

MAY

2022 Newsletter



**INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
VENUE MANAGERS
REGION 5**

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings Region 5 Members!



The IAVM Super Regional Meeting took place in the fantastic city of Portland, Maine from April 24 to 26, 2022. There were museums, parks, and lighthouses to explore. It was easy to walk to the waterfront and discover a plethora of mouth-watering restaurants. Those who traveled in on Sunday had a fun-filled day at the Sea Dogs baseball game prior to Monday & Tuesday's educational sessions. The educational sessions were exceptional, and the presenters received very high marks in the survey results. All of the host venues in Portland were warm and welcoming with their hospitality to our IAVM members.

On behalf of Region 5, I want to express gratitude to the entire planning committee - comprised of individuals from all four regions - who provided high-quality educational sessions, excellent networking opportunities, and a charming city to hold our Regional Business Meetings in-person for the first time since 2019. I want to especially thank the Region 1 hosts Jana Brooks, Director, and Phil Costa, Assistant Director, for their time and hard work bring the event together.

IAVM Regions 1, 2, 3, & 5 would all like to thank our sponsors for making the 2022 Super Regional possible! We enjoyed getting to know our sponsors better and learning more about their products and services.

Next year's Super Regional Meeting will be hosted by Region 3 in Kansas City, MO. The 2023 NFL Draft will be hosted in Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City in late April, so we are working on finding dates before or after that major event.

The International Association of Venue Managers is broken into geographical regions designed to serve the communications needs of its members within certain areas. If you'd like to learn more about Regions, scholarships, and other regional offerings, check out <https://www.iavm.org/regions/iavm-regions>. If you'd like to help on one of our numerous Region 5 Committees, Carol Moore carol@newnancentre.com will be glad to help with finding the right fit and placement.

Best Wishes,
Kathryn Carlson, CVP

CONGRATULATIONS REGION 5 30 | UNDER | 30 Class of 2022!!!!

The IAVM Foundation has announced the 30|UNDER|30 Class of 2022. The program, in its seventh year, is made possible thanks to the ongoing support of **Ungerboeck**, as well as many IAVM Foundation donors.

Congratulations to the recipients from Region 5!!

Emily Hamm

Director, Premium Service, Nashville Predators - Bridgestone Arena

David Lewis

Director of Events, Donald L. Tucker Civic Center

Simone Loftman

Event Manager, FTX Arena - Miami Heat

Amanda Watson

Manager, Event Operations, Atlanta Hawks - State Farm Arena

Elliot Zalazni

Director of Event Production, Hattiesburg Convention Commission

Designed to engage the best and brightest young professionals in the venue management industry, the 30|UNDER|30 program recognizes emerging leaders - and their talents - which help accelerate the industry and carry it into the future. The Class of 2022 will convene at VenueConnect 2022 in Phoenix, Arizona, July 18-21.

"The 2022 Class of 30|UNDER|30 winners emerged out of one of the most competitive fields we've seen," stated James Wynkoop, CVE, Chair of the IAVM Foundation Board of Trustees. "Over one hundred nominations were pared down to these thirty individuals. The program continues to generate a great deal of engagement with the future leaders of our industry. The IAVM Foundation thanks all the nominees, those who nominated them, and the support groups that helped them navigate the application process. Winning is impressive, and we have seen through all of those nominated that the future of IAVM will be in good hands."

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Sales Manager - Greater Richmond Convention Center - Richmond, VA

[Link to Apply](#)

Maintenance Manager - Greater Richmond Convention Center - Richmond, VA

[Link to Apply](#)

Maintenance Technician (Electrician) - Greater Richmond Convention Center - Richmond, VA

[Link to Apply](#)

Maintenance Technician (Skilled Crafts) - Greater Richmond Convention Center - Richmond, VA

[Link to Apply](#)

Senior Housekeeping/Set-up Manager - Greater Richmond Convention Center - Richmond, VA

[Link to Apply](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Region 5 is looking for volunteers for the Membership and Young Professionals Committees.

Membership Committee -- This committee works to represent the interest of general membership constituents relative to recruitment, retention, and membership value through programs, networking opportunities and other services designed to assist industry professionals. Creative methods to increase membership through membership campaigns or other means is expected. The Membership Committee meets regularly via conference call.

