

Sample Testimonials from 1980 to the Present

They are categorized by type of client.

Chambers of Commerce

"Your seminars are always interesting and I never fail to learn from them."

Donna Boggs
President & CEO
Thomson-McDuffie Chamber of Commerce

"Thanks a million! For sharing your thoughts and ideas with our group. You provided that spark and then some."

Gail B. Alsobrook
Executive Director
Auburn Chamber of Commerce
Auburn, Alabama

"As always your session was one of the highlights of the Georgia Institute. The exercises were informative and personally enlightening."

Jack Hodson
Executive Vice President
Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce
Sugar Land, Texas

"I got bunches of compliments for having you on the program. I sincerely believe your excellent assistance will have a profound effect on the quality of Jackson County's future leaders."

Claude Fullerton, Jr.
Executive Director
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce

"The program critiques reflected the curriculum was highly rated and we appreciate your contribution."

Julie H. Schmidt
Senior Vice President
Business Council of Georgia

"For a time you lectured us and taught us, but probably, and most importantly, you provided the motivation for us to reflect upon ourselves."

William W. Hubbard
Sr. Vice President, Development
Atlanta Chamber of Commerce

"Your commitment of time and energy helped our participants meet their goals of achieving quality education in the management of voluntary organizations. ...we could not put on this program without the support, help and commitment that you bring to it. Thanks a million!"

Suzanne J. Lulewicz
Faculty and Curriculum Manager
Institutes for Organization Management
National Chamber Foundation

Thank you for inspiring and challenging us at the Port Armor retreat. It was certainly a great start for our program this year. I am sure everyone took something away that will help them as leaders."

Sue R. Coombs
Program Chairperson, Leadership Henry
Henry County Chamber of Commerce

"Your presentation on left/right brain dominance at the GCCEA's management conference was indeed a highlight of our meeting."

Allen D. Stephenson
past Executive Vice President
Athens Area Chamber of Commerce

"You are so very human and personable in your presentations. Our folks...are still discussing the upbeat feeling they left with Saturday noon."

Kathy S. Cowart
Program Co-Chair
Leadership Pickens
Pickens County Chamber of Commerce

"What a pleasure to work with you. You are certainly a pleasure and delight to know. The group was most impressed with you and all the things you taught... Thank you for all your wonderful help and ideas."

Suzan B. Spivey
Executive Vice President
Chattooga Chamber of Commerce

"In addition to being interesting, we feel that it will be very beneficial to us in our organizations. You kept everyone's attention."

Joe F. Ragland
Past President
Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Executives Association
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Credit Unions & CU Leagues

"Excellent"

"Exemplary presentations"

"Fun, but made us think"

"Very good at mixing up the crowd and making one participate without embarrassing anyone"

"Wonderful presentation"

"Made learning fun"

"Excellent - very thought provoking"

From the above comments it is evident that the participants found your performance at our annual meeting outstanding.

Carol Heffernan

HRD Consultant

North Carolina Credit Union Network

"If you listen closely . . . you can still hear the applause. Great job, what a delight to have you be a part of our 56th Annual Meeting and State Convention. It was a joy to have you be our guest. Great ratings . . . 4.7 and 4.8."

Tom McWilliams, AVP

Human Resource Development

Mississippi Credit Union System

"We would like to commend you for the excellent manner in which you conducted the 'Supervisory Skills' program. We are confident that the future of AGE Federal Credit Union will be much more profitable as a result of your program."

Jeff Holcomb - Vice President

Sandy Dollar - Training Coordinator

AGE Federal Credit Union

Supervisory Program Attendee Comments:

"The most valuable supervisory training I've had!"

"Enjoyed it very much, I learned a lot about communicating with fellow employees and even family."

"I enjoyed this training and will use the materials that I have learned on my daily job."

"Super seminar ! Dynamic speaker! I am very excited about applying this to my work and home life every day. Thanks!"

Participants in a CU Supervisory session in-house:

". . . his session was excellent."

"Both his approach and materials were refreshingly imaginative. First he made the students aware of the possibility for creative problem solutions and then gave them a framework for approaching problems in a creative way. He had a nice mixture of formal presentation and class discussion."

Hugh Watson, Ph. D.
Professor of Management
Academic Coordinator for the
Southeastern Regional Credit Union School

"Thanks so much for facilitating our recent Director's educational session on "paradigms." The feedback has been positive relative both to session content and to your personal contribution toward our success in addressing and becoming more sensitive to the importance of paradigms in our everyday lives."

C. O. Padgett
Chairman
AT&T Family Federal Credit Union

Credit Union Conference Attendee Feedback:

"Kept your interest!"
"GREAT presentation, lots of examples."
"Broke the ice - made me feel very comfortable in a room full of strangers."
"Enjoyed whole session - very interesting!!"
"He thought 'Outside the Box.'"
"Exceeded my expectations."
"Excellent speaker! Very interesting! and FUN!"
"Always enjoy Alan's presentations."
"Great session - really got the group involved!"
"I liked the diversity of ideas introduced and the means to achieve a valuable end."
"I think you are extremely dynamic and motivating!"
"He is funny, fast and informative."

International Clients

Beginning in 1950 I have traveled in 49 states and 77 countries on or near 6 continents. Since becoming a full-time professional speaker and consultant in 1984 I have spoken professionally in 40+ of them and 40 US states.

Canada, Mexico, Trinidad, New Zealand, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, India, Turkey, Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, England, Scotland, France, Italy, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Mauritius, South Africa, Russia, Hungary, Slovakia, USA

Here are a sample of recent feedback.

NETHERLANDS

"Thank you for your excellent presentation at Regio Baak in Noordwijk this past weekend. I gained a great deal that will help me with my employees."

