Spring 2018

# Connecticut **CPA**

Advocacy. Community. Education.



# State of the



**CTCPA** 

Where we've been ... where we're headed.





A publication of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants

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**ECTCPA** 

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Connect with us on social media to get photos, member news, upcoming events, and more at your fingertips!



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# It's Dues Renewal Time!

We are living and working in a time of extraordinary change. Thank you for supporting Connecticut's professional accounting community as we **learn**, adapt, and thrive together.



# 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.



# As always, you can quickly and easily renew 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.

<u> </u>	

# 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>.

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A publication of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants

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**Bonnie Stewart** 



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**

# The State of the CTCPA: Where we've been, where we're headed

Welcome to the inaugural "State of the CTCPA" issue of Connecticut CPA! At our winter Regional Meetings we distributed two-sided update sheets to fill in attendees about the newest programs, initiatives, and advocacy efforts we had implemented based on member feedback since the first set of meetings we held last spring.

So many people told us they loved to see what was happening in this easy-toread format that we decided to put together a full report to give you a year-ata-glance update just in time for the May Annual Meeting.

Often annual reports and other such organizational updates have a limited print run. We wanted to make sure we put a copy of this report in each and every member's hands, so we decided that Connecticut CPA was the perfect vehicle to make this happen. 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.

It's great to look back at the year just completed, but we're looking ahead, too. We have been carefully investigating how to best diversify our communications strategy to reach the most members and potential members in the most effective and relevant ways possible; some changes are coming! This issue, for instance, is dated "Spring 2018" instead of "May/June 2018." We will be changing the Connecticut CPA frequency to quarterly (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall issues) to allow us to allocate resources to producing additional brief and targeted print pieces - think quick-read mailers and postcards.

Print remains an important medium to get our message out to you, but you've probably seen us stepping up our game on the digital front recently as well. Our Member eNews now comes to your inbox twice as often as before to make sure we get breaking news to you when you need it. Capitol Corner advocacy updates go out in a separate communication powered by our VoterVoice grassroots advocacy software.

Social media's reach has been growing rapidly in recent years, too. In fact, one in every three minutes online is spent on social networking, according to consumer behavior research firm comScore. To that end, we'll be working to produce more digital and interactive content - things like infographics, polls, and videos. If you haven't already followed us on your favorite social media channels, please take a moment to do so today!



facebook.com/ConnecticutCPAs







twitter.com/ConnecticutCPAs



youtube.com/ConnecticutCPAs





flickr.com/ConnecticutCPAs



See you next issue,

Kirsten Piechota, Managing Editor

# CTCPA Annual Meeting

# Accounting in Extraordinary Times

How technology advances will make the accounting profession "unrecognizable" in the next 10 years.

Cybersecurity • Blockchain • Artificial Intelligence • Data Analytics

Wednesday, May 16, 2018 Cascade, Hamden

Members: \$50, Nonmembers: \$65 • CPE credit: 1 hour

5:30 p.m. –	Check-in and light refreshments
6:00 p.m. –	Business meeting and program
7:30 p.m. –	Networking hour with wine, beer, and hot hors d'oeuvres (cash bar available)



The accounting profession will be "unrecognizable" in 10 years, according to American Institute of CPAs President and CEO Barry Melancon, CPA, CGMA.

Keynote Speaker Barry Melancon

Barry will guide us through some of the technologies that are bringing disruptive change to not only the

accounting profession but the entire world as we know it. Cybersecurity, blockchain, artificial intelligence, data analytics, and cognitive technologies are on course to radically alter the way businesses perform compliance, tax, and financial forecasting functions.

Learn how the profession will need to evolve to stay ahead and remain relevant in this new reality.

# Learn more and register at www.ctcpas.org/annualmeeting.



Sponsorship Contact: Liz Frazza • <u>lizf@ctcpas.org</u> • 860-258-0220





Spring has brought some exciting changes to us here at the CTCPA.

### **Meeting and Event Planning Initiatives**

We have recently welcomed new staff member **Cindy Panioto**, who will serve as our new business development and event manager. Cindy comes to us with an extensive background in meeting and educational program planning and will work closely with Professional Development Director **Lisa Bugryn** and Membership Director **Alicia Strong**. As the needs of the CPA community continue to evolve and become more diverse, we want to ensure we are providing both the educational programs and networking opportunities necessary to meet all of our members' needs.

Thanks to her prior role as a conference and event planner for the Connecticut Business and Industry Association, Cindy has an extensive network of contacts within both the accounting and business communities to help with that work. Cindy will also be joining the team of CTCPA staff hitting the road to meet with members at their firms and companies and at many of our meetings held throughout the state. She will also work with Strategic Relations Coordinator **Tyler Losure** to develop new partnerships with vendors and other providers who can help our members grow their businesses in today's ever-changing world.

### Peer Review and Ethics Program Changes

Our peer review program is another area where we have had extensive changes, due in large part to a significant restructuring of the AICPA's program as well as the retirement of longtime peer review and ethics program administrator **Bonnie Olivieri**. (We wish Bonnie the best in her next endeavors!)



Julie McNeal



the program be overseen by a CPA. The CTCPA is in a good position to administer the program successfully for our members and the public because we are fortunate to have a CPA who is very familiar with peer review and the profession on our staff. Director of Finance **Julie McNeal, CPA** will now be responsible for the peer review program and working with our technical reviewers.

One of the many new peer review requirements is that

In the meantime, CTCPA staffer **Lynette Lindner** has been busy learning the ethics program requirements so she can serve as the liaison to members and the public on ethics issues.

Lynette Lindner

### Legislative Developments at the Capitol

As this issue went to press, the end of the legislative session was nearing and the statuses of bills and proposals of interest to the profession and the business community were changing rapidly. Please be sure to check your email for Capitol Corner updates or find the latest news at www.ctcpas.org/capitolcorner.

MAL

Bonnie Stewart, Executive Director



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

Space is limited. Pre-registration is required. Each meeting includes one credit of CPE.

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 Regional Meetings. Be sure your voice is heard by joining us for this dialogue in your backyard!

### **Rocky Hill**

Thursday, May 10 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

A CTCPA Not-for-Profit Organizations Committee meeting will immediately follow this Regional Meeting. Consider joining us for both! See details on the page at right.

### Norwich

**Tuesday, May 15 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.** DXC Technology, Norwich

### Bridgeport

Wednesday, May 30 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. People's United Bank, Bridgeport

### Torrington

**Tuesday, June 12 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.** Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce, Torrington

### Bethel

Wednesday, June 13 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. CironeFriedberg, Bethel

### North Haven

Thursday, June 14 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Ulbrich Stainless Steels & Special Metals, North Haven

### **Middletown**

Wednesday, June 20 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Middlesex County Chamber, Middletown

### Waterbury

Tuesday, June 26 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Chase Collegiate School, Waterbury

### Stamford

Wednesday, June 27 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Deloitte, Stamford





# Engage. Connect. Progress.

# MEMBER Meetings

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

Several member meetings have been scheduled and there are many more to come this spring and summer. Register and find more at <u>www.ctcpas.org/membermeetings</u>.



