PEOPLE



CONVENTION BUREAUS

Brad Van Dommelen has been appointed director of the Virginia Beach

Convention & Visitors Bureau. He spent much of his career in Michigan and held positions including senior vice-president of strategic business development at the



Brad Van Dommelen

Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau. Van Dommelen most recently served as president and CEO of Traverse City (Michigan) Tourism, where **Trevor Tkach** has been selected to take his place as president and CEO. Tkach previously served as executive director

of the National Cherry Festival, which is based in Traverse City.

Arlan J. (A.J.) Frels has been named executive director of the La

Crosse County (Wisconsin) Convention & Visitors Bureau. Frels most recently led the Carson Valley (Nevada) Visitors Authority, which encompasses four



Arlan J. (A.J.) Frels

communities within the Great Basin area of Lake Tahoe.

Scott Hershberger has been named director of tourism and cultural heritage at VisitPittsburgh, the tourism promotion agency for Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. Hershberger most recently served as director of economic develop-

ment for Mainstreet Waynesboro, Inc., where he was responsible for promoting the city of Waynesboro, Pennsylvania.

Stacie Esteban has been named corporate sales manager at the Frisco (Texas) Convention & Visitors Bureau. She has more than 25 years of experience in the hospitality industry, most recently serving as the director of sales for the Hampton Inn & Suites Dallas/Frisco North–FieldhouseUSA in Frisco.

The Louisville (Kentucky) Convention & Visitors Bureau has promoted **Katie Kubitskey** to marketing communications manager and convention services specialist. She previously served as the bureau's convention sales assistant.

Kim Powers has been appointed group services manager at the Hampton



Kim Powers

(Virginia) Convention & Visitor Bureau. Powers most recently served as the special events and sales and marketing manager for the Tidewater Builders Association.

TRANSFORMATIONS

The Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina recently unveiled a \$107 million expansion of its meeting space. Located adjacent to the San Diego Convention Center, the 1360-room

hotel now features 280,000 square feet of meeting space that includes two new 36,000-square-foot ballrooms, which are stacked on top of each other and can each host groups of up to 3,700 people. Adjacent to each of the ballrooms are grand foyers with an addi-



Mayor Kevin Faulconer attended the opening of the new space at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina.

tional 25,000 square feet of space, floor-to-ceiling windows, a giant 16-screen video wall system and, on the second-floor foyer, a Swarovski crystal ceiling installation. Also included in the expansion project was the new Marina Terrace, an outdoor area overlooking the bay.

The hotel's Marina Kitchen + Tasting Bar features 17 sommeliers leading an extensive wine program and 12 bartenders who have achieved

Level 1 Bourbon Mater certification. The hotel also recently implemented an urban beekeeping project and uses its own honey in its locally sourced Honeycomb Harvest Cream Ale.

The hotel also recently added to its health and wellness offerings with

in-room yoga, which streams six workouts a day from the hotel's "wellness warrior" Halla Neumann, who also teaches daily classes.

—Ann Shepphird

HOSPITALITY & SUPPLIERS

Magda King has been named general manager of the Antlers at Vail in

Vail, Colorado, effective October 1. King will assume the role after the retirement of Rob Levine, who will step down after 38 years with the prop-



Magda King

erty, 29 of them spent serving as general manager. King has been with the Antlers at Vail for 10 years, most recently as assistant general manager.

Rebecca Hubbard has been named general manager of the Lotte New York Palace in New York City, where she has worked since 2011. Prior to starting at

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Association Update

News from state and regional associations and local societies of association executives



- The Atlanta-based Research **Chefs Association** has selected Chicago-based SmithBucklin, the association management and services company, to provide its full-service association management. As a result, the RCA will move its headquarters to Chicago this month. SmithBucklin will provide a chief staff executive who will work alongside the RCA board of directors and lead a team responsible for all aspects of the association's operations. The SmithBucklin team will also manage the association's Culinology Education Foundation.
- The American Society of **Association Executives** recently selected six associations that will receive the 2016 Summit Award, part of the Power of A campaign. which highlights issues that impact associations and shines a spotlight on the expertise and resources available in the association community. This year's winners are: the American College of Chest Physicians in Glenview, Illinois; the American Counseling Association in Alexandria, Virginia; the Association for Corporate Growth in Chicago; the Indiana CPA Society in Indianapolis; the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators in Lexington, Kentucky; and the Public Library Association in Chicago. The organizations will accept their awards at the 17th Annual Power of A Summit Awards Dinner, scheduled for October 5 at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.
- Additionally, 110 association executives received their Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential from the CAE Commission of ASAE. Both the

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the property, Hubbard served as executive assistant manager at the Trump/SoHo, also in New York City.

Douglas Libby has been named general manager of the Devil's Thumb

Ranch & Spa in Tabernash, Colorado. In addition, Libby will oversee operations for nearby sister properties and restaurants in Winter Park, Colorado: the Vasquez



Douglas Libby

Creek Inn, the Trailhead Inn, Volario's and Caffé Giocondo. Libby previously was general manager of the Eldorado Hotel & Spa in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Jaime Piedras has been appointed general manager of the Gran Meliá/Puerto Rico. Piedras most recently served as global management control director at Meliá Hotels International.

Bill Cottrill has been promoted to general manager of the Lake Tahoe Resort Hotel in South Lake Tahoe, California. Cottrill has most recently served as the property's chief manager officer.

The Marriott Napa Valley Hotel & Spa in Napa, California, has appointed **Amanda Hawkins-Vogel** as general manager and **Angela Cava** as director of sales and marketing. Hawkins-Vogel has worked for properties including Il Lugano Hotel in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Cava formerly served in various sales roles for properties including the St. Regis Aspen Resort and the Madeline Hotel & Residences in Telluride.

The Halcyon, a hotel scheduled to open in the Denver's Cherry Creek neighborhood this month, has hired **Cindy Bedan** as its general manager and **Anne Frye** as director of sales. Bedan most recently served as interim general manager of the Éilan Hotel & Spa in San Antonio. Frye previously was opening director of sales and marketing for the SpringHill Suites/Denver Downtown at MSU Denver.

In Playa del Carmen, Mexico, **Teresa Alfonso** has been named hotel director

at the Royal Hideaway Playacar Resort, which is undergoing a renovation scheduled to be complete in December. This is a return for Alfonso; she previously led resort operations from the property's launch through its first seven years.

Patrick Fisher has been named executive director of hotel operations for the MGM National Harbor, which is scheduled to open this year in Oxon Hill, Maryland. Fisher most recently served as director of rooms at the Ritz-Carlton/Washington, D.C.

Karina Davies has been named director of sales and marketing for the Fairmont/Washington, D.C.-Georgetown. Davies most recently served as director of sales and marketing at the Fairmont/Ajman in the United Arab Emirates.

Cat Carter has been appointed director of sales and marketing for the Sheraton Grand/Chicago and Westin/Chicago River North. Carter most recently served as director of sales at the Sheraton Grand/Chicago

Daniel Ben-Efraim has been named director of marketing at the Loews

Regency Hotel in New York City. Ben-Efraim most recently was director of sales and marketing at The London/NYC and also worked as associate director of sales



Daniel Ben-Efraim

for The London Hotels in New York City and West Hollywood, California.

Nicholas Mirabile has been named vice-president of business development at GES, a global, full-service provider for live events. Mirabile most recently was vice-president of business development and global events for TBA Global.

CONSTRUCTION & EXPANSION

The **Watergate Hotel** has opened in Washington, D.C., following the completion of an extensive \$125 million renovation. Additionally, the Top of the Gate

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summer and winter classes will be recognized during the 2016 ASAE Meeting & Expo, scheduled for August 13–16 in Salt Lake City. For a full listing of the newly credentialed recipients, visit asaecenter.org.

