Spring 2019

Connecticut **CPA**

Advocacy. Community. Education.





State of the CTCPA

What we've done. What's to come.

In our second annual report issue, we bring you the latest on where we've been and the heights we'll climb to in the future following our extensive strategic planning initiative, full membership survey, and more. *page 20*

A publication of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants



Is your financial portfolio rigged to withstand sudden shifts in the market winds?

In times of economic uncertainty and stock market volatility, you need a trusted team to help you set your financial course. Your advisor needs to understand thoroughly your circumstances to help you achieve your financial objectives. At Bradley, Foster & Sargent, we have assisted clients for over 20 years by constructing customized portfolios that have weathered the storms. Let us help you navigate toward your life and investment goals. We invite you to contact Charley Herbert today at 860-241-4636.

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It's Membership Renewal Time!



PDF dues invoices are sent via email in early May.

You can easily print or forward this PDF. (If you don't have an email address with us on file, we'll send your invoice via mail.)



Are there multiple members at your firm or business? Request a company invoice.

We'll send you an invoice listing all the members at a single location and give you the opportunity to indicate any members who have joined or left your company. Please contact Liz Frazza at <u>lizf@ctcpas.org</u> or 860-258-0220.



#TransformWithCTCPA

As always, you can quickly and easily renew your membership online.

Simply log in to our secure website at <u>www.ctcpas.org/dues</u>. (If you haven't yet created an account, you'll need your last name and member ID number to get started.)



Didn't receive your invoice or need to update your contact information?

Please contact **Liz Frazza** at <u>lizf@ctcpas.org</u> or 860-258-0220. She'd be happy to help. You can also update your contact information online at <u>www.ctcpas.org/update</u>.

From technology to regulation to legislation, your professional environment is changing faster than ever. We're here to bring you the resources, peer support, and access to experts you need to help you thrive as we move into the future.

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A publication of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants

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Opinions expressed in bylined articles appearing in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect CTCPA opinions or positions nor do they constitute endorsements.

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Editor's Note

Welcome to the Second Annual 'State of the CTCPA' issue!

Last year we brought you the first-ever "State of the CTCPA" issue of *Connecticut CPA* magazine. Rather than creating a separate annual report, we wanted to make sure we put the story of where we've been and where we're headed in the hands of each and every member as a special section in our flagship publication. Thanks to your great response, we've decided to do the same again this year. You'll still see our usual member news and events in the front half of the issue, but the second half is devoted entirely to this year's retrospective.

"Change" is still the name of the game each and every day for the CTCPA, as I'm sure it is for your organization as well. Technology, legislative activity, and new regulations have meant an end to "business as usual." We have embarked on many new member benefits and programs thanks to the hard work of our specialized committees, chapters, volunteer leadership, staff, and the Strategic Planning Committee.



Please join me in taking a moment to pause and look at what we have accomplished in the past year (and what exciting things are yet to come) starting on page 20.

See you next issue,

Kirsten Piechota, Managing Editor

Official Notice of the 2019 CTCPA Annual Meeting

In accordance with the bylaws, notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants will be held on June 19, 2019 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. The election and installation of the 2019-2020 Board of Directors will take place at that time.

The report of the Nominating Committee is as follows:

Dennis Cole of Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger, President-elect for 2018-2019, will assume the presidency,

Marie Benedetto of Innovative Business Solutions for President-elect,

Brian Reilly of Travelers for Treasurer,

Mark Torello of Whittlesey Technology for Secretary,

Timothy Hedley of KPMG for Member-at-Large,

Katherine Patnaude of PKF O'Connor Davies for Member-at-Large.

Other nominations may be made in accordance with Section 6.4 of the bylaws.

The 2019-2020 Advisory Council, as appointed by the Nominating Committee, will also be installed at that time. **Michael Maksymiw Jr.** of Marcum, incoming Chair of the Advisory Council, will serve as the seventh member of the Board of Directors.

The full proposed leadership slate is available at <u>www.ctcpas.org/nominees</u> and on page 32 of this issue.

Sincerely,

Mitchell R. Insero, Secretary

etary



CTCPA Annual Meeting

A Blockchain and Artificial Intelligence-Powered Future

Wednesday, June 19, 2019 Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville

Members: \$75, Nonmembers: \$100 CPE credit: 1 hour

- 5:30 p.m. Check-in and light refreshments
- 6:00 p.m. Business meeting and keynote speaker

7:30 p.m. – Networking with wine, beer, and hot hors d'oeuvres (cash bar available)

The future of accounting is here. Move ahead with us.



Take advantage of this exclusive opportunity to hear from technology pioneer Bruno Wu, chairman of incoming Connecticut fintech company Ideanomics.

Ideanomics is leading the world in developing ways to use blockchain and artificial intelligence in finance, insurance, supply chain, and more. This cutting-edge research will change the way these industries operate in the future.

With headquarters in New York, NY and its planned "Fintech Village" Center for Technology and Innovation in West Hartford, Ideanomics is pioneering the new technology-empowered economy.

Register at <u>www.ctcpas.org/annualmeeting</u>.



Includes reserved table of 10 with your company name.

Silver Sponsorship: \$500 Includes five general admission seats.

Call today Liz Frazza • <u>lizf@ctcpas.org</u> • 860-258-0220



From the Executive Director

Many of you know that before I came to the CTCPA, I spent 30 years as a lobbyist for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association. While I came here with a strong understanding of the inner workings of Connecticut's legislative process, the key players, and the concerns of the business community, I have enjoyed my time learning about the many (and sometimes highly technical!) issues of specific importance to the professional accounting community.

Ramping Up Our Advocacy Efforts

Last year we greatly increased our advocacy efforts, working to make sure legislators were aware of the resources available to them from our deep bench of experts on matters of business, accounting, auditing, economics, taxation, and more. We continued outreach after this fall's elections, and our efforts have paid off. Legislators and regulators regularly call upon us for advice and to help ensure proposals are crafted in appropriate ways to meet goals without unintended consequences.

A Year Like No Other

This year has been tremendously busy at the State Capitol for CPAs and professional accountants. In fact, I believe I have dealt with as many issues on behalf of CTCPA members this year as I did back when I was a full-time business lobbyist.

There are some serious measures being proposed this year that could have lasting effects on the profession. We are committed to doing everything we can to fight these proposals to the very end. You can read more about the specifics on the page at right.

Your CTCPA legislative team includes me, Public Affairs Director **Mark Zampino**, and our contract lobbyist **Craig Leroy** of Roy & Leroy. We are the "boots on the ground" every day, making sure the profession's voice is being heard at the Capitol. We work together to not only address the issues that directly affect the profession, but to monitor those that you need to be aware of as you run your business and advise your colleagues or clients.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every member who has taken time to get involved during what is an extremely busy time of year for many of you. We've asked you to write letters to submit as testimony, call and email your legislators using our Voter Voice grassroots advocacy software, attend meetings with legislators and regulators, and spread the word to your colleagues, and you've delivered.

We couldn't do what we do without the tremendous support of our members working together to protect the profession. Thank you.

Bonnie Stewart, Executive Director



Regional Professional Updates

Reserve your space at <u>www.ctcpas.org/professionalupdates</u>.

Back by popular demand, Executive Director **Bonnie Stewart** and CTCPA staff members will be visiting cities and towns across the state again this spring. Each meeting will kick off with an update on activity at the State Capitol, the State Board of Accountancy, regulatory agencies, and the CTCPA. Then we'll open the floor to discussion and feedback.

Many of this year's new initiatives were born out of suggestions from last year's round of meetings. Be sure your voice is heard by joining us for this dialogue in your backyard!

Please pre-register. Each meeting includes one hour of CPE credit.

Middletown

Friday, June 7 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, Middletown

North Haven

Wednesday, June 19 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Ulbrich Stainless Steels, North Haven

Bethel

Friday, June 21 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. CironeFriedberg, Bethel

Hartford

Tuesday, June 25 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. CohnReznick, Hartford

Torrington

Wednesday, June 26 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Connecticut, Torrington

Dates and locations for the following meetings will be announced soon:

Norwich

Glastonbury

Norwalk





CTCPA Tackles Several Challenges to the Profession in 2019 Legislative Session

By Bonnie Stewart, CTCPA Executive Director

The current legislative session has presented challenges since the very beginning, when Governor Ned Lamont presented a proposal to charge sales tax on accounting and tax preparation services in his initial budget proposal.

The challenges continued from there, as we worked to address other measures that could harm the profession, those that could potentially help, and those you need to be informed about to effectively run your business.

Things change extremely quickly during the legislative session; the following are updates on our top concerns as this issue goes to press.

Challenges This Session

Measures we actively fought against that would have extremely negative repercussions for our profession include:

Sales Tax on Professional Services

We are leading the fight at the Capitol against this harmful proposal, which seeks to tax accounting and tax preparation services, essentially creating a "tax on paying taxes."

Unauthorized Practice of Law

This measure is written in such a broad way that CPAs giving any tax advice or representing their clients before state agencies would be considered to be engaging in an unauthorized practice of law.

Increased CPA License Fees

At \$565 annually, Connecticut CPAs already pay nearly six times the national average in license fees. We successfully fought and stopped a proposed measure that would have increased that fee.

Opportunities This Session

The news isn't all bad. We have worked hard to develop relationships with legislators and ensure we have a reputation as experts on business, the economy, accounting and auditing, taxation, and more. As a result, we have been approached several times to weigh in on measures proposed by the DRS and others to ensure they have been crafted in an appropriate manner, including:

- Unintended issues created by Public Act 18-49.
- Penalty and interest measures.
- Bonus depreciation.
- Property tax.
- Valuation.

