

SEPA Newsletter

The Southeastern Psychological Association

Summer 2009

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Presidential Message

David Washburn

SEPA President, 2009-2010

Can you afford not to participate in SEPA?

Every day, the news carries reminders of difficult economic times. Iconic corporate giants are declaring bankruptcy. Foreclosures are up, and real estate values are down. Unemployment and debt climbs, while confidence in the banking and investment industries declines.

Of course, one doesn't need the national news to know financial hardship and uncertainty. Personal and family budgets are also stretched (it's amazing how reasonable gas and milk seem now, after paying \$4.00/gallon for each just a short while ago!). Colleges and universities have also felt the economic pinch. Reductions in force, furloughs, cuts in supply budgets, 0% raise pools, hiring freezes, and cancellation of travel and professional leave are but a few manifestations of the current economic climate. All of us are challenged to be more conservative and judicious with our professional development dollars, and must weigh the costs and benefits of each professional membership, each convention trip, each paper submission.

It is in this context that I convey my sincere enthusiasm for the Southeastern Psychological Association and my eager anticipation of our annual meeting next spring in Chattanooga. Whereas economic hardship is...well...hard for everyone, the regional psychological associations provide a particular service, the value of which increases as financial resources become more scarce. Here's the reality: we all need to continue our professional development, despite the economy. Our research still needs to be done—I would argue that psychological research becomes even more important at times like this, but that's an argument for another day—and reported professionally. We still need the opportunity to learn

about the latest developments in our field, to engage in continuing education, and to network with colleagues and other professionals. Our students still need to be trained and mentored in the profession. That is, despite the economy, we still need what psychological associations have to offer. Regional associations like SEPA allow all of us to glean these benefits at a price that fits within restricted travel budgets. At a time when we are compelled to be more selective in our commitments to national and international organizations, we can all embrace the opportunity to grow and to disseminate our research findings to an audience of scholars within a short drive from home.

Now more than ever, I encourage you to participate in SEPA, and to spread the word to your colleagues and students that SEPA provides affordable opportunities for professional development. I encourage you to submit your best work there, and remind you that it can be eligible for honors that we annually award to outstanding professional and student presentations. I encourage you to join us in Chattanooga for the annual meeting next March. Having done my undergraduate work at Covenant College on Lookout Mountain, going to Chattanooga for the conference feels like going home; but in truth, the city is so much more dynamic, interesting, and visitor-friendly than it was when I worked there. The Tennessee Aquarium, the Riverwalk and Ross's Landing Park, the African-American Museum, and the Discovery Museum are just a few of the attractions that have joined famed Rock City, Ruby Falls, and the Choo-Choo in the area. The SEPA meeting there will be fun as well as interesting and rewarding!

Finally, I encourage you to think carefully about the role you play in SEPA's future. SEPA provides valuable services to all of us today because our Past-presidents, Executive Committee representatives, Administrative Officers and staff, and other leaders have provided sage guidance in our history. After years of exemplary service to the organization, Dr. Rosemary Hays-Thomas has announced her intention to retire from the position of SEPA Administrative Officer. Please nominate SEPA members (including yourself) who might be very good in this important role. See www.sepaonline.com for more information. Consider the ways that you and your colleagues might provide leadership and service to the Association, including as nominees for election as president-elect at-large

representative. Our many avenues of contribution now will ensure that SEPA remains a vital and valuable resource for southeastern psychologists in the future.

See you in Chattanooga. You can't afford to miss it!

2009 Awards

Chairpersons:

Mentor Award ~ James L. Pate

Outstanding Professional Paper Award ~ Debra Sue Pate

Graduate Student Research Award ~ Steve Nida

Mentor Award - The Mentor Award Committee selected Sandra Willis from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama as the winner of the 2009 Mentor Award. The committee, which was composed of Charles Brewer, the 2008 Mentor Award recipient, David A. Washburn, president-elect, and James L. Pate, president and chair of the committee, received five nominations. Dr. Willis, who has been at Samford University since 1993, takes students to numerous student research conferences and typically takes numerous students to the annual SEPA meetings. For example, she and her students made six presentations about a variety of topics at the 2007 SEPA meeting. She is an outstanding mentor and richly deserves the award.



Outstanding Professional Paper Award – Competition for the Outstanding Professional Paper Award (OPPA) is by nomination. The OPPA Committee reviewed nine professional papers. The Committee is pleased to announce that the 2009 award for Outstanding Professional Paper went to **Dr. Quentin Davis**, of Augusta State University, Augusta, Georgia. Dr. Davis' paper was entitled "*Turn Initiations in Signed Conversations with Cross-Fostered Chimpanzees.*" Dr. Davis received a cash award from SEPA in recognition of her research, along with a congratulatory letter that was sent to her Department Chair and Dean.

