

The Monthly Balance Sheet

Volume 34, Number 2

AWSCPA
American Woman's Society of
Certified Public Accountants
of Houston

August 2008

AUGUST'S MEETING

Back by popular demand is **David Ahola**, Principal, Internal Assurance Services of **Mir Fox & Rodriguez, P.C.** This time Mr. Ahola will be discussing Enterprise Risk Management - what it is and how it impacts Corporate America.

Speaker:	David Ahola, CPA, CIA, CFE
Topic:	Enterprise Risk Management
Date:	August 21, 2008
CPE Cr.:	1 hr
Sponsor #:	000052
Level:	Basic, no prerequisites required

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

A Board meeting will be held after the August meeting. The following items are on the agenda:

- Approval of July 24, 2008 Planning Retreat minutes;
- Treasurer's Report for July 2008 and Review Budget Line Items for 2008-09;
- Report on 2007-08 Financial Review from Cynthia Cox;
- Finalize 2008-09 topics and speakers so program cards can be mailed out in Sept. 2008;
- Response from the HESS on the cost for the Annual Seminar from Susan Taylor;
- Update on Submission of Star and Silver Star Awards to our national organization from Mary Ross;
- Discuss Coordination of Transportation to the National Conference.



*** Reservations Policy ***

Meeting reservations must be called in or canceled by 5:00pm on the Friday **PRIOR** to the meeting. The price for dinner reservations called in after 5:00pm Friday (walk-ins) is \$40. The regular price for members is \$30, for non-members is \$35. For those members on the standing reservations list, the price is \$30 and for students is \$20. Our arrangements chair is Stephanie Sawyer. Her phone number is (832) 338-0311. We cannot accept credit cards for payment. **IF YOU MAKE A RESERVATION AND DO NOT ATTEND, YOU MUST PAY ANYWAY.** We pay for all meals reserved regardless of whether they are used.

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President's Letter

July 25, 2008

The Houston Affiliate Board, Committee Chairs and other members met yesterday evening for our Annual Planning Retreat at the offices of **Wendy Lewis**, our National Vice President for Member Services. The purpose of this Annual Planning Retreat is to plan our budget and organize our topics and speakers for all of our seminars to be held during the 2008-09 year so that we can provide our members with quality programs.



In the next two months, we will finalize the topics and speakers for our monthly meetings, Fall Leadership Conference, Spring Mini-Conference, Annual Seminar and Charter Renewal. Program cards which will include this information will be mailed out to all Houston area female CPA's on file with the Texas State Board. This information will be posted on our AWSCPA National web-site at www.awscpa.org/houston which will link to our National web-site. Also our National web-site can be accessed at: www.awscpa.org. This web-site will provide you information on events going on at the National level as well as registration and information about our National Conference to be held on October 27-30, 2008 at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Continuing professional education can also be completed through Tech Casts that are sponsored by AWSCPA National. These Tech Cast programs and topics can be accessed and registration done on-line through this web-site.

Each year at our National Conference, AWSCPA recognizes achievements of its members and community leaders and selects an individual to present an award in each of the following categories: Woman CPA of the Year Award; Educator of the Year Award; Public Service Award; and Woman of Courage Award. If you know of anyone whom you feel deserves to be nominated for any of these awards, please feel free to nominate them. Nominations for the Woman CPA of the Year and Educator of the Year awards are open to professionals outside of the AWSCPA membership. Other details for submission of nominations can be accessed through the National web-site.

Our Houston Affiliate **Annual Seminar** will be held on **Saturday, February 7, 2009** and this will provide 8 hours of CPE. There will be a general session at the very beginning of the seminar, a general luncheon session, and a general closing session. Outside of these general sessions, there will be two separate tracks of options provided for the break out sessions. General topics currently considered to be offered during the break out sessions include the following: Annual Tax Update; Margin Tax; Internal Controls; FASB Update; Recent Pronouncements Affecting Not for Profit Accounting; Update on the new IRS Form 990; Board Members Responsibilities and Liabilities; Medical/Hospital Accounting Update; and Governmental Accounting Update. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact **Wendy Lewis** at: wendy@jrsmithco.com.

Our next scheduled meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 21, 2008** at the Sheraton Brookhollow beginning with social hour at 5:30 PM. The topic and speaker for this meeting will be "*Enterprise Risk Management*" by **David Ahola**. All Houston Affiliate members will be receiving an e-mail reminder for this meeting from our Data Base Chair, **Patty Hunt**. Hope to see you there and encourage your co-workers or future potential members to join us for this meeting or any other meeting/seminar as a guest!