Keeping You Informed

In addition to the issues we're actively addressing, we are monitoring and reporting on many measures that impact accountants as employers as well as their clients. Items include:

- Labor and employment law.
- Transportation issues.
- Public options for health insurance and retirement plans.

The Silver Lining

All of these challenges have presented opportunities for members to come together and get engaged as we work together toward common goals.

Our state and federal taxation groups have utilized our new private online community – CTCPA Connect – to quickly share information and discuss the issues instantaneously.

These online communities are open to all members; see page 9 for more.



Bonnie testifies before the General Law Committee in opposition to an increase in CPA license fees. View the video at <u>www.ctcpas.org/licensefees</u>.

Don't Miss Our Weekly Capitol Corner Updates

Our Capitol Corner legislative and regulatory update email is sent weekly during the legislative session and as needed throughout the rest of the year. This year we expanded coverage to bring you news and updates about not only accounting matters, but human resources, regulatory reform, transportation, and more. You can also view the latest news anytime at www.ctcpas.org/capitolcorner.



Our opposition to the proposed sales tax on accounting and tax preparation services has gone public. Our position generated coverage including:

Hartford Business Journal and New Haven Biz

"Industry pans Lamont's bid to tax professional services" February 20

Hartford Courant

Letters to the Editor section "Don't tax us on paying our taxes" by Executive Director Bonnie Stewart March 6

We are continuing an active media outreach campaign on the issue, including inviting members to submit letters to the editor for their local publications. If you are interested in joining our mass media outreach, please contact Public Affairs Director **Mark Zampino** at <u>markz@ctcpas.org</u>.

Peer Review News: New Fee Structure Begins April |

In response to concerns of external regulators, the AICPA has implemented the "Evolution of the Peer Review Program." Implementation requires extensive changes to the administration of the peer review program. The CTCPA has opted to invest in the program rather than leave it, as some organizations have chosen to do.

What do the increased peer review fees pay for?

Additional Staff. In 2018, the AICPA began requiring administering entities to meet certain prescribed benchmarks for timely and accurate administration and to have a full-time CPA on staff, responsible for managing the program.

More Dollars for Technical Review. The CPAs who perform the required technical review function have been paid a belowmarket rate since 2012. The amount the CTCPA budgets for technical review is rising on two fronts; the reviewers will be paid at a higher rate and the time necessary to perform technical review, like all aspects of peer review, has increased.

Education. The CTCPA Peer Review Committee is made up of dedicated volunteers who are required to invest time annually to maintain their knowledge of the program. In the past, these volunteers also paid for their education. Beginning in 2019, the CTCPA is budgeting dollars to provide the required education to committee members.

Technology is one of the fastest growing line items at the CTCPA. The security and confidentiality of peer review documents is imperative.

Thank you to the Peer Review Committee!

The CTCPA's peer review program protects CPA licensure at the state level. We could not fulfill this vital role without the many members who volunteer their time on the Peer Review Committee. As the AICPA program evolves, committee members have persisted through a sometimes difficult process. They are truly members in action; their dedication to the profession is greatly appreciated.

Have questions? We're here to help!

>> CTCPA Peer Review Team www.ctcpas.org/peerreview



Julie McNeal 860-258-0236 juliem@ctcpas.org



Lynette Lindner 860-259-1062 lynettel@ctcpas.org

Service and Evaluation Fee

Firm Size	System Review	Engagement Review
1 Professional	\$450	\$400
2+ Professionals	\$450	\$425

A first-time enrollee whose peer review is due in the current year will be billed the Service and Evaluation Fee and current year's Annual Fee. New firms whose reviews fall after the current year will be billed for the current Annual Fee only.

Firms that resign or are dropped from the program between reviews due to non-payment will be required to pay a reinstatement fee, which is the Annual Fee for the interim years.

>> AICPA Peer Review Support

www.aicpa.org/interestareas/peerreview Email: PRSupport@aicpa.org Hotline: 919-402-4502; press 2

CTCPA Peer Review Fee Structure

Effective April 1, 2019.

The peer review program is divided into two fees.

Annual Fee

- Billed yearly in June.
- · Based on the size of your firm and whether you are a CTCPA member.

Service and Evaluation Fee

- · Billed when your peer review is scheduled (once every three years).
- Based on your firm's review type.

Annual Fee

Firm Size	Member	Non-Member
1 Professional	\$200	\$550
2-5 Professionals	\$375	\$725
6-10 Professionals	\$425	\$775
11-19 Professionals	\$700	\$1,050
20+ Professionals	\$800	\$1,150

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CTCPA Connect www.ctcpas.org/connect

CTCPA Connect is an online member community that allows you to ask and respond to questions, collaborate, and share with fellow members like never before.

It's easy to get started!

I. Login to Connect.

You can get to CTCPA Connect by visiting www.ctcpas.org/connect and logging in with your CTCPA website username and password.

2. Set your profile and notification settings.

- Click on My Account > My Profile in the gray navigation bar on the left side of the page.
- · From here you can upload a photo, add bio information, and select your notification settings.

3. Find groups and start or participate in discussions.

- Go to My Group Pages > My Groups to see any committees or groups you are currently a member of.
- Use Find a New Group to find and join specialized group • discussions.
- You can visit any group page to read the latest, join, or • Post a New Discussion.

With Connect, you can:

- Read and participate in current discussions or start a new one.
- Join and connect with specialized groups including State Tax, Federal Tax, CFO/ Controller Roundtable, and many others.
- Share and access documents.
- Send private messages to individuals.

Participate via email!

Once you have logged in and joined the groups that interest you, you'll be notified of all new group discussions via email. You can even respond to conversations right from your email inbox on your desktop or mobile device.

You can set your notification settings for immediately, daily, or weekly digest for each group.



Engage. Connect. Progress. MEMBER Programs

Have questions or want to learn more? Contact Cindy Panioto • <u>cindyp@ctcpas.org</u> • 860-258-0213.

Register and find more at <u>www.ctcpas.org/membermeetings</u>.



Technology Breakfast Roundtables

Thursday, May 16 • 8:00 a.m. Cristy's Luncheonette, Westbrook

Wednesday, June 19 • 8:00 a.m. Riverdale Diner, Shelton

Thursday, July 18 • 8:00 a.m. New York Pickle Deli, Rocky Hill

This is an informal open forum – we never limit discussion. We have experts on board who can help you with the cloud, cybersecurity, e-filing, and more. No need to register – just walk in. Members purchase their own breakfasts.



Easton CONNection

Easton Public Library, Easton 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2 • Free

This free Fairfield County educational series features professional, regulatory, and economic topics.

Don't Overlook Opportunities Created by the New Tax Law

Thursday, June 20 Speaker: Gooffrey Kimmel, Senio

Speaker: **Geoffrey Kimmel**, Senior Business Development Director, Engineered Tax Services

Save the date for these upcoming programs:

Thursday, August 15 Thursday, September 19 Thursday, October 17 Thursday, November 21 Thursday, December 19



Torrington CONNection

Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce, Torrington 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2 • Free

This free Litchfield County/Greater Waterbury educational series features professional, regulatory, and economic topics.

Save the date for these upcoming programs:

Wednesday, May 15 Wednesday, July 17 Wednesday, September 18 Wednesday, November 13



Fairfield County Chapter

Wednesday, June 12 Double Tree by Hilton, Norwalk 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. • CPE Credit: 2 • Fee: \$20

Accessing Capital with New SBA Initiatives

Speaker: **David Canet**, Director of Government Guaranteed Lending, Connecticut Community Bank, N.A.



The Friday Focus for Members in Industry

CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2 • Free

These free two-hour educational programs are specifically designed for members working in business and industry.

The Captive Insurance Alternative Friday, April 26

Speaker: **Don Janezic**, CPA, Executive Vice President and former CFO, Bigelow Tea Company

Don't Overlook Opportunities Created by the New Tax Law

Friday, May 17 Speaker: **Geoffrey Kimmel**, Senior Business Development Director, Engineered Tax Services

Save the date for these upcoming programs:

Friday, August 30 Friday, September 20 Friday, October 18 Friday, November 15 Friday, December 27



Valuation, Forensic, and Litigation Support Group CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

The Testimony: Best Practices for Financial Experts

Monday, May 13 • 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. • CPE Credits: 2 Fees: \$20 CTCPA Members, \$35 Non-members Speaker: Retired Judge **Terence Zemetis**, formerly of Connecticut Superior Court Complex Civil Litigation

Fraudulent Transfers: Review of the Law, Valuation Standards, and Problems with Estate Planning Justification

Monday, September 16 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. • CPE Credits: 2 Fees: \$30 CTCPA Members, \$45 Non-members Speaker: David Shaiken, Esq., Shipman, Shaiken & Schwefel



Federal Tax Committee Meeting Thursday, May 9, 2019 CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. • CPE Credit: 2 • Free

This meeting will feature **Joseph McCarthy**, Senior Stakeholder Liaison, IRS. Subcommittees will provide progress updates and there will be discussion on future endeavors.

Diversity Initiative Kick-Off Event Business Chemistry: Using Science to Improve the Art of Relationships

Thursday, May 23 • 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. • Free Eversource, Newington

Our new diversity initiative is intended to provide events and programming to help engage members in meaningful discussion focusing on personal and professional experiences, learning styles, and more.

Expressly designed for use in a business context, Business Chemistry draws upon the latest analytics technologies to reveal four scientifically based patterns of behavior. The system is designed to provide insights about individuals and teams based on observable traits and preferences.