Young Professionals Committee -- This committee works with the Region 5 Board to act as a

think tank for new and emerging trends in communications, social media, technology and membership. A majority of the members of this committee must be 30 years of age or under. The Young Professionals Committee meets regularly via conference call.

If you are interested in serving, please contact Carol Moore at carol@newnancentre.com.

INTERESTED IN HOSTING A CHAPTER MEETING?

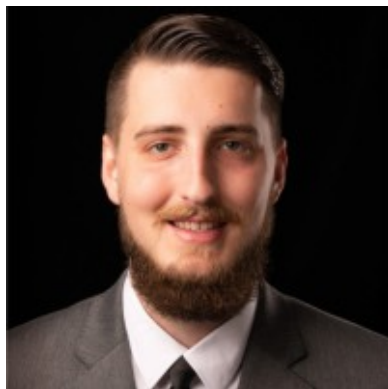
Chapter meetings are a great way to network with industry peers in your local area as well as provide beneficial education opportunities. Chapter meetings can be as small as a luncheon or networking after-hours social to a full day of sessions.

Never planned a chapter meeting? No worries, your Region 5 Chapter Meeting Committee is here to help you through the process and provide resources to help you plan a successful meeting.

If you want to get started please reach out to your Region 5 Chapter Committee Chair, Bryan Miller, at bmiller@vbgov.com.

NEWS & VENUE UPDATES

FLORIDA



DAYTONA BEACH - The Ocean Center is excited to welcome Taylor Church to the team as an event coordinator. Taylor comes to us from Seattle, Washington, where he served as the associate director for facilities, operations and special projects. There he not only managed the facility maintenance and operations, but also served as the Emergency and Evacuation Director and Co-chaired the Staff Development Committee. Prior to his time in Seattle, Taylor held event roles at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, and the University of South Florida, in St. Petersburg, Florida. Taylor's role with the Ocean Center also provided him the opportunity to move back to DeLand, the city in which he was

born and raised.

DESTIN/FORT WALTON BEACH - The Destin-Fort Walton Beach Convention Center is pleased to welcome Kevin Price to the team as our new Convention Sales Manager. Kevin brings a wealth of hospitality experience from over 12 years working in hotels including Hampton by Hilton, Four Points by Sheraton, Holiday Inn Resort and Best Western.

From his old Kentucky home, Kevin relocated to the Emerald Coast in 2012 arriving with little more than a bachelor's degree, a congenial spirit and a willingness to work hard. Front Desk to Sales Coordinator, then Sales Manager to Director of Sales, Kevin quickly worked his way to the top of the ladder. After demonstrating years of dedication in many successful hospitality deployments, Kevin will realize his goal of joining the convention center sales team.



Having won several music awards and with many songs played on various radio stations, when he's not writing, playing, singing or recording music, Kevin is a dedicated father, a Kentucky Basketball fan, a youth mentor and an aspiring entrepreneur.

LOUISIANA



NEW ORLEANS - New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Wins Prestigious "Love Your City Award," Honoring Sustainability Commitments

LifeCity, an initiative that supports economic development in key areas like housing, food, and stormwater management, has awarded the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center a "Love Your City Award" in the Best Overall category at an awards ceremony held on March 31. The awards highlight individuals and organizations that assess,

improve, and address their impact in their communities through reductions in energy use, contributions to the local economy, commitments to providing equitable opportunities for all, and more.

This marks the first award received by the Convention Center in the 10-year history of this event. The Best Overall Award was awarded to the Convention Center for improvements to its energy usage, waste reduction efforts, new green infrastructure, and more. In total, 10 areas of impact were measured and judged by a panel who deemed the Convention Center to be one of the best companies in New Orleans in their commitments to the sustainability of their facility and the environmental health of New Orleans. The New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center's Director of Sustainability, Linda Baynham, spearheads these initiatives.

"This award celebrates our determination to reduce our impact on the environment. It is not only important to our community but expected by our clients who bring thousands of visitors to New Orleans annually," says Convention Center President Michael J. Sawaya. "The kind of cutting-edge improvements we are making, such as our change to LED lights in our exhibit halls, or the construction of our new environmentally-friendly pedestrian park, means that our ambitious \$557 million dollar Capital Improvement Plan is already paying dividends for us and the city of New Orleans."

