



New York Section  
Central New Jersey Subsection  
Institute of Food Technologists



# NIFTY News Central

A Joint Newsletter of the New York Institute of Food Technologists and the Central New Jersey Subsection

April 2021

## A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRS OF New York and Central New Jersey IFT



Spencer Sullivan  
NYIFT Chair

As we mark one year since New York and New Jersey shutdown due to COVID-19, many of us have paused to reflect on the past twelve months and at the same time, looked hopefully to a better year ahead. The pandemic has affected all of us both personally and professionally. We hope that the way we interact with friends and family return to normal very soon. Most likely the way we work will never be quite the same. For those of us working in the food industry, this past year was a mixed bag. The foodservice sector was devastated by shutdowns and capacity limits but in the offset, as more people made meals at home, the retail food industry held steady. There was even



Amy Gilliland  
CNJIFT Chair

an uptick in declining segments such as breakfast cereals.

NY/CNJ IFT faced many challenges in the last year. First and foremost, IFT Sections exist at the local level to allow food professionals to routinely gather together to enjoy the camaraderie of our shared profession and to add to our knowledge base with top-notch guest speakers. As we shifted format from live to virtual meetings, without a doubt, we lost the opportunity to network and socialize with our peers. At the same time we have seen an increase in participation for our speaker events. In fact most events have seen a two-fold increase in attendance. Accolades to the program chairs as we had a very strong cast of guest speakers this year. Virtual access made it easier for our regular attendees to participate, and it also eliminated geographic barriers. We routinely had participants linked in from across the country and in one case, as far away as Melbourne, Australia. A year ago none of us would have imagined that a holiday beer tasting event could occur on Zoom, but it did, and it was great fun.

We also made progress this year on finding new ways to stay connected with each other. Our virtual Suppliers Expo was a great way for suppliers and customers to interact safely. We also initiated a new Consultants Forum as an ongoing means for consultants to network with each other to learn best practices and to identify consulting opportunities. Also, as we work to stay relevant and current in this age of the internet, we will soon be unveiling a refreshed NYIFT website.

Our 2020-2021 speaker program will end with our traditional joint NY/Nutmeg IFT meeting hosted by PepsiCo which will be held virtually. Additional details about this meeting can be found on the next page. The meeting will be preceded by our NYIFT Board/Excom Meeting via zoom at 3:00 pm ET. All members are invited and encouraged to participate in the Board/Excom meeting. Learn what our Section is doing and plans for the future. We welcome new ideas and inspiration and when you're ready to participate more fully, join a committee or a task force. We are currently seeking volunteers for our Golf Outing (scheduled for June 14), Suppliers Expo (scheduled for Sept 14), Social Media Marketing, and more.

We've had a very successful year despite of the challenges that COVID presented. As Chairs, we would like to thank our board members, our administrator, Gerri Cristantiello, and all our Section members. The Board showed both flexibility and creativity that allowed us to keep our program year intact. Gerri provided perspective from other sections and she provided continuity from past years. Our section members enthusiastically embraced a new way of meeting and attended in record numbers. As we start planning for the 2021-2022 season over the summer, we certainly hope that we can get back to pre-COVID "normal" but at the same time, we will work to integrate all of the learnings that we've gained this year so that we emerge as an even stronger organization.

## NYIFT & Nutmeg IFT Joint Virtual Meeting

**Thursday, April 29, 2021**

Zoom Meeting 4:30 – 6:00 pm Eastern Time

**No Charge to Participate**

### Design Features of PepsiCo's New R&D Laboratory – Valhalla, NY

**Speaker:**

Kevin O'Sullivan, SVP, Global Beverages – **PepsiCo**

*Virtual Board/Excom Meeting begins at 3:00 pm ET  
Register using the same link as the Joint Meeting.*

When this meeting was originally planned a year ago, we assumed that we would be holding this event in PepsiCo's new R&D building but as we continue to observe COVID-19 protocols, this meeting will be virtual. Mr. Kevin O'Sullivan, PepsiCo's Senior Vice President for Beverage R&D will present the new building to us with a combination of slides and videos. Hopefully, a year from now, we will follow up on this virtual visit with an in-person meeting.

