

The Monthly Balance Sheet



American Woman's Society of
Certified Public Accountants

of Houston

Volume 32, Number 3

September 2006

SEPTEMBER'S MEETING

AWSCPA Fall Mini-Seminar "Professional Liabilities"

Course Objective: To educate CPAs regarding professional liabilities and responsibilities affecting them and their clients

Course Level: Basic, no pre-requisites

Course Description: This two-part mini-seminar will focus on understanding the potential liabilities that CPA's (and their clients) may face as professionals, regardless of their form of practice.

Speakers:	Jeffrey S. Johnston, Bob Newhouse
Topic:	Professional Liabilities
Date:	September 28, 2006
CPE:	3 hours

Part 1.

Liability in the Accounting Profession will be presented by Jeffrey S. Johnston, Associate, Vinson & Elkins. Jeff will present an expanded version of the overview given at the Annual Seminar. The presentation will focus on the provisions of Texas state law, the federal securities laws and the rules and regulations of the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Jeff will discuss recent enforcement actions of the PCAOB and the SEC and their impact on public companies.

As an associate with Vinson & Elkins, Jeff has represented various national accounting firms in malpractice litigation, government investigations and enforcement proceedings, securities fraud class actions, shareholder class action litigation and shareholder derivative litigation. Jeff is the co-author of "New Rules Help Ensure Directors' Independence", *Texas Lawyer*, October 2004 and "Private Antitrust Actions", *Global Counsel Handbook*. Jeff is a member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Texas and the Houston Bar Association. He also serves on the board of directors of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Texas Gulf Coast Chapter and the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. He holds a B.S.B.A. in economics and finance magna cum laude from Creighton University and a J.D. with honors from the University of Texas School of Law.

Part 2.

Employment Law & Liability EEOC, OFCCP, FMLA, Title VII, ADA, ADEA

The employer/employee relationship presents a myriad of risks and liabilities to organizations. How well prepared are you to identify and address these exposures? This half of the mini-seminar will give an overview of workplace liabilities, the laws that govern them and how organizations can address these risks.

Bob Newhouse is the Director of the Supply Chain Management practice for the Houston office of Resources Global Professionals. He has his J.D. from the University of Houston and over 15 year organizational development, HR and employment law experience.

Please don't miss this opportunity for an interesting and informative seminar. 3 CPE credits. Space is limited, so register early. A snack supper will be served. Standing reservations do not apply.

To register, please mail payment to Anna Marie LaPorte, 811 Pinemont Drive, Houston, TX 77018 no later than September 21, 2006. Members \$40.00, Non-members \$45.00, \$50.00 after 9/21/06

AWSCPA Fall Mini-Seminar "Professional Liabilities"

Place: Resources Global Professionals
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1600
Houston, Texas 77056
(Air Liquide Building – attached to
the Galleria)

Time: 5:30 – 6:00 pm Registration and
Snack Supper
6:00 – 7:40 pm Accountants' Liability
7:40 – 8:30 pm HR Liability

***Please mail registration and seminar fee payable to AWSCPA to:
Anna Marie LaPorte, 811 Pinemont Drive, Houston, Texas 77018***

Name: _____
Address: _____
Firm: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

For more information email Anna Marie LaPorte at jalprt@sbcglobal.net or call 281.433.3618

President's Letter



Recently the leader of the company I work for, Deane Kanaly, the founder of The Kanaly Trust Company passed away. And although it was a sad event, it afforded me the opportunity to reflect on what and who makes a leader, the qualities of leadership. In some cases leaders are born, but many times they are made. Regardless of whether they are born or made however, one characteristic a leader must have is vision. Vision enables a person to plan. It helps to make dreams a reality by garnering support from others. It doesn't matter whether an empire is being built or just a small neighborhood shop, it still requires good leadership and vision to be sustainable.

My vision for the AWSCPA Houston Affiliate this year is to make it a stronger organization by providing a supportive and nurturing environment where our members can train to be leaders or work on achieving other professional and personal goals. I know that I can count on all of you to help me achieve this vision by encouraging committee and board meeting participation where members can gain leadership training. Also, by attending our meetings which offer high quality CPE with interesting and diverse topics you will enhance your skills, perhaps even gain a new set, and thereby help you to achieve your professional and personal goals.

To this end, I am excited that later this month several members of our organization will be attending the JNC in Las Vegas. Some are previous leaders - Wendy Lewis, Anna Marie LaPorte, and Jane Tillinghast. And some are rising stars – Mary Ross and Phyllis Martin. Attending the conference will be a wonderful learning experience for all of us. I am sure we will return with fantastic ideas on how to make our organization stronger. I look forward to sharing those ideas with you to help fulfill my vision for our group.

Gilda Mendoza
2006-2007 President AWSCPA Houston Affiliate

American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants
Speaking with one voice for women in the profession.

Member News and Announcements

Welcome – to new member **Susan Sample** and to August meeting guest, **Caroline Hanrahan**.

August's Meeting – **Dianne L. Metcalf** gave a very well prepared and thoughtful presentation on the art of conducting a meeting. She defined three types of meetings and explained pre-meeting planning, conducting the meeting, and follow up after the meeting.

