

Special points of interest:

- Learn who is who on the Region Board.
- Nominate members for office, rewards, and recognition.
- Meet Mark Barber.
- Get news from around the Region.



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Meet the Region Board

In September, the Southern Region Board met at the site of this spring's conference (May 23 - 26, 2004), the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, North Carolina, to plan for the upcoming year.

Allow me to introduce the current Board members starting at the head of the table with the Chair Maria Martinez; on the left side of the table are Donna Popovich (Director at Large for Membership), Diane Baca (Past-Past-Chair), and Jeff Mudrak (Secretary-Treasurer) On the right side of the table facing us and beginning at the right edge of the picture are Ron Klepcyk (Director at Large for Sponsor Support), Alan Chesney (Director at Large for Program Support), and Yohna Chambers-Cone (Past-Chair).



In addition to planing the Asheville Conference, the Board set goals for the coming year and discussed ways to improve communication with our membership. For more information on the Board members see page 2.

Time to Nominate...for Service, Reward, and Recognition

Now is the time to **elect** a new slate of Board members for the Region; to **find and reward** deserving members with grants and scholarships; and to **recognize** individuals and organizations for service, achievement, and outstanding practices.

Nominations are open for the **Chair-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and three Directors-at-Large** and can be made by contacting Board member and Past-Chair **Yohna Chambers-Cone**, The Medical University of South Carolina, Department of Human Resources, PO Box 250800, Charleston, SC 29425-1055; email<coneyo@musc.edu>. Installation will be at the conference in Asheville. Submit nominations **by March 1, 2004**; self-nomination is appropriate; the web site has more details.

CUPA-HR Foundation Conference Grants, which pay the registration cost of the grant recipients for CUPA educational (continued on page 2)

This Year's Board

Besides being able to recognize the Region's Board members, let's get to know them:

The current **Chair** is **Maria Martinez**, the Assistant Vice President of Human Resources and Risk Management at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. She has been at Rollins for 15 years and was previously at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Penn. She holds a Masters degree in Human Development from Lehigh.

The **Past-Chair and National Board Representative** is **Yohna Chambers-Cone**, the Assistant Director for Employee Services at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston; she has been at MUSC since June 1998, having held previous HR positions at the University of Texas Cancer Center and Mississippi State University. Yohna holds a Masters degree in Public Policy and Administration from MSU.

The **Past-Past-Chair and National Board Representative** is **Diane Baca**, the Associate Vice President for Human Resources at Mercer University, in Macon, Georgia, where she just celebrated her 26th year.

Jeff Mudrak is the **Secretary-Treasurer**, and he is the Director of Human Resources at Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky. Jeff has 16 years of higher education HR experience, including four years at Lexington Community College and two at the University of Kentucky. He has a BBA from Eastern Kentucky University and SPHR certification.

There are three **Directors-at-Large**: For **Membership**, **Donna Popovich**, Executive Director, Human Resources, the University of Tampa, Florida; for **Sponsor Support**, **Ron Klepcyk**, Director of Human Resources, Elon University, North Carolina; and for **Program Support**, **Alan Chesney**, Executive Director of Human Resources, Knoxville area, University of Tennessee.

The Chair-Elect position is vacant.

Let's Get Ready to Relax

The colors in the rocks, hills, water, and trees; the sound of the water and wind combine to entice you to come, visit, enjoy, be a part of the late spring in the place where the Blue Ridge Mountains blend into the Smokies; in Asheville, North Carolina; at the Grove Park Inn Resort and Spa: the location of our 2004 conference.

The Grove Park Inn has 510 rooms in three sections: the historic Main Inn, opened in 1913, and the more recent Vanderbilt and Sammons wings. The meeting rooms are in the Vanderbilt wing, and a spa, sports complex, and golf course are available for your relaxation and enjoyment.

The special room rate for us at the Inn is \$143, plus tax, if you reserve your room by April 21, 2004; an additional \$25 per person will be charged beyond two persons per



room. For reservations visit this site: www.grovecparkinn.com or call 828-252-2711 extension 1010 or 1-800-438-5800.

