

*In 1971,  
a movement began...*



*Celebrating 40 Years*

*Memories &  
Milestones*

**Celebrating 40 years  
of OCHMRA**

# March 18, 1971

At the urging of Kathleen Harman, 26 people gathered to form the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association.

They shared a common belief that “much could be done to benefit the town and businesses through the strength generated by one group”.

Dues were set at \$25.

March 18, 1971

A meeting was held in the Ocean City Library in an effort to reactivate the Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association of Ocean City. Kathleen Harman called the meeting to order.

The original association was formed in 1964 and had some major projects. These were read by Mrs. Harman. First, she felt, would still be appropriate; others have been outdated.

Ms. Harman offered to furnish us with national information for organization and a membership drive. Twenty-six people were present and all expressed willingness to join the organization and work in its behalf, as it is believed that much could be done to benefit our town and business through the strength generated by such a group.

Melba Conner made a motion that a membership drive be started at once with dues of \$25.00. This was seconded by Cashier Hickman and unanimously carried.

Lilona Conner made a motion that temporary officers and a board of directors be nominated or volunteered in our best interest. Can be generated and to organize a membership drive. This was seconded by Chuck Berry.

Kathleen Harman was nominated as chairman by Steve Phillips and seconded by Kate Harrison with unanimous approval of the group.

Melba Conner will serve as temporary secretary and the Board of Directors will consist of Eileen Kelly, Frances Hill, Kate Harrison, Chuck Berry, Cashier Hickman and Steve Phillips. This group will meet at 7:30.



*April 29, 1971*

The first slate of officers was elected for a term of one year.

President - Kathleen Harman

Vice President - Casher Hickman

2nd Vice President - Hale Harrison

Secretary - Thelma Conner

Treasurer - Steve Phillips





*June 17, 1971*

The first board of directors was chosen.

Eleanor Kelly (3 year term)

Hugh Wilde (3 year term)

Ron Engle (2 year term)

Warren Frame (2 year term)

Charles Berry (1 year term)

Bud Church (1 year term)



# April 4-5, 1975

Following the success of the Restaurant Association of Maryland's annual trade expo, Paul Wall suggested having a trade expo in Ocean City. Over 100 exhibitors participated.

In 2011, we had just over 400 exhibitors and the show now makes up 60% of our annual budget.

10,000



**DELMARVA WILL THRIVE IN '75**

SHOW HOURS  
Friday, April 4 Noon — 9 P. M.  
Saturday, April 5 10 A. M. — 6 P. M.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED  
TO ATTEND OUR FIRST

*Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant*  
**TRADE EXPOSITION**  
April 4-5, 1975  
Ocean City Convention Hall  
4001 Philadelphia Ave.  
Ocean City, Md. 21842

Over 100 Exhibitors covering the broad range of the hospitality industry.  
**SHOW SPECIALS! BUY AT THE SHOW!**  
Exhibitors will be offering show specials and drawing for prizes.

MAIL TO:  
O. C. H. M. R.  
P.O. Box 340  
Ocean City, Md. 21842

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Name

Position

Name of Company

City & State

For additional applications please list the above information on your letterhead.  
AVOID STANDING IN LINE — PRE-REGISTER

# *Spring Trade Expo...* THEN









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# *Spring Trade Expo... NOW*



**SPRINGTRADEEXPO**  
Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association





**SPRINGTRADEEXPO**  
Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association



**SPRINGTRADEEXPO**

Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association



Thank you to the following  
companies who have exhibited at the  
tradeshow since the beginning