Martin van Kesteren

PINK ELEPHANT

Voorburg, Netherlands

TURKEY

(accent marks not completely correct)

Yuzyil Isil (private school in Istanbul)

Alan Black'in okulumuzu ziyareti

Yaklasik 30 yildir yaraticilik alaninda egitmenler veren ve alaninin uzmanlarindan syilan E. P. Torrace'dan doktora derecesini alan Alan Black, 27 Mayıs gunu okulumuza geldi.

Iste Insan, 30 Nisan 2000 Pazar... newspaper article about conference I presented at for the 2nd time in two years

Yaraticilik Zirvesi'nde

Yaraticilign zirvesine

Eventus'un, Iste Insan sponsorlugunda duzenledigi "Yaraticilik Zirvesi"nde konusan Alan Black, "yaratici insan" in tanimin verdi. Zirve, tum katilimcilarin zihnini harekete gecirdi

Turkey's 1st Interactive Creativity Conference

with the theme "Power of Creativity in Business"...

"Specifically your keynote performance "Break Your Crayons and Draw Outside the Lines" together with the "In the Box Out of the Box Thinking" received an applauding audience of 340 people. Including your parallel session "Don't Just Sit There, Be Creative", your overall rating was excellent evaluated by 300+ participants.

Halim Ergunalp

Director & Founder of Turkish Creativity Conferences in Istanbul 1999 and 2000

SOUTH AFRICA

(I have been involved in the ACRE - African Creativity Conference yearly since 1998) and 4 Creativity in Education Conferences (Zulu Natal- Alpine Heath, Western Cape-Guidini Spa, Klein Kariba in Limpopo Province)...

Rekord, Pretoria, South Africa newspaper

"n Ontploffing van kennis en idees by

"One could not really recognize those speakers from outside of S.A. with exception of Alan Black from America, he had a different hat on every other hour. His CV is not dull either. Alan is an architect, graphic artist, interior designer, professor, cartoonist, public speaker and (creativity) consultant."

"My first impressions of Alan Black were shaped when I met him at the Creative Problem Solving Institute in Buffalo in 1991. He demonstrated fun, creativity and a zest for life — not by talking about these qualities, but by living them."

"He has presented well at several of our conferences combining humor and creativity in a very special way. The feedback regarding his contributions were extremely positive which showed that his message is for all people and all cultures."

Dr. Kobus Neethling

President: South African Creativity Foundation

Founder & Director of the Annual African Creativity Conference.

AUSTRALIA

Brisbane

"Well your certainly showed our Queensland Chapter of the National Speakers Association of Australia a different presentation on Monday!

When I first walked into the room after you had laid out your props, I realised we were in for an interesting night.

Alan — we are all very happy that you were able to adjust your world trip to share your wisdom with us in Queensland

Ian Duguid, ASM

President – Queensland Chapter

National Speakers Association of Australia

Hobart, Tasmania

"Coordinating and Collaborating Your Creative Resources was exactly the subject the perfect subject for the 25 people in attendance. Most of the men and women were visual artists, photographers, poets, writers, crafters, film-makers, as well as government policy makers.

From the discussions I've had with many of them, I find that the creative tools you offered have loosened up some long-held ways of thinking; generated creative ideas; and provided new approaches to problem-solving. A great result."

Kitty Madeson
The Coming of Age
Sandy Bay, Tasmania
Tasmania, Australia

NEW ZEALAND

"...I still keep thinking about the presentation you gave to our National Speakers Association branch.

It was fascinating to learn about the different ways people act and react, and how you can place people with different styles into groups where each different style compliments the others.

I also thought your way of breaking through our hangups about being "artistic" was a great way of releasing creativity in each of us.

A marvelous presentation!!!!"

Charles Drace, CFP
Certified Financial Planner
Member, New Zealand National Speakers Association

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

"Attending your CREATIVITY WORKSHOP was a great mind-opening experience for me even though I am a creativity trainer myself. Your creative and effective use of props coupled with your dynamic presentation kept us enthralled and spellbound. The interaction between you and the participants, myself included was tremendous. You really charged up our creative energies. All of us looked forward to your next workshop session."

Yew Kam Keong (YKK), Ph.D.
Chief Mind Unzipper
Mindbloom Inc.
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

SINGAPORE

"He kept the group going with games, involvement and high enthusiastic energy. We were treated to understand different personality types and how they will react and their likely mode of behavior. It is astonishing to experience that

advertising conditions us to think and believe in a predictable way and most of us are not half aware of it.

The people who came were from various professions and they include Change Managers, Academics, Entrepreneurs, Lecturers, HR Managers and Trainers. Many of my friends whom I invited have kept in touch with him because of his ability to connect with us.

Thank you Alan for a fine job in our city."

Sng Tong Hai

Group Sales Manager

Great Eastern Life

Singapore

DENMARK

In the Danish Initiative for Creativity and Innovation our members have a high interest for creativity and hence a strong wish to learn and to be engaged. I must say your workshop "S.P.R.E.A.D.ng Creative Thinking Throughout Your Workplace" fully lived up to these expectations. Being the chairman since the establishment of our association, February 2000, I cannot remember having received so many positive comments to a single event, both during and after the workshop. This is even more impressing because your seminar attracted people of diverse backgrounds — comprising the educational sector, over large corportions to some of our most estimated national strategic think tanks.

Arne Stjernholm Madsen

President

Initiativ for Kreativitet & Innovation

Copenhagen, Denmark

Dear Alan,

I would like to give you an update since you were here!

The program in August (appetizer with ambulance entrance) was excellent as a spark:

Creativity is for us all

You inspired us to use a few simple tools (how would a person A solve the problem...) and to see that creativity is in us all. The arrangement (Friday morning) was judged by the audience to be one of the best in 2001 ! ... and the group Krea112 was judged to be the most visible group of all groups !