Dr. Debra Sue Pate (left) presenting Award to Dr. Davis (right)

Graduate Student Research Award – The committee responsible for this year's Graduate Student Research Award competition was chaired by Steve Nida (The Citadel). In the first phase of the process, the submissions were evaluated by the chair and three other judges: Maria Lavooy (University of Central Florida), Adrian Janit (Augusta State University), and Chad Galuska (College of Charleston). It was understood from the outset that Dr. Galuska would be unable to attend the meeting in New Orleans. Dr. Lavooy experienced a schedule conflict that prevented her participation in the second phase of the competition, in which the finalists presented their papers. Renae Duncan (Murray State University) filled in for Dr. Lavooy, joining Dr. Janit and Dr. Nida in judging the actual presentations.

The committee initially received seven submissions, from six different authors. (One author generated two separate submissions.) The panel of four judges selected three of these as finalists, and these three authors presented their papers in a session devoted specifically to this competition. That session, which took place from 11:00 to 11:50 on Friday morning of the convention (February 20), was comprised of the following excellent presentations:

- **Monica Stevens** (University of Florida): “*Attachment Security in Young Children with Disruptive Behavior Disorders*” (with Sheila Eyberg, Alison Zisser, and Corissa Callahan)
- **Maria Ramsey** (University of West Florida): “*Is MySpace my Friend? Impacts of Intoxication on Pre-employment Screening*” (with Sherry Schneider)
- **Gene Brewer** (University of Georgia): “*The Role of Declarative Knowledge in Encoding Prospective Memories*” (with Arlo Clark-Foos, Joseph Meeks, Justin Knight, and Richard Marsh)



On the basis of the presentation, the panel of judges determined Gene Brewer to be the winner of the competition. Dr. Nida announced and presented the award (which included a check for \$200) at the reception on Friday evening.

Dr. Steve Nida (*left*) presenting Award to **Gene Brewer** (*right*)

Continuing Education Corner

Elizabeth V. Brestan-Knight, Director of Continuing Education

By all reports, the New Orleans 2009 SEPA Continuing Education (CE) Program went very well. Seven 3-hour workshops, one 2-hour workshop, and ten 1-hour invited speaker

presentations were offered for CE credit during the New Orleans conference. In all, SEPA generated \$3985 through our CE programming.

A special thank you goes out to **Dr. Karena Valkyrie** from Troy University who stepped in to assist Elizabeth Brestan Knight with the Continuing Education Programming. Dr. Knight gave birth to Lucas Paul Knight (8 lbs, 6 oz) on February 22, 2009 and was unable to attend the SEPA conference this year. Dr. Valkyrie was instrumental in helping with the CE committee this year. In particular, she helped to review submitted workshops, she assisted us with our recent APA approved sponsors of CE application, and she served as the go-to person for CE issues during the conference. Thank You Dr. Valkyrie!!

Doctoral-level psychologist volunteers are needed to serve on the CE program committee for the Chattanooga 2010 meeting. If selected, you will be asked to review and evaluate the quality of workshops submitted for the 2010 conference. Volunteers must be full SEPA members. To be considered for this position, please email your CV to Elizabeth Brestan Knight at brestev@auburn.edu

We are always looking for high quality workshop programming for the SEPA conference! SEPA members and non-members are encouraged to submit workshops to be offered for CE credit at the Chattanooga conference. Submitted workshops should be in either a 3-hour or 6-hour format. Please see the SEPA Web Page for submission details.

If you plan to attend the Chattanooga 2010 SEPA conference and have recommendations for possible workshop presenters or topics that you would like to see included in our SEPA programming, please contact **Elizabeth Brestan Knight** at brestev@auburn.edu. Your suggestions for improving SEPA's CE programming are most welcome!

CEPO News

Pamela Banks, CEPO Chair

SEPA's Committee on Equality of Professional Opportunity was established to monitor and enhance participation of under-represented groups in SEPA activities and programming.

This year the CEPO program included one invited address, one keynote address, one symposium, one invited discussion, one paper session, three poster sessions, a business meeting, and the CEPO graduate student network.

John S. Dovidio presented the CEPO/SEPA Invited Address and **Stephanie R. Johnson** gave the CEPO Keynote Address.

CEPO Undergraduate Student Research Awards were chaired by **Dr. Amy Lyndon**. Eight research paper submissions were received. The Minority Issues Award went to **Ioana Latu** and **Heather Kleider** from Georgia State University and the Gender Issues Award went to **Stacey Byrd, Zachary Martin, Adam Underwood,** and **Jessica Anderson** from Augusta State University.

The CEPO Graduate Student Network, chaired by **Dr. Amy Shadoin**, hosted a Dutch-treat mentoring dinner at The Gumbo Shop in the French Quarter. More than a dozen students signed up for the event. Students and mentors exchanged thoughts on a range of topics related to graduate study. Dinner, of course, was excellent; after all, it was N'awlins. After dinner the group moved to Canal Street to watch the Mardi Gras parades and catch beads.

