

Don DeWitt
154 Atlantic Ave.
Marblehead, MA. 01945

Executive Summary

A community minded professional with an extensive background in managing both the financial and the people side of business. A father heavily involved in the local community as a parent of two in the Marblehead school system and managing a 100-year-old Marblehead icon business, Stowaway Sweets®. Through the business, Don and his wife Emily established the Stowaway Sweets Community Outreach Program, a non-profit organization that supports various organizations including Cocoa Horizons Foundation, Marblehead Public Schools, Marblehead Youth Sports, Marblehead Boosters, Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, My Brothers Table, and others.

His extensive interactions with community members, customers, suppliers, and friends, and his two children, Don has a good sense for the Marblehead community and comes with an open mind regarding difficult issues facing the Marblehead School System. (Please see attached)

Background

Stowaway Sweets® LLC

2015 – Current

He and his wife own and operate this 100-year-old specialty chocolate store.

- Completed a business review that provided direction for improving the customer experience and a long term positive financial return for the family as well as a strong brand. Everything counts!
- Worked to improve vendor relationships that brought quality ingredients and a higher quality product. Known as a superb negotiator with a focus on results.
- Created a financial budget to invest in both the important short term needs while planning for the longer-term needs of the business.
- Initiated a high standard of quality control that has resulted in the highest level of customer satisfaction as tallied on the internet.
- Excellent people skills required in hiring and managing both full time and part time employees who manage customer relations both for instore and online orders that serve a global audience.
- As a hands-on operator, Don is personally involved in the production line that produces only the best chocolates available anywhere.

2007 - 2014

Guckenheimer, Boston, MA

Until purchased, this company was the largest independently operated high-end corporate inhouse food service organization. Clients hired Guckenheimer if their objective was to keep their employees inhouse for their dining needs.

- VP of Corporate Catering – Eastern Region
- Managed the food service budgets of *Fortune 100* clients such as Prudential in Boston.
- Managed of staff 100 employees
- Responsible for a multi-million-dollar budget and the key client contact.
- Personally negotiated client contracts

1990 – 2006

Executive Chef and Management roles in the restaurant industry both in New York and Florida.

Education

Fairleigh Dickenson University, New Jersey
School of Hospitality

Volunteer Experience

Marblehead Youth Baseball and Basketball Coach 2007-2019
Finance Board, Star of the Sea Church, Marblehead
Marblehead Chamber of Commerce Board Member
Volunteer, My Brother's Table, Lynn
Volunteer, Plummer Youth Promise, Salem
Volunteer, Raw Artwork, Lynn

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