#### ABOUT OUR SPEAKER



Mr. Kevin O'Sullivan joined PepsiCo in 1995 at Walkers, UK and held various R&D managerial roles across both UK and Europe Snacks before becoming Walkers R&D lead in 2004. His legacy at Walkers includes the major renovation of the entire Snacks portfolio to be 25% lower in sodium and 80% lower in saturated fat in addition to innovation on the Baked Platform.

In 2014 Mr. O'Sullivan was appointed VP, PepsiCo Advanced Research within Corporate R&D in New York where he led the long-term Discovery pipeline for Foods & Beverage Packaging and Processing. During his one-year tenure, he was instrumental in reshaping the pipeline to focus on PepsiCo's strategic direction and key priorities.

In 2017 Mr. O'Sullivan was promoted to SVP, R&D Functional Capabilities for Global Beverages where he led the Functional teams on Ingredients, Product, Packaging, Equipment and Processing. In September 2018, he took on the position of SVP Global Beverages R&D across PepsiCo's \$30Bn+ Global Beverages portfolio. He is currently leading a significant multi-year Facilities agenda which includes a very sizeable investment in PepsiCo's Global R&D Center in Valhalla, New York aimed at consolidating all Northeast facilities into one new state-of-the-art R&D Center of Excellence for Global Beverage Innovation which opened on schedule in the second quarter of 2020.

Mr. O'Sullivan holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical & Electronic Engineering from the University of Birmingham in the UK.

#### HOW TO REGISTER

This Zoom meeting is being conducted on a complimentary basis. There is no charge to participate, but pre-registration is required. Complete the online registration form at <https://nyift.org/events/nyift-dinner-meetings/>.

Once registered you will receive an email with the link for the Board/Excom Meeting as well as the Zoom Meeting containing the Meeting ID and the Password. Please log in about 10 minutes prior to the start of the webinar to avoid any technical issues.

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Visit us at [www.nyift.org](http://www.nyift.org)

## CNJIFT Officers

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*Open Position*

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### NYIFT/CNJIFT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

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#### Undergraduate Student

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Contact us at  
[nyiftoffice@optonline.net](mailto:nyiftoffice@optonline.net)



We invite you to join us for the  
**2021 CNJ IFT Golf Outing**  
Monday, June 14, 2021



## Cranbury Golf Course

49 Southfield Road, W. Windsor Township, New Jersey 08550

Join your friends, colleagues, and invite your customers for a fun day at the Cranbury Golf Course in West Windsor Township, New Jersey on

**Monday, June 14, 2021**

Cranbury Golf Club is truly a memorable experience! From the first tee to the 18th green, Cranbury's Championship Course offers a challenging, yet player-friendly experience.

Unique to Cranbury are the six par 3s. From the par-3 fourth hole, which plays to a yardage of 225 yards over water, to the 12th hole, that, at 155 yards over the "Bog" offers players some of the best three shot holes in the area. Don't let the par 70 deceive you because the course still plays well over 6,200 yards.

You may register as an individual or as a foursome. Individuals or groups that are not registered as a foursome will be matched. For the safety of all guests, we will follow CDC guidelines and Golf Club protocol in effect at the time of the event.

**\$175 per golfer** includes:

Green Fees, Cart Fees, Lunch, Welcome Bag, Dinner and prizes!

**DRESS:** Strict Golf attire. Collared shirts, soft spikes. No denim jeans allowed.  
*You do not need to have a foursome to register. We will set up foursomes.*

### SCHEDULE:

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Registration & Lunch (Outdoors)  
Sales of Mulligan, Kicks, and Throws  
1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start  
Scramble Format  
6:00 pm Dinner, Awards, Door Prizes (All Outdoors)



**DINNER-ONLY Tickets Available**  
**\$55 per person**

### SPONSORS as of April 5, 2021

Golf Towels Sponsored by: Carmi Flavors

### Sponsorship Opportunities:

Hole Sponsorship	\$100	Longest Drive (2 Available)	\$150
Beverage Cart	\$750	Closest to the Pin (2 Available)	\$150

**All Sponsors** are recognized on our website, newsletter, emails and on-site signage at registration. Hole Sponsors receive a sign at the hole sponsored; Beverage Cart Sponsor receives banner on cart.

