



Rick Schmitt



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



SUMMER EDITION

August 2021

I would like to start out by saying “Thank You” to all CDM, CFPPs in South Carolina. You have undoubtedly been through situations you have never encountered before in this career. You have had to make decisions that you have not been comfortable with; you have had to watch your staff and clients go through mental anguish and physical exhaustion; you have had to deal with not knowing what tomorrow brings; and you have witnessed a supply industry crumble and rebuild itself to meet the changing needs almost on a daily basis. You are the Warriors on the ground that have kept the wheels of Nutrition and Foodservice turning in times that policies and procedures, and infection control measures changed faster than any other time in our lives. You are all true Leaders of the Nutrition and Foodservice industry!

ANFP did a great job with blast emails and webinars to keep everyone abreast on best practices and infection control measures from a national perspective. We thank the organization for their efforts and leadership. I urge you all to become familiar with the ANFP website [www.anfponline.org](http://www.anfponline.org). There is an abundance of information, training, and other interests to be found on their site.

Since our last spring meeting in South Carolina, March of 2020, as the venue, Westminster Towers, was locking down, your Executive Board has been hard at work with each of you in mind. It has been challenging for your board to operate in a traditional sense, and with infection control protocols the way they were, it was impossible for SC ANFP to plan and hold educational conferences for your career development. We apologize for this, and are currently creating solutions so this will never happen again for our great chapter. The board is now in the process of creating a hybrid-model for our state meetings and conferences that encompasses technologies that we have steered away from in the past. Your ideas and support are definitely welcomed as we blend face to face education with video conferencing platforms.

I would like to thank the Board for their efforts through the pandemic. Keeping an organization running through conference calls, reviewing By Laws and Policies and Procedures, conducting financial and reporting functions, and collaborating with other states was not an easy task under the circumstances. All officers understood the importance of what we were doing and that each member of SC ANFP deserved our attention to these matters. I applaud you all!

I would also like to congratulate Jo Labelle and Brian O'Reilly on winning the Membership Award and the Communication Award from ANFP. These awards were given at the 2021 ACE Conference in Orlando, Florida, and will be presented to them at the Fall 2021 SC/NC Education and Networking Conference at Double Tree by Hilton Oceanfront on October 22., 2021. These two have worked hard over the last year keeping up with students and contacting members to see how they were doing, and putting together newsletters to keep you informed. This year we will expand our newsletter to four editions (quarterly). It is now sent electronically, and may at times end up in your spam box – we are working on this issue as well. Please thank them for their work when you see them.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge two “Firsts” for SC ANFP – the award of funds from the CDM Assistance Fund and the Bob Sloan Memorial Fund. Thanks to your contributions, a CDM, CFPP in need of money for his annual dues was helped and is still a member of the ANFP. The Bob Sloan Memorial Fund was also granted this year for the first time in its eleven year existence to send Audrey Thomas to the 2021 ACE Conference – an eye opening experience for her that she will remember for a lifetime.

I look forward to seeing you all in October, and hope to hear from you with ideas of how we can better help you gain the education you need for our ever changing career, and sharing best practices that have positively impacted your operations.



# Officers Installed at Cherokee

South Carolina ANFP chapter installed its 2021 officers during the annual NC/SC Conference at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort June 15th. They are, left to right: President Richard Schmitt, CDM, CFPP; President-Elect Paige Thibault (voice on cell-phone), CDM, CFPP; Vice-President Audrey Thomas, CDM, CFPP; Secretary Diana Trout, CDM, CFPP; Treasurer Jeri Tallon, CDM, CFPP; and Immediate Past President Brandy Layne, CDM, CFPP.



## Come and Join the Team *by Brandy Layne*



President's Award

I have been in the foodservice industry since I was 17 years old. At the age of 23, I moved into the healthcare foodservice industry. I began my career path as a kitchen supervisor while getting my CDM, CFPP (Certified Dietary Manager, Certified Food Protection Professional) from the University of Florida correspondence study. I completed the certification program in 2009 and have since worked in various retirement home kitchens. I have worked with my current employer for 5 years as the Director of Food &

Beverage in a CCRC. I am ServSafe Certified as well as an Instructor/Proctor for the ServSafe certification. In 2019 I obtained my Certified Fitness Trainer certification as well as my Certified Nutrition Specialist certification.

