



**South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Association  
2009 Annual Meeting**

March 1–3, 2009  
Marriott Hotel  
Columbia, South Carolina

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# Program

## Sunday, March 1

**3:30 P.M.**

**Exhibit areas open for setup.....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**4:30 P.M.**

**Agency Board meeting ..... Palmetto I**

**5–6:30 P.M.**

**Registration .....Atrium**

**6:30–7 P.M.**

**Business meeting.....Capital II–IV**

Welcome: George Pullie, SCVRA President

**7–9 P.M.**

**Reception..... Carolina Ballroom**

Honoring Barbara G. Hollis, SCVRD Commissioner

*Featuring pianist Gerald Cheeks, sponsored by the SCVRA Client Services Association*

## Monday, March 2

*Conference flowers sponsored by the SCVRA Administrators' Association*

**8:30 A.M.–NOON**

**Registration .....Atrium**

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**Introducing Yourself Shouldn't Be One of Them.**

**8:30 A.M.–4 P.M.**

**Exhibit area open.....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**9–10:15 A.M.**

**General Session ..... Carolina Ballroom**

Presiding: Lisa Varner, Ph.D., SCVRA President

**Presentation of Colors**

A.C. Flora High School Junior ROTC

**National Anthem**

Rhonda Warren, State Office

**Welcome**

Dr. Lisa Varner

**Introduction of Speaker**

Mark Wade, Assistant Commissioner

**Guest Speaker**

Lt. Col. Steve Shugart, S.C. Army National Guard

**10:15–10:30 A.M.**

**Break / Visit Exhibit Area .....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**10:30–11:30 a.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions (choose one)**

***Cultivating Workplace Success in Challenging Times..... Capital I***

*Sheri Callahan identifies positive action steps as we wade through budgetary constraints. Includes working “within the box,” organizational effectiveness, opting for new alternatives, cross-training programs, creative measurement tools of success, coaching to think, shared visions, stimulating morale and increasing team commitment.*

***The Fires of Conflict: Igniters, Accelerants and Extinguishers..... Capital II***

*Using the metaphor of fire, Anne Howard will focus on issues that give rise to conflict in the workplace; the language of conflict escalation; and strategies for de-escalating conflict.*



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**Addressing Compassion Fatigue .....Capital III**  
Russ Bell will conduct this interactive session that explores successful ways to deal with compassion fatigue. Bring a willingness to share your experiences working with customers and learn what works and what doesn't. At the end of the session, you'll have additional insights into ways of successfully handling service delivery relationships that can test one's enthusiasm.

**Achieving Financial Security in a Tough Environment.....Capital IV**  
H.W. "Skip" Weldon, a fee-only financial consultant, shares his perspectives on personal financial management using his 17 "rules" about money as a framework for living within one's means and making good decisions in preparing for a sound financial future.

**11:30 A.M.–NOON**

**Break / Visit Exhibit Area .....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**NOON–1:45 P.M.**

**Partners Award Luncheon ..... Carolina Ballroom**

Presiding: Mark Wade

**Welcome**

Derle A. Lowder Sr., Chairman, S.C. State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation

**Invocation**

The Rev. Alex Nelson, Second Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia

**Legislative Award**

Presented to: The Honorable Rita Allison, S.C. House of Representatives  
District 36, Spartanburg

Presented by: Barbara G. Hollis, SCVRD Commissioner

**Area Business Partners Presentation**

Presented by: Mark Wade



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## VR Business Partners Recognition

Presented to: Firestone / Bridgestone North America

Presented by: Dr. Roxzanne Breland, Member, S.C. State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation

Assisted by: Alethea Harry, Aiken Area Supervisor

Presented to: Grace Management Group

Presented by: Dr. Roxzanne Breland

Assisted by: Jennie Thomas, Spartanburg Area Supervisor

Presented to: AM Conservation Group Inc.

Presented by: Rhonda Presha, Member, S.C. State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation

Assisted by: Sally Daniel, Charleston Area Supervisor

Presented to: Walgreens

Presented by: Rhonda Presha

Assisted by: Darline Graham, Business Relations Specialist

**1:45–2 P.M.**

**Break / Visit Exhibit Area.....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**2–3 P.M.**

**Concurrent Sessions (choose one)**

***Cultivating Workplace Success in Challenging Times..... Capital I***

*Sheri Callahan identifies positive action steps as we wade through budgetary constraints. Includes: working “within the box,” organizational effectiveness, opting for new alternatives, cross-training programs, creative measurement tools of success, coaching to think, shared visions, stimulating morale and increasing team commitment.*

