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# A SPRING EVENING IN KUALA LUMPUR WITH VERY SPECIAL FRIENDS

The 3rd Annual Fred Tibbitts & Associates "A Spring Evening in Kuala Lumpur with Very Special Friends" at Grand Millennium KL proved to be another memorable events for sixty-four guests including hotel executives, CEO's, presidents, managing directors, regional vice presidents, general managers, industry VIPs, the press and valued sponsors.

All guests were formally announced and gonged with distinctions by Jonathan Badman, Grand Millennium KL Director of Sales and Marketing.

The reception hosted by Diageo, Pernod Ricard, Beam Global, William Grand & Sons and Brown-Forman served many top luxury cocktails prepared by their team of mixologists and smart servers. There were also several displayed from Le Verre de Vin wine preservations systems, Ronnefeldt Selected Tea serving a variety of their most popular flavours and Phillips Foods Asia providing their finest crab meat for many of Executive Chef Roland Kaiser's marvelous canapés and hors d'ouvres.

This event was held to announce the recipients of the 2010 FTA Hospitality Awards for Excellence, while the official presentation of scholarship for each recipient will be made at the FTA Fall dinners at Hong Kong on 7 October and New York City on 16 November.

Fred Tibbitts welcomed the guests and asked that they consider "Service as the Highest Calling" and explained that the primary purposes of the FTA dinners are to recognize hospitality excellence, provide scholarships in the names of those whom are honored and to make charitable contributions to benefit those less fortunate. Tibbitts promptly called for the evening's ten "Loyalty Toasts" by some of the dinner personalities, including Melvin Lim, Grand Millennium Kuala Lumpur General Manager; Jimmy CH Low, Riche Monde Senior Regional Sales Manager, Michael Sengol, Meritus Hotels & Resorts CEO; Richard Xu, New Western Cuisine Magazine Editor-in-Chief; Otto Weibel, Swissotel The Stamford & Fairmont Singapore Director of Kitchens; Rudy Muller, Hong Kong Disneyland Executive Chef; Denis Gruhier, Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa Group General Manager; Praba Menon, Hotel Istana KL General Manager and John Sartain, Mandarin Orchard Singapore General Manager.

After the first course, Fred announced a donation from a portion of the dinner proceeds to the China Tibetan Children Health & Education Fund, based at Hong Kong and Rudolf Muller accepted the donation on behalf of Madame Annie S.C. Wu, Fund Founder who was unable to be present.

*Fred Tibbitts & Associates is a Bangkok and New York based global consulting company, developing beer, wine and spirits programmes for chain hotel and restaurant organizations. We hold relationship building dinners at Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Mumbai and New York City (spring and fall). These dinners bring together key hotel and restaurant National Account executives, members of the ambassadorial community, key press, educators and industry VIP's with hospitality industry marketers and suppliers in a festive, yet business environment.*

## The Awards for those based at Asia Pacific are as follows:



(L-R) Chris Ehmann, Fred Tibbitts Jr announced that Martin Rinck is to be the Recipient of the 2010 FTA Hospitality Award for Excellence as an Operator-Asia Pacific. As Rinck could not be present at the Kuala Lumpur dinner, he asked Ehmann to express his appreciation and indicate that he looks forward to receiving the Award at the 2010 FTA Fall Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui on 7 October. Each FTA Award is coupled with a scholarship in the amount of \$5,000.00 USD to benefit worthy students: Rinck has asked that the scholarship in his name benefit students in the School of Hotel and Tourism Management at The Chinese University of Hong Kong



(L-R) Rudolf Muller, Fred Tibbitts Jr and Otto Weibel, Tibbitts announced that both Muller and Weibel are to be the Recipients of the 2010 FTA Hospitality Awards for Excellence as a Humanitarian. The Awards will both be presented at the 2010 FTA Fall Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui on 7 October and each Award will be coupled with a scholarship in the amount of \$5,000.00 USD to benefit worthy students: Both Muller and Weibel have asked that the scholarships in their names benefit students pursuing the culinary arts at Sunrice GlobalChef Academy Singapore



(L-R) Richard Xu, Fred Tibbitts Jr. announced that Xu is to be the Recipient of the 2010 FTA Hospitality Award for Literary Excellence and will be presented at the 2010 FTA Fall Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui on 7 October. Each FTA Award is coupled with a scholarship in the amount of \$5,000.00 USD to benefit worthy students: Xu has asked that the scholarship in his name benefit students pursuing the culinary arts at The Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, New York, USA.





Melvin Lim, Grand Millennium KL General Manager.



Jimmy CH Low, Riche Monde Malaysia Senior Regional Sales Manager



Michael Sengol, Meritus Hotels & Resorts CEO



Denis Gruhier, Sunway Resort & Spa Group General Manager



Praba Menon, Hotel Istana KL General Manager



John Sartain, Mandarin Orchard General Manager



(L-R) Rudolf Muller, accepts a donation from Fred Tibbitts, representing a portion of the dinner proceeds from the 2010 FTA Spring Dinner in KL to benefit the China Tibetan Children Health & Education Fund



(L-R) "Sante!" Ivo Raeto Nekvapil, Founder & CEO, MIHR Consulting Sdn Bhd (Hotels); John Sartain, Melvin Lim, Fred Tibbitts, Praba Menon, Michael and Richard Xu



(L-R) Mohd Firdaus, The Ritz-Carlton KL Executive Sous Chef, Otto Weibel, Swissotel The Stamford & Fairmont Singapore Director of Kitchens, Rudolf Muller, Hong Kong Disneyland Executive Chef; Jochen Kern, Hotel Equatorial KL Executive Chef, Paul Lawlass, Ecolab Global Corporate Accounts Director-SEA



(L-R) Michael Sengol, Fred Tibbitts and Richard Xu



(L-R) Otto Weibel, Rudolf Muller, Jochen Kern



(L-R) Ian Douglas Hurst, The Saujana KL General Manager, Fred Tibbitts Jr, Chris Ehmann, Hilton Petaling Jaya General Manager,



(L-R) Hung Cuong Nguyen, William Grant & Sons General Manager-SEA, Fred Tibbitts, Bernard Jugnet, William Grant & Sons, Inc Marketing Manager-SEA



(L-R) Sandra Powley, The Westin KL, Fred Tibbitts, Kim Powley, The Westin KL General Manager



(L-R) David King, The Westin KL Director of Kitchens, Fred Tibbitts, Erich Friedl, The Westin KL EAM-F&B and Champion, "Wines of the World" Program, Starwood Asia Pacific



Melvin Lim "Summon the Brigade" at the close of the FTA Dinner



The Parade of the Brigade



(L-R) John Sartain, Fred Tibbitts Jr, Roland Kaiser, Melvin Lim



The Brigade assembled on stage Stage Center (L-R) Mark Gailey, Grand Millennium KL EAM F&B, Melvin Lim, Roland Kaiser, Grand Millennium KLExecutive Chef