



# Capital Event

Florida SGMP Capital Chapter

#### September 2016 Volume 17 Issue 8

#### September Program

#### "The Emergency is Now"

It had been over thirty years since Tallahassee had been hit by a hurricane when Hurricane Hermine struck in the early hours of Friday, September 2, 2016. There had been plenty of storms, flood watches and power outages, but nothing of this size and strength in decades. The debate on whether Tallahassee was prepared and what should and should not have been done will go on with no real answers and plenty of blame to go around. Residents of Tallahassee shared stories of hours and days without power. Overall it could have been worse.

One story that made the news was about the "perfect wedding" that was destroyed by Hermine. A local hotel stepped in and saved the day by staging the wedding with only 24 hours' notice. It just goes to show that when you are planning a conference or event you can control a lot of things but you can't control the weather.

Jennifer Anderson addressed this subject at the September meeting with a program entitled "The Emergency is Now". The program discussed types of emergencies – weather, industrial accidents, medical emergencies, safety and security issues and their results. The amount of lead time can be a key factor in the ability to reschedule or relocate the event. In most cases little or no notice is available. In this case an emergency plan is key. Elements of the plan included goals and objectives of the plan, contact information for staff, participants and vendors, maps of the venue and region, assigning roles and responsibilities, communication, safety and security and financial considerations. The plan should be tested and team knowledge and gap analysis assessed.

There is nothing more disheartening than to see months (sometimes years) of preparation go to waste due to unforeseen and uncontrollable events. In the end the best plan is to have a plan because "The Emergency is Now".

Jason Zaborske President



The Hampton Inn Tallahassee Central offers a cozy meeting room perfect for small groups .



Article by Janet Chernoff

Thank you Hampton Inn Tallahassee Central.

## **Capital Event**

Members and guests enjoyed chicken tenders, fresh vegetables with dip and a delightful fruit and cheese tray with crackers. Wine and sodas were also provided. The food for this meeting was provided by the Florida Capital Chapter. Thank you Jason Zaborske, Karen Hodges and Betty Ann Lewis for picking up the food.

Member Jennifer Anderson provided the program. All in All a great effort by SGMP Members!





The "Capital Event" is your Chapter Newsletter.

Do you have an idea for an article or photos of a recent meeting that would be perfect for the newsletter or Facebook page?

Contact us and give us your ideas!

**Publications & Communications** 

Board Liaison Betty Ann Lewis Wyndham Orlando Resort International Drive balewis@wyndham.com

Secretary Janet Chernoff Division of Blind Services Janet.chernoff@dbs.fldoe.org



## **Capital Event**

### SUPPLIER SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT!

The members of the Florida Capital Chapter all pulled together to supply the food and program for this meeting. Thank you to everyone for making the September meeting happen!

Hampton Inn Tallahassee—Central is a newly renovated hotel set in the heart of Tallahassee just east of the State Capitol buildings. An eco -friendly hotel, the facility has 500 square feet of meeting space and is the recipient of the 2016 Certificate of Excellence from Trip Advisor. Hampton Inn Tallahassee Central, 2979 Apalachee Parkway, Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone : 850-309-1300.

