

Nicholas C. Scott

SCOTT
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Business Related Information

Nicholas C. Scott President & CEO of Scott Enterprises is a passionate leader who's vision has helped shape the hospitality business in Northwestern PA. A 1963 graduate of Cornell University with a B.S. degree in Hotel Restaurant Institutional Management, Nick built the family business into 28 locations in North Western PA and Western NY. His company Scott Enterprises has a unique portfolio of hotels, restaurants, conference centers, golf courses, ski resort, and a spa. In 2004 the company opened Splash Lagoon Indoor Water Park Resort which now has over 90,000 square feet of aquatic space making it one of the largest indoor water park resorts in the country. Splash Lagoon's newest and largest attractions are the 200,000 gallon indoor wave pool and the Tree Tops 3- story indoor ropes course, which opened in 2011.

Business Achievements

- INC. Magazine's award of "Entrepreneur of the Year" for Western Pennsylvania in 1992.
- "Outstanding Citizen" Award in 1993 from the Americans for Competitive Enterprise System (A.C.E.S.)
- Featured speaker at the 1994 U.C.L.A. Hotel Investment Conference in Los Angeles, Ca.
- In 1995, the Econo Lodge of Erie was awarded "Inn of the Year" out of 750 Econo Lodges throughout the United States.
- In 1996 Nick Scott was appointed by Congressman Phil English to be a representative to the White House Conference on Tourism in Washington, D.C.
- In January 1997, The Erie Business Center/Erie Chamber of Commerce, "Outstanding Business Person" award was given to Nick Scott.
- In 1997 the Residence Inn of Erie was recognized as one of the top 10 Residence Inns in the United States.
- In November of 1998 Nick Scott was the featured speaker at the Outstanding Citizens Award Banquet of the Americans for the Competitive Enterprise System.
- In 2003 Scott Enterprise hotels independently receive the prestigious Golden Globe Award from their respective brands. They were the Residence Inn, Comfort Inn and Econo Lodge.
- In January 2005 Nick Scott was featured on the cover of Franchise Times a national trade publication for his business dominance of hotels, restaurants, and attractions at Exit 24 on Interstate 90, Erie PA.
- In May 2006 Nick Scott was featured on the cover of the first issue of The Edge Magazine. Nick Scott and his family have also been featured in advertisements for successful franchisees by Choice Hotels in various national business publications including Entrepreneur and Success magazines as well as many trade magazines.
- Through our "We Promise To Care" campaign, Scott Enterprises supports many individuals, organizations and fundraising events. Scott Enterprises mantra is "we promise to care." Everyday 2500 associates come to work promising to care for their guests, their community and each other. Simply put, caring is the thread that binds each employee throughout 27 properties in Northwestern PA. and Buffalo NY. Nick Scott Sr. CEO and President of Scott Enterprises says that "it is our intent that each associate within our organization has the opportunity to make a difference and feels valued as they are an integral part of the success of the company"

Business Achievements Continued

- In 2009, with the generosity of Nick Scott Sr., Clara Ward, an Erie recipient of a new home from ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," received help through Scott Enterprises paying off her delinquent property taxes from 2007. Scott Enterprises donated \$100,000 in kind services during ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." Nick Scott sits on the board of Clara Ward's Youth Development Center which is dedicated to improving the lives of children of all ages. The YDC's mission is to ensure no child goes hungry, no student is without help and no families are without support during the holidays. In addition, every year, thousands of Splash Lagoon passes are donated to underprivileged children.
- In 2012, Nick Scott was awarded Erie City Schools Alumni of the Year by The Goodwine Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
- In 2012, Nick Scott was awarded the Presidents Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award by the Erie Summer Festival of the Arts.
- In 2012, Scott Enterprises was awarded the Excel Award for County Businesses that Demonstrate Excellence by the Erie County Executive Barry Grossman.
- In 2013, Nick Scott was awarded the Erie Regional & Growth Partnership 2013 Louis J. Tullio Community Service Award.
- In 2013, Nick Scott was awarded the first Legacy Award at the Erie Times News, Commitment to Erie Awards.