**GET RECOGNIZED – BECOME A SPONSOR**

Register Online at <https://nyift.org/events/cnjift-golf-outing/>

## 2021 NYIFT CORPORATE SPONSORS

as of April 5, 2021 – A star (★) indicates a new Corporate Sponsor for 2021.

*Thank you for supporting the NYIFT. Your contributions help fund our Scholarships and Awards.*

Accurate Ingredients/Ingredient Resources  
Advanced BioTech  
Bell Flavors and Fragrances  
Bontoux Inc.  
Comax Flavors  
Enzyme Development Corporation  
GNT USA Inc.

Gold Coast Ingredients Inc.  
Hunter Walton and Co. Inc.  
Ingredion  
KALSEC, Inc.  
Palsgaard Inc.  
Sun Chemical ★  
Virginia Dare  
Winston Scientific Consultants LLC ★

**Not a Corporate Sponsor?** Join Today! Get recognition on our website, newsletters and more!

### **Some of the many benefits of being a Corporate Sponsor include:**

- \$100 discount per booth and premium booth placement at 2021 NYIFT's Suppliers' Day
- Complimentary employment advertising – a savings of \$200 per ad per month!
- Your company name publicized in each issue of the NYIFT newsletter and on the website
- Publicity and recognition of your commitment to the food industry throughout the year
- Receipt of a full list of Suppliers' Day participants with their name, company and contact information shortly after Suppliers' Day.
- Opportunity to submit a project brief for a Cornell University Food Science Summer Scholar Program

There are 2 ways to join. Use the form at the end of this newsletter or complete the online form at <https://nyift.org/membership/become-a-corporate-sponsor/> and follow the payment instructions.

### **Questions? Contact:**

Corporate Sponsor Chair Martin Slayne at 469-767-4031; martin@slayneconsulting.com;  
Gerri Cristantiello at the NYIFT Office at 201-905-0090; nyiftoffice@optonline.net

## **2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

This Newsletter is a publication of the New York Institute of Food Technologists and the Central New Jersey Subsection. The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are the opinions of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of IFT, or the NY/CNJ sections of IFT and should not be interpreted as such.

May Issue ..... April 16  
June Issue.....May 7

Articles can be faxed to the NYIFT Office at 201-490-5922 or emailed to [nyiftoffice@optonline.net](mailto:nyiftoffice@optonline.net)

**NYIFT Member Leslie Herzog Named Recipient of  
IFT Distinguished Service Award  
in Honor of Calvert L. Willey**

Leslie Herzog, an active member of NYIFT, is the recipient of the 2021 Calvert L. Willey Distinguished Service Award for his lifelong, innovative, and passionate service to IFT and the advancement of food science & technology. Leslie has been a dedicated volunteer with IFT for over 45 years through efforts that continue to this day within the Section and contributing through his philanthropy, leadership and mentorship to food science students at Cornell University; University of California, Davis; Rutgers University; and the University of Massachusetts. He has served on numerous IFT Task Forces, the Executive Committee (now called Board of Directors), and Award Juries as a member and chair, as well as on numerous IFT Committees, dating back to the 1980's. Leslie was named an IFT Fellow in 2004 and loves coaching student teams in their IFT competitions where he is able to help them by utilizing his long-term knowledge of product development and food product commercialization based on his career at Lipton / Unilever.

The purpose of the Distinguished Service Award in honor of Cal Willey (who was a former Executive Director of IFT) is to honor an individual who has provided continuing, meritorious, and imaginative service to IFT. In order to be eligible for this Award, the nominee must have been an active member of the profession, and a member of IFT for 20 years or more. The primary consideration is continuing service to IFT, rather than specific contributions to research, education, or development. Recognition is based on dedication, unique service, and supreme effort on behalf of the Institute.

