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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Kristen Smith, CPA

As tax season is in full swing and we approach St. Patrick's Day, I hope the luck of the Irish is upon everyone. I know I have certainly found this to be my best tax season on record. I hope I did not jinx myself by saying that!

Since most people are incredibly busy this month, we will not be having a luncheon program in March. But, please join me in April as we are updated by Laura Shaw on Tucson's economic outlook for 2008. For those who missed this presentation last year, you will not want to miss it again. Laura provides very interesting information that is beneficial for everyone in the accounting field.

I look forward to seeing you all next month!



APRIL MEETING

Plan to join us for the April luncheon at Acacia. Laura Shaw from Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Inc. (TREO) will present an update on Tucson's economic outlook for 2008. There will be good food, great information, and an opportunity to get out of the office for lunch!

RECENT EVENTS

February Luncheon

Retirement Plan Designs for High Income Clients – presented by T.J. Orr at Elle Wine Country Restaurant



2007 Scholarships

Congratulations to our 2007 Scholarship Winners – Nicollette Daly and Loren Devine! Both women are accomplished students at the University of Arizona. The scholarships were awarded at our February luncheon.

We wish them both luck in their schooling and future endeavors – and we hope to see them at future luncheons!



AWSCPA partners with KUAT

Members of AWSCPA offered telephone assistance at the 17th annual Arizona Illustrated KUAT Tax Tip hotline on February 6, 2008. Members of the Tucson Affiliate—Susan Piña, Debi Moore, Svetlana Pitman, Chris Elzy and Lori Hoby—answered tax questions for a one hour period during and following the 6:30 p.m. broadcast. Lori Hoby, CPA appeared on air commenting on charitable itemized deductions. Bill Buckmaster, host of the channel 6 nightly TV program, extended a thank you “to all CPA’s who gave up their time to answer phones.” “The questions that were called in this year were very sophisticated”, said Susan Pina, CPA of Beach Fleischman and Co, P.C. Susan, as well as others, have volunteered their time over the last few years.

TECHCASTS

We will be sponsoring group sessions for the **AWSCPA** techcasts. Each techcast lasts an hour (or more) and occurs about once a month. You can sign up to view the techcasts through the AWSCPA or join us for a group session.

You can check out all of the upcoming webcasts at <http://awscpa.org/home.htm>

AWSCPA MISSION

The **American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants (AWSCPA)** is a national organization dedicated to serving all women CPAs. The **AWSCPA** provides a supportive environment and valuable resources for members to achieve their personal and professional goals through various opportunities including **advocacy, networking, LEADERSHIP TRAINING, education, and public awareness.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date! for AWSCPA upcoming luncheons and other events:

April 23, 2008	AWSCPA luncheon, Laura Shaw – Tucson’s Economic Development
May 8, 2008	AWSCPA board meeting at Hammel, Beal & Lauer, P.C.
May 21, 2008	AWSCPA joint meeting with ASCPA, TBD
June 18, 2008	AWSCPA luncheon, TBD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Directory – The 2007-2008 **AWSCPA Tucson Affiliate** membership directory was delivered last month. If you did not receive your copy, or you notice any corrections or omissions, please contact lnighcpa@msn.com.

Special Thanks again this year to **Beach Fleischman & Company** for hosting our Techcasts. Without their sponsorship, we may not have won a **Silver Star** award at the 2007 **Joint National Conference**.

AWSCPA Virtual Mall – Keep this **opportunity** in mind... **AWSCPA** has partnered with several companies, who will donate a portion of each **AWSCPA** purchase to the **CPE Foundation**, which provides national scholarships and helps affiliates with their scholarship programs. See the Virtual Mall on www.awscpa.org (from the home page click “Useful Links” then choose Virtual Mall) for a complete listing. To count toward their contribution, most of the vendors require you to begin your shopping at the Virtual Mall.

Kaplan CPA Review is a long-time affinity partner with **AWSCPA**. Kaplan is dedicated to helping CPA candidates pass the exam with confidence on the first try. Student or professional members of **AWSCPA** are entitled to a **25% discount** on all of Kaplan's Complete Learning Systems and live classes. This discount alone will more than pay for your annual **AWSCPA** membership investment! To learn more about this discount, contact **AWSCPA** at info@awscpa.org.

WELCOME TO AWSCPA!

AWSCPA is dedicated to serving all women CPAs. As a member of this national organization, you will find yourself in a **supportive** environment with valuable resources to help you achieve your **personal** and **professional goals**. You will also find rewarding **opportunities** for **leadership**, **networking**, and **education**.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS Membership in the **AWSCPA** is open to **all** individuals (male and female) who are or who are **aspiring** to become certified public accountants.

READY TO JOIN? If you would like more information and a **membership application**, please contact **Nannon Roosa** (nannon.roosa@cliftoncpa.com) or **Lynda Nigh** (lnighcpa@msn.com). You may also speak to any board member at our monthly luncheons.

ALREADY A MEMBER? Let your associates know how valuable your **AWSCPA** membership has been to you! Just a reminder: when you renew your annual dues, **please** be sure to include the **affiliate fee** of **\$30** for your local group. This fee enables us to continue providing high quality programs in Tucson!