Psi Chi News

Maria Lavooy, Psi Chi Southeastern Regional Vice-President



Psi Chi had a full and exciting program of events at the 2009 annual meeting of SEPA in New Orleans. This year Psi Chi's keynote speaker was Professor J. David Smith of The University at Buffalo, the State University of New York. Almost 200 people attended Dr. Smith's presentation on "***Uncertainty Monitoring and Metacognition by Humans and Nonhuman Animals.***"

Several Psi Chi sessions were scheduled with students' interests in mind. Two panel discussion sessions were devoted to helping students prepare for graduate school. A Psi Chi orientation was offered on Thursday, and two Undergraduate Research Programs were offered on both Thursday and Friday.

The Psi Chi Hospitality Suite, hosted by students and faculty from the University of Central Florida Cocoa and Palm Bay Campuses, and from Winthrop University, saw students and faculty from all over the southeast. It was a great opportunity for attendees to snack on refreshments and to meet fellow Psi Chi members and faculty advisors.

The faculty advisor appreciation luncheon was enjoyed by many. At the luncheon, Psi Chi President-elect, **Dr. Alvin Wang**, of the University of Central Florida, presented Winthrop University with a Regional Chapter Award and **Christina Sinisi**, of Charleston Southern University, with the Southeast Region Faculty Advisor Award.

We look forward to seeing you at next year's meeting which is being held in Chattanooga, TN, the home of Psi Chi's National Office.

SEPA History Project

James L. Pate, SEPA Historian

A unique feature of the SEPA Project for 2009 was that the Historian's Address was combined with the Presidential Address, a situation that is unlikely to occur again in the next few



years. The title of the address was "*A SEPA History: A New 50-Minute or Less Hour*," in which I discussed the founding of the SEPA, unusual events in the SEPA, some information about SEPA's presidents, and other items. In due course, the address will be published in the History section of the SEPA web site.

A digital file of the published proceedings of the SEPA meetings, most of which were published in the *American Psychologist*, has been created. With this file, some information about the SEPA's history can be readily obtained. Various databases have been created or updated.

Minutes of the meetings (business, Executive Committee), various officers' reports, the program, symposium papers, and other standard documents were added to the SEPA Archives. Most importantly, **Raymond R. Shrader** (SEPA president in 1971) contributed a sizeable collection of correspondence, minutes, and other documents to the SEPA Archives.

Suggestions for improving the SEPA History Project are accepted with appreciation, and your participation in any of the SEPA History symposia is encouraged. For more information on the SEPA History Project or to submit documents, programs, photographs, or other items that might be of historical value, please contact the current Historian, **James L. Pate** at jpate@gsu.edu.

Scenes from SEPA 2009



*Pamela Banks, SEPA President James Pate,
and Deborah South Richardson*



*SEPA President David Washburn
SEPA Past-President James Pate*



Scenes from SEPA Convention and festivities





Rosemary Hays-Thoms and Art Gutman



Harold and Kaye Moon

2009 Meeting Survey

Rosemary Hays-Thomas, SEPA Administrative Officer

The Results Are In! Thanks for your Feedback on the Post-Meeting Survey



After our February convention we developed an on-line survey to tap attendees' views about the meeting location, program, and other items. We thank those of you who responded and appreciate the suggestions you offered. Some of them we may be able to implement in the future, such as the on-line dues and registration payment procedure we are developing this summer.

SEPA and Mardi Gras? Two-thirds of respondents thought the timing was fun and we should do it again, and one-half said that Mardi Gras made the meeting more appealing. Many of you really "passed a good time," based on your comments. However, there was a small but vocal minority who thought it was problematic and unpleasant. Frustrations were mainly parking (difficulty and cost), access to and from the hotel before and during parade time, and noise. A few people mentioned problems with safety. Overall, most people were very positive about their experience.

Some of you thought that our hotel rates were MORE expensive during this pre-Mardi Gras period – in fact the opposite is true! We were able to get an excellent room rate for a hotel of this quality and location because SEPA fit into a niche with less competition from businesses and other organizations. If we had met the following week after Mardi Gras, rates would have been \$10-\$15 higher. Actually we contracted for the pre-Mardi Gras period specifically to get

the room rates down. Aside from Easter weekend (which is undesirable for other reasons), there is no other time in the spring when we could afford to go to New Orleans. (I attended another meeting there in April and rates were over \$200!)

SEPA requires a very large amount of function space in relation to the number of sleeping rooms we use. In New Orleans, there are only a few hotels that can hold us, and most are on the Canal Street parade route. Each year we negotiate a block of sleeping rooms at a rate that allows the hotel to provide complimentary meeting space as long as we make 70-80% of our contracted room pickup. If we fall below the contracted block, there are hefty financial consequences, so it is important for our attendees to stay at the convention hotel.

We also generate “comp rooms” based on our pickup of sleeping rooms and that reduces the amount of our hotel bill, which is a great savings to SEPA and allows us to keep our registration rates from rising. (Some organizations raise the registration fee substantially for those not staying in the convention hotel but we have not found this necessary, thanks to those of you who stay with us.)

