

# TAMPA BAY



September 2011

Club No. 184  
Founded September 25, 1959

Dear Fellow SKÅLleagues:

“If you're hanging around with nothing to do and the Zoo is closed, come over to the Senate. You'll get the same kind of feeling and you won't have to pay.” ~ Bob Dole

It was a “wild” evening at Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo. Many of the attendees had no idea the Zoo had such a beautiful event facility. Appetizers and drinks were served in Reilly’s Reserve, adjacent to the Safari Lodge and overlooking the habitat where the giraffes, elephants and zebras live.

Billy the giraffe hung around for a while before deciding he had enough of us and went to his night house. The elephants were present in the background, reminding us of the “BIG EVENT” coming next year.

After a warm and informative welcome by Craig Pugh, the Zoo’s CEO, we sat down for a buffet dinner. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves based on all the chatter.

The most impressive part of the evening, to me, was the chance to meet and mingle with Elizabeth Dearborn Davis, the co-founder of the Akilah Institute in Rwanda. But most inspiring was having the chance to talk with Allen Kazirwa and Noella Abijuru, two of the Akilah students. They were articulate and so happy to be with us and were especially excited to interact with professionals in their chosen profession.

These women, like all Akilah students, were so terribly impacted by the genocide in their country, yet ... they are positive, happy and looking forward to their future.

They had the opportunity to attend a Skål meeting in Hong Kong so this was their second experience with our organization. Guess what! They want to start a Skål Club in Kigali, Rwanda and I promised I would do whatever I could to help them get that started. Isn’t that terrific!

The Akilah Institute is only one of the reasons your board is busy, busy, busy planning, organizing and preparing for our 1st Annual Hospitality Hobnob.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

President’s Letter	Pg 1
Birthdays	Pg 2
HobNob Event	Pg 3
Member Spotlight	Pg 4
Next Meeting	Pg 5
Pictures	Pg 7
Venue Spotlight	Pg11

Find a roster of all the members online with their address, email, and phone number at [www.skaltampabay.com](http://www.skaltampabay.com)

The Application for potential members can be found on our website too!

Funds raised at this event will support 2 organizations that should be very important to us; Akilah and Prostart of Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.

So if you haven't signed up yet, please do. See the invitation below and click on the link or go to [www.skaltampabay.com](http://www.skaltampabay.com) to register. A foursome is only \$100 and you get a fun evening of mini-golf, free open bar and terrific food stations. Or just come and hang out for \$35. You can also be a sponsor of the event at very reasonable levels. Remember, the money raised is going to support Akilah and Prostart.

Do you need another reason to come? How about the chance to win \$10,000 at our 50' putting contest!

I hope to see you all on Tuesday, October 4 at our Skål's 1st Annual Hospitality Hobnob!!!



Lorrie Hero  
President



**October Birthdays**

10/04 Cole Jeffries  
10/04 Toby Dillas  
10/05 John Marks  
10/05 Ed Shaughnessy  
10/07 Joan Hart  
10/09 Sam Johns  
10/09 Robert Manderscheid  
10/13 Chuck Wray  
10/15 Gary Dickinson  
10/19 Jack Mengel  
10/20 Erlene Fitzpatrick  
10/22 Don Grade  
10/29 Tim Coultas  
10/30 Doug Nelson

If your birthday is missing, please let Karen know at [skaltampabay@aol.com](mailto:skaltampabay@aol.com)

# Skål Tampa Bay's 1st Annual Hospitality Hobnob

The fun party of the year for travel  
and tourism professionals and friends.

Tuesday, October 4, 2011  
Registration at 6:00PM  
Mini-Golf Tournament from 6:30PM-9:30PM

Egypt Shrine Activities Building  
(Adjacent to the A La Carte Pavilion)  
4050 Dana Shores Dr., Tampa, FL 33634

For registration, sponsorship and charity information,  
go online to [www.SkalTampaBay.com](http://www.SkalTampaBay.com).



