

Headquarters' News March 2003

A monthly newsletter from GSFSA Headquarters especially prepared for:
Executive Board, House of Delegates, Supervisors and State Staff



...From the President

Dear GSFSA Friends:

March already! Where has this GSFSA year gone? I can't believe that it is time to judge Scroll awards and put the final touches on this year's GSFSA annual conference in Savannah. I certainly hope you plan to have your conference registration in by the March 15 early registration deadline and have already made hotel reservations...because...this is going to be a terrific conference!

Our Conference Steering Committee, including Valerie Bowers as Conference Steering Chair, Karen Green as Conference Steering Co-Chair, Patsy Lynch as Exhibits Chair, and Linda Ervin as Hospitality Chair, has been hard at work to ensure your conference experience will be the best possible. This committee has planned some great workshops that will give you lots of good ideas and information to take back home to improve your own school nutrition program. They are working hard with our industry partners to plan informative exhibits to give you new product ideas. They are also planning activities that will allow you to network and learn from each other. Oh, and did I mention fun? Those of you who have attended our GSFSA workshops and seminars this year know that I believe that learning and fun should go together. So come prepared to have a good time too, whether that means spending some free time strolling the sidewalks of the historic district, taking a carriage ride with a group of friends, exploring Savannah's interesting shops, or enjoying the diversions of River Street!

I am very excited about our general session speakers this year. Our opening session speaker will be Dr. Bertice Berry, who I heard at the ASFSA annual conference in Nashville. I honestly thought she was one of the very best speakers I've ever heard. She speaks with great passion about the role that the School Nutrition Program played in preparing her for learning and allowing her to find opportunities to succeed. Our GSFSA members will surely leave this session feeling great pride in the job they do every day. Our second general session speaker will be Ron Clark, who some of us heard last summer at the ASFSA annual conference in Minneapolis. After hearing him speak, many GSFSA members begged me to try to get him as a speaker for our conference. Mr. Clark was a Disney Teacher of the Year and talks of his innovative classroom techniques that result in great success for his students. As a classroom teacher in a school where poverty was the norm, his students began the year with very low test scores, but finished the year with scores that exceeded those of gifted students. Mr. Clark is a very engaging speaker who holds his audience's attention for every minute of his speech.

I'm also excited about our school-level session speaker, Richard Watts. "Dick" is one of the managers I work with in Gwinnett. He has been the manager at Collins Hill High School since the school opened in 1994. Today, that school is the largest in the state with an enrollment of approximately 4,150. Dick supervises a staff of 31, including one associate manager, two assistant managers, and 27 food assistants. As you know so well, the manager's attitude sets the tone for the whole kitchen and Dick's kitchen is no exception. His positive, customer-oriented attitude permeates his whole staff. He empowers his staff and there is a tremendous sense of teamwork among them. Dick also has a gift for speaking about a topic he believes in—a winning attitude. Those who attend his session will leave feeling a sense of responsibility to bring a winning attitude to work every day.

I hope I've whet your appetite for conference enough that if you've already made plans to attend you are even more excited about the experience. And I hope that if your plans were uncertain, you will decide to complete the registration form, which is available on the GSFSA web site.

See ya' in Savannah next month!

Your friend and bus driver,

Gretchen Schulz, 2002-2003 GSFSA President



**The First STOP on the
Journey to Learning**

A Message from the Executive Director

As I write this, we are preparing to leave for Washington DC for the American School Food Service Association Legislative Action Conference. We have a group of about 30, including a number of industry partners, scheduled to “charge the hill” in support of school nutrition programs. Since the DC area just had another 5 inches of snow this week, keep your fingers crossed that we all survive the weather there! Thanks so much to Peggy Chaney for the very difficult task of setting up all of our appointments, and also to Joyce Akins for helping coordinate our legislative activities.

And, of course, we draw closer to our own Annual Conference in beautiful Savannah in April. I hope lots of you are (at least mentally) already packing your bags for a great time of learning and fun there. You will not want to miss either of the General Session speakers, Dr. Bertice Berry and Ron Clark, as they both give an outstanding presentation.

If I had the time, I would surely sign up for Chef Joe Randall’s Cooking School on Thursday morning. Chef Joe shares his personal experience and love of food and its preparation and enjoyment, while showing you how to do it. Plus, you will get to sample the wonderful dishes! I also would not miss the Riverboat Dinner Cruise on Thursday night for an unforgettable tour of the Savannah Riverfront plus entertainment and a great buffet dinner.