This year, for the first time ever, we filled well over 100% of our required sleeping rooms (thanks, we think, to those of you who stayed longer to take in the festivities). The Sheraton accommodated us by expanding our room block at the convention rate even into the weekend when their regular rates went up. They also negotiated overflow rooms for us at the W Hotel a few blocks away at the same rate. We know that some of you did pay higher rates over the weekend, but that happened only after we reached the point at which our block could not be expanded any more.

The Sheraton? Over two-thirds of you gave excellent or very good ratings to the Sheraton on quality, function space, service, location, and security. Over half were pleased with the cost for value. Convenience and cost of parking were rated lower, but over 40% did not require parking. We will be sharing the survey results – including both positive and negative comments -- with the hotel management. At future meetings, if you have a major issue with a hotel, please let us know as well as reporting it through regular processes. They want guests to be pleased and sometimes can rectify a problem or suggest an accommodation.

SEPA Cities? We’ve tried to book Atlanta but the rates were \$189 or higher. We cannot afford Charleston or Savannah, although we keep trying to find a niche there that will work. Next year our meeting in Chattanooga is a very affordable \$129 and we think you will love the city once you see what it offers. (See Lyn Zittel’s article elsewhere in this Newsletter.) Our choice of Jacksonville in 2011 balances variety, interest, and cost. As I am writing this, we are negotiating with the New Orleans Sheraton for a return pre-Mardi Gras date in 2012 with a

rate only slightly higher than this year. (In recent years we have met in Charlotte and Nashville, and have looked at both Memphis and Knoxville.)

SEPA's Schedule and Program? Two-thirds of you said the overall program was excellent or very good. Highest ratings were given to the Invited Speakers (72% excellent or very good) and to the posters and interactive posters, panels and receptions (60% or higher). Over half gave high ratings to paper sessions. This was also true for conversation hours and CE workshops, although many people responded "not applicable."

In response to your comments: your SEPA staff works practically nonstop during the late fall and holiday season in order to get the program to you as soon as possible. We try to avoid conflicts for presenters and for topics that seem similar while still assigning function space appropriately.

The topics on the program, with the exception of the President-elect's invited speakers, are completely dependent upon what is submitted. If you want to see more of a topic, consider organizing a panel or symposium or contact someone you know who is working in the area and suggest that they submit. Think about offering a CE workshop in an area of your expertise, or contact CE Director Elizabeth Brestan Knight to suggest topics or presenters for CE workshops. Invite a practitioner colleague to submit a conversation hour or a workshop proposal dealing with his or her area of expertise. If you want to see your colleagues' work, suggest that they submit a proposal -- our Outstanding Professional Paper Award is designed to recognize and highlight exceptional presentations by our professional members.

We post the program on-line as soon as it is completed and notify our members by email when this is done. This year we mailed the printed program only to those who had requested it, and your responses indicate that just over half don't care about or need the printed book before the meeting as long as the program is available electronically. Mailing the printed book requires more money and time than you might think; we have found that bulk mail is too costly, slow, and unreliable. (We must pay for undeliverable bulk mail items, which are returned without forwarding.) We will consider options for responding to the 27% of you who preferred, or the 20% who really wanted a book mailed prior to the meeting. There are no plans to eliminate the printed program entirely, rest assured.

To sum it up... Thanks to those of you who responded and gave us many good ideas, which we will try to implement. We appreciate your compliments and thanks, and will try to address your dissatisfactions where possible.

Finally, to the respondent who said "*You have more 'no' questions than 'yes' questions and are biasing your survey results. Ask a social psychologist to help you next time....*"

Thank you for coming for over 25 years, we are glad you loved the meeting along with your colleagues and students, and by the way, I am a social psychologist! I just wanted honest answers, and it seems that is what we got. See you next year in Chattanooga! ☺

Planning for Next Year

2010 Annual Meeting Preview

Rosemary Hays-Thomas, SEPA Administrative Officer

All Aboarrrrrd! For the 2010 SEPA Convention in Chattanooga

Another “first” for SEPA: Our first convention in Chattanooga. If you have not been to Chattanooga recently, you will be very impressed by what a great venue this city is for our 2010 SEPA meeting. (It’s not your grandma’s Choo-Choo!) Centrally located in our region, it is easy to access if you are driving and you will find parking costs to be VERY reasonable; the city itself



has many charms and the geography is beautiful. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find an article about Chattanooga; my comments here focus on plans for the convention program itself.

Sessions will be held in the Chattanooga Marriott (the convention hotel), and in the Chattanooga Convention Center which is attached to the hotel and just a few steps away. Room blocks are reserved at the Marriott (a traditional hotel), at the Staybridge Suites (located on the other end of the Convention Center and offering suites with kitchenettes), and at the Sheraton Read House (a lovely historic hotel just a short walk or free shuttle ride away). Room rates are an affordable \$129 (single) in all three places. The city is very walkable and there is a free electric shuttle around the downtown area.

