

CSA holds monthly mixer at Exhibit City News Headquarters



Written by Samantha Stewart, ECN Staff Writer

Tuesday, June 03, 2008



Josh Kozinski and Tanya Busse of Sky High Marketing.

The Convention Services Association of Las Vegas (CSA) held its monthly mixer May 14 at Exhibit City News' headquarters on Desert Inn Road.



Mike Briggs,
President of CSA



Executive Chef Billy Joe Arthur
with Judy Kackley of ECN.

“The event is great; everyone seems to be having a great time,” said Josh Kozinski, president of Sky High Marketing, a marketing agency that focuses on logo and Web site design and promotional apparel items. The firm also provides exhibitors with promotional branded tradeshow giveaway items to help bring traffic to their booths.

“We’ve been members of CSA for a while, and we always have a good time and get a lot out of the meetings,” Kozinski said.

No event is complete without food and drinks, and ECN as host went above and beyond with catered food by Executive Chef Billy Joe Arthur, whose motto is, “Never trust a skinny chef.” Barbecue empanadas, strawberry mousse and mini grilled cheese sandwiches with shrimp were just a few of Arthur’s signature creations sampled at the event.

Michelle Stanford, CEO of Red Thunder Mobile Billboard Advertising, and her son Seth, 5, had a terrific time; especially at the Party Face booth provided by Amusement Game Rentals.



Tom Jenkins and Brinkley.

Party Face is a photo booth that takes portraits on the spot and also allows faces to be morphed into silly shapes. The booth was a hit with little Seth, who spent a majority of the evening making silly faces into the camera.

“I like the game, it’s a lot of fun,” Seth said. Seth also worked the room of some 40 to 50 adults, handing out Red Thunder business cards and telling people to “call my mommy.” Also on hand to enjoy the crowd was Brinkley, ECN’s newest mascot. Brinkley is a 150-pound, goldenhaired canine with whom everyone falls instantly in love. His owner, Tom Jenkins, is ECN’s new business development manager.

With the attendees’ wide assortment of occupations and interests, conversation never lagged. Steve August, owner of August Entertainment, Inc., had a fascinating way of describing his business to fellow guests: “When you want a hot girl eating fire, with a 12-inch python wrapped around her or laying in a bed of scorpions, call me,” he said. Kira Eldon, a Sin City caddy girl, modeled the company’s sexy caddy outfit. (Think short plaid skirt and tight polo shirt bearing the Sin City Caddy logo.)



Steve August of August Entertainment.

“We’re all trained and certified. We caddy, keep score and tend the flags and clubs just like any other caddy,” Eldon said. She added that not just any girl in a short skirt can be a caddy girl.

“We do more than just stand there and look pretty,” she said. “You have to be bubbly, outgoing and really understand the game of golf.”

Parks People executives, members of CSA for almost two years a t t e n d e d . Faith, director of marketing and sales, spoke highly of CSA: “What I like about CSA is the variety of businesses they bring together and the opportunity to catch up with our colleagues in the hospitality industry.”

You can contact Faith at: faith@parkspeople.com.

Another mixer guest was Robyn Spencer of Steve Wyrick Theatre, a great friend of ECN/TSL and one of the best promoters in town.

Mike Briggs, president of CSA, was the good-looking guy on the mike giving away door prizes and other gifts.

“If you want to have fun and be part of an association that brings the best in the industry together, become a member of CSA,” said Sharron Walley, editorial coordinator of TSL. She said Mike can be reached at mike@gvdjs.com or www.csalv.org. CSA officers:

• President – Michael Briggs • Vice President – Dan Price • Secretary – Robin Renkin • Treasurer – Maureen Dickson • Membership – Mike McDaniel

CSA is a nonprofit organization formerly known as the Women’s Convention Services Association (WCSA). The group originally formed in 1968 to promote and support women in the convention industry. In 2001, the association embraced the new millennium and became CSA, no longer separating men and women but bridging the gap.