In the end of the month a new business group was founded. Arne Strernholm was employed for the promotion of innovation for that business unit. He is a very active member of our Krea112 team !

I could tell you about quite a few achievements for the Krea112 group, but limit to one:

One of the KREA112 groups latest activities has been a Christmas-Idea-Calender. Five boxes with wine and chocolate were placed in well visited spots

in the company (kitchens ect.) together with a mail box for proposals / ideas concerning two categories:

- Proposals for a scheduled Innovation Day
- Proposals for improvement of the innovative climate/environment at PDS.

In three weeks we have had 140 proposals / ideas !

The the group selected one winner for each group and gave a presentation to PDS Management.

As a result we have been involved in the planning of an innovation day !

Kind Regards

Jan Frank Nielsen

Novo

Since 1979 I have spoken for many various professional associations and organizations. Here is some feedback from a cross-sampling

Professional Assns

"On behalf of the Atlanta Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, I want to thank you for your excellent presentation.

You obviously have command of the subject matter and the material was well presented.

I cannot recall a more interesting and entertaining meeting."

Henry Teague, AIA

President

"Your session for the GMA Environmental Conference surpassed your previous programs. You had all of us laughing and involved for the whole hour. Your session...

"If We Ain't Having Fun, Why We Doin' It?"

was the perfect balance to the very serious and intensive work sessions of the conference and added to the richness of our total program."

Lee R. Lemke

Executive Vice President

Georgia Mining Association

"Thanks for speaking on 'creativity' recently at the Alabama Speakers Association meeting. Your program was on target and met our expectations. I heard comments from several of our most experience CSP speakers that 'Alan did a great job' and 'thanks for getting Alan Black to speak to our NSA Chapter.'

Personally, I thought your program was right up there with the best we have had in several years. Thanks for customizing your program to our group. Your handout was great!"

Christopher S. Frings, Ph.D., CSP
President, Alabama Speakers Association
2000-2001

"Your program on creativity was a great example of how to think and work creatively. Your step by step process, using great examples of how to create 'outside the box', was extremely well done.

Any group of speakers will be better at creating new material after hearing your program."

Robert H. Henry
Past National President
National Speakers Association

"Just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate your participation in our CWA Leadership Schools in October and November of this year. Once again, the participants in the training classes gave you high marks on the evaluation forms.

Their comments...stated that you created a relaxed atmosphere which made them feel comfortable and allowed them to participate more during the classes."

Noah V. Savant
Assistant to the President
Communications Workers of America
District 3
AFL-CIO

"On behalf of the student ASPA Chapter, I want to tell you how much all of us enjoyed your presentation last week! Your discussion of different personality types was fascinating and kept us talking during our personnel classes for the rest of the week."

Michelle McDonald
ASPA Secretary
American Society for Personnel Administration

"I thoroughly enjoyed your session and the feedback I have received has been most positive. Most members liked the part about finding out what communication styles they tended to be.

Bob Goldman
President
Atlanta Chapter
I.C.S.A.

"Do know that the whole experience of "Creative Thinking and Creative Problem Solving" was a valuable one for me. Certainly I shall continue to draw on those two days in the future.

...it was particularly gratifying to attend your session."

Brian Clay Collins

American Society of Interior Designers

National Professional Development Chairman

Thank you so much for the outstanding seminar on Brain Dominance presented to the Georgia Chapter of ASID. I enthusiastically recommend your program to other groups like ours.

The personal insight that we gained from your impressive presentation will undoubtedly help each of us as we pursue our individual goals.

You drew the largest crowd we've ever had. You gave clear concise, descriptions of our personalities. I was sure you had stolen a look at our diaries.

Overall grade? A plus. On a scale of 1 to 10---an 11. Equivalent to Siskell and Ebert's Two Thumbs Up.

Marie Patty

WIN – Women in Networking

"...your session was considered one of our conference's best – with high marks across the board.

As last year's President, I am proud that I "discovered" you and got you involved with our Association. Your style, passion, approach and spirit are a perfect match for us.

Beyond your session, I want to thank you as well for your professionalism, attention to detail and frequent communication. All of these are signs of a true professional."

Kevin Eikenberry

Chair

North American Simulation and Gaming Association

"I want to thank you for speaking to our group. Your presentation about teamwork came at an opportune time. You shared with us some valuable tips on how we can work together effectively and be successful in our efforts."

Gloria D. Lindsey CPS

President

Washington County Chapter PSI

"...I would like to extend our appreciation for your outstanding and highly motivative presentation. The entire membership commented on your excellent style and enthusiasm."

Betsy Byrd

Education Chairperson

Georgia Association of Personal Care Homes

"...it is with the greatest appreciation that we extend our heartfelt thanks to you for your participation in our conference.

Your participation helped to make the event rewarding and beneficial to all the conferees.

Your commitment and interest in supporting the goals of community action will be realized through the development of many recipients of our services, statewide.

Yvonne Beckles-Thomas
Annual Conference Chairperson
Georgia Community Action Association

"Thank you for your sensitive facilitating of the retreat of Catholic Social Services. Your skills and your dedication to the subject of change and stress were evident throughout the day. We all left feeling we were glad we had given you six hours of our time!"

B. E. Styles
Program Director
Catholic Social Services, Inc.

"We were very impressed with your 1-day workshop, "The Fine Art of Motivation." All of us at the workshop felt it was a day well spent. We look forward to seeing you again."

Phil Whitters
International Management Council
of the Central Savannah River Area
Augusta, Georgia

"We all certainly enjoyed our day under your guidance. Your charming manner made the already interesting material even more exciting. Perhaps there is no experience as much as fun as learning about ourselves. It was a perfect use of our very limited training time, and an excellent investment of our even more limited training budget. We all valued our day with you..."

