

OCTOBER'S MEETING

New CPA/New Member Dinner

New Members will be our guests (that means no charge for dinner) if they make a reservation with Past President and Membership Chair **Anna Marie LaPorte** by Friday, October 14, 2005. Her phone number is (281) 433-3618. New members are those who joined in the 2004/2005 or 2005/2006 years:

Susan Bailey (7/20/05)
Uzma Chowdhury (7/22/04)
Sheryl Dodge (4/18/05)
Amanda Eaves (8/30/05)
Sandra Hintzman (8/12/05)
Phyllis Martin (11/23/04)
Jolly Mathew (2/18/05)
Tina Raines (5/5/05)
Cheryl Sanders (10/27/04)
Stephanie Sawyer (2/18/05)
Pam Schertz (11/23/04)
Anne-Marie Suire (3/4/05)

New CPAs will also be our guests if they make a reservation with **Anna Marie**. Other members should make their reservations with **Barbara Courtright** at the usual prices. Standing reservations apply.

PROGRAM

Our speaker, **Dr. Susan M. Sorensen**, is assistant professor at the University of Houston Clear Lake, teaching business taxation and advanced financial accounting to graduate students. She has 30 years of public accounting experience. She completed her PhD from the University of Minnesota in the spring of 2003 with a dissertation on international transfer pricing.

Course Name: Tips on Reviewing Foreign Financial Statements

Course Objective: To help small CPA firms, their clients, and others learn what questions to ask when reviewing foreign financial statements so that "red flag" situations can be identified and acted upon.

Course Level: Basic, no pre-requisites

1 hour CPE

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 \$35. The regular price for members is \$25, for non-members is \$30. For those members on the standing reservations list, the price is \$25 and for students is \$20. Our arrangements chair is Barbara Courtright. Her phone number is (713) 991-2355. We only accept checks or money orders 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.

President's Letter

The first quarter of the 2005/2006 is over. What have we accomplished?

We had an annual seminar planning meeting in July, and Board meetings with committee reports in July and August. The location and some speakers for the annual seminar have been secured. In September we had a very short Board meeting to discuss a review of the books. We have attempted to communicate and train at these meetings. The meetings were attended by Board members, Committee Chairs, and other members. **Ellen McMurrey**, Secretary, has taken minutes at all the Board meetings.

Cynthia Cox, Treasurer, has produced, with some help, a 2005/2006 budget. To balance the budget we had to cut our scholarships to two @ \$750 each, versus two @ \$1,000 each. The cost of the annual seminar at the H.E.S.S. Club went up \$7.50 per person for last year and this year. We raised the price of the annual seminar for 2006, but were still short because we have the additional cost of a new fee in the amount of \$750 for being a CPE presenter. There are areas where members could help if an opportunity presented itself. We are looking for some sponsors for the annual seminar. We have asked Mass Mutual and Oppenheimer to be sponsors for \$1,000 each and the privilege of having their names on the top of the seminar brochure. We have not had a commitment yet, so the offer is open if you hear of an opportunity (see enclosed letter and registration form). We mail out 7,000 seminar brochures to women CPA's in the area. In the past we have had companies who would run our seminar brochure through their print shop or be a sponsor for the printing of the brochure or the newsletter. We also have been able to run the newsletter through the mailroom of some companies in times past. Ideas from members regarding additional net income are welcome.

Donna Mikulecky, Program Chair, and **Kathryn Harriss**, Graphics Artist Extraordinaire, have created our 2005/2006 program card. You should be receiving one in the mail and one with the November newsletter. Put one in your purse or briefcase and give it to a likely suspect if you meet one. We had two excellent

speakers at the July and August dinner meetings. Being Program Chair is a challenge this year due to new CPE requirements.

