2016 February 26 (Friday)

- Delegates arrive in Atlanta and check in into <u>Staybridge Bridge Suites</u> <u>Atlanta Perimeter Center</u>
- 5PM Bus arrives for pick up and ferries delegates to the Consul General Residence, where a dinner reception is also hosted
- Delegates are taken to the Georgia Aquarium for a nijikai gala

2016 February 27 (Saturday): 9AM - 5PM

- JETAA International is coming up with the 30th Anniversary
- Welcome statements from Stephen Haverfield, president of <u>JETAA</u>
 Southeast
- Welcome statements from JETAA USA Country Representatives
- <u>Strengthening Sub-Chapters</u> Monica Yuki, <u>JETAA USA Country</u> <u>Representative</u>, <u>JETANNY</u>
 - Breakdown of what many of the terms mean: MOFA, CLAIR, GiA, etc.
 - o Sub-Chapter Requirements 3 of 5 requirements must be filled
 - Show proof of 4 members at least
 - Establish at least 2 officer/executive positions
 - Organize and carry out one organized activity per Japanese fiscal year (April to April)
 - Submit budget request paperwork to parent chapter for sub-chapter activities
 - Create governing document which includes a mission statement and general description of the geographical region covered
 - o Challenges of Sub-chapters
 - Locating Alumni
 - Finding leaders who will shepherd the sub-chapter through slow periods
 - Additional work for main chapter in budgetary area
 - Difficult for Chapters which have sub-chapters located faraway (Exp: Heartland)
 - Alumni change jobs, become parents, etc. Life changes and lack of additional motivated alumni mean sub-chapters easily go dormant
 - o Possible Solutions
 - Membership Survey Work, interests, where they went to school, general area of living

- Communication between chapters and virtual methods of communication to allow for ease of planning events, write articles for JQ, JETwit, website
- Clustering events, one on Friday, one on Saturday; allows for attendees from outside of urban-dense JET areas to make the most out of their visit.
- Chapter events overnight trips, events in rural areas
- Tatami time share
- Finding a point person for sub-chapters is first and one of the most important steps
- Jennifer Murawski (North Cal) tech person, can talk about segmentation on Mailchimp and Facebook group versus Facebook page
- Request funding from CGP for a webinar series within local area
- o Chapter Updates (with Sub-chapter focus)
 - Florida utilizes regions, not sub-chapters works very well for their area
 - One main Facebook page that sends out all events and highlights which region the event is for
- o Sub-chapter Ideas to grow or strengthen sub-chapters
 - Take the party to you, do a small event at least once a year
 - Thinking beyond Japan events does not have to be Japan-related
 - Persuade groups to work with you.
 - Be open and speak about communication issues
 - Have a retreat within local areas / Officer's retreat
 - Get together a group/committee to go over sub-chapters
 - Camping trip together would be very good for a weekend
 - Reaching out to sub-chapters and understand what's going on politically
- <u>The JETAA Initiative & Membership</u> Laurel Lukaszewski, <u>CULCON</u>, <u>USJBF</u>, & USJETAA
 - o Help Chapters Help Alumni
 - one of the key roles is fundraising
 - Awarded 3 Year Grant from Center of Global Partnership (see below) to conduct feasability study and create national organization
 - Participated in National and regional conferences, brought in Walter Mondale as a guest for Detroit National

- Conference, secured venue at Harvard for Boston regional conference
- Created a logo, website and membership directory
- Established USJETAA Board of Directors, and incorporated as a 501(c)3 in 2015, in Delaware. Has held three board meetings since inception
- o www.usjetaa.org
- o CGP funding of USJETAA Center of Global Partnership
 - Sole funder of the project
 - They highly view the JET Alumni network
 - History: in 2012 CULCON (bi-national committee between Japan and USA government) had money to give JET Alumni , but they had no way of disseminating it as only a few chapters had non-profit status
- USJETAA Proposed Initiatives and Program Ideas / Goal: Support chapters and individual alumni
 - Mentor-ship Program
 - Opportunity for Chapter leadership and members to identify goals and priorities with which they would like additional support
 - Work with up to three chapters in the first year to examine management in-depth, focuses on area that is difficult for them
 - More than a one-day needs assessment, the in-person site-visit will be the beginning of an ongoing dialog between participating chapters and USJETAA
 - USJETAA would be safety net for chapters
- o Webinar Series
 - Governance, gaining nonprofit status, membership strategies, and programming
 - Guest panelists would present topics and efforts will be made to create a dynamic exchange of information
- o All-Alumni Conference
 - Provide a substantive national conference to engage JET alumni at all professional levels and stages of life
 - Provide opportunity to reconnect alumni with each other and Japan
 - Elevate the network of alumni through access to leaders in the US-Japan relationship and provide a platform to highlight alumni achievements
 - Promote JET alumni as a resource for other organizations and corporations working with japan
 - Try to provide family friendly activities so that people would be encouraged to bring families