Cheryl Speaker
Director
Timber Ridge Conference Center
Mableton, Georgia

"Your speech was enlightening, motivational and fun. Thanks again for sharing your time and talents with our club."

Susan Sealy
Vice President
Northeast Georgia Advertising Federation

Banks

"In a word, 'fantastic' was our group's reaction to your presentation. It was thought provoking and entertaining and I believe we all came back with our creative juices flowing. It was also very timely in light of our forthcoming acquisition and the challenges that creates.

Thank you again for sharing with us your wonderfully creative techniques and helping us to be a highly successful team within NationsBank."

William T. Kirkpatrick

Sr. Vice President

NationsBank

"Thank you for speaking at our annual Sponsors Appreciation Night for Credit Professionals International. I have had very positive feedback from both members and sponsors on your program. The presentation was interesting and thought provoking and I imagine all participants will have a more creative approach to managing when they return to their respective work places."

Marne Matthews, President

Credit Professionals International

"We appreciate your assistance with the 1987 Inaugural Session of the Georgia Bankers Association Management Institute. All indications are that this educational offering was a success."

R. Alan Fisher, Ed.D.

Vice President – Education

Georgia Banking School

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to work with you in the recent creativity thinking seminar. The format of your session was great, and the brainstorming portion of the seminar really helped my managers to see things in a different perspective.

The creative portion of our planning sessions went much more smoothly this year, and I feel confident that it was a result of your efforts."

David D. Stovall

President, CEO

Habersham Bank

"The Northeast Georgia Bank Administrative Institute appreciated your sharing with us at our meeting your presentation, 'Managing Today's Employees'. The unique way in which you presented information in regard to the decision making process of various individuals was quite thought provoking."

Robert D. Heath

Senior Vice President

Trust Company Bank

"I want to personally thank you for the excellent presentation you made to our Middle Management Personnel at our recent seminar. Your presentation relating to brain dominance and how that relates to individual personality traits was very interesting and I think will be useful to those in attendance."

J. Wayne Norris
Vice President
First National Bank of Athens

Corporate Clients

"Applause, applause and laughter! That is how the program ended on Saturday at the Lebowitz Center.

Thank you again for planning, designing, and presenting an excellent session on Creative Thinking (Ideas, Ideas and More Ideas) for my audience. The marketing managers were very pleased with the results of the idea generation and are already hard at work implementing many of them in their promotional campaigns.

We especially appreciate the way you worked directly with each of the audience participants and the extra time you took to do the post analysis with the marketing managers following the session."

Harry Vardis
President
Creative Focus Inc.

"The educational sessions were the best I've ever attended and your presentation entitled: "It's Who We Are That Creates Success' helped make it that way."

William H. Wiggins
President
Thiele Kaolin Company

"Last spring's R&D Team Building program was and continues to be very beneficial. The program you designed and presented was instrumental in catalyzing action which has helped us become more "Team" like than ever before."

Paul R. Kirschling
Manager, Research & Development
Thiele Kaolin Company

"As you are aware, over 100 of us attended (your) ten (10) day program, and clearly, it has been the most effective supervisory training effort undertaken to date. The comments from those who participated have been overwhelmingly

positive, and I believe we are beginning to see significant changes in the way that we manage."

Alex Cawthon
Executive Vice President
Thiele Kaolin Company

"I was very interested in Dr. Black's program after seeing his M.I.N.D. Design analysis at the 1991 Georgia Mining Association convention.

Dr. Black's presentation (for us at ECC International) and exercises were "state-of-the-art" yet still deceptively simple so everyone understands the message.

We consider our program a big success and recommend it highly."

Terry C. Jackson
Plant Manager
ECC International

"Thanks so much for a job well done! Your session for Scientific Atlanta's Marketing Communication Department Spring Retreat created much good will. The wonderful, highly client-focused presentation fit their needs well.

The laughter, interaction and applause from the group during the program and at the end plus the line that formed to have you personally sign their copies of your book: BROKEN CRAYONS clearly showed me that it was a valuable and successful program for all present."

Carole Ann Mackey
The communication experts
Consultant to
Scientific Atlanta

"Wow! What a terrific job last week you did for UPS. We all enjoyed & benefitted from your presentation. Your material was right on target."

Dave
Drake Beam Morin, Inc.

"Thank you for the presentation you made to our group. It was a very mixed group (large and small HVAC contractors with differing needs and expectations). Everyone enjoyed the day and got a lot out of it."

Ruth King
President
Business Ventures

"Your presentation was a great beginning towards accomplishing one of my most challenging goals – to create an environment where all coworkers look forward to coming to work and where everyone can support each other with their strengths and look for support with their weaknesses.

Thanks again for sharing your expertise with us."

David Rogers
Manager
Kinko's

"Thank you for the very enlightening motivational talk at our last sales meeting. It contained useful qualities that we all lose sight of in our daily routines. Our sales group found the 'M.I.N.D.' exercise to be rewarding. Again thank you for the terrific job in inspiring our spirit."

Lincoln Biederbeck
Manager, Sales Department
Tridom

"Both sessions created considerable thought and conversation in the following weeks. The principles of creative thinking were presented in a well organized and thought provoking manner. The group interaction and role playing helped to facilitate a basic understanding, which then promoted a higher thought process as we expanded on the ideas during and after the seminar."

Craig A. Sawyer
Director of Human Resources
Thomson Multimedia

"The Communications Seminar you taught our salaried employees was well done. The methods you used in overcoming the fears of speaking and techniques for developing content were well received by the group. I can see positive results in our day-to-day activities here at the plant."

Arnold Gurley
Johnson & Johnson
Baby Products Company

"Alan, having attended numerous speaking engagements, I can say with confidence that your topic on 'creativity' added a definite sparkle to the luncheon and provided a new, interesting and exciting approach to the realms of the subject of the mind."