Did you know – For each new member you recruit, you’ll be entered into the semi-annual drawings for a grand prize. All new members will be listed in the monthly newsletters (New Members article) online (www.AWSCPA.org) – and if you see someone you personally recruited, let the National Office know and your reward will be sent.

We appreciate your support and attendance at our programs! Please feel free to contact any board member if you have questions, concerns or suggestions! You may also visit the website of the AWSCPA National Office at www.awscpa.org.

CHARITABLE ENDEAVORS

In an effort to give back to the community, the **AWSCPA** Tucson affiliate has started a tradition of collecting donations for select charities and other charitable endeavors each year. We have our own **scholarship** fund through which we have given scholarships to deserving college students – we awarded two \$500 scholarships in each of the last three years. We have also collected clothing for the **YWCA Your Sister’s Closet**. This year we have plans to help the community as follows:

YWCA YOUR SISTER'S CLOSET This worthy organization provides unemployed women with clothing that is appropriate for job interviews and to begin employment. They need professional clothing that is stylish, clean and preferably ON HANGERS. Clean out a closet and bring your gently used items to our next luncheon. You’ll receive a receipt for your contribution, and we’ll take care of delivering them to the YWCA. Find out more about this organization by visiting their website at <http://www.ywcatucson.org/>.

SCHOLARSHIPS The Tucson **AWSCPA** has a scholarship program for female accounting students who have taken a non-traditional path to their education. Our 07/08 scholarships will be awarded at our February luncheon. There are several ways you can help fund these scholarships:

\$\$\$ Give and receive... participate in the **50/50 raffle** at each meeting – one ticket for \$1 or six tickets for \$5. The proceeds are split – half to the winner and half to benefit the scholarship fund. **OR** you can purchase tickets for the next raffle by sending your check (made out to **AWSCPA**) to: **Lynnae Fritz, AWSCPA Treasurer (fbo scholarship), c/o Beach Fleischman & Co., P.C., P.O. Box 64130, Tucson, Arizona 85728-4130**. Please indicate “Raffle tickets” and the number of tickets on the memo line.

In addition, you can help this cause through a **tax-deductible contribution** directly to our scholarship fund at **The University of Arizona Foundation**. Simply complete the contribution form below and mail it along with your contribution to the Foundation or give it to a Board member at the next luncheon.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Please accept my donation of \$_____ to the AWSCPA Scholarship fund.

Donor name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

Make your check payable to The University of Arizona Foundation, with “fbo AWSCPA Scholarship” on the memo line.

Mail this form with your check to:

The University of Arizona Foundation
Attention: Scholarship Development Office
PO Box 210109
Tucson, AZ 85721-0109

THE 2007-2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS...



President:
Kristen Smith
625-4929
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VP / President-elect and Director Hospitality:
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Member-at-large:
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Member-at-large:
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National Board Member:
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Hospitality Committee:
Svetlana Pitman
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Brittney Williams
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Programming Committee:
Sheri Campbell
sheri.campbell@earthlink.net

JOB FORUM – IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!

The Tucson AWSCPA affiliate strives to develop more networking opportunities for our members and meeting attendees. As part of this networking, we are providing the forum for employers with positions available to match these opportunities with individuals seeking employment. This will be a *confidential* service if you are seeking employment.

For those seeking employment contact Kelly Crandall (email: kellyc@cpahammel.com). For those with positions available, contact any Board member to announce your opening at a monthly meeting or in our newsletter. (NOTE: Newsletter postings must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month. Ads must be 200 words or less – no logos or tables – submitted in a Microsoft Word® document. All postings may be further edited as needed for space limitations.)

PLEASE communicate this employment connection to your employers for future employment opportunities for others. This is a FREE service for those looking for great CPA's – that's you!

Job Openings

Hammel, Beal & Lauer, P.C. is seeking to fill **multiple tax positions** in our expanding practice. **We offer:**

- Experience with a diverse industry mix
- Partnership opportunities
- Ongoing training and leadership development
- No travel
- Involvement in management
- Relocation reimbursement
- Unlimited potential for growth and advancement
- Competitive salary and bonuses
- Family friendly work environment
- Flexible schedules
- Generous vacation/paid time off
- 401(k) plan with match

We are looking for some of the best and brightest tax professionals to join our firm! Qualified candidates will have a minimum of 3 years public accounting tax experience, CPA, strong desire to excel in public accounting, and excellent communication and presentation skills. If you have an interest, **CONTACT US!**

Our firm's mission is to help our clients achieve their goals by providing exceptional business advisory and financial services. We are a member of CPAmerica® International, one of the largest networks of independent certified public accounting firms in the world. This affiliation, along with the experience of our professionals, gives us the resources to be competitive with national and regional firms, yet retain the level of personalized service found only in a local firm. To learn more about our firm and our affiliation with CPAmerica®, check out our website at www.hblcpa.com. Please fax your resume and cover letter to (520) 885-3699 or email to info@cpahammel.com.

TAX MANAGER – Growing tax practice is looking for an experienced CPA to work in our Tucson office. Full time position, great benefits, advancement opportunities, reasonable busy season hours. Salary DOE. Send resume to: jsteiner@horne-llp.com.