Mary Ross
2008-2009 President
AWSCPA Houston Affiliate

Member News and Announcements

July's Meeting – Our annual planning meeting was attended by the following members:

Cynthia Cox
Kathryn Harriss
Patty Hunt
Wendy Lewis
Mary McDonald
Gilda Mendoza
Becky Moores
Mary Ross
Stephanie Sawyer
Janet Scudder
Susan Taylor
Annette Williamson

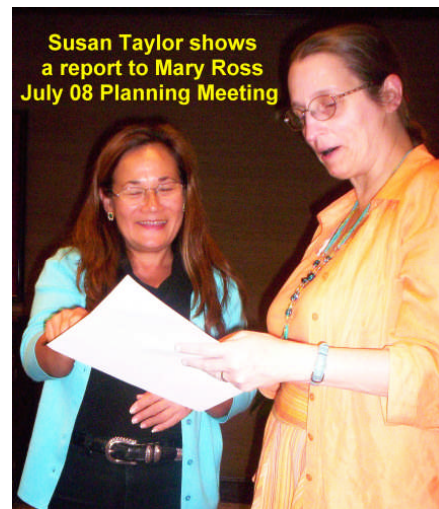


At this meeting, some of the things that we discussed included: changing the financial review process; getting a new federation delegate to replace **Rhonda Ryan** (she has been “promoted” to treasurer of the Federation); finding more committee chairs (we have openings); voted to stop using the “Call Committee”; recruited **Stephanie Sawyer** to be the registrar for the Annual Seminar; and told the brochure editor to add more words about the scholarships. Ideas for meeting topics were discussed and speaker assignments were handed out. If you have a topic that you would like to hear, please let **Mary Ross** or anyone else on the Board know.

Did you know? – That if you can't find the copy of the newsletter that was sent to you, you can download a copy on the AWSCPA website. Go to **AWSCPA.ORG/Houston**. While you are there, www.awscpa.org/houston

browse around on AWSCPA.ORG and see what our national organization has to offer.

Discounts! – member **Phyllis Martin** reports that the Houston Affiliate has been approved by **MassMutual** for an association discount for any of our members who invest in a Long Term Care Insurance policy. The discount includes the members, spouses or significant others, parents, grandparents and children. They may contact Phyllis at 713-402-3850 for additional information.



Federation of Houston Professional Women - All members of AWSCPA, Houston Affiliate are automatically members of FHPW. The Federation provides its members (the members of 50 plus women's groups) the opportunity to network with women in many professions.

Save The Date! – The 2008 (AWSCPA Diamond Anniversary) Joint National Conference will be October 27-30, 2008 in Dallas, Texas. For hotel reservations at **The Fairmont Dallas Hotel**, please call (800) 441-1414 and mention the Joint National Conference no later than September 28, 2008. Register by September 26th and save \$50.

Women of Excellence Awards Gala – This year's gala is on September 27th, honoring **Wendy Lewis**. We will be contributing a basket to the Silent Auction. Last year's honoree, **Phyllis Martin** is looking for items to include in our

basket. If you have anything to put in the basket, please bring it to the **August 2008** meeting.

any money to make sure that there is a seat at our table.



WOE Winners From Left:
**Wendy Lewis (2008), Rhonda Ryan (2004),
 Phyllis Martin (2007)**

If you are interested in attending the Gala, the cost for attending the Gala is **\$70** per person but our affiliate will subsidize this cost by half for members. Your reservation needs to be sent to **Susan Taylor** by August 30th. We are trying to fill one table, so call Susan Taylor before sending her

The Federation of Houston Professional Women and FHPW Educational Foundation

Women of Excellence Awards Gala

Celebrating Successful Women and The Power of Teamwork

Saturday, September 27th, 2008

5:30 - Reception/Silent Auction

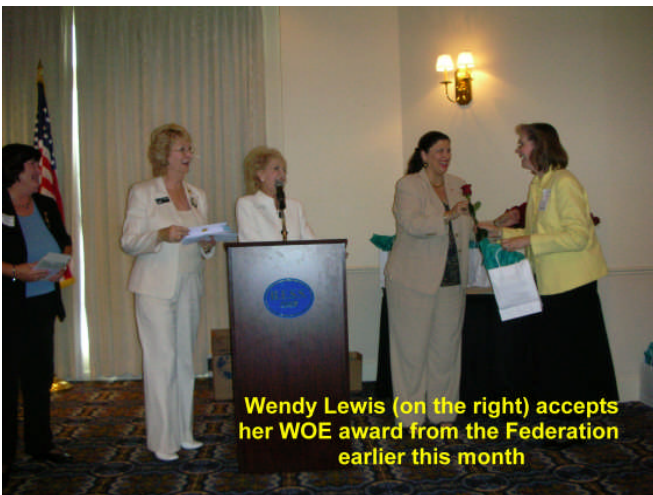
6:30 Dinner

Hyatt Regency

AWSCPA's Honoree: Wendy Lewis



July Planning Meeting From Left:
Stephanie Sawyer, Mary McDonald, Mary Ross, Annette Williamson, Gilda Mendoza



