



THE GEORGIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

*139<sup>th</sup>* **ANNUAL  
CONVENTION**



**June 11-13, 2026**

**JEKYLL ISLAND CLUB**

# THE GEORGIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

## 2026 CONVENTION

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

6 p.m. **Board Reception** (*Rooftop, Jekyll Ocean Club Hotel*)

7 p.m. **Board Dinner** (*Astor Room, Jekyll Ocean Club Hotel*)

### THURSDAY, JUNE 11

9 a.m. **Capitol Beat Golf Fundraiser** (*Great Dunes Golf Course, 100 Great Dunes Ln, Jekyll Island*)  
Chick-fil-A biscuits to be served

4–6 p.m. **GPA/GNS Board Meeting** (*Federal Reserve Room, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)

4–6 p.m. **Registration** (*Aspinwall Room, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)

6:30 p.m. **Beer Garden Social** (*Founders Social, 9 Pier Rd, Jekyll Island*)  
Enjoy a beer and visit with GPA Convention attendees.  
Attendees will cover cocktails individually.

8 p.m. **Dinner on your own**  
See local dining options at the back of this program.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 12


8–9 a.m. **Registration** (*Club Ballroom Parlor, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)

9 a.m. **Legal Update** (*Club Ballroom, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)  
Brooks Hudson and David Hudson, Hull Barrett Law  
Ward Evans, First Amendment Clinic, UGA School of Law

10 a.m. **Getting People to Pick Up Your Paper / Increasing Revenue by Improving Your Ads with Kevin Slimp** (*Club Ballroom, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)

Noon **Opening Luncheon: Georgia at the Crossroads: 2026 Political Landscape from a Republican and Democrat perspective** (*Morgan Center, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)  
Two of the best from Fox 5's "The Georgia Gang," Phil Kent and Tharon Johnson, provide an overview of Georgia politics with a Q&A session.  
Presentation of Golden Club Members  
Presentation of Center for Integrity in News Reporting - Georgia Award

2 p.m. **Practical Strategies for Local News Publishers: Content, Audience and Subscriptions** (*Club Ballroom, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)  
Phil Schroder, Vice President of Digital Assets, Times Journal Inc.  
Produce more local content, grow audience and engagement and convert readers into subscribers.

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- 3:15–4 p.m. **Optional Feedback Session with Phil Schroder** (*Club Ballroom, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)
- 4–5:30 p.m. **Bonus Session: Let Kevin Slimp Critique Your Paper** (*Club Ballroom, Jekyll Island Club Hotel*)  
Bring a copy of your newspaper to the convention. Kevin will offer brief, individualized feedback sessions for attendees.
- 6 p.m. **Past Presidents Reception** (*Morgan Center Mezzanine, Jekyll Island Club Resort*)  
Invitation only
- 7 p.m. **Better Newspaper Contest & Ad Awards Reception** (*Morgan Center, Jekyll Island Club Resort*)
- 7:30 p.m. **Better Newspaper Contest and Ad Awards Banquet** (*Morgan Center, Jekyll Island Club Resort*)

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 13**

- 9 a.m. **GPA Annual Meeting** (*Federal Reserve Room, Jekyll Island Club Resort*)  
Come to the meeting to hear updates and recognize the new officers and board appointments.

**LOCAL  
MATTERS**

We'll *be there* so you  
can be there, too.