



2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee

INSIDER

December 2011

THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF THE 2012 TAMPA BAY HOST COMMITTEE

Happy Holidays

We want to thank our Tampa Bay community for the tremendous support you have given the 2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee as we work together on preparations to welcome the Republican National Convention to Tampa Bay next August. We truly appreciate your efforts to help us showcase Tampa Bay and will continue to rely on your support in the New Year.

Sincerely,
Ken Jones
Tampa Bay Host Committee
President and CEO

WISHING YOU AND YOURS
A VERY HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON

Official online volunteer registration launches mid-January 2012. Stay tuned to www.2012Tampa.com for more information.



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OUTBACK BOWL AT RAYMOND JAMES STADIUM

- Please support the Outback Bowl.
Tickets On Sale Now!

The 26th **Outback Bowl** will be played in Tampa on January 2, 2012, featuring teams from the Big Ten and Southeastern Conferences.



Over the years, the Bowl will have contributed over \$100,000,000 to education, while creating an economic impact of over \$1,000,000,000 to the Tampa Bay Area.

Tickets are on sale through Ticketmaster at 813-287-8844 or 1-800-745-3000 and can be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets can also be purchased at any Ticketmaster outlet in the state of Florida. ■

TAMPA BAY HOST COMMITTEE SHOWCASES TAMPA BAY

- Over 450 members of the media given warm welcome

The 2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee showcased the strength and charm of Tampa Bay to over 450 members of the national and international media on December 6, 2011 during a welcome reception held at the Tampa Convention Center after their formal walk through of the St. Pete Times Forum for the 2012 Republican National Convention.

That evening, the Host Committee presented the media with their first taste of Tampa Bay culture and weather. Local cigar rollers gave out hand-made cigars, Tampa Bay themed décor flooded the event and a local band played music throughout the evening with a beautiful backdrop of the water during a Tampa Bay sunset.

As part of the Host Committee's ongoing effort to drive economic development to the region, the Host Committee was supported by our local small business community for all of the reception needs. These vendors provided everything from the décor and entertainment to food and photography at the reception.

City of Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn, City of St. Petersburg Mayor Bill Foster, former Governor Bob Martinez and USF President Judy Genshaft joined the festivities and welcomed guests. The Rays' very own shortstop Sean Rodriguez took pictures with guests while their mascot Raymond strolled through the crowd and welcomed guests.

A special thanks to The Columbia Restaurant, Pappas Hospitality Group, Clearchannel, Fête Catering and Ballroom, Los Blancos Cigar Co., Sentry Security, Atmospheres Designs, Woody & The Nutcrackers, David Wright Photography, Mama Razzi Foto, USF Volunteers, Roberto Debourg, and Sharp for helping to make the reception a huge success. ■



■ The Bucs Cheerleaders, Rays Street Team and the Lightning Girls along with Sean Rodriguez from the Rays welcomed our guests to the reception on Dec. 6.



■ Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn attended as well as RNC Chairman Reince Priebus



■ Local band, Woody & the Nutcrackers performed while Raymond, the Rays mascot, danced the night away

THANK YOU CORNER

Malio's Hosts Holiday Dinner

The Host Committee and RNC convention staff came together for an evening to celebrate the



holidays over dinner on December 7 at Malio's Prime Steakhouse in downtown Tampa. Everyone gathered to celebrate the countless hours that went into making the recent Fall Media Walk-Through event an incredible success from all perspectives.

Also present for the occasion were Host Committee Chairman Al Austin and his wife, Beverly, who were instrumental in bringing the 2012 Republican National Convention to Tampa Bay; Host Committee President and CEO Ken Jones; Committee on Arrangements Chairman Alec Poitevint; Committee on Arrangements CEO William D. Harris and many other individuals who are playing key roles in the planning and successful execution of the convention next summer.

The original Malio's Steakhouse was opened in 1969 and, for over 40 years, has earned a reputation for serving the finest quality food, with superior service and atmosphere. The Committee on Arrangements and Host Committee appreciate Malio's hospitality.