Karen G. Berg
Private Line Sales Manager
Hyatt Regency Atlanta

"We here at Gulfstream certainly enjoyed the seminar on Communciations. All the comments received have been extremely favorable. All of the comments were very positive."

Jim Hearon
Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation

"Almost everyone that I have spoken with feels they gained skills, which they can use throughout their careers."

We have also realized a better rapport between labor and management."
Charles T. Black
Training Director
Georgia-Pacific Corporation

"Approximately one month following your in-house seminar, "Understanding Myself More to Work Better With Others", we are still hearing positive comments from our employees. The feedback from the staff has been the highest ever for any seminar offered in our facility."

Robert E. Burton
C.E.O.
Flowers, Inc. BALLOONS

"All of the participants (engineers, finance, managers) were extremely pleased with the way you conducted the courses (3 months on communication skills) and the involvement they had in the learning process. I have seen a marked improvement in their ability to communicate verbally and in writing."

James N. Becker
Plant Manager
EATON Corporation
Control Components Division

"The subject of right and left side brain dominance is a subject that immediately catches one's attention but which most of us have considered of little practical importance. Your presentation and the examples used showed clearly the practical aspects of utilizing such knowledge in working with others in a way that makes each more effective."

C. L. Henry, Jr.
Program Chairman AAIMG
Human Resource Director
Du Pont – Athens, Georgia

"I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the course you conducted for our first line supervisors. Normally, supervisors do not like courses such as the one you taught, however, the comments about this course were very favorable, and I believe they all enjoyed it."

Bob Painter
Operations Manager
Chicopee
Division of Johnson & Johnson

Educational Clients

"I am glad to recommend to you Dr. Robert Alan Black as a person who is exceptionally well qualified to conduct in-service education, staff development, and other similar types of workshops on creative problem solving. He is quite effective both in teaching teachers and leaders how to train students in creative problem solving and in working with groups to help them solve problems through the application of creative problem solving techniques."

E. Paul Torrance, Ph.D.

Alumni Foundation Distinguished Professor

Professor Emeritus

University of Georgia

"Alan was organized, flexible and original. The process of creative problem solving was well explained and became a feasible alternative to the rather haphazard approaches many of us had been applying in our jobs."

Barbara Clinton

College of Education

University of Georgia

"Since the program I have talked with several of those who were there for the meeting and it looks as though your program will go down as one of the best to date."

Bill Carver

Broadcast Editor

Communications in Academia

"Alan not only did a superb job of presenting the specific job related information requested, but he did it on very short notice and for an audience not typically receptive to such programs."

Opal Tyson

Training and Development Manager

University of Georgia

"I was so enthralled with your presentation Saturday I am sending my District Director your promotional materials. Thank you for helping us understand ourselves and others more."

Barbara N. McCarthy

County Extension Director

Rockdale County

"Thanks so much for your interesting presentation on creativity at our recent annual meeting in Atlanta. Your session was such a highlight of our conference.

We're still talking about the effects of our brain dominances on our work philosophies."

Bonnie

Section Chairperson
Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists

"Responses from the recent SAAS meeting in Atlanta are still coming in and my colleagues are still discussing your comments on brain side dominance. Thank you again for your stimulating presentation."

Bonnie P. Riechert
SAAS
University of Tennessee
Institute of Agriculture

"Thank you for speaking at the November Science and Technology Seminar at Fernbank. Your talk on 'You, Your Brain, and the Result: Your Mind' was very interesting. It gave us all a lot to think about."

Erin Davis
Fernbank Science Center

"As evidenced by the enthusiastic response of the faculty, your presentation at Cedar Shoals was much appreciated, much enjoyed. I do not believe I have ever seen the enthusiasm as high over a staff development, as over your presentation on learning styles. Teachers came away from the workshop with an increased awareness in the differences in individuals — and an enlightened approach to recognizing and understanding these differences. I celebrate your commitment to helping our cause."

Doug McLaughlin
Principal, Cedar Shoals

"I want to express my appreciation for the great job that you did for the Southeast Public Works conference. Your session on management styles was a big success. Not only did the participants enjoy your workshop, but several of them expressed to me that they had never been in a training session where the instructor cared so much."

Lee Rogers
Program Coordinator
Carl Vinson Institute of Government
University of Georgia

"I thought the presentation you made for the Office of Instructional Development last year was outstanding; the presentation you made yesterday even surpassed that one. You taught us a great deal about a relevant topic...and about ourselves."

A. P. Garbin
Professor and Department Head
Department of Sociology

"On behalf of the faculty and students who participated in your 'Creative Problem Solving and Creative Thinking' workshop on Saturday, I want to sincerely thank you. It was an enlightening (and fun) morning. The content was well-organized and presented very well. The interactions among faculty and graduate students provided another spin-off benefit. I especially appreciate activities which promote such interchange.

We thank you for the extensive preparation that went into the workshop. It was very apparent, and the responses reflected the value of that preparation."

Darrel G. Morrison

Dean

School of Environmental Design

University of Georgia

Governmental Clients

"The creativity and excitement that you (and your team) brought to those first sessions for supervisors was just terrific! People in the Department still reference ideas that came out of that series. As things have turned out, this was a tremendous, solid foundation for what was to come...

The follow-up Train-the-Trainer sessions you did with the ten of us were exquisite! The creativity you brought — the creativity you taught us — was just amazing. To this day I'm not certain how you were able to pass on to us so much of your ability to create. We are "walkin', talkin' proof" that what you do works!!! Your wealth of ideas, your humor, your attention to detail was like the frosting on the cake or whipped cream on a sundae."

Dave Klug

Barb Jeffers

Illinois Department of Human Services

"I really enjoyed your workshop on the use of creative thinking and problem solving techniques that you presented to the certified public managers. You have chosen a very worthwhile subject for research and application."

