



**10th Annual Conference
of the SouthEast SAS® Users Group
September 22-24, 2002**

Hyatt Regency Savannah
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Savannah, GA 31401
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SESUG 2002 Conference Proceedings

These Proceedings are the official record of the SouthEast SAS Users Group Conference, held in the city of Savannah, GA, September 22-24, 2002. The final result is the product of the Cochairs, Heidi Markovitz and David Maddox, the Proceedings Coordinators, F. Joseph Kelley and Deborah Buck, the Publication Coordinator, Jodie Gilmore of Fulcrum Communications and Kimberly Riddell. The real heart of this publication are the presentations of over 100 authors and the unseen, but very real, labors of the section chairs and so many others. SAS Institute graciously printed, assembled, and delivered the final product as a permanent record of the 2002 SouthEast SAS Users Group (SESUG) Conference. Neither SAS Institute nor SESUG is responsible for the accuracy or originality of this material.

About the Artwork and Cover

Jessica Gordon, a Miami art student, first sketched the SESUG 2002 logo from Heidi's verbal description. It was meant to evoke both the Savannah River and the way SAS software flows along into the future. Later, Kim Riddell, a professional graphic artist in North Carolina, tightened up the design and added colors to it. She then adapted our logo to make covers for all our publications.

About the Fonts

Two typefaces are used in most of the conference material: Trebuchet and Harrington. Trebuchet is a clean san-serif font; Harrington is a flowery, somewhat "serified" font. The former is crisp and easy to read while the latter continues the "flowing river" theme of the logo and blends with the elegant cast and wrought iron work seen in much of downtown Savannah.

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Foreword

We present this "Big Book O' Papers" from SESUG 2002 with a great deal of pride (*Proceedings* sounds SO formal). It contains knowledge and wisdom borne of experience from more than 110 authors on over 100 topics. For most of you readers, those who attended SESUG 2002, this book will serve as a supplement to your live experience in Savannah, mixing and mingling with a vast group of colleagues and experts. For the rest of you, we hope it will provide lots of useful information and give you the motivation to join us next year in St. Pete Beach, FL for SESUG 2003.

Your conference chairs began their work on SESUG 2002 two years ago. But we started our labors from the shoulders of giants - the SESUG Executive Committee members, who produced all prior SESUG conferences. This handful of faithfuls provided us with fine examples to follow and many hours of hard work and advice.

In addition to the EC, we had dozens of other wonderful volunteers on our team. To produce this volume alone we needed our authors, 13 Academic section chairs (listed elsewhere in the book), the *Proceedings* Editor, Joe Kelley, and Associate Editor, Debbie Buck.

Since the *Proceedings* represent the outcome of a conference, we also want to recognize many of the others who made that conference the success that we expected. We exhausted our Registration group, Debbie Skinner, Clara Waterman, and Dave Riba. We appreciated the persistence and diplomacy of our Publicity chair, George Matthews. We are grateful to our Volunteer coordinator, Maribeth Johnson, who willingly expanded her job description. We are amazed at our organizer of Weekend Workshops, John Bentley, who operated a virtual mini-conference within SESUG. We thank Greg Barnes Nelson who worked with our sponsors and vendors and Phil d'Almada who was instrumental in setting up the Hands-on Workshops. And back at the start, we were most glad that Dan Bruns and Andy Kuligowski could make this location ours for the conference. See the conference team listing for a more complete (though not exhaustive) list of conference organizers.

Among the many not-strictly SESUG contributors to this conference, we must first mention SAS Institute. SI produced this book, printed and distributed our Registration booklet, and provided us with graphic artist support, to name a few elements of their assistance. Michael Smith and Toni Rich, our liaisons with SI, were endlessly helpful and patient. They reminded us of deadlines, told us about resources available to us, and provided us with answers to many questions.

Destiny Corporation's Susan Reiss was most cooperative in arranging the logistics of our Hands-On Workshops. The staff at the Hyatt Regency Savannah, from Allison Marrero and Dawn Ryan in Sales to Jeffier Draucker and Sarah Menard in Convention Services, have been very accommodating. Kim Riddell, our graphic artist, is responsible for the professional look of our logo and the covers of all our publications. Jodie Gilmore of Fulcrum Communications laid out our Registration Booklet and Program and forced us to keep to a schedule. Diane Plunk of the Savannah Area Convention & Visitors Bureau introduced SESUG to Savannah and helped us decide that this was the place for us.

On a personal note, Heidi's husband, Steve Stern and David's wife, Eila have earned our undying gratitude for putting up with your two conference chairs during this period. We hope your enjoyment and appreciation of this event made it worthwhile. Heidi's son, Morgan Stern gets a big "Thanks" for his quick thinking on many Web and other issues over the past few months and her daughter Stephanie Stern for being very patient. And to the Maddox children, Amanda and Warren, thanks very much for your understanding and help.

Finally, thank YOU, our participants. We hope you have enjoyed your experience. Whether your jobs included sitting in the audience, making presentations, volunteering with administration, or just using our *Proceedings*, we are glad you did.

Please remember to join us again next year, in St. Pete Beach, FL for SESUG 2003. Our conference chairs will be Steve Noga and Gary Schlegelmilch. They'll be glad of any help you can give them.

Heidi Markovitz and David Maddox
Co-chairs SESUG 2002

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