Hotel rooms are very tight for our conference dates, primarily due to a large golf tournament that will be in town at the same time. However, there are still suites available at the Homewood Suites (a Hilton property on Abercorn St.), and also some rooms at the other hotels, for all nights except Friday. However, there are always people who cancel rooms in the weeks just before conference, so do call back to the hotels again and check availability.

Congratulations to our new GSFSA officers! They are: President elect- Marion Tharpe from Dougherty County, Secretary- Sharon Alday from Houston County, and School Level Chairman- JoAnn Kilby from Cobb County. I know these dedicated leaders will be working hard for school nutrition in the coming years, and will certainly need your support.

Award applications are arriving at the office every day, and Daphne is organizing them for judging in a couple of weeks. If you have any questions about awards, please don’t hesitate to call or e-mail us. We are here to help you!

Hoping for no more snow in Georgia,
Susan Cheshire

Dates & Deadlines

March

- 2-5 ASFSFA Legislative Action Conference, Washington, D.C.
- 3-7 National School Breakfast Week
- 10 Deadline for locals to send Public Relations Portfolio to District for judging.
- 15 Deadline for ALIRT applications to State Legislative Chair
- 25 Deadline for PR Portfolio and local winner from district to be submitted to Headquarters for judging.

April

- 24-26 GSFSA Annual Conference, Savannah

Membership Totals

(as of 2/28/03)

District 1	624
District 2	604
District 3	630
District 4	1153
District 5	37
District 6	679
District 7	1011
District 8	805
District 9	642
District 10	288

Total - 6,473

**CONFERENCE
BUS TRANSPORTATION**

During our conference in Savannah, GSFSA will offer limited bus service between the historic district hotels and the Trade Center across the river. We are NOT offering the Water Taxi this year, although of course you may choose to purchase tickets on the water taxi. The Water Taxi is \$3 for one round trip ticket. Those who are staying at the Westin Resort may ride the Water Taxi at no additional charge.

TENATIVE BUS SCHEDULE

Thursday: 2:00 - 3:00 pm & 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 - 10:00 am & 3:00 - 5:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 - 10:00 am & 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Buses will circulate constantly during these times between the hotels and the trade center.

GSFSA ELECTION RESULTS

President-elect: Marion Tharpe, Dougherty County

Secretary: Sharon Alday, Houston County

School Level Chair: JoAnn Kilby, Cobb County

Congratulations to all of our new officers and everyone that was nominated for an office.

The elected officers for GSFSA for the 2003-2004 School Year will be as follows:

President: Virginia Hart, Colquitt County

President-elect: Marion Tharpe, Dougherty County

Secretary: Sharon Alday, Houston County

Treasurer: Jeri Wiseman, Cobb County

System Level Chair: Jimmie Barnett, Muscogee County

School Level Chair: JoAnn Kilby, Cobb County

The new officers will be installed at the banquet at the annual conference and will officially take office on June 1, 2003.

SECOND DISTRICT NEWS

Marion Tharpe, President

District Two held its Winter Meeting February 8, 2003 in Thomasville at Thomas County Central High School. There was more than 154 in attendance. We had a great program hosted by Karen Green and her staff. Susan McCranie, District Two's legislative chair, put together a great review about what we need to know about the new fiscal year by inviting new state Senator John Bulloch. Senator Bulloch updated each of us on the budget and the revenue.

We also held our culinary contest and we had some great entries that made it very difficult for the judges, but everyone that entered was a winner. The corn bread first place winner was Ellis Sloan- Brooks County. The First Place Cobbler winner was Laura Roseborough- Colquitt County. The Peanut Butter Cake winner was Virginia Willeby- Thomas County.

Dougherty County won the banner for the highest number of members in attendance. February 13, we visited the state capitol we had a great turn out with (14) in attendance. We were greeted graciously by each of our senators and representatives. We were also able to visit the Secretary of State Cathy Cox. Our legislative chair, Susan McCranie, always does an outstanding job of handling our contacts and visits. Our hats are off to her for a job well done. Next stop is Savannah. Everyone have a safe trip and we'll see you there.

SEVENTH DISTRICT NEWS

JoAnn Kilby, President

District Seven had its final meeting of the year on January 8th with about 150 people in attendance. We held our culinary contest and elected new officers. Pat Yurnam of Uniform Sales of America gave us a great presentation. David Thomas of First Flight Foods prepared a wonderful lunch for our group courtesy of the companies his brokerage firm represents.