The Business Chemistry self-assessment will help you understand your own styles and how those compare to the business population. Then you'll learn how to develop hypotheses about the styles and preferences of others based on observable traits and behaviors to help you increase the effectiveness of your interactions.

Keep the good times going at the Laser Tag After Party!

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. • Laser Quest, Newington *Fees: \$25 Members, \$35 Non-members*

Meet up for some active fun with fellow participants just down the road from Eversource following the formal Business Chemistry presentation.

Laser tag combines the classic games of hide-and-seek and tag with a high-tech twist. We'll enjoy a multi-level arena with swirling fog, energetic music, and fun waiting around every corner.

All skill levels and abilities are welcome to join in the fun!

New & Young Professionals Events

Open to members aged 35 and younger.

Learn more and register for these events at www.ctcpas.org/nyp.

Work hard.

Breakfast Meeting

Implications of Blockchain Technology and Cryptocurrencies for the Accountant

Tuesday, June 11 • 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. • CPE Credit: 1 Hampton Inn & Suites, Rocky Hill

Breakfast Meeting

People Buy from People: Position Yourself Properly in the First Few Minutes

Thursday, September 19 • 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. • CPE Credit: 1 CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

Breakfast Meeting

Audit Through Analytic Insight – How Innovation Is Evolving Tuesday, November 5 • 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. • CPE Credit: 1

Breakfast Meeting Fees: \$20 CTCPA Members, \$40 Non-members CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

There's lots more to come!

As this issue went to press, we were hard at work scheduling additional programs for Fairfield and New Haven County new and young professionals. Check your email or <u>www.ctcpas.org/nyp</u> for updates.

Play hard.

Beginners' Golf Lesson

Wednesday, May 22 • 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Tunxis Plantation Golf Course, Farmington Fees: \$45 CTCPA Members, \$55 Non-Members

Beginners' Golf Scramble

Wednesday, May 29 • 2:00 - 7:00 p.m. Tunxis Plantation Golf Course, Farmington *Fees:* \$65 *CTCPA Members,* \$75 *Non-Members*

Joint Happy Hour with Fairfield County Bar Association Young Attorneys

Thursday, May 30 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Dinosaur Bar-B-Que, Stamford *Complimentary to members thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Bessemer Trust Greenwich Office.*

Hartford Yard Goats Game on Private Foul Pole Party Deck

Thursday, August 15 • 7:05 - 10:00 p.m. Dunkin' Donuts Park, Hartford Fees: \$37 CTCPA Members, \$47 Non-Members

NYP Dodgeball Tournament

Thursday, October 24 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Nomad's Adventure Quest, South Windsor *Team of Eight:* \$100

Mingling & Merriment Holiday Party

Thursday, December 5 • 6:30 - 10:00 p.m.The Society Room of Hartford, HartfordFees: \$50 Early, \$65 Regular; CTCPA Members Only11



Company Moves and Promotions

Send your news of firm moves and promotions to Caitlin Bailey O'Neill at caitlinb@ctcpas.org. Headshot photographs will also be published as space allows.

Engberg

real

promoted to

director. He has a

concentration in as-

surance and advisory

services for nonprofit

estate, and manufac-

Thomas Goldfuss

was promoted to di-

rector. He specializes

in assurance and

advisory services to

nonprofit organiza-

tions, credit unions,

and medical and real

Katherine Donovan

was promoted to

manager. She spe-

cializes in employee

benefit plans, closely

held businesses, and

John Trusler joined

as a manager. He

has more than 19

years of experience

in public accounting

and four years in the

private sector serving

as the CFO for one

LaSaracina

Glastonbury promot-

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blumshapiro announced the election of four partners in its West Hartford office:

rate tax.

Amber

Stephen Fuller pro-

vides tax planning,

financial reporting

and compliance ser-

vices with substantial experience in corpo-

serves privately held

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Wisnicki



Stephen Fuller



Amber Monaghan



Miryam Wisnicki



Leslie Zoll



Brian Newman



vies promoted Julia Eisenhaur to partner. She works with numerous not-for-profit organizations, including voluntary health

and welfare organizations, healthcare organizations, and affordable housing.

John R. Formica Jr. is retiring from PwC in June. He spent the first 25 years of his career as an audit partner in the firm's Hartford office and the last 13 years in the PwC National Technical office in Florham Park. NJ and in the New York Metro audit practice.

Whittlesey announced the following:

Edward

was



Edward Engberg



Thomas Goldfuss



Katherine Donovan



John Trusler

of the largest multi-specialty for-profit medical groups in the Northeast region.

&

Fiondella,

consulting



Michael Trinks

manufacturing, technology, bio-tech, construction, and service sectors.

CironeFriedberg, with offices in Bethel, Bridgeport, and Stamford, announced the following:

- Jitendra M. Damania was named supervisor. She brings 29 years of CPA firm and private industry accounting and tax skills.
- Debra Burke was named tax senior. She joins the firm with more than 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors.

Harper & Whitfield in Farmington announced the following:

- · Deborah S. Beebe joined as a manager. She specializes in audit and accounting as well as input for efficiencies, procedures, and effectiveness of internal controls for middle market public and private companies.
- Beth W. Gosciminski was promot-٠ ed to supervisor. She focuses on tax services with a concentration on high-wealth individuals and trusts.
- Ann L. Wesley was promoted to supervisor. She works with a wide range of privately held businesses and nonprofits in the firm's accounting, audit, and tax practices.
- Rebecca B. Zappone was promoted to director. She focuses on tax planning and compliance for individuals and closely held businesses and represents clients in IRS and state income tax audits.
- Mary Elizabeth Shutran was pro-• moted to director. She focuses on audit, accounting, and tax work for clients in the service, distribution, and manufacturing industries and not-for-profit organizations.
- Patrick J. Paternostro joined as an experienced senior accountant. His clients have included environmental and nuclear remediation services, chemical manufacturing, real estate, insurance, and physicians' practices.
- Beth A. Thurz joined as a director. She provides tax planning and compliance, systems conversions, consulting, accounting assistance, and due diligence projects.

Federal Tax Services Practice Leader.

part-





Need to recruit new staff? CTCPA can help!

1 Day >> 150 Job and Internship Interviews



INTERVIEW DAY 2019

Friday, September 27 CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Our popular event returns for the seventh year to help match top accounting majors at Connecticut colleges and universities with employers seeking interns or full-time hires.

>>Learn more and register. www.ctcpas.org/interviewday



Recruit interns and employees with CTCPA's Guide to Connecticut Accounting Employers.

This collection of employer resume pages, higher education opportunities, and practical "how-to" information is designed to spotlight accounting career opportunities in Connecticut.

>> Reserve your space. Contact Mark Zampino: <u>markz@ctcpas.org</u> • 860-258-0212

Did you know? We also offer classified ads in *Connecticut CPA* magazine and online. Learn more at <u>www.ctcpas.org/classifieds</u>.



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Member News

Send your news to Caitlin Bailey O'Neill at caitlinb@ctcpas.org. Headshot photographs will also be published as space allows.

Michael Knight, a

partner with Knight

CPAs, with offices in

Fairfield and Green-

wich, was a featured

Sheppard ;



Peter Flournoy



Peter Flournoy of Peter W. Flournoy, CPA in Norwalk was recently honored by CountingWorks as one of its "Top 50 Cloud Accounting Experts" for 2018.

Alan Clavette, managing member at Clavette & Company in Newtown, was interviewed for the Connecticut Mirror article "SALT cap to

hurt some CT taxpayers, while others benefit from GOP tax law" and the Hartford Business Journal article "Quietly, CT makes derided 'death' tax friendlier to state's wealthiest residents."

blumshapiro was selected as a gold level Healthy Workplace Employer by the Business Council of Fairfield County.



Michael Knight

guest on the WSHU radio show "The Full Story" to discuss the loss of the SALT deduction following last year's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Michael was also quoted by Bloomberg in the articles "New Rhode Island SALT Workaround Bill 'Has Legs'" and "Gillibrand's Tax Returns Show 'Significant Savings' Under GOP Law, Accountant Says."

Rolleri

A number of members' companies were named to the Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For. Congratulations to Deloitte, EY, KPMG, PwC, Synchrony Financial, Crowe, and Bank of America.

Action

Robert Lickwar

Robert Lickwar, a partner with UHY LLP, wrote the article "8 Things to Know About Tax Reform, One Year Later" for the Hartford Business Journal.



Ryan Sheppard, a partner with Knight Rolleri Sheppard CPAs, recently presented a session at the Westport Senior Center on charitable giving.

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Cara Riley, CPA KPMG

Patrick Ritter, CPA Deloitte

Jason P. Brosnan, CPA, MBA, MST Virtus Investment Partners

Bryant Tobler, CPA Deloitte Tax LLP

State Rep Jill Barry, CPA, District 31 Graff Wood Association Management Solutions

Daniel Smith, CPA blumshapiro

Erik Christensen, CPA Edwin R. Muenzner, CPA

Christopher J. Reims, CPA Draskinis & Reims, P.C.

James L. Walonoski, CPA Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC

Joseph Markarian, CPA Lawrence P. Lemieux & Associates LLC

Heather Lefkowitz, CPA, MSA Bedard & Company, PC

Alma Qirici, CPA John Fries, CPA

William F. Epperson, CPA William F. Epperson, CPA

Maryanne Shirshac, CPA Amphenol Corporation

Daniel D. Moffa, CPA H & T Battery Components USA Inc.