- Developing Strategic Partnerships
 - MOFA/CLAIR
 - Grant Funding
 - 30th Anniversary of JET
 - Reconnecting with Japan on local levels
- Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA
 - A think tank that focuses on Japan-USA relationship, with a focus on education and outreach that is informative to those interested in connecting Japan/USA relationship
- Will have ability to provide mini-grants to Chapters
- Provide a competitive process for chapters to apply for program support
 - Help chapters pursue programs/events that they've always wanted to do, but cannot due to lack of funds
 - Or, have a project that they already do, but want to take to next level
 - Guidelines will be sent to JETAA Chapters in spring.
 Programming must occur in the 2016 Japanese Fiscal Year (April-March). Apps will be submitted to USJETAA, the body who will administer the grants
 - Average would be about \$2000
- Reach the World
 - Bring Japan to the classroom for K-12
 - Match schools with travelers around the world, and they write informational blog posts to give information to these students.
 - Editors coach college study-abroad travelers as they share their journeys to Japan online. Editors edit and fact check the blog post
- Table for Two
 - Nonprofit fighting world hunger and obesity in developed and developing world. Works closely with schools in Africa and get funders to provide meals to students in Africa and USA.
 - World Food Day
 - "Change the World With Onigiri"
 - October 16th 2016 November 30th 2016
 - For every picture (properly tagged) posted to social media, their sponsors will donate five free meals to Table for Two for distribution
- o How can USJETAA help chapters to reengage alumni?
- o What are the challenges/needs of individual chapters
 - Sister-Cities are a huge resource for chapters / events, interest, getting into the interest of individual JETs
 - Only state without a sister-state in Japan it's Wyoming

- A point person is the basic of how to establish a sister-state
- o Needs to be marketed properly
 - Will go out to CRs and we'll disseminate to chapters in an official capacity
- o Suggestions from Chapter representatives
 - Jenn Murakawski
 - Sister City Exchanges how to keep JETs connected to Japan
 - Atlanta-Fukuoka Coco Cola
 - Networks have older people but need younger blood
 - Exchange Pizza Party
 - Event: 100th Sister City Relationship built in Sister city friendship
- o Adam Lisbon (RMN)
 - Wyoming is the only state without a connection in Japan
 - Asking for help as they are stretched very thin right now
- o Matt Gillam (CLAIR NY)
 - USJETAA should work with Sister City of America (Sister Cities Association)
 - They have networks, but are all older. Need those who can use social media
- o JETAA Northern California
 - Christmas Card Exchange between schools
 - Older JETs who have families what's a good project for them, and what to bring them out
- MOFA Funding Grant Writing Brainstorming Session <u>Mary</u> Eberhardinger, Emerson College
 - o Brief mention of Reggie Life director of the documentary, "Living Your Dream: The Taylor Anderson"
 - o Next showing will be in Spain
 - Reggie wants to thanks JET for their support in showing the film in various chapters
 - o How do we engage JET Alumni through grants?
 - What is the connection between JETs and grants?
 - Does the connection matter? Does it strengthen relationships?
 - o Disclaimer: Mary Eberhardinger has not written JET-related grant via MOFA or CLAIR
 - Has written multiple grants for those in higher education, and more specifically, is shepherding 23 undergrads to Japan via TOMODACHI grant
 - o What is Grant Writing?

