

Spring 2008



## 2007 Conference in Charlotte, N.C. Conference Highlights

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Our 2007 Users and Screeners Association Conference was held in Charlotte, North Carolina. We were fortunate to hold our conference amid the luxury of the Omni Charlotte Hotel in downtown.

Jan Polasky, USDA FS VFP, welcomed new members and helped them become familiar with the association. A panel of veteran screeners gave an open forum to give new members an opportunity to ask questions. Later, a wonderful reception welcomed members old and new and everyone had chance to get acquainted

The conference opened with welcome comments from association President, Joe

Grego. So began three days of information regarding all aspects of Federal Excess Property. We had to opportunity to hear from David Robbins, the Director of the Property Mgmt. Division, Roman Marciniak, Jr. Chief of Utilization and Donation, and Robert Holcombe, CPPM Director, from GSA. Mike Hay updated us on NPMA initiatives. We rounded out the day with a trolley ride through historic Charlotte.

The second day began with an overview from Carol Fix on DRMS and Frederick Baillie on the DLA.. The morning ended with information on PCARSS from Sandra Dantzler. Breakout sessions rounded out the



day. USDA Land Grant Institutions were lead by Lana Podielsky and a GSA focus group was led by Roman Marciniak. Breakout sessions give each group an opportunity for one on one communication and information gathering. It is large plus to our members to have these sessions available at our conferences.

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*"The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly; who know the great enthusiasms and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at the best, know the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."*

## USA-FEPP Board Members

**President:**

**Joe Grego**

**University of Oklahoma**

**Past President:**

**Carl Marsh**

**University of Nevada**

**Vice-President:**

**Lee Morrisett**

**Clemson University**

**Secretary:**

**Bobbi Edmunson**

**Oregon State University**

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**John Poehlmann**

**University of Missouri**

**IT:**

**Joel Swindlehurst**

**Oregon State University**

*(Highlights continued from Front Page)*



Everyone enjoyed our membership dinner that evening. A special effort was made to guide the dinner towards networking and team building. We were delighted to be surrounded with mystery as the Elmtown Theater Group performed. Working together to solve the mystery of the Mayor's murder, new acquaintances were made and a the focus was shifted toward team work. It was a unique experience that required everyone to work together. Not to mention the food and service was fantastic!

Our final conference day was full. Shane Bailey from NA-SASP brought us up to date on

their movements. We were fortunate to have Jerry Hanley from the DOE give us an overview as well as updates to keep us informed. Members were given a further opportunity to question David Robbins and Roman Marciniak from GSA and Nancy Brotherton led the GSAccess Training session.

This year members were given the final chance to question our "property experts". A panel of these experts was gathered in order to give members a final chance to

ask questions. This year's panel members included Lana Podielsky, Roman Marciniak, David Robbins, Jan Polasky, Tina Aldrich and David Melton. They provide us with experience and knowledge that can prove invaluable to our programs.

Many new ideas and suggestions were made as closing remarks closed our Charlotte conference. Our board has worked hard this year to incorporate as many of these suggestions as possible. We hope to see all of you in Boise!

## *Workshop Evaluations and Suggestions*

***"Every Organization is only as strong as the members who support it."***

At every conference members are given an opportunity to evaluate and also make suggestions. Many members went out of their way to not only to make suggestions, but to also comment on different areas pertaining to the 2007 conference. I would like to take a minute to share some of those observations with you.

1. Many requests were made for more breakout sessions. Sessions pertaining to each individual group and training sessions were the most requested. This suggestion has actually had an effect on the 2008 conference. More sessions targeting specific groups and training sessions addressing how-to issues are being incorporated into the conference. This will be an exciting addition to our agenda.

2. Despite our low numbers at the 2007 conference, many members felt a good job was done focusing on networking. It was an overall feeling that the membership was working as a team. We hope to continue this in future conferences. It is imperative that we build a strong network for those involved with federal property. Our strength is in giving our members a firm foundation.

3. We have decided to offer two separate new member orientations. It was requested that we make it more accessible to those traveling in case of delays.

4. We really hope to focus on how-to. Many members, both old and new, would like direction on specific problems related to each program. We are

researching this area and attempting to reach each particular mentioned on the evaluations.

