

NOVEMBER 2009

CPA.news



East Texas Chapter

Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants
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President's Message *Kathy Kapka*



Rain, rain, go away! And don't come back... until after the golf tournament! For only the second time in the history of our annual golf tournament, we were rained out! The good news is we have rescheduled for Monday, November 9, so it is not too late to join in the fun. This is the main fundraiser for our scholarship fund, so it is important not only to our students, but to our profession to encourage and support promising accounting students. Come and join us!

Casino Night is just around the corner, and I hope you are planning on joining us for a night of high stakes (not!) gambling, prizes, bingo, good eats and fun fellowship. The Casino Night committee has outdone themselves and planned a wonderful evening for our enjoyment. So come have fun with your fellow CPAs and mingle with our future CPAs. It is sure to be a "lucky" night for all!

One of our Chapter goals for this year was to reach out to a student population that may be on the cusp of selecting a major in college, and encouraging them to consider Accounting. We have chosen to focus Career Awareness at the college sophomore level – those accounting classes that every business major must take. It is our hope that we might be able to influence promising students to declare Accounting as their major by telling them about the benefits of being a CPA. I know many of you have a passion for your profession and will be willing to share it! Look for more information in this newsletter on how you can participate.

I would like to thank those of you who let us know you liked the new look of the electronic newsletter! We aim to please, so if you have any suggestions for future issues... please let us know! Also, check with your fellow CPAs in your office to see if they

NOVEMBER Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

CASINO NIGHT!

UT Tyler - Ornelas Activity Center
(formerly the TASCA building)

\$25 per person

Pay and register online at
www.etcpa.org

or by mail to

PO Box 5100, Tyler, TX 75712

by November 9

(see page 5 for details)



**RAINED
OUT!**

New date for the
Scholarship Golf Tournament is
Monday, November 9
Pine Dunes Golf & Resort

are getting the email with the newsletter link – we want everyone to be informed about the Chapter's events.

I hope to see you at the golf tournament and Casino Night. I will be there with my boots on! And check out upcoming CPE dates – we have some future dates for you to add to your calendar. Get connected and stay connected with **your** chapter... we are here to serve you!

PAC Contributions

Mike Thomas

If you're like me, you think that with this being an off year for the Texas legislature there's not much going on. That is far from the truth. This is the time that all the committees and special commissions do most of their preliminary work on bills that will be proposed during the next legislative session. It is actually more important for us to be influential during this period than during the session because most of the bills are written well in advance of the legislative session.

With franchise tax, health insurance, and the general economy being hot topics right now, it is important for us to be involved. Your PAC contributions help us, not to buy influence, but to hire and train the right people who understand the issues from our perspective.

You can contribute by mailing your check payable to TSCPA-PAC to 14651 Dallas Parkway, Suite 700, Dallas, TX 75254-7408 or online at <https://secure.tscpa.org/pacdonation.asp>. Your check for \$100 will go a long way in getting better bills out of our legislators.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at mike@mst-cpa.com.



Accounting Awareness... Our Chapter Needs You!

One of the goals of the East Texas Chapter is "Outreach to Potential CPAs." To accomplish this, the Accounting Awareness Committee is seeking members to speak to business and accounting classes and organizations at local high schools and junior colleges.

The TSCPA recently surveyed college accounting faculty to determine the most effective ways to reach students regarding career choices. Guest speakers were a top choice!

The TSCPA will provide talking points and materials for speakers to use as well as classroom posters promoting the AICPA's "Start Here, Go Places" website. If you are interested in speaking on behalf of the Chapter, please contact Lou Ann Viergever at 903-565-5644 or Shelley Cross at 903-312-9031.

Together our Chapter can make a difference in the future of our profession!



Destination CPA

Visit Destination CPA (<http://go.tscpa.org/>) in the student section on TSCPA's Web site for an interactive accounting career road trip, complete with scenic routes and informative pit stops. This online experience puts students in the driver's seat to see through the virtual windshield all a CPA career has to offer.

