



Welcome to Birmingham, and SESUG '09!

The crispness is in the air, the leaves have begun to change and drift from the trees—and thousands of people head out to stadiums all over the nation to enjoy a football game! Well, if you'd like to enjoy scenic beauty, and the best of the gridiron, AND key up your SAS skills—SESUG has worked very hard this year to give you the best of it all! So, if we can tear you away from the TV, the leaf rake (it's greener to mulch them anyway ☺), and the office for a day or two—come join us in the Magic City of Birmingham, Alabama for SESUG 2009!



The Birmingham AL Sheraton. Picture courtesy of www.starwoodhotels.com

Birmingham truly is a jewel in our deep-South crown. The city is one of immense richness of culture, yet filled with people of down-home charm and Southern hospitality. We've invited programmers, analysts, and SAS scholars from all over the country to share in our two-day event at the beautiful Birmingham



A view of the Birmingham Botanical Garden in Fall. Courtesy of Birmingham Botanical Gardens, www.bbgardens.org

Sheraton—and those visitors will, in turn, share a wealth of knowledge about our own little data-processing passion, SAS! In between sessions, workshops, papers, Posters, and networking and hobnobbing with your fellow SAS wizards, we hope you'll take a little time to enjoy Vulcan's city in the south. Oh yes, there is that football thing—the

University of Alabama will be playing at home against Tennessee that Saturday, so you might want to get in a day early. And if you're not up for braving the collegiate coliseum, you're in luck—across the street from the Sheraton Birmingham is the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, a museum for sports fans of all ages!

Good friends, great ideas, and a beautiful venue—we hope you'll come join us at SESUG '09!



Andy's Book Reviews

You know, there are people who work *in* SAS, and people that work *with* SAS—and then there's our own Andy Kuligowski. He works in SAS during the day—he travels all over the country giving papers at conferences and user group meetings—and when he finally takes a break, what does he read? Why, another wonderful book from SAS Press, of course? (Probably had a tall glass of SASsafrass tea on the side!)

This time, Andy reviews Combining and Modifying SAS Data Sets: Examples, 2nd Edition, by Michele Burlew. Is the 2nd time the charm for this book? You'll just have to click on http://www.sesug.org/SESUGOrganization/newsletters/fall2009/SESUG200909_Kuligowski-book-review.pdf to find out!



In this Issue...

- 📖 Kirk Paul Lafler's back—with two essays on how to make your SAS programs juuuuust a little bit better!
- 📖 A sneak preview of SESUG 2010!
- 📖 An open invitation for you to get a FREE speaker for your local user group meeting!
- 📖 A word FOR our sponsors
- 📖 And a listing of local user groups for you to check out!

Kirk Paul Lafler: More Tips Than You Can Shake a (Broom)Stick At!



For the last few issues, Kirk Paul Lafler has been holding court on Simple and Effective Macro Coding (along with a slew of other good tips on better coding in general). Order in the Court—Kirk has provided the Informant audience with Part 4 in the series!

http://www.sesug.org/SESUGOrganization/newsletters/fall2009/SESUG200909_Kirks_Korner_Macro4.pdf.

Then, he also treats us to early Tricks — and Treats! — as he starts his new series on Base-SAS® Programming Techniques! Charlie Brown may have just gotten a rock—but Kirk's new series rocks!

http://www.sesug.org/SESUGOrganization/newsletters/fall2009/SESUG200909_Kirks_Korner_BaseSAS1.pdf.



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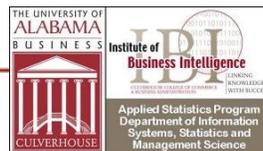
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THE POWER TO KNOW.

SESUG Comes to **You**—with Speaker Sharing!

Plan to add a SESUG Speaker to your next Local Users Group (LUG) meeting!

Would you like to bring in a seasoned speaker to augment your next meeting? SESUG is pleased to offer you a wide selection of presentations to enhance an upcoming Users Group meeting. We have a rich offering of speakers and topics to choose from, and together with SAS, we provide the speaker sharing offering once a year **at no cost** to *your* users group. Our goal is to help you provide an educational opportunity to the users in your group.

The details and offerings are available at <http://www.sesug.org/SESUGOrganization/SpeakerSharingProgram.htm>

Book now for 2010. Try to plan a few months out to get your choice of presentations on your selected dates.

Don't have a LUG? We can also help to point you in the right direction to start your own! It's easy to do and there are numerous other benefits. Send your questions to LUG@sesug.org.

If you're at SESUG 2009 in Birmingham, just look for us and we'll be glad to answer any questions you may have. See you there!



Marje Fecht, SESUG Speaker-Sharing Program Chair

Stephanie Thompson, SESUG Local Users Group Relations Committee Chair





**The City of Savannah
welcomes you
and your family
to the 2010 SESUG
conference hosted by the
Hyatt on scenic River St!**



**Enhance your SAS® skills, network with other
professionals and meet SAS experts during another
quality conference.
The 2010 conference is slated to bring educational
opportunities for all levels of SAS users.**



**Experience a free ferry ride
along the Savannah River,
enjoy tours through old
mansions, movie sites, and
sample the many culinary
pleasures.**



Stephanie Thompson Academic Chair	Denise Kruse Operations Chair
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***Be sure to arrive a few days early or stay a few days after the
conference to discover the serenity of Savannah.***

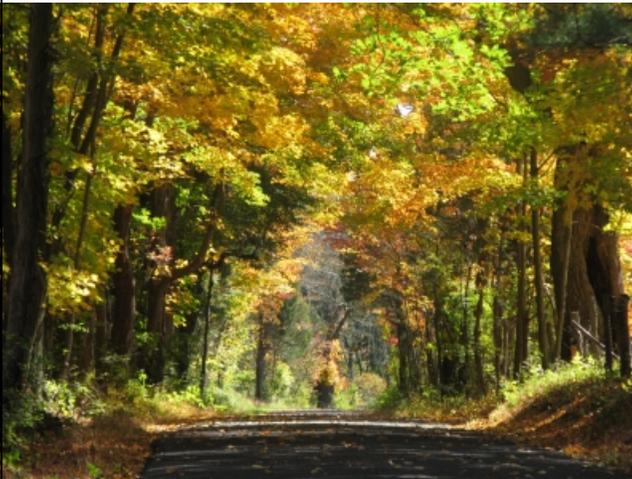
We look forward to seeing you there!

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Have a Wonderful Autumn...



... and a beautiful and safe Winter...



*... from all of us at **SESUG!***

SAS Community Bulletin Board:

Upcoming Local, Regional, and International SAS Events!

Who loves SAS?

We do!



Join the Greater Atlanta SAS Users Group (GASUG) to continue your SAS education and network with other local SAS professionals. We meet 3 times per year in downtown Atlanta; next scheduled meeting, Check out our website for details: www.gasug.org

SAS Programmers in the Carolinas? Come join us at a South Carolina SAS Users Group meeting. For more info, go to www.sc-sug.org.

Washington DC SAS Users Group. Upcoming 2009 Meeting Dates: December 8, 2009. Come visit us at www.dc-sug.org for programs and information.

Are you a SAS user in the Birmingham area? Did you know there was a local user group? Check them out at <http://www.epi.soph.uab.edu/bugs/index.html>.

Virginia SAS User Group meets in Richmond VA.

www.vasug.org



Did you know there were **JMP** user groups popping up all over America—and there's one right nearby in Atlanta? Come see if there's one near you?

http://www.jmp.com/about/events/usergroups/current_groups.shtml