

Capital Events



Special Interest
Articles: Honors &
Awards Banquet

"Honors & Awards Banquet"

President's Award – Retha Nero

As one of the most dedicated members I have known, Retha has been a member for numerous years. Her follow up and attention to detail on every project is commendable. In January, she took over as membership chair without hesitation, and has done an excellent job. In response to her leadership to the membership committee, as well as her hard work and drive to seek new members for the chapter, The Florida Capital Chapter was recognized with three National Awards for membership. Retha brought the chapter in at number one during the national membership drive out of 29 Chapters! It was so exciting to win that award. She also helps out with the registration desk, attends monthly board meetings and provides support wherever needed. She has personally recruited five new members this last year and has a potential new member at each meeting. Her involvement and dedication to the Chapter shows in everything she does. It was my pleasure and an honor to present this year's Presidents Award to Retha Nero. Thank you for your hard work and accomplishments. Congratulations to RETHA NERO!!! Retha (left), Ellen Sliger (right)



Planner of The Year – Arlene Roberts

Arlene has demonstrated the ability to communicate and work effectively with people to get the job done. Under her leadership, the chapter's membership increased as a result of active recruitment and retention of members. She is most deserving of the Planner of the Year Award because of active involvement and commitment to the mission of the SGMP National Organization and the goals and objectives of the Florida Capital Chapter. As past president for two consecutive terms, and acting president (trustee) for approximately eight months, the recipient provided excellent leadership and unwavering dedication to this chapter. Let's all congratulate Arlene Roberts, Florida Capital Chapter SGMP 2009 Planner of the Year. Arlene (right), George Fong (left) presenting award.



Supplier of The Year – Karen Lambert

Karen continues to go above and beyond when it comes to the chapter. She has served on the board for several years and during this term stepped back into the Treasurer's position from Director when it became vacant. Karen offers her property when there is a need. She always gives her full support and commitment to the board and chapter. Way to go Karen! Karen (left), Janet Roach (right) presenting award.



Member's Choice – Ellen Sliger

With a strong leadership commitment, Ellen carries the torch of President with continued strength and deliverance. She continues to strive for better educational programs and the growth of the chapter with bringing on new members and striving to bring new blood into the committees and board. Ellen has been a great asset to the chapter as our President. A big CONGRATS to you! Ellen (left), Arlene Roberts (right) presenting award.)



Thank you Hilton Family for a wonderful evening. A great venue along with a fantastic meal made for a truly fabulous night. Congratulations to all the winners of the 2008-09 Honors & Awards.

"TEAM"

to you from the mystery writer

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President's Message – Ellen Sliger, Florida Capital Chapter President

The June meeting is my favorite one – on this occasion we recognize all the members that have given their time and talent to the chapter throughout the year. It takes a TEAM (Together Everyone Accomplishes More) to make this the best SGMP Chapter. So take this opportunity to join the team...

This year at the National Conference the Florida Capital Chapter won 4 Awards!!!! Florida Capital Chapter is definitely headed in the right direction. Thank you to all members that made these awards possible. All our hard work is now being recognized by National. Congratulations to all the award winners. You have done so much for the Chapter.

This will be my final message as president. I have enjoyed my term and thank you for supporting me. I will hand over the reins to Amy Brown and wish her the best of luck.

Hope you all have a safe and fun summer. As you travel, remember to "buckle up".

2008 – 2009 SPONSORS - Embassy Suites Destin, Staybridge Suites, Tallahassee, La Quinta, Panama City, Tallahassee CVB, Cabot Lodge Thomasville Road, DoubleTree Hotel Tallahassee, Residence Inn Universities at the Capitol, Kissimmee CVB, Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront, SpringHill Suites by Marriott, The Florida Hotel & Conference Center, and Hilton Family of Hotels

A **Special Recognition** goes to Retha Nero and Arlene Roberts who are always helping the chapter grow. Their dedication to membership is unbelievable. Our retention rate for membership over the last year was 88.2%. That is incredible with all the budget cuts that each agency is facing. During these tough economic times, retaining membership is one thing – but with these two ladies taking charge - our membership grew 4.8%!!! I know the next year is going to get even better. Each one has recruited new members, staffed a booth at trade shows, and is always thinking SGMP. Because of their hard work – Florida Capital Chapter won three Membership Awards this year at National!! Congratulations to Retha Nero and Arlene Roberts!! Arlene Retha (left), Retha Nero (center), Ellen (right)



Stellar Award – Gabrielle, D. M., PhD

Dr. Gabrielle assisted with the on-line survey, the elections this year, and website updates. She did a fantastic presentation at one of our monthly meetings, and has taken the lead on the Community Service Committee and has done an outstanding job. I tell her what I envision and she makes it happen. Congratulations Gabrielle on this year's Stellar Award!! (not present/no picture)

SGMP Board

Arlene Roberts
Immediate Past
President

Amy Brown
First VP

Chantale Acacia
Second VP

Claire Smith
Secretary

Karen Lambert
Treasurer

Directors:
Suzy Keenan
Janet Roach
Marcia Burks

Monthly Board Meetings

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

Membership Report

As of 6/10/09 report
55.7% Planners
44.3% Suppliers
Govt. Planners – 54
Contract Planners – 4
Suppliers – 47
Assoc Suppliers – 1
Educator/Student - 2
Retired – 7
Total Members - 115

Looking Ahead

National Conferences:
May 19-22, 2010, Kansas City, MO
June 8-11, 2011, Norfolk, VA

A Need to Know – Upcoming Programs

July 14 – Meeting Technology
August 11 – Silent Auction / Larry Ferguson, Auctioneer
September 15 – Effective Leadership
October 20 – Fright Night/Supplier Appreciation Dinner

July Membership Meeting

“Meeting Technology”

Tuesday, July 14, 2009
5:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Hampton Inn & Suites
3388 Lonnbladh Road
At I-10 & Thomasville Road

Sponsored by
Embassy Suites Destin
RSVP

Lynn Holland, CHME
holland@embassysuitesdestin.com

Committee Chairs – Archives, George Fong; Community Service, Gabrielle; Honors & Awards, Amy Brown; Member Services, Teresa Hall ; Membership Recruitment and Retention, Retha Nero; National Conference, Ellen Sliger; Programs, Gloria Marion-Smith; Publications and Communications, Melissa Jackson; Special Events, Amy Brown; Sponsorship, Arlene Roberts

About the organization - The SGMP Florida Capital Chapter chartered June, 1989 with 35 members. The chapter offers a variety of services to its members, including monthly educational programs, leadership opportunities, social activities and a strong code of ethics.

Mission Statement - 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 meetings through education, training, and industry relationships.