

# **SOUTHEAST REGION NEWSLETTER**

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This quarterly Publication  
of the Southeast Region  
of the  
Association for Clinical  
Pastoral Education, Inc.  
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## *Looking ahead---*

### **CPE Day in Atlanta**

Decatur United Methodist Church  
July 9, 2014

### **Florida Consortium**

Comfort Suites, Orlando, FL  
July 17-18, 2014

### **Southeast Region Members' Meeting**

Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, GA  
Sep 30-Oct 3, 2014

### **25<sup>th</sup> Celebration of CPE at Tampa General**

October 30, 2014

### **Southeast Region Invitational for Supervisors of Supervisory Education Students**

Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, GA  
January 11-13, 2015

### **Southeast Region Leadership Meeting**

Administrative Board, Accreditation, Certification,  
and Peer Review Committees  
Hickory Knob State Resort Park, McCormick, SC  
March 15-17, 2015

### **ACPE Conference and REM Invitational**

April 29-May 2, 2015  
Sheraton Hotel on Courtland Avenue, Atlanta, GA

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#### **Dates for Certification Reviews:**

**Regional: declare intent to Woody Spackman by July 25, 2014**

**Pay fee to Jap Keith by August 15, 2014**

**Materials postmarked by August 26, 2014**

**Materials to be received by August 29, 2014**

**Certification Committee meets Sept 30-Oct 2, 2014**

**National: declare intent by Sep 8; material postmarked by Oct 7;**

**ACPE Certification Commission meets Nov 15-18, 2014**

2014

#### **Administrative Board**

##### **Chairperson**

*Brenda Green*

##### **Chair Elect**

*Larry Wagoner*

##### **Secretary**

*Brenda Wallace*

##### **Treasurer**

*Olen Grubbs*

#### **At Large Members**

Benson Thomas

Cora Saunders

##### **Chrp Budget**

*Joe Whitwell*

#### **Annual Conference**

*Stephen Robinson*

#### **Mission & Development**

*Harvey Rogers*

#### **ACPE Board of Rep**

*Amanda Jones*

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#### **Committee Chairperson**

**Accrdttion:** *Wayne Maberry*

**Certfctn:** *Elwood Spackman*

**History:** *Jonathan Ball*

**Peer Rvw:** *Tolly Williamson*

#### **Cultural, Racial & Ethnic:**

*Robert Freeman*

#### **Rep & Nom:**

*Miriam Needham*

#### **Sem/Faith Groups:**

*David Nowlin*

#### **Standards:**

*James Taylor*

## ***Reflections from Brenda Green, SERegion Chairperson***

I was in Austin for our recent ACPE Conference, and I want to thank everyone who had a part in making that meeting successful, including our own George Grant. The accommodations were lovely and the service was outstanding. It is always wonderful to get reacquainted with friends and colleagues that you do not get to see as often as you would like. It seems, though, that there is never enough time for nurturing those relationships. The workshops I attended were especially interesting and intriguing given that I am technologically-challenged. I received some new information and left with new and creative ideas for enhancing CPE programming through the use of technology. I especially enjoyed the session where we celebrated the accomplishments of our newly-certified associates and supervisors. I appreciated having that celebration be separate from the Presidential Dinner so that the focus could be entirely on those who have worked so long and hard to be successful in the certification process.

I went to Austin with some trepidation given our new governance structure and the recent challenges with the certification process. It seemed that the opinions and feelings about these issues were as varied and diverse as we are as an organization. It seemed to me that we managed all that with all the grace and respectfulness that we could muster while also expressing our opinions and trusting our processes. The way forward seems to hold much potential for both successes and challenges. Again, I am hopeful that our training, knowledge, and wisdom with the guidance of the Divine will lead us in the direction that will allow us to do the best for the most, especially for our students.

As for the Southeast Region, I was proud of the way we conducted ourselves and our business. Congratulations to one of our own, Miguel Santamaria, who was elected to serve as the new secretary of ACPE!

