

CATCH THE WAVE TO SUCCESS

80TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



The 80th Annual Convention brought 200 members and guests to Amelia Island, Florida for four days of educational programs and entertainment.

The Annual Convention Task Force, chaired by Sean Lager, planned a full schedule beginning with the Opening Cocktail Reception and Dinner Dance. Additional highlights included a cruise around Cumberland and Amelia Island and a golf outing.

The keynote speaker was Barry Melancon, president of the AICPA. He spoke on professional issues affecting CPAs today. Other speakers included Chris Rouse, Windham Brannon, PC; Bob Dow, Arnall Golden & Gregory; Dusty Stallings and Stacy Bauer, PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP; Andrew Neumann, Georgia Department of Economic Development; Brad Dickson, Tarpley & Underwood, PC and Billy Daniel, Frazier & Deeter, LLC.

The highlights of the week included the President's Banquet where Harvey Tarpley was honored with the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of his many years of service and dedication to the GSCPA and the profession. President Stewart Carlin passed the gavel to Robert Prator as he became chairman of the GSCPA. During the Annual Meeting, Stewart recognized several members for outstanding achievement: Jack Smith received the Public Service Award; Ron Thomas as Distinguished Committee Chair for his work with the Bylaws Committee; John Masters as Distinguished Section Chair for his work with the Taxation Section and Wendy Gates as Distinguished Task Force Chair for her work

with the Minority Issues Task Force. Scotty Jones was bestowed with the Distinguished Member Award and Immediate Past President, Paula Mooney was recognized with the President's Award.



A special President's Award was presented to **Paula Y. Mooney**, immediate past president of the Georgia Society of CPAs during the annual business meeting at the 2009 Annual Convention in Amelia Island, Florida.

Paula was recognized by Stewart Carlin, 2008-09 President for her many contributions to the accounting profession and her leadership to the Society. Paula was instrumental in the passage of the mobility legislation during her presidency in 2008, spending many hours on the road between Statesboro and Atlanta at all times of the day and night. Paula gave testimony to the legislature on numerous occasions to improve their understanding of the need for this important legislation. She then handled numerous phone conversations with members providing insight and understanding of this new bill. Paula truly took the Society to the next level with her leadership skills and expertise on this difficult subject.

Paula also began the effort to consolidate the handling of ethics cases in the state of Georgia. For the past several years, ethics cases have been investigated by a volunteer committee who dedicated hundreds of hours to this in-depth process. Working cooperatively with the AICPA, Paula began looking at the intensity and work this process required and

after researching the intricacies with the AICPA, recommended that the AICPA take over the investigation of Georgia cases. This will help limit legal liability to the Society and allow volunteer members to focus on other opportunities.

Paula was able to do all this while continuing to be an outstanding mother, wife and sole proprietor of her own firm. She will truly be remembered as a president who achieved much during her year and made a long-lasting contribution to the accounting profession.

We would like to thank the 2009 Annual Convention Sponsors and Exhibitors

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L to R: Pam Smith, John Nix, Larry Smith, Linda Nix, Kasey Willis, Reese Willis, Morgan Nix



Wendy Gates with her son Gabriel Gates and mother Luevenia Jackson



Jim and Carolyn Riticher



Annual Convention Task Force Chair Sean Lager and Cathryn Thomas



Ruth Bartlett, Allen Poole and Terri Vann



John and Beverly Cook



Walt and Louise Bryde



Harvey and Sylvia Tarpley



Denise Mummert, Paula Mooney and Emily Sanders



Chris and Brenda Rouse with granddaughter Anna Rouse