

June 11, 2001

Industry execs honored at Elliot Leadership Conference

NEW YORK- More than 200 foodservice executives attended the 16th Annual Elliot Leadership Conference at the Essex House hotel here recently.

An evening reception preceded the daylong program, the sponsor of which was the Tarrytown, NY-based Elliot Associates, an executive search firm, and Elliot Solutions, a consulting firm.

Dick Holbrook, president and chief operating officer of AFC Enterprises Inc., received the Elliot Mentor Award. In addition, three human resource professionals were named Motivators of the Year: Ollie Lawrence from Sodexo Marriott Services Inc.; Jeannie Rasar from Popeys Chicken & Biscuits, an AFC Company; and Jennifer Percival from Buca, Inc.

The conference featured such keynote speakers as Julia Stewart, president of Applebee's International Inc. and Gerard Centioli, president and chief executive of restaurant developer ICON LLC and senior vice president of Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises. Ron Paul, president and chief executive of Technomic Inc. gave an update on the state of the hospitality industry, and Rick Berman, president of the communications firm Berman and Co., discussed "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People."

Kathleen Wood, president of Elliot Solutions, moderated a panel discussion on the topic of leadership, and NRN editor Mitch Irsfeld moderated a seminar concerning new and emerging restaurant companies.

Left: Pictured left are Frank Guidara, president and chief executive of Au Bon Pain; Russ Bendel, president of Roy's Restaurants, Outback Steakhouse Inc.; Bill Allen, chief executive of Fleming's Prime Steakhouse Inc.; and Kathy Schoeffler, vice president of Au Bon Pain Co. Inc.



Above: Norm Hill, senior VP of human resources for Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, left, and Steven Anderson, president and chief executive of the National Restaurant Association.



Above: Mentor Award Winner Dick Holbrook, president and chief operating officer of AFC Enterprises Inc., center, is joined by Alice Elliot and Frank Belatti, chairman and chief executive of AFC Enterprises Inc.



Left: Pictured from left are Bill Moreton, executive vice president of Panera Bread Co.; Rich Kerchenko, chief executive of Souper Salad Inc.; and Tom Simms, president and chief executive of Mimi's Café Inc.

Below: Pictured from left are Carla Cooper, president of Natural & Frozen Foods, Kellogg Co.; Alice Elliot, founder and chief executive, The Elliot Group and Julia Stewart, president of Applebee's International.



Right: Pictured from left are Kerry Kramp, president and chief executive of Buffets, Inc.; Liz Payne, vice president of human resources for Cambell Soup Away from Home; and Ken Keymer, president and chief executive of Sonic Corp.



Above: Dick Rivera, president of Red Lobster Restaurants, left and Reed Hayes, president of the National Restaurant Association.



Above right: Pictured from left are members of the Conversations With Industry Leaders Panel, including Bill Hyde, president and chief executive of Ruth's Chris Steak House; Ollie Lawrence, senior VP of human resources for Sodexo Marriott Services; Niki Leondakis, senior VP, restaurants, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurant Group; Michael Kaufman, president and chief executive, Metromedia Restaurant Group; and Michael Allen, senior VP of human resources for Yorkshire Global Restaurants Inc.