



E-NEWS

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Thank You

For attending the 28th Annual GPA Conference in September at the King and Prince! We had a terrific turnout and outstanding speakers.

If you did not get the chance to attend, check out our 2015 incoming President, Jodi Hudgins' conference wrap-up below!

The Georgia Perinatal Association recently wrapped up our 28th Annual Conference: *Promoting Safer Maternal and Infant Outcomes in Georgia*. Held at the King and Prince Resort on St. Simons Island, we welcomed a total of 105 healthcare professionals who are involved in the care women, infants, and their families. 46 GPA members were in attendance, and 67 conferees either joined our organization or renewed their membership.

With a range of fascinating topics presented, there was something for everyone at the Annual Conference! We were honored to hear information from State of Georgia health leaders, Senator Dean Burke, MD, Commissioner of Public Health, Brenda Fitzgerald, MD, as well as experts in the fields of neonatology and perinatology. Key Georgia providers, who focus on educating patients, providers, and the public, highlighted strategies for prevention and preparation. Attendees enjoyed a particularly enlightening session, lead by a certified nurse midwife and an adoption attorney, which addressed options and alternatives related to perinatal services.

GPA President **Diane Youmans** led the annual luncheon meeting, where we discussed membership recruitment and reviewed the GPA Education Foundation Fund. We were delighted to present **Dr. Linda Sacks**, a practicing neonatologist with Pediatrix Medical Group of Georgia in Savannah, with the annual Tee Rae Dismuke Award for her leadership and contributions to the improvement of perinatal health in Georgia.

LaVonne Harn, RN, MSN, closed the conference by giving an inspiring presentation in which she reminded the audience of hard-working, dedicated professionals that to be able to continue to do what we do and serve the families we serve, we must take care of ourselves: "We have to manage our own morale and care for the caregiver before the bucket is empty."

Mark Your Calendars!

Plan to join us at the King and Prince Resort next year for GPA's 29th Annual Conference, September 23-25, 2015. Your GPA board members are already working hard on preparations, so please contact them if you have comments or suggestions for topics and/or speakers. Set within a beautiful seaside landscape, the Annual Conference is a wonderful opportunity for

learning, networking, food, and fun. We hope to see you there next year!

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