



September 2008

SEPTEMBER 9, 2008 MEETING

AQAA Meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of the month, or as published. The meeting format is as follows:

- 6:30 – 7:00 Networking & Refreshments**
- 7:00 – 7:15 Welcome and Job Announcements**
- 7:15 – 8:15 Presentation. The last 15 minutes is for Q&A.**
- 8:15 – 8:30 Networking**
- 8:30 – 9:00 Board Meeting**

TOPIC: MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

The September AQAA meeting will take place at MDI in Norcross. The address is 35 Technology Parkway South, Suite 150, Norcross, GA 30092.

The Board is always looking for ways to enhance the AQAA experience for our members and guests. For September, we're bringing back the very popular Members Helping Members workgroup sessions. We'll form small workgroups facilitated by experienced volunteers willing to help members with specific challenges and issues facing them in their daily quality assurance and testing activities. Don't miss this unique opportunity to share your own experience on topics that interest you or to be mentored by seasoned veterans in a one-on-one or small group setting.

Here are some examples of topics or questions which may be covered:

- How do I go about getting formal or informal education on practices and techniques in the software QA and testing field?
- I'm just starting a new job at a company with no process and no tools for QA or testing. What should I focus on first and how do I get buy-in from employees and managers?
- Where do I find good templates and samples of QA and testing artifacts?
- Name the top 3-5 tools in your work that you can't live without? Why?
- What's the best way to estimate the testing effort on a project?
- Is getting certified really worth the time and money? What has it done for you, really?
- As a QA manager in a growing company, what methodology do I use to decide what new personnel to bring in and when?
- What criteria do you use for hiring the best QA and testing professionals?

If you have a different topic that interests you, let us know. Send your questions to info@aqaa.org or vicepresident@aqaa.org. If you're on our mailing list, check your e-mail for a special announcement about this month's meeting and reply with specific topics where you need assistance. If you'd like to volunteer to facilitate a workgroup for a topic that interests you or if you have a case study to share, write us at info@aqaa.org or vicepresident@aqaa.org.



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AQAA WEB SITE

We will be re-designing our website soon. Please contact the webmaster (Tobias Holden webmaster@aqaa.org) to submit your design ideas.

AQAA LAPEL PINS

Be sure to ask for your AQAA lapel pin when you are checking in for the meetings.

INTERNATIONAL TESTING CERTIFICATION WEEK IN ATLANTA, OCTOBER 6-10, 2008

The International Institute for Software Testing (IIST) aligns with non-profit groups around the world to promote educational events and disciplined practices for software test and quality professionals. IIST is extending a special invitation to members of the AQAA to attend the Atlanta ITCW. Members of the AQAA will receive a 25% discount to the Atlanta ITCW by using promotional code QAAAGA on their registration. This discount ranges from \$175 to \$675 per person for this IIST event! (Not to be combined with any other discount).

The Atlanta International Testing Certification Week (ITCW) is scheduled October 6-10, 2008, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel Atlanta Airport. AQAA members can visit <http://www.iist.org/stpw/atlanta08/index.php> to learn more about the class schedules, outlines, instructors, and early registration discounts.

PURPOSE/MISSION OF AQAA

The purpose of AQAA is to provide local interaction among organization members in the Atlanta area, to mutually support each other, and to supplement the exchange of information about Quality Assurance, Software Testing, and Total Quality Management. We host ten meetings per year. The meetings vary in format and usually include presentations by industry professionals.

POSITION OPPORTUNITIES

AQAA recognizes a need for employment in the Atlanta area and receives notifications of job opportunities in the Atlanta market place. If you are a member who is seeking employment, contact the AQAA Director of Public Relations for specific opportunities at publicrelations@aqaa.org.



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL CSQAs AND CSTE

The Common Body of Knowledge (CBOK) for CSQA and CSTE was updated in 2006. Some domain areas have been changed and others have been dropped. CPE recertification points received after January 1, 2006 must align with these new domain areas. An outline that includes information on the new domain areas is available on the Software Certification



Website, <http://www.softwarecertifications.org/>. Review this outline as you make your future training plans to ensure that your CPE credits can be applied to your recertification.

AQAA ANNUAL CORPORATE SPONSORS

We have three corporate sponsors this year. For details on becoming an annual or monthly corporate sponsor please see <http://www.aqaa.org/sponsors.html>.



<http://www.theintersectgroup.com/>

The Intersect Group



<http://www.mdigroup.com/>



<http://www.libertymanagementsystems.com/>

Liberty Management Systems

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next meeting will be held on October 14, 2008. If you have recommendations for speakers, please contact vicepresident@aqaa.org.



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2008 AQAA OFFICERS

The officers for 2008 are as follows. You can meet with the officers after each monthly meeting starting at about 8:30 pm.