Previous recipients of the Cal Willey Achievement Award who were active in NYIFT were Alan Post (1993) and Charles Manley (2004).

**Robert Gravani, Ph.D., CFS is Named Recipient of  
Humanitarian Award for Service to the Science of Food  
in Honor of Elizabeth Fleming Stier**

The recipient of this year's Elizabeth Fleming Stier Award is Dr. Robert Gravani. Dr. Gravani received a B.S. in food science from Rutgers University where he was an advisee of Dr. Stier. Further, he received an M.S. and a Ph.D. in food science from Cornell University where he is currently professor emeritus of food science. Dr. Gravani has worked with all sectors of the food system, developing innovative food safety programs for constituents in production agriculture, food processing, food retailing, and foodservice, as well as for regulatory agencies and consumers. He is a past president, past treasurer, and Fellow of IFT and has received several other IFT Achievement Awards. He is also the past president and a Fellow of the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP).

NYIFT supplies the monetary honorarium and worked with IFT to establish the IFT Achievement Award in honor of Dr. Elizabeth Fleming Stier who was a professor of Food Science at Rutgers University and was active in NYIFT until she passed away in 1995. The honor is awarded every other year, with the first recipient named in 1997. To receive this award, the nominee must have made measurable contributions to the well-being of the food industry, academia, students in food science or closely related disciplines, or the general public. Such contributions must have demonstrated compassion and unselfish caring for the world and its people, measured not necessarily in terms of published papers or grants received but rather in terms of the number of lives enhanced by contact with the nominee or by the achievements of individuals as a result of such contact. Access the full list of past recipients on the NYIFT website: <https://nyift.org/awards/elizabeth-fleming-stier-award/>

Dr. Robert Gravani and Mr. Leslie Herzog will each receive a \$3,000 honorarium and a crystal award from IFT. They, along with all other IFT Achievement Award winners and the new class of 11 IFT Fellows, will be honored during the virtual IFT Meeting scheduled for July 19-21, 2021.

The complete listing of 2021 IFT Achievement Award winners can be found here: <https://www.ift.org/community/awards-and-recognition/achievement-awards>

**NYIFT Suppliers Day Expo **RESCHEDULED** to SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**  
**CNJIFT Golf Outing TAKING PLACE **AS SCHEDULED** on JUNE 14, 2021**



Due to COVID-19 concerns, we have rescheduled our **NYIFT Suppliers Expo** to **Tuesday, September 14, 2021**. Registration for Suppliers Day will open this month. If you opted to roll over your registration fee from 2020, you are already registered to participate as an exhibitor. We will email you further information to ensure your listing is correct. If you have a credit, we will email you with additional instructions on how to pay the remaining fee and complete the registration process. We appreciate your patience while we work through the logistics.

In keeping with CDC guidelines and protocols, and in response from the golfers who wanted to participate, we have decided to **move forward** with the CNJIFT Golf Outing on **Monday, June 14, 2021**. Registration is open and we invite you to register at <https://nyift.org/events/cnjift-golf-outing/>.

We hope that you will participate in both of these in-person events. For everyone's safety, we will be following CDC guidelines and protocols that are in effect at the time of our events.

**NYIFT & CNJIFT Board Serving 2021-2022 Year**

The **NYIFT Officers have been named** as follows:

**CHAIR**

Shirin Madanshekaf, PepsiCo

**CHAIR-ELECT**

Yangyang Jin, Sun Chemical

**PAST CHAIR**

Spencer Sullivan, PepsiCo

**SECRETARY**

Gina Cobianchi, Nestle US Nutrition

**SECRETARY-ELECT**

Suzanne Mutz-Darwell, Firmenich

**TREASURER (Exp. 2022)**

Melanie Gong, Citromax

**TREASURER-ELECT**

Sally McLeod, Morgan Stanley

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE**

Marc Meyers, Meyers Consulting (**Exp. 2022**)