Jesse Andrews

Director

Lawrenceville RYDC

"Alan has the unique capability to maintain any group's interest while accomplishing an established goal. The City of La Grange has been fortunate to have Alan conduct its management training each month for the past two years."

Terry Hinote

Human Resources Director

La Grange, Georgia

"Alan's work has consistently been given high, positive evaluations by academy participants. They have praised his ability to focus on and help clarify the role of the Project Engineer as a manager.

His enthusiasm and professionalism coupled with a genuine sense of concern for those he instructs have earned him a position of high esteem in the eyes of the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Phil Bryant

Training Program Director

Georgia Department of Transportation

"Thank you for conducting your workshop on 'Developing the Natural Creativeness in You and Your Staff' at our annual conference. Feedback from staff regarding the content and presentation of the subject has been extremely positive, and I feel confident that each attendee will benefit from the information you shared."

Sally W. DuPree, Chairperson

Office of Fraud and Abuse

"Please allow me this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for all of the outstanding workshops you have developed for the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security this past year..

Your workshops at our local area conferences and at our annual state convention were very informative and thanks to your creativity and energy, all objectives were met or surpassed as evidenced by the comments of all who attended.

You are DYNAMIC!"

Ashley Howard

Training Director

Office of Training and Quality

Georgia Department of Labor

"Your energetic style and techniques stimulated ingenuity and teamwork between the staff during the session. You supercharged our thinking skills and helped us to generate unique ideas that will benefit us creatively to solve problems, and to help us explore and utilize our natural creative instincts more often."

Tamara Ard

Deputy Director

Georgia Academy

"Thanks again for conducting the one-day seminar entitled 'Management Skills for the Mid-90's: Into the 21st Century'.

Feedback consisted of...

Interesting, enthusiastic, motivational, informative, enjoyable"

Fabienne A. Tate

Assistant Deputy Director
Specialized Training
Georgia Department of Corrections

"I wish to commend you for the fine job you did presenting the technical writing course. From my own perspective, I found the course very helpful and informative.

Overall I thought the course was well worth the time and expense."

Patrick C. McCaskey, DVM
Director
United States Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service
Science and Technology
Eastern Laboratory

"You do a number of things which all of us found extremely helpful and educational...

manner of presentation: very personable, organized, flexible on the spot
class control: you tactfully handled difficult situations as they occurred
course content: meaningful, enjoyable
humor: well placed and effective
chalkboard skills: highly organized and well designed and easily understood
Ed Koenig
Warner Robbins Air Force Base
Electronics Wing

"Participants enjoyed your presentation 'Don't Just Sit There — Be Creative!' Our participants certainly enjoyed your very energetic presentation style. One of the participants remarked on the evaluation: 'WOW! Incredible Speaker' and many others wanted more time. This is truly a compliment to you as a presenter."

Jennifer F. Gravely
Training Administrator
Cobb County Government

"It was a pleasure having you lecture at the TIME Conferences two years in a row. You received excellent evaluations both times from more than 240 people registered at the two conferences."

George A. Horkan, III, R.N., EMTP
Training Coordinator
Southwest Georgia EMS

"I want to thank you for facilitating our Botanical Garden staff retreat. I especially appreciated your candor with our staff. Being able to openly discuss

our concerns has helped us take a big step towards better relationships between the staff and the Garden's relationship to the University and the general public."

Jayne L. Smith

Facilities Manager

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

"The seminars that you presented on 'Creativity Through Diversity' helped participants accept their differences and learn to cope with the cultural differences of co-workers.

Judging from the positive responses we received from employees, your workshops were valuable learning experiences for them. They especially commented on your ability to make the subject matter interesting."

Michael R. Allen

Director

Internal Revenue Service

Service Center

Southeast Region

Leadership Development Groups

"I really can't thank you enough for the super contribution you made in making our Leadership Cartersville and DeKalb Neighborhood Leadership Institute the great successes they were. Time and Time again during the retreat your name — and information you shared with the groups was referred to and acted upon."

(those two initial programs have lead to 16 years of Leadership retreats...totally over 300 so far)

Walt DeNero

Original director of the

JW Fanning Leadership Institute

University of Georgia

"The program was great. Every once and awhile I had to stop watching you and how people responded to you and remember that I was involved with the program. I certainly learned a lot and was reminded of many things about myself. I left Friday's program with much to reflect on."

Rebecca Emery

Leadership Program attendee

"Your message was both entertaining and inspiring, and was one from which all community leaders can benefit. The session as a whole was very well received; our participants had many fine comments about the information and activities presented."

Anglea M. Green

Director of Community
and Leadership Development
Leadership Athens

"What a pleasure to work with you. You are certainly a pleasure and delight to know. The group was most impressed with you and all the things you taught. And our signal is "a zip over the top of the head".

16 years of doing programs with this group

Suzan B. Spivey
Executive Vice President
Chattooga County Chamber of Commerce
Leadership Chattooga

"Each year that you have presented to the DeKalb Neighborhood Leadership Institute and Alumni Association Institute, you have left a part of you with us. After having listened to your thought provoking messages, we leave our retreat knowing a little more about you, and more importantly, we leave knowing a little more about ourselves."

18 years of working with this group

Mamie E. Lane
President
DeKalb Neighborhood Alumni Association

"Dr. Black does an excellent job at instilling motivation and creativity in his workshops as well as putting all participants at ease, encouraging active participation from all."

Annette T. Bowling
Steering Committee
Dougherty Leadership Development Institute

"Once again let me thank you for the diversity, excellence, creativity, imagination and ability you bring to your seminars. Over the last 13 years you have amazed me, not only by what you have taught but by the ways in which you have communicated the information."

