



March 2017

ASTA Mid-America Chapter

# Happy St. Patrick's Day

*Chapter eNews*

## 2014-2015-2016 CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Dear «First Name»,

When the focus changes the conversation changes with it. In Washington DC some of President Trump's big picture agenda items are now reaching a stage where the details of any proposed changes must be explained, costed out, analyzed from the prospective of many different factions, negotiated and moved through the halls of Congress before they can become law.

Unfortunately, things like safe streets, an education system that prepares children of all economic circumstances to obtain a job that will help them achieve financial independence, and exist in the communities where they want to live are much harder to achieve in the real world of conflicting interests.

That does not mean we should not strive to improve our systems, our structures and our individual abilities to benefit from those organizations. We do need to be patient, fair minded and willing to engage in the improvement process.

Government is not the only place where major operational and organizational changes are underway. ASTA at the National level, is in the process of changing the way it will operate in the future.

ASTA National is trying to place ASTA and NACTA chapters on a platform where they can support rather than compete with each other. As a part of that process the territory management structure and priorities of the Mid-America Chapter are likely to change as well.

The current Board's term ends in August at the conclusion of ACG in San Diego and new leadership will be selected by National.

As a part of that transition the territorial limits of the Chapter will be taken under consideration. As you know, ASTA Mid-America currently covers western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and Indiana. In the past proposals were made by the current board to National regarding the possibility of adding Northern Kentucky to our Chapter. Others felt it would be easier to manage if the Chapter were much smaller and the leadership were distributed into five or six separate chapters. No matter what approach is finally selected there will be advantages and disadvantages.

As I mentioned above when discussing National priorities now is the time to be really engaged in the decision process and to make your considered opinion known to your current Chapter Board, as well as to the National Board of Directors.

At this point many important decisions are to be made and new people selected to lead ASTA Mid-America going forward. Whether you have ideas to offer or would actually consider taking a leadership role, let us know and you will be heard!

Thanks for your past and current commitment to ASTA Mid-America.

*Claudia*

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**

- **TravelFest** - April 3-6, 2017 - Registration email will be sent out in early March. Look for it in your Inbox!
- **All Chapter Meeting** - June 8-10, 2017 - will take place at the [Nemacolin Woodlands Resort](#) just south of Pittsburgh. Our featured speaker this year will be Arnie Weissmann, Editor and Chief of Travel Weekly. Arnie is an important and well respected voice for our industry. He can be expected to discuss "big picture" issues that will be important to our business interests in 2017.  
**More details coming soon!**

### **ASTA National**

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

- [ASTA Capital Summit](#) - June 4-6, 2017, Washington DC; which includes:
  - [Premium Business Summit](#), Washington DC, June 5-6, 2017
  - CAC Meeting, June 6, 2017, and
  - [ASTA Legislative Day](#), Washington DC, June 7, 2017
- [ASTA / NACTA Bahamas Showcase](#), - June 21-24, 2017
- [ASTA Global Convention](#), San Diego, CA - August 26-29, 2017

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