Chapter Tip Sheet

OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTING EDUCATOR AWARDS

TSCPA recently honored four top Texas accounting professors with the organization's 2009 Outstanding Accounting Educator Awards. Recipients are:

Frederick Bunn – El Paso Community College
Carolyn Conn, Ph.D., CPA – St. Edward's University
Awni M. Zebda, Ph.D. – Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Florence Atiase, CPA – University of Texas at Austin



At a ceremony held during the TSCPA Accounting Education Conference, the winners each received a \$1,000 award provided by the TSCPA Accounting Education Foundation, as well as a plaque for their office and a recognition plaque for their school.

Criteria for judging include instructional innovation, student motivation and learning opportunities, professional and student accounting organization involvement, research, and publications.



DEPRESSION KNOWS NO SEASON

"This is supposed to be a joyous time of year, yet I feel angry one minute and plunged into despair the next. What's wrong with me?"

You might be suffering from depression. ACAN, the TSCPA Accountants Confidential Assistance Network, offers confidential assistance. Call us at 866-766-ACAN. *All we want to do is help. All you need to do is call!*



Upcoming CPE and Events

Monday, November 9, 2009 - NEW DATE!!!

SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT
Pine Dunes Golf & Resort, Frankston

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

5th ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT
UT Tyler Ornelas Activity Center

Friday, January 22, 2010

ANNUAL TAX UPDATE
Steve Tillinger - 8 hours

Monday, May 24, 2010

SPRING CE EXPO
UT Tyler
4 hours *Ethics* - David Holt, CPA, CFE
4 hours *Governmental Update* - David Holt, CPA, CFE
(2nd track TBA)

Monday & Tuesday, June 14-15, 2010

PARTNERSHIP/LLC TAX ISSUES & UPDATE
Steve Tillinger
(Location TBA)

Monday & Tuesday, July 26-27, 2010

ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CPE
Mike Inzina - 16 hours
(Location TBA)



Kimberly Park

BOARD OR COMMITTEE POSITIONS: Board Member

EMPLOYER: Henry & Peters, PC

AREA OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE: Tax

OTHER CHAPTER POSITIONS HELD: Casino Party Committee Chair

FAMILY: Married to Russell – children are Logan 11 and Reagan 9

FAVORITE FOOD: Mexican

FAVORITE NON-WORK ACTIVITY: My favorite activity is hearing my kids laugh and watching them have fun... most recently tent camping in Daingerfield... great memories. On Sunday mornings I love to hang out at the 110 Student Center at Green Acres Baptist Church to teach (and be taught by) my amazing group of 6th grade girls... truly a blessing.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE US TO KNOW: I am an active board member for PATH and East Texas Crisis Center and am passionate about the great differences these two organization are making in the Tyler community.



Kimberly Park with Reagan (l) and Logan (r)



Tory and Chris Vey

Tory Vey

BOARD OR COMMITTEE POSITIONS: Young CPAs Committee

EMPLOYER: Henry & Peters, PC

AREA OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE:

OTHER CHAPTER POSITIONS HELD: This is my first position.

FAMILY: Husband, Chris

FAVORITE FOOD: My mom and grandma's Thanksgiving day lunch!

FAVORITE NON-WORK ACTIVITY: Playing sports and spending time with family and friends

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE US TO KNOW: Graduated from A&M in May 2007 and have been working for H&P since July 2007.

5TH ANNUAL TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT

Hosted by the
East Texas Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants

Tuesday, November 17
UT Tyler—Ornelas Activity Center
(Formerly the TASCA building)
3402 Old Omen Road—Tyler

Blackjack, Bingo, Door Prizes
Great Food and Fun for Everyone

Bingo cards \$2 each

Mix & Mingle 5:30
Tournament Begins 6:30
(cash prize for tourney winner)

Raffle Drawing for Gaylord
Texan Weekend Package—
Tickets \$25 or 5 for \$100

Dress is cowboy casual
Prize for best dressed

\$25 per person
Pay & Register:
Online: www.etcpa.org
Or by check mailed to:
P.O. Box 5100, Tyler TX 75712
MUST be postmarked by
November 9