The convention will open on Wednesday, March 10, with a late-day reception and poster session, as we have done for the last several years. There will be a full day of programming on Thursday and Friday. If necessary to accommodate items accepted for the program, we may

extend our Saturday schedule into the early afternoon. (We have a bit less function space reserved for this meeting than last year, and we try not to schedule similar things in conflicting time blocks.) Specific information on times will be available by late December when the schedule is firm.

Program Chair Patricia Donat has announced three of our invited speakers who will be featured at the Convention. The prominent and prolific author **David Myers** of Hope College will present a talk based on his book "In a Quiet World: Living with Hearing Loss." University of Georgia Distinguished Research Professor *Emerita* **Patty Gowaty** (now Distinguished Professor at UCLA) will address "The Evolutionary Ecology of Sex-Neutral 'Sex Role' Behavior." Professor Gowaty delivered a very well-received talk at SEPA in 2004 and we are delighted to have her returning as an Invited Speaker. University of Richmond social psychologist **Don Forsyth** will share his group dynamics insights on "The Social Psychology of the Classroom" in his invited talk. We expect to have a fourth speaker sponsored by SEPA/CEPO and other notables sent by APA, APS, and Psi Chi. by the way, the Psi Chi national headquarters is located in Chattanooga, and this year is another milestone birthday for Psi Chi, so expect some festivities in celebration.

A big advance this year: On-line dues payment and convention registration should be available for 2009-10 if our summer work progresses on schedule. The Executive Committee has decided to invest in developing our electronic system to improve service to our members in this way. We expect that you will be able to pay dues and register for the meeting much more easily and quickly with this system. Hotel registration will also be available directly through the Web site... but it's not up yet! Detailed information will be provided in our fall mailing.

Mark your calendars now for the submission deadline of October 10, 2009, and the convention dates of March 10 – 13, 2010. We look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga!

2010 Award Nominations

Amy Shadoin, Newsletter Editor



Be sure to watch for the fall mailing containing the 2010 SEPA annual meeting

registration information. This packet contains application information on the **Outstanding Mentor Award**, the **Outstanding Professional Paper Award**, the **Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award**, and the **CEPO Undergraduate Student Research Award**. Consider

nominating someone or submitting your research for one of these prestigious awards!

2010 Call for Papers

Patricia Donat, SEPA Program Chair

All Aboard for Chattanooga!

The theme for the 2010 program, "Exploring the breadth of psychology: Teaching, research, and service," recognizes and celebrates members' roles as faculty members, scholars, and applied practitioners. In the fall, you will receive the 2010 call for papers. I encourage you to submit an abstract for a paper, poster, symposium, or continuing education workshop. The contributions of SEPA members to the program are what make the meeting a success year after year. I look forward to learning more about the professional and scientific work of those in the region. With travel budgets limited, we have chosen a central location so that members may remain professionally active even in difficult economic times. I hope that you will include SEPA in your travel plans for 2010.

I also encourage you to participate in our peer-review process. Peer-review is an important part of professional service to the discipline and ensures the continuing high quality of our program. I appreciate the work of our SEPA members who serve as reviewers. Thank you.

2010 Officer Nominations

It's almost time to nominate SEPA members for the fall elections. This year we will be electing officers for the positions of President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Member-at-Large. Self-nominations are appropriate. Nomination ballots will be emailed and/or mailed to all voting members of SEPA (full members and life members). Please watch your mail or inbox and be sure to participate. Ballots should be returned to **James L. Pate** by October 10, 2009. The election process is described in our Constitution, which is posted on our Website at www.sepaonline.com.

Position Announcement

James L. Pate, Past President

Southeastern Psychological Association Administrative Officer

The Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) is seeking an energetic, well-organized member to become the next Administrative Officer (AO) of the most innovative, the

most unusual, and the strongest regional psychological association. Rosemary Hays-Thomas has asked to retire as AO of the SEPA sometime after the 2010 annual meeting, and thus, David Washburn, the SEPA president, has appointed an Administrative Officer Search Committee consisting of **Dr. Steve Nida, Dr. Jacquelyn White, Dr. Sabina Widner, Dr. Rosemary Hays-Thomas** (consultant), and **Dr. James L. Pate** (chair).

The Administrative Officer is the chief staff person in the SEPA. The AO makes arrangements for the annual meetings (hotel arrangements, registration, program schedule), maintains membership records, handles the finances of the organization (in conjunction with the Secretary/Treasurer), manages the SEPA Administrative Office, and provides continuity for the organization in as much as the officers change frequently. The AO works with officers and the Executive Committee of the SEPA to advance the organization and psychology in the southeast. The time commitment will be approximately ¼ time on an academic schedule, with the time requirements varying throughout the year. The stipend or salary is negotiable.