Patricia G. Dong, CPA Fiorita Kornhaas & Company, PC

Alfred A. Floramo, CPA Tech Air

Hristos Vlahos, CPA Knight Rolleri Sheppard CPAs, LLP

Melanie J. Paukner, CPA Richard Paukner & Associates LLC

Welcome, New Members!

We're pleased to welcome the following individuals to CTCPA membership:

Bryan Meek, CPA, PMP Cranbury Tax Services

Manish Madhavani, CPA KPMG

Yuko Ishizuka, CPA Marks Paneth LLP

Vanda Sar, CPA Deloitte

Shaun Conrad, CPA My Accounting Course

New Associate Members

George Lund King, King & Associates

Hannah C. Bryant King, King & Associates

Ashley Uliasz Whittlesey

Kelly A. Harper Aetna Life Insurance Company

Nicholas A. Korytkowski Goldblatt Bokoff LLC

Rachel L. Leaverton RSM US LLP

Nicholas A. Varricchio RSM US LLP

Bobby Gendron RSM US LLP

Paul A. DiVincenzo, MBA Gateway Community College

Natalya Turker Duracell Inc.

Kevin Tirella Tech Air

Cheryl Green Knight Rolleri Sheppard CPAs, LLP

Wellington J. Nunez RSM US LLP

Tahsin U. Mujib PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP

Katie Kelly KPMG

Aitzarelys Negron EY

In Memoriam

Past President George Veily



CTCPA Past President George G. Veily, a member since September 24, 1964, passed away on January 7, 2019. A veter-

* * * * * *

an of World War II, Mr. Veily served in the 20th Armored Division. Upon returning from the war, he enrolled in college under the GI Bill and graduated with distinction from George Washington University. Upon graduation, he began a 40-year career with Arthur Andersen & Co. Mr. Veily served on the Connecticut State Board of Accountancy and was a director for the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

Past President Michael Weinshel



CTCPAPastPresident Michael Weinshel, a member since September 11, 1972, passed away on January 23, 2019. He

graduated from Marietta College in 1970 and earned an MBA from the University of Bridgeport. He passed the CPA Exam on his first attempt. Most recently, he served as managing member of Weinshel, Wynnick & Associates, CPAs, LLC. Mr. Weinshel was very active in scouting and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He served as a past president at Congregation Rodeph Sholom and was also an active member of the AICPA, National Association of State Boards of Accountancy, and Connecticut State Board of Accountancy. According to his family, "Mr. Weinshel's passion was his profession. He valued his high standards and ethical standards above all else."



Member Snapshots

We're looking for your snapshots!

Does your organization volunteer in the community, enjoy fun tax season treats, or run races for charity? Show us what you're up to! Submit your photos to **Kirsten Piechota** at <u>kirstenp@ctcpas.org</u>.

RSM Gives Back to the Tommy Fund through 'Birdies Fore Love'



Pictured (from left) are Tommy Fund President Joseph Bowman (Law Offices of Joseph E. Bowman), CTCPA President Susan Martinelli (RSM US LLP), Doug Turner (RSM US LLP), Jeff Erlingheuser (RSM US LLP), and Tommy Fund Vice President Denise Carr (Pediatric Oncology Outpatient Treatment Centers, Yale-New Haven Hospital).

The RSM US LLP Connecticut office employees, partners, and principals recently joined forces with clients to present a \$32,037 check to the Tommy Fund for Childhood Cancer. The donation was made as part of RSM's "Birdies Fore Love" fundraising efforts related to The RSM Classic, a PGA TOUR event for which RSM is the title sponsor.

Birdies Fore Love supports deserving local nonprofit organizations focused on enhancing the quality of life for children and families. This year, RSM's Connecticut market employees selected the Tommy Fund for Childhood Cancer to receive the donation, which was also supported with matching funds from the RSM US Foundation.

Burzenski & Company Celebrates 35th Year with 35 Kind Acts



Burzenski & Company recently presented a welcome kit to Columbus House. This kit will be given to a local person in need as he or she moves into new housing and includes cleaning supplies, bathroom items, toiletries, bedding, and kitchen items such as towels, plates, cooking utensils, and flatware. This donation is part of the firm's 35 for 35 campaign – a celebration of the firm's 35th anniversary.



>> Classified Advertisements >>

General

IRS Representation – Will represent your client before the IRS on issues such as offers-in-compromise, innocent spouse, liens and levies, appeals, etc. Contact Steven Diamond, CPA at 203-221-2700 or <u>srdcpa@gmail.com</u>.

Help Wanted

A Construction Manager/General Contractor located in Central CT is recruiting a Controller with upward mobility to CFO. Requirements include a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, CPA/MBA preferred, ten or more years relevant experience, five years supervisory experience, construction accounting experience a plus. Please respond to H. Kent Goetjen, CPA at kgoetjen55@gmail.com.

A rapidly expanding firm in Fairfield County has various openings to fulfill its growth plans. The Innovative CPA Group is looking for partner level, managers and senior CPAs in both the audit and tax fields. Come join our dynamic firm and share in the growth and fun we are having. Check out our website: <u>innovativecpagroup.com</u>. Please address all inquiries to <u>kelly@innovativecpagroup.com</u>.

Accountant – Tax – CPA firm seeking individual with 5+ years tax experience to supplement growth. Such person should have the required knowledge to complete the forms: 1120, 1120s, 1065, 1041, 1040, and related schedules. Salary negotiable, benefits included. Kindly forward your resume to: Thomas S. Monterosso, CPA, P.C., 65 Cherry St., Milford, CT 06460, email: thomas.monterosso@snet.net, or fax: 203-876-1690. Thank you.

Mergers/Acquisitions

Accounting Practice Sales – New London County EA practice for sale grossing \$75K. For more info on this opportunity or to sell your practice, contact Lori Newcomer, CPA and Tim Price, CPA at 888-553-1040 or <u>PNgroup@APS.net</u>, or visit <u>www.APS.net</u>.

As a leading, progressive firm in Fairfield County, we are interested in exploring a merger or affiliation with another strong firm (or individual), to allow us to continue to grow, diversify our services, and expand our client base. For a confidential discussion, please contact Tony Cirone at CironeFriedberg, LLP by phone at 203-798-2721 or email <u>tcirone@</u> cironefriedberg.com.

CPA firm would like to buy all or part of your accounting, tax, or investment practice. Call Mark J. Mazzone of D'Agostino & Mazzone at 860-257-4005, ext. 302.



www.ctcpas.org/classifieds

Cost Members: \$2 per word Nonmembers: \$3 per word

25th Anniversary

CTCPA Accounting Scholarship Foundation GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us for a historic anniversary celebration tournament at an exclusive location as we support scholarships for tomorrow's accounting professionals.

Tournament Sponsor

Date coming soon! **TPC RIVER HIGHLANDS** Home of the Travelers Championship

\$300 Individual Player Registration • \$3,000 and \$2,000 Major Sponsorships • \$1,500 Gold Sponsorships • \$300 Tee/Green Sponsorships

Register at www.ctcpas.org/golf.

Sponsorship contact: Liz Frazza at 860-258-0220 or lizf@ctcpas.org.