**FPC Distribution Federal Paper & Chemical**

**H&M Wagner & Sons**

**Holt Paper & Chemical**

**Lehan Distribution**

**Pepsi Bottling Ventures Delmarva**

**Restaurant Association of Maryland**

**Sysco Eastern Maryland**



**And of course there  
were the dinner  
meetings...**









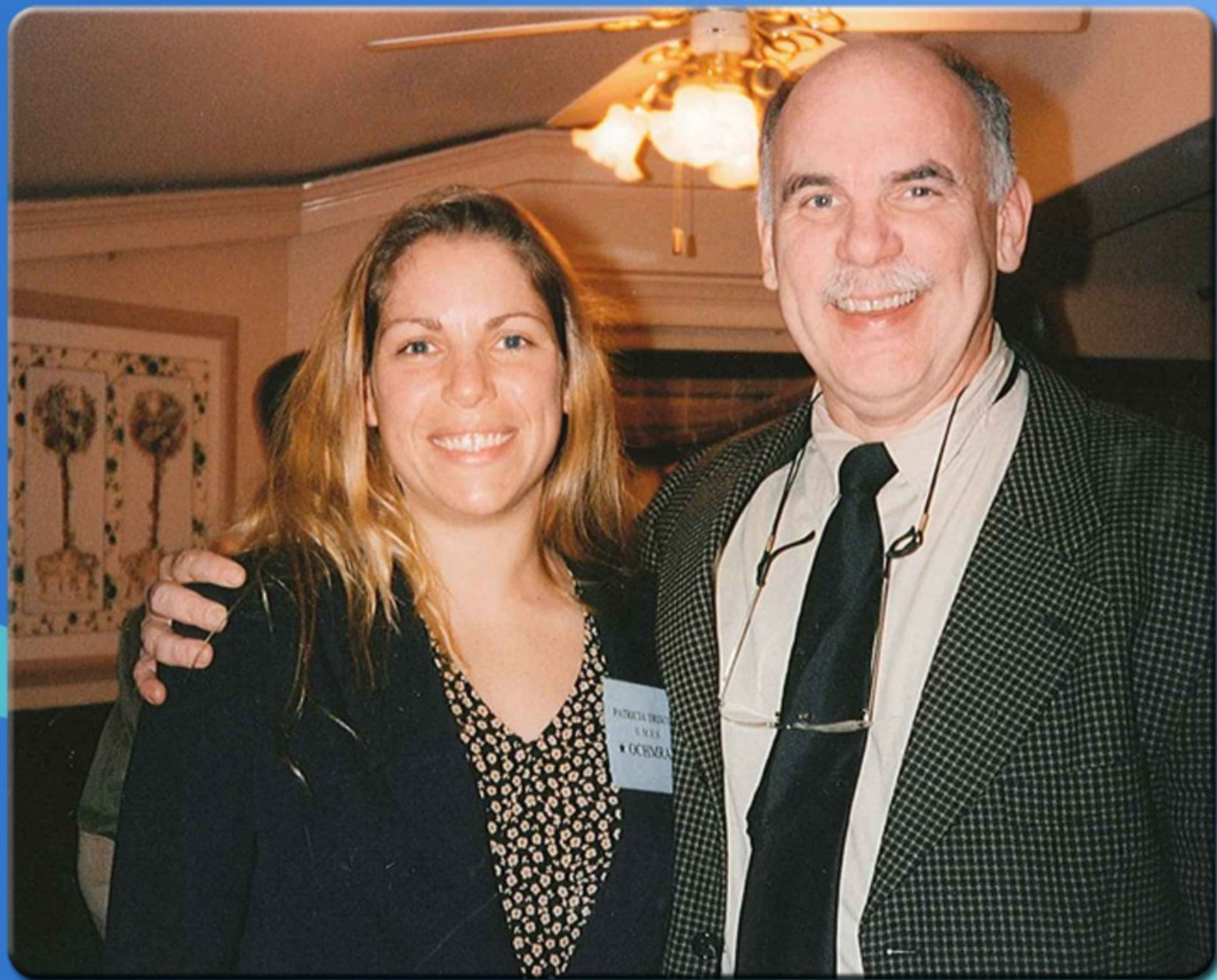


















**Over the years, the fashions have changed, the locations have changed, but the dinner meetings continue to be an integral part of our association.**



**Some of the fashions were more colorful  
than others...**















# But business was still conducted...

Wednesday, May 4, 1983 - EASTERN SHORE TIMES

Page 5B



**NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED** at the Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association spring banquet Thursday night at the Beach Plaza hotel are (l-r) Alberta Harrison, Harrison Group, 1st vice president; Rose Brous, Flamingo Motel, president; Brian Nygaard, Ocean Manor, 2nd vice president; and Elenor Kelly, Kittiwake Motel, secretary-treasurer. (Photo by Sharon Kuck)



**CAROL ALFONSI** (l) was presented with the HMRA's Paul Hazzard Award. The award is given to the member of the association who served the association and the community in the most outstanding manner during the past year. Presenting the award is Shirley Hazzard. (Photo by Sharon Kuck)





### New officers

The officers of the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association are sworn in to serve for the 1986-87 term at ceremonies held Thursday. From left are Eleanor Kelly, secretary-treasurer, Bill Gibbs, 2nd vice president, Bill Salvatore, 1st vice president and Granville Trimper, president.