# Technology Breakfast Roundtables

**Thursday, May 17 · 8:00 a.m.** Cristy's Luncheonette, Westbrook

Wednesday, June 20 · 8:00 a.m. Riverdale Diner, Shelton

Thursday, July 19 · 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 portals, paperless office, IT security, e-filing, and more. There is no need to register – walk-ins are welcome and members purchase their own breakfasts.



### 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.

### **Federal Pass-Through Entities**

**Friday, August 17** Speakers: Robert L. Day III, David O. Bigger, and Radhika Tahiliani, Shipman & Goodwin

### Save the date for these upcoming programs:

Friday, September 21 Friday, October 19 Friday, November 16 Friday, December 14



### Not-for-Profit Organizations Committee: FASB Not-for-Profit Accounting Standards Update

Thursday, May 10 • 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill CPE Credit: 1

**New time!** This meeting will now immediately follow the May 10 Rocky Hill CTCPA Regional Meeting (details on the page at left). We'd love to have you attend both – and pick up a second hour of free CPE!

Join us for a discussion of FASB's Proposed Accounting Standards Update – Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Clarifying the Scope and Accounting Guidance for Contributions Received and Contributions Made.



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

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

Cybersecurity Awareness: Protect Your Business Tuesday, May 15

Speaker: Tim Weber, ADNET Technologies

### Save the date for these upcoming programs:

Wednesday, July 18 Wednesday, November 14 Wednesday, September 19



Easton CONNection

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

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

## Passwords and Hackers: What You Need to Know

Thursday, May 17 Speaker: Eric Monda, ADNET Technologies

### Save the date for these upcoming programs:

Thursday, June 21 Thursday, August 16 Thursday, September 20 Thursday, October 18 Thursday, November 15 Thursday, December 20



CFO/Controller Roundtable: Three Strategic Partners Every CFO/Controller Should Know Thursday, June 14 • 8:00 - 10:30 a.m. CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill

Join us for this roundtable meeting designed exclusively for CFOs and controllers to meet to discuss issues, share ideas, and hear from experts. This program will include a formal program as well as time for networking and idea sharing.

# 2018 CPE Calendar

Seminars and Conferences Early Bird								
Date	Title	Express Code	Location	CPE	Member Standard/Early	Good Through		
May 2018								
5/17	Fiduciary Income Tax Returns: Form 1041 Workshop with Filled-In Forms	1041-A	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/2/2018		
5/18	Top 50 Mistakes Practitioners Make and How to Fix Them: Individual Tax and Financial Planning	INBB	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/3/2018		
5/21	Tax Considerations and Consequences for Closely Held Businesses	CHTX	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/6/2018		
5/22	Compilations, Reviews, and New Preparations: Engagement Performance and Annual Update	CRAU	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/7/2018		
5/22	Form 990: Mastering Its Unique Characteristics	EOF990	Cromwell	8	\$304/\$269	5/7/2018		
5/22	Tax Practitioner Responsibilities and Ethics (Morning Session)	TAXE4	Cromwell	4	\$160/\$140	5/7/2018		
5/23	Governmental Accounting and Auditing Conference	GAA	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/8/2018		
5/24	The Essential Course for Preparing Not-for-Profit Financial Statements Under ASU No. 2016-14	ENFP	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/9/2018		
5/25	Accounting, Audit, and Attest Update for Practitioners with Small Business Clients	SMBP	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/10/2018		
5/29	Accounting and Reporting for Not-for-Profit Organizations	FSNPO	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/14/2018		
5/29	Social Security, Medicare, and Prescription Drug Retirement Benefits: What Every Baby Boomer Needs to Know Now	SSRB	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/14/2018		
5/30	Applying the Uniform Guidance in Your Single Audits	INUG	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/15/2018		
5/30	Determining How Much Money You Need to Retire: Practical Planning Strategies	DRMM	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/15/2018		
5/30	Winning the Fraud Battle in the Digital Age: Prevention and Detection	CFVV	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/15/2018		
5/31	Advanced Concepts in SSARS 21 and Nonattest Services: Are You Certain You're in Compliance?	SS21	Shelton	8	\$329/\$294	5/16/2018		
5/31	Employee Benefit Plans Conference	EBP	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/16/2018		
5/31	How to Settle a Client's Estate	SEAZ	Cromwell	8	\$304/\$269	5/16/2018		
June	June 2018							
6/1	Complete Trust Workshop	TCTW	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/17/2018		
6/1	FASB's "Big 3" – Revenue Recognition, Leases, and Financial Instruments	FSBT	Shelton	8	\$329/\$294	5/17/2018		
6/1	Real-World Fraud Found in Governments and Not-for-Profits	RFGN	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/17/2018		
6/4	A Practical Guide to Trusts	PGTT	Shelton	8	\$329/\$294	5/20/2018		
6/4	Hot IRS Tax Examination Issues for Individuals and Businesses	EXIB	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/20/2018		
6/4	Studies on Single Audit and Yellow Book Deficiencies	SAYB	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/20/2018		
6/5	AICPA's Annual Update: Top 12 Governmental and Not-for-Profit Accounting and Auditing Issues Facing CPAs	TGNP	Rocky Hill	8	\$304/\$269	5/21/2018		



# Ready to register?

Go to www.ctcpas.org/register, enter the express code to find your course, and register!

# New & Young Professionals Events<sup>2018</sup>

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

These programs are open to members aged 35 and younger.



Thursday, May 3 • 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Joint Happy Hour with Young Lawyers Section of Lower Fairfield County Dinosaur Bar-B-Que, Stamford



Wednesday, June 6 • 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Dodgeball Tournament Nomads Adventure Quest, South Windsor



Saturday, August 4 • 8:00 a.m. - noon New Haven Craft Brew Road Race Edgewood Park, New Haven



Saturday, August 18 • 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Charity Kickball Tournament Norton Park, Plainville



**Thursday, September 27 · 6:00 - 9:15 p.m. Moonlight Ziplining** EMPOWER Leadership & Adventure Center, Middletown



Thursday, October 11 Golf Scramble Location: To be determined – Stamford area



**Thursday, October 25 · 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Trivia Night** Bobby V's Trivia, Windsor Locks



Thursday, November 15 • 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. New and Young Professionals Leadership Conference CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill



**Thursday, December 6 • 6:30 - 10:00 p.m. Mingling & Merriment Holiday Party** Society Room of Hartford, Hartford



Breakfast Roundtable Meetings

We've expanded our popular breakfast roundtable meetings at locations in Hartford, New Haven, and Fairfield counties. Each program includes breakfast, a brief professional development speaker, and informal networking.

**Tuesday, May 22 · 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. No One's "Too Small" for Cybersecurity** Location: ADNET Technologies, Farmington Speaker: Eric Monda, ADNET Technologies

Tuesday, June 12 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Exploring Best Practices and Real-Life Scenarios When Navigating Your Career Location: RSM, Stamford

**Tuesday, July 24 · 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. Networking with a Purpose** Location: CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill Speaker: Bonnie Stewart, CTCPA

Wednesday, September 12 • 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. Blockchain and Bitcoin in Business Location: CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill Speaker: Michael Luntta, ADNET Technologies

**Tuesday, September 25 · 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. New Haven-Area Breakfast Meeting** Location: To be determined – Shelton/New Haven area

**Tuesday, December 4 • 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Fairfield-Area Breakfast Meeting** Location: To be determined – Fairfield area

Thursday, December 13 • 8:15 - 9:15 a.m. How to Manage That Critical Inner Voice Location: CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill Speaker: Maureen Gemme, Emerge Leadership Academy



# Member News

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



Brian H. Vendig, president and managing executive of MJP Wealth Advisors in Farmington and Fairfield, was recognized as one of Con-

necticut's "Best-in-State Wealth Advisors" by *Forbes* magazine.