AWSCPA Affiliate Board – the new affiliate board for 2006-2007 will be **Gilda Mendoza, Mary Ross, Uzma Chowdhury, Patty Hunt, Wanda Llorens, Phyllis Martin, Stephanie Sawyer, Frances Weatherly, and Annette Williamson**. Thank you all for agreeing to serve.

National News – The annual meeting for the 2005-2006 year will be conducted on October 6, 2006. For an agenda and voting procedures, see info@awscpa.org. Remember that if you refer a new member, and your name is on their application, you are entitled to a \$10 gift card from Barnes & Noble, and participation in a gift drawing at the joint national conference.

Mentor Affiliate Program - **Wendy Lewis**, Affiliate member, and National Director, West would like our membership to consider starting a mentor affiliate program in the Huntsville area, where we

would assist with the formation of a new affiliate for AWSCPA. If you have comments, input, or additional ideas please contact **Wendy Lewis**, wendyl@wt.net.

University of Houston Speaking Engagement - U of H at Clear Lake would like to have 3 speakers for Beta Alpha Psi "How Professional Organizations Can Support Your Career Path" on November 10 from 11:30 to 12:30. Each speaker would have 20 minutes to outline their careers and give examples of how AWSCPA has been helpful. Call or e-mail **Jane Tillinghast** if you are interested in speaking, jtillinghastcpa@aol.com.

Standing Reservation List – Our 2006-2007 Arrangements Chair, **Stephanie Sawyer**, has been given the following names from the standing reservation list last year: **Barbara Courtright, Cynthia Cox, Joan Khosla, Anna Marie LaPorte, Eve Lawrence, Phyllis Martin, Ellen McMurrey, Rhonda Ryan, Patricia Hunt, Susan Taylor, Jane Tillinghast, Gilda Mendoza**. If you wish to remain on the list, you must call Stephanie to confirm, (832) 338-0311, before the October meeting registration deadline.

Race for the Cure - The Susan B Komen Race for the Cure will be on Saturday, September 30, 2006. For race information or registration, see raceinfo@komen-houston.org.

Federation of Houston Professional Women Women of Excellence Gala, September 16, 2006

The FHPW is a network of professional women's organizations in the Houston area. The annual FHPW Women of Excellence Gala for 2006 will honor our affiliate member and past president **Joan Khosla**, along with a Woman of Excellence from each member organization on September 16, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown. Attending to support Joan will be **Gilda Mendoza**, her husband **Kuno Trostmann, Rhonda Ryan** and **Phyllis Martin**. **Congratulations, Joan!!** More information on FHPW and the Women of Excellence Gala can be found at their website www.fhpw.org.

ASWA/AWSCPA Joint Inspired Solutions Conference Las Vegas, Nevada, Bally's Hotel Monday, September 18 - Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Houston Affiliate members **Gilda Mendoza, Mary Ross, Wendy Lewis, Jane Tillinghast, Phyllis Martin**, and **Anna Marie LaPorte** will be attending the conference and will present a report upon their return. In addition to the four tracks of high quality CPE listed in the brochure on Monday morning at 11:00 am we shall have our traditional Membership Exchange. The open sessions present topics that well within Texas CPE requirements. If you have not received a brochure, go to www.awscpa.org.

New Member Profile -Susan Sexton

For everyone who does not know, **Susan Sexton** is one of our 2005-2006 scholarship recipients. She also received a student membership, and has been making good use of it. Susan is not your traditional student. She is a single mom with two girls depending on her. But Susan has never had it easy. She lost both her mother and father within a few years of each other when she was just a teenager. She married while she was very young and, within a few years, was a mother herself. She divorced in her late twenties and found herself the sole provider for her little family. She often worked three jobs just to make ends meet.

Susan knew that she had to complete her college education if she were to climb out of poverty. And that is exactly what she did. Susan is scheduled to graduate in May of 2007, and is a member of the honorary accounting society, Beta Alpha Phi. To become a member of this elite group, one must have and maintain a GPA of 3.5 and above. Susan was offered a co-operative assignment with the IRS this past June. She is currently working as an IRS employee and attending classes. When she graduates, she will have a certain job opportunity with the IRS starting at a G13 level. The future looks very bright for Susan.

I was not your traditional student, either, when I went back to get my college degree. I am very proud to belong to an association that gives where the need is the greatest. Susan is an inspiration to all.

Submitted by Annette Williamson, Membership Chair

THE CALL COMMITTEE

- **Sarabeth Boothe** – (713) 356-6828 slboothe@sbcglobal.net Anderson through Chowdhury
- **Susan Sexton** – susan2890@sbcglobal.net Courtright through Hsieh
- **Stephanie Tate** – southgurt@yahoo.com Hunt through McMurrey
- **Ivana Shumberg** – (713) 623-8911 ivana@ws-cpa.com Mendoza through Pozzi
- **Myra Pickett** – (832) 768-0520 txtaxsmart@sbcglobal.net Raines through Shumberg
- **Jolly Mathew** – (713) 660-7862 kallour@aol.com Staples through Yoesting



If you do not wish to be reminded of a meeting by the call committee, contact the member in your range. Otherwise enjoy the luxury of momentarily having a personal assistant remind you to make a reservation for a dinner meeting. If you are on the standing list, use this as a reminder to come to the meeting or to cancel so that you will not have to pay for an unattended meeting. *Make new friends but keep the old. One is silver, the other gold.*

Phyllis Martin, CPA* **Financial Services**

3 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1700
Houston, TX 77046
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Fax 713-961-0153
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AWSCPA Houston Affiliate Title Sponsor



* This firm is not a CPA firm.