Wanda Llorens, Publicity Chair, has done an excellent job in getting notices of our meetings in publications. **Joan Khosla**, Past President and Civic Chair, put together a donation program and a Race for the Cure team. **Susan Taylor**, Past President and Newsletter Chair, edited and processed three months of imaginative and informative newsletters – no small task. **Barbara Courtright**, Arrangements Chair, negotiated a new contract with the Sheraton for 2005/2006 and ably took reservations for dinner meetings. **Brenda Banks**, Past President and Fall Mini Chair, and her Merrill Lynch partners put together a high quality Fall Mini. **Anna Marie LaPorte**, Past President and Membership Chair, wrote articles about new members for the last two newsletters. We have three new members. **Gilda Mendoza**, Vice President, is sending out letters to potential vendors and sponsors for the annual seminar. She also met a couple of times with the current President to discuss affiliate matters. **Jane L. Tillinghast**, President, worked with Nationals to prepare the New CPA invitations and order the disc that will be used for mailing invitations to the New CPA Dinner, mailing out the program card and mailing the annual seminar brochure. Historians **Pam Schertz** and **Anne-Marie Suire** took pictures at events. **Jane Tillinghast** and **Anna Marie LaPorte** attended the National Conference in Philadelphia. **Rhonda Ryan**, Past President and Federation Delegate, was in charge of the July quarterly Federation meeting. **Phyllis Martin**, Spring Mini Chair, has lined up speakers for the Spring Mini. **Varsha Shah**, Scholarship and Education Outreach Chair, is contacting universities in the area for potential speaking engagements. **Kathryn Harriss**, Database Chair, has updated the database.

Projects for the second Quarter: The seminar committee will finish getting speakers for the annual seminar. **Kathryn Harriss** will design the seminar brochure. Since we never found someone to review the books, we shall perform an internal review by committee. **Cindy Yoesting** and **Anna Marie LaPorte** will help with the New CPA/New Member Dinner. **Betty Pels** will help us with CPE requirements for presenter by answering questions after the October meeting. Mugs and pens with new logo and colors are budgeted and may be ordered. After mailing out the 2006 annual seminar brochure to members and last year's guests, we shall all take a well-deserved break in December and have a merry holiday. January will start the third quarter.

Jane L. Tillinghast, 2005/2006 President

Member News and Announcements

Fall Mini-Seminar – **Brenda Banks**, Past President and Fall Mini-Seminar Chair, and her partner, **Gary Wulf**, put together a very professional and substantive presentation on retirement plans. **Mike Daus** gave a complex overview of all the various types of plans, and **Richard Wuensch** explained the benefits of the 412(i) plan in the current market. The charts and information that we received will be useful to many of us who are called upon to deal with this issue. Those who answered quiz questions correctly received a prize. All of these, mysteriously, featured the Merrill Lynch logo.

Welcome - to **Elizabeth Wilde**, who was our guest at the Fall Mini-Seminar.

Federation of Houston Professional Women – The fourth quarterly meeting will be on October 24, 2005, 5:30 to 7:00 pm. The speaker will be **Patti C. Smith**, V.P. and General Manager of KVUE-TV in Austin, 2004 Texas Broadcaster of the Year. Go to www.fhpw.org for the reservation form and location.

Get Well – **Kathryn Harriss** is ill with a serious infection. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Sympathy – Pam Schertz’s 83 year old mother is now living with Pam and needs care 24/7. Pam is taking the night shift and her sister the day shift. So although we will be thinking about Pam, we will not see her at the evening dinner meeting for a while. We look forward to when she can return.

Katrina and Rita – Our prayers go out to the families that were affected. We wish them healing and better days ahead.

Board Meeting – No Board meeting is scheduled until November. But after the October meeting, Betty Pels will be available to answer questions on the requirements for CPE program providers.

E-Mails - Are you receiving too many e-mails from us? If so, just drop me an e-mail (staylora@sbcglobal.net) and I will take you off of my list. You should also delete your e-mail address from the National website.

AWSCPA Civic Project Basket

We will be setting up a donation basket at each meeting and ask our members to drop off items each month that will be spread to various organizations. The current list of organizations include:

The Women’s Home

(Donate items for their thrift shop – anything welcome!)

Dress For Success

(Donate women’s professional clothing and accessories)

The Council on Alcohol and Drugs

(Donate men’s toiletries, socks, backpacks, etc..)

Cash donations would be welcome at all the above also. The donation basket will be available at each meeting and donations will be accepted for any of the above at each meeting. Simply indicate the organization on the items if you have a preference for your donation.