## HMRA installs officers

Wed

The membership of the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association held their annual awards and installation of officers banquet recently and Susan Cropper was named recipient of the Paul Hazard Award.

The Paul Hazard Award is annually presented to someone selected as the prestigious member of the year, based on service to the association.

Cropper, a past president of the association, was recently chairwoman of the Spring Trade Exposition, chairwoman of the association's first spring brochure and the planner of the first HMRA travel trip, in which members went on a tour to New York, and a second trip, which carried members to a Kenny Rogers performance.

Paul Hazard, namesake of the annual award, was the one who formed the nucleus which became the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association. The award was presented to Cropper by Shirley Hazard.

Gary Fischer, director of Tourism and Community Relations, installed new officers and directors as follows: Thelma Connor, president; Granville Trimper, 1st vice-president; Bill Salvatore, 2nd vice-president; and Eleanor Kelly, secretary-treasurer.

Immediate Past President Alberta Harrison was presented an award by new President Connors for her service during the 1984-85 term of office.

Directors installed were: three-year directors—Ellen Adkins, Bob Givarz and Tom Helder; two-year directors were: Elected Stan Kahn; and Re-elected...



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(Photo by Paul Jankovic, East Coast Advertising Agency)

### New Officers

The new officers for the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association, (in front row), are: President Sally Rutka of the Lankford Hotel; Secretary-Treasurer Carol Alfonsi of the Chalet Apartments; 1st Vice President Adam Showell of the Castle in the Sand Motel and 2nd Vice President Art Hitch of the Joselyn Manor. Elected as board of director members, (in second row), were: JoAnne Thompson of Thompson's Sea Girt House Restaurant; Amy Rothermel of the Belmont-Hearne Hotel; Bonnie Conner of the Santa Maria Motel; Ruan Lassiter of the Comfort Inn and Stan Kahn of the Sheraton Ocean City Resort and Conference Center. Other directors elected, (pictured third row), include: Dana Gottlob of the Lobster Claw Restaurant; Rey Palmer of the Stowaway Americana Inn and Brent Ashley of the Elite Motel.



# HMRA installs new officers at banquet

New officers were installed Thursday, April 18, at the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association annual installation dinner at the Sheraton. Master of ceremonies was former director of tourism, Bob Rothermel.

The new officers are president, Earla Conner, Candlelight Motor Lodge; first vice president, J.D. Quillin, Surf & Sands Motel; second vice president, John Lynch, Commander Hotel; secretary/treasurer, Adam Showell, Castle in the Sand Motel.

Board of Directors: three-year directors, Greg Foster, Comfort Inn

Gold Coast, Kevin O'Donnell, Harrison's Harbor Watch, Annemarie Dickerson, Francis Scott Key.

Two-year directors, Amy Rothermel, Belmont-Hearne Hotel, Connie Taylor, McDonald's BetII Ent., Shawn Harman, Ocean Mecca Motel.

One-year directors, Cindi Wilde, B.E.S.T. Motels, Brian Hoyle, Ocean Inn Hotel, Phil Houck, Bull on the Beach.

Also at the meeting, City Councilman Rick Meehan talked on the issue of the dispensary system of Worcester County. Presented with gifts were Rothermel and Mary Pat Carozza, who is retiring.



New officers (from left): Earla Conner, president, John Lynch, second vice president, J.D. Quillin, first vice president.

**And directors and officers were installed.**











Thank you to Mark Mayers for your  
beautiful ice sculptures at dinner meetings  
past and present





# Along the way, OCHMRA has also supported our local community.

## Tourism center fund drive off to good start

Fundraising efforts in Ocean City to collect private donations towards the establishment of a Maryland Lower Shore Tourism Center in Worcester County have gotten off to a great start.

Ocean City fund drive chairman David Bryant reported this week that \$30,000 of the resort's \$50,000 goal has been collected so far. Separate fundraising activities are also being conducted in the rest of Worcester County and also in Somerset and Wicomico Counties.

The entire effort is being spearheaded by Del. Mark Pilchard, who has received a pledge from State Sec. of Transportation Lowell Bridwell that if the Lower Shore raises \$100,000 in "seed money" for the project, the state will build the proposed tourism center.