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Community Service

Nick Scott served as 1995 Corporate Chairman for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Fund Drive, Trustee of Discovery Square , past board member of Erie Art Museum, past chairman of the Erie Area Fund for the Arts Drive, past President of the Chamber of Commerce Tourism and Convention Board, Member of the founding commission of the Civic Center, member of the committee for the Bicentennial Tower Concept, member of the board of Council of Fellows, member of the Board of Cooperators for Hamot Health Foundation, past member of the Erie Philharmonic Board, member of Erie Rotary Club. Scott Enterprises supports the Arts in Erie, sponsoring many concerts and is the major sponsor of the Erie Philharmonic Symphonic Series and Pop Series and also supports the Mercyhurst College “Mary D’Angelo Performing Artists Series.

Personal Interests

Nick Scott is an avid photographer, having won many awards and presenting photography exhibits and shows over the past 25 years. Other hobbies include tennis, golf, skiing, boating and scuba diving.

Scott Enterprises was founded over 70 years ago by Nick’s father, Chris Scott who, at the age of thirteen was sent from Greece to “the promised land,” America, to find a better life for his family. Today, family values and work ethic remains a linchpin to their success. Under Nick’s leadership in strategic planning, the family company, based in Erie, PA, has successfully expanded into twenty-eight locations, with more than \$50 million in projects under development. The most recognizable hospitality brands in the region are members of the Scott Enterprise family. Nick recently lead his team to successfully acquire the Peek’n Peak Resort and Spa in Clymer, NY. This latest acquisition brings the total number of employees to 2,200 (in peak season.)

Splash Lagoon's Beginnings

Nick Scott Sr.'s experience with water parks started in 1978 with Fun Town outdoor amusement park, in Erie PA. In 1982 Fun Town converted a twelve lane dry slide into a seven lane wet slide and added a Technetic double water slide in 1986, followed by a 200,000 gallon wave pool in 1986. The park changed its name to Wild Waters Water Park and continued to operate for several years. The summer season in Erie however, posed many challenges to operating an outdoor water park. The summers could be too cold, too windy, too rainy or even too hot. In addition Wild Waters water park's prime hours of operation were only from 11am-5pm. After many difficult operating years and the many challenges of running a small outdoor water park, Wild Waters closed its doors in 1989 and Nick vowed he would never go back into the outdoor water park business again.

Fourteen years later, in 2003 Nick was attending his aunt's funeral in Milwaukee and while at the funeral, he saw an advertisement for Great Bear indoor water park in the Wisconsin Dells. Very interested, Nick got in his car and drove without a hotel reservation, to Great Bear in the Wisconsin Dells. When Nick arrived, the parking lot was full of minivans and SUV's. To his amazement Great Bear indoor water park resort was almost full with only one room left at \$300 per night. Intrigued by this unique idea and because Scott Enterprise was already in the hotel business, he thought it would be a great concept to do an indoor water park in Erie. Bringing the park indoors would eliminate all of the negative variables that plagued him 14 years earlier.

Nick began travelling throughout the country researching other indoor and outdoor water parks gathering information on how to make an indoor water park a reality in Erie, Pa. Scott Enterprises soon began working with Water Technology to come up with a plan. Scott had the land available next to several hotels that could be connected to an indoor water park and that was the beginning of Splash Lagoon.

Nick Scott pioneered the idea of connecting three nationally branded hotels (including a Comfort Inn, Holiday Inn Express and Suites and a Residence Inn by Marriott) to an indoor water park. This dynamic presented a situation where the hotels do not depend solely on the water park and the water park does not depend on the hotels. Since Splash Lagoon's doors opened in 2004, the resort has won several awards and has been recognized as one of the Top 10 Indoor Water Parks in the country. Also, Splash Lagoon has had 2 major additions including the just completed 200,000 gallon indoor Wave Pool. This 30,000 square foot addition brought the total aquatic floor area at Splash Lagoon to over 90,000 sq. feet.

Our mission is “To exceed our guests’ expectations by providing memorable experiences that reflect the care, pride and expertise of our management and associates.”

Restaurants



Hotels



Resorts and Conference Centers:

