



KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIRS...

Joseph Stout



2010

Current: *Chairman, CSIFT Suppliers' Night*

Previous CSIFT Positions: *Section Chair-2004-2005, Chair-Elect-2003-2004, Past Chair-2005-2006, Councilor, Multitude of various Suppliers' Night Roles and Chair of Membership.*

In my career, I have been involved with Sales and Marketing Management for the last 39 years with McCormick & Company, Flavorite Laboratories, Provesta Corporation, and most recently Skidmore Sales Company. I can trace my interest and dedication to the industry to my Junior Year in High School when I first heard about the St. Joseph's College Academy of Food Marketing. This is where I earned a BS in Marketing. Later, I did MBA studies at Golden Gate University in Monterey, CA and The University of Baltimore in Baltimore, MD.

My IFT Affiliation began in 1973 when I became a "Member" of National IFT as well as the Maryland Section. My career relocations took me to the Monterey Subsection of Northern California IFT, Rocky Mountain IFT (where I ran my first Suppliers' Night with 70 exhibitors and 300 attendees) and finally to the Chicago Section IFT.

My first job with the Chicago Section was in 1985 on the Suppliers' Night Symposium Committee. Mr. Jeff Kramer of National IFT was Suppliers' Night Chairman who took over the management of Suppliers' Night some time earlier from the Founding Pioneer of Suppliers' Night Mr. Stan Tolin (11 exhibitors at the first CSIFT SN in 1963 that raised \$300). Shortly thereafter, Mr. Kramer transitioned responsibility (when we had 150 exhibitors) to the Chicago Section to the person of Mr. Dave Streitmeier and Direct Response Marketing (DRM) - Mr. John and Ms Heather Nelson). For the next few years, Dave had me and several other people worked on different committees including registration, volunteers, exposition, finance, and of course our symposium. Eventually, he asked me to be Chairman of the Expo and later Chairman of the Suppliers' Night Committee.



I think that I have had intermittent involvement with Suppliers' Night as long as I have been a member of our Section. However, I have held other CSIFT positions including Chairman of Membership, Chairman-Elect, Chairman, Past Chairman and Councilor.

Occasionally, I have been asked, "What do I get out of IFT?" At first, I replied, "I didn't know because I wasn't looking for anything". Later, after thinking about it, I concluded, "I do it because I like it and I like it because it's fun. The Food Industry fascinated me a long time ago and I have dedicated my life to it. It has always been a privilege to serve IFT and a pleasure to work and become friends with so many people.