



# Capital Events

Society of Government Meeting  
Professionals



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 9

SEPT/OCT 2011

## SAVE THE DATES

October 18,  
2011 Luncheon,  
Sponsored by  
Hilton Cocoa  
Beach Ocean-  
front John Read  
in the Univer-  
sity Club, Pen-  
sacola Room

November 15,  
2011 Spon-  
sored by Pyra-  
mid Hotels of  
Florida/Hilton  
Daytona Beach,  
Mary Jo Ortiz

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## 2011 SGMP Regional Conference “SGMP – We’re in the People Business!”

Mr. Scannell, as always did a great job on his presentation about being in the “People Business”. As he moved his way through the topic of people serving people, with different types of personality styles we learned more about the styles that individuals carry with them. The fun AMIABLE personality, the ANALYTICAL being very procedural, soft spoken and organized, the DRIVER being a get it done type personality, and the EXPRESSIVE who gets all involved. We also went through the SGMP “People Skills” tool kit of Communication, Creativity, Customer Service, Leader-

ship, Emotional Quotient, Managing Change, Motivation, and Planning. Another point of interest



Rob Coffman, CGMP, SGMP national president & Ellen Sliger, our past president

was being able to hear Rob Coffman, CGMP, our National Board President, share the highlights, changes, and

similarities through the years from 1981 to present. We heard Rob’s vision for the organization and projects planned for the future of SGMP.

The regional conference coming to life again was an exciting time. We were in a fast paced movement of sessions, the trade show, as well as ending each day net working, relaxing with everyone, and enjoying the top notch service of all the sponsors involved. Thank you to everyone for your commitment and support from our regional chapters.

I am looking forward to 2012 in Mobile, AL.

By: Arlene Roberts, Florida Department of Education

## Capital Chapter Leadership Shines

The Florida Capital Chapter’s President, Amy Brown and Second Vice President Ms. Janet Roach were recognized by Rob Coffman, CGMP, National President of SGMP national, for their leadership and work in organizing the Southeast Regional Education Conference held in Daytona Beach at

The Shores, a beautiful Oceanside resort & Spa September 11-14, 2011. Scott Schroeder and Rhonda Rogers-Bardsley were also recognized as co-hosts from the Central Florida Chapter and key planners for the Confer-



12 8:16

George Fong



George's photo of Palm Trees

*This article honors the work of a longtime SGMP Capital Chapter member GEORGE FONG*

## Sitting Down With a Chromatography Icon: W. George Fong

Excerpts by Jack Cochran, August 2011

Earlier this year, while we were putting the finishing touches on our presentations and plans for the 48th annual Florida Pesticide Residue Workshop (FPRW), my Restek colleagues and I received some sad news: George and Wilma Fong were retiring after almost 50 years at the helm of FPRW and its sponsor, FLAG Works, Inc.

The story of FPRW is a fascinating one. It started life as a small, unnamed gathering of intra-lab personnel established by George Fong back in the 1960s. Only a dozen people attended the first meeting; they didn't even keep re-

field laboratory. Later meetings were held in different parts of Florida to attract local attendees. **George:** Actually, it was very exciting to have visitors join us. It was manageable when the number of attendees was around 50. (CRL inspectors and techni-



cords of the proceedings. But by the time I made my first appearance in 2000, FPRW had turned into an international event attracting the industry's best from the government and private labs alike. The field of pesticide detection and analysis would not be what it is today without FPRW and, therefore, without George and Wilma Fong.

After cheering the Fongs when they accepted the inaugural FPRW service award—which has been named in their honor—I

had grown to around 100. I had to learn how to negotiate with hotels. I took some meeting planning short courses and joined Society of Government Meeting Professionals. We had enough room occupancy, and never paid for meeting rooms. (continued p. 3)

was fortunate enough to catch up with George to learn more about the workshop's history and impact on the industry

**Jack: What made you decide to start FPRW?**

**George:** I felt very isolated from technical information. I suggested to my immediate supervisor, the late Miss Bertha Munks, and the laboratory chief, the late Mr. Doyle Golden, that a periodical meeting for all CRL chemists and inspectors to discuss analytical technology and regulatory matters was necessary.

The first intra-lab CRL meeting was held in Tallahassee during the holidays of 1964. The following meeting in 1965 was held at the Sanford

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(continued p. 3)

# George Fong continued



**George's  
Photos of  
a Roaring  
Lion**

The first registration fee was \$25 to cover refreshments and buy some meeting materials. At early meetings, we had no problem recruit-

ing speakers. The meetings were very informal, and most speakers were bench chemists. Besides, everyone loves coming to Florida. **Jack: When**

**did Wilma first get involved with the meeting, and how important has she been to its success over the years? George:** Wilma was in-

involved at the very beginning supporting me and FPRW. She greeted attendees, worked at the registration desk, and for several years, she was the cashier. Every meeting requires lots of preparation months ahead of the meeting. She helped me organize the meetings at home.