As membership chair of GSFSA it is very distressing for me to write that district seven is still behind district four in members by about 110 people. It is NOT too late for us to pull ahead of district 4 so this president does not have to get a push into the pool in Savannah. Come on guys, sign them up! I've heard that the *next* GSFSA membership chair will be accepting this same bet for 2003-2004. GO 7! Let's hear that enthusiasm ROAR!

CHAPTER NEWS

Douglas County School Foodservice Association

Wanda Durrell, President

Douglas County continues to increase its membership and certification of food service employees. They are currently offering an equipment course to the newer employees. In the Fall, they offered the ONE course (Orientation for Nutrition Employees) also.

This summer a course in Basic Nutrition will be taught. Douglas County's food service employees are on the fast track to learning more about childhood nutrition as well as nutrition basics in general. They are learning about our craft and how to apply it for the benefit of all!

We thank our Sponsors To Date (2/03):

2003 Annual Conference Sponsors

General Session Sponsor - Gilardi Foods

Conference Tote Bags - Schwan's Food Service

Gold Sponsors - Mayfield Dairy Farms, Inc.

Silver Sponsor - Meridian Beverage Company, Parmalat Dairy and Rich-SeaPak

Bronze Sponsors - Prolunch A.T.I., True Foodservice

First Timer's Breakfast - Super Bakery and Cal-Tex Citrus Juice

Nutrition Advisory Council Focus Award

Innovative Concept Group, Inc.

Web Page Sponsors

Gilardi Foods

Harvest Share

Horizon Software

Prolunch by A.T.I.

2002 KickOff Luncheon Sponsor

Georgia Beef Board

Mayfield Dairy Farms, Inc.

Industry Seminar Luncheon

Mayfield Dairy Farms, Inc.

Industry Seminar Break

Gilardi Foods

Meridian Beverage, Inc.

Industry Seminar Welcome Reception

Colorpoint Division of Low Temp Industries

Portion Pac Chemical Corporation

Schwan's Food Service

Industry Seminar Auction Donations

Admiral Craft Equipment, Atlanta Fixture, Cal-Tex Citrus Juice, Carman-Girard, Charles Pace & Associates, Chef America, Clorox Company, Cohen Food Brokerage, Dannon Company, East Side Entrees, Food Service Action, Foster Farms, Georgia Egg Commission, Gilaridi Pizza, Glover Foods, Good Harbor Fillet, The Hansen Group, Highliner, Horace Maddox Textiles, Innovative Concepts, King's Delight, Lance Inc., Meridian Beverage, Michael Foods, Milliken Packaging, Milton Foods, Naturally Fresh Products, PFG Milton's Foodservice, Pierre', Pilgrims Pride, Purdue Chicken, Quick to Fix Foods, Readi Bake, Rich SeaPak, SFS Pac, Sara Lee, Schwan's Foodservice, SeaPak, Tabatchnick, Williams Institutional Foods

2003 SILENT AUCTION

It's time for the annual SILENT AUCTION at our Conference in Savannah!

Have you ever been to one or been involved with a Silent Auction? It's lots of fun, but FIRST we have to have some items to sell. That's where YOU fit in. We need each and everyone to participate in the auction.

Use your imagination for something to contribute to the Auction. Cookbooks, gift baskets, seasonal decorations and baby items are just few ideas of what you can donate. The dates for the auction are April 24-26, 2003.

So now is the time to get started on your projects. The more we have the more money we will make. We would like for each District to have at least one item (they don't have to stop at one) and then as many local chapters in each District to have several items also.

Get to work! It'll be here before you know it!!

Please send a copy of this form to Susan Johnson or the GSFSA Office.

County / District Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Phone:** _____

Item(s):

Item (s) Value:

Please send a copy of your form to:

Susan Johnson, Manager - Gwinnett Co. SNP

Fax: 770-736-2061 Phone: 770-7362057 E-mail: Susan_B_Johnson@gwinnett.k12.ga.us

or

GSFSA Headquarters Fax

770-934-8917

2003 CONFERENCE TENTATIVE AGENDA

Thursday, April 24, 2003

	Hyatt (H)
7:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Registration Trade Center (TC)
8:00 AM - 12 noon	Pre-conference Workshops (paid workshops) TC Chef Joe Randall's Cooking School Teen Cuisine (limited to 30 participants) Working with Difficult People
10:00 - 11:30 AM	Executive Board Meeting TC
12:00 – 3:00 PM	Banquet Seating Sign Up TC Membership & Certification Ribbon Pickup TC
1:00 – 4:00 PM	Silent Auction check in TC
1:00 - 3:00 PM	House of Delegates Meeting TC
3:15 PM	Presidents' Seating Assembly TC
3:30- 5:30 PM	Opening General Session: Dr. Bertice Berry TC
6:30 PM	Dinner on Your Own or Riverboat Dinner Cruise (optional and seating limited)