- It is argumentative writing
- It is persuasive writing
- Making an argument in a written proposal
- o What is a Good Argument
 - Address gaps, address what's missing
 - Questions
 - What is missing the in the lives of JET Alumni?
 - What is missing in the post-JET exchange process?
 - Japan
 - Nostalgia/Natsukashii relating to Japan and Japan-related activities
 - Many JET alumni want to fill this gap, want to involve Japan in their lives in the United States
- o The Writing of the Grant
- JETs have the ability to transfer their emotional connections and emphasis that might be missing from someone who has not been on the program. How do we get across the point without being flowery
- o Brevity trying not to make it so much larger-than-life that makes it unreachable or unattainable
- Writing of the grant should align with mission and values of the foundation/organizations mission statements / goals
- o Strength of JETs is to communicate and to show experience in a way to create reality via that communication and proliferates this experience something for new people to experience it
- What's the values and mission statement of the grant-funding organization
- Use the same language as the grand funding organization, using the keywords/anchor words in your brief informative statements in your grant proposal
- Put your best foot forward creatively borrowing their words to make a similar case
- Use positive facts/sentences/news/numbers/stats to present your proposal
- Put your best foot forward, no need to mention negative experiences
- o Show what resources are available from the chapter seeking the grant; what are you bringing to table
 - Submit bios of the grant writers
 - Show your volunteers hours and number of potential volunteer resources and personal opportunities
- o Be pedantic, have a copy editor go over the proposal
- o You Won Grant Money

 Money will allow your organization/chapter to achieve things not possible without the funds

Announce the Grant

- It is grant-writer's responsibility to report or announce the results (in this case, chapters, and sub-chapters)
- Sometimes, people are sad or offended that they are not told, individually, of how these events for the grant are going on
- How are you reporting or announcing your event or grant award
- Sometimes, hands need to be held

o Post-Grant

- Have wonderful events
- Report/Provide summary to Grant Foundation of how the money was spent
 - Photos
 - Event stats and information
 - Presentation of numbers
- Any positive results to share?
- What's the measurable difference post-grant funding?
 Numbers are key for achievement level on post-grant reports

o Do It Again!

- Find new gaps, and make new governments
- Find and apply for new money from new funding organizations
- Use the success from former grants to give new grants weight and importance
- Meet new JETs
- Make new experiences and have new results
- Report those new results and continually use them on new Grant Proposals

o Brainstorming Sessions

- Money allows for things to happen
- What kind of things?
- What are good ideas that you have to share for events to hold
- What kinds of events work
- What kind of events would attract 'dormant' alumni to attend events
 - Grants to fund the travel budget of the SUPER JET Alumni
 - So that they can help chapters create events and get people consolidated
 - Rephrasing to get Grant Money

Board Retreat - is something reasonable to ask for

• Group 1

- Guest Speakers
- JET Alumni in a specific industry, being flown somewhere to speak of it
- Space rental/venue rental
- Returnee Reclamation Event
- Mentorship Program
- Film Festival
- Scholarship Fund
- Culture Day Attendance
- Sister City Associations
- JET Promotions
 - Anime connections
 - Cancer Fair
 - Study Fair

Group 2

- Speaker Series
- Films/Filmmakers
- Expand Current Events
- Partnering with groups and events
- Connecting to people to build infrastructure (app, database, print material)
- Event Spaces
- What attracts people
 - Films
 - Professional development workshops
 - Japanese-English interpretation
 - Food and/or raffles
 - Workshops and tips on how to get into some of the above events, helping sub-chapters learn the process

• Group 3

- Producing quality media videos and photos
- Sister City enhancement logistical task that needs money and people
- Making JET Lonely Planet, travel long term success
- Big Brother Big Sister programs
- City Wide Japan Day for cities that don't already have this
- Why hasn't a JET Program Documentary been made?
- Sponsor for the advanced Japanese language learner

• Group 4

 Travel Stipends - sending a super JET/JET Alumni to their hometowns (aka Satogaeri Project)

- Convention
- Retreat (Chapter and/or member)
- Leadership building convention/retreat/event

