



Chicago Section IFT  
the First Section



## Introducing Emeritus Member: Pat Turner Pertal

**M. Patricia (Pat) Turner Pertel**

**Current:** Emeritus member since 2010.



### **Previous CSIFT Involvement:**

Member (1964-1966), Professional Member (1986-2010). Chaired “Surfing New Waves in Food Trends,” 1996 joint symposium on Nutrition & Food Technology co-sponsored by CSIFT and the Chicago Nutrition Association. Pat has also been a member of the following IFT Divisions: Dairy Products, Food Law & Regulations, Nutrition, Product Development and Quality Assurance.

### **Other Professional Affiliations have included:**

Chicago Nutrition Association, Food Executive Women, the former Chicago Home Economists in Business (CHEIB) and American Home Economics Association.

Pat was born in Bozeman, Montana. From childhood through college, she lived in several states and Argentina with the food industry career moves of her late father, Earl W. Turner, PhD. She credits her father for her desire to pursue a food industry career, and become a member of IFT.

Pat received her Bachelor Degree in Food & Nutrition for Business from Clarke College (now Clarke University), Dubuque, IA. Following graduation, she worked for two years as a member of the Consumer Services Field Staff for the former National Livestock & Meat Board. During that time, she traveled in 24 states giving promotional and educational presentations for large consumer groups, livestock species trade groups, broadcast and TV media, national livestock exhibitions and school food service summer workshops.



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Pat's next career move was as the Research & Development Home Economist for Durkee Foods Grocery Products Division in Chicago. Following a hiatus as "stay at home" mom for her two children, Pat worked two years part-time for a marketing research firm, and as a product development consultant for Morton Salt Co. She became a Professional Member of IFT Chicago Section in 1986.

Pat returned to full time food career status with Alberto-Culver, U.S.A. as Food R&D Home Economist for AC's Grocery Products and Milani Foodservice groups. During that time, she helped to incorporate GMP level food safety standards within the food product development and test kitchen environments. When NLEA was enacted, she became involved in development of compliant labeling formats and product claims for AC food products.

In a continued evolving career pattern, Pat's next pursuit was Technical Services Coordinator for Dairy Council of Wisconsin. While with DCW she regularly surveyed how dairy and dairy foods manufacturers used NLEA labeling and labeling claims for product positioning within the retail foods market. Findings were published regularly for internal DCW newsletters. Next moves took Pat into supervisory job venues of new product R&D, quality control and quality assurance, and FDA-USDA Food Product Labeling for three more Chicago area food manufacturers and freelance labeling consultant before full retirement in 2006.

Pat remains a strong advocate for utmost food product safety and quality "from bench through final distribution and usage," and fully FDA-USDA compliant, consumer-friendly nutrition and ingredient food product labeling.

Now, Pat most enjoys time spent helping when needed with her three grandchildren in Glenview, IL. Her daughter, Michele Reeve, carries forward the family "food industry tradition." Michele & her husband, Jon Reeve, are both R&D Engineers at the Kraft Foods Group Technical Center in Glenview.