



WACS Pacific Rim Continental Director's Monthly Report

Prepared July 2006

By Glenn Austin

Again it was an honour to be supported by some of the biggest names in the Industry world wide by being re-elected to the World Board of Chefs as the Continental Director for the Pacific Rim. I was elected for the first time in Dublin 2004 which was a first for Australia and now through the efforts of my teams work world wide, this has again been acknowledged by my re-election.

As an active board member this will enable the Pacific Rim to develop further thus attracting greater export and Tourism opportunities as well as lift the Profile and skills of Pacific Rim Chefs. Export is a major contributor to our economy and I feel it is vital that other countries are made aware of the quality of product produced by this region as well as the highly skilled chefs the work with it. Our clean green image needs to be preserved at all costs, and the more visitors we can introduce to the Pacific Rim the better off we will all be. My office will assist in this process as much as possible

In addition to the board we also have the privilege of holding a seat on the World Congress committee. This enables us to assist in the selection process of Congress candidates and work with them to ensure the congress meets the member and guest requirements. There is more and more pressure to ensure that our Congresses keep up with current trends so this means we are constantly on the look out for better Chef Presenters, work shops that are current and informative as well as planning the crucial after work functions and meal breaks. A lot of work for a small committee of volunteers.

So now over the next four year term it is up to us to increase the membership of the Pacific rim which means assisting other Nations in setting up there associations, producing a calendar of events, ensuring that Oceania Festival grows and provides a platform for Pacific National teams to compete. Identify training needs and ensuring that the World association of Chefs Societies is alive and well in the Pacific as it is in the rest of the world.

We are continuing to work with Vanuatu, Noumea and Tahiti and Fiji, The knowledge centre for the Vanuatu Chefs is now complete the books and computer systems are currently packed in our Melbourne office and will then be sent over once we have been informed of there new office address.

I had my regional assistant as well as the ACF President attend the Fiji Salon late last year, all awards have been posted on the web site. The Master classes prior to the event were well attended and this years Salon saw a substantial increase in the quality and standard of food, over all it was an excellent Salon run professionally by the Fiji Chef association.

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Communication is continuing with Noumea, Tahiti and New Guinea it is only a matter of time before we see considerable progress within these Nations. New Guinea and Tahiti both now have associations in there infancy, work continues in this area, through the efforts of our association secretary.

Over the next few months I will keep you up to date with the events in the Pacific and World wide. If you have any items of interest please send your mail through to the Armoury, and I will hopefully see you around the traps.

The Continental Directors office consists of the following;

Glenn Austin Continental Director
Peter Wright Regional Assistant President ACF
Rick Stephen Regional Assistant, Competitions
Patrick O'Brien Regional Assistant administration
Steve Barton (President New Zealand Chefs association) Regional Assistant
Gary Farrell Regional Assistant special projects

With Culinary Regards,
Glenn Austin
Continental Director,
Pacific Rim