Dan Levison, Apple and Orchard (**Exp. 2023**)

The **CNJIFT Officers have been named** as follows:

**CHAIR**

Amy Gilliland

**CHAIR-ELECT & NY LIAISON**

Robert Post, Ph.D., FoodTrition Solutions LLC

**PAST CHAIR**

Ryan Gaboy, bioMérieux

**SECRETARY**

Joe Auslander, Panos Brands

**TREASURER**

Ronnie McBurnie, Groncki Associates

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE**

Maria Manisero, IFF (**Exp. 2022**)

Jo Ann Fritsche, IFF (**Exp. 2023**)

## EMPLOYMENT REFERRAL SERVICE

### TO PLACE A POSITION WANTED OR POSITION AVAILABLE AD

To place a **POSITION WANTED** ad you must be a member of the NY/CNJ IFT. Contact the NYIFT at 201-905-0090 for details.

**Corporate Sponsors** of the NY/CNJ IFT can place a **POSITION AVAILABLE** ad at no charge. The fee to post a **POSITION AVAILABLE** ad, if your company IS NOT a NY/CNJIFT Corporate Sponsor, is **\$200** per ad, per month.

To become a Corporate Sponsor contact Gerri Cristantiello, NYIFT Office at 201-905-0090.

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**NOTE:** Positions Available will be removed after 3 months unless you contact NYIFT to continue to have your posting listed.

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**TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FOR  
THESE JOB OPENINGS**

Contact Gerri Cristantiello  
NYIFT Office: 201-905-0090  
Email: [nyiftoffice@optonline.net](mailto:nyiftoffice@optonline.net)

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

 **A-1033 SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER – NORTHEAST REGION** - Protect and grow assigned accounts through consultative and strategic selling techniques and prospecting for new profitable accounts. The main objective is to obtain new sales for Kalsec's product lines, meeting both face to face and virtually with key buying influencers and demonstrating the value of Kalsec solutions through end-use application presentations and demonstrations as well as negotiating to maintain current and new business with ingredient buyers. [Click for a complete job description, position requirements and how to apply](#)  
**Job Location:** Home Office – (4/21)



## 2021 CORPORATE SPONSOR APPLICATION | Corporate Sponsor Dues: \$350

Submit your application online at: <https://nyift.org/membership/become-a-corporate-sponsor/>  
or complete this form and return with your check.

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it is to be listed on the Newsletter and the NYIFT website)

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name

Street Address/PO Box Apt #

City State Zip

Phone: Email:

Website/URL to link your Company Name

**Additional Contacts:** The benefits of being a NYIFT Corporate Sponsor extend to other departments, by providing us with the contacts in the following departments, your company can benefit the most.

Please check this box if you are the main contact for all departments

**Research & Development:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Human Resources/Personnel Hiring:** For Complimentary Employment Advertising

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Marketing Department:** For Suppliers Day Expo Benefits

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT OPTIONS:

**Credit Card** – Email completed form to [nyiftoffice@optonline.net](mailto:nyiftoffice@optonline.net) and pay online at [www.squareup.com/store/nyiftshop](http://www.squareup.com/store/nyiftshop)

**Check** – Please make check in the amount of \$350 (one year sponsorship) payable to New York IFT and remit with form to: New York IFT, P.O. Box 138, Cresskill, NJ 07626

We want Corporate Sponsors' input. What speakers or topics would you like to hear at NYIFT meetings?  
Where would you like meetings held? Would you like to be on a committee?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact NYIFT Office at [nyiftoffice@optonline.net](mailto:nyiftoffice@optonline.net) | Tel: 201-905-0900 or  
Corporate Sponsor Chair Martin Slayne at [martin@slayneconsulting.com](mailto:martin@slayneconsulting.com) | Tel: 469-767-4031

Visit our website at [www.nyift.org](http://www.nyift.org) for calendar of meetings and events