The partners of **Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC** in Middletown announced that the firm has joined the BDO Alliance USA, a nationwide association of independently owned accounting, consulting, and service firms.

Kevin Harris, a senior accountant with MahoneySabol in Glastonbury, Middletown, and Essex, has joined Central Connecticut State University's Institute of Technology and Business Development Advisory Committee. The institute helps support growing Connecticut businesses and organizations.



Rick Richardson, founder and CEO of Richardson Media and Technologies in Canton, was one of three experts featured in the February

Rick Richardson

Journal of Accountancy podcast "How AI, blockchain, and automation will reinvent accounting."

Congratulations to the CTCPA members at the following companies, which were named among the *Hartford Business Journal* "Best Places to Work in Connecticut 2018."

Small/Medium Companies

- 1. Connecticut Wealth Management
- 2. Nicola Yester

Large Companies

- 6. Datto
- 9. Citrin Cooperman & Co.
- 10. Barnum Financial Group

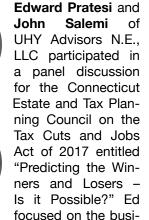


Edward Pratesi



John Salemi

ness valuation aspects while John focused on the individual aspects of the legislation.





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# **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.

LLP

Patrick



Shelly A. Panico joined Burzenski & Company, P.C. in East 💈 Haven as a tax supervisor. Shelly specializes in individual taxes. trusts and estates,

gift tax, and closely held businesses.



CironeFriedberg, LLP Bridgeport has in announced that Michael P. Jodon ioined the firm as a partner. Mike focuses in the tax area. man-

Michael Jodon

aging relationships with middle market privately held and family-owned businesses as well as high-net-worth individuals. In addition. Anthony R. DeLucia Jr. joined the firm as an audit manager.



Duffany as the new managing partner of the firm's tax practice. Patrick previously led the firm's

CohnReznick

appointed

Patrick Duffany

state and local tax and national tax consulting practices. He is chair of the CTCPA State Tax Committee.

Guilmartin, DiPiro & Sokolowski, LLC in Middletown promoted Dylan Stumpf to supervisor and Daniel Slepski to senior accountant. Dylan specializes in auditing of nonprofit organizations, preparation of individual and business tax returns, and bookkeeping for clients. Dan's expertise is in auditing nonprofit organizations and preparing tax filings for individuals and other entities.



Donna Pengel

Donna Pengel joined Whittlesey in Hartford as a director in the firm's healthcare consulting services division. She is responsible

for expanding the firm's advisory services to medical practices and providers. Donna has more than 20 years of experience providing accounting, tax, and advisory services to the healthcare industry.

Marks Paneth LLP announced that the partners and staff of Dvlewsky. Goldberg & Brenner, LLC have joined the firm. The acquisition brings two partners, Scott M. Brenner and Dannell R. Lvne. one director. Lawrence S. Goldberg, and eight professionals to Marks Paneth. It is the firm's first Connecticut office.





### **New Certified Members**

Amie Allegro, CPA EY

Hussein Allibhai, CPA KPMG

**Dilyana Antevil, CPA** KPMG

Andrew Bologna, CPA EY

**Stephen Borsy, CPA** EY

Lyndsey Broderick, CPA KPMG

Hassan S. Butt, CPA KPMG

Autumn Carlton, CPA KPMG

John Coutsouradis, CPA KPMG

Richard DiLorenzo III, CPA KPMG

Christopher A. Eng, CPA KPMG

**Lauren Gorski, CPA** EY

David J. Hasso, CPA New York Comptrollers Office

Joseph Jinjika, CPA Waterlogic USA

Cori L. LeDoux, CPA KPMG

Jonathan Lipschutz, CPA EY

Thomas G. Lombardi, CPA Supreme Industries, Inc.

Sean McDonnell, CPA KPMG

Jeremy Newell, CPA PwC

David Pergola, CPA KPMG

Kristen L. Riner, CPA KPMG

# Welcome, New Members!

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

+ + + + + + + + +

Andrew C. Robertson, CPA EY

**Timothy J. Rustek, CPA** SS&C Technologies, Inc.

Sarah E. Sefchok, CPA KPMG

Robert B. Sobolewski, CPA EY

Brooke Steinhiser, CPA EY

Jeffrey Sukach, CPA EY

Vince Torchia, CPA Baystate Health, Inc.

Ryan D. Willers, CPA Deloitte

# **New Associate Members**

Kimberly R. Buono KPMG

**John T. Burns** KPMG

**Christopher Cipriani** EY

Angelica Dziewa J&L Machine Co. Inc

Richard S. Essigs EY

Kristin Gayda Weiss, Papscoe & Company LLC



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# **Situations Wanted**

**Ownership Potential – New Haven County CPA looking for talented CPA** interested in taking over firm operations and eventually ownership. Revenue base 725K. Good growth and income potential for experienced professional ready to move forward with future ownership within 2-3 years. Please respond online at <u>www.ctcpas.org/</u> ownershippotential.

# **Help Wanted**

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: <u>thomas.</u> <u>monterosso@snet.net</u>, or fax: 203-876-1690. Thank you.

# **Mergers/Acquisitions**

Accounting Practice Sales: Litchfield County CPA practice grossing \$125K; Lower Fairfield County CPA practice grossing \$200K. For more info regarding these listings 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.AccountingPracticeSales.com</u>.

**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.

**Merger Or Sale – Local Central Connecticut firm** seeks sale or merger with area firm. Practice consists of tax and income tax basis financial statements services. Good client base. Respond to: <u>r.c.central@hotmail.com</u>. We are a growing firm in Fairfield County interested in building the major practice in our market. Accordingly, we are exploring merger of affiliation with another strong firm (or individual). For a confidential discussion, please contact Tony Cirone at CironeFriedberg, LLP by phone at 203-798-2721 or email tcirone@cironefriedberg.com.



### www.ctcpas.org/classifieds

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



# Support scholarships for tomorrow's CPAs at the **Educational Trust Fund Golf Tournament**.

Monday, September 24 The Farms Country Club, Wallingford Individual registration fee: \$250

Tournament Sponsor **rh** Robert Half<sup>®</sup>

# Make a great event even better – become a sponsor.

### \$2,500 Sponsorships

- Cocktail Hour
- On-Course Beverages
- Carts
- Player Gift
- Lunch

### \$1,500 Sponsorships

- Driving Range
- Putting Green

**\$1,200 Gold Sponsor** Includes tee/green signage and four player spots. Golf Ball Sponsor Provide a sleeve of balls for 120 players.

\$250 Tee/Green Sponsor Includes signage on tee or green.

