

## *AHP Mid-Atlantic Regional Director's Message - March 2011*

Greetings from your AHP Mid-Atlantic Regional Director! For those of you who don't know me, I am famous for what my friends call, "Ellenisms." I unwillingly and unknowingly confuse the most basic quotes, sayings and every once in a while, even words. As your new regional director, I encourage you to point these out to me because, more often than not, they are hysterical and a great stress reliever for the day. Clearly, I have embraced this flaw with humor and, since we all need a little humor in our busy professional lives, I thought over the next year that I would share some of my "Ellenisms" with you in our newsletter and at our regional meetings.

Several years back, I was working on a big event. All the details were in place until one afternoon when a board member pointed out several typos in our final printed invitation.

"I blew a casket," I said to my staff. They all stared at me to see if I was kidding and then ran into their offices to laugh behind my back. One kind staffer said, "Ellen, did you mean to say 'casket' or 'gasket?'" I almost died of embarrassment—and so the list began and it has followed me from job to job. Now you, too, are in on the secret.

Over the years, I have realized my membership in AHP can't help me with things like that, but it can make a huge impact on your professional and organizational growth. Being an active member is simply the best way to learn about the latest and greatest in your industry and to network with colleagues and top development consultants. AHP also continues to be our strongest and most vocal advocate on legislative issues and concerns.

It is my privilege to serve as your regional director. The entire AHP Mid-Atlantic Regional Cabinet is ready to lead our members through a successful 2011. I encourage you to reach out to me, as well as anyone on the cabinet or anyone on the AHP staff if you are interested in getting involved.

At the very least, I hope I will see you at the upcoming [AHP Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference](#) in Baltimore, Md., April 3 – 5, 2011. It is shaping up to be an outstanding meeting and I am sure you will not want to miss out on my "Ellenisms." They only get funnier. If you can't join us for the entire conference, please feel free to join us for one day. Check the [schedule](#) and [register](#) today.

In closing, I'd like to point you to the list of [AHP Mid-Atlantic Regional Cabinet members](#) on the AHP website. I hope you will take the time to introduce yourself to us and to share your ideas to help us be a stronger organization. We will work hard to plan meaningful conferences, regional activities and to communicate with you about easy ways to get the best value of your AHP membership. Together, we promise to be a strong team of advocates for philanthropy and for you in the year ahead.

Best regards,



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