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**3–3:15 P.M.**

**Break / Visit Exhibit Area.....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**3:15–4:15 P.M.**

**Association Meetings**

- SCVRAA.....Capital I
- SCADES.....Capital II
- Direct Client Services.....Capital III
- Technical Services.....Capital IV
- SCVRD Retirees.....Alumni Room
- Students.....Palmetto I
- VRBPN Partners.....Palmetto II

**6–10 P.M.**

**Monday Night Social .....Jillian’s in the Vista**  
*Sponsored by the SCVRA Technical Services Association*

*Tuesday, March 3*

**8:15–9 A.M.**

**Professional Staff Association Annual Meeting.....Palmetto I**

**8:30 A.M–12:30 P.M.**

**Exhibit Area Open.....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**8:30–10 A.M.**

**Registration.....Atrium**



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**9–10:15 AM.**

**General Session ..... Carolina Ballroom**

Presiding: Mark Wade

**Welcome**

Barbara G. Hollis

**Going Green at VR: Best Practices**

Shannon Lindsay, State Office

**Questions and Answers**

**10:15–10:30 A.M.**

**Break / Visit Exhibit Area .....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

**10:30 A.M.–NOON**

**General Session ..... Capital Ballroom**

Presiding: Dr. Lisa Varner

**Association Awards**

*Administrator of the Year Award*

*Presented by: Jennie Thomas, President*

*Direct Client Services Award*

*Presented by: Ali Cato, President*

*Barry Cooper Leadership Award (SCADES)*

*Presented by: Allison Lee, President*

*Technical Services Award*

*Presented by: Barry Caton, President*

**Special Awards**

*Professional of the Year Award*

*Presented by: George Pullie, President*

*Richard M. Kuffel Excellence in Education Award*

*Presented to: Lisa Halter*

*Presented by: Anne Iriel, Director of Program Development*

*Commissioner’s Medal of Excellence Award*

*Presented by: Barbara G. Hollis*

**Introduction of Guest Speaker**

Mark Wade

**Guest Speaker**

Carl Wells, “Cultural Competence”

**11:30 A.M.–NOON**

**Registration .....Atrium**

**NOON–12:30 P.M.**

**Break / Visit Exhibit Area .....Atrium and Capital Pre-Function**

Door Prizes

**12:30–2 P.M.**

**Awards Luncheon ..... Carolina Ballroom**

Presiding: Mark Wade

**Invocation**

The Rev. Dr. Tony A. Metze, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Columbia

**2008 Local Client Achievement Staff Recognition**

Presented by: Mark Wade

- Aiken..... Laverne Jones, Patti Mims, Kathy Murray,  
Mary Norris, Angela McGhee, Holmesview Center Staff*
- Anderson/Oconee-Pickens.....Darryl Morris, Layneigh Scott, Dede Norungolo, Tony Adams,  
Jane Emerson, Anne McAuley, Sandra Christ, Evaluation Center Staff*
- Beaufort.....John Gallagher, Melissa Weber, Joycestean Pringle*
- Berkeley-Dorchester.....Roy Green, Darrell Chaplin, Macklin Gaynor,  
Jonathan Hardison, Sharkea Hicks*
- Camden..... Pamela Company, Anne Broom, Jonathan Cruz,  
W. Brian Green, Beth Baker, Leroy Nixon*
- Charleston ..... Dana Hazel, John Wilson, Jennifer Jerome,  
Evaluation Center Staff, Rehabilitation Technology Staff*
- Conway.....Sally Daniel, Tom Jackman, Johnathan Greene, Donna Turner,  
Marty Graham, Phil Davis, Cindy McKenzie, Bonita Gore*
- Florence .....Barbara Brown, Lorie Matthews, Lisa Downer, Betty Cooper, Alan Altman*
- Greenville..... Leslie Warren, Gaby Sanders, Mike Laney, Letresa Thompson,  
Lisa Alexander, Chester Rodrigues*
- Greenwood..... Donald Burton, Joyce Robinson*
- Lexington.....Jennifer Unekis, Amy Kuenzie, Iris Kleinlercher, Julie Jackman,  
Nasser Sartip, Barbara Kinard, Judy Knochel, Bernard Grant, Betty Armstrong,  
Robbie Stabler, Betsy Kliment, Tom Jackman*



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Marlboro.....*Julia Cannon, Tillette Scott, Shelia Gilbert, Diane Smith, Latonda Abraham, KaTina Johnson, Joy Ardis-Woodard, Phil Davis, Bonita Gore, Michael Johnson, Donna Turner, Fran Rivers, Sophia Streater*

Orangeburg.....*Kitty Bamberg, Claudette Perkins, Willie Mae Goodwin, Sherry Pressley, Tim Adams, Joan McLauren, Evaluation Center Staff*

Richland.....*Linda Menefee, Tom Jackman, Don Helms, Muscular Development Center Staff*

