

# 2016 Regional Reports



# Rocky Mountain Region

# RMA



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**F**lagstaff, Arizona was an ideal location to hold the RMA Annual Meeting this year. The Northern Arizona University (NAU) campus allowed for spectacular views, pleasant temperatures, and facilities that were exactly what was needed for the diverse events.

RMA 2016 was held September 26-28, and was packed full of programming designed to develop facilities professionals with regard to leadership, technology and strategies, maintenance innovation, and sustainability. There was also a lot of fun to be had at the theme dinner, banquet, and networking events. This year's theme dinner was an indoor carnival with Cirque de Soleil-style acrobats, jokers, savory food such as ribs, bison, and brisket followed by desserts of cotton candy, deep-fried Twinkies, and candy bars. RMAers enjoyed the Grand Canyon tours or golfing on the Networking Day, and the Welcome Reception had a Jamaican feel with its unique cuisine and NAU's steel drum band creating the ambiance.

The organization of events proved to be well thought out, with many opportunities for the membership to mingle and learn from one another as well as engage with the business partners' expertise. The Host Committee brought in two exceptional keynote speakers: Jason Young, author and consultant, who enthusiastically provided his insight on "Leadership and Customer Service" based on his experience with Southwest Airlines, and Tyler Gage, co-owner of RUNA, a revolutionary tea company utilizing the traditional Amazonian leaf guayusa, which provides a clean, focused energy unlike any caffeinated drink on the market. Both of these keynote speakers suggested that leadership and greatness come from being innovative, brave, and willing to learn.



Images courtesy of RMA.

Above: With the Grand Canyon only an hour away, many RMAers took in the marvelous views before the conference kicked off.

Right: NAU "jokers" wow the crowd with wild, carnival-inspired tricks.



For the Awards Banquet, the hosts treated the attendees with a delicious meal and entertainment by a throwback band singing old classics like "Sleep Walk" and "House of the Rising Sun." Before the fun began, several awards and recognitions were given by outgoing RMA President David Turnquist:

- H. Val Peterson Award—John Morris
- Lee Newman Award—Spirotherm
- RMA President's Award—Brian Johnson and Lisa Potter

Turnquist acknowledged that the RMA region continues to lead APPA with EFP/CEFP credentials support, before handing the gavel over to the new RMA president, Lisa Potter.

## THE 2016-2017 RMA OFFICERS

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To view RMA's website and find a complete listing of the board of directors, go to <http://appa.org/regions/rma.cfm>.

**2017 CONFERENCE: September 18-20, 2017 - Jackson, Wyoming**