To nominate a person for the Search Committee's consideration, please send the name of the person or persons and contact information to the Dr. James L. Pate, Chair of the Search Committee (jpate@gsu.edu or 1015 Wadsworth Drive, N.W., Atlanta, GA 30318-1655). On July 1, 2009, the Committee will begin considering applications but will continue to accept nominations and applications until the position is filled. Nominees will be contacted by the Search Committee and will be encouraged to be candidates for the position.

Administrative Updates

Lyn Zittel, SEPA Administrative Assistant

Next Stop – Chattanooga!

Although I have always enjoyed listening to the song “Chattanooga Choo-Choo”, and thought Chattanooga might be an interesting place to visit someday – it was never high on my priority list – until now!

The SEPA Administrative Officer Rosemary Hays-Thomas and I recently drove to Chattanooga to check out the area for our next SEPA convention and I am convinced that I will go back to Chattanooga again and again. In fact, I came home to Pensacola thinking that I would like to move there – the city is awesome! Rosemary declared, and I agreed, “*This isn't your Grandma's Chattanooga anymore!*”

The scenery on the drive was wonderful – lush green woods, wildflowers, rolling hills – and as soon as we turned off the interstate we were right in the city and almost at the front door of the Convention Center. How easy is that?

Susan Flynn from the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce gave us the grand tour of the city. She was excited and energetic about the “renaissance” of Chattanooga, and made our trip to her hometown delightful.

The lovely greenery is not left behind on the interstate; the city is filled with trees and flowers and parks. In fact, there is a new program to double the tree canopy in the business district. The current plan is to plant 1,500 more trees in the city to aid in reducing its carbon footprint. Chattanooga is a “green” city in every sense – both environmentally and visually. New and renovated buildings in Chattanooga are built to today’s high environmental LEED-certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards.

When the workday is over and people leave the office, they stay in the city! Shops, restaurants, theatre, and art galleries are on every block and both residents and visitors take full advantage of all that is offered. Everything in the city is convenient, whether you are driving, walking, or riding the free electric trolley.

Rosemary and I visited the River Journey and Ocean Journey Aquariums which stand side-by-side at the River Walk Park – *the photo on the left shows Rosemary “inside” an aquarium.*



We rode the free electric trolley to the aquariums and back to our hotel where we were right in the heart of the city, trying to choose which of the delightful restaurants to visit for dinner. By the way – every meal we ate was deliciously prepared and the cost was very reasonable. I found prices to be much lower than in other cities I have visited – even the souvenirs that I purchased at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo gift shop were less expensive. Yes, there really is a Choo-Choo, many of them in fact, at the 100-year-old depot. Railroad fans will want to visit the model train museum or take an excursion to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum.

We went all over Chattanooga and there was activity everywhere!



From the walking path beside the river,



to the pedestrian bridge which crosses the Tennessee river,



to the nearby campus of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga,



to the Bluff View where there are museums, coffee shops, historical buildings, and Bocce Ball,



to the North Shore with parks, water access, and antique carousel,



to the downtown area full of restaurants, shops, and theaters,



to the budding artist colony full of galleries and artists working in their studios.

Whatever your interest, you will find it in Chattanooga -- road and mountain biking, hiking, walking paths beside the river, white water rafting, hang-gliding, and rock climbing. If you are into nature, but not wanting to exert yourself too much, you can take the Tennessee Aquarium River Gorge Explorer, a 70-passenger high-speed catamaran that tours 26 miles of the Tennessee River, or tour the river on "The Blue Moon" a 70-foot luxury cruiser. There is even a Tow Truck Museum – really!

If you are feeling less adventurous, you could take a few hours to walk through some of the museums in the area: The Hunter Museum of Art (19th, 20th, and 21st Century art), the Chattanooga African American Museum/Bessie Smith Hall, or the Creative Discovery Museum (for children and parents). You could spend time at one of the parks along the riverfront, tour Ruby Falls or take the Incline Railway on Lookout Mountain, or visit the two aquariums. The history buff may want to visit the sites of the Battle of Lookout Mountain (*The Battle Above the Clouds*), or the Chattanooga National Cemetery. We drove back over Lookout Mountain and even stopped on the beautiful campus of Covenant College, home of the busloads of students who come to SEPA each year with Dr. Mike Rulon.

I cannot begin to list every attraction Chattanooga has to offer, so please go to the link on the SEPA Web site to see the many other things available.

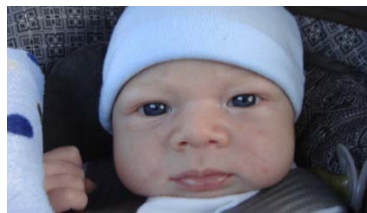
The view from Chattanooga is not only beautiful, it is forward-looking – it is a city that I plan to visit often. I know you will enjoy the beauty, convenience, and friendliness of this city, and we look forward to seeing you there at the SEPA Convention in March 2010. You may want to check your schedule and see if you can squeeze in a bit more time, before or after the convention, to stay and visit this lovely city -- I certainly plan to!

