement in numerous CFHLA events such as the St. Patrick's Day Golf Open and so many others.

It's because of these positive contributions and continued partnership, we are eager to recognize both of them this month!

To nominate a future CFHLA Allied and/or Lodging Member of the Month, please [CLICK HERE](#).



Cindy Staley
[Mission Resort + Club](#)



Maribel Alicea
[AdventHealth Orlando](#)

MEET THE VIP



Did You Know...

We are [**FIRST ONSITE**](#), a leading property restoration and reconstruction provider serving North America. We specialize in emergency mitigation, restoration, and reconstruction to repair property damage and minimize downtime. With expansive resources and experience in water damage restoration, fire damage restoration, mold remediation and storm damage restoration, we ensure your property is quickly and efficiently restored. Our dedicated team is available 24/7, 365 days a year, to provide unmatched restoration services. It's our goal to be the only property restoration partner you'll ever need.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For more information on upcoming events, or to register, just click on the button below.

- [2025 Hob Nob \(4/15/2025\)](#)
 - [CFHLA Executive Committee Meeting \(4/22/2025\)](#)
 - [2025 HR Seminar Series \(4/29/2025\)](#)
 - [2025 Engineer's Clay Shoot Tournament \(5/2/2025\)](#)
 - [May Allied Relations Council Breakfast - Airport Area Hotels \(5/13/2025\)](#)
 - [Wednesday AM Leads Group \(5/14/2025\)](#)
 - [Wednesday Noon Leads Group \(5/14/2025\)](#)
-

CLICK HERE FOR A GUIDE
TO REGISTER AN
INDIVIDUAL FOR EVENTS

CLICK HERE FOR A GUIDE
TO REGISTER A TABLE/
TEAM FOR EVENTS

JOB OPENINGS

Check out the latest hospitality employment opportunities in Central Florida.

VIEW JOB POSTINGS

CONNECT WITH CFHLA



WWW.CFHILA.ORG

About CFHLA

6675 Westwood Blvd #210, Orlando, FL 32821

The mission of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association is to represent the Central Florida Hospitality Industry, by setting the standard of excellence through advocacy, collaboration, education, recognition, and service.