5. One of the main undercurrents with regard to the evaluations was to bring something fresh to the table. Those of us involved in planning the 2008 conference are working hard to "revamp" the agenda and bring something new to the forefront for all our members.

As we go into the planning phase of this year's conference, we would like to invite all members to make suggestions, requests or all of the above. If you have any input please contact Bobbi Edmunson, USA-FEPP Secretary at [bobbi.edmunson@oregonstate.edu](mailto:bobbi.edmunson@oregonstate.edu).



# Welcome to the 2008 Conference

We are so EXCITED about the 2008 USA-FEPP Conference. With the suggestions we received from our members and fresh ideas provided by miscellaneous sources, we are putting a new spin into the works. Starting with location. The conference location for 2008 is Boise, Idaho.

Boise is a small city that offers the culture and entertainment of a larger urban area yet still feels like everyone's hometown. Culture and entertainment exist in harmony with an abundance of outdoor recreation. It is a family friendly city and one full of wonderful possibilities. You may view more information on Boise by visiting the USA-FEPP website.

Conference dates have been moved up to accommodate the NPMA conference. Dates are **July 21-24**. The conference is being held at the Owyhee Plaza, a historic hotel in downtown Boise. There will be a link on the website for you to access the hotel and make reservations. They are providing us the government rate of

\$79.00 a night.

For those arriving early Monday or having down time before the welcoming reception Monday evening, we will be putting together an activity for you to participate in with other members. It will help to break the ice and forge new friendships.

Our tour of Charlotte was enjoyed by members, however, it was mutually requested that any future tours be aimed or somehow related to property/equipment usage. In order to meet the needs of our members, the tours we have put together for this year's conference focus on that request. We will be offering two different tours. One will be aimed at Land Grant Universities or Agricultural Research Facilities. The tour will be of Ste. Chapelle Winery. They will be showing us the equipment they utilize and the many changes in grape harvest/research over the past few years. I have visited the winery and the difference in their production and that of older facilities such as those in Napa, CA is immense

and of a very interesting nature. The other tour will be centered around Micron Technology and those looking for more technological information. We had many requests for information regarding electronic and computer equipment including lab specific designed materials. Micron has graciously opened its doors for our group.

Another addition we are working on bringing to the agenda is training classes on inventory development and tracking. We hope to utilize the knowledge of experienced programs and the fresh ideas of new ones to bring forth answers to a wide range of questions.

This is just a touch of what is in store for you at the 2008 USA-FEPP Conference. We welcome any of your suggestions and comments.

**WE CAN'T WAIT  
TO SEE YOU THERE!**



*"Strength is in numbers.....many give strength to the one and the one gives foundation to the many"*

## Awards

USA-FEPP President, Joe Grego, presented several awards at the 2007 conference. These awards were given in thanks for contributions to the continued success of our membership. We

are lucky to have the continued support of all our members, however, there are those who go above and beyond to give our group strength. The following were the recipients of this year's awards:

Robert Holcombe, GSA  
James Begis, GSA  
Marjorie Cunningham, DCMA  
Tina Aldrich, DRMS  
Carol Fix, DRMS



## A Steward for the American Taxpayer



*Users and Screens Association*

*Federal Excess Personal Property, Inc.*

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## *More on the USA-FEPP Board Members*



Lee Morrisett,  
Vice President

Clemson University

Lee has been with Clemson for 23 years. For the past 8 years he has been involved in various aspects of FEPP and is serving his second term as Vice President.



Joe Grego  
President

University of Oklahoma

Joe has been with university since 1993. He was the forefront of its FEPP Program. He has been an USA-FEPP members since 1999 and has served 2 terms as President.



John Poehlmann  
Treasurer

University of Missouri

John took over Treasurer duties in 2006. Added to the many duties he performs at the University, he is a very busy man. This is his first term on the board, however, we all see him bringing USA-FEPP into a bright future.



Bobbi Edmunson  
Secretary

Oregon State University

Bobbi was the first employee hired specifically for the FEPP Program 4 years ago.



Joel Swindlehurst  
IT Officer

Oregon State University

Joel has been with OSU for 30 years. He has been involved in FEPP since 1988, becoming APO in 2001.