Friday, April 25, 2003

6:30 AM	Wellness Walk H
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM	Registration TC
7:30- 8:45 AM	First Timer's Breakfast & Orientation TC (Must have ticket)
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Check in Silent Auction Items TC
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Check in for Culinary Arts (Judging from 9 - 11 AM) TC
8:00 - 11:00 AM	Rotating Workshops (see listing) TC
9:00 - 10:00 AM	System Level Workshop TC
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Banquet Seating Sign Up TC Membership & Certification Ribbon Pickup TC
9:30 AM – 3:00 PM	Public Relations Portfolios on display & Silent Auction open TC
10:00 AM - 12 noon	Exhibits open to Buyers/ Directors/Managers Only TC (special badge required)
11:00 AM -12 noon	School Level Workshop: Dick Watts TC (Managers/Assistant Managers/Food Assistants)
12:00 - 3:00 PM	Exhibits (Open to all) TC (Badges required. No strollers or children under 16 allowed!)
3:30 - 5:15 PM	Second General Session: Ron Clark TC
6:30 - 8:00 PM	District Dinners H

Saturday, April 26, 2003

6:30 AM	Historic District Walk H
7:30 AM - 2:00 PM	Registration TC
8:00 - 11:00 AM	Silent Auction Open TC PR Portfolios & Memorial Display TC
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Exhibits Open to All TC (Badges required. No strollers or children under 16 allowed!)
9:00 - 11:00 AM	Banquet Seating Sign Up TC Certification & Membership Ribbon Pick Up TC
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Rotating Workshops (See tentative workshop listing) TC
2:15 – 3:00 PM	Third General Session: Scrolls & Scholarships TC
3:00 – 4:00 PM	Pick Up Silent Auction Items & PR Portfolios TC
6:30 PM	Guest Reception TC
7:00 PM	Installation & Awards Banquet TC

FRIDAY ROTATING WORKSHOPS

7:30-8:30	First Timers Workshop & Continental Breakfast Cindy Ham - Brantley County				
8:00-9:00	Teachers Retirement Workshop Linda Starr- Hoovestol - Gwinnett County	Ideas to Promote School Nutrition Iris Graham and Managers - Whitfield County	Diabetes Management Ann Coogle - Houston County	2002 Marketing Award Winner Joyce Mitchell - Fannin County	Scanning Applications Mike Loboto - Gwinnett County
9:00-10:00	Handling Multiple Schools Panel Paula Spraggins - DeKalb County and Susan Johnson - Gwinnett County	Effective Communication through the Internet & Web Sites Mike Loboto - Gwinnett County	USDA: Food Quality Assurance Program John Lund - United States Department of Agriculture	2002 Marketing Award Winner Joyce Mitchell - Fannin County	Emergency Management: Contemporary Issues in Georgia Schools Steve Harris - Georgia Emergency Management Agency
10:00-11:00	Working with Handicapped or Special Needs Employees Sarah Willette and Lynn Woods - Gwinnett County	Summer Feeding Programs Lana Elliott - Jackson - Chattanooga, TN	Osteoporosis Screening Debbie Wilburn - Hall County Extension	Vended Milk Delivers Molly Szymanski - Southeastern United Dairy Association	Don't Throw that Out! Doris Earnhart - Carroll County

SATURDAY ROTATING WORKSHOPS

12:00 -1:00	How to Handle Negative Public Relations Nancy Rice - Griffin-Spalding County Whitney Wright - GDOE School & Community Nutrition Program	GDOE Update Annette Hopgood - GDOE School & Community Nutrition Program	Are There Leaders Among Us? Jimmie Barnett - Muscogee County	Don't Throw that Out! Doris Earnhart - Carroll County
1:00- 2:00	How to Handle Negative Public Relations Nancy Rice and Whitney Wright	Getting Your Administration Involved in Boosting your Breakfast Program Myles Caggins, Assistant Superintendent - Muscogee County BOE	Are There Leaders Among Us? Jimmie Barnett - Muscogee County	Office Atmosphere 101 Mary Nan Pilcher - Georgia Department of Education, School & Community Nutrition Program