



THOMAS J. WALTER

THE SERIAL ENTREPRENEUR

Tom Walter is a “serial entrepreneur” author, speaker and a principal in numerous companies.

Tom has more than 40 years of experience as an owner-operator in the service industry. He has participated in the startup of 35 companies, is currently active in nine of those companies and has acquired three. He terminated two losing entities.

Tom remains a principal, investor and advisor for several companies, most of whom are part of 80Nine Holdings and have been co-founded by staff. These companies include:

- Tasty Catering – a leading Chicago area full-service catering and event company
- T.F. Processors – wholesale contract manufacturer of baked foods
- That’s Caring – socially responsible gift company that gives back to children food programs
- Nuphoriq – marketing agency specializing in catering and event companies
- iMotorsports – motorcycle dealerships in IL, FL and online
- Touhy Capital – funding firm and employee assistance fund
- Wahalla LLC, 1499 Tonne Venture, McCabe Venture – real estate investments

Additionally, Tom is a member of the following organizations:

- Chicago Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame
- Academy of Management
- Midwest Academy of Management
- Small Giants Community
- University of Illinois – Chicago, Institute of Entrepreneurial Studies
- DePaul University’s Coleman Entrepreneurship Center
- Junto Institute
- Notre Dame College Prep Hall of Honor

Tom and Tasty Catering has been the subject of the following doctoral dissertations:

- An Ethnographic Study of Character Based Culture in a Small Business Setting, Ramon L. Benedetto, DM
- Searching for the Links Between Culture and Performance: The Role of Values Work as Emergent Values Practices in One Company’s Journey from Imagined to Transformational Change, Anna M. Amato, PhD
- Constructing Positive Organizational Identity with Virtuous Positive Practices, Basil Kuo Chih Chen, PhD
- How do Leaders Influence Virtuous Organizational Cultures? David B. Smith PhD
- Resolution of Paradoxical Tensions: Linking Founder/CEO Values to the Viability of Their Company, Barbara A. Fahey PhD
- Me to We: How Collaborative Leadership Culture Developed in an Organization, Julie S. Huffaker, PhD

Tom is a co-author of:

- The award winning book It’s My Company Too!: How Entangled Company’s Move Beyond Employee Engagement for Remarkable Results
- Emerald Award winning academic journal (2015) Creating and Sustaining a Highly Engaged Company Culture in a Multigenerational Workplace Strategic HR Review, Vol.14, Iss:4 PP124-130, John Blattner PhD, Thomas J Walter Emerald Publishing
- Employee Engagement and Positive Psychological Capital, original research journal article, Organizational Dynamics, Volume 44 Issue 3, July-September 2015, Pages 185 – 195, Kenneth R. Thomson PhD, Grace Lemmon PhD, Thomas J. Walter, Elsevier Publishing

Tasty Catering, a successful suburban Chicago-based catering and event planning company, has been in business for over 25 years.

The company is highly committed to operating under a set of company-wide core values and is equally dedicated to excellence in both the culinary arts and customer service. Tasty Catering's client base contracts this award-winning caterer for a variety of event needs, including catering for corporate drop-off, outdoor picnics and events, wedding receptions, special events, holiday parties and social catering.

Tasty Catering has developed specialized teams throughout the company, each dedicated to cultivating relationships with particular audiences to best understand the growing wants and needs of every client. The results are reliable and speak for themselves, with over 10,000 successful event experiences per year.

A privately-held company founded in 1989, and owned and operated by the Walter brothers.



SERVICES

Corporate Drop-Off, Outdoor Events, Special Events, Residential Events, Weddings and Receptions, Eco-Friendly Gifts and Food Manufacturing/Processing.

VERTICAL EXPERTISE

Construction, Education, Engineering, Event Planning, Healthcare, Manufacturing, Professional Firms, Property Management and Weddings.

CUSTOMERS

Advocate Health Care, Aloft Hotel, ASA, B1G Ten, CDW, Colgate, Fresenius, Microsoft, Mitsubishi, Serta, Springhill Suites, University of Chicago, UOP and US Cellular, among others.

EMPLOYEES

Experienced and highly professional staff of 150.

AFFILIATIONS

American Culinary Federation, International Catering Association, National Association of Catering Executives, International Special Events Society, Meeting Professionals International, Tooling & Manufacturing Association, International Facility, Management Association, Association of Subcontractors & Affiliates-Chicago, Small Giants Community, Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce, GOA Business Association, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce and Schaumburg Business Association.

AWARDS

- *Forbes* America's Best Small Companies
- *Inc. Magazine* Best Small Workplace
- APA National Award for Psychologically Healthiest Workplace
- *Wall Street Journal's* Best Small Workplace
- WorkforceChicago Award for Lifelong Learning
- *Crain's Chicago Business* Best Places to Work
- *Business Ledger's* Best Place to Work in Illinois
- *Catering Magazine's* Caterer of the Year
- 101 Best and Brightest Workplace National Award
- Better Business Bureau's Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics
- Achievement in Catering Excellence by *Catersource Magazine*
- Governor's Award for Sustainability

LOCATION

23,000 square-foot building at
1900 Touhy Avenue, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

PHONE

(847) 593-2000

WEBSITE

www.tastycatering.com