I have been a part of the SC ANFP board since 2011. I started as the Membership chair and quickly moved to Board Secretary where I stayed for just over 6 years. I followed into Vice President. Currently I serve as the Immediate Past President and still honored to be a part of this wonderful organization. People that have known me over the years can vouch I am the "quiet one" When I first joined, the organization, getting me to speak was about as hard as pulling teeth! Being part of this "family," has given me the opportunity to use my own voice and you all know, I'm not afraid to use it anymore! This family given me the opportunity to gain respect for myself, as well as my peers. On a personal level, I couldn't imagine spending the last 10 years doing anything else! On a professional level, being a part of the SC ANFP Board has allowed me to gain stature and respect within the retirement community, I would not have earned without the help of the SC ANFP.

My advice for anyone "on the fence" about volunteering for the SC ANFP, I say "DO IT!" Yes, you'll have to work and sometimes it will be hard and frustrating, but when it all comes together as it should, it is so rewarding. It's a very humbling feeling knowing you are a key person in the grand scheme of how things are supposed to be.

## SC ANFP Scholarships and Memorial Funds

Through the years the SC ANFP has implemented award programs for CDM, CFPPs and students to gain needed funds for course work, testing, conference attendance, and emergency situations. Members of the state chapter and supporters contribute these resources through auctions and donations to help better the lives of people in need within our profession. There are currently four scholarships and memorial funds that you should know about that could help you or someone you know in their time of need.

**The Colleen Ham Scholarship Fund** – This fund was the first of its kind implemented by SC ANFP to help pay the cost of certification testing for students of the CDM, CFPP course. It is awarded twice a year to applicants that submit an essay and application form prior to taking their CDM, CFPP Certification Exam. The deadline for submission is December 1st and June 1st of each year. If you know a student, please inform them of these resources and contact your chapter leaders.



**AUDREY THOMAS**  
**AWARD WINNER**

**The Bob Sloan Scholarship Fund** – This fund was featured in another article due to its first time award recipient in 2021. It was created to send an active member in good standing to the national ANFP conference annually with the hopes that the experience would further their career development and solidify their dedication to volunteering both on the state and national levels.

**The Frances Brown Memorial Fund** – The late Frances Brown was a firm believer that education was the key to being a great leader in the Foodservice industry. This fund was created in her name to provide funds for books, flashcards, and other instructional materials for students currently taking the CDM, CFPP course. It may be awarded up to three times per year not to exceed \$100 per award. If you know a student, please inform them of these resources and contact your chapter leaders.

**The CDM Assistance Fund** – This fund was created in 2017 to help CDM, CFPPs manage the cost of annual recertification dues or registration fees for a state conference.

From time to time things happen within everyone’s lives that create a financial hardship – unemployment, natural disaster, death in the immediate family, etc. The membership of the SC ANFP suggested that this fund be created to help in these cases. The monies in the fund are from auctions, fund raisers, and personal donations. SC ANFP members care for one another, and this fund represents the Brother and Sisterhood that we share. The first award from this fund was given in 2020 to pay the annual dues of a member that had been out of work through the pandemic. Thank you members for making this happen!

There are funds for your career journey available to all ANFP members and student members from several sources. If you are in need, contact your local chapter leaders to discuss your situation. Search for funds available on the ANFP website. This organization was created with education, networking and caring built-in. You are not alone.



## Prepare To Ride Along Myrtle Beach in October



“Back In The Saddle Again” will be the theme for the South Carolina/North Carolina Fall Conference October 20-22 at the Double Tree Hotel. Beautiful ocean scenery will be on hand (left) as part of the stay.



Springmaid Pier has been renovated and reopen to all. One can take a stroll along the pier and view the Atlantic Ocean in all its wonder or take a fishing rod and try your luck along with others.





## Bob Sloan Memorial Fund



Many of you may remember Bob Sloan, CDM, CFPP. He was a mentor to many, a friend to all, and an enemy to none. His devotion to the organization was immense - not only in South Carolina, but also on the national level. The National Chair-Elect was taken from his family and the organization untimely in December of 2010 as he passed peacefully in his sleep from a heart attack.

Shortly thereafter, his wife, Pam, and her children contacted us to initiate a memorial fund to send hopeful state chapter leaders to a national conference. It was Bob's belief that if a person were to attend a national conference that they would be hooked on volunteering for the organization, and that trip would catapult their career.

The fund was created as Pam and family wished. Silent auctions and other fund raisers were held, donations were taken, and the Sloan family donated money to it as well.

