



# Chapter News



Atlanta Chapter

May 2008

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## President's Message

Our May meeting will occur on May 20, 2008, and our speaker is Tom Ledford of The Lenox Group, LLC. He'll be speaking about "Identifying and Overcoming Challenges of Selling a Business in Today's Environment." This topic is another great example of how accounting and business operations come together.

On another note, it's hard for me to believe that two years have passed since the members of the Atlanta Chapter asked me to take on the responsibilities of President of the Chapter. Our chapter has grown in both number of members and number of participants at our monthly meetings. We've also seen an increase in the number of students attending our meetings, and the chapter's Executive Officers and Board of Directors are highly capable of building upon the foundation that spans multiple decades. I look forward to my continued participation in chapter events.

The GSCPA at the state level is evaluating chapters that may benefit by combining their resources and leadership talent. The Atlanta Chapter and the Buckhead Chapter have been selected as "pilot" chapters to evaluate the benefits and challenges that such a combination might provide. We will begin to explore joint meetings of the Atlanta and Buckhead Chapters in July. As we progress, we value your input and look forward to continued service with you as members of our great profession!

And to continue our practice, the Atlanta Chapter Officers continue to give thought to the question: What does the Atlanta Chapter mean to you, and how can you use it to grow professionally? We are working to help you make progress related to continuing education and developing your professional network and career path, and have fun in the process. We also work to provide a comfortable environment for students as they advance to enter our profession. As we move toward these goals, we see a need for members to join the leadership team to help us carry out the initiatives of education and professional development, and we welcome your ideas. If you want to be involved this year, reach out to any of the chapter officers or committee chairs. We'll be happy to help you find a position to best help you achieve your goals.

Thanks,  
Michael Levine

## Chapter Meeting Information

### Meeting Information

**Date:** May 20, 2008

**Location:** Vintage Room, Renaissance Hotel, 590 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta (conference room - adjacent to buffet line on street level of hotel)

**Time:** 12 p.m. (please arrive 20+ minutes early for registration)

**Cost:** \$20 cash or check (includes lunch and 1 hour of CPE credit)

**Speaker:** Tom Ledford

**Topic:** Identifying and Overcoming Challenges of Selling a Business in Today's Environment

GSCPA Atlanta Chapter meetings are open to professionals with interest in the topic being discussed. The meetings

also happen to be great opportunities to meet other professionals. If you know of someone who would benefit by attending this month's meeting, please forward this invitation to them with a request to RSVP.

**Please forward your reservations/cancellations via email ASAP to:**

[Kris Clark](#), Atlanta Chapter Secretary

**Complimentary valet parking** is available at the Renaissance main entrance for those attending the Atlanta Chapter meeting.

## Speaker's Biography

**Thomas E. Ledford, Chairman  
The Lenox Group, LLC**

Tom is a 25 year veteran in the investment banking industry. His career has been highlighted by significant capital raising experience for middle market companies. Prior to Lenox, Tom was a Managing Director for Legacy Securities Corp., where he was co-head of the firm's Basic Industries Group and a senior member of the Healthcare and Hospitality Groups. He was actively involved in both capital raising and M&A engagements. Tom has also had significant experience in real estate and oil and gas ventures. Prior to joining Legacy, Tom was founder and served as President of Ledford Securities Corporation for 12 years which focused on capital raising for Southeastern companies. Tom was also Vice President with Equitable Securities Corporation directing corporate finance and real estate finance activities. From 1973 until 1979, Tom served as the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director of the Tennessee Housing Development Agency.

## 2008 Meeting Schedule

**June 17, 2008** - Jason Hoffman – Topic TBD

**July 15, 2008** - TBD

**August 19, 2008** - TBD

**September 16, 2008** - Stuart Johnson (moderator) "Private Equity Update"

**October 21, 2008** - TBD