



A HISTORY OF THE C.S.R.A. APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

Now known as the AAGA (Apartment Association of Greater Augusta)

On July 30, 1973, the Board of Directors of the Home Builders Association of Augusta met and formed a multi-housing committee. Jack Bowles was appointed as chairman with the responsibility of forming an Apartment Council within the Home Builder's Association of Augusta. This council was being formed because it was told that under the HBA of Augusta, there would be a State and National affiliation and the power and support that was needed. A meeting to get this committee functioning was held September 5, 1973 on September 12, 1973 the following Executive Committee was elected: Chairman-Robert Collier, Vice Chairman-Dennis Roundtree, and Secretary/Treasurer-Jackie Stone. The objectives of the Apartment Council were: to raise the level and standards professional multi-family development, professional multi-family construction and professional multi-family operation. Further objectives were: to protect the multi-family renting to public, to provide benefits and services to member's which will assist them in the performance of their duties and to provide a vehicle through which members can deal in unity with governmental bodies on local, state, and national levels. The By-laws were borrowed from Macon and amended to fit the needs of Augusta.

In December of 1974, William Dozier, as Chairman of the Apartment Council, tried to get other cities in Georgia involved in holding a State-wide Apartment Council meeting in Atlanta to give everyone an opportunity to have some input into the laws that would affect the industry. Meetings were held at various times.

In 1980, Jackie Stone (Poteet) organized a meeting of about 20 people who met for lunch at the Town Tavern for a second attempt to get an Apartment Association organized. A few people present were Bob Cashin, Reese Quick, Ora Davis, Brook Boyd, Bill Dozier, Jack Bowles, Madden Reid, and Jackie Stone.

Jack Bowles, who was associated with the Atlanta Apartment Owners & Managers Association (AAOMA) obtained By-Laws from AAOMA and these became the basis for the current By-Laws of our Associations. During the first year of the new Association the officers were: President-Bob Cashin, Vice President-Reese Quick, Recording Secretary- Ora Davis and Treasurer- Books Boyd. The member's began a very extensive membership drive at this time. They were able to provide an IREM 101 course which was held at the Executive House (new Landmark Hotel). There were approximately 35 people in attendance at the cost of \$150-\$175 each, it was a 6 day course divided into two 3 day sessions. the instructor was from Charlotte NC.

Duke Ellington, who was affiliated with AAOMA, became very involved and was helpful to the Apartment Association. J. Madden Reid, Augusta Housing Authority, was not able to hold an office but was extremely helpful to the Association. He provided the Association's original meeting place at Peabody Apartments on Walton Way. The meetings were very informal.

Some of the Charter members were: Augusta Housing Authority: Steven D. Bell, Jack Bowles, Ben Brush, Bob Collier, Drucker & Falk, First Property Management and U.S. Shelter (Insignia Management).

Some of the Charter Associate members were: Augusta Apartment Finders, Carpet Mart, Fox Appliance Parts, Furniture Rentals, Solon Automated Services, and Turf Pride. Furniture Rentals donated the first door prize ever given to the membership. As the Association grew, the meetings were moved to the Thunderbird Inn. The food was terrible but the membership increased steadily. In 1982, the second full year, Ed McIntire, Mayor of Augusta, inducted the new officers at the Thunderbird Inn. They were: President-Ora Davis, Vice President-Reese Quick, Recording Secretary- Barbara McQuillen, and Treasurer-Brooks Boyd. The Association had monthly speakers but the speakers were not paid. This same year, the Association hired Wanda Bard as the first paid secretary at \$75 per month. This was a real challenge for the Association to meet the payroll. During this time the meetings moved to the Holiday Inn West. Attendance would drop from time to time and then increase. At this point, the meetings were moved to lunchtime at the Green Jacket. This did not last long because many of the members were unable to attend. The evening meetings were more agreeable to the members.

1983 and 1984 were years of struggle and not much information is available about these two years. Ora Davis was President for both of these years. In 1985, Ora Davis was again President. On February 17, 1985 we were granted a Charter by the National Apartment Association. Ora resigned her position as President during the year because she left her employment with a management company. Bill Salley became the President for the remainder of the year. Mike Van Woert made a motion that, because of all of her work with the Association Ora be given a life membership. The motion was passed. During this year, the first informal Trade Show was held at the Cedarwood Clubhouse. It was an "Association Appreciation Night".

Mike Van Woert became President in 1986. During this year, the Association obtained its first office on 6th Street. Margarel Brackett was hired as the Administrative Assistant. This was also the year of the first annual Trade Show with Cathy (Bobal) Elsey as the Chairman. We became known as the CSRA Apartment Association. The Association's Logo was designed by Cathy Hjelm of Center West Villas.

Barbara McQuillen became President and served for the years 1987 and 1988. In 1989, Jayme Anchor was hired as the Office Manager. During these years we held several seminars and the annual Trade Show grew in size and professionalism. Marcy (Evans)

Billings chaired the 1987 show (Las Vegas Night) and Finley Cunningham chaired the 1988 show (Catch the Wave).

