

# Athens

Life Unleashed

September 11, 2009

Mr. Charlie Gatlin  
Ms. Joy Walstrum  
Ms. Julie Musselman  
Mr. Kevin Langston  
Ms. Lisa Smith  
Mr. Sean McGinnis  
Mr. Spurgeon Richardson  
Ms. Stacey Dickson  
2009 Governor's Tourism Conference

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I want to express my sincere gratitude for the outstanding conference that you produced last week. While last year's conference was wonderful, I think that the goal of achieving even a better conference was realized. From the location to the food and beverage to the speakers/programs, all were stellar. The Governor's Tourism Conference is indeed a must-attend event.

It was a pleasure to serve on the conference oversight and program/content committees and work with such dynamic and creative people. It helps tremendously to have such an outstanding meeting planner as Julie Musselman, who had firsthand experience of planning her second joint Governor's Tourism Conference involving GACVB, GDEcD, and TDAG. As next year's host site, we at the Athens CVB feel more confident and at ease due to Julie's superb coordinating skills.

Stacey, your CVB, Legacy Lodge, and Lake Lanier Islands Authority were all excellent hosts. While your CVB may be small in staff, it is large in creativity and hospitality. We could not have asked for a more welcoming and accommodating host CVB. You

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will certainly be a hard act to follow. Thank you for your willingness to give us advice on how we can achieve greatness, as well. We will certainly be calling on you.

Legacy Lodge is a beautiful hotel with very friendly staff. Having the meeting rooms and lodging in one facility is always a plus. I can't say enough about how good the food was. It was much better than you would expect. Everything tasted so good.

Both evening events were lots of fun. The bands were great, and I think both of them really appealed to a good cross section of our attendees. It would have been nice to have gone to the beach/water park Monday night, but the "Revival Tent" was a good substitute. The '80s party was especially fun, and I was glad to see a good number of people dressed in '80s attire. The chairs were very nice gifts. The carnival atmosphere was festive – I love cotton candy.

Of course, the most important aspect is having good education, and, again, I think that we hit the mark, no exceeded the mark, in that area. From Peter Yesawich to the legislative panel, they all contained valuable takeaway information. One is challenged to implement all the great information that was provided.

Charlie, Lisa, and Sean, I also want to commend you for being such congenial and informative emcees. I believe that you are ready to jump to TV.

Thanks, again, to all of you for all your efforts in staging the best Governor's Tourism Conference ever. I am glad to be associated with such an outstanding team. Athens will do its best to continue the reputation for excellence that you have established.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the "s".

Chuck Jones  
Director