• Panel Discussion - How to Engage Membership in Alumni Organizations

- o Bob Driscoll Statistician for CDC, Atlanta Area Returned Peace Corp Volunteers
- o Ebony Cleaves Girl Scouts in Greater Atlanta Alumni Engagement / Design programs for short term curriculum
- Sophia Lin Kanno President of Cornell Alumni Association of Atlanta.
- o Question: How do you capture the attention of alumni early on?
 - Starting seed early on as Girl Scouts are volunteer run;
 drilling into head that they that they need to come back to assist
 - Cornell starts the program early "Hotely for Life" plant seeds early in the school, start very early as well, while students at university
 - Peace Corp a couple ways return volunteers find them. Get projects that people would be interested in post-Peace Corp to assist those who are actually from the area, limited to the costs of the chapter. Off/On relationship with national organization due to differing political situation such as privacy issues.
- Question: Do the alumni work along with the current members, or are these separate entities
 - Girl Scouts Alumni are leaders, they come back to see what current Girl Scouts are doing
 - Cornell A lot less official, but they have annual leadership program that occurs elsewhere, but not funded like conferences are
 - Peace Corp Formal relationship with Atlanta Regional Recruiting Office, so that if a candidate is going somewhere particular, they find an alumni who was in the same area so that they can provide insight. Connected to volunteer overseas who sponsored in specific projects. They recruit people interested in attending and pass on the invoice. Alumni are automatically added to the group once they have email/name, but people can email back and withdraw.
- o Question: How do you keep alumni engaged?
 - Girl Scouts Lets alumni know that they can participate in a number of things, reminder information

- Cornell variety of events that occur on annual basis
- o Question: Do you receive any admin support from main group, or is it all alumni driven?
 - Cornell Does not receive an money, so everything is break even event. Alumni events are completely driven by volunteer hours and information.
 - Girl Scout no money
 - Peace Corp events will cost members money, and no money is given, so everything has to be paid by attending members with the goal of breaking even
- Question: what do you do if you send out a lot of engagement emails but there's not a lot response
 - Girl Scouts Tons of emails go out but the majority are not read. So it's all word of mouth and that's never changed.
 - Social Media is a double edged sword, esp with Girl Scouts and the current political climate
 - Cornell Email is awesome, but can only go so far
 - University has found that too many emails can be issue, so everything has to be scheduled. Social Media has been a lot better response in terms of positive response to images and sharing of events via facebook, etc
 - Peace Corp evolved into tiered approach. Everything was email, but nothing was really read or absorbed. So they taglined everything so people could see what they're interested for. Email is 250 paying members but facegroup is 600
 - Other orgs can volunteer and recruit via their mailing list
 - Pictures of people having fun at an event it keeps people wanting to see, is an interest generator
- Question: How do you get people connected who weren't originally connected
 - Move things around, try to spiral out events so that they're not all concentrated in one area.
 - Family-friendly events
 - Reach out to anyone who was ever a girl scout. Creative about placement of events. Have to give far ahead notice that people can have time to arrange to attend
 - majority of alumni become parents and priorities will change
 - Exclusive groups exclusive facebook group, newsletter, etc. so that you feel you're a part of a special group
 - Timing, advance notice, keep lines of communication open

- Trips that are unusual, that aren't a part of the normal day to day activities of average member.
- Every different diverse activity attracts different people.
- You'll never see all your membership, but you have to keep momentum going

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o Question: Do you ever work with other hyper-local alumni organizations?

- Peace Corp Their groups pay for ONE person to go to the National Conference for Peace Corp but no one else is sponsored
- Girl Scouts Different levels of commitment means different levels of interaction with other events.
- Cornell A lot of support from educational heads but not a lot of interaction between different alumni association

o Question: What kind of tech do you use?

- Peace Corp database that is peace corp based what job and location did you have. They're working on getting tech that can be transferred to the next one easily. They
- Girl Scout JOT form makes spreadsheets, etc. Not fancy. Everything is voluntarily given
- Girl Scout hasn't tried to engage alumni in huge numbers until recently
- Cornell Google Drive email

o Question: What do you do when leadership leaves?

- Bylaws are bread and butter; must be established so that organizations and chapters can create chain of command
- Succession plans MUST be put in place as people will leave unexpectedly

o Question: how do you keep enthusiasm?

- Team responsibility
- Over time, focus on what can be done versus what can't.
- A leader should delegate rarely a president who serves more than a year or two.
- Committee system in place secretary, vp, etc.
- Divide and conquer of different goals

o Questions: What are the perks and benefits for being a member?

