

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is finally here! February, the month of our annual Meeting of the Minds and Buy Fair and this year the Atlanta Homecoming. The staff and Board of Directors have been planning this event for months. This will be the first time since 2007 that TRIB Group will host an event and buy fair 100% on its own and wow, has it been fun doing what we want to do with this event with no schedule and venue constraints. As I told someone in the past few days, this event is somewhat similar to past Meeting of the Minds but on steroids. Mike Tissot and his committee of Kelly Martin, Dan Singh, and Paul Metivier have put together an awesome slate of seminars that have some very unique features built into them. Even the annual membership meeting will even have a different vibe to it.

The venue of the Renaissance Waverly Hotel and Cobb Galleria Convention Center located near the new Battery at TRUIST Park (formally Sun-trust Park) is truly a first-class facility and is very easy to navigate. With the Battery being so close, we have elected to use some of the venues there. The Hot Show will be hosted at LIVE! at the Battery. This venue will be the perfect setting for the Hot Show as it features two floors and the stage is set in front of a massive screen so that you can see the action from almost any place in the building. Immediately following the Hot Show, you

Continued

Calendar of Events

February 23—26
Meeting of the Minds
Atlanta, Georgia

Happy Valentines Day!



Agenda at a Glance

Sunday, February 23

8:00 - 5:30 Check-in/Registration
5:30 - 5:45 Group Photos - Buses depart
6:30 - 9:00 Welcome Reception

Monday, February 24

7:00 - 8:00 Breakfast (Members) Hotel
8:00 - 10:00 General Session & Meeting
10:00- 12:00 Keynote, Awards, Experience
12:00- 1:00 Lunch (Members)
1:30 - 2:15 Breakout Sessions
2:30 - 3:15 Vendor Meeting
2:30 - 3:15 Breakout sessions cont.
4:30 - 6:45 Hot Show Reception / Hot Show
7:00- 10:00 PTS Hot Show After Party
8:30- 11:00 Emerging Leaders with APRO

Tuesday, February 25

7:00 - 8:00 Member Breakfast
8:00 - 8:15 Experience Morning Meet-up
8:30 - 9:30 Emerging Leaders Pro. Breakout
8:30 - 9:30 High Touch Users Connection
8:30 - 9:30 Ideal Software Users Connection
8:30 - 9:30 Cost Plus Advisors
9:30 - 11:30 Breakout sessions
11:45 - 12:30 Lunch (Member & Vendor)
12:30 - 7:00 Exhibit Hall Opens
4:30 - 6:30 Beer Bash Booth Crawl

Wednesday, February 26

7:30 8:30 Breakfast (all) and Coffee Talk
8:00 12:30 Exhibit Hall



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TRIB GROUP



2775 Cruse Road, Ste. 2401
Lawrenceville, Ga. 30044

Dennis Shields, Executive Director
Laurel Whitmire, Marketing Specialist
Karl Wicker, Services Coordinator
Jennifer Moore, Operations Administrator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Happy's Home Center
chriskale115@gmail.com

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Countryside
mtissot@r2o.com

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joe@rentfromeagle.com

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Majik RTO
Dan.fisher@majikrto.com

David P. David
Full-O-Pep Appliances
david@americanrentals.com

Jeff Lebakken
Lebakkers Inc of Wisconsin
lebakkers@charter.net

Chad Fodick
CR Fosdick Enterprises
chad.j.fosdick@gmail.com

Chris Bolin
Bolin's Rental Purchase
bolinrto@cdelightband.net

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP COUNT

197



"There is my heart, and then there is you and I'm not sure there is a difference." - a.r asher

Karl's Korner

On Our Own

It's been a while, something like 13 -years ago; the last time TRIB Group held an event like Meeting of the Minds alone. After that point we had been paired with Brand Source (who we still are affiliated) and more recently, APRO in our co-produced RTO World events. The times we shared the event with Brand Source our ability to tailor for Rent-to-Own was limited to the space resource and timing. In other words, we couldn't do some exclusive RTO sessions and gatherings due to the limits of space and scheduling. That was then, this is now.

