



## ABOUT THOSE INITIALS

*By: M. Louise Walters, PhD ABD, MM, BS, IOM*

Many years ago, a young CEO who had just entered the association world was surrounded by people having initials following their names. The new CEO, a high school graduate with no college degree initials, was concerned that the lack thereof was a relationship and (a potential) career inhibitor. The CEO searched for a solution and decided to add the initials: G.P.

Years went by and the self-designated G.P. remained, although only a few people ever asked what the G.P. initials stood for. Then, in 2005, the CEO decided to go to college and subsequently earned an Associate's degree, a Bachelor of Science degree, a Master's degree and, ten years later, is PhD ABD with a dissertation on nonprofit organizations in progress.

Proud as all get out of those academic successes, I still treasure my G.P. initials from long ago: Grand Puhbah! :)

CHEERS!  
LOUISE, G.P.