John S. Cox
President
Paulding County Chamber of Commerce
Leadership Paulding

"The steering committee is most grateful that you are willing to provide your valuable form of instruction to our new group Saturday morning. Your previous programs have all been well received by us, and kept us thinking in a proper way to benefit from the six months of classes in the Leadership Pickens program."

William M. Durrett

Program Chairperson
Leadership Pickens

"I got bunches of compliments for having you on the program. I sincerely believe your excellent assistance will have a profound effect on the quality of Jackson County's future leaders."

Claude Fullerton, Jr.
Executive Director
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce
Leadership Jackson

"Your program was excellent and I think the class members received a great benefit from your exercise which forced them to think about their personality traits and group them accordingly.

I appreciate your effort to work with our emerging new young leaders and hope that we can work again on a similar program in the future."

H. James Winkler
Leadership Macon County

"As usual your presentation was bold and creative, yet still maintained a very warm human touch. The class participants all commented very highly of it and I truly believe they came away from our retreat with the sense that they could and would look at situations and people differently. Your active and caring style always leaves class participants on a very positive note that seems to extend throughout the entire year's class."

Dot Know
Leadership McDuffie

"Thank you for speaking at the 2000 Leadership Henry retreat. All of our participants thoroughly enjoyed the event. Participants commented that through the team-building exercises on Friday they were able to get to know their classmates faster."

Donna M. Braddy
Leadership Henry Co-Chair

Hospitals & Medical Clients

"Thank you for providing our instructional staff a most interesting and worthwhile workshop today on tools and strategies to energize training programs. Several of the participants called to tell me how useful the information and skills that they learned today would be for future training programs that they planned to lead for our organization."

Jack L. Watkins, Ed.D.
Director of Education
Athens Regional Medical Center

"I would like to thank you for an excellent program. Your talk on "Building Effective Teams in the Workplace" was well presented, very interesting, and provided a large amount of good information. I heard many complimentary comments from the participants at your program about the excellent program content and your outstanding presentation style that kept their attention and interest the entire 3 hours of your presentation."

Richard F. Lefoldt, CPS
Vice President
Medicare Government Programs
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Of Mississippi

"The evaluations are in and the consensus from our managers is that this was the best retreat so far.

We appreciate the time you personally invested with each of our managers. Team building and communications are key factors for each of our managers and your presentation has helped each manager establish clearer goals for their own departments."

Dolly A. Ritchie
Vice President
Human Resources
Habersham Country Medical Center

"For the opening general session, I personally was very pleased with an unexpected benefit of the format and method you used which was to create an atmosphere of camaraderie and sharing that continued throughout the conference.

Also...the session you led on effective leadership of meetings (for the board members) continues to have impact on our (entire) organization. The national leaders for whom you presented have had opportunities to use the skills and I have seen evidence of their continued effect."

Thom D. Freyer, Director
Chapter Relations and Quality Improvement
HFMA-Healthcare Finance Management Association

"Please accept my sincere thanks for the great job you did for us at the HFMA Leadership Training Conferences (San Diego and Ft. Lauderdale). Training leaders from our 70 chapters around the country is an exciting though sometimes difficult task. Your presentations helped to make that effort a success."

Bonnie Phipps, FHFMA, CPA
Chairperson
HFMA
DeKalb Medical Center

"Not only did I personally enjoy your leadership/teamwork session presented to our Matrix but the comments I've received, both on that session and on the communications session, have been excellent.

Alan, I would recommend your programs to any other HFMA chapter in the country. It's always great to get positive feedback on our sessions, and I think I can safely say that your sessions at Hilton Head were the highlight of the meeting."

W. Larry Sims
Program Chairperson
HFMA-Georgia Chapter

"Having our membership participate in your "Break Your Crayons..." workshop was great! I can never remember having the participants feel so much "a part" of the total institute."

Barbara Tucknott-Miller
President Elect
HFMA-Indiana Chapter

"Thank you so much for your most enjoyable presentation during the Alabama Chapter Annual Institute. The audience really enjoyed your lively and entertaining presentation. The crowd was much more relaxed than I had anticipated. Who know, they might have even enjoyed the dots!"

LaVonda Keel
President
HFMA-Alabama Chapter

"Thank you for the presentation you made to our Western New York HFMA Chapter. The session was informative and "fun'."

Fred Klycek
Vice President, Finance/CFO
St. Jerome Hospital

"I would like to thank you again for speaking at our annual Managers' meeting at the Peachtree Executive Conference Center.

Your presentation on Team Building was entertaining as well as thought provoking and the highlight of the conference."

Louis F. Stripling
President & CEO
Inter Community Cancer Centers of America, Inc.

"I very much enjoyed your program at the Louisiana MGMA meeting last week. I put on and attend a lot of programs and was particularly impressed with your approach. You make people learn without them ever knowing it."

Thomas H. Stearns, FACMPE

Administrator
The Bone & Joint Clinic, PC
Franklin, Tennessee

"Thank you for presenting the seminar on "Managing Today's Professional Staff" to MCG employees. The participants unanimously agreed that your program was helpful and very well presented."

Mary G. Hagan
Employee Services/Training Coordinator
Medical College of Georgia

"I would like to thank you for the outstanding program you presented to the Louisiana Medical Group Managers Association. All of our members had very positive comments about the presentation, about your creativity, about your style and about the information you presented. I think any speaker that can take a convention audience on Friday afternoon in the city of New Orleans and hold the entire group without one person leaving between 1:30 and 5:00 pm is an exceptional accomplishment."

Donald H. Varnado
Medical Group Administrator
President LMGMA

"I just wanted to express my sincere appreciation for your exciting program you presented to the Paulding Memorial Medical Center's department heads at the Timber Ridge Conference Center. What an excellent job you did in bringing together the desired areas of teamwork, communication and leadership style in our environment. Your ability to involve everyone and encourage participation from those who are reluctant to do so is unmatched.