Rock Hill/Lancaster.....*Veneka Cameron, Kathleen Allen, Jon Robinson, Tinko Alston, Phil Hall, Todd Batt, Brain Injury Program Staff*

Spartanburg.....*Belinda Gibbs, Catherine Sprouse, Marlene Comer, James Les Scoggin, Priscilla Jackson Harris, Cindy Sellars, Myra Taylor, Leigh-Ann Dailey, Tom Mayne, Todd Batt*

Sumter.....*Summer Rigby, Sumter Work Training Center Staff, Palmetto Center Staff*

Walterboro.....*Allison Kitler, Paul Mears, Michelle Stockman, Patti Nettles, Todd Batt, Anne Iriel*

**2008 Client Achievement Award**

Presented to: David Hill, Laurens  
 Presented by: Barbara G. Hollis  
 Assisted by: Derle A. Lowder Sr.  
 Barry Waddell, Laurens Area Supervisor

**2008 Client Achievement Staff Recognition**

Presented to: Elizabeth Cann, Richard Cain, Tim Gary, Donnie Estes, Johnny Richard, Grace Ryan Coleman, Renie Adair, Violet Lanier, Elizabeth Robinson, Rhonda Pitts, Rick Poole, Richard Hall, Clara Martin, Chad Ulmer, Houston Matthews, Shannon Lindsay.

Presented by: Barbara G. Hollis  
 Assisted by: Derle A. Lowder Sr., Barry Waddell

**Closing Remarks**

Dr. Lisa Varner

**Adjournment**

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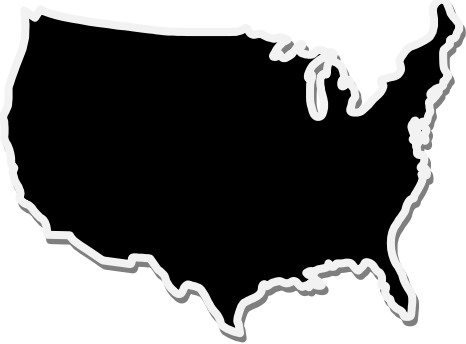
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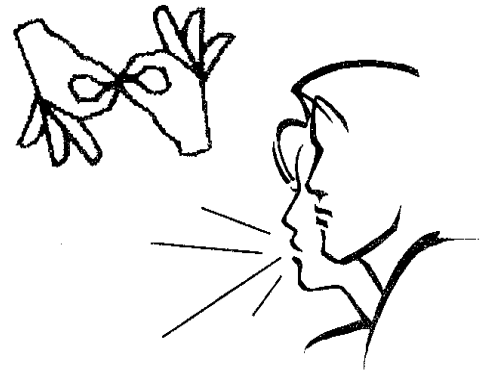
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# Speakers

**Dr. Steve Shugart** is a lieutenant colonel in the S.C. Army National Guard. As full-time senior command chaplain, he provides spiritual and behavior care for more than 10,000 South Carolina troops as they deploy and returned from combat.

He has been deployed himself many times and also serves with the S.C. Law Enforcement Assistance Program. He is a regional instructor on soldier issues, including combat operational stress, post traumatic stress disorder, suicide prevention and grief.

A native of Chester, he earned a bachelor's degree from Clemson University, a master of divinity degree from Emory University, a doctorate of ministry degree from Drew University and is working on a master's in rehabilitation counseling at the University of South Carolina.

He and his wife have five children. They live in Easley.



**Sheri Callahan** specializes in strategically addressing performance development issues through consulting/coaching, training and keynote addresses. She brings a background as an educator in the non-profit sector; top producer for a large financial recruiting firm and many years of supervisory and management experience in various

environments.

She is a certified mediator and holds a bachelor of arts in speech communication and a master of arts in human behavior and conflict management from the University of South Carolina.

A native of Southern California, she now lives in Columbia.



**Anne Howard** has more than 25 years of experience in the design, delivery and management of training. Prior to her retirement, she was with Disability Determination Services in North Carolina.

She presents workshops on a variety of topics, including communication, management and leadership skills. She did a workshop on memory skills at last year's SCVRA conference.

**Russ Bell** has brought motivational messages of "proper perspective and positive attitudes" to a variety of audiences, especially those in professions of caregiving and other human service provision.

He has been in senior housing management since 1992, the past seven as executive director of The Finlay House in Columbia.

Active in the S.C. Gerontological Society, Meals on Wheels and other local school and community organizations, he is a member of the National Speakers' Association and a former Dale Carnegie instructor.



**H.W. "Skip" Weldon** is a fee-only financial consultant with more than 37 years' experience in the financial services industry. He works with clients to develop specific plans and recommend products for personal finance, investment, tax, estate and retirement planning.

He holds Chartered Financial Consultant and Chartered Life Underwriter designations from the American College.