Proceeds from the 2022 Love Your City Awards Gala were donated to VEGGI Vietnamese Farmers Cooperative, located in New Orleans East, to assist in flood prevention efforts.

NEW ORLEANS – New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Completes Ambitious Series of Energy Saving Initiatives

The New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (NOENMCC) announced that they have completed one of the largest energy-saving initiatives ever undertaken in the region. The ambitious energy efficiency upgrades – including an overhaul of the facility's lighting and HVAC systems – are expected to save hundreds of thousands of dollars and millions of kilowatt hours, making the facility significantly more sustainable.

"Not only will these energy efficiency upgrades lessen the impact that the Convention Center has on the environment, they will also improve the experience our guests have when they visit the facility," said Linda Baynham, Director of Sustainability at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. "These upgrades improve the client experience, while reducing environmental cost. We will continue to pursue energy-saving opportunities that support our mission of delivering results for our internal and external customers."

Part of its five-year **capital improvement plan**, the facility upgrades represent a major step forward in the Convention Center's plan to achieve LEED Certification – the most widely used green building rating system in the world, which provides a framework for healthy, highly efficient and cost-saving green buildings.

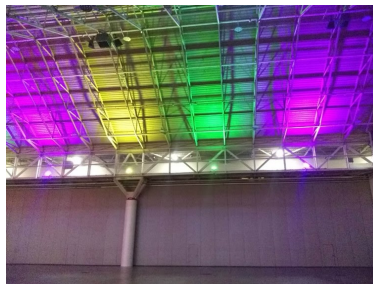
Among several other initiatives, the NOENMCC completed the following projects:

- Replaced over 4,000 light fixtures with LEDs in the 1 million sq. ft. exhibit hall
- Installed over 40 miles of new wiring with over 30,000 man hours of skilled labor
- Retrofitted more than 2,000 light fixtures throughout the Convention Center's offices, corridors, and stairwells
- Replaced four 1,200-ton water cooled chillers with new high efficiency systems
- Rebuilt the facility's heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) plant with a new control room and operations center
- Installed more than 60 energy-efficient water bottle filling stations
- Upgraded 36 sets of restrooms with low-flow fixtures

Through these projects, the Convention Center awarded \$11 million in contracts to small and emerging businesses (SEBs) in the community and participated in **Energy Smart**, a comprehensive energy efficiency program developed by Entergy and the New Orleans City Council. Although much has been completed, there will be more improvements to come. The Convention Center is currently investigating electric vehicle charging stations, solar power options, and plans to install a reflective roof to further reduce both energy use and the heat island effect, the significantly hotter temperatures common in urban areas as compared to surrounding rural landscapes.

"These issues are very real, and we are examining every detail of our facility and operations, as we continue our work to reduce the Convention Center's carbon footprint," said Convention Center President, Michael J. Sawaya. "As a hub for the local community and visitors to our city, we are committed to making sustainability a focus of everything we do moving forward." "We are very proud of the work that has been accomplished and look forward to our sustainable future in our upcoming improvement plans," said Convention Center Vice President of Operations, Adam J. Straight. "We are ready to lead these efforts and will continue to make improvements that will have a positive impact on the city, state, region and beyond."

This year, the NOENMCC will conduct a Level II Energy Audit which will measure how well the facility's current energy-saving measures are operating and offer suggestions for more areas of improvement. For more information on the Convention Center and its sustainability initiatives, visit <https://mccno.com/sustainability/>.



NEW ORLEANS – New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Vice President Tim Hemphill Named to CityBusiness "Power 20"

New Orleans CityBusiness, a weekly business newspaper, has named Tim Hemphill, the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center's Vice President of Sales, Marketing and Events, to their annual "Power 20." The "Power 20" represents the most influential people in the New Orleans Hospitality and Tourism industry. Hemphill was chosen for this

honor through an anonymous nomination process and was ultimately selected for his long list of contributions to the New Orleans hotel & tourism industry as well as his contributions to the local New Orleans community.

A veteran of the conventions and events industry of more than three decades, Hemphill is a Certified Venue Professional who has been at the cutting edge of innovation at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, including the acquisition of an in-house UPS store franchise which provides critical support for visitors to the facility as well as the local community. Hemphill has received numerous awards for excellence in sales, marketing, and public relations and serves the industry on a variety of boards and committees.