### **Raffle Donor**

We're always looking for quality raffle prizes – gift certificates, electronics, concert or sporting event tickets, etc.

All tournament proceeds support grants and scholarships for aspiring CPAs.

# Register at <u>www.ctcpas.org/**golf**</u>.

For more information or to become a sponsor, contact **Liz Frazza** at 860-258-0220 or <u>lizf@ctcpas.org</u>.



Member Snapshots We're looking for **your** snapshots!

Show us what you're up to! Submit your photos to **Kirsten Piechota** at <u>kirstenp@ctcpas.org</u>.

+ + + + + + + + +

# RSM US Donates More Than \$36,000 to March of Dimes



Pictured are (from left) Greg Budnik (Connecticut Market Managing Partner, RSM), Cindy Lopane (Senior Development Manager, Greater New York Market, March of Dimes), Deborah Poudrier-Fafard (Executive Director, Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Market, March of Dimes), Keely McMullin (Development Manager, Fairfield County, Connecticut, March of Dimes), Jeff Erlingheuser (Manager, Tax Services, RSM), Ryan McGurk (Manager, Assurance, RSM), and Doug Turner (Senior Manager, Tax Services, RSM).

RSM US presented the March of Dimes with a check for \$36,373 as a result of the firm's employee-led Birdies Fore Love campaign in Connecticut.

Birdies Fore Love is RSM's charitable giving platform for The RSM Classic, a PGA TOUR event for which RSM is the title sponsor. Birdies Fore Love supports deserving local and national nonprofit organizations focused on enhancing educational outcomes and the quality of life for children and families. This year, RSM's Connecticut market employees selected March of Dimes as its Birdies Fore Love charity, which resulted in several employee-run fundraising initiatives. RSM Connecticut's donation to March of Dimes was also supported with matching funds from the RSM US Foundation.

Crowe Horwath Volunteers for Boys and Girls Club of Bristol



Pictured (from left) are Niki Garceau (Tax Senior), Michelle Durej (Operations Manager), Dave Dudas (Tax Senior Manager), a fellow volunteer from another company, Sandy Reeves (Tax Business Support), and Barbara Caffary-Cortesi (Audit Business Support).

Staffers from Crowe Horwath's Simsbury office volunteered at the Mommy/Son Valentine's Day Dance held by the Boys & Girls Club of Bristol Family Center.

The team helped make popsicle stick picture frames with the kids and had a great time!



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# Need to recruit new staff? CTCPA can help!

1 Day >> 150 Job and Internship Interviews



# **INTERVIEW DAY 2018**

Friday, September 28 CTCPA Education Center, Rocky Hill • 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Our overwhelmingly successful event returns for the sixth 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 CPA Employers

The Guide is provided to college and university accounting departments and career service offices around the state, appears on the CTCPA website, is distributed to CTCPA student members, and is displayed year-round in the CTCPA Education Center.

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



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# Welcome to Our Inaugural 'State of the CTCPA' Report



The theme for this year has been "Trust in Change," and we have kept at it all year! We started the year off with a new evening format for our Annual Meeting that was so successful we're repeating it this year. We'll be holding the event at a new centrally located venue – Cascade

in Hamden – and have secured AICPA President and CEO **Barry Melancon** to guide us through some of the disruptive technology that will be changing our profession in the very near term. See page 5 to learn how to reserve your place!

At this pivotal time for the profession, we have embarked on a **strategic planning process** to turn the challenges we face into opportunities. Starting with input from the Board of Directors and Advisory Council, the Strategic Planning Committee is composed of a diverse group of members representing multiple geographic regions of the state and working in a full spectrum of job positions and practices.

Major **national-level changes are coming to the peer review program**, so we've spent a lot of time and effort exploring various possibilities consistent with the AICPA's vision, ensuring our program will continue to provide the best possible service for members, clients, and the public. In addition to adding **new programs and conferences** to our existing base of educational programming, we started **livestreaming as an option for several programs**; we plan to increase these offerings in the future. We're also working with the State Board of Accountancy to approve **nanolearning CPE credits** and other issues important to our members.

We've **expanded the number of member groups** both along regional lines and in various business sectors. These groups have been requested by you, our members. Please let us know if you have suggestions for additional groups or ways to enhance and expand our existing programs.

Thank you for your enthusiasm and support during my year as CTCPA president. I know more great things are to come as I hand off the reins to President-elect **Susan Martinelli**.

Sincerely,

Brad Kronstat, CPA 2017-2018 CTCPA President

# Reflecting on our Successes with an Eye on the Future



t's been a productive year of change and growth for the CTCPA.

We've listened to you, our members, to identify ways we can best serve you in this time of unprecedented change. The future of the profession is being shaped by **technology** 

innovations, a rapidly evolving regulatory and legislative landscape, challenges in the local and national economy, a record number of firm mergers and acquisitions, growth in new practice areas such as consulting and advisory services, and much more.

With all of this change comes opportunities. We need to open our minds to new ways of thinking and doing. Today's business environment demands not only strong accounting and finance skills, but technological and innovative thinking to take things to the next level.

In the CTCPA offices, we're harnessing new technology to allow us to serve you better. We've used **artificial intelligence to streamline our processes**, in one case saving four hours of staff time per day that was once spent processing and distributing course eMaterials. We'll now be able to devote that time to **enhancing new member ser**vices and initiatives.

When I think about the future of the CTCPA and its members, I'm not thinking about tomorrow or next year. I'm thinking about how we can help our members **not only survive but thrive for decades to come**. I'm committed to doing everything I can to **keep on top of emerging opportunities** so we can bring you the resources you need as you move forward.

I'm very proud of the work our members and staff have done in the past year. I hope you enjoy this *Connecticut CPA* retrospective as we reflect on all we've accomplished while at the same time getting out in front of what's coming next.

The future looks bright, and I'm excited for us to take the next steps together.

Jonnio

Bonnie Stewart CTCPA Executive Director

# Thank you to our volunteers!

We couldn't do the work we do without the time, talent, and expertise of our dedicated volunteers. Thank you to our committee and group members and chairs, Advisory Council and Board of Directors members, educational program speakers, event hosts, and everyone else who make it all possible.



Member Carl Johnson of CRJ Consulting and Board of Directors Member-at-Large Marie Benedetto of Marie Benedetto, CPA, Innovative Business Solutions lead Advisory Council and Board of Directors members through a SWOT analysis in November.

### 2017-2018 Board of Directors

Bradley D. Kronstat, President
Susan A. Martinelli, President-elect
Dennis W. Cole, Treasurer
Edwin R. Muenzner, Secretary
Marie L. Benedetto, Member-at-Large
Mitchell R. Insero, Member-at-Large
Michael P. Jordan, Member-at-Large, Advisory Council Chair

### 2017-2018 Advisory Council

Michael P. Jordan, Chair Jessica Aniskoff Matthew J. Auth Alan J. Clavette Paul T. Czepiga Michael J. Delaney Katherine A. Donovan Jack Ellovich Gerard J. Frame Paul H. Glotzer Carlota I. Grate Rebecca M. Guptill Martin Henry Jr. Paul N. Iannone Marie G. Kulesza Michael Maksymiw Jr. Corliss J. Montesi Kevin O'Keefe Katherine M. Patnaude Lany Pfeifer Dr. Janet Phillips Joanna M. Purtell Brian P. Reilly Ryan C. Sheppard Mario L. Solari Jr. Robert B. Stoddard Mark R. Torello Lisa M. Wills Mary K. Wisenski

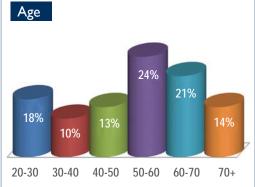
See our 2018-2019 Board of Directors nominees and incoming Advisory Council appointees starting on page 27.