Thank you to all our regional members who continue to serve us faithfully at both the national and regional levels. The work is both exhausting and rewarding.

I want to especially thank Amanda Jones for the integrity she has demonstrated in representing us on the Board while also being authentic, transparent, and genuine. I also want to thank Jap for his continued faithfulness and stewardship of our region's life, work, and business affairs. It continues to be my privilege to serve you as your Chair.

Most sincerely,  
Brenda

### ***REFLECTION: WHAT MIGHT WE LEARN?***

[comments from Jap Keith]

The ACPE, Inc. is in a period of transition. This is nothing new. We've been in "periods of transition" for most of our history. Presently, we have a new form of governance (a seventeen member Board of Directors), a new President, and a new Executive Director. We also have "commissions" that are discovering that "actions" are taken by the Board of Directors rather than by commissions and committees that are accountable to the Board of Directors.

Beneath those components of our "newness" in this time of "transition," there is still the reality that we are a "dues-paying member organization." Each member has a voice and a vote at the annual Members' Meeting; but alas, we hear the voices of too few, and we receive the votes of even less. I thought there was a healthy debate in the "2014 Members' Meeting." I am especially grateful for our colleague who insisted that an item of "new business" be on the agenda. When the issue of amending the By-Laws surfaced, it was clear that once upon a time the membership adopted the By-Laws and only the membership can change the By-Laws. To say that another way: the By-Laws belong to the members, and the Board of Directors is to implement the By-Laws.

What remains a bit unsettling is that the Board of Directors (17 of us) has the power to adopt a "strategic plan" for this dues paying member organization and the dues paying "franchised centers." It can then proceed to

implement that plan without approval of the membership. How can the “franchises” (i.e., the accredited centers) have input on the decisions made by the Board? Are they, then, left with either compliance (perhaps with hostility) or rebellious withdrawal from the body politic? Apparently, the Board dictates the compliance of the franchises; and if the franchises want to be identified with the ACPE, Inc., those franchises will comply with the dictates of the Board.

What we presently have in a strategic plan, or a governance manual, we have allowed either through naïve trust, passive indifference, or uninformed acquiescence. Who ponders the questions: “what is best for the future of my profession? my accredited center? my CPE Students? my professional educational society?”

Sadly, the vast majority accept “what is” in order to “forge a way forward” for either better or worst. We are who we are; and we do what we must do for the ensured accreditation of our own programs. We don’t invest the time and energy in forging a future profession of clinical pastoral educators; rather, we leave those tasks to too few, and then complain about what they have done to us. Most of our ACPE Supervisors have no aspirations to be elected to either the regional or the national committees/commissions. The future of the ACPE is *de facto* left in the hands of far too few who aspire to be holders of the offices (power).

Will entrepreneurs emerge who will ensure future programs of clinical pastoral education? Will those “free spirits” pay the freight and forge associational relationship (especially around accreditation, certification and peer review) within reasonable boundaries/guidelines/standards of a “dues paying member association?” If so, the ACPE, Inc. has the hope of a productive future. If not, who can predict our demise?

Now and tomorrow, every Board of Directors of the ACPE, Inc. needs to remember that its existence and its future is dependent upon the good will, the collaboration and the cooperation of the entrepreneurs/the franchises who do the real work of and pay the freight for the very existence of the ACPE, Inc. Who needs whom? And, how best can we negotiate our common needs? Those remain the relevant questions for this association.

## ***SER ACPE BD LEADERSHIP MEETINGS at Hickory Knob, March 16-17, 2014***

The following recommendations will be made to the members of the Southeast Region when we meet in our Annual Business Meeting at Epworth by the Sea in the fall of 2014. We are in the position of declaring our support of an ACPE Annual Conference being held in Atlanta, GA in the fall of 2015. The SER Adm Bd appointed Bridget Piggue and Jap Keith to serve as Co-Hosts for this ACPE conference, and thereby appointed them to the ACPE National Conference Committee.