 CMA Association Management, a full-service association management and marketing firm based in Princeton Junction, New Jersey, has welcomed three new staff members. Arturo Cianfano has been hired as an association manager and new business development specialist, Maureen Sojka has been named events manager and Jennifer Kohlhepp has been named managing editor. In his new role Cianfano manages the North American Association of Commencement Officers and focuses on business development. He previously served as a relationship manager at the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce and was vice-president of business development at CPN Real Estate. Sojka is now responsible for planning and executing all association events. She has previous experience organizing meetings for both large multinational events and local association conferences. And in her new role, Kohlhepp oversees the publication of four magazines. Prior to starting at CMA, Kohlhepp served as managing editor for the Packet Media Group and Greater Media publications.



· Brad Mayne has been named president and CEO of the **International Association of** Venue Managers and president and CEO of the IAVM Foundation, both of which are based in Coppell, Texas. Mayne formerly worked for MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, serving as president and CEO from September 2012 through April 2016. Prior to that, Mayne served as president and CEO of Center Operating Company and the American Airlines Center in Dallas.

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rooftop lounge is scheduled to open later this summer. The 336-room hotel provides 27,000 square feet of meeting and event space, including a brand-new ball-room and 10,000 square feet of outdoor terraces overlooking the Potomac River.

Also making its debut in Washington, D.C., is the **Kimpton/Glover Park**. The hotel features 154 guest rooms and provides 3,860 square feet of function space, including a divisible ballroom and a terrace, each of which can host up to 150.

The **21c Museum Hotel/Oklahoma City** recently opened in the Oklahoma capital. The downtown property is an adaptive reuse of the Oklahoma City Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant and offers 135 guest rooms, 14,000 square feet of event space and a restaurant.

The **Rush Creek Lodge** has opened less than a mile from the west entrance of Yosemite National Park in California. The property offers 143 lodge rooms, suites and villas, a restaurant and tavern and meeting space for up to 250 people.

The **Atlanta Marriott Marquis** has completed a \$78 million renovation,



Atlanta Marriott Marquis

rounding out the downtown property's \$216 million, decade-long transformation. The most-recent improvements included updates to the hotel's 1,663 guest rooms, its public spaces and its 160,000 square feet of meeting space.

The **Charles Hotel** in Cambridge, Massachusetts, has completed a \$20 million renovation that has enhanced its 295 guest rooms. The hotel offers more than 18,000 square feet of meeting space.

The 2,019-room **Hyatt Regency/Chicago** has unveiled new meeting space,

bringing its total to 240,000 square feet of flexible space. The East Tower of the hotel now has an additional 10,297 square feet of space, and the West Tower has added 1,608 square feet of space.

In Naples, Florida, the 474-room Naples Grande Beach Resort recently wrapped up an \$8 million renovation of its Naples Grande Golf Club. The championship course also received a significant update. The resort welcomes groups with 474 guest rooms and more than 83,000 square feet of meeting and event space.

The Palm Beach Marriott Singer Island Beach Resort & Spa in Riviera Beach, Florida, has unveiled a \$6.8 million renovation of its 193 guest rooms and event spaces. The hotel offers 3,600 square feet of meeting space.

The 622-room Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland, has completed a \$4.5 million renovation. Updates were made to the hotel's 27,548 square feet of meeting space. Additional renovation plans will add 1,300 square feet of pre-function space. The update is expected to be complete this summer.

AND FINALLY ...

The Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau has unveiled a new brand platform, logo and creative for marketing the city's tourism initiatives. The



new platform will be featured on its new website, which is going live this month.

"The Beatles Love," a Cirque du Soleil production, recently celebrated 10 years on the Las Vegas Strip. In honor of the anniversary, the show has undergone a creative evolution that features all-new acts. "The Beatles Love" is presented at the 3,044-room Mirage Hotel & Casino, which offers more than 170,000 square feet of meeting space.

-Edited by Jennifer Lee