A graduate of Presbyterian College, he is a past president of the Columbia Kiwanis Club and the Columbia-area Presbyterian College Alumni Group. He also is past treasurer of the Columbia Action Council and serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of the University of South Carolina's Business and Economic Review.

[www.SkipWeldon.com](http://www.SkipWeldon.com)



**Carl Wells** is director of access and equity at the University of South Carolina, where he develops programs and services about cultural diversity.

A native of Mayesville, he earned bachelor's degrees in music and communications from Winthrop University and a master of divinity degree from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He has completed all the coursework toward a Ph.D. in public health administration at USC and is writing his dissertation on the impact of faith on health and job satisfaction.

He and his wife have two children.



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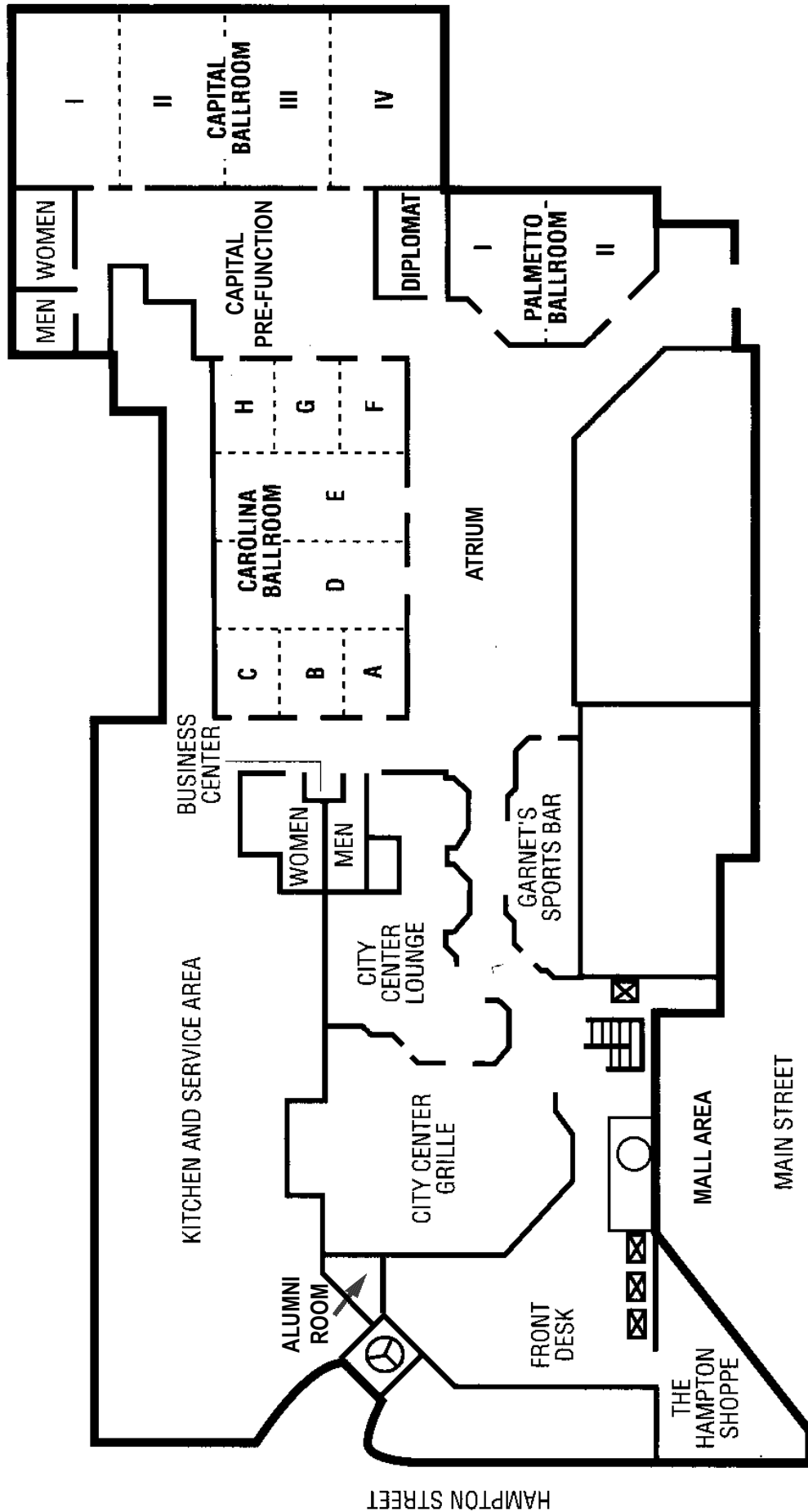


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**Bachelor of Science in Human  
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**Master of Science in Management**

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