- Personal connections however, not available largely for community
- A network is something you build before you need it
- Social aspect is the most important for Peace Corp
- Selling the pride behind the Girl Scouts

- On hotel side there's a huge networking aspect hotel shows that dependent on the alumni association and the history behind it
- o Question: What happens when you need to communicate with the mother ship?
 - Meet in person generally (Cornell/Hotel)
 - Meet quarterly on both Boards
 - National reporting is required WebEx (Girl's Scout)
- o Question: What's the biggest challenge you're facing
 - Connecting alumni to their base
 - Trying to hunt down the 21yo who doesn't have money
 - Selling importance of the alumni group and figuring out what appeals to certain segments of the group/alumni millennial
 - Gotta time things to the proper time for getting info out without losing people. Have to pull people back in after the summer vacations
 - Finding magic way of communicating with people
 - Convince that they want to be an alumni
 - Last words:
 - Keep at it
 - Start early and set the expectations
 - Never too early to get them
 - A lot of times events happen and people are afraid to come because they're afraid they don't know anyone.
 - Don't look at what anyone else doing, just be the best you can be.
 - Events should be about quality rather than quantity
 - As long as members feel that they're not wasting time and trying not to compare yourself to other alumni groups
- Manage Knowledge: Save Time and Stress: Running an Internal Board
 Site on Google Adam Lisbon, Rocky Mountain JETAA Secretary
 - o Embedding Google Docs a lot of info can be derived from it
 - Why Google Sites
 - Integrates with google suite of products
 - Chrome Profiles
 - Calendar
 - Photos
 - Gmail
 - Drive

- Docs
- Sheets
- Presentation (PPT look-alike)
- Organizing the Site
 - Each role has a web page
 - Each role has multiple duties that are related to the running the chapter, and where some duties span multiple roles
- o Chrome Profile
 - Identify different chrome profiles
 - Bookmarks sync across all computers
 - Able to see which Chrome Profile you're in via browser
- Very important to make sure that more than one person can have administrator duties
- o Knowledge Management: Alumni Database
 - Explain steps to most effectively manage task (a must for transitioning board members)
 - Give history of task and how it has changed to clarify oddities / changes in board
 - Link as much as possible between relevant locations
 - Public Website form
 - Internal forms for editing
 - Results spreadsheet for checking
 - How to subscribe to changes on the form
 - Image/Logo folder if you use the custom banner
 - Duties partially shared with webmaster since the submission form appears on the site
- o Knowledge Management: Events and Accounts
- o See how previous events went, regular or one shot
 - Record contacts, locations, phones, emails, costs attendance
 - Evaluate, record, discuss what we could have done better, what can we do next time
- Crossover with accounts
 - Info on what webs services we use and how to access them
 - Paypal to accept advanced JET discount prices
 - Mailchimp to promote the event to our mailing list
 - Survey Monkey to get surveys of the event
- Google Integration: Embed anything on Google Drive into Google Sites
- JETAA 30th Anniversary: Feasibility of a 30th Year Reunion -Jacqueline Grant / RCP Limited

- o Able to do some pretty large conferences; has some defense contracts.
- o Why do we need a planner?
 - Main reason is to save money
 - Planners have relationships and the hotels/venues will work with established planners
 - Mistakes are costly a planner can help you avoid pitfalls and mistakes
- o Plan event
 - You tell them what you need, they go to vendors to negotiate
- o Work with government
 - Put together educational symposium for last three years
 - Annie Lee Programs smaller conferences, and grew bigger
- o For an event like this, we would get the relevant information for planning group events, and they would bring up a number of options based on the number of proposed attendees
- o Insurance for hotel purposes
- Evening event
- Delegates were bussed from hotel to Mary Mac's Teahouse in Atlanta for dinner
- o Nijikai, Sanjikai, etc

2016 February 28 (Sunday): 9AM - 12PM

- Cross Chapter Collaboration Valerie Stewart, <u>JETAA Southeast</u> Treasurer
 - Career Fair invite respective chapters to attend each other's career forums
 - West Coast/Best Coast Summer Picnic
 - Weekend gathering
 - Japanese culture program
 - Immersive collaboration
 - o The dream of JETAA is alive in Portland
 - Hops + Pops 2017 Summer Event
 - Tart Your Pop Up Wine and gourmet artisan pop tarts
 - Poptarts and Wine Sonoma Valley, Woodinville Wine Valley, Wine Country (Portland)
 - Vacation rental whole house
 - Japanese Garden / Chinese Garden
 - Possibly Seattle hosts with a summer picnic and a wine trip during the same weekend

