



Know Your Emeritus Member: Bobbi Buford



Bobbi Buford
Emeritus Member of IFT and CSIFT

IFT: Bobbi Buford joined IFT in 1977 when she attended her first national IFT convention. She was a member of IFT and CSIFT for over 30 years, and was fortunate to attend (and usually exhibit) at both the national IFT convention and CSIFT Supplier's Night every year.

Her service to IFT was primarily as Newsletter Editor of the Chicago Section, as well as serving on the newsletter committee. IFT was an enjoyable and rewarding organization for Bobbi, and was immensely helpful in her career.

Education: Bobbi earned a BS in Foods in Business (a combination of Food Science and Business) from Purdue University, followed by an MBA in Marketing Management from Loyola University of Chicago. She also had focused development training in identifying customer needs, sales and marketing strategies, consultative selling, competitive strategy, marketing plans, product management, leadership development, and negotiation.

Career: Bobbi's career began in 1974 with Kraft Foods R & D in Glenview, IL, followed by a position in Kraft Consumer Services. She then became a Marketing Specialist for sausage and cheese casings with Teepak, Inc. In 1981, she joined Universal Oil Products (UOP, which is now owned by Honeywell), and held various positions such as National Sales Manager for Food Antioxidants, and Worldwide Business Manager for Food Products and Processes. When the food antioxidant division was sold by UOP to Eastman Chemical Company in 1998, she became a Market Development Executive with Eastman for food, beverage, cosmetic, and personal care ingredients. After taking early retirement from Eastman in 2004, she formed Bobbi Buford Marketing, and consulted in sales and marketing for the food industry. She then joined FBC Industries, Inc. in 2005 as National Accounts Manager for liquid food additives, retiring in 2009, and finished her career as a Marketing Consultant with The Chatfield Group.

Awards: While at UOP, Bobbi received the Employee of the Year award for Outstanding Performance in Business Management. Purdue University honored her with a Distinguished Alumni award. She was also selected as a Trade Delegate on a Mission to China with the U.S. Department Commerce.



Chicago Section
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Associations: In addition to IFT, Bobbi was active in AOCS, ISBT, FEW, NAFFS, and AACC.



Retirement: Bobbi is thoroughly enjoying retirement! She and her husband, Gary Eve, moved full-time to Naples, FL in 2011. Her favorite pastimes include travel, water aerobics, hiking, movies, and reading. The recent photo of Bobbi was taken in Glacier National Park, Montana in September of 2013.