

Contact: Marisa Gancz  
Nevada Restaurant  
Association  
Phone: (702) 749-6664

1500 E Tropicana Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89119  
www.nvrestaurants.com



NEVADA RESTAURANT  
ASSOCIATION

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## National Restaurant Association Sponsors partnered with the Grassroots Professional Network

**Las Vegas, February 16, 2017:** The National Restaurant Association partnered with the Grassroots Professional Network and Campaign and Elections to host a seminar at Carmines Restaurant in Caesar's Forum Shops. This is the first of four road shows of 2017 and we are pleased to have been part of this experience. The panelists and speakers are dedicated to the advocacy and communication field across a variety of industries and serve to propel action for that. Through this forum we discussed how Travel & Tourism and Gaming & Sports deal with advocacy plans and the future of their industries.

We want to thank Former Lt. Governor of Nevada Lorraine Hunt-Bono for attending the Grassroots Professional Network 2017 Seminar and delivering a wonderful keynote speech. As a distinguished advocate she spoke about her role in the Nevada Restaurant Association and how the restaurant industry has positively affected herself and her family. She has been a prominent member of the community and in 1972 she opened the Bootlegger Italian Bistro with the land she purchased at age 19. Lorraine understood the true economic impact of government laws and regulations on small businesses. As she evolved, she became the fifth member of the Las Vegas Restaurant Association. During this time she realized the association needed to expand to become the Nevada Restaurant Association and speak about grassroots across the state. When reminiscing about how proud she is of the Nevada Restaurant Association today, she stated, "We are of one mind, and our small voices need to be put together to make one big voice." It was a great honor to have the first woman to chair the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority present an award to Leroy Godfrey who was accepting on our president, Katherine Jacobi's behalf.

The seminar was divided into two panels, Travel & Tourism Advocacy, and Gaming and Sports Advocacy. Panel 1 was moderated by Matthew Wright, from the Children's Hospital Association. The panelists included, Christopher Moyer, Senior Director of Public Affairs American Gaming Association, Josh Dover, Government Affairs Manager JetBlue Airlines, Brian Kaissi, Government Affairs Manager Asian American Hotel Owners Association, Margaret McMillan, Director of Government Relations Nevada Restaurants Association and Michael Jacobson, Director Industry Relations and Political Engagement U.S. Travel Association. Our very own Margaret McMillan discussed the NvRA's grassroots efforts, in particular our bag lunch program she helped to initiate.

Panel 2 was moderated by Michael Bezruki, Director of Grassroots Programs, National Association of Home Builders. Panelists included, Robert Sechrist, President Acquire Digital (Digital Strategist for the Fantasy Sports Coalition), John Pappas, Executive Director Poker Players Alliance, Scott Ward | Counsel Orrick and Dr. Daniel G. Schwartz, Director Center for Gaming Research University of Las Vegas.

Closing remarks were heard from former Mayor of Las Vegas, Oscar B. Goodman who was honored to attend. He felt privileged to have been the Mayor of Las Vegas for 12 year and to have had the opportunity to renovate and revitalize the downtown, acquire a hockey team and to work with Frank Gehry in designing the Luo Ruvo Center for Brain Health Oscar B. Goodman ended the seminar by presenting Katherine Jacobi's second award to Mr. Leroy Godfrey.