TWO \$500 donations were made this week to the Ocean City fundraising drive for the Maryland Lower Shore Tourism Center. Donating \$500 on behalf of the Calvin B. Taylor Bank is Jim Bergey, vice-president; and donating \$500 on behalf of B.E.S.T. Motels (Beachmark, Executive, Sahara, Tides) are Hugh Wilde, Sr., Ross Wilde, and Hugh Wilde, Jr. Accepting the donations is David Bryant, chairman of the fund raising drive in Ocean City for the tourism center.





A \$5,000 donation was made to the Maryland Lower Shore Tourism Center fund drive by the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association represented by treasurer Eleanor Kelly. The donation is presented to David Bryant, Ocean City chairman of the tourism center fund drive.



**GOING FOR IT.** Four more generous donations were made to the Ocean City fundraising drive for the Maryland Lower Shore Tourism Center this week. Fund drive chairman David Bryant happily receives checks from four local firms represented (l to r) by: Dennis Parker, assistant vice-pres. of Home Bank donating \$500; Rose Brous, owner of the Flamingo Hotel donating \$500; Janice Gohl of the Fenwick Inn donating \$650; and Paul Wall, comptroller of Phillips Seafood Restaurants donating \$1,250. The Ocean City fund drive has already collected \$25,000 of the group's \$50,000 goal to help raise funds for the construction of the tourist information center in Worcester County.





# MARYLAND

WELCOME  
Maryland-  
style  
board meeting

**MARYLAND** STATE OF MARYLAND

DATE January 23, 2006

PAID TO THE ORDER OF Maryland Tourism Development Board \$ 7,000,000

Seven million and 00/100

FOR DEPOSIT ONLY

MEMO FY 2007 Grant

*State of Maryland*  
WWW.MARYLAND.GOV



















**We all know that behind every  
great organization is a woman keeping  
everyone on task.**



**Thank you to Mary Pat Carozza & Mary Tawney  
Eastman for all your hard work!**



# Legislative Development & Public Awareness Award 2005



# Tourism Advocate Award 2007 - Save Trimpers Campaign 2008 - Room Tax Dedication





# Tourism Person of the Year 2009



**We have also had the opportunity to recognize some of the wonderful individuals who were responsible for not only our association, but the beginning of the hospitality industry in Ocean City!**