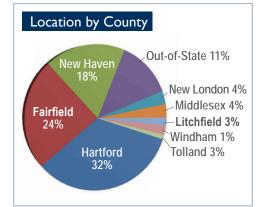


# **Member Statistics**

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.







**New technology** is fundamentally **changing the profession**. We're bringing you programs and resources to keep you on the leading edge.



# Cybersecurity

Mitigating cybersecurity risks has become part of the CPA's job description. We're bringing you resources like our Connecticut CPA cover story on cybersecurity risk reviews specifically geared toward accounting professionals, our wildly successful new Cybersecurity Conference for CPAs, specialized sessions at events like our IRS Working Together conference on the use of tax data in cyber attacks, and a Fairfield County Chapter meeting on the latest cyber attack tactics. Look for many more programs like these in the coming year.



# AI and Data Analytics

New technologies are allowing organizations to harness the power of automation to streamline manual processes, leverage data, and reduce operating costs. We provided resources including our Friday Focus for Members in Industry program on embracing new technologies while managing costs and risks. We're scheduling several new programs to help you learn about the potential for artificial intelligence (AI) and data analytics to help your clients and your business. AICPA Chair Barry Melancon kicks things off with his keynote address on accounting in extraordinary times at the CTCPA Annual Meeting (more on page 5).



# **Blockchain**

Blockchain is a distributed ledger system that is being called the "future of recordkeeping." It is already being implemented around the globe at financial institutions and corporations and is expected to have a profound impact on the accounting profession in the very near future. We brought you a two-part Connecticut CPA series explaining the basics of blockchain and how it works with cryptocurrencies like bitcoin. We're lining up experts to speak on the topic for several upcoming member meetings and as part of our New and Young Professionals Breakfast Roundtable series (more on page 9).

Visit our new technology hub at **www.ctcpas.org/technology** for resources and events.

# Continuing Professional and Business Education

# We started livestreaming to reach you where you are.



Members have asked for options to participate in meetings and educational sessions remotely.

We took a major first step in that direction when tax guru Walter Nunnallee visited Connecticut in January for his popular corporate and individual tax workshops. Hundreds of participants from Connecticut and around the country joined in via our livestream – complete with live video, integrated digital course materials and presentation slides, and a mechanism to ask questions in realtime.



# There's more streaming and web conferencing to come!



We're determining the best technology to allow you to participate in committee meetings, seminars, and conferences from wherever you are.



We held **139** live seminars and conferences in the past year, and had

I,987 attendees at our events!



We offered **4,512** webinars on a wide variety of topics so your learning can take place wherever you are. Our professional education is evolving 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.

# We added new programs to keep you in the know.

# Cybersecurity Conference for CPAs



This sellout new conference was the brain child of members of the Technology Council. They assembled experts from the IRS, technology and insurance firms, and even a CPA

firm that had gone through a breach and come out stronger on the other side. **"One of the best conferences l've been to. Very relevant and eye opening information,"** raved one participant.

# Federal Tax Reform Seminars and Webinars



When the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed, we quickly brought you live and online education (including a specially added fourhour session with Walter Nunnallee!) to get the information you need.

What's next

# We'll be developing more programs to connect members in business and public accounting.



One of our focuses in the coming year will be to continue to help members across various firms, businesses, and employment areas connect and share information.

# We'll bring you more economic updates.



The health of the state and local economy is imperative to business growth and client retention and development. This year members heard from speakers like CBIA

Economist Pete Gioia and Connecticut Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth Vice Chair Pat Widlitz. Look for more economic updates coming soon.



# Education that comes to your office.

# You provide the space, we'll send you the perfect instructor!

Help support the CTCPA while bringing convenient, cost-effective, high-quality live training right to your office. We can arrange for a wide variety of course options tailored to your staff's experience and knowledge levels. And to top it off, CTCPA receives a commission directly from the provider (at no additional cost to you) to help support our mission.

To learn more, contact Lisa Bugryn at lisab@ctcpas.org or 860-258-0232.

# Member Groups and Meetings



# We started several new specialized member groups.

We have heard some of the same feedback from many of our members: you like it when we come to you, and you're looking for more opportunities to learn from other members about things that affect you, your company, and your clients.

Thanks to the members who helped us plan, recruit other members, scout out facilities, and determine topics and speakers, several new groups got off to a strong start.



Fairfield County Chapter

This group will hold networking and educational meetings in Fairfield County on a regular basis, varying between breakfast, lunch, and evening timeframes. The group's kickoff meeting, held in Stamford, featured an update on the **latest cyber attack tactics** led by Thomas DeMayo (above) of PKF O'Connor Davies.

Chair: Ronald F. DeSoiza (PKF O'Connor Davies)



# Business and Industry Roundtable

This group features roundtable discussion of regulatory, compliance, and management issues, such as a discussion of **business and the state's economy** with Connecticut Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth Vice Chair and former State Representative Pat Widlitz (above). Members in public accounting, law, etc. are also welcome to participate.

Chairs: **Steve LaRosa** (Alexion Pharmaceuticals) Vice Chair: **Jen Whalley** (Amphenol Corporation)



# **Regional Meetings**

Executive Director **Bonnie Stewart** and Membership Director **Alicia Strong** hit the road this year for our new Regional Meetings, which each provided a brief Society, regulatory, and legislative update followed by an interactive discussion. Feedback we gathered helped shape many of this year's new programs and initiatives.



I 5 Regional Meetings throughout the state in the past year. See page 6 for the next series coming this spring.



# Southeastern Connecticut Chapter

These networking and educational meetings will be held in locations including Groton, Norwich, New London, and Waterford. Meetings have included a **state economic update** from Connecticut Business and Industry Association Economist Peter Gioia (above) in Waterford.



# CFO/Controller Roundtable

Our new CFO/Controller Roundtable is a group exclusively for CFOs and controllers to meet to discuss issues, share ideas, and hear from experts. The group's first meeting featured a discussion of **"lean" and its potential impact on streamlining processes within accounting and finance departments** led by Bonnie Del Conte and Matin Karbassioon (above) of CONNSTEP.

Chair: Brad Hillman (Global Steering Systems)



Members engaged in meaningful collaboration and education.

Even though we've added many new programs, our existing groups have continued their vital work together. Here are some highlights of the year's events and programs

# Not-for-Profit Organizations Committee



This specialized committee took advantage of our close proximity to the **Financial Accounting Standards Board** in Norwalk and invited Assistant Director – Nonpublic Entities Jeff Mechanick to give an update at a recent meeting.

