

## Greg Schwem

Corporate Humorist

**Work, Laugh, Repeat.** Perfect for any group that needs a humorous break from the serious side of business. In spite of its therapeutic qualities, laughter is often absent from the business environment. Greg shows it is possible to laugh at work and about work. Audience members will put down their iPads and Blackberries and laugh along with Greg as he good-naturedly discusses topics such as Smart Phone abuse, social network overload, never-ending conference calls, “frequently” asked questions, and home office workers. His preparation includes company web site research, phone conferences, and maybe even a personal visit!

**If Laughter is Healthy, Why Aren't We All OK?** We all need to laugh at work. But is it okay to laugh at work? And about work? High profile incidents like the Will Smith slap and the Dave Chapelle Netflix controversy have the corporate world talking about the role of humor in the workplace and the definition of “funny.” What Gen X finds uproarious, Gen Z might find “offensive” or “inappropriate” Who is correct? In a hilarious yet thought provoking presentation, renowned business humorist and award-winning Chicago Tribune humor columnist Greg Schwem challenges his audience to realize that curtailing humor in the workplace also stifles creativity, teamwork and employee wellness. For those who say, “we aren't a funny company” or “this isn't a good time for us to be laughing,” Greg disagrees. Using real world examples, Greg explores how companies have increased sales and overcome negative publicity through humor. Unlike speakers who dub themselves “humor experts,” yet provide no answers, Greg, a 30- year standup comedy veteran, offers suggestions for how to navigate this slippery slope while laughing the entire time.

**Rock, Roll & Laugh Your Way to the Top.** Greg Schwem knows a thing or two about rock and roll. As a comedian who has opened concerts for stars ranging from Keith Urban, to Celine Dion, to Pat Benatar to (wait for it) KC and the Sunshine Band, Greg has seen how rock and roll is really a business. Like your business. In short? Every company and employee has “rock star” potential. Greg shows you how to achieve that potential in a presentation that combines hilarious comedy, live concert footage and a musical soundtrack featuring everything from classic rock to country to EDM (electronic dance music for you music neophytes.) Topics include “Why Every Office Needs a Keith Richards,” “Are you Team Taylor or Team Kanye?,” and “Don't Turn Your Company Into a Country Song.” Rock on!

**Turning Gut Punches into Punch Lines.** In 2024, Greg Schwem became a member of a frightening, yet inspirational category: Cancer Survivor. While battling Stage 2 colon cancer, Greg experienced, first hand, the powers of laughing at grim situations, and how laughter can assist with healing mentally, physically and spiritually. The outcome, other than a cancer free diagnosis, was “Turning Gut Punches into Punch Lines,” a hilarious and reflective keynote about the somber diagnoses we all face in our lives. Look for Greg's book of the same name, coming Fall 2024.

**Emcee/Host.** Performing live or virtually, Greg can host an event separately or in addition to one of his three keynotes.