### **Recommendations for Members to consider for 2015 (actions to be taken in Oct '14):**

- 1) that the SE Region become a “presenting sponsor(\$20,000)” of the 2015 ACPE Conference with the understanding that this contribution to the ACPE, Inc will be reciprocated by  
four complementary registrations,  
four tickets to the closing celebration,  
a reserved table and dinner for 10 at the Presidential Dinner.

In return this region will underwrite the opening celebration of accreditation and certification achievements and the dancing celebration that may follow, and

- 2) that, in 2015, the SE Region will devote its designated income from the regional endowment fund (\$15,000) to lodging scholarships for Level 2 and SES students (who are or clinical members of the ACPE, Inc. and have paid their registration fee for the 2015 Conference). This \$15,000 will be divided among those persons who make application to the SERegion by March 1, 2015.

[Note: if these recommendations are adopted by the members at the Annual Meeting at Epworth by the Sea in the fall of 2014, there will be no funds available from the SER Endowment Fund for the Florida, South Carolina, and the Interstate Consortiums in 2015. The intent in this shift of special project funds in 2015 is to solicit and support the SESs participation in a national conference that is happening within our region in the hope of fostering their understanding of what it means to be a dues-paying member of a professional accrediting and certifying organization. Also, in 2014-15, we recognize that many of our SESs are beyond the entry levels of certification and are soon to take on the responsibilities of being dues-paying, voting, certified ACPE Supervisor. Hopefully, the 2015 conference will facilitate and inform the next level of their participation in our professional educator association.]

## **CONGRATULATIONS:**

### **Certification**

**Mary Huie Jolley, Robert Freeman, Timothy Park and Wendy Steinberg** were granted certification as an **ACPE Supervisor**, and **Rhonda Daniels** was granted **Associate status** at the meeting of the ACPE Certification Commission in Austin, TX .

Contact Woody Spackman ([espackm@emory.edu](mailto:espackm@emory.edu)) if you have concerns about 1) present rulings of the Certification Commission, or 2) scheduling a certification review.

### **Accreditation**

**Florida Hospital** (Supervisor Ramona Reynolds and staff) received continued accreditation to offer programs of Level I, II and Supervisory CPE and received the blessings to become a system center including a new location in Tampa, FL.

**The Ingalls Center of Pastoral Ministries (Birmingham, AL)** (Cecelia Walker and staff) received continued accreditations to offer programs of Level I, II and Supervisory CPE.

**NCH Healthcare** (Mike Harper) received continued accreditation to offer programs of Level I and II CPE.

**Tallahassee Memorial Hospital** (Jim Stapleford) received accreditation to offer programs of Level I and II CPE.

**University of Tennessee/Knoxville** received accreditation to offer Supervisory CPE.

**Reminders:** Send Appendix 2 whenever there are changes in an accredited center.

Zero credit can be given to a unit not completed, and yet still registered.

An end of the unit report can be corrected without a notation being given.

Contact Wayne Maberry ([wmaberry@tgh.org](mailto:wmaberry@tgh.org)) if you have questions or concerns about accreditation of your CPE Center.

## **to the Southeast Region**

According to the latest data from the ACPE, Inc., the Southeast Region certified 250+ more units of CPE than did any other region in 2013 (total of 1400), and we certified 8 more units of Supervisory CPE than did any other region (total of 70). In 2013 the ACPE certified 29 Supervisors and 28 Associate Supervisors, and the SERegion has had a rate of 100% in the last two meetings of the ACPE Certification Commission. Very good accomplishments!!!

Thanks ever so much for the privilege you have afforded me to serve as your regional director for more years than either you or I want to declare. If good health and clear memory stays with me, I trust to serve you for some years to come; or at least until we can see clearer the transitions occurring within the governance and structure of the ACPE, Inc. Blessings and peace; much grace and more joy!

Jap