## Skål "Plays It Forward" Mini-Golf Tournament

Proceeds will benefit the Akilah Institute and ProStart of Pinellas and Hillsborough counties.

- Indoor mini golf tournament
- Prizes
- Open bar
- Camaraderie
- Hors d'oeuvres stations

All this fun for \$35 per individual, \$100 per team.

Enter a 50' putting contest  
to win **\$10,000** cash!



Founded in Paris in 1932, SKÅL is the largest international  
organization of travel and hospitality professionals.



**GET SIGNED UP NOW – SPOTS ARE FILLING QUICKLY**

**EVERYONE – EVEN YOU - CAN PLAY PUTT PUTT**

## SKÅL Tampa Bay MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### The Simple Things in Life...Are Often the Best

The Palm Pavilion family is comprised of the landmark Palm Pavilion Beachside Grill & Bar and the adjoining Palm Pavilion Inn with its distinctive architectural style.

Early this summer, the Palm Pavilion Inn, a long time participant in the Superior Small Lodging® program, was honored as a recipient of the annual White Glove Award. This is the organization's highest distinction for housekeeping achievement having received a score of 100% in this category.

The AAA-rated property is located on the northern part of the island of Clearwater Beach, less than a dozen steps from Clearwater's white sand beach. The inn features rooms, efficiencies and apartments. Amenities include a heated swimming pool, beach shoppe, cabana and umbrella rentals and an observation deck, plus complimentary coffee each morning in the lobby and free Wi-Fi. The inn is close to fishing, parasailing, dinner cruises, watersports, tennis courts, a playground and marina, plus is on the Jolley Trolley route.

Superior Small Lodging is a statewide program of small motels, boutique hotels, Old Florida style cottages, quaint bed and breakfasts, romantic inns and beach villas. The organization has set standards for quality, cleanliness, friendliness and safety and only those who have successfully met or exceeded the requirements bear the designation. The program was established to assist consumers as they look to book their accommodations, so as to distinguish among the many options and those who offer superior service and value.

\* \* \*

The more famous family member, "The Palm," as many know the restaurant, has been operating on Clearwater Beach since 1926, making it considerably older than the adjacent inn. This past May marked the beginning of its 85<sup>th</sup> year.

As one might guess, there have been a few changes since Howard and Jean Hamilton purchased the business in 1964 – removing the bathing house, adding and then expanding the outside deck and moving the kitchen so as to open the vista for sunset watchers. With every improvement, the Hamilton family sought to preserve the architectural integrity and charm of "The Palm," while keeping it a place everyone from grandparents to grandchildren would feel welcome.

While some guests walk up the beach, others come by bike, car or trolley. Situated directly on the beach overlooking the Gulf of Mexico, this is the place to order cool tropical drinks and watch spectacular sunsets. Amid nostalgic architecture guest can enjoy casual dining - pasta, steaks, chicken and seafood wraps, shrimp and crab chowder,



Hoyt Hamilton  
President/Owner  
Palm Pavillion Inn



View of the Palm Pavilion Inn



smoked ribs and beach burgers - plus live entertainment on the deck.

For generations, "The Palm" has been a place that residents and visitors have gathered. And perhaps later reminisced about those vacations and trips to the beach and a stop at the Palm Pavilion. Fast forward to today...and a webpage created on Facebook by someone from the Midwest - Fans of Clearwater Beach Palm Pavilion!! "It is humbling to see the many kind words and memories shared by those who have been to The Palm," said Hoyt Hamilton.

According to the state of Florida, the Palm Pavilion is the oldest operating beach pavilion in the state of Florida. Their slogan captures it all, "There's no place like this place, anywhere near this place, so this must be the place." <sup>SM</sup>

Mark Your Calendars for our November Meeting  
November 14, 2011  
Silas Dents Restaurant  
5501 Gulf Blvd  
St Pete Beach, FL

Keep Scrolling for Pictures from our  
August Meeting at  
Lowry Park Zoo  
They are "wild" and crazy!



