

Dear Chef,

First, I would like to thank all the wonderful chefs and colleagues that I became reacquainted with during my campaign stops in Kansas City, Phoenix, Boston, Chicago and New Jersey/Metro New York area. The receptions during my visits have been warm and sincere! I also want to thank all of you for your words of encouragement for my candidacy to be your next national president of the American Culinary Federation.

Let's get down to business! There are approximately 42 days before the ballots will be mailed out. I trust you have visited all the candidates' Web sites and have done your research on who will best represent your organization in the next two years and beyond.



If you have not had an opportunity to view my Web site, please click on the link below.

<http://ChefMichaelTy.WordPress.com>

I have a comprehensive and organized plan for our organization. It is a realistic plan that can be done with further research and the approval of the Board of Governors...but let's not fool ourselves.

Those elected to the new board will have their work cut out for them. Just like our nation, we have economic woes. As I have said in all my speeches, we need to operate the ACF as if it were our own business. Make the necessary adjustments to the budget constantly, based on the actual revenue received. Think out of the box and make changes that may not be popular. My pledge to you is a responsible and transparent administration that recognizes our mission...to serve the needs of our members.



Recently, I asked the ACF office for information on how many voting members we will have for the upcoming election. I also asked for the demographics by region and also by membership category. I was SHOCKED to find out that we ONLY have 9,431 eligible voters out of a membership of approximately 22,000. This is very serious and is one of my five platform cornerstones that I've been addressing as I travel to visit the members.

How can we progress as The American Culinary Federation with these numbers! I call on all of you in the coming year to strive to improve our membership numbers, so that the voting membership is not upside down

compared to our present student culinarian population.

We need to reach out to "Culinary Word" and embrace our fellow colleagues and get them to join forces with our federation. We need to instill member confidence in the totality of this organization and offer first class service to our members. This is what creates membership.

I challenge all of you to take an active role in the upcoming election. Being informed of the issues is paramount to the election of your newly elected officers. Making the right decision is the responsibility of all members.

I would like to mention again the closing remarks from all of my speeches.

I ask you **NOT** to vote with your heart, or by **gender, ethnic background, or region**. I ask you to **research** the facts, issues, and platforms... I ask you to **research** the experience, ethics and character of the candidates, and then **decide** who will be the best person to lead you in the next two years and beyond. These are the reasons to vote and the attributes that should be evaluated... for the betterment of ACF.

I **seek** your vote and sincerely thank you for the opportunity.

Respectfully,

Michael Ty, CEC, AAC  
Candidate for ACF National President