

The GAEOP Communicator

Growth * Attitude * Enthusiasm * Opportunity * Professionalism

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

2005-2006 GAEOP Officers

- ♦ **President**
Elizabeth Harris, CEOE
Georgia Perimeter College
aerial@gpc.edu
- ♦ **President-Elect**
Debra Walker
Clarke County
walkerd@clarke.k12.ga.us
- ♦ **Treasurer**
Celia Evans
Muscogee County
celiaevans@knology.net
- ♦ **Vice-President**
Sandra Bancroft, CEOE
Kennesaw State University
sbancrof@kennesaw.edu
- ♦ **Secretary**
Vacant
- ♦ **Immediate Past President**
Ann-Marie Lee
Muscogee County
amlee@mcsdga.net

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GAEOP Website

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

NAEOP Website

<http://www.naeop.org>

A Message from the President

As I write this, the only known officers that GAEOP will have for the 2006-2007 year are Debbie Walker as President and



myself in the position of Immediate Past President. Celia Evans has agreed to continue to serve as Treasurer, pending the approval of the membership. There have been no nominations received for any of the other elected positions. In the words of one past-president correspondent—"We've had low times, but I don't remember a time when NO ONE stepped up!"

This is a definite low point in GAEOP's history, but it is not just at the state level that there is a lack of involvement, I have talked (emailed) with people at the local and national level as well—this is the "norm" right now. As folks who've been involved and leading the way for years, those who are new to the association don't feel ready to take on those roles. I myself still have a hard time comprehending that I went from new member at the state and national levels in 1999 and am serving as state President this year as well as helping with a national committee.

I know I preach to the choir sending this

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

to those of you who are current members, but you are the ones that we (Debbie and I) call on to help GAEOP through this time—as Debbie put it, "We need to make this an association issue"—and she's right! Those who choose to remain involved as others choose to back off from active involvement due to whatever their reasons are—personal or otherwise— we are the ones that are the future of the association, we are the ones that must come together so that the association can continue.

Debbie and I are looking for people who are willing to serve the association in any of the capacities that are vital for membership (vice-president, secretary, president-elect and any of the committee chair positions that have been vacant this year since I heard more replies of "no thanks" than "sure I will" as I tried to fill the positions vacated by those who are wanting to enjoy stepping back

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Spring Conference 2006—June 2nd & 3rd—Athens!

President-Elect Debbie Walker has planned a great meeting for GAEOP which will be held June 2nd & 3rd at the Holiday Inn, 197 East Broad Street, Athens, Georgia.

All current GAEOP members should have received an email with hotel information

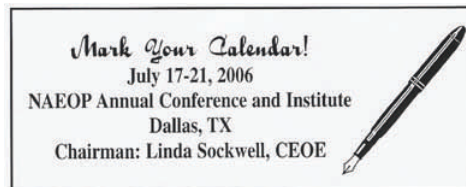
during the first week of May—Registration Information and Forms for the conference are included with this newsletter and are available on the website. We look forward to seeing everyone at the conference!

Professional Development—3D opportunities!

GAEOP is a 2005-2006 affiliate of NAEOP (see the certificate to the right.....)

GAEOP members have one of the 3-D memberships possible: Local, State and National—how well-rounded is YOUR professional involvement?

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



NAEOP Looking at Reorganizing "Areas" - Georgia not in Southeast?

From an email I received on April 21st from Pam Posey, the SE Director for NAEOP:

"The NAEOP Board Long Range Planning Committee and another ad hoc committee have been reviewing the possibility of reducing the number of area directors and possibly the membership councils in order to cut costs. The first proposal did suggest a realignment to

try and get the area more close in numbers and the SE Area states were reorganized. I certainly didn't understand why Georgia was taken out of the SE, however, this was a proposal—It is NOT final! We will be discussing this at Annual Conference. So I would suggest sending as many of your members as possible to attend the Member Forum. As far I know, the Member Forum has not been schedule yet, but will be."

If you are planning to attend the conference in Dallas, please check the schedule for this Member Forum and express the desire of Georgia to stay with our SE neighbors, whatever the reorganization decision is!