Professional Development

2019 Calendar

		In-person	Livestream		Member	Nonmember	CPE
Date	Title	Code	Code	Location	Standard/Early	Standard/Early	Hours
-							
lune	2019						
		A I I A A		Norwolk	¢ 2 2 0 /¢ 2 0 4	¢ 4 ⊑ 4/¢ 410	0
6/3 6/3	Annual Update for Accountants and Auditors Auditing Not-for-Profit Entities: Superior Skills for an	AUAA		Norwalk	\$329/\$294	\$454/\$419	8
0/3	Effective and Efficient Audit	ANFP	ANFP-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/3	International Taxation	ITTF	ITTF-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/4	Latest Developments in Government and Nonprofit Accounting	IIIF	IIIF-LO		\$JU4/\$209	9429/9094	0
0/4	and Auditing	GNAA		Wallingford	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/4	Revenue Recognition: Mastering the New FASB Requirements	INRR	INRR-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/4	Taxation of Individuals Living Abroad and Foreign Nationals	IININN	ININI-LO	INDERY THII	ψJU4/ψZU9	φ429/φ394	0
0/4	Living in the U.S.	TILA	TILA-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/4	Upcoming Peer Review: Is Your Firm Ready?	SNPR	TILA-LO	Cromwell	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/5	CTCPA Technology Conference	TEC		Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/5	Leases: Mastering the New FASB Requirements	LEAS	LEAS-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/5	Tax Considerations and Consequences for Closely	LLAU	LLAG-LG	ROCKYTIII	ψ004/ψ203	ψ+23/ψ334	0
0/5	Held Businesses	CHTX	CHTX-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/6	Best Practices for Payroll Taxes and 1099 Issues	GPT	GPT-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/6	Financial Statement Disclosures: A Guide for Small-	011		Rocky Till	ψ00 4 /ψ200	ψτ23/ψ33τ	
0/0	and Medium-Sized Businesses (Morning Session)	GSM4		Shelton	\$170/\$150	\$235/\$215	4
6/6	Non-GAAP Financial Statement Options: Cash, Modified Cash,	001014		oneiton	φ170/φ100	φ200/φ210	
0/0	and Tax Basis (Afternoon Session)	CMT4		Shelton	\$170/\$150	\$235/\$215	4
6/7	How to Do a GAAS Audit	GAAS	GAAS-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/7	Successful Mergers and Acquisitions of CPA Firms	SMA	SMA-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/10	2019 FASB and AICPA Update	FAU-A	FAU-ALS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/10	Five Critical Issues that Tax Public Accountants Will Need	170-7	TAU-ALO	ROCKYTIII	ψ004/ψ203	ψ+23/ψ334	0
0/10	to Face This Year (Afternoon Session)	CIT4		Norwalk	\$170/\$150	\$235/\$215	4
6/10	Four Tiers of Loss Limitations: A Guide to the New Rules	0114		NOTWAIK	ψ170/ψ130	ψ200/ψ210	4
0/10	for Pass-Through Entities (Morning Session)	FTL4		Norwalk	\$170/\$150	\$235/\$215	4
6/11	Analytics and Big Data for Accountants	DAAN	DAAN-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/11	Annual Update and Practice Issues for Preparation, Compilation,	DAAN		ПОСКУТНИ	ψ304/ψ203	ψ+23/ψ33+	0
0/11	and Review Engagements	CORU	CORU-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/11	Nonprofit Industry Update and GAAP Refresher	NIU	NIU-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/11	Top 10 Tax Issues in Dealing with LLCs and Partnerships	LP10	NIO-LO	Norwalk	\$329/\$294	\$454/\$419	8
6/12	Annual Update for Controllers	SKSB	SKSB-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/12	Fraud Update: Detecting and Preventing the Top Ten	ONOD	01100 20	r tooky r iii	φ00 I/φ200	φ120/φ001	
0/12	Fraud Schemes	TTFS	TTFS-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/12	Surgent's Comprehensive Guide To Tax Depreciation,		1110 20	r toong r ini	\$00 II \$200	¢120/¢001	
0/12	Expensing, and Property Transactions	TDAP		Shelton	\$329/\$294	\$454/\$419	8
6/13	Accounting and Auditing Conference	AAC		Plantsville	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/13	The Best S Corporation, Limited Liability, and Partnership	////0		1 lantovnio	\$00 II,\$200	¢120/¢001	
0,10	Update Course by Surgent	BCPE	BCPE-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/14	The Best Individual Income Tax Update Course by Surgent	BITU	BITU-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/17	Surgent's Annual Tax-Planning Guide for S Corporations,	20			φττ ./φ ± σσ	÷, ¢00 1	
	Partnerships, and LLCs	TPGS	TPGS-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/18	Governmental Accounting and Auditing Conference	GAA	GAA-LS	Rocky Hill	\$304/\$269	\$429/\$394	8
6/18	Maximizing Your Social Security Benefits (Afternoon Session)	SSR4		Norwalk	\$170/\$150	\$235/\$215	4
						,	



Engage. Connect. Progress.

Spring 2019 CTCPA Conference Series



Employee Benefit Plans Conference

May 16, 2019 • CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

Express Code: EBP

Features a DOL update by Chief Accountant of the U.S. Department of Labor Michael E. Auerbach, CPA, plus many more informative sessions.



Technology Conference

June 5, 2019 • Sheraton Hartford South, Rocky Hill

Express Code: TEC

Our completely revamped technology conference includes sessions on blockchain, AI, technology best practices, cybersecurity, best hardware choices, how cloud benefits the modern CPA, mobile device management, multi-factor authentication, and more.



Accounting and Auditing Conference

June 13, 2019 • Aqua Turf Club, Plantsville

Express Code: AAC

Includes the annual FASB update, revenue recognition, lease accounting, compilation and review, risk assessment, data analytics and data visualization, and more.



Governmental Accounting and Auditing Conference June 18, 2019 • CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

Express Code: GAA

Start the day with a GASB update, then move on to cybersecurity issues in governments, a legislative update, a single audit and yellow book update, professional ethics, and examination of actuarial work.



Not-for-Profit Organizations Conference

June 25, 2019 • CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

Express Code: NFP

Sessions on revenue recognition, efficient single audits, employment law, state property tax, Yellow Book, detecting and preventing fraud, nonprofit tax, and FASB update.



What we've done. What's to come.

In our second annual report issue, we bring you the latest on where we've been and the heights we'll climb to in the future following our extensive strategic planning initiative, full membership survey, and more.



Welcome to the Annual 'State of the CTCPA' Report.



What a whirlwind it's been in my year as CTCPA president. Just as our professional environment is changing at a rapid pace, our professional organization is undergoing tremendous transformation to meet the evolving needs of our members.

Some of the things I'm most proud of are the strides we have made to help our members:

Embrace technology, no matter what your level.

From the basics of blockchain and artificial intelligence in finance to more advanced programs for those already implementing these technologies, we're bringing you relevant topics for all experience levels to help you stay at the forefront.

Plan for the future.

Our Strategic Planning Committee and subcommittee members devoted more than 700 hours this year to research and workshops, culminating in the identification of focused goals and initiatives in five areas: membership, professional development, branding, technology advances, and advocacy. The group is now forming implementation committees to move these initiatives forward.

Fight for our profession at the State Capitol.

Accounting and finance professionals faced a number of threatening proposals at the State Capitol this year, including a sales tax on professional services and an increase to the CPA license fee. Executive Director Bonnie Stewart and her team kept us in-the-know on what was happening and how we could reach out to the governor and our legislators to let them know how those proposals would affect us and our businesses.

Get involved from wherever you are.

I know how hard it is for me to get away from the demands of the office, and I'm sure it's the same for you. CTCPA has added a number of ways to get the information and connections you need from wherever you are: livestream, virtual committee meetings, regional professional updates and chapter meetings in your area of the state, and our new online community.

Connect with peers across industries, specializations.

I was surprised to learn that about half of CTCPA members work outside of public accounting in business and industry, government, education, and other areas. CTCPA is adding new programs and conferences specifically for this demographic, and is also focused on providing opportunities for members in all practice areas to meet for networking and collaboration.

I hope you'll join us to celebrate the great year we've had and usher in the exciting things to come at our annual meeting on June 19. We were lucky to secure Bruno Wu, a fascinating technology entrepreneur who has been instrumental in bringing the new Ideanomics Fintech Village to West Hartford. He'll be telling us about some of the research they've been doing to use cutting-edge technology in finance, accounting, logistics, and more.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president for the past year. It's been an honor and a pleasure. I hope to see you at the CTCPA Annual Meeting on June 19!

usar

Susan Martinelli, CPA 2018-2019 CTCPA President

Message from Executive Director Bonnie Stewart



As I look back on my second full year as your executive director, I'm so grateful for the tireless work of our staff, committee and group members and chairs, Advisory Council and Board of Directors members, educational program speakers, event hosts, and everyone else who made all of our progress pos-

sible. You have all dedicated countless hours of your time and talents to make sure that we stay relevant, add value, and evolve as we step into the future.

Increasing your membership ROI.

One of our main goals this year was to increase the return on investment for your membership. We added several pilot groups that were so successful they have all been made permanent groups, including our Fairfield County Chapter, Southeastern Connecticut Chapter, CFO/Controller Roundtable, and Business and Industry Roundtable. We have now turned our attention to revamping many of our existing groups to make them more relevant. We're also adding some new groups that members have requested, including Hartford and New Haven chapters.

Leveraging technology, local meetings to connect.

Our new programs and technology make it easier for everyone to stay connected and participate from wherever you are. We've held in-person meetings (including regional professional updates, chapter meetings, Torrington and Easton CONNection educational programs, new and young professionals breakfasts, and more) at locations all across the state. We've ramped up our programs offered via livestream and our virtual committee meetings, and launched a new online community so you can participate from wherever you are.

Helping you stay ahead in a rapidly changing professional environment.

We have our eye on the many areas that are changing faster than ever – technology, regulatory requirements, and the legislative landscape. We have your back, whether it's connecting you with leaders at state agencies or getting you and your staff education at the level you need.

I'm so proud of our accomplishments this year. Continual feedback is vital to make us the strongest we can be. Please take some time to review this year's "State of the CTCPA." See what we've been up to and what we have planned. Let us know what's working, what's not, and what could help you in the coming year. We're continually evolving to serve you better, and we can do that better and faster with your input.

Jonnie

Bonnie Stewart CTCPA Executive Director, <u>bonnies@ctcpas.org</u>

2018-2019 Board of Directors

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President-elect Dennis W. Cole Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger

Treasurer Marie L. Benedetto Innovative Business Solutions

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Matthew J. Auth Ernst & Young

Jessica A. Aniskoff blumshapiro

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Alan J. Clavette Clavette & Company

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Michael J. Delaney Connecticut Auditors of Public Accounts

Katherine A. Donovan Whittlesey

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Anastasiya V. Hajek Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

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Paul N. Iannone, Attorney at Law and Tax Career Advisor

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Joseph A. Tarasco Accountants Advisory Group

Troy Woolery CohnReznick

Jennifer Whalley Amphenol Corporation

Lisa M. Wills Whittlesey

See our 2019-2020 Board of Directors nominees and incoming Advisory Council appointees on page 32.

Who are CTCPA members?

Our members work in taxation, accounting and auditing, personal financial planning, corporate management, business ownership and entrepreneurship, education, government, and more across Connecticut and beyond.



Generations

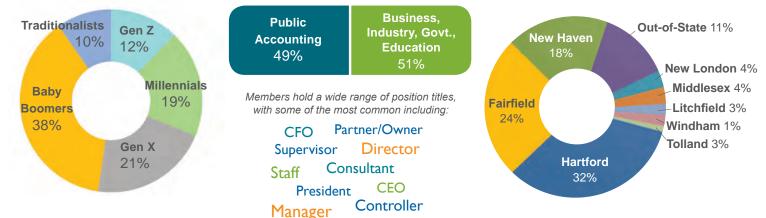
Our membership spans all five generations currently in the workforce.

