

The GAEOP Communicator

Growth * Attitude * Enthusiasm * Opportunity * Professionalism

A newsletter for the members of the Georgia Association of Educational Office Professionals

A Message from the President

2005-2006 GAEOP Officers

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Well, this is coming to you a little later than I had hoped, but....

"Better late than never!" As far as

a reason for the delay—the only thing I can say is that old adage "Life is what happens when you are busy making other plans...." and ask you to forgive me.

I hope this message finds each of you well and that your lives in this new year are filled with friends, family and resolutions you are still keeping to—I am still holding to mine, which surprises me actually since I gave up french fries.... I guess I wasn't as addicted to them as I thought. As long as I never try to give up chocolate chip cookies, I should be fine!

For those of you who were able to attend the Fall conference, I hope your memories are still pleasant—the evaluations will be given to Debbie Walker for her information as she plans her upcoming conferences—I will say one thing, no more bagels and yogurt for breakfast!



**Believing in
your dreams IS
the opportunity!**

I have included a few things in this newsletter from the conference as I promised during the meeting, the poems I read at the sessions and the recipes from the hospitality room—I was even able to find an online source for the rules for "Tonk" that matched what I remembered from that night! I hope everyone had as much fun as I did—you guys are great!

As my theme for the year states, believing in your dreams is the first step towards achieving them—I have taken mine and am taking classes to get back in the groove of being a student in order to start a program to complete my Bachelor's degree—have you taken your first step yet? Take your step with GAEOP! We need folks on the board and to run for office—come on! It's not a cliff, besides I promise, we are out here to walk with you!

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GAEOP Website

<http://www.geocities.com/gaeoponline>

NAEOP Website

<http://www.naeop.org>

Call for Nominations!

Nominations for 2006-2007 elections are due to Debbie Walker by March 15th.

We will need nominations for President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. Anyone elected to the position of Vice-President must have served at least one year as a member of the executive board / a committee chairman —

If you are interested in running for President-Elect, you must have served at least two years in a board position. Other positions are open to any active member.

Send the completed nomination forms (they are on the website) to Debbie Walker, 240 Mitchell Bridge Road, Athens, GA 30606

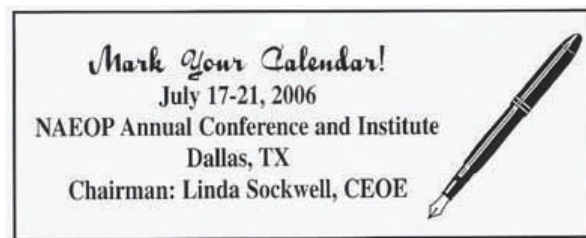
Upcoming Conferences/Meetings

A few meetings worth noting are coming up soon —

The NAEOP Southeast Area Professional Development Days will be held March 31–April 2 at the Crown Plaza in Tampa, Florida. For more information, contact Jan Murray at 813-782-7976 or janLMo61@aol.com.

The NAEOP National Conference and Institute is scheduled for July 17-21 in Dallas, Texas. More information is available in the latest NES Connector, or online through the NAEOP website: www.naeop.org.

Dates for the GAEOP Spring Meeting will be announced when they are available.



A tough decision had to be made...

GAEOP will be unable to present it's annual awards and scholarships this year. While this decision was not easy, it is unfortunately necessary.

Several years of declining membership and attendance at conferences along with rising costs for postage and the like have put a

real dent in the GAEOP coffers—we just don't have enough money to continue the award and scholarship programs at this time.

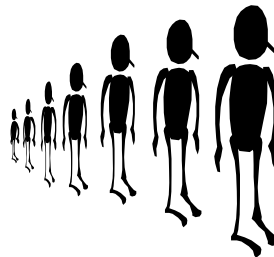
The funds in the budget are being geared towards those things that benefit the membership at large (memberships card and list mail out later this Spring, renewals this

Summer) in order to allow GAEOP to continue into next year.

Please recruit new members and plan to attend upcoming conferences—help GAEOP to bring these recognitions back soon!

Membership Update—Counting off!

