



President's Welcome

Welcome to the beautiful Westin Kierland Resort and to ABMA's 101st Annual Convention. It has been my pleasure to serve our Association in numerous capacities over the past many years, and for an organization that is entering its second century of service to the industry, it is exciting to know that we are still strong, vibrant and relevant. The Scottsdale area is a great place to connect with friends, enjoy the area's attractions and to gain some much needed life/work balance. Get ready for a great week and thanks for attending!

On Wednesday feel free to attend any of the various committee meetings as they are open to the membership and your input is welcome. Don't miss the All Divisional Meeting on Wednesday afternoon where they have been strengthened with the addition of the timely presentation on Big Data and the Internet of Things. Many thanks to this year's presenter, Carlos Hidalgo. During the Opening Reception you can network with friends, new members and guests so everyone can get to know each other right away.

Attend the Thursday morning business session, where you can meet our new members, our prospective members, guests, and many of your friends again. We will also use this time to bring you up to speed on new Association activities and events of the past year. Immediately following the business session we will present this year's education presentation of speaker, demographer and author Ken Grobach who will talk about how Demographics, Big Data and Millennials Change Everything. I am certain his presentation will be meaningful to your business. After lunch enjoy the always popular golf tournament. The scramble format allows golfers of all abilities to have fun and to make new friends.

On Thursday evening please collect to meet your friends at our One Hour Reception, followed by dinner on your own for some valuable networking time.

Friday starts off with the Suppliers Display, another "can't miss" opportunity where you will be able to meet with many of your current suppliers and many suppliers new to the Association. After lunch feel free to participate in the River Rafting or use the time for networking, business discussions or alternative diversions. Friday night come join us for our Suppliers Reception. Enjoy the evening dressed in your favorite team jersey and enjoy the surroundings, fellowship and dance the night away.

Saturday morning attend the business session to get a recap of the week's activities, followed by a "not to miss" presentation by Ryan Jennings on Hiring, Retaining and Managing Millennials.

On behalf of all of the Directors, I thank you for your support of ABMA. I trust that you will have ample opportunities for networking and I am sure you will enjoy your stay in the Scottsdale area.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carlos R. Petzold". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Carlos R. Petzold
ABMA President