



VIRGINIA
CHAPTER

VA Voice: April 2023

A Message from your 2022-2023 President for MPI-Virginia, Steve Tweksbury:

A long-quoted saying in MPI is, “When we meet, we change the world.” This has become even more important as our industry recovers and as chapters leaders gather globally to plan the year ahead. The MPI-Virginia board met earlier this month in Charlottesville to strategize our way forward and as important as the details of what comes next and how we will get there; it was in the discussions and social interactions where I was most encouraged about a bright and exciting year...

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Leadership News



Nominations are now **OPEN** to celebrate our amazing chapter members and volunteers! Fill out the nominations form [here](#) to celebrate the volunteer

members of the MPI-Virginia chapter now. We have a variety of awards categories this year and need you to submit who you feel deserves an award this year!

Timeline to consider:

Nominations open NOW

Nominations close May 22, 2023

Voting opens June 6, 2023

Voting Closes July 6, 2023

Winners announced at the August 10th Awards Celebration at the Annual Conference at Wintergreen Resort

If you are interested in joining the Awards committee to help with nominations and planning the Awards Celebration at the Annual Conference please reach out to Megan Hazzard at haz029@henrico.us.

We want YOU!

You can help make a difference in this chapter while gaining valuable experience and lasting connections. Your MPI Virginia chapter is always looking for volunteers to assist on different committees and we would love to get you involved.

- We have a handful of board positions open for this upcoming year including President Elect, Director of Communications, and Director of Monthly Meetings.
- Looking to gain exposure at the **Annual Conference** taking place in August at **Wintergreen**? Volunteer on the Annual Conference committee!
- Looking to step up your social media game, jump in with the Communications team on the Social Media Committee.
- How about sponsorship, fundraising or community service? Tell us what you are interested in and we will find the right fit for you!

We would love your help and love to get to know you! Please reach out to Megan Hazzard at haz029@henrico.us if you are interested in volunteering with MPI Virginia.

Upcoming Events



YOU'RE INVITED

**MPI VIRGINIA 2023
EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

Wintergreen Resort

AUGUST 9-11, 2023
EDUCATION | NETWORKING | FUN

39 MOUNTAIN INN LOOP, WINTERGREEN, VA, 22958

Join us for an exciting time on the mountain-education focused on the most relevant topics impacting the industry, networking with talented peers, and 11,000 acres of beautiful scenery.



The expert event for event experts is back! Our goal is for WEC23 to reinvigorate you, revitalize your skillset—and your connections—and leave you feeling really good about what you do. What better place for that than in the Mexican Caribbean?

After all, you refresh others through the meetings and events you create. Isn't it time YOU got refreshed?

[Register Here](#)

Membership News



Your Name
Location

We want to feature ALL of our amazing members! Please complete your [profile](#) today!

We want to celebrate YOU!

We love our members and want to celebrate each 5-year milestone that you're with our chapter. If you have not received a lapel pin that correlates with your years of membership, we'd like to make that right by properly recognizing you at this year's Annual Conference. Please see Megan Hazzard or reach out via email at haz029@henrico.us to confirm and she'll make sure to include you in this year's membership milestone presentation during our awards gala on August 10th at the Annual Conference!

Happy April Membership Anniversaries!

Allison Bancroft, The Glebe Retirement Community- Life Spire of VA- 1 Year

Sonya Campbell, Airways Freight Corporation- 1 Year

Harry Jarrett, OCI Hospitality- Courtyard by Marriott Harrisburg- 1 Year

Taricia Savage, NAACP- 1 Year

Telesa Via, Kimpton Hotels- 1 Year

Frank Passanante, Hilton Worldwide- 6 Years

Nicole Rea Walker, Consultant- 25 Years

Christi Ruddy, CMP, Covington Meetings & Events- 33 Years

Welcome New Members!

Jennifer Blanchard, Legacy Food Service Alliance

Brooke Doty, CMP, TD Synnex

William Kerr, Camryn Executive Transportation & Limousine Company

Erica Long, White Lodging Services

Ivy Riverio, Delta Hotels by Marriott

Featured News

HOW QR CODES CAN STREAMLINE EVENT MANAGEMENT

"QR codes are proving to be a winning solution for many companies around the world. British Airways uses them to [cut down on queues](#). Italian fashion brand Diesel uses them to [authenticate apparel](#). And video game developer Cygames used 1,500 drones in Shanghai to [replicate a giant QR code](#) in the sky that people could scan to access a game."

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