Houston Affiliate Fiscal Year 2005 to 2006 Officers and Committee Chairs

AFFILIATE OFFICERS

Position	Name	E-Mail	Work or Cell	Home
President	Jane Tillinghast*	jtillinghastcpa@aol.com	(713) 681-7558	(713) 688-3531
Vice-President	M. Gilda Mendoza*	gmendoza@kanaly.com	(713) 582-0586	(713) 926-3389
Secretary	Ellen McMurrey*	emcmurrey@nwebs.com		(281) 489-1822

Treasurer	Cynthia Cox*	ccox@cynthiacoxcpa.com	(281) 331-8185	(281) 756-8335
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Committees and Other Positions

Position	Name	E-Mail	Work or Cell	Home
Annual Seminar	Jane Tillinghast	jtillinghastcpa@aol.com	(713) 681-7558	(713) 688-3531
	Kathryn Harriss	kharriss2@yahoo.com	(713) 320-8388	(713) 681-2669
	Joan Khosla*	joan@khoslas.com	(713)717-5368	(713)681-6209
	Susan Taylor*	staylora@sbcglobal.net	(281) 233-1354	(713) 781-7649
	M. Gilda Mendoza	gmendoza@kanaly.com	(713)582-0586	(713)926-3389
Arrangements	Barbara Courtright*	barbcourtright@houston.rr.com		(713) 991-2355
Charter Renewal	M. Gilda Mendoza	gmendoza@kanaly.com	(713) 582-0586	(713) 926-3389
Civic Project	Joan Khosla	jkhosla@x-iss.com	(713) 717-5368	(713) 681-6209
Scholarship and Education Outreach	Varsha Shah	vshah@westlakegroup.com	(713) 585-2647	(713) 465-1102
Ex-Officio	Anna Marie La Porte*	jalprt@aol.com	(281) 433-3618	(713) 694-8042
Fall Mini-Seminar	Brenda Banks	bftbanks@aol.com	(281) 374-5328	(281) 812-2413
Federation Delegates	Rhonda Ryan	rhonda@rhondaryan.com	(713) 686-2697	(713) 686-2697
	Nancy Nguyen	nancy.nguyen@ubs.com	(713) 985-3438	(713) 662-9850
Historian	Anne-Marie Suire	asure@netzero.net	(281) 433-3618	(281) 261-0843
IRS Delegate	Lisa Cropper	lcropper@sbcglobal.net	(281) 996-8017	
Job Bank	Moritz Day	daywestinc@mail.com	(713) 529-3399	(713) 862-7251
Membership	Anna Marie La Porte	jalprt@aol.com	(281) 433-3618	(713) 694-8042
Database & Labels	Kathryn Harriss	kharriss2@yahoo.com	(713) 320-8388	(713) 681-2669
New CPA Reception	by committee	jtillinghastcpa@aol.com	(713) 681-7558	(713) 688-3531
Newsletter Editor	Susan Taylor	staylora@sbcglobal.net	(281) 233-1354	(713) 781-7649
Programs/Speakers	Donna J. Mikulecky	donna.mikulecky@christushealth.org	(713) 812-6882	(713) 664-1727
Publicity	Wanda Llorens*	wellor@earthlink.net	(713) 952-5102	(713) 952-5102
Scholarship	Varsha Shah	varsha_saraiya@hotmail.com	(713) 585-2647	(713) 465-1102
Spring Mini-Seminar	Phyllis Martin	pmartin@finsvcs.com	(713) 402-3850	(713) 780-9006

*** Board Members**

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.

AMERICAN WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

c/o Anna Marie LaPorte
811 Pinemont Dr.
Houston, TX 77018

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Meeting Date: Thursday, October 20, 2005

Location: Sheraton Brookhollow

UPCOMING MEETING CALENDAR

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker - Topic</i>
October 20, 2005	New CPA/New Member Dinner – Tips on Understanding Foreign Financial Statements – Dr. Susan M. Sorensen
November 17, 2005	Windfall Planning – Patricia Barrett CFP CDFA
January 19, 2006	Annual Tax Update – Deloitte Touche

Sheraton Brookhollow
3000 N. Loop West
Houston, TX 77018

Registration: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 6:00 pm
Reservations due by: Friday, October 14, 2005

Speaker: 6:45 pm

Reservations are due by Friday, October 14, 2005