As of the 10th of February, 2006, GAEOP has 86 members on the roll for 2005-2006; this includes 1 Life-time member (Thank you!), 10 New members (Welcome!), 34 Renewal members (Welcome Back!), 15 retired members (Lucky you!) and 26 Honorary members (Past NAEOP Presidents — thank you for your service!).



When 2004-2005 ended, there were 102 members on the GAEOP roll. We still have a few

months left, so please spread the word about GAEOP to those you work with who may not have heard about us—the more the merrier and the stronger GAEOP is, the better for each of us!

They say the whole is greater than the sum of its parts—GAEOP is great, but we need more parts!

Poems from Fall Conference

At the Fall Conference, I read a different poem before each session as well as at lunch—several people asked me about them, so I will list them here and have provided URLs to where I linked them on my website—they will be pdf files, you will need Adobe Acrobat to read them. (If you don't have email and received this in hard copy, I have included copies with the newsletter.) If you have a problem opening the files, email me (aerial@gpc.edu) and I will email you a Microsoft Word file of the poem(s) you would like. (I have also included the version of the rules I found for the card game (other than poker) that was going on in the Hospitality Room.)

"The Invitation" by Oriah Mountain Dreamer

- <http://www.gpc.edu/~aerial/gaeop/invitation.pdf>

"More Whipped Cream" by Virginia Ellis

- <http://www.gpc.edu/~aerial/gaeop/whippedcream.pdf>

"Myself!" by Edgar A. Guest

- <http://www.gpc.edu/~aerial/gaeop/myself.pdf>

(A version of the) Rules for "Tonk"

- <http://www.gpc.edu/~aerial/gaeop/tonk.pdf>



Recipe from the Hospitality Room: Nacho Dip

This easy dip can be adjusted to suit many tastes. It tastes better if made the night before, stored in the frig and then warmed up for the party (or whatever) in a chafing dish or small crock pot.

Serve with any kind of chips you like... The recipe can easily be doubled, tripled or

Ingredients:

8 oz ground beef (or turkey)
8 oz. jar picante sauce
8 oz. Velveeta cheese

Brown the meat and drain. Add picante sauce and a little water (about 1/4 cup) to the browned meat and let simmer until liquid is gone. Cut up the cheese, add to meat mixture and cover on low heat until it starts to melt, then stir well.

You can adjust this recipe by what "heat level" you have in both the picante sauce and the cheese—just don't use low fat cheese!

Recipe from the Hospitality Room: Broccoli Salad

I don't have exact measurements for this recipe, it is one that you just have to "feel" but everyone I have shared it with has been successful, so I feel confident you will be as well. Just remember to make it the night before!

It can be personalized to suit your tastes or those of your family in a number of ways—except for leaving the mayo out....

Ingredients:

Fresh Broccoli, washed, cut into bite-size florets (you can use the stems also if you like them)
Mayonnaise (best with regular, okay with low-fat)
Raisins (You can use other dried fruits also)
Nuts (I like pecans, you can use sunflowers seeds or walnuts, with or without salt)
(You can also add small pieces of diced red onion)

Put the broccoli in a large bowl, add enough mayo, stirring after each addition, until the broccoli starts to "clump" together. Then add your raisins (or other fruit), nuts and onions (if desired). Stir well. Put in a bowl with a tight fitting lid and refrigerate over night (or at least 6-8 hours) and stir before serving.

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GAEOP is an affiliate of the National Association of Educational Office Professionals—<http://www.naeop.org>

The Moral of the Story

"Give me intelligence" - A short idea on how sometimes going the *other* way might work too.....

One day, three men were hiking and unexpectedly came upon a large raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so. The first man prayed, saying, "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river." Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, after almost drowning a couple times.

Seeing this, the second man prayed to God, saying "Please God, give me the strength AND the tools to cross this river." Poof! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times.

The third man had seen how this worked out for the other two, so also prayed to God saying "Please God, give me the strength, the tools and the intelligence to cross this river." And Poof! God turned the man into a woman. She looked at the map, hiked upstream a couple hundred yards and walked across the bridge.

How often do we find ourselves thinking we know how something needs to be done and after that doesn't work we find the answer that was in front of us (or a little upstream?) and works out every time?

Remember, not every solution is going to "go with the flow" - sometimes going the way that seems to be against the point might just lead us in the right direction after all.....

