



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 27, 2009

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**CREEKSIDE CONFERENCE & EVENT CENTER WELCOMES
MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS AND TRADE SHOWS**

GAHANNA, Ohio--The City of Gahanna rates high as one of the best places to live in the United States, according to *Forbes* magazine's top 100 list, and now with the addition of the Creekside Conference & Event Center (CCEC), overlooking Creekside Park along the banks of scenic Big Walnut creek, it is also one of the best places to meet.

Situated in Gahanna with its Midwest small-town atmosphere and strategic location, CCEC is only five minutes from Port Columbus International Airport, 10 minutes from Easton Town Center, one of the premier retail shopping destinations in the region, and 15 minutes from the center of downtown Columbus, via the I-670 connector freeway.

The Ohio Society of Association Executives held their Monthly Luncheon and Annual Meeting at the new conference center, and following that gathering, James Hartley, CAE, executive director, OSAE, said: "The Creekside Conference & Event Center is a great addition to Gahanna and the meeting space options in Central Ohio. It works especially well with the corporate and association markets, providing a welcome change from the usual hospitality venues.

"With underground parking, you don't have to worry about the weather, and it provides added value with inexpensive parking that connects to the meeting space and makes everything self contained. Our meeting went off without a hitch. The views overlooking Creekside Park were another bonus—extraordinarily beautiful. We were there in the fall, but I imagine that it's beautiful in every season."

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Offering meeting space in a unique setting with oversized windows and beautiful views, the conference center features 9,000 square feet for events, meetings and trade shows, and, on an intimate scale, seating areas that create the ambiance of a comfortable home. In the versatile, multi-use reception area, a display of glass art catches and reflects the windows' light as a backdrop for chairs and sofas upholstered in warm earth tones arranged around a marble fireplace. A variety of lounge areas enhance the feeling of relaxed elegance.

CCEC is in the heart of historic Olde Gahanna and opens onto a plaza with a lagoon at its center that is surrounded by public art, fountains, retail shops and restaurants. This dramatic landscape architecture overlooks the waterway, Big Walnut Creek, with its boardwalk, marina, paddleboats and walking trails that wind through five acres of parkland.

Catering Services:

Chef David Dovell, director of catering, says, "I work one-on-one with our guests. Not everybody wants their hand held. Some come in to talk knowing exactly what they want. Others ask for my suggestions, and sometimes ask me to create a dish or appetizer that is not on the menu, especially for them. I love working that way and assisting with wine pairings for the menu items our guests select. I call it "touching the table," or in other words, understanding each client and what they want, then delivering it."

Chef David believes in putting his personal touch to work, referring to his culinary creations as "fresh, chef-created food." His "appetite for cooking" goes back to the days when he worked side-by-side with his grandmother, preparing family meals. Professionally his years of experience include apprenticing at Rigsby's under Chefs Kent Rigsby and Bruce Mohr, and, on the West coast, advancing his culinary skills in San Francisco under Chefs Mark Franz and Louise Branch at Stars Restaurant. Returning to Columbus, he worked under Chef Don Hauck at the Refectory and Chef Hubert Siefert at Spagio. He left Spagio for Cameron's and opened the Cameron's of Bexley in 1994 and quickly moved to the position of Executive Chef. In January 2002 Chef David started his own catering business.

Total meeting exhibit space: 9,000 square feet

Plaza Ballroom: 6,000 square feet

Number of meeting areas: Two executive board rooms and the Plaza Ballroom which can be divided into four separate salons.

Largest seating: Classroom—252; Theater—330; 8-round—360; 10-round—450; Conference—192

Standard audio visual capabilities and wireless internet are available.

Accommodations:

Candlewood Suites

590 Taylor Road
(614) 863-4033
www.candlewoodsuites.com

Holiday Inn Express

460 Waterbury Court
(614) 428-8678 or 800-HOLIDAY
www.hiexpress.com

The Lily Stone Bed & Breakfast

106 S. High Street
(614) 476-1976
www.gahannahistory.com

SpringHill Suites

665 Taylor Road
(614) 501-4770 or (888) 287-9400
www.marriott.com

TownePlace Suites

695 Taylor Road
(614) 861-1400 or (800) 257-3000
www.marriott.com

For more information and assistance with scheduling a meeting, convention or trade show, please contact:

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