Workplace

There is an almost even split between members working within and outside public accounting.

Locations

Our reach spans the state, including each county in Connecticut, neighboring states, and beyond.



We conducted an extensive membership-wide survey this year and learned:



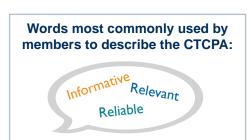
Top reasons members turn to the CTCPA:

- 85% Access to resources to stay up-to-date on the latest developments in the accounting profession.
- 78% To develop professionally.
- **75%** To support the profession.
- **59%** To increase personal and/or business prestige and credibility.



Top three challenges for accounting professionals:

- 1. Rapidly changing technology.
- 2. Workload and long work hours.
- 3. New national accounting or regulatory standards.





Top member benefits include:

- 1. CTCPA website.
- 2. Connecticut CPA magazine.
- 3. Seminars and conferences.

The most important benefit you can't get anywhere else:

- "The network of peers and people in the industry – it's a place for all of us to come together."
- "A voice and advocacy for the CPA profession at the state level."
- "The CTCPA has our back as professionals. They are always there for us."

We're helping members grow and thrive with **new technology**.

Artificial intelligence, blockchain, and data analytics are among technologies poised to disrupt "business as usual" in the profession and the world. We're making investments in state-of-the-art tools and bringing you programs and resources to keep you on the leading edge.





We brought you specialized programs and resources.

We're helping you leverage technology to advance your company and your career,

whether you're actively employing the latest tools or you want to learn the basics. Resources included:

- A Business and Industry Roundtable meeting on how robotics is reshaping the financial sector.
- Our online Technology Hub chock full of news and information at <u>www.ctcpas.org/technology</u>.
- Personalized advice from our Technology Committee experts at our breakfast roundtables held monthly at three locations around the state, as well as our popular Cyber Security Conference.



We launched the CTCPA Connect online community.

Members told us they want to leverage technology to connect with fellow

members from wherever they are. Enter CTCPA Connect: a private online community exclusively for members to ask questions, share resources, and stay in touch. The community allows for participation via our website as well as directly through email posts and replies. We launched Connect with several pilot groups and are opening participation to the full membership.



We formed an IT governance committee to steer our technology investments.

Our new IT governance committee, comprising CTCPA IT and finance staff, executive leadership, volunteer leadership, and technology vendors, is part of a systemic approach to ensure the CTCPA is on the leading edge, following best practices, utilizing technology appropriately, and managing risk.





Leveraging state-of-the-art technology to stay in touch.

Building off the launch of our new private online community, we will continue to develop ways to keep our members

connected from wherever they are, including a complete redesign of the CTCPA website to make it even easier for you to access the tools and resources you need.



Not sure where to start with all this new technology? We're bringing you the basics.

Still not sure how all these technology buzzwords can realistically fit into your everyday work? Fear not – we're here to help you learn from the ground up with basic-level courses so you can embrace and leverage these new tools, including:

- Basics of blockchain.
- Artificial intelligence 101.
- Getting started with data analytics.



Redefining our technology conference to help you stay on the leading edge.

CTCPA is committed to be a leading resource to help members adapt and stay on the cutting edge. Our re-imagined technology conference will bring you education and training on the latest developments and tools specifically for accounting professionals, and be sure to check out our vendor showcase to connect with a select group of quality strategic partners. Learn more about this and other conferences on page 19.

Our **professional development** is evolving.

Our educational programming is morphing to meet the needs of a changing world. We're harnessing the knowledge of local and national experts to bring you comprehensive learning in a delivery system that works best for you.



Participants get the inside scoop on the Section 199A regulations from Walter Nunnallee, live in Cromwell and on a computer screen near you!



We have a new focus on lifelong learning.

We're moving away from the traditional idea of CPE – continuing professional

education focused on earning credits – to a commitment to lifelong learning, broad-based professional development, and opportunities to connect with your peers with diverse expertise through networking and collaborative events.

Our goal is to provide a wealth of relevant subject matter on not just technical accounting topics, but IT, economic and business awareness, career development, managerial skills, and more.



Our delivery systems are continuing to evolve.

We increased our livestreaming and webinars as more and more members

are taking advantage of the option to participate in education remotely.

We saw a 127% increase in livestream participation over last year.

- Livestream: We will be widely increasing opportunities for participants to join us for courses from wherever they are – complete with live video, integrated digital course materials and presentation slides, and the ability to ask questions in real time.
- Webinars: The depth and breadth of our webinar offerings continue to grow – we offered **4,512** titles last year, with more being added almost every day!
- **On-Demand:** From during the day to the middle of the night, our hundreds of on-demand courses can be completed when it works for you.





Presenting skill-level based courses that will help you easily match educational opportunities with the professional development needs of your team.

Members in managerial roles, both in business and industry and public accounting, have expressed a need for professional development and courses grouped into a series based on job role and responsibilities, areas of expertise, or career stage. Of particular focus will be the development of course series for first-year, second-year, and third-year accountants.



Planning new events for members in business and industry.

With almost half of our membership working in business and industry, we

will be expanding our educational offerings for this segment, including launching a CPAs in business conference. Additional offerings are being fine-tuned by member focus groups.



Offering programs to meet the new nano-learning CPE credit standards.

After much discussion at the State Board of Accountancy, nano-learning is now an accepted form of CPE in Connecticut. Nano-learning, which is a self-study form of learning in short, 10-minute snippets, officially became law in Connecticut in February. We will be adding self-study and on-demand courses to our online library so you can take advantage of this new learning option.

Our member **meetings** and **programs** are providing even more value.

We are here to help empower your success. Whether you're a seasoned professional, just starting out in your career, or somewhere in between, we're committed to bringing you more ways to connect with each other and more in-depth information about regulatory and legislative issues that are changing on an almost-daily basis.



We provided more relevant topics and speakers.

Members told us they were looking for higher-level topics and breaking news

at our free two-hour member breakfast meetings. Some examples of what we brought you include:

Torrington CONNection

- Cybersecurity awareness.
- Multi-state tax update.
- Working with Connecticut probate courts.
- Small businesses and nexus.

Easton CONNection

- An adaptive CPA firm business model.
- Passwords and hackers: What you need to know.
- Wage and hour update.

The Friday Focus for Members in Industry

- What does the legislature have in store for you?
- Pass-through entities under federal tax reform.
- Economic update for business.



Regional Professional Updates brought the conversation to your backyard.

Bethel Bridgeport Fairfield Hartford Middletown North Haven Norwalk Norwich Rocky Hill Stamford Torrington Waterbury Westport Executive Director **Bonnie Stewart** and Membership and Business Development Director **Cindy Panioto** hit the road this year to continue our popular Regional Professional Updates, which provided a brief CTCPA, regulatory, and legislative update followed by interactive discussion. Feedback we gathered helped shape many of this year's new initiatives.

See page 6 for the next series coming this spring.



(from left) Shanita Booker of CohnReznick, Executive Director Bonnie Stewart, and Cynthia Calderon of CohnReznick spoke at the September CTCPA Advisory Council meeting about our new diversity initiative.

What's next



Expanding web conferencing for virtual committee meetings.

After a successful pilot program, we're expanding our technology to allow participa-

tion in committee meetings and other group discussions virtually from wherever you are. Our videoconference service allows participants to see and hear each other using their computer camera and speaker and/or phone.



Launching a profession-wide diversity initiative.

Our new diversity initiative is intended to provide events and programming to help

engage members in meaningful discussion focusing on personal and professional experiences, learning styles, education, and more, starting with a **business chemistry kick-off event on May 23, followed by a fun laser-tag after-party!** (See page 11 for more.)



Forming Hartford and New Haven area chapters.

Following the success of our Fairfield and Southeastern Connecticut chapters,

which began as pilot programs last year and are now permanent groups, we are answering member requests to bring similar networking and educational groups to Hartford and New Haven counties.



Launching a new and young professionals leadership academy.

We're creating a comprehensive leadership academy program designed to en-

hance leadership competencies and develop the skills necessary to take up-and-coming leaders confidently to the next level.

Our member groups engaged in meaningful collaboration and education.

The synergy of CTCPA members working together is palpable. In the past year we have shaken up operations of many of our committees, expanding opportunities for you to engage with colleagues, get connected with experts and regulators, and join groups for specific geographic areas, industry specializations, and demographics.



Accounting Scholarship Foundation 2018-2019 Chair: Michael Ganino, Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte

& Sterczala

Administered by seven trustees, the foundation provides scholarships and grants to accounting

students at Connecticut high schools, colleges, and universities. The foundation is supported by:

- · Member donation check-off on the annual dues statement.
- Our annual scholarship golf tournament.
- More events to come being planned by our trustees!



Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting Committee 2018-2019 Chair: Paul Glotzer, University of Connecticut

This group, with a new name broadened from the former Accounting and Reporting Standards Committee, has embarked on a number of new goals, including:

- Monitoring and discussing accounting and auditing issues and new pronouncements from standard-setters.
- Submitting comment letters on exposure drafts.
- Enhancing relationships with standard setters, ie., FASB.



Business & Industry Roundtable

2018-2019 Chair: Steve LaRosa, Alexion Pharmaceuticals 2018-2019 Vice Chair: Jen Whalley, Amphenol Corporation

This group meets up for discussion of a wide range of regulatory, compliance, and management issues. Members in public accounting, law, etc. are also welcome to participate. Recent discussions included:

- How robotics is reshaping the financial sector.
- Finance's shift to value-added, consultative roles.
- State legislative issues including labor and employment tax.