For more than ten years this fund lay waiting for an applicant to meet the criteria, and make a submission for its award. That day came in 2021 as a submission was received by Audrey Thomas, CDM, CFPP. The Executive Board reviewed the submission and it was shared with Pam for her approval. The submission was awarded the memorial funds by unanimous vote.

Having been mentored by Bob, I know he would be so proud of who received the funds as Audrey was one of the last people that he began to mentor. I had the honor of spending time with Audrey at the

2021 ACE Conference, and I know it has made a difference in her outlook on volunteering and will make a huge impact on her career going forward. The award was also mentioned in the acceptance speech of the incoming ANFP Board Chair, Omar Humes, in a heartfelt recognition of those that have paved the way for today's leaders of the ANFP.

### Audrey's Bob Sloan Memorial Fund Submission

I would like to attend the 2021 ANFP ACE Conference in Orlando, Florida this year from June 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> because I believe it would be a great asset to my career as a CDM/CFPP.

In the past I worked at a Nursing Home in Scranton, SC, as a cook, and that is where I met Mr. Bob Sloan. He was there assisting because we did not have a kitchen manager at the time, and from time to time he would come up to me and say "I think you have the potential to be a Dietary Manager." I had no idea that he would become one of my mentors.

I started going to SC ANFP conference meetings as a student and I enjoyed the networking, learning about the food aspects of working in a nursing home and meeting new people. I did end up going to school to be a CDM. It wasn't easy, but I made it and all because I kept in mind what Mr. Sloan told me "you have potential." I have no regrets about my decision, I just wish Mr. Sloan was here to see what all I have accomplished and to say "I told you so!"

I have served as a volunteer for the SC ANFP for many years. I currently serve on the hospitality committee, and as of this year, I'm on the Executive Board as Vice President of our chapter.

As a first timer I think this will be a great opportunity for me to meet and network with other CDMs from different areas. I hope that through this experience it will guide me on my professional journey, educate me in this new world of technology in the foodservice industry, help me to communicate with my peers and coworkers, and most of all put a smile on my client's faces.

Audrey Thomas, CDM, CFPP



## Honors Gala concludes ACE Conference

South Carolina had several members enjoy the Honors Gala festivities at the 2021 ANFP Annual Conference and Expo in Orlando, Florida this June. Present were, left to right: Vice-President Audrey Thomas, CDM-CFPP; President Rick Schmitt, CDM-CFPP; ANFP Director at Large Renee M Spence, CDM-CFPP; ANFP Past Chairman Richard “Nick” Nickless, CDM-CFPP; Newsletter Editor Brian O’Reilly, CDM-CFPP; and Terry Harris, CDM-CFPP.



### ***Meet your President-elect***

**Paige Thibault!** I began my career as a dietary manager in Louisiana in 2011.

Acting as both the kitchen manager & clinical director, I completed my Certification to become a CDM, CFPP in 2013. I continued my career in Louisiana for three more years as an active participant in the Louisiana chapter of ANFP. I planned & executed 2 successful programs: Real Food First daily snacks and Alzheimer’s Dining. I won a scholarship to attend the regional meeting in Las Vegas in 2015.

I returned to South Carolina in 2016 to be closer to my son & two grandchildren. I quickly obtained a position as an Account Manager in Anderson & specialize in clinical nutrition. Under my leadership, our facility has been promoted to a certified training facility.

I have had a strange year! As vice-president, it was my duty to plan the food show participation. Of course COVID saw to it that that didn’t happen.

Now, as President-Elect, I am charged with lining up all of the speakers for our fall conference. I am learning so much about our chapter & association. I am in awe of my fellow board members’ knowledge. Their leadership, dedication & perseverance during this pandemic are inspiring. I truly appreciate all of their help & look forward to the future service the SC ANFP!

### **Calling All CDM’s of South Carolina**

**Seasoned, New and Afar** *by Membership Chairman Jo Labelle*

The past 18 months have been extremely hard on all of us, but as professionals we have prevailed!

The South Carolina ANFP organization is asking all to save the date - *October 20-22*— for its “Back In The Saddle Again” conference.

This fall conference will be in Myrtle Beach at the Double Tree Hotel next to the Spring maid Pier. North Carolina ANFP members will again be joining us.

If you have missed the conversations, interactions, networking, questions, hugs and smiles, YOU are with us!! We as an organization have missed all of you!