Gina Weeks became President in 1989, The Association was still growing. During the year, we sponsored our first Santa Kids Project with Marcy (Evans) Billings chaired the project. We sponsored 15 families with 48 children with the help of many and the generosity of the membership. The Trade Show was again a great success with Marcy (Evans) Billings and Cathy (Bobal) Elsay chairing the event (A Country Hoedown).

Barbara McQuillen became President again in 1990 and the office moved to Wheeler Executive Center. During the year, we held our first Annual Holiday Auction to help sponsor "Santa Kids". It was successful beyond what anyone expected. Kathy (Heineman) Wintering chaired the auction. Our great auctioneer was Ora Davis. We made almost \$800 for the kids. The Trade Show for the year was chaired by George Harrison and was held at the Julian Smith Casino. During this year, we were incorporated as a non-profit Association.

Kim Willingham became President and served in 1991 and 1992. There were many changes for the Association. Some of the By-Laws were changed to help us grow and several new committees were formed. In 1991, we sponsored a "Mystery Cruise" on the Savannah River which was a great success and lots of fun. Kathy Wintering and the cast of the "The Apartment Association Players" took the parts of the cast in "Murder on the High Seas". The 1991 Trade Show (Go for the Green) was chaired by George Harrison and held at the Julian Smith Casino. In 1991, with Cindy Bair chairing the "Santa's Kids Project" raised over \$1500. In 1992 the office moved to 216 Oak Street-Suite K, Martinez. The 1992 Trade Show (Las Vegas Night) was chaired by Jackie Poteet and moved to the Civic Center. The "Santa Kids Project" was chaired in 1992 by Kelly Glazner and raised over \$1700. Both auctions benefited again from our great auctioneer, Ora Davis.

Vicki Gould became President in 1993. The newsletter was updated with the help of Mark Stone during this year. The 1992 Trade Show (Las Vegas Night) was chaired by Eddie Singleton and was held at the Civic Center. The "Santa Kids " auction was chaired by Marcy Billings and Kelly Glazner and raised over \$2700 again with the auctioneering talents of Ora Davis.

Mickey Golden was elected President in 1994 and 1995. With the help of a very active board, these were very successful years. We gained quite a few new members. The office moved down town again. The 1994 Trade Show, chaired by Missy McKelvey, was held at the Savannah Rapids Pavilion and was enjoyed by all. After the show, we kept our County & Western theme and danced to the music of 'Shiloh'. The 1995 Trade Show was chaired by Mark Stone and held at the Civic Center. The "Santa's Kids" Auctions for both years were chaired by Sharon Christian and raised over \$4500 for our project for both years, Safe Homes of Augusta. Again this money was raised for both years with the help of Ora Davis as our auctioneer.

1996 saw the election of Joan Ashley as President. The year got off to a great start with a very active Board and some great meetings and seminars. The Trade Show was held at Savannah Rapids Pavilion. All attendees enjoyed the "sporting events", the great buffet and the music as well as the vendor's booths and information. The year ended with a Christmas "Drop In" with lunch and goodies and was held at Springhouse Apartments.

1997 began with the election of Toni Liberti as President. the new board decided to move the meeting place to the Sheraton-Augusta. All seem to be pleased with the new location and new menu. The Go-Getters had the best year for growth in our history with 22 new members. The GAA Board of Directors met in Augusta in February and met with many of the local members after the board meeting. The Trade Show was chaired by Nancy Taylor, Lisa King and Pat Birone. It was a great hit with the plans already underway for the next year. All attendees enjoyed the "Country & Western" atmosphere. We returned to having "Santa's Kids" auction in November chaired by Fran Hall featuring Ora Davis as auctioneer. All of the money which we raised went to benefit the Child Advocacy Center and The MCG Children's Medical Center. All who attended had a great time and we were happy to give the funds to the tow beneficiaries. The year ended with a Christmas Party at the Savannah Rapid Pavilion.

1998 began with the re-election of Toni Liberti and started with lots of promise. In February Toni resigned as President but serves as Past President. Sharon Christian assumed the Presidency as called for in the By-Laws and the year is off to a good start with meetings continuing at the Sheraton-Augusta. the cookout was held in June and that same month we welcomed our new President, Judy Hernandez, since Sharon resigned due to her move to North Carolina with her family. The Trade Show was held in September at the Sheraton and all enjoyed see the "Stars" at the "Hooray for Hollywood" theme show. Nancy Naylor was the Chairman. The "Santa's Kids" Auction was a great success and was chaired by Tania Davis. We sponsored the Child Advocacy Center with all proceeds from the Auction. The Christmas Drop In was held at Champion Pines and was a great success due to the food, ambiance and attendance. We appreciate the hard work of Tania Davis and Judy Hernandez.

1999, our sixteenth year, began with the election of Judy Hernandez as President. We began holding our meeting in different locations this year to encourage attendance at our functions. The year began with two great programs-Richmond County Deputy Newton speaking to us on our safety and Augusta Mayor, Bob Young, telling us about some of Augusta's future plans. These were followed by the "Spring Fling" at Jones Creek. Plans for the Cookout, a LUAU, and the Trade Show are continuing.