CFO/Controller Roundtable

2018-2019 Chair: Brad Hillman, Global Steering Systems

This group, exclusively for CFOs and controllers, meets to discuss issues, share ideas, and

hear from experts. Recent topics included:

- Streamlining information in accounting and finance offices.
- Three strategic partners every CFO/controller should know.
- "Lean" processes for accounting and finance departments.



CTCPA State Taxation Committee members talk through pass-through entity tax questions at a recent meeting



Educators FOOD Group

2018-2019 Chair: Marie Kulesza, Central CT State University

The new Educators FOOD (For Our Own Development) Group will meet three times per

year to discuss hot topics in a candid, conversational environment. Recent meetings focused on:

- · Proposed changes to technology education and examination required to earn the CPA designation.
- A FASB update for academics.



Employee Benefit Plans Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Rebecca Guptill, Novak Francella

This group of diversified professionals including auditors, actuaries, third-party administrators,

and attorneys meets for member-led roundtable discussion of issues affecting benefit plans, program audits, and employers, includina:

- · Changes to ERISA plan auditing standards.
- DOL and SEC proposals on the definition of a fiduciary.
- · Proposed changes to hardship distribution rules.



Fairfield County Chapter 2018-2019 Chair: Ron DeSoiza, PKF O'Connor Davies

This group meets for networking and education in Fairfield County locations on a regular basis,

varying between breakfast, lunch, and evening timeframes. Recent topics have included:

- HR compliance trends in 2018.
- The broad impact of Wayfair.
- A professional and strategic briefing on blockchain.
- Cyber security, business risks, and business opportunities.



Federal Income Taxation Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Paul lannone, Paul N. lannone, Attorney at Law

This committee has formed working groups to focus on providing opportunities for members to collaborate more effectively, including:

- Building stronger relationships with legislators/regulators.
- Planning a high-level educational conference.
- · Creating a forum to meet on a regular basis to share ideas, issues, and best practices.





Financial Institutions Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Charlotte Hansen, Polish National Credit Union

These professionals working in the banking/ credit granting industry (including CPAs in

business and public accounting, regulators, and consultants) met for group-led discussion of industry trends, regulatory/ legislative developments, and new pronouncements.



Golf Committee

2018-2019 Co-chairs: Matt Gaieski, blumshapiro and Michael Bolingbroke, Robert Half International

Committee members raised \$26,900 this year to support Accounting Scholarship Foundation

scholarships/grants for aspiring CPAs by securing sponsorships, raffle donations, and players for this high-quality event. (We have big plans for our 25th anniversary tournament at the TPC River Highlands. Find out more at <u>www.ctcpas.org/golf</u>.)



Governmental Accounting & Auditing Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Jessica Aniskoff, blumshapiro

Group members include both public sector finance professionals and those who serve them in public accounting. Recent discussions included:

- GASB and FASB pronouncements/implementation guides.
- Single audit updates.
- Connecticut's Municipal Employees Retirement System.



New & Young Professionals Groups

2018-2019 Hartford Chair: Katherine Donovan, Whittlesey 2018-2019 Fairfield Chair: Michael Weymouth, Marcum

Our new and young professionals cabinets in Hartford and Fairfield counties (with a New Haven County cabinet coming soon!) plan annual events that have included:

- Breakfast meetings blockchain/bitcoin in business.
- Charity events book drive and kickball tournament.
- Social events trivia night, ziplining, and a brewery tour.



Not-for-Profit Organizations

Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Lisa Wills, Whittlesey

With a focus on accounting, auditing, taxation, and financial reporting for not-for-profits, recent activity has included a discussion of ASU 2016-14 and the new required liquidity disclosures as well as pursuing legislation to increase the audit threshold from gross revenue of \$500,000 to \$1 million for not-for-profit organizations that receive state grants.



Peer Review Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Martin Henry, Henry, Raymond & Thompson

Peer Review Committee membership offers a unique opportunity to stay ahead of changing

standards and potentially move your firm into the technical review market niche. The committee is actively seeking new members. If you are a partner or manager at your firm and would like to learn more, please contact Staff Liaison Julie McNeal at juliem@ctcpas.org or 860-258-0236.



Professional Ethics Committee 2018-2019 Chair: Ryan Sheppard, Knight Rolleri Sheppard CPAs

Committee members (serving by presidential

appointment) met to review ethics complaints

against members. Cases where the committee believed they found violations of the Code of Professional Ethics were referred to the AICPA Professional Ethics Division.



Southeastern Connecticut Chapter

2018-2019 Chair: Sarah Stover, Edwin Muenzner, CPA

These networking and educational meetings are held in locations across Southeastern Connecticut. Recent programs have included:

- Property tax assessment methods and audits.
- Federal tax reform breaking news.
- Connecticut's fiscal status with Senator Cathy Osten.



State Taxation Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Patrick Duffany, CohnReznick

Committee members have worked together extensively to navigate the regulatory and legis-

lative aspects of Connecticut tax compliance and offer insight on potential impacts of tax proposals and policies to the DRS commissioner and staff. Issues addressed this year included:

- Implications of Public Act 18-49.
- Reducing the administrative burden resulting due to decoupling from bonus depreciation.



Technology Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Mark Torello, Whittlesey Technology

In addition to developing our popular Cyber Security Conference for CPAs, our technology

gurus have answered member questions at their monthly breakfast roundtable meetings on topics including:

- Your mobile phone: More of a risk than you know.
- Office 365: What CPAs need to know.
- Two-factor authentication: Why you need it now.



Trust, Estate, & Gift Taxation Committee

2018-2019 Chair: Paul Czepiga, Czepiga Daly Pope & Peri

Group members meet for discussion of taxation, trusts, gifting strategies, and more. Recent topics included:

- Probate court rules update and litigation trends.
- Estate planning/tax developments, including IR-2018-229.
- Roles of and risks to a CPA who is a fiduciary or agent under power of attorney.



Valuation, Forensic, & Litigation Support Group

2018-2019 Chair: Anastasiya Hajek, Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina

This specialized group holds networking/educational dinner and breakfast meetings. Recent topics included:

- Legal considerations in collecting and analyzing evidence.
- Writing an expert witness report.
- Preparing to testify in court: Direct and cross examination.

We expanded our **advocacy** efforts and our relationships with **regulatory agencies**.

We significantly increased our activity at the State Capitol this year. Our ramped-up advocacy efforts help build relationships so legislators respect and rely on us to offer feedback on new tax and economic proposals, ensuring they are crafted in the most effective way to achieve their intended goals.



We fought hard to defend the profession against harmful legislation and pursued a number of legislative initiatives at the State Capitol.

We strongly opposed a proposed sales tax on tax preparation and accounting services.

Proposed at the beginning of the 2019 session, the measure would require taxpayers to pay state sales tax on tax return preparation and accounting services, requiring many taxpayers to "pay a tax on paying their taxes."

We successfully fought against an increase to the Connecticut CPA license fee.

Connecticut's fee, at \$565, is nearly six and a half times the national average of \$88.

We worked to address unintended issues related to Public Act 18-49.

Our State Taxation Committee has been working continuously with the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) to address issues created by Public Act 18-49.

We worked to exclude CPAs from a measure addressing unauthorized practice of law.

This measure is written in such a broad way that CPAs giving any tax advice or representing their clients before state agencies would be considered to be engaging in an unauthorized practice of law.

We tried to reduce administrative burdens due to decoupling from bonus depreciation.

We submitted a proposal to the legislature that would help Connecticut pass-through entities struggling due to timing of Connecticut decoupling from the federal tax bonus depreciation rules.

We supported increasing the audit threshold for not-for-profits that receive state grants.

As part of a coalition with other organizations, we sought legislation to increase the audit threshold from gross revenue of \$500,000 to \$1 million for not-for-profit organizations that receive state grants.



How do we make sure our voice is heard?

- We disseminate **legislative action alerts** online and via email, flyers, and social media, explaining the issues and urging members to reach out to their legislators.
- Our grassroots advocacy action software, Voter Voice, makes it easy for members to find and contact their legislators. We provide basic talking points, and members add their own personal experience and viewpoint. With a few clicks, the software sends the message directly to the appropriate legislators.
- CTCPA Executive Director Bonnie Stewart testifies at public hearings before the General Law Committee and others throughout the session. We encourage members to send us letters supporting their position, which we submit as testimony on their behalf.
- Bonnie and our contract lobbyist regularly meet face-to-face with key legislators and leaders to make sure our message remains at the forefront.



More than 100 members responded to our call to write letters to the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee in opposition to the expansion of the sales tax to accounting and tax preparation services.



We strengthened our new political action committee.

Our bipartisan political action committee supports candidates and issues

important to the CPA profession and Connecticut's business community, helping ensure our voice is heard at the State Capitol.

A special thanks to the many members who supported the PAC, especially these top-tier donors:

Ralph DePanfilis Alan Clavette Frank Rowella Marie Benedetto Peter Brown Richard Paukner Robert Vance Sarah Stover

Back the PAC!

The CTCPA PAC represents **you** and **your interests**. Invest in a strong profession.

>> Contribute today at www.ctcpas.org/PAC.



We expanded our relationships with legislators through our new Key Contact program.

We have assembled a team of members

to establish, build, and maintain relationships with individual legislators. CPAs and accounting professionals are in a unique position to explain complex tax, financial, and economic issues; legislators take input from their constituents very seriously, and our expertise can make a profound difference in the political process.

The CTCPA advocacy team carefully monitors developments at the Capitol. When an issue arises where we need to have the profession's voice be heard, we activate our Legislative Key Contacts.



