



Uwe Nienaber, 2011-2012 Chair

Message from the Chair

Dear CSIFT Members,

It's been a pleasure serving as chair of the Section during the first few months of my term. I am always learning from a big group of seasoned and dedicated volunteers who have been very supportive along the way. Although we are faced with a lot of economic and

social uncertainty in our daily lives, the Section is financially sound and its volunteers are committed to keep it that way. Suppliers' Night is a vital source of revenue for our Section. It has steadily risen during the last few years and most of the booth spaces and sponsorship spots for 2012 have already been sold by now. This would not be possible without the hard work of our volunteers and business office who strive to make the next show always a notch better and even more attractive to both suppliers and attendees than the previous one. I guess we all remember the phrase: When The Going Gets Tough - The Tough Keep Going.

In case you could not make it to our December Holiday Party, you did miss a great presentation on cheese by a group of Chefs from Culinary Sales Support Incorporated including a tasting of several artisanal cheeses from Wisconsin and a live demonstration of how to make your own fresh mozzarella at home!

This was followed by a slide show to commemorate the Section's 70th birthday presented by our historian Dean Duxbury. Dean spent many hours sifting through historical artifacts and gathering the most important milestones. He even included five questions for the audience to answer. There were many lucky winners after plenty of shouting. Apparently the questions weren't as easy as initially thought. Anyway, we all need a refresher and you can quiz yourself by following the link to the repository in our members-only Section:

<http://www.chicagoift.org/members/programs.html>

The preparations for the upcoming elections of Officers and Executive Committee members for the 2012/2013 term are underway and we are looking forward to a big turnout from our membership once the election period starts. Please take a look at the information provided by Pam Vaillancourt, Past-Chair and Chair of the Awards and Nominations Committee, in this newsletter.

I am wishing all of you good health and continuing success in your personal and professional life throughout the new year, and as always: be active in the Chicago Section of IFT.

See you all in January when our hot topic is Food Safety!

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