# Valuation, Forensic, Litigation Support Group



This group held networking and educational dinner meetings including a panel discussion on **cybersecurity**, **breach readiness**, and **public/private sector partnerships** led by a Stamford-Norwalk state's attorney, U.S. Secret Service agents, and Weston police.

# **Technology Council**



In addition to developing this year's new Cybersecurity Conference for CPAs, our technology gurus continued to answer member questions on everything from **cloud computing** to **tax software** at their monthly breakfast roundtable meetings.

# Financial Institutions Council



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**.

# Friday Focus for Members in Industry



These free two-hour educational programs are specifically designed for members working in business and industry, such as our program on undergoing a **Connecticut sales and use tax audit** with Paul Greenfield of Connecticut Sales Tax Solutions.

# Easton and Torrington CONNections



These free two-hour Fairfield and Litchfield County educational programs featured professional, regulatory, and economic topics such as an **international tax update** with attorney Paul lannone and the **fundamentals of probate** with attorney John Massih.

# State Taxation Committee



Members of this committee worked together to navigate the **regulatory**, **legislative**, **and judicial aspects** of Connecticut tax compliance and offered insight on **potential impacts of tax proposals and policies** to the DRS commissioner and staff.

# Golf Committee



This year committee members raised **\$29,380** to support scholarships and grants for aspiring Connecticut CPAs by securing sponsorships, raffle donations, and players for this high-quality tournament known for fun networking and friendly competition.

# Employee Benefit Plans Committee



This committee of diversified professionals including auditors, actuaries, third-party administrators, and attorneys met for member-led roundtable discussion of issues affecting **benefit plans**, **program audits**, and **employers**.

# Peer Review Committee



Committee members (serving by presidential appointment) worked extensively to determine the best way for CTCPA to move forward given the AICPA's **new requirements for the administration of the peer review program** and the launch of the **PRIMA online portal**.

# Professional Ethics Committee



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.

# What's next

# More group changes are coming.



We're continuing with an eye on the future and plan to start some new groups and rework some of our existing groups to bring you increased value and collaboration

opportunities. Look for more coming for the following:

Firm Administrators/Marketing Professionals Council Small Business Council Accounting and Reporting Standards Committee Educators Council



# We ramped up economic updates.

Economic growth is imperative to the success of our members' firms, companies, and clients. We brought you news and events about groups like the **Connecticut Commission on Fiscal Stability and Economic Growth**, and we will continue these updates in the future.

# We enhanced our Capitol Corner coverage.



You told us you find our Capitol Corner legislative and regulatory updates very valuable so, based on

your feedback, we've expanded 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 and available at www.ctcpas.org/capitolcorner.

# Advocacy and Relationships with Regulatory Agencies



Your CTCPA team at the State Capitol on Opening Day of the 2018 session: (from left) Kirsten Piechota, Caitlin Bailey O'Neill, Bonnie Stewart, and Mark Zampino.

# We increased our visibility at the State Capitol.

We significantly increased our activity at the State Capitol this year. As our profile and positive reputation continue to grow, an increased number of legislators are calling upon us to offer feedback on new tax and economic proposals to ensure they are crafted in the most effective way to achieve their intended goals.

We've brought in members to testify and provide feedback on issues including:

- **Continuing professional education reciprocity** for CPAs holding licenses in multiple states.
- A proposal restricting CPAs from representing clients in property tax appeals, including performing valuations and serving as expert witnesses.
- A proposal that would have transferred certain taxpayer penalties to tax preparers/advisors.
- **Tax preparer registration** for those not already regulated or an employee of a regulated tax preparer.
- · The legislature's definition of a "forensic audit."
- Various tax, audit, and economic growth proposals.



Bonnie and Past President/AICPA Council Representative Alan Clavette speak with Senator Chris Murphy (left) as part of the AICPA's 2017 Capitol Hill visits.

# We reinforced our relationships with federal legislators.

Executive Director **Bonnie Stewart**, Public Affairs Director **Mark Zampino**, and CTCPA representatives to AICPA Council **Bruce Blasnik**, **Alan Clavette**, and **Brad Kronstat** visited Capitol Hill as part of the AICPA's 2017 Spring Council meeting. The CTCPA contingency met with each congressional and senate office representing Connecticut.

Our relationships with these legislators continues beyond D.C. to the homefront, where we often call upon them to support issues important to the profession (such as the Mobile Workforce State Income Tax Simplification Act of 2017).

At the same time, these officials often reach out to the CTCPA for support and insight into the financial impact of federal legislation and proposals. Reps. **John Larson**, **Joe Courtney**, and **Elizabeth Esty** enlisted CTCPA members to help explain and get the word out to constituents about the changes brought on by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

# Strengthening our voice at the Capitol: Our political action committee returns.



Having a strong presence at the State Capitol can make a significant impact on our ability to advocate on behalf of the profession and our members. In

light of that fact, the CTCPA Board of Directors voted to re-establish the CTCPA Political Action Committee. You can contribute to the PAC (via personal check or personal credit card only) online or through the checkoff on your dues statement.



Bonnie and AICPA Vice President of State Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Skip Braziel speak on firm mobility and CPE reciprocity at the October State Board of Accountancy meeting.

# State Board of Accountancy/ Department of Consumer Protection

The State Board of Accountancy's move to the auspices of the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) has been a positive one for Connecticut CPAs.

We have effectively addressed many issues to improve the regulatory and practice environment for Connecticut CPAs and those they serve with the cooperation and support of State Board members and DCP staff, including:

- Beginning the process of updating and adapting the state's CPA regulations to allow **nano-learning (CPE in smaller than one-hour increments)** and updating outdated language (such as changing references of quality review to peer review).
- Raising and receiving support from the State Board to introduce legislation to allow **CPAs holding licenses in multiple states to report their CPE only in their home state**.
- Working to **eliminate administrative errors** for licensees from reporting.
- Supporting uniform accountancy legislation.



It was a packed house (really – we had to rent extra tables!) for our State Tax 360° conference, featuring Connecticut tax heavy-hitters including DRS Commissioner Kevin Sullivan.

# Department of Revenue Services/ Internal Revenue Service

We have a strong working relationship with the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS). Commissioner **Kevin Sullivan** and his staff frequently reach out to us to share breaking news with the membership, and we do the same when there are issues or developments that the DRS can help the tax preparer community address.

The DRS has formed a number of working groups with strong CTCPA member representation this year to ensure new laws and proposals have the intended results and are workable for taxpayers and practitioners who must implement new requirements.

DRS and IRS staff were integral speakers and attendees at our State Tax 360° and IRS Working Together conferences this year, where practitioners got information not available anywhere else. Speakers included IRS Senior Stakeholder Liaison **Joe McCarthy**, who is the personal contact and IRS representative for Connecticut CPAs.

# We've made advocacy action easier.

We've made it even faster and easier for you to get involved and contact your legislators with our new Advocacy Action Center powered by VoterVoice.

This new technology, generously sponsored by the Connecticut offices of **Deloitte**, **EY**, **KPMG**, and **PwC**, makes it easy to make a connection with your legislators, even if you don't know them personally.

Make sure your voice is heard on issues vital to the profession and your business. Simply put your own personalization on the talking points we provide and our software will send your message directly to your legislators.

