



**FAUSTO AIROLDI
WACS EUROPEAN DIRECTOR
SOUTH EUROPE**



As these two years have gone by, I look back at all the good moments I have shared with WACS board members, and all the wonderful people I have met. By having had two European Presidents Forums, one in Malta and in Budapest, we have been able to share, communicate, check our priorities and present our future projects to the European affiliated community.

I thank both the Malta Chefs Association and Hungarian chefs for the great work they have done in putting up these events. These meetings have been very good for everyone that has participated, and I believe this will be repeated every year with growing attendance.

My initial project was to get to know the countries I represent and learn what each was doing, the problems they were faced with, and their aspirations. Secondly, I wanted to learn how WACS works, and how the association can do more for each of these countries, as well as what each of these countries can do for WACS.

At WACS, the guiding goal is named CHEF: Cuisine, Hospitality, Education and Food. I have tried to guide my work to those same goals. I am glad we are receiving more countries into our world association, Serbia & Montenegro, Turkey, Lithuania, Belarus and Estonia. Welcome to this big fraternity of chefs.

I visited Rimini, Italy in 2005 and was a judge at ARTISTICA 2005. I thank the culinary committee for approving Artistica as a WACS recognized competition, and congratulate the Italian Federation of Chefs for a job well done. Artistica 2006 is under the WACS banner for the first time.

In Spain the competition, Cocinero del Año has been a great success. I have accompanied the process, joined them as a WACS judge, and have had the opportunity to meet great people. The finals will be held in March 9, 2006 in Barcelona just before the WACS Congress.

Due to the aspiration of WACS to have a fixed office, we have been lobbying with various entities in Barcelona as to a location of the future office with a 10 year lease. After three meetings, it as been a very rewarding experience, and I hope it will come to a good ending.

I now better understand the strong and weak areas of WACS. I understand we have to eliminate the weak areas to be able to grow the strong areas on communication, education, food and hospitality.

Better world communication is of the utmost importance. I believe this is one of our handicaps, however, with everybody's input we will overcome this. Much of these problems will be eliminated with a central office.

WACS has many new projects, and I am very proud to be involved and hope to have more time to become involved. Thank you