A graduate of Texas A&M University, Hemphill has spearheaded many initiatives designed to utilize the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in new and innovative ways, including the founding of a department to produce tradeshow and conferences that are owned by the facility itself. This includes ResCon, a global summit on resilience, and NOLA ChristmasFest, a year-end family-focused holiday themed festival.



"Tim Hemphill has been at the top of his game ever since he assumed his current role in 2008," said Convention Center President, Michael J. Sawaya. "Tim is a trailblazer of this industry and is always forward-thinking about how we can better serve our internal and external customers. His inclusion in this year's Power 20 is a testament to his ability and impact on New Orleans tourism, and we are grateful for his hard work as a part of our facility's executive team."

NEW ORLEANS – New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center and ResCon Participate in Oyster Shell Recycling Program

Representatives of the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, and the organizers of ResCon, a globally recognized hub of resilience, disaster management and innovation, participated in an oyster shell recycling program by the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana (CRCL). This week's event saw several members of the Convention Center and ResCon teams volunteer their time, bagging more than 8,000 pounds of oyster shells which will be placed along areas of Louisiana's coastline to allow for the growth of new oysters, the creation of new fish habitats, and more.

Launched in 2014, the CRCL's Oyster Shell Recycling Program gathers shells from participating New Orleans-based restaurants and uses them to restore oyster reefs and shoreline habitats across Coastal Louisiana. This is vital work, as most shells that are removed from the coasts are never returned, with a large amount ending up in landfills. Since the program's launch, more than 30 restaurants have donated 10 million pounds of shells for recycling, resulting in the construction of four oyster reefs.

The program will also help add to the coastal buffer zone that will protect Louisiana residents. The shells added to the shoreline will help dissipate waves and fortify wetlands that have seen heavy losses with an increase in intense storm activity.

"As residents of Louisiana, our resiliency has been tested time and time again," said Katie Calabrese, Convention Center Director of Special Events and Partnerships and Director of ResCon. "We are so excited to assist with this vital project by the CRCL to add a preventative measure against the pressing environmental issues that affect our family and friends in Louisiana."

ResCon offers programming that touches on a wide range of topics including water and emergency management, cybersecurity, disaster resilience, and much more.

Visit resconnola.com to learn more about ResCon and to register to be notified for future ResCon events.



TENNESSEE



NASHVILLE - Congratulations to Quentin Goward, Sr. Safety & Security Manager for the Grand Ole Opry House in achieving two ASIS certifications, Certified Protection Professional (CPP) and Physical Security Professional (PSP). The certifications demonstrates he possess a mastery of best practices in security management and knowledge and experience in threat assessment and risk analysis; integrating best practices in physical security concepts. The CPP exam (4.5 hours/225 questions) consisted of 7 domains covering (crisis management, security officer operations, applications, information security, physical security, legal issues and security management)- considered the "gold standard" in the security industry and the PSP exam (2.5 hours/140 questions) focused on the extremely technical aspects of physical security. The ASIS Certification shows his commitment to excellence, growth, and a code of conduct.

VIRGINIA

FAIRFAX - After 37 years at EagleBank Arena and 45 years with Monumental Sports & Entertainment, John Besanko, CVP, will be retiring at the end of June.

John began his career in 1977 as an usher at Capital Centre in Landover, MD, while studying at the University of Maryland. He then moved to the Patriot Center at George Mason University as the original box office manager in 1985 before being promoted to Director of Arena Administration in 1988 and Assistant General Manager in 2000.

From everyone in Region 5, Happy Retirement, John!



RICHMOND - The Greater Richmond Convention Center completed updates and renovation to the Business Center creating a new "Executive Lounge" during the height of the pandemic.



RICHMOND - Tom Uphold has joined the Greater Richmond Convention Center as the Director of Sales and Marketing. Tom has been in the hospitality industry for twenty-six years. Prior to coming to Richmond, he served as the General Manager and Director of Sales for large-scale family fun park in Memphis, Tennessee. He utilizes the servant leadership style using the cornerstones of preparation, team development, critical thinking, and drive to help achieve results. Small town roots provided the foundation of hard work and dedication.

ALLIED NEWS

Hi Allied Partners - We want to hear from you.
Send any news or updates to iavmr5@gmail.com



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