I will post any further information I receive on this via email or the GAEOP website.

Membership Update—Counting off!

Unfortunately, the membership update has no difference news that that held in the last newsletter— 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.



When 2004-2005 ended, there were 102 members on the GAEOP roll, which means we actually lost 27 members from last year to this! Of those I have communicated with I heard

"well if there are so many pulling out, there is no reason to stay" too many times!

GAEOP needs everyone to join and be involved! Each of us brings something special to the committees, conferences and meeting we attend—please contact those missing from the rolls and invite them back next year!

National Educational Bosses Week

National Educational Bosses Week

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OFFICE PROFESSIONALS**—the only national professional association for office personnel in education—affirms its belief that a good education is the birthright of every American; and

WHEREAS, the members of NAEOP recognize the significance of the many and varied duties and responsibilities assumed by the educational leaders at all levels of the educational process;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that the week of May 21-27, 2006, shall be known as “**National Educational Bosses Week**” in grateful recognition of the unselfish and dedicated service provided to the nation’s schools, colleges, universities, and communities; and

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that October 16, 2005 be observed as “**National Bosses Day**.”

DONE, this the first day of August, two thousand five, and in the seventy-second year of the **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OFFICE PROFESSIONALS**.

Connie S. Bergeson

Connie S. Bergeson, CEOE
President



The week of May 21-27th has been proclaimed by NAEOP as the 2006 “National Educational Bosses Week”

Treat your supervisor to lunch, or something nice for their desk (maybe an Apple?

One year I got my boss a really pretty crystal apple for her desk.... There is just something about teachers and apples....)

We, as Educational Office Professionals, take pride in our work educating the students within the systems we work for—even if we don’t see the kids on a day-to-day basis— what we do makes a difference!

The Motto that I try to remember when it comes to “my” kids (even if they are adults, being in college and all that) is:

*I want to make the difference,
not make-up the difference!*

Always remember that every action we take effects something and even someone, and those results help to define how the world views us. It isn’t about what we are, but what we bring to the world.

President’s Letter continued

on their activities due to retirement (and don’t get me wrong—I look forward to retirement too and wish each of them a relaxing time!) so that GAEOP can get through this time.

Partnerships, Co-chairs, Committees even—we are willing to expand the definition of the positions to accommodate those who are willing to commit a few hours a month to the needs of GAEOP.

My year as President will not go down as one of the best in GAEOP’s history, I accepted that when the registrations for the Fall Conference were below 30—and I realize I have not been as good at communicating as I had hoped to

be, please accept my apologies for that. I have pledged to spend the next year doing my best to be there in whatever way Debbie needs me.

I have included a membership listing and membership cards with this newsletter to end my year by completing those necessary yearly tasks that are required of the President of GAEOP.

Please join with me and support Debbie’s efforts in this next year and we’ll help GAEOP be strong again through the combination of our efforts and will!

Beth

Georgia Association of Educational Office Professionals
Elizabeth Harris, CEOE—Editor
2101 Womack Road
Dunwoody, GA 30338



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The Moral of the Story — *I wish you enough!*

Recently I overheard a mother and daughter in their last moments together at the airport. They had announced the departure. Standing near the security gate, they hugged and the mother said, "I love you and I wish you enough".

The daughter replied, "Mom, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Mom". They kissed and the daughter left. The mother walked over to the window where I was seated.

Standing there I could see she wanted and needed to cry. I tried not to intrude on her privacy but she welcomed me in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?"

"Yes, I have," I replied. "Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?"

"I am old and she lives so far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is - the next trip back will be for my funeral," she said.

"When you were saying good-bye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough' May I ask what that means?"

She began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone". She paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail and she smiled even more. "When we said, 'I wish you enough', we were wanting the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them". Then turning toward me, she shared the following as if she were reciting it from memory.

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright no matter how gray the day may appear.
I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.
I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive and everlasting.
I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest of joys in life may appear bigger.
I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.
I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.
I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye.

She then began to cry and walked away.

They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them but then an entire life to forget them. To all my friends, I WISH YOU ENOUGH

I received this story via email from someone who I won't be able to forget—let me know if you'd like the email.