Palm Pavilion Inn  
18 Bay Esplanade  
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767  
(727) 446-6777 • 800-433-PALM  
[www.palmpavilioninn.com](http://www.palmpavilioninn.com)

Palm Pavilion Beachside Grill & Bar  
10 Bay Esplanade  
Clearwater Beach, FL 33767  
(727) 446-2642  
[www.palmpavilion.com](http://www.palmpavilion.com)

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2011  
SKÅL TAMPABAY 1<sup>ST</sup> HOSPITALITY HOBNOB AT EGYPT SHRINE

## Skål “Plays It Forward” Mini-Golf Tournament

**Registration Deadline: 9/30/2011**

Payment due at time of registration  
We accept Cash, Check, Visa, MasterCard or American Express

**When:** Tuesday, October 4, 2011

**Where:** Egypt Shrine Activities Building  
(adjacent to A La Carte Pavillion)  
4050 Dana Shores Dr  
Tampa, FL 33634

**Time: Registration at 6:00PM // Mini-Golf Tournament from 6:30PM-9:30PM**

Fax registration to: 727-674-4064 OR Email registration to: [skaltampabay@aol.com](mailto:skaltampabay@aol.com)  
Mail entry to: Skål Tampa Bay  
3690 Avocado Dr  
Largo, FL 33770  
Questions call: 727-433-3801

### Sponsorship Registration

\$5000 Event Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Eagle Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

\$2500 Beverage Cart Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 Hole Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

### Attendee/Participant Registration

\$100 Team Entry

Player 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\$35 Individual Entry

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Help us “Play it Forward” – come and learn about the great charities that our proceeds benefit – ProStart of Pinellas County and ProStart of Hillsborough County as well as the Akilah Institute in Rwanda. Skål supports these charities as they represent the future of international tourism and

**Go to [www.skaltampabay.com](http://www.skaltampabay.com) to make your reservation and payment  
or call Karen Coultas at 727-433-3801**

**Be sure to express our Thanks for hosting the September Meeting!  
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo**



A great big thank you to Trisha Rothman, Vice President Marketing and Sales, and the staff at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo for a "wild" evening. Send a thanks to: <mailto:trish.rothman@LowryParkZoo.com>

**September 12, 2011  
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo**



Reception at Reilly's Reserve



Students from Akilah Institute



Great appetizers



Great drinks



Great friends



Lots of wild things at the zoo

September 12, 2011  
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo



Say cheese



Thanks to Pat Donohoe for getting our guests



What's so funny?



Taking a break from planning the HobNob Event



Gregg, Lori and Tim hanging out



Lily and Jeff joined us for the night



Who let these animals in?



Getting to know our guest from Rwanda

September 12, 2011  
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo



The food was delicious



Dannette and hubby enjoyed the night



Are you talking to me??



Our guests were so appreciative



They want to start a Skål club themselves



Having a little fun



We learned a little about the zoo



Elizabeth is the founder of the Akillah Institute

September 12, 2011  
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo



Getting a Skål flag from Lorrie



Just saying thanks again



They were inspired by our hospitality



New member Cinnie McCaulley



Happy to be a Tampa Bay member



Karin is happy to be the 50/50 winner

## VENUE SPOTLIGHT



For 25 years, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo has served up one of the biggest, tastiest and "*wildest*" all-inclusive food festivals in the Bay area known as Zoofari.

Bring your biggest appetite to this **25th anniversary** feast, only at the Zoo. For one ticket price, guests can go on a sampling safari of more than 60 of the Bay area's best restaurants, enjoy open bars, browse the "Art Safari" art auction, and dance to live music on multiple stages. Admission tickets are all-inclusive and the event is rain or shine. Animals are not on exhibit during the event.

Tickets will be available in October online or by phone at 813-935-8552 ext. 329. VIP/group packages are available in the **Baldwin Krystyn Sherman "Rhino Club"** with exclusive use of the beautiful Safari Lodge.