Members in the News

Amy L. Shadoin, Newsletter Editor

We are always interested to know what SEPA members are doing, both personally and professionally. If you have graduated, married, retired, or passed another life milestone, or if you have changed jobs, published a book, been interviewed as an expert in the field, been elected to an office, appointed to a board or task force, or received an award or notice of funding, we want to celebrate what our SEPA members are doing! If you have news to share with your colleagues about a SEPA member, please submit a brief notice to the Newsletter Editor at amy.shadoin@mchsi.com.

- **Elizabeth Brestan Knight** and her hubby celebrated the birth of their son Lucas on Sunday, February 22, 2009. Lucas is 20 ½ inches long – birth weight was 8 pounds 6 oz. – and everyone is doing fine.



Welcome to the world, Lucas Knight!

- **Laura Maynard Grant** and **James Grant** were married April 18, 2009 at the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul in Providence, Rhode Island.



Congratulations and Best Wishes Laura and James!

- **Arlo Clark-Foos**, son of **Drs. Paul Foos** and **M. Cherie Clark** has been busy this year. He graduated, married Michelle Bentley of Athens, Georgia, and celebrated the birth of their daughter Gaia.



Paul, Arlo & Cherie - at Arlo's graduation



Arlo & Michelle's wedding
(Arlo is "wearing" baby Gaia)

Baby Gaia

And, Arlo accepted a position at University of Michigan-Dearborn. Whew, that's a lot of excitement!

Welcome to New Members



Christian Alexander
Saradina Allen
Sara Allen
Egor Ananev

The SEPA extends a warm welcome to the following individuals who joined our ranks since August 2009:

Denise Lott Arellano
William Bailey
Amasa Baldwin
Elizabeth Bauman
Karen Beale
Emily Beamon
Lisa Beck
Rebecca Beights
Brooke Bennett-Day

Andree Betancourt
Kathryn Bigalke
Mary-Alice Bolline
Jennifer Bonds-Raacke
Kathleen Bonnelle
Bonnie Bowers
Jennifer Breneiser
Alicia Briganti
Marilyn Brodeur St-James

Shaina Brown
Emily Bullock
Mary Bush
Robert Butler
Stacey Byrd
Gabriela Carrasco
Chad Carrick
Alice Carter
Jason Case
Scarlet Chatman
Jene Claude
Christopher Ryan Cochran
KC (Katherine) Collins
DeAnn Collins
Logan Collins
William Compton
Caleb Corwin
Victoria Counts
Shontae Cox
Kyle Crowson
Angelah Crumm
Nathaniel Crumm

Lauren Cunningham
Donald Curry
Vernon Davis
A. Nicole Dismore
Peter Domanico
Brandi Dorsey
Dawson DuFort
Deborah Eakin
Lindsey Edwards
Emily Elliott
Lisa Elliott
Jannelle Engel
Nathan Evans
Katherin Fanaian
Meryl Fein
D'Andra Ferguson
Phylicia Fitzpatrick
Tiffany Foltz
Leanne Forquer
Kelly Forsythe
Lisa Fosbender
Arian Frias

Nicole Fugate
Chad Galuska
Sarah Gillespie
Erin Goforth
Rose Gonzalez
Meredith Graves
Tammy Greer
Erin Hambrick
Mary Hammons
Rachael Haney
Julia Hargett
Ashley Harper
William Harris
Matt Hayes
Danielle Hennis
William Hill
Crystal Hill
Robert Hines
Brittany Hinton
Melissa Hirschman
Michelle Horhota
Crystal Hoyt
Paul Ingram
Janene Israel
Adrian Janit
James Johnson
Wava Johnson
Linda Jones
Jasmin Jones
Candace Jones
Amanda Jurls
Joseph Kastner
Elizabeth Kelley
Sadiya Khandker
Timothy King
Latai King
Ashley Kirk
Ena Knott-Scott
Stephanie Kofron
Monique Kristapovich
Emily Kuhn
Caleb Lack
Luke Lancaster
Antoinette Landor
Iona Latu
Janet Leigh
Stacey Leist
Dana Lewis
Thomas Lipscomb
Erica Littler
Mary Livingston
Fantasy Lozada
Angelina MacKewn
Michael Madson
Emily Marcinowski
Michelle Martel

Susan Martin
Tera Mason
Geraldyn Mass
J. Donald Matherne
Jill McEntee
Brittany Merritt
Isha Metzger
Melissa Middlebrook
Laura Miller
Sylvia Miller
Michael Moore
Miranda Morris
Jenny Morris
Melissa Mortland
Dan Mossler
Patricia Murphy
Ashley Norwood
Kerri Nottingham
Christopher Noye
Andrew Obradovich
Alan Ogle
Candace Oglesby
Ifi Okoh
Sarah Owens
Melissa Padgett
Mitchell Panter
Adam Pasciak
Derek Pasisz
Andrew Peacock
Georgina Pearson
Jessica Perez
David Perkins
Tamera Phillips
Rebecca Piro
Codi Player
Jennifer Pryor
Cara Pugliese
John Raacke
Polina Radchenkova
Glenna Read
Kanasha Reese
Sarah Remenar
Cynthia Rhoton
Lyzaida Rivera
Walter Roberts
Nicole Rossi
Barbara Rowan
Shayla Ruffin
Emily Russell
Ashton Ryan
Brandy Scaglione
Thomas Scaglione III
Kelly Schleismann
Jacqueline Schneyer
David Schroeder
Kyna Shelley