>> Action alerts are sent via email, or you can contact your legislators anytime at www.ctcpas.org/actioncenter.



# **Outreach to Students and Young Professionals**

# We recruited more than 300 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 have partnered with the AICPA pipeline project, a comprehensive, multifaceted program to promote a 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 on-campus visits to speak about majoring in accounting and the CPA career path.





# We launched New and Young Professionals educational breakfast roundtables.

This year the New and Young Professionals Cabinet further expanded its programming with a series of breakfast roundtables featuring professional development speakers and networking in Hartford, New Haven, and Fairfield counties. See upcoming meetings on page 9.



New and Young Professionals meet up at Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala in Shelton.

# We bolstered our Fairfield County New and Young Professionals Cabinet.

As part of our commitment to bring more programs to more parts of the state, we've added a Fairfield County New and Young Professionals Cabinet. These up-and-comers plan educational and social events for their peers in southwestern Connecticut.

Chair: Michael Weymouth (Marcum)

# Our Student Ambassadors spread the word about CTCPA on campus.

Check out these reports from our eyes and ears on the ground!

"The CTCPA has helped me learn how to be a leader. I have been able to use the accounting society as a platform to connect my peers with the resources and benefits the CTCPA has available."

Stephen McGrath • Central Connecticut State University • Accounting Society President



We engage Student Ambassadors at Connecticut colleges and universities to act as CTCPA liaisons at their respective campuses. These students tell their peers about the benefits of CTCPA student membership and help coordinate and promote staff and member campus visits.



"The CTCPA has helped me work on some of my soft skills such as public speaking. I have gained more confidence when addressing my peers thanks to the efforts and resources of the CTCPA."

Alison Scalenghe • University of Connecticut • Accounting Society Vice President



"CTCPA Interview Day provided ECSU students with a chance to interact with companies, connect with other students, and learn about opportunities in accounting."

Jimmy Yuen • Eastern Connecticut State University • Accounting Society President



"I was able to create some amazing connections through the CTCPA."

Daniel Neal • University of Hartford • Accounting Society Member



Sacre

"The CTCPA helped me expand my network, develop professionally, and find internships that helped me discover what I enjoy doing."

Zachary Chilelli • Sacred Heart University • Accounting Society Treasurer



"The CTCPA helped me better understand the path to achieving my CPA license. I was also able to get a free professional headshot for LinkedIn, learn about the importance of networking, and get tips on how and when to start studying for the CPA Exam."

Dominique Sepe • Fairfield University • Beta Alpha Psi President



"CTCPA Interview Day was a great opportunity for students to not only work on their interview skills but also have a chance to obtain a real internship or job."

Brian Zheng • University of New Haven • Beta Alpha Psi President; Accounting Society Secretary "I was fortunate to receive the CTCPA Educational Trust Fund's Rising Sophomore Scholarship, which has helped me worry less about paying for school and focus more on learning. CTCPA events also give me an opportunity to meet great people within the profession."

Jacob Custer • Post University • Accounting Society Treasurer

# Community Service and Volunteerism

# We organized volunteer and charitable opportunities.

# Special Olympics Connecticut Volunteer Day

A group of members and their families spent a Saturday volunteering at Connecticut's Special Olympics Games at Southern Connecticut State University. When the 2,300 athletes weren't competing, they enjoyed fun activities in Olympic Town. Our volunteers staffed the arts and crafts tent, helping athletes complete take-home art projects.





# Arts and Crafts Supply Drive for CCMC ArtReach

We came together this holiday season and collected hundreds of arts and crafts supplies to support Connecticut Children's Medical Center's ArtReach program. ArtReach helps patients and their families create arts and crafts projects so they can relax and focus on something other than illness.



You've told us you'd like opportunities to give back as members of the CPA community. This year we coordinated two major charitable projects in addition to several longstanding ways to lend your support.

## More ways to give back to the profession

# 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

# Educational Trust Fund Scholarships



The Educational Trust Fund is administered by five CTCPA member trustees and supports tomorrow's CPAs today.

The fund presented \$46,500 in scholarships to 25 aspiring CPAs and grants to 13 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/etf

# Educational Trust Fund Golf Tournament



Save the date! Monday, September 24, 2018 The Farms Country Club, Wallingford

The CTCPA hosts an annual golf tournament with all proceeds going toward scholarships and grants for aspiring CPAs.

You can lend your support by playing in the tournament with associates or colleagues or by sponsoring the tournament.

We raised \$29,380 through sponsorships, player fees and donations, and raffle ticket sales at the 2017 tournament. The tournament has raised \$437,719 since it began 22 years ago.

>> www.ctcpas.org/golf



# 2018-2019 Board of Directors Nominees



CTCPA Involvement

# President Susan A. Martinelli, CPA

# Assurance Partner -RSM US, New Haven



### President-elect Dennis W. Cole, CPA Partner -Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger, New Haven and Fairfield

**CTCPA** Involvement Treasurer, Board of Directors member-at-large, Advisory Council member-at-large, Educational Trust Fund trustee and chair, Student Outreach and Career Awareness Committee member, Relations with Colleges and Universities Committee member and chair, Jack Brooks Leadership Award winner (2014)



# Treasurer Marie L. Benedetto, CPA Owner -

Marie L. Benedetto, CPA, MST; Innovative Business Solutions, Middlefield

### **CTCPA** Involvement

Board of Directors member-at-large, Strategic Planning Committee co-facilitator, Advisory Council member-at-large, Golf Tournament Committee co-chair, Educational Trust Fund Review Taskforce member

President-elect, Treasurer, Board of Directors member-at-large, Advisory

Council member, Financial Institutions Council member



# Member-at-Large Mark R. Torello, CPA, CFE, CISA, CRISC, CITP Partner-in-Charge -Whittlesey Technology, Hartford

### CTCPA Involvement Advisory Council member-at-large, Technology Council member and chair



# Member-at-Large/ Advisory Council Chair Michael P. Jordan, CPA

Managing Director -Andersen Tax, Old Greenwich

# **CTCPA** Involvement

2017-2018 Advisory Council chair and Board of Directors member-at-large, Nominating Committee member (2009 and 2016)



# Secretary Mitchell R. Insero, CPA Financial Development Program -Cigna, Bloomfield

# **CTCPA** Involvement

Board of Directors member-at-large, Advisory Council member-at-large, Executive Search Committee member, New and Young Professionals Cabinet member and chair, Valuation, Forensic, and Litigation Support Group member, Jack Brooks Leadership Award winner (2016)



# Member-at-Large Brian P. Reilly, CPA Senior Vice President and Chief Auditor -Travelers, Hartford

**CTCPA** Involvement Advisory Council member-at-large

# The CTCPA 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 May 16 (more on page 5).



# 2018-2019 Advisory Council Appointees

# Members-at-Large



Chair Michael P. Jordan, CPA Managing Director – Andersen Tax, Old Greenwich



Matthew J. Auth, CPA Tax Senior Manager – Ernst & Young, Stamford



Michael J. Delaney, CPA, CFE Audit Manager – PKF O'Connor Davies, Wethersfield



Gerard J. Frame, CPA Partner – Novak Francella, Killingworth



Bradley Hillman, CPA Controller – Global Steering Systems, Watertown



Michael Maksymiw Jr., CPA, CGMA Principal – Filomeno & Company, West Hartford



Mary C. Manfredi, CPA Manager of Finance – Electric Boat Corporation, Groton



Joseph W. Mooney, CPA, CGMA Deputy Commissioner – State of Connecticut Department of Revenue Services, Hartford



