



2014-2015-2016 CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Dear «First Name»,

In our country 2016 was a period of almost non-stop discussion of the impact of the decisions made by the electorate.

No matter how weary you became of the election rhetoric, you cannot ignore the importance of the voting process in democratic republic like ours. In fact, both the process and the result remain under such scrutiny that if nothing else we should have learned how much there is to learn and how important our collective decisions as voters are both now and in the longer term.

By now you may have guessed that I am hoping to increase your awareness and interest in ASTA's election process which took an important step forward on June 6th as self-nomination applications began to be accepted for the National Board of Directors and Chapter Presidents positions.

I am providing links that detail leadership positions, responsibilities, requirements, terms as well as who is eligible to vote and when those vote must be received. [Click here](#) to view the Election Calendar and procedures.

As important as this information is, I am more interested in discussing what your vote means to this organization at this moment in time.

A review of the Election Calendar show that by July 3rd candidates must have posted their profiles and possibly of even more importance their reason for running and what actions they would propose to undertake if elected.

Let's be fair, if you do not know what a candidate promises to do, how can you hold them accountable once they are in office?

There are character issues, like integrity and honesty, but there are also plans and proposal that can give you an idea of the quality of their ideas and experience to move ASTA in a direction that you can value and support.

How many times have you heard "JUST GET OUT AND VOTE"?

Won't you be more proud of your participation and more invested in the outcome if you educate yourself on the positions and promises of those you are considering and maybe even challenge some of their assumptions and add to the vision and common sense principles you would like your Association to represent.

Please save the dates, spend some time getting to know the candidates, cast your educated vote and look for an improving ASTA. If that does not happen, at least you have an idea of why it didn't.

Finally as the electoral process starts maybe you know a better candidate than those who have nominated themselves. Maybe that candidate is YOU!

Last month I started recognizing our Executive Board ~ this month I would like to talk about the position of 2nd Vice President. This position requires much time and VERY good organization skills.

Our 2nd Vice President has been an ASTA member for 14 years. She has served as the Cincinnati City Chair, Secretary for six years and 2nd Vice President for two years.

As 2nd Vice President, Pam Faust, has been in charge of all of the Chapter's City Chairs and has coordinated the events in seven and sometimes eight. This year alone ASTA Mid-America had 25 events and 4 Trade Shows. Pam had a meaningful role in all of them! We have benefited from her broad range of vendor contacts and her unique ability to match the right people to make a great event.

This year Pam's agency, Silhouette Travel, donated the wine for our Barbara H. Markham Advocacy dinner.

Thanks Pam, we couldn't have done it without you!



Claudia Darling
Chapter President

Board Members:
Barbara Mazzola, 1st Vice President
Pam Faust, 2nd Vice President
Pat Reynolds, Treasurer
Connie Corbett, Secretary

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING CHAPTER & NATIONAL EVENTS

ASTA Mid-America Chapter

- **ASTA Mid-America Summer Meetings in June** - Join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner in your city to learn more about what exciting news Star Clippers Cruises, Authentic Ireland, Celebrity Cruises, Princess Cruises, Globus and Central Holidays have to share with you! Meetings begin June 26 thru June 30, 2017. Look for your invitation in your inbox! Registration is required. Don't miss out on these exciting and informative meetings. [**Register today!**](#)
- **ASTA Mid-America Seminar Events in July** - Join us for lunch or dinner in your city to learn more about what exciting news Avalon Waterways, Royal Caribbean, Insight Vacations, Central Holidays, Celebrity Cruises, and Princess Cruises, have to share with you! Meetings begin July 18 thru July 20, 2017. Look for your invitation in your inbox! Registration is required. Don't miss out on these exciting and informative meetings.

ASTA National

ASTA National has an exciting line-up of informative, educational and enjoyable events planned from June through November 2017. We hope you will join us for:

- [ASTA / NACTA Bahamas Showcase](#), - June 21-24, 2017
- [ASTA Global Convention](#), San Diego, CA - August 26-29, 2017
- [NACTA Annual Conference 2017](#), Anchorage, AK - September 13-16, 2017
- [ASTA China Summit 2017](#), Guiyang, China - November 8-12, 2017

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