The night out is planned for Tuesday at the Biltmore Estates and will include a tour of the Estate grounds, followed by dining and dancing at the Deer Park Restaurant.

More about the conference presentations and keynoters can be found at the Region's web site, and we will have full details in the winter newsletter.

Nominate for Service, Reward, & Recognition

(continued from page 1)

offerings during the upcoming fiscal year, and 2004 **Southern Region Scholarships**, which pay registration fees for the upcoming conference, are also available. Additionally, deserving CUPA-HR members and member institutions can be nominated for the **Distinguished Service, Outstanding Achievement, Excellence in Human Resource Management, and Quality in Human Resource Practice Awards**. Nominations for these awards, scholarships, and grants, should be

submitted to Past-Past-Chair **Diane Baca**, Associate Vice President of Human Resources, Mercer University, 1400 Coleman Avenue, Macon, GA 31207; fax (478) 301-2790; email <baca_dh@mercer.edu>. Please submit nominations **by February 28, 2004**.

For more detailed information on the grants, scholarships, and awards please look on the Region's web site at this address www.cupasr.sc.edu/awards.htm

Member SPOTLIGHT

Mark Barber

Director, Human Resources, Caldwell Community College

The directions suggest that you to take exit 123 off of Interstate 40 and "Follow Highway 321 North for approximately 13 miles to Hudson (11 stoplights)." If you do, you will find yourself in the heart of Caldwell County, "The



Furniture Capital of the South"; specifically, in Hudson, North Carolina, home to Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute (CCCTI) and Mark Barber, CCCTI's Director of Human Resources; the chair of the Host

Committee for next year's conference in Asheville, North Carolina.

CCCTI is a comprehensive post-secondary institution serving the northwest area of North Carolina. Its enrollment is 4,000 curriculum and 8,000 continuing education students per year, supported by 200 staff and faculty on two campuses.

As the Director of Human Resources for the last seven years, Mark handles all facets of human resources: administration, recruitment, hiring, employee benefits and pay, training and development, health and safety, and employee relations. Mark views himself as a generalist and says that he "enjoys the fact that I wear many hats and get to interact with people at all levels on a daily basis."

Mark came to Caldwell from a private company where he was the regional human resource manager for almost three years. Before that, he was a search and recruit consultant for two years.

He is currently working on a doctorate in education at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Mark has already earned a Master of Arts in Human Resource Development from Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri; a Bachelor of Science in Management from the University of South Carolina at Coastal Carolina, in Conway, South Carolina; and an Associate in Applied Science (Aircraft Maintenance Technology) from the Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama.

Mark and his wife Pam have two children, Tyler 8 and Alex 5. Besides spending time with his family, education, and work, Mark proudly serves as an eighteen-year member of the U.S. Air Force Reserves at Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina.

In spite of all those activities, Mark has found the time to work with CUPA-HR in North Carolina: He has served on the state Board of Directors for almost three years and has

taken on the role of Host Committee Chair for the May 2004 conference in Asheville. As he says, "I strongly believe in supporting the professional development activities of this professional association (since) the HR profession becomes strengthened both by our individual participation and the group's eventual collaboration with other groups." We look forward to the hospitality to be provided by Mark and his committee.

Around the Region Chapter News

Mississippi Chapter President **Callie Johnson**, Director of Human Resources at Alcorn State University, indicates that the chapter held its annual meeting in Jackson on November 12 and 13.. This year's theme was "Human Resources in Partnership with Our Institutions: Helping to Make a Difference"; topics included telecommuting, surviving downsizing, and investing successfully.

The **North Carolina Chapter** reports that it now has a web site at this address: <www.nccupa-hr.org>; thanks go to **Gail Anderson** and **Ralph Pedersen** at Wake Forest University for their development work on the site. Current **President Ron Klepcyk** reports that the "membership in the chapter is at 210 and climbing." The NCCUPA-HR Board is looking forward to helping with the host responsibilities for the upcoming Southern Region Conference; see the related story on this page. The state fall conference was held on October 30 and 31 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Winston-Salem; the event was well attended.



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CUPA-HR SOUTHERN REGION LEADERS

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Chair Elect, Vacant

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Transylvania University
jmdrak@transy.edu

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