Amber L. Moore, CPA Manager – Goldblatt Bokoff LLC, Norwich



Katherine M. Patnaude, CPA Audit Senior Manager – PKF O'Connor Davies, Wethersfield



Lany Pfeifer, CPA Manager – Barron, Yanaros & Caruso, Wethersfield



Robert B. Stoddard, CPA Managing Director, Federal Tax – KPMG, Stamford



Joseph A. Tarasco CEO and Senior Consultant – Accountants Advisory Group, Cold Springs, NY 28 www.ctcpas.org



Troy Woolery, CPA Senior Associate – CohnReznick, Hartford

# What is the 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.

# Committee/Group Representatives



Governmental Accounting and Auditing Jessica A. Aniskoff, CPA Manager – BlumShapiro, West Hartford



New and Young Professionals Katherine A. Donovan, CPA Audit Supervisor – Whittlesey, Hartford



Peer Review Martin Henry Jr., CPA Partner – Henry, Raymond & Thompson, South Windsor



Professional Ethics Ryan C. Sheppard, CPA, CFF Partner – Knight Rolleri Sheppard CPAs, Fairfield



Golf Tournament Michael W. Bolingbroke, CPA Assistant Vice President – Robert Half Management Resources, Hartford



Educational Trust Fund Michael F. Ganino, CPA, CFE Audit and Advisory Principal – Dworken, Hillman, LaMorte & Sterczala, Shelton



Federal Income Tax Paul N. Iannone, JD, CPA Tax Counsel – Rogin Nassau, Hartford and Founder – Tax Career Advisor, Cheshire



Financial Institutions Mario L. Solari Jr., CPA Audit and Accounting Partner – Whittlesey, Hartford



State Tax Alan J. Clavette, CPA Managing Member – Clavette & Company, Newtown



Employee Benefit Plans Rebecca M. Guptill, CPA Senior Manager Accountant – Novak Francella, Killingworth



Educators Marie G. Kulesza, CPA Assistant Professor – Central Connecticut State University, New Britain



Business and Industry Jennifer Whalley, CPA State Tax Manager – Amphenol Corporation, Wallingford



Trust, Estate, and Gift Tax Paul T. Czepiga, CPA, JD Principal – Czepiga Daly Pope & Perri, Berlin, Madison, Simsbury, New Milford, South Windsor



Valuation, Forensic, Litigation Anastasiya V. Hajek, CPA, CFE Senior Associate, Assurance and Advisory Services – Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina, Glastonbury



Technology Francis B. Rooney III, CPA Partner – Germain and Rooney, Trumbull



Not-for-Profit Organizations Lisa M. Wills, CPA Audit Partner – Whittlesey, Hartford Connecticut CPA • Spring 2018 29

# Have a question? We're your answer place!

# Joining the CTCPA, Paying Dues, and Using Membership Tools

Joining the CTCPA Paying membership dues or billing classes Member discounts and insurance savings Logging into and using the CTCPA website Listing yourself in the Find a CPA search engine Email subscriptions

# Legislative and Regulatory Matters

State legislative matters Federal legislative matters CPA regulation/State Board of Accountancy Relationships with regulators

Liz Frazza • lizf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0220 Liz Frazza • lizf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0220 Liz Frazza • lizf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0220 Caitlin Bailey O'Neill • caitlinb@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0228 Caitlin Bailey O'Neill • caitlinb@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0228 Caitlin Bailey O'Neill • caitlinb@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0228

Bonnie Stewart • bonnies@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0214 Mark Zampino • markz@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0212 Bonnie Stewart • bonnies@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0214 Bonnie Stewart • bonnies@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0214

# Becoming a CPA and Maintaining Your Certification

Becoming a CPA and the CPA Exam Scholarships and grants Ethics Exam purchases Professional ethics

Tyler Losure • tylerl@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0215 Alicia Strong • alicias@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0217 Doreen Fredette • doreenf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0219 Lynette Lindner • lynettel@ctcpas.org • 860-259-1062

# **Career Resources**

Help wanted and mergers classifieds postings Per diem directory Posting or searching online resumes

Kirsten Piechota • kirstenp@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0231 Caitlin Bailey O'Neill • caitlinb@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0228 Caitlin Bailey O'Neill • caitlinb@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0228

# Continuing Professional Education and Professional Development

Educational programs that come to your office CPE requirements and compliance Course/conference registrations Speakers bureau

Lisa Bugryn • lisab@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0232 Lisa Bugryn • lisab@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0232 Doreen Fredette • doreenf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0219 Mark Zampino • markz@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0212

# Technical Accounting Questions and Practice Management

Member-to-member technical consulting service Liz Frazza • lizf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0220 Peer review Professional ethics

Julie McNeal • juliem@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0236 Lynette Lindner • lynettel@ctcpas.org • 860-259-1062

# Engaging Your Network and Enhancing Your Personal Brand

Special events and networking programs Chapter and regional meetings Hartford-area young professionals Fairfield- and New Haven-area young professionals Listing yourself in the Find a CPA search engine Speaking at educational sessions Free professional headshots Writing for our publications Becoming a media source Using the "Member of CTCPA" logo

Alicia Strong • alicias@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0217 Cindy Panioto • cindyp@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0213 Alicia Strong • alicias@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0217 Tyler Losure • tylerl@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0215 Caitlin Bailey O'Neill • caitlinb@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0228 Lisa Bugryn • lisab@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0232 Kirsten Piechota • kirstenp@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0231 Kirsten Piechota • kirstenp@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0231 Mark Zampino • markz@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0212 Kirsten Piechota • kirstenp@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0231

# Volunteering in Your Community

Charity drives and volunteer days High school and college student outreach Supporting the scholarship golf tournament Alicia Strong • alicias@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0217 Tyler Losure • tylerl@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0215 Liz Frazza • lizf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0220

# Advertising, Sponsorships, and Meeting Space Rental

Sponsorship/advertising opportunities Partnership/business development opportunities Education Center meeting space rentals

Tyler Losure • tylerl@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0215 Cindy Panioto • cindyp@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0213 Doreen Fredette • doreenf@ctcpas.org • 860-258-0219

Please reach out to us for any of the topics listed here or more.

Not sure where to start? Contact us at:

> 860-258-4800 www.ctcpas.org

# Other Helpful Contacts

**Connecticut State Board** of Accountancy (Housed under the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection)

> www.ct.gov/dcp 860-713-6100

Licensing/certification email: dcp.licensecpa@ct.gov

Enforcement issues email: dcp.accounting@ct.gov

National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) www.nasba.org 615-880-4200

### **CPA Examination Services** 800-CPA-EXAM (800-272-3926)

**Connecticut Department** of Revenue Services www.ct.gov/drs 860-297-5962

Connecticut IRS Senior Stakeholder Liaison Joseph McCarthy 860-756-4431 Joseph.S.McCarthy@irs.gov



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