

## **104<sup>th</sup> Annual NAPIM Spring Convention**

The year's annual convention took place at The Biltmore Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. Originally established in 1926, The Biltmore is a grand hotel with beautiful architecture, lovely ballrooms, balconies, a championship golf course, the largest resort swimming pool in the U.S., four restaurants, bars, a beautiful tea lounge and lovely meeting rooms.

This year's convention theme "Succeeding Through Change" was picked by our planning committee. The speakers were specifically chosen to address how to succeed in today's business climate with the myriad of changes in our industry and in business today.

The business meetings kicked off with our keynote speaker, Scott Burrows. Scott gave an emotional, compelling and motivational presentation on dealing with change. The remainder of the business meetings included presentations by seasoned professionals and industry leaders. The closing presentation of the convention was presented by Chad Moutray, Chief Economist for the National Association of Manufacturers. Chad's presentation was one of the highest rated of the convention and addressed the complex issues facing our economy, manufacturing and world issues.

This year's offsite activities included The Wynwood District Art Tour, The Little Havana Culinary Walking Tour and a Thriller Speed Boat Ride! All three of these activities were a home run with our members. The cooking class at the Biltmore Culinary Academy was fabulous (my personal experience) and the food was out of this world!

The convention presented many opportunities for networking, business meetings and socializing for our members and their guests.

Thanks to our "2019 Convention Planning Committee" for putting together this wonderful program together this year! We also want to thank this year's convention sponsors!

The 2020 NAPIM Convention will be held in Phoenix at "The WIGWAM" Resort April 17-20, 2020. Please join us for at this beautiful location for next year's convention!

John Copeland

Executive Director