Office	Name	Email
President	Diane Walker, CSQA, CSTE, CSQE	president@aqaa.org
Vice President	L'Tanya Mathis, CSQA, CSTE	vicepresident@aqaa.org
Secretary	Pat Janas, CSTE	secretary@aqaa.org
Treasurer	Anson DeWolf	treasurer@aqaa.org
Communications	Nel Nash-Hooks, CSTE	communications@aqaa.org
Education	Tobias Holden, CSQA	education@aqaa.org
Membership	Ken Rogers	memberships@aqaa.org
Public Relations	Karyn Volk	publicrelations@aqaa.org
Special Events	Steve Burnett, CSQA	specialevents@aqaa.org
Webmaster	Tobias Holden CSQA	webmaster@aqaa.org

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Is your membership information current? You can help us do a better job of keeping in touch with you by making sure the information we have is correct. Please let us know anytime something changes, like your place of employment, e-mail address, or phone number. AQAA memberships are currently available for both individuals and corporations with varying numbers of seats. The membership term runs from the date the application is accepted through the same date the following year. See below for individual membership or corporate membership forms. AQAA participation earns CPE credits toward CSQA and CSTE designation.

AQAA accepts credit cards via PayPal on the website. You can pay for new memberships or renew online, then either mail the application or bring it to the next meeting (we do request a completed membership application for renewals). We still accept checks at the meeting and in the mail so you also have that option. Please see <http://www.aqaa.org/memberships.html>. If you have any questions about Membership please contact memberships@aqaa.org.

Type	Description	Price
Individual	Memberships purchased at the same time from a single corporation or person. These are individual memberships purchased for one individual and stay with the individual for the membership term.	\$60 each
Corporate	A corporation may purchase "seats" which allows them to send a finite number of people to an AQAA meeting, although different people may attend from month to month.	\$60 each
Student	This membership is available to any full time student.	\$25 each



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WEBSITES – EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION

The following table lists some websites of interest for education, training, and software testing information:

Name	URL
AQAA – Atlanta Quality Assurance Association	http://www.aqaa.org
ASQ – American Society for Quality	http://www.asq.org
ASQ Atlanta Section	http://www.ASQatlanta.org
ASQ Customer Supplier Division	http://www.asqcsd.org
ASQ Recertification	http://www.asq.org/certification/recertification/
Baldrige Award at NIST	http://www.quality.nist.gov
Georgia Oglethorpe Award	http://www.georgiaoglethorpe.org
IEEE Atlanta Section	http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/atlanta
IIE – Institute of Industrial Engineers	http://www.iienet.org
IIST – International Institute for Software Testing	http://www.iist.org/
ISO – International Organization for Standardization	http://www.iso.ch
Liberty Management Systems (Corporate Sponsor)	http://www.libertymanagementsystems.com/
MDI – Management Decisions, Inc. (Corporate Sponsor)	www.mdigroup.com
MSQA – Master of Science Quality Assurance	http://www.msqa.edu
NIST – National Institute of Standards and Technology	http://www.nist.gov/
QAI – Quality Assurance Institute	http://www.qaiworldwide.org/qai.html
Quality Leadership Awards	www.qualityleadershipawards.com
RAB – Registrar Accreditation Board	http://www.rabnet.com
SPSU Center for Quality Excellence	http://www.ecfdesigns.com/cqe/index.htm
The Intersect Group (Corporate Sponsor)	http://www.theintersectgroup.com/

WHY BELONG TO AQAA?



If you have a stake in Software Quality as an IT Manager, Software Tester, Software Quality Professional, or Software Developer, we invite you to take a look at what AQAA has to offer. The Atlanta Quality Assurance Association (AQAA) was founded in 1984 with the belief that no one company or individual can learn everything that is needed to assure a Quality Environment. AQAA is a not-for-profit organization, which is organized to share state-of-the-art

Quality Assurance methods, tools, and techniques among its members. Our membership is comprised of professionals working primarily in the information technology industry. For more information, go to <http://www.qaiworldwide.org/qai.html>.



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2008 SQE CONFERENCES

Software Quality Engineering introduces two of the best must-attend conferences of 2008.

STARWEST 2008 Software Testing Analysis & Review

<http://www.sqe.com/StarWest/>

Sept 29-Oct 3, 2008

Anaheim, CA

Conference Description:

Providing the largest and most advanced testing forum, STAR delivers the latest trends, technologies, and strategies in the industry today. Learn about new products, timely issues, and cutting-edge solutions from the best experts in the business. Now in its sixteenth year, STAR gives you the opportunity to network with colleagues, solution providers, and industry experts. Find answers to your questions about test management, automation, SOA testing, model-based testing, and many of the other hot-topics in the industry.

*The Disneyland Hotel
1150 Magic Way
Anaheim, CA 92802*

**ICSPI
Washington, DC**

October 20-24, 2008

The International Institute for Software Testing (IIST) aligns with non-profit groups around the world to promote educational events and disciplined practices for software test and quality professionals. Details for the ICSPI conference are listed at www.icspi.com. Members of the AQAA will receive 25% discount on all conference sessions as long as they use promotional code "QAAAGA" on their registration. See AQAA website for additional information.

Agile Development Practices 2008
<http://www.sqe.com/agiledevpractices/>

**Nov 10-13, 2008
Orlando, FL**

Conference Description:

The Agile Development Practices conference is for anyone investigating or implementing agile development practices, processes, technologies, and leadership principles.

**Rosen Shingle Creek Resort
9939 Universal Boulevard
Orlando, FL 32819**