Stephen Short
Annie Silcox
Scott Smith
Rishee Smith
Allison Snyder
James Solari
Regina St. Pierre
Monica Stevens
Rick Stevens
Kevin Stone
Mike Sullivan
Lauren Tagliatela
Samanthia Thompson
Thomas Timmerman
Adam Underwood

Ashley Vance
Lisa VanWormer
Giana Viera
Rashada Walker
Steven Walker
Yi Wang
Jessica Ware
Anna Warren
Andrea Watson
Jennifer Webb
Rose Mary Webb
Laura Welch
Emily Wheat-Butt
Sarah White
Meagan Whitney

Daniel Williams
Dara Williams
Samantha Williams
Drue Williamson
Adrienne Williamson
Rachel Wolfe
Melissa Womble
Toni Wooldridge
Danielle Wust
Edely Yopez
Brett Zeiler
Adam Zimmer
Melissa Zumstein

If you believe your name should appear in the New Member list but cannot find it here, please contact Lyn Zittel, SEPA Administrative Assistant, at sepa@uwf.edu to ensure that your information has been correctly entered in the Member Database system.

State Psychological Association Meetings

Arkansas Psychological Association

Oct 22-23, 2009
Little Rock, AR

Kentucky Psychological Association

Nov 12-14, 2009
Lexington, KY

Maryland Psychological Association

Oct 23, 2009

Mississippi Psychological Association

Sept 30-Oct 2, 2009
Gulfport, MS

Tennessee Psychological Association

Nov 5-7, 2009
Nashville, TN

Virginia Psychological Association

Oct 21-24, 2009 (Fall Conference)
Richmond, VA

Virginia Psychological Association

Apr 21-24, 2009 (Spring Conference)
Norfolk, VA

Scholarship, Grants, and Award Deadlines



Are you looking for funding for your work? The following scholarships, grants and awards have upcoming or recurring deadlines. More information can be found by following the link to the RFP.

Annette Urso Rickel Foundation Dissertation Award for Public Policy - for dissertation research on public policy which has the potential to improve services for children and families facing psychosocial issues

Deadline: November 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/rickelRFP.pdf>

APF Cummings PSYCHE Prize – honors an individual whose career exemplifies the integration of behavior and physical healthcare

Deadline: December 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/cummingsRFP.pdf>

Charles L. Brewer Distinguished Teaching of Psychology Award - recognizes a significant career of contributions by a psychologist who has a proven track record as an exceptional teacher of psychology

Deadline: December 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/brewer.html>

Counseling Psychology Fund - supports research on the implementation of innovative counseling programs and models

Deadline: November 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/div17fundrfp.pdf>

Elizabeth Munsterberg Koppitz Child Psychology Graduate Fellowships - for advancement of knowledge and learning in the field of child psychology

Deadline: November 16, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/Koppitz%20RFP.pdf>

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Science of Psychology - recognizes a distinguished career and enduring contribution to psychology

Deadline: December 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/gold.html>

Gold Medal for Life Achievement in the Application of Psychology - recognizes a distinguished career and enduring contribution to psychology

Deadline: December 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/gold.html>

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in Psychology in the Public Interest - recognizes a distinguished career and enduring contribution to psychology

Deadline: December 1, 2009

RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/gold.html>

Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Practice of Psychology - recognizes a distinguished career and enduring contribution to psychology

Deadline: December 1, 2009
RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/gold.html>

James McKeen Cattell Fund - for supplementary sabbatical awards to support the science and the application of psychology

Deadline: December 1, 2009
RFP: <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/awards/cattellfund/>

Lizette Peterson Homer Memorial Injury Research Grant - supports research into psychological and behavioral aspects of the prevention of injuries in children and adolescents

Deadline: October 1, 2009
RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/peterson-homerRFP.pdf>

Roy Scrivner Memorial Research Grants - for empirical and applied research focused on lesbian, gay, and bisexual family psychology and lesbian, gay, and bisexual family therapy

Deadline: November 2, 2009
RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/Scrivner-rfp.pdf>

Theodore Blau Early Career Award - honors a clinical psychologist for professional accomplishments in clinical psychology

Deadline: November 1, 2009
RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/blau-rfp.pdf>

Theodore Millon Award in Personality Psychology honors an outstanding psychologist engaged in advancing the science of personality psychology

Deadline: November 1, 2009
RFP: <http://www.apa.org/apf/millon-call.pdf>

Do we have your most current mailing and e-mail address on file?

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