I, along with everyone else, also enjoy the fact that you are a down-to-earth instructor, your warmth, sincerity and enthusiasm are contagious, and you really challenge us regarding what we are trying to accomplish. I also personally enjoyed the humor that you mixed into your presentation."

Ronnie T. Harris
Director, Human Resources
Paulding Memorial Medical Center

"I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed your presentation at our Managers Meeting last weekend. It was an excellent seminar, and I hope that others took as much away from it as I did. I am a stronger believer that effective learning can and must be fun. Everyone that I have spoken with had fun! The most common comment that I have heard was "I cannot believe the time passed so fast.' A real compliment."

David A. Frey
Pro-Med
Professional Medical Resources, Inc.

"Your presentation, 'Break Your Crayons and Draw Outside the Lines' was given an average rating of 4.4 on a scale of 5.0. Written comments included, 'Great speaker to close out the meeting!' 'Dr. Black was an interesting and creative speaker,' 'Bring back Dr. Black.'" (By the way some of the evaluations were completed with crayons).

Parks & Recreation Clients

"I found the AMA (Fundamentals of Marketing) seminar to be enlightening. I feel that I will successfully be able to 'link' all aspects of the 'Marketing Umbrella' into one information system (although it will most likely be one piece at a time)."

Allen H. Keough, Jr.
Marketing Analyst
Reebok International, Ltd.

"Thank you for your inspiring keynote presentation at our OPRA/ASLA conference. We had delegates giving 'high fives' to each other all week. You always find interesting and amusing ways to remind us of the values we share and the goals we hope to achieve and you teach us ways to hold these values and achieve these goals."

Jeffrey A. Morrow
Ohio Parks & Recreation Association, Inc.

"On behalf our 100+ delegates I would like to express our appreciation for your contribution to our program. Your session proved to be stimulating, entertaining and very educational, charting the course for the balance of our two day program."

Thad L. Studstill
Executive Director
Georgia Recreation and Park Society, Inc.

"It gives me great pleasure to recommend Dr. Robert Alan Black as a keynote speaker and workshop leader. Dr. Black has been a speaker and workshop leader with the Executive Development Program (EDP) for Recreation and Park Professionals since 1982 each year. He has been rated 'tops' among all consultants and faculty who teach in the EDP.

Comments about the most valuable parts of his programs usually include:

Dr. Black's personal references
I found out more about my personality
It was fun and enlightening
Tips on the dos and don'ts-things that you can actual use not just theory
Energy of the speaker

Class involvement

Reminding me that everyone can be creative

The value that Dr. Black's sessions add to the EDP and the profession is invaluable.

As I travel around the country I am constantly approached by EDP graduates saying how...Dr. Black's sessions have changed the way their department is doing business."

L. Steven Dempsey

Executive Director

Executive Development Program

Police & Public Safety Clients

"Dr. Black's unique approach crosses bridges rapidly and allows your staff to talk honestly, interact in a positive manner and to trust in one another. This help them interact in a positive manner and benefit from the training program completely."

Jasper Cooke

Chief

Columbus State University Department of Public Safety

"The purpose of this letter is to commend you for the excellent four day Leadership Team Building and Development presentation that you gave during our Executive Development course in November. Not only did the students comment on your vast knowledge, but, the practical side of your training was also noted and appreciated by the students.

It is always a pleasure to have you at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center."

J. Dale Mann

Director of Training

GPSTC- Georgia Public Safety Training Center

"In only a few days we'll begin the last year of the millennium. Of the many decisions I've made during the last quarter of this century, I'd have to point to your contributions with executive training as one of the most glowing. Many teachers could take lessons from you on prior preparation and student participation."

J. Dale Mann

Division Director

General Instruction Division

GPSTC- Georgia Public Safety Training Center

"The professionalism and expertise you display are commented on by all the participants who attend your training sessions and the success of your programs is evidenced by the outstanding evaluations received.

Again thank you for continually delivering outstanding training that provides executives in law enforcement with vital information they need and deserve."

Hedy A. McDowell
Training Coordinator
Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police

The Georgia Law Enforcement Command College appreciates your time and expertise in Leadership Development contributed to each class, year after year. Each of the 43 modules of 4 1/2-days over the 14 years you have taught have contributed to the success of the Command and Executive College Programs since 1995.

The evaluations from each of the 43 (week-long) modules have been outstanding."

Archie Rainey, Administrator
Georgia Law Enforcement Command College
Executive College
Professor, Department of Criminal Justice
Columbus State University

"Alan' expertise in the field of management and leadership was reflected in the excellent presentation he provided the participants from my department. His material was enlightening and reflected of the current trends in management. His integration of hands-on projects greatly enhanced the presentation and provided a clear catalyst in the learning process. He has the unique ability to communicate his vast bank of knowledge to the participants in such a manner that they want to learn."

Luther M. Smart
Chief of Police
University of Georgia

"During my more than 20 years in law enforcement, I have had the opportunity to attend many classes, courses, seminars, schools, etc. Quite honestly, I feel that your course of instruction is, by far, the most valuable in which I have participated. These benefits are personal, professional and departmental. Every organization's management, especially governmental and law enforcement, should be afforded your program.

Your enthusiasm, personal interest in each class member, knowledge and presentation made the course dynamic."

Tony Gilleland
Chief of Police
Summerville Police Department

"I want to let you know that I really enjoyed your class.

It feels very strange, or intimidating writing to a psychologist. I have never been in any classroom environment that was so informal, yet, so organized. I am

very impressed with your knowledge, expertise, and common sense. In most cases, learning is routine; however, you made it interesting, informative, challenging and fun.

I really appreciate the opportunity of being a student in your class."

Roy Waters

Deputy Chef

Hazardous Material Response Division

Columbus Georgia Fire Department