# Our Paul Hazzard Award Recipients...



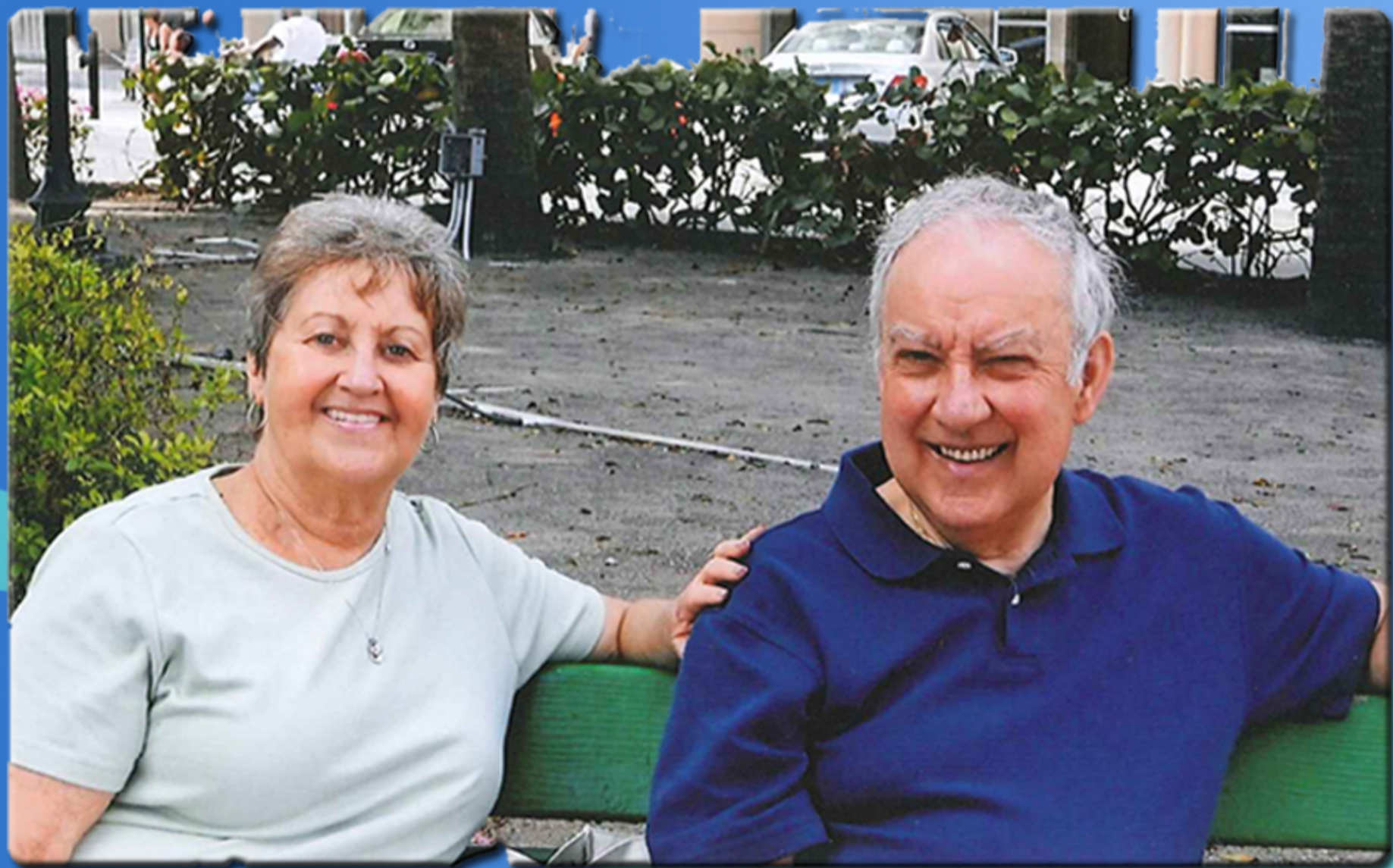
**Thelma Conner (1975)**

# Kathleen Harman (1976)





# Paul Wall (1977)



**George Brous (1978)**

**Rose Brous (1986)**





**William E. Kelly  
(1987)**

**Eleanor Kelly  
(1979)**





**Kate Bunting  
(1980)**



**Amy Rothermel  
(2005)**



# Granville Trimper (1981)



# Betty Frame (1982)







**CAROL ALFONSI (l)** was presented with the HMRA's Paul Hazzard Award. The award is given to the member of the association who served the association and the community in the most outstanding manner during the past year. Presenting the award is Shirley Hazzard. (Photo by Sharon Kuck)

# Carol Alfonsi (1983)

# David Bryant (1984)





# Susan Cropper (1985)



# Bill Gibbs (1990)





# Adam Showell (1991)

May 1, 1992 The Dispatch Magazine Page 15



Adam Showell was the proud recipient of the prestigious Paul Hazard award at the recent O.C. Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association dinner. The presenter is Shirley Hazard. *(Photo by Veronica Kahn)*

# Art Hitch (1996)





# Annemarie Dickerson (2001)



# And our Steel Magnolias (1997)...



*Thelma Conner*

**Thelma Conner, Eleanor Kelly, Dorothy Taylor,  
Ann Showell, Kathleen Harman, Lois Harrison**



# And 2007...



**Carol Alfonsi, Rose Brous, Kate Bunting,  
Susan Cropper, Betty Frame, Eunice Sorin,**

# Eunice Sorin





# Susan Cropper

*(pictured with sister Lynne)*



# Rose Brous

*(pictured with son Joel and daughter-in-law Christine)*





**Some things have  
changed...**



# Our logo...



OCEAN CITY HOTEL-MOTEL-RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, INC.



OCEAN CITY HOTEL-MOTEL-RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, INC.





# Our town...

*Then...*



The  
Commander  
Hotel

*And now...*



The  
Breakers  
Hotel



**But in the words of Dorothy Taylor, Founder  
of the Empress Motel...**

***“A lot of things have changed,  
but I hope we have not.  
Hospitality still rests on the  
personal touch.”***



Thank you for attending our 40th Anniversary celebration and for your continued supported of the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association (OCHMRA)

**We remain a TEAM**  
*Together Everyone Achieves More*