- o Southern California/Northern California Camping Adventure
 - West Coast Career Fair
 - Northern California
 - Rotational Basis for career forum
 - Weekend Only
- o Minnesota, Great Lakes, Midwest Chicago
 - Career fair/job event
 - Mitsuwa/King's spa (sento)
 - Hockey (Blackhawks, Bluejacks)
 - German Village (Columbus OH)
 - Tensuke Japanese Market
 - Cleveland Great Lakes Brewing Company
 - Detroit Museums and COnsulate
 - Minneapolis late August, Japan Fest
 - Green Line Craft Beer
 - Ski Trip in Wisconsin
- o Hurricane Pandas
 - SC or AL leadership retreat in 2017
 - NOLA / New Orleans event people willing to travel
 - Sasakawa funds -> USJETAA for grant money to pay for events
 - Retreat Invite officers, potential officers
 - Sessions
 - Role specific
 - team building
 - planning for the year
 - Idea sharing
 - Recruiting
 - Cultural Ambassadors (panel discussion)
 - Video conferences others into the event
- o Google Hangouts or a Webinar for a Career Form
- o Try to get Los Angeles for Disneyland
- o Las Vegas group trip there
- o Denver group ski trip
- How to Plan and Implement a Career Forum or Event Stephen Haverfield, <u>JETAA Southeast President</u>
 - o One event per quarter
 - Confirm the purpose of the event
 - Confirm Date
 - Confirm lead on the event
 - o Purpose of Event
 - Speed networking/networking mixer

- How to translate JET experience into transferable skills on resume
- Getting a Job in Japan
- Am I on the right career path
- Use of social media in job hunt
- Finding an IT job after JET
 - Educate JETs about the various fields available in IT as a whole
 - E.G. Developer, sales, marketing, tech writing
 - Show JETs easy-to-access resources for all kinds of topics
 - Coursera, Lynda.com (also a possibility that JETAA can get JETs a discount to a site like lynda)
 - Make recordings available online (logistics of figuring out how to product good quality recordings)
- Basic computer skills for liberal art graduates
- Elevator pitches
- Mentoring program
- Teaching
- Japanese/ESL/Accent
- Purpose of Events

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- Audience who are you doing this for?
- Activities what can be done at this event
- Small Niche Group can we advertise this to a specific non-JET niche group?
- Lecture/Keynote speaker
- Large Group/Panel Discussion
- Change Focus/Change Audience Size
- How to translate JET experience into transferable skills on a resume
- How to translate working/living abroad into transferable skills
- o Planning
 - Who Plans?
 - Officers of Board
 - Volunteers
 - Recruiters
- Time and Venue
 - Same day/weekend as Returner's dinner at Consulate
 - Other events
 - Audience size and venue
 - Costs
 - Refreshments

- Online option for those unable to attend day of
- Southeast clusters events one event on Friday, one on Saturday
- o Challenges
 - Chatty panel members
 - Mission creep
 - Finding guest speakers
 - Funding MOFA or CLAIR, or neither?
 - appropriate webinar methods
 - Not enough time for all the topics
 - Lack of volunteers no one wants to put in the world to help
 - Lack of focus on the role of the event
 - Repeating the same thing over and over change it up and have other stuff other than trying to transfer your skills over from Japan to the US American job market
 - Communications about the event
- o Examples
- o Professional Development Event
 - JAS provided venue (JAS of Georgia)
 - JETAASE provided the JET program content
 - Local recruiting company provides funds for coffee and snack
 - Three hour event
 - One presentation, one panel, one reception
 - Market the Event
 - JASG Member list
 - Facebook pages, JETAASE, JASG, Pasona
 - Direct emails to Japanese/Asian clubs at local universities
 - Find outside groups to market Elevator Idea Pitch
 - Speed networking
- Need to evaluate at end of project/event for potential for growth and ways to improve

JETalk - Everything you wanted to ask and share

- Chapters exchanged shot glasses with one another in lieu of the traditional food omiyage
- May Heart of Pittsburgh Sub-chapter recorded everyone's business cards to send out as a group email

o 2016 JETAA USA-Atlanta Regional Conference came to an end at 11:30AM, and delegates either made their way to the airport or stayed in the area for lunch.