We continued to build relationships with regulators.

We have strong working relationships with many governmental agencies

vital to the profession. Synergies this year include:

Department of Revenue Services

Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS) Commissioner **Scott Jackson** spoke at this year's State Tax360° Conference. He and his staff frequently reach out to us to share breaking news with the membership, and we do the same when there are issues the DRS can help the tax preparer community address. Our State Taxation Committee has been working continuously with the DRS to address issues created by Public Act 18-49. We are in support of a DRS legislative proposal this year that would address some of our concerns, including changes to the new pass-through entity legislation.

Internal Revenue Service

This year's Cyber Security Conference for CPAs brought us IRS speakers including field agents at the forefront of today's cyber threats for taxpayers and tax preparers and IRS Senior Stakeholder Liaison **Joe McCarthy**, who is the personal contact for Connecticut CPAs.

State Board of Accountancy/ Department of Consumer Protection

The State Board of Accountancy operates under the auspices of the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection (DCP). We have worked together to address many issues to improve the regulatory and practice environment for Connecticut CPAs and those they serve. Most recently, we helped make nano-learning (CPE self-study earned in 10-minute increments) an option for Connecticut CPAs.



We enhanced our Capitol Corner email updates to bring you weekly coverage.

Capitol Corner is our legislative and regulatory update email, sent weekly during the legislative session and as-needed throughout the rest of the year. This year we expanded coverage to bring you news and updates about not only accounting matters, but human resources, regulatory reform, transportation, and more.

>> Capitol Corner is sent via email, or you can view the latest news anytime at <u>www.ctcpas.org/capitolcorner</u>.

What's next



Increasing our connections with standard-setting bodies, state offices, and regulators.

We will continue to build relationships with organizations vital to the profession and its clients, including the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB), Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), Department of Labor, Office of the State Comptroller, Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), and more.

We're deepening relationships with **students**, the **community**, and **fellow professionals**.

It is imperative for our members to stay connected to the local, regional, national, and worldwide community, including fellow professionals, future professionals, and the communities we serve. The profession has a long history of public service, and we are continuing to cultivate and nurture deep relationships beyond our membership base.



Connecticut's accounting community came together this holiday season to collect 2,366 new and gently used books for Read to Grow, an organization that promotes early literacy for Connecticut children. Pictured is the Harper & Whitfield team with their donations.



We recruited more than 325 new student members in cooperation with the AICPA.

There have never been more students studying accounting, but many of those students are not sitting for or passing the CPA Exam. We partnered with the AICPA pipeline project, a comprehensive, multifaceted program to promote the CPA culture at colleges and universities to ultimately increase the number of newly minted CPAs.

Initiatives include:

- Free joint membership in the CTCPA and the AICPA.
- Engaging promotional items including informational brochures, posters, and #FutureCPA t-shirts and bags.
- CTCPA oncampus visits to speak about majoring in accounting and the CPA career path.



Awareness of the CPA designation is extremely high among accounting students – about **70%** of accounting students **aim to be a CPA** at one point in their academic career.

Still, only **I** in **3** accounting graduates actually **becomes a CPA**. We are working hard to change that statistic.



We held joint programs with fellow professional groups.

We cultivated valuable networking and educational opportunities including:

• Connecticut Bar Association Liaison Dinner with the Department of Revenue Services

Our joint meeting allowed CTCPA and Bar Association members to participate in open discussions with DRS staff at each table.

• Fairfield County Bar Association Joint Luncheon

This networking program featured discussion with fellow professionals and a keynote presentation from DRS Commissioner Scott Jackson, who spoke about current developments and hot topics in Connecticut tax law.

Connecticut Community Bank Breakfast Meeting

This cooperative program featured tips on accessing capitol, Small Business Administration rule changes, and real-life case studies.

Young CPA and Young Attorney Networking Reception

We headed to Dinosaur Bar-B-Que in Stamford for a fun night of networking and great food.





Members gave back to our community and the profession.

We are helping keep our future strong by supporting these important groups:

Community Accounting Services (CAS)



Community Accounting Services (CAS) provides free professional accounting and financial counseling to economically disadvantaged businesses, individuals, and not-for-

profit organizations in Connecticut. You can provide financial support through the donation check-off on your CTCPA dues invoice, or volunteer your time and expertise as a CAS volunteer.

>> www.communityaccountingservices.org

Accounting Scholarship Foundation



The Accounting Scholarship Foundation is administered by five member trustees and supports tomorrow's CPAs today.

The fund presented \$47,375 in scholarships to 22 aspiring CPAs and grants to 20 college and university student accounting groups in the past year. You can support these efforts through individual and company donations, the dues renewal check-off, or by playing in or sponsoring the annual golf tournament.

>> www.ctcpas.org/scholarships

25th Annual Accounting Scholarship Foundation Golf Tournament -Coming to the TPC River Highlands!



We're going all out in celebration of 25 years of providing scholarships and grants to aspiring CPAs with a special

tournament at the TPC River Highlands, host of the Travelers Championship. Don't miss this opportunity to play at one of the premier golf courses in Connecticut with your business associate or colleagues; why not take your support a step further and become a sponsor?

We raised **\$26,900** through sponsorships, player fees and donations, and raffle ticket sales at the 2018 tournament, and we know we can take it further for this landmark anniversary event!

>> www.ctcpas.org/golf



About 80 new and young professionals supported the eighth annual New and Young Professionals Charity Kickball Tournament. Eight teams faced off in the friendly competition that raised \$1,600 to benefit Children's Education Opportunity Foundation of Connecticut, a charity whose mission is to give Connecticut's children equal access to quality education through scholarships.

What's next



Building alliances to further growth.

The Strategic Planning Committee has been looking at ways to create and enhance relationships with other professionals including attorneys, bankers, and

architects, creating a robust synergy to help our members and their businesses grow and thrive.



Encouraging the CPA career path and converting student members to full membership.

In order to keep the pipeline full, we will need to work to enhance the value and perception of the CPA credential to all its stakeholders, especially college students and professors. We will consider outreach outside the traditional accounting major track (liberal arts, technology, etc.), seek to develop mentorship programs for aspiring CPAs, and work to showcase the value of membership so we can convert our student members to full CTCPA members once they have graduated and started their careers.



2019-2020 Board of Directors Nominees



President Dennis Cole Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger



President-elect Marie Benedetto Innovative Business Solutions



Treasurer Brian Reilly Travelers



Secretary Mark Torello Whittlesey Technology



Member-at-Large Timothy Hedley KPMG



Member-at-Large Katherine Patnaude PKF O'Connor Davies



Member-at-Large/ Advisory Council Chair Michael Maksymiw Jr. Marcum

About CTCPA's Leadership Groups

Board of Directors

The CTCPA is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors that serves as the organization's senior decision-making and policy-making body.

A Nominating Committee of members determines the slate of candidates each year. Elections will take place at the Annual Meeting on June 19 (more on page 5).

Advisory Council

During three half-day meetings each year, the Advisory Council serves as a sounding board and source of information for the Board of Directors, brainstorming on the future of the CTCPA and the profession.

The Nominating Committee appoints up to 30 members to the Advisory Council each year. At least half of those appointed are CTCPA group chairs (or their designees). The Advisory Council comprises members spanning diverse professional specializations and geographic areas across the state.

2019-2020 Advisory Council Appointees



Michael Maksymiw Jr. Chair Marcum



Ralph Anderson Federal Income Taxation Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger



Matthew Auth Member-at-Large Ernst & Young



Michael Bolingbroke **Golf Tournament** Robert Half International



Amanda Bristol Member-at-Large Reynolds & Rowella



Cynthia Calderon Member-at-Large CohnReznick



Alaina Clausen Hartford County New & Young Professionals blumshapiro



Alan Clavette State Taxation Clavette & Company



Paul Czepiga Trust, Estate & Gift Taxation Czepiga Daly Pope & Perri PKF O'Connor Davies



Bryan Decker Accounting, Auditing & Financial Reporting



Michael Delaney Member-at-Large of Public Accounts



David Flint Governmental Connecticut Auditors Accounting & Auditing blumshapiro



Anastasiya Hajek Valuation, Forensic, Litigation Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina



Martin Henry Peer Review Henry, Raymond & Thompson



Bradley Hillman CFO/Controller Roundtable Global Steering Systems



Michael Jordan Member-at-Large Andersen Tax



John Kriscenski Educators Central Connecticut State University



Richard Madonna Member-at-Large Connecticut College



Mary Manfredi Member-at-Large Electric Boat Corporation



Todd Shelansky **Not-For-Profit** Organizations Harper & Whitfield



Joseph Mooney Member-at-Large The Connecticut Hospice

Ryan Sheppard

Professional Ethics

Knight Rolleri

Sheppard CPAs



Amber Moore Member-at-Large Goldblatt Bokoff



Lany Pfeifer Member-at-Large Barron, Yanaros & Caruso



Robert Stoddard Member-at-Large KPMG



Randee Roucoulet Technology Simione, Macca & Larrow



Michael Weymouth Fairfield County New & Young Professionals Marcum



Jennifer Schempp **Employee Benefit Plans** Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger



Jennifer Whalley **Business & Industry** Amphenol Corporation



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Whittlesey

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you banking, fiduciary retirement

Save on your professional liability

Save 40% on select books of the

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accounting books.

advice, and merchant solutions.

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Office and Professional Needs



Accountants Advisory Group is our select provider in the area of CPA firm mergers and acquisitions consulting.



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Get links and discount codes for these and more at www.ctcpas.org/memberperks.



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