



February 1, 2019

Dear RFA Conference Attendee:

We have received your registration form and are so pleased that you will be joining us for the 39th Annual Refrigerated Foods Association Conference & Exhibition on February 17-20 at the Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina in Tampa, FL! The attire throughout the Conference and social events is business casual. We suggest you bring a sweater or jacket as the meeting rooms can get cool. The average high temperature in Tampa in February is 72° and the average low temperature is 53°.

REGISTRATION: Your name badge and packet will be waiting for you at the RFA Registration Desk in the Hotel. The RFA Registration Desk will be located in Grand Ballroom Foyer, and we will be available to assist you at the following times:

Sunday, February 17	12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Monday, February 18	7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 19	7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

On the back of your name badge will be a number... this is your bidding number for the Silent Auction going on at the Exhibit Reception on Monday afternoon. Please write your NUMBER, not your NAME, when you place bids to allow for anonymous bidding.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

RFA Office: (678) 426-8175

RFA Office Fax: (678) 550-4504

Email: info@refrigeratedfoods.org

Marriott Waterside Hotel: 813-221-4900

700 South Florida Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602

GROUND TRANSPORTATION: Transportation from Tampa International Airport (TPA) or St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) can be arranged via Uber, Lyft or taxi. Discounted rental cars are also available through the RFA's Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number J095952. Please use this number when calling Avis directly at 1-800-331-1600 to receive the best rates available. Various parking options are available – please check the resort website for details. RFA Conference attendees will receive a 25% discount on valet parking from Feb. 16-20.

RESORT DINING: The hotel's restaurant is undergoing renovations, but there are many dining options still available onsite and in the surrounding area. In the hotel, Waterside Grill offers fresh seafood, steaks and cocktails; the Greatroom & Patio features shared plates or light restaurant bites. You will find many restaurant options of all price points right outside, along the Tampa Riverwalk.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS OR PREFERENCES: Please notify us right away if you have any food restrictions, allergies, preferences, etc. by emailing us at info@refrigeratedfoods.org.

MEETING ROOMS: Meetings and meals will be held on-site at the Marriott Waterside Hotel. Sunday evening's reception will be held in II Terrazzo at lobby level. Tuesday's Banquet, Awards, Music and Live Auction will be an unforgettable evening, taking place at the Florida

Aquarium. You can walk (.7 miles) or take one of the buses, which will be looping continuously beginning at 6:15 p.m.

FOUNDATION FOR HOSPITAL ART SERVICE PROJECT: We will be conducting a service project on Tuesday, and we'd love your help! If you are not golfing and want to spend some quality time with your fellow RFA members, please consider taking some time to relax and paint with us. The Service Project will be held from 2:00-3:30 pm in Meeting Rooms 9-10 at the Hotel (Third Floor). We will have everything you need to participate except YOU! Just show up to participate. Completed artwork will be donated to the Shriners' Hospital in Tampa.

GOLF TOURNAMENT: There are still a few spots available for the golf tournament at TPC Tampa Bay on Tuesday, February 19. The fee is \$240 and includes green fee, cart rental, range balls, a boxed lunch, and great prizes. We will meet in the lobby for prompt departure at 11:30. Please pick up your lunch as you board the bus. Team pairings will be posted at the RFA registration desk on-site at the Marriott Waterside Hotel. If needed, golf club rental is available directly from the Pro Shop for \$60 plus tax. Please reserve your clubs with the RFA staff and return your credit card form directly to TPC Tampa Bay in advance. You will need to turn in your score cards to the course at the end of the Tournament to be eligible for the prizes! **We will not be able to accommodate last-minute changes this year, so make your plans in advance!**

ASSOCIATES: The Associates' Meeting will be held on Tuesday morning, February 19 at 7:30 a.m. in Grand Salon H-J. CEO Session sign-ups will be held during this meeting. Associates must be registered for the full Conference and members of the RFA to participate. This will be the ONLY time you can sign-up for the One-on-One Sessions, so be sure not to miss this important meeting! Sign-ups for CEO Sessions are one per company. Sign-up information and labels will be included in the registration packet of the "main contact" from each eligible company. Associates will elect one new Associate member to serve a 3-year term on the Board of Directors. Nominations and election for this position will take place during the Associates' Meeting.

The Exhibit Reception will take place from 3:30-6:30 p.m. on Monday in Grand Salon E-J. Exhibitors can begin **setting up at 9:00 am** on Monday. All displays must be in place by 3:00 pm on Monday and **removed by 10:00 pm**. Please contact Viper Services with any questions.

CEO SESSIONS: This year's CEO Sessions will take place on Tuesday morning from 9:00–11:20 a.m. in Grand Salon E-F. Associates can sign up for CEO Session appointments during the Associates' Meeting on Monday morning at 7:30 am in Grand Salon H-J. All manufacturers who agreed to host CEO Session tables are expected to be in attendance.

TUESDAY EVENING'S CLOSING BANQUET: The Florida Aquarium is open exclusively for RFA Conference attendees on Tuesday night! Please join us for a delicious buffet, awards, music, live auction and great fun with your RFA family. Dress for this evening will be business casual. The banquet will be at the Florida Aquarium, and buses will be available for departure beginning at 6:15 p.m. We will have exclusive use of the Aquarium to enjoy a reception among the exhibits prior to a wonderful buffet dinner and live auction.

SILENT AUCTION: This year's Silent Auction will be held on Monday evening during the Exhibit Reception from 3:30 – 6:30 pm in Grand Salon E-J. There are great items available this year so be sure to participate in this exciting event! The list of some items from the auction will be included in your registration packets and on the Conference App. Please use your bidding number on the back of your badge to allow anonymity.

TRAVEL VOUCHER RAFFLE: A limited number of tickets will be sold during the Exhibit Reception for this exciting raffle... good for travel up to \$2,000! Raffle tickets will be sold during the Reception for \$10 each or three for \$25. The drawing will take place at the end of the Reception on Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. so buy your tickets early and often! You must be present to win.

SPOUSES – SHOPPING & DINING ADVENTURE: There will be an unforgettable spouse event on Monday, February 18 from 11:00-3:00 pm. Plan to meet in the lobby at 11:00 a.m. to depart for Hyde Park Village, where we will enjoy shopping and camaraderie. We will move on at 1:00 p.m. to enjoy the Epicurean Theatre Culinary Adventure, enjoying lunch and wine pairings with a Tampa Twist! Please RSVP to info@refrigeratedfoods.org by February 8. There is no charge for this event, courtesy of Reser's Fine Foods.

MAKING THE MOST OF THE EVENT: This year's Conference is filled with informative presentations, networking opportunities and special events. Please attend all sessions to get the most out of the event! If we can assist you in any way, do not hesitate to contact us at the RFA Office.

SPONSORS: A special thank you goes to all of our generous sponsors this year!

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Ron's Home Style Foods
Sandridge Food Corporation
Shining Ocean
St. Clair Foods

We are so glad that you will be with us. Looking forward to seeing you in Tampa!
Best Regards,



Megan Levin
Executive Director