George's photo - Florida Swamp

*A cookbook in honor of SGMP's 30th anniversary— WE NEED YOUR RECIPES*

## 30th Anniversary Cookbook

A cookbook in honor of SGMP's 30th anniversary will be distributed to all attendees at the 2012 National Education Conference in New Orleans. What better place to offer a cookbook than the city of amazing food.

**We need your recipes.** Please submit recipes which highlight Florida's

natural resources; fish & crab, citrus, coconut, palm hearts, oysters, seafood, tomatoes and all of the good things our state produces. You can submit the recipe on the survey monkey link [www.surveymonkey.com/s/SGMP30thAnniversary-Cookbook](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SGMP30thAnniversary-Cookbook)

**The person entering the most recipes will receive a set of SGMP stem less wine goblets.** Keep track of the recipes you enter. The deadline for submission is October 31, 2011.



## First Time Attendee-Regional Conference by Gloria Marion-Smith

Southeast Regional Conference 2011 was a "BLAST". This was my first SGMP regional conference, I really learn a lot. Two of the sessions stood out for me, one being Peggy Duncan **Social Media is More Than Facebook, Twitter, and**

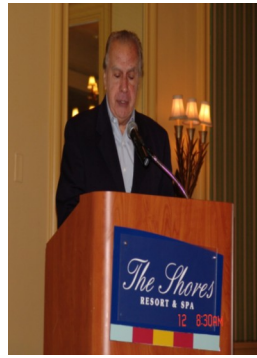
I loved the way Peggy demonstrated the tricks that I never explored on my own. They will help me to write subject lines that match the message. She showed us how to access free sites when getting a message out for a meeting. It is always important

to have T.E.A.M, Planner –Supplier Partners must have an ongoing exchange of information to have a great meeting. I will attend again. This event was well planned.

Gloria Marion-Smith, Wendy Priesand (seated) Jackie Rhody



Picture Gallery from the South East Regional Educational Conference at The Shores Resort and Spa in Daytona Beach



Mr. Scannell keynote at SE Regional Conference



Ellen Sliger, Chris Schuh and Arlene Roberts, Florida Capital Chapter members



Retha Nero, Jennifer Anderson, Adam Spivey (TN chapter) & Bonita Lee

Do you want to be in pictures? Attend the meeting

All photos compliments of George Nero



# Picture Gallery



President Amy Brown & Rob Coffman, CGMP



Leola Cleveland & Janet Roach, Visit Tallahassee



Joice Ventry, Jennifer Cato & Retha Nero

# President's message

Amy Brown, CGMP, Florida Capital Chapter

In the current fiscal year we have had a change in officers, committee chairs as well as committee members. At our November meeting we will be addressing your commitment to the Capital chapter of SGMP and asking each of the members to actively participate on a committee. The

November issue of Capital Events will contain the Committee Policy with the responsibilities of each of the Committees and its members. Please think about how you want to contribute and commit to our Chapter's success. The vitality of our members construct the vitality of the

organization. We must strive to be better than we are so that your membership is of value to you personally and professionally.



# Looking Ahead—National Conference

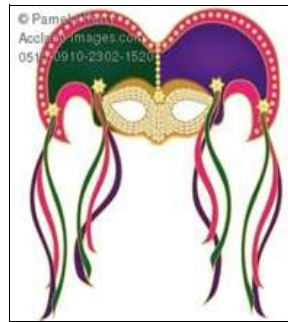
Mark your calendars to attend the May 16-19, 2012 SGMP National Education Conference in New Orleans. That is driving distance from Tallahassee.

Our November 15, 2011 meeting is sponsored by Pyramid Hotels of Florida/Hilton Daytona Beach, Mary Jo Ortiz

On December 13, SGMP Capital Chapter will be hosting the Holiday Charity Event.



A Mardi Gras mask



New Orleans' flue de lis, a stylized lily—a symbol for New Orleans

*Committee Chairs are being finalized. The November meeting will address the role and functions of our committees and provide you with an opportunity to make a commitment to the Florida Capital Chapter.*

## Membership Report

As of September 2011 The Florida Capital Chapter had 65 Planner members and 53 Supplier members. Our ratio of planners to suppliers ratio is 55.1%. We also have five other members (retirees) for a total chapter membership of 123. Year to date our membership has declined by two. Please remember, for every sup-

plier we must have a planner. Should you know of anyone who is interested in joining our chapter, please let a Board member know and they will match the planner with a supplier. It works for the benefit to increase membership. Please urge other planners to join the Capital Chapter.

**Monthly Board meeting— The Board meets the same day and place as the membership meeting. The Board meeting begins at 4:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend, and minutes are available upon request..**

## Our Mission

The Society of Government Meeting Professionals is a national organization dedicated to improving the knowledge and expertise of individuals in the planning and management of government meeting through education, training and industry relationships.



Representative from the CVBs who hosted a breakfast at the SE Regional Conference.