Houston Affiliate
Fiscal Year 2006 to 2007
Officers and Committee Chairs

AFFILIATE OFFICERS

Position	Name	E-Mail	Work or Cell	Home
President	Gilda Mendoza*	gmendoza@kanaly.com	(713) 582-0561	(713) 926-3389
Vice-President	Mary Ross*	Maross1977@aol.com anmeer@yahoo.com	(409) 789-9160	
Secretary	Uzma Chowdhury*	uchowdhury@hanover-co.com	(281) 798-8634	(281) 550-9171
Treasurer	Ellen McMurrey	emcmurrey@nwebs.com		(281) 489-1822

Committees and Other Positions

Position	Name	E-Mail	Work or Cell	Home
Annual Seminar Team	Gilda Mendoza*	gmendoza@kanaly.com	(713) 582-0561	(713) 926-3389
	Barbara Courtright	barbcourtright@houston.rr.com		(713) 991-2355
	Kathryn Harriss	Kharriss2@yahoo.com	(713) 320-8388	(713) 681-2669
	Phyllis Martin*	pmartin@finsvcs.com	(713) 402-3850	(713) 780-9006
	Jane Tillinghast	jtillinghastcpa@aol.com	(713) 681-7558	(713) 688-3531
Arrangements	Stephanie Sawyer*	ssawyer@sbcglobal.net	(832) 338-0311	(281) 367-8434
Charter Renewal	Phyllis Martin*	pmartin@finsvcs.com	(713) 402-3850	(713) 780-9006
Database & Labels	Patty Hunt*	pahunt@earthlink.net	(713) 447-1115	(713) 524-2428
Ex-Officio/ Call Committee	Jane Tillinghast	jtillinghastcpa@aol.com	(713) 681-7558	(713) 688-3531
Fall Mini-Seminar	Anna Marie LaPorte	jalprt@sbcglobal.net	(281) 433-3618	(713) 694-8042
Federation Delegate	Rhonda Ryan	rhonda@rhondaryan.com	(713) 686-2697	(713) 686-2697
Federation Delegate	Brenda Banks	brenda_banks@ml.com	(281) 374-5328	(281) 812-2413
Historian	Sue Bailey	suebailey_nl@yahoo.com	(713) 247-2466	(713) 520-1903
Job Bank	Rhonda Ryan	rhonda@rhondaryan.com	(713) 686-2697	(713) 686-2697
Membership	Annette Williamson*	netwilliamson@sbcglobal.net	(713) 501-0039	(713) 862-8988
Nat'l Director-West	Wendy Lewis	wendyl@wt.net	(713) 622-9933	(281)558-8782
Nat'l VP-Publications	Jane Tillinghast	jtillinghastcpa@aol.com	(713) 681-7558	(713) 688-3531
New CPA/Member Reception & Dinner	Frances Weatherly*	fweatherly@houston.rr.com	(281) 200-9309	
Newsletter Editor	Susan Taylor	staylora@sbcglobal.net	(281) 233-1354	(713) 781-7649
Programs/Speakers	Mary Ross*	Maross1977@aol.com	(409) 789-9160	
Publicity	Wanda Llorens*	wellor@earthlink.net	(713) 952-5102	(713) 952-5102
Scholarship & Education outreach	Jacqueline Pierson	jtpiersoncps@yahoo.com	(832) 816-4481	
Spring Mini Seminar	Brenda Banks	brenda_banks@ml.com	(281) 374-5328	(281) 812-2413

*Board Member names are in boldface.

A Complete Member Directory can be searched or downloaded from the Member's Section of the national website, www.awscpa.org. Our affiliate website, www.awscpa.org/houston, has a schedule of upcoming events.

MAKING OPPORTUNITIES COUNT

**AMERICAN WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

c/o Patricia A. Hunt
1415 Hyde Park Blvd. #B
Houston, TX 77006-2503

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Meeting Date: Thursday, **September 28, 2006**

Location: 2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1600

UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker - Topic</i>
September 28, 2006	Professional Liability in Accounting & Human Resources – Jeffrey Johnston & Bob Newhouse
October 19, 2006	New CPA/Member Dinner, Speaker: Judy Gray Johnson
November 16, 2006	Payroll Accounting Update, with speaker from Prime Pay



2700 Post Oak Blvd., Air Liquide Building
Resources Global Professionals, Ste 1600
Houston, TX 77056

Registration: 5:30 pm
Program: 6:00 pm

Reservations due by: Thursday, September 21, 2006