Our state membership roll shows over 300 professional members. We would love to each of you out and about again! Remember the date.

More information about the meeting will be forthcoming. It will include schedule of events, times, hotel information and directions.

Any questions feel free to contact any SC ANFP board member or myself. Look forward to seeing you there!!

J. Labelle

Membership Chair

843-448-8731



## North Carolina Entertains “*Back Together Again*” Spring Conference



ANFP North Carolina entertained the first educational and networking conference since the Covid outbreak in June. It was held at the beautiful Harrah’s Cherokee Casino Resort and allowed ANFP members from both North and South Carolinas to one again meet and greet each other in person!! South Carolina President and Executive Chef Rick Schmitt, CDM,CFPP, (pictured left) was one of several speakers. He explained providing good customer service is one of the most important skills that sets our business apart from others. It includes helping customers efficiently and in a friendly manner from purchasing items to serving on a plate.

Chef Rick’s session followed “Ethics in the Workplace” by Omar Humes, CDM,CFPP, explaining the importance of best behavior and ethics in the workplace. These learned traits must go together to produce the best environment for our customers and employees.

Jo Labelle and Felecia Coleman, members from South Carolina, listen to Ryan Hinman discussing “resilience” during his Round Table Learning Circle. Improving self-awareness, stress and burnout in the management of our professions were items covered.

Dawn Loftin, a level 1 Para Yoga Certified Teacher, Para Yoga Nidra Certified Teacher, explained the benefits of Sri Vidya. She is a student of Rod Stryker, founder of Para Yoga and initiated into the Sri Vidya tradition and has the desire to continuously learn and deepen her personal practice to be the best version of my Self. Dawn explained how she attempts to cultivate self-reliance in others so when they experience unpredictable life events, they too can draw from their reservoir of time-tested practices, step back into the Witness and remember the part of them that is unchanging, always peaceful and at rest.

By nature, her classes are fun, informative and peppered with humor. She educates students on alignment to promote safety in class, guide them in meditation, pranayama, Yoga Nidra and offer a curated savasana.

For more information: [info@yogaalliance.org](mailto:info@yogaalliance.org)

Side note: Dawn Loftin also is the National Account Manager at Ada Valley Meat Company Inc. and was one of the vendors at the ACE National Food Expo in Orlando, Fla. She is pictured on page 9 of this edition.



Jo Labelle and Felecia Coleman



# THE BEST WAY TO START YOUR DAY!!!



North Carolina Chapter President Joseph Burdette welcomes all to imbibe in the hot delicious buffet breakfast served by Harrah's top chef Friday morning before the start of the final days seminar sessions at the *NC/SC Back Together Again* Spring Conference.

## ***Take Your Cake and .....***

South Carolina ANFP President Chef Rick Schmitt shows his displeasure (left) after finishing last during June's NC/SC Back Together Spring Meeting at Harrah's Casino Resort in Cherokee, NC. Joining him is teammate Felicia Coleman. Cake decorating was the "Iron Chef Challenge" between four groups.





## North Carolina's Humes is ANFP Chairman



Omar Humes, CDM,CFPP of North Carolina prepares to give his acceptance speech as incoming Board Chairman for the 2021-22 year at June's ACE Conference in Orlando Fla. He is with Pruitt Health and is President/Owner of Genesis Training & Consulting in Raleigh-Durham, NC. He has over 20 years of experience in long-term care. Hobbies include fishing, golf, community service and mentoring kids through coaching.



ANFP members from around the nation passed through these doors to peek at new and old items vendors were presenting. One such vendor was Ada Valley Meat Company (right). Pictured with her fellow salespeople was Dawn Loftin (center), who also was a guest speaker at the NC/SC Spring Conference at Harrah's Casino in Cherokee. A woman of many talents, Loftin spoke on the benefits of yoga relaxation techniques, especially in the workplace.





# SOUTH CAROLINA



Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals

AUGUST, 2021



**VIEWS TAKEN FROM  
KING ROOM  
AT DOUBLE TREE BY  
HILTON  
MYRTLE BEACH  
OCEANFRONT  
RESORT**



***Included with re-  
served room:  
Springmaid pier  
Coffee station in  
lobby 7am-11am  
Access to minigolf  
Breakfast buffet  
available***



Remember the date October 20-22



BACK IN THE  
SADDLE  
AGAIN!!!

