



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**GAMA International to Honor David E. Ayres, CLU,
with Volunteer of the Year Award**

Falls Church, VA — Recognizing that volunteers are the heart of any professional association, GAMA International will present David E. Ayres, CLU, with its Volunteer of the Year Award at its Leadership and Management Program (LAMP) annual conference on March 21, 2009, in Atlanta, GA.

The Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes a GAMA member's significant contributions to the organization that were made in the previous calendar year. During 2008, David was a Field Leadership Series facilitator and a speaker on Best Practices Teleconferences. He has also contributed to *Great Team-Building Ideas* and served on the Professional Development Committee.

Daralee S. Barbera, CLF CFP CMFF, chair of GAMA's Professional Development Committee, says, "We congratulate David Ayres on receiving the prestigious Volunteer of the Year Award. He has been a member of GAMA since 1978 and was involved as a volunteer on the Professional Development Committee for the last six years. We appreciate David's contributions to the Best Practices Teleconferences, his service as a Field Leadership Series facilitator and *Great Ideas* contributor. His support of GAMA is exemplary and truly deserving of Volunteer of the Year."

David graduated in 1971 from Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Upon graduation, he chose a career in life insurance and joined the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company in Dallas, TX. In 1977, he was appointed general agent. David has earned numerous accolades throughout his career at Penn Mutual, including the President's Award for the largest increase of production and the Award of Excellence for running one of the top-performing agencies.

David qualifies for GAMA's International Management Award at the Gold Plus level. He has been a Million Dollar Round Table qualifier since 1982 and is an active member of NAIFA.

David is also active in his community. He is the president of the tennis club at Bent Tree Country Club, is the president of his home owners' association and serves on the committee for the Journey of Hope Grief Support Center.

David lives in Dallas, TX, with his wife Sharon, and their two dogs, Missy and JJ.

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GAMA International is a worldwide professional association serving 5,500 field leaders in the insurance and financial services industry. Its members recognize their critical role in finding, building and inspiring the next generation of top performers who will, in their turn, lead the industry into the future. To help build these leaders, the association provides its members with professional development resources and opportunities, including educational, networking and leadership. GAMA International's Web site is located at www.gamaweb.com.