First, we pared with APRO to create a fall event that focused on RTO dealers with education, special presentations and speakers. Then TRIB Group moved to return to host Meeting of the Minds on our own. Doing this has given us the latitude to detail our educational seminars and offerings to our members. What's more; we are returning to the home and birthplace of TRIB Group, Atlanta, Georgia. We will be glad to see you in Atlanta to celebrate the uniqueness of our industry, members and vendors. It feels good to once again, be on our own.

- Karl

From the Executive Director continued...

can wander next door to the Hot Show After Party at PBR hosted by PTS, where food, drink and fun will continue. Later in the evening the Emerging Leaders Group will have an event sponsored by APRO at the Terrapin Taproom.

Arrive early on Sunday, February 23 and join all of the attendees including vendors at a special Welcome Reception at the College Football Hall of Fame. This venue has many interactive activities and games as well as a lot of displays to enjoy, so wear your favorite colors of the college of your choice and join the fun. If you prefer professional or high school team apparel that is fine also.

We have encouraged vendors to make this buy fair unique and we are expecting some "Wow" factors. TRIB Group is also making this buy fair special. Along with the five (5) \$300 purchase order vouchers that will be given to each member at the start of the show, members will also receive an additional (2) \$250 vouchers on Wednesday Morning as the buy fair opens for day two. So please, plan accordingly and enhance your bottom line by placing orders to use the additional Wednesday vouchers. With all the vouchers and hotel fund reimbursement, members could be receiving up to \$2300 plus some possible other perks. Keep an eye on your inbox for any updates. Registration has been very good and vendor support is awesome and we are looking forward to a special event. If you have not registered to attend, you are missing the opportunity to share with others this special event. If you wish to register, please contact us and we will help you with the process.

See you in Atlanta!

- Dennis

THINK TANK AT THE MARKET

Once again TRIB Group was proud to host member companies at the Las Vegas Market, where we met with our furniture vendors.



We began Think Tank Monday morning, where members and vendors enjoyed breakfast and discussions about their product showrooms at the Market. Ashley Furniture once again hosted the RTO community at a reception in their showroom, and Amalfi also hosted a breakfast.



This year's meeting was very well attended and we enjoyed this networking event at The Market. If you missed it, put it on your calendar for next year!



SYMBOL

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eric@rentalsalesworks.com



Vendor Spotlight:

NEW TRIB In a few short weeks we will gather in Atlanta for Meeting of the Minds. There will be a floor full of the vendors we know and have used for years and among them will also be vendors who are new to TRIB Group for 2020.

In the coming weeks we will be getting a bit more detail about these new vendors in this publication (The TRIBune) and other online TRIB Group media. Check out these new vendors when you are in Atlanta:

American Cover /Persian Weaver -Booth 412
Area rugs

Briggs & Stratton - Booth 137

Lawn mowers, generators and small gas engine appliances. (distributed by O'Rourke Sales)

Bump Boxx – Booth 119

Bluetooth retro-style boom box portable speaker systems.

Copper River Home – Booth 308

Seating with sound & motion.

Fusion Furniture – Booth 331

Colorful stationary upholstery.

Garland Rug – Booth 316 Area rugs

HK Global – Booth 311

Consumer Electronics & Game Systems.

Nav-Air Corporation – Booth 323

Media Streaming Device (Stream TV) & Electronic Power Line Adapter (KAZMO).

Rize/Mantua – Booth 425

Bed platform bases, bed frames, adjustable beds & mattresses

South American Furniture – Booth 328

Youth Furniture, Bunkbeds, Dresser, Mirror, Nightstand & Chest.

Vogue Home Furnishings – Booth 609

Fabric & Leather motion furniture.

Please take note and make some time to go and see these new vendors. You may find something new to add to your mix of products.

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SENIOR DIRECTOR OF SALES,
BUYING GROUP

Mobile: 774.644.2933
jmoquin@sertasimmons.com