Wendy Lewis (on the right) accepts her WOE award from the Federation earlier this month



2008 July Planning Meeting
Cynthia Cox, Janet Scudder, Stephanie Sawyer, Mary McDonald, Mary Ross



Houston Affiliate
Fiscal Year 2008 to 2009
Officers and Committee Chairs

Updated: 08/07/08

AFFILIATE OFFICERS

Position	Name	E-Mail	Work or Cell	Home
President	Mary Ross*	maross1977@aol.com	(409) 789-9160	(409) 741-0593
Vice-President	Cynthia Cox	ccox@cynthiacoxcpa.com	(281) 331-8185	(281) 756-8335
Secretary	Uzma Chowdhury*	anmeer@yahoo.com	(713) 328-6205	(281) 550-9171
Treasurer	Susan Taylor*	staylora@sbcglobal.net	(281) 233-1354	(713) 781-7649

Committees and Other Positions

Position	Name	E-Mail	Work or Cell	Home
Annual Seminar	open			
Arrangements	Stephanie Sawyer*	ssawyer@sbcglobal.net	(832) 338-0311	(281) 367-8434
Charter Renewal	Mary Ross	maross1977@aol.com	(409) 789-9160	(409) 741-0593
Civic Project	The Race for the Cure	Saturday, October 4, 2008		
Database & Labels	Patty Hunt*	pahunt@earthlink.net	(713) 447-1115	(713) 524-2428
Ex-Officio	Gilda Mendoza*	gildamendoza2003@yahoo.com	(713) 582-0586	(713) 926-3389
Fall Leadership Seminar	Wendy Lewis	wendyl@wt.net	(713) 622-9933	(281) 558-8782
Federation Delegate	Rhonda Ryan*	rhonda@rhondaryan.com	(713) 392-0295	(713) 686-2697
Federation Delegate	Phyllis Martin *	pmartin@finsvcs.com	(713) 402-3850	(713) 780-9006
Historian	Becky Moores	bjmoores@prodigy.net		(713) 957-0318
Job Bank	Dianne Metcalf	dmetcalf@metcalfresources.com	(713) 963-4680	
Job Bank	Rhonda Ryan	rhonda@rhondaryan.com	(713) 392-0295	(713) 686-2697
Membership	Annette Williamson*	netwilliamson@sbcglobal.net	(713) 501-0039	(713) 862-8988
Nat'l VP-Member Services	Wendy Lewis	wendyl@wt.net	(713) 622-9933	(281) 558-8782
Newsletter Editor	Kathryn Harriss	Kharriss2@yahoo.com	(713) 320-8388	(713) 681-2669
Programs/Speakers	Cynthia Cox	ccox@cynthiacoxcpa.com	(281) 331-8185	(281) 756-8335
Publicity	Janet Scudder	jscudder@goodmanfinancial.net	(713) 599-1777	
Scholarship & Education outreach	Sue Bailey	suebailey_nl@yahoo.com	(713) 247-2466	(713) 520-1903
Spring Mini Seminar	open			

***Board Member names are in boldface.**

Note: 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. If you have any questions regarding your National membership, **Fred Young** is in charge of our account and can be contacted at fyoun@advmtgconcepts.com or 800-AWSCPA1 (297-2721).

Has your contact information changed? Please submit all corrections to pahunt@earthlink.net and AWSCPA at www.awscpa.org.

**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, Aug. 21, 2008
Location: Sheraton Brookhollow

UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker – Topic</i>
August 21, 2008	Enterprise Risk Assessment – David Ahola, CPA, Mir Fox & Rodriquez
September 18, 2008	TBA
October 4, 2008	Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure
October 18, 2008	Fall Leadership Conference
November 20, 2008	Risk Assessment Suite – Charles G. Yapple, CPA, Null Lairson, P.C.



Sheraton Brookhollow
3000 N. Loop West
Houston, TX 77092

Registration: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 6:00 pm
Speaker: 6:45 pm

Reservations due by: Friday, August 15, 2008