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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Chris Elzy, CPA

The September joint luncheon with the ASCPA was a huge success. Every seat was taken and Mona Hymel did not let us down. Her discussion of the tax platforms of the two presidential candidates was informative as well as entertaining. I want to thank Lisa Gundvaldson and Katie Newburn for all their hard work to make the event a success. This month's program with speaker Laura Belleau discussing Practice Areas and Domestic Relations will be another great program. I look forward to seeing you all there.



The JNC Conference is at the end of the month in Dallas. Everyone should try to attend. There are many great topics and speakers.

## 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.**

## MEETING NOTICE

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### Practice Areas, Domestic Relations - by Laura C. Belleau

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, October 22, 2008, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm  
(Please allow time for check-in, lunch served at 12pm)

**Cost:** \$30 members / \$35 non-members / \$10 students

**CPE:** Counts as one (1) hour of CPE

**Place:** Red Sky Cafe, 2900 N. Swan

**Menu:**

- 1) **Honey Barbeque Chicken Salad** with Blue Cheese, Crisp Apples, Oranges, Grapefruit, Spiced Pecans and Honey Mustard Vinaigrette
- 2) **Sautéed Shrimp** with Feta Cheese, Vine Ripe Tomatoes, Kalamata Olives, Bell Peppers, Mixed Field Greens and Herb Vinaigrette
- 3) **Grilled Black Angus Burger** with Lettuce, Red Onions, Tomatoes, Pickle Spear, Wisconsin Cheddar Cheese, Choice of French Fries or Potato Salad
- 4) **Penne Pasta** with Oven Dried Tomatoes, Artichokes, Roasted Peppers, Pine Nuts, Garlic, Spinach and Pecorino Romano

**Reservations:** Contact **Lisa Gundvaldson** at [lgundvaldson@cox.net](mailto:lgundvaldson@cox.net) by noon **Friday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>**.

**Note:** *Participants who sign up but are unable to attend will be billed unless they notify [Lisa](#) of the cancellation 24 hours in advance of the luncheon.*

## RECENT EVENTS

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### Tax Platforms of the Presidential Candidates

By Susan Piña

On September 17, 2008, we met at the Arizona Inn for our monthly luncheon. This luncheon was a joint meeting with the Arizona Society of CPAs for a presentation of the tax platforms by Mona Hymel, professor from the James E. Rogers College of Law. We only had one hour for the presentation, but many attending would have gladly listened for the rest of the afternoon. She only had time to cover “the tip of the iceberg,” but it was enough to start everyone thinking about how the tax platforms would influence their vote.

Ms. Hymel began by explaining how the tax platforms of the candidates can and do change almost daily – the information she provided was current as of September 12<sup>th</sup>. She discussed the phenomenon that as it gets closer to the election, each candidate’s tax platforms will become closer to the other. She also mentioned that the candidate’s speeches aren’t always in agreement to the platforms their advisors have prepared for the media. Parts of McCain’s platform had no specific details readily available; Obama, on the other hand, had certain areas with many details and labeled with very catchy names. While Obama’s overall tax platform would reduce the tax revenue by \$2.9 trillion, McCain’s entire platform would reduce the tax income by \$4.2 trillion. These estimates are based on information provided by their advisors, not on the candidates’ speeches.

The luncheon was prior to the recent excitement with Wall Street and a government plan to decrease the volatility in the markets. I am sure the circumstances are causing larger changes in the platforms than predicted.



Speaker Mona Hymel with AWSCPA president Chris Elzy (left) and ASCPA president Debi Moore (right)-

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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This is a list of the planned luncheons and board meetings for the coming year. All are subject to change, and updates will be included in each future newsletter. But... **SAVE THE DATE!**

10/28-10/30/08 – AWSCPA/ASWA Joint National Conference in Dallas, TX

11/19/08 – Presentation by [Carrie Allen](#), Allen & Young

12/10/08 – Tax Update

1/21/09 – What Small Business Owners Need from Accountants: [Tamara Ferris](#), UA Eller College

2/18/09 – Stress Reduction: [Ann Pardo](#), Canyon Ranch

4/22/09 – Update on Tucson's Economic Growth: [Laura Shaw](#), TREO

5/20/09 – Basics of Medicare and Medicare Part D: [Isabel V. Sites](#), Healthnet

6/17/09 – Cyber Security

## TECHCASTS

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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>**

## OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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**JNC** – This year marks the fifth annual **Joint National Conference** of **AWSCPA** and ASWA (American Society for Women Accountants), and it's also the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **AWSCPA**. The conference is being held in **Dallas, Texas** on **October 28-30<sup>th</sup>**, and offers an opportunity to earn **25 hours of CPE** credit. For more details, visit [www.awscpa.org](http://www.awscpa.org).

**Institute of Management Accountants** will meet on **Thursday, October 16, 2008**. There is a pre-session held at Randolph Park Hotel and a dinner meeting across the street at Old Pueblo Grill Restaurant. Park your car once and attend both meetings.

Pre-session, **4pm-6pm**: WHERE WE ARE IN THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY TODAY - Paul DeHerrera, COO of Universal Avionics and Jack Keating, president of Evergreen Air Maintenance Center. Randolph Park Hotel (102 N. Alvernon Way). **Cost**: \$15 members / \$20 non-members.

Social hour, **5:30-6:30pm** at Old Pueblo Grill

Dinner meeting, **6:30-8pm**: 2008 ECONOMY AND WHAT LOOMS AHEAD - George Feiger, CEO and chief economist for Zion's Corporation. (**CPE: 1 hour**) Old Pueblo Grill (60 N. Alvernon Way). **Cost**: \$26 members / \$30 non-members. **Dinner Choices**: Chicken Breast, Flat-Iron Steak, Chili Dusted Salmon or Vegetarian.

RSVP to Gale McGuire at [gale.mcguire@roberthalf.com](mailto:gale.mcguire@roberthalf.com) or call 584-3480 by Oct 13, 2008 at Noon.

**CPA Certification Workshop** – The Arizona Society of CPAs will be offering a workshop to help CPA candidates through the certification process. The session will help candidates understand the process and will answer questions they have. It is open to members and nonmembers at no cost and offered on October 29 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in Tucson. To register for the course or for more information visit [Tucson CPA Certification Workshop](#). If you have any questions, contact Josè Herrera at (602)324-4741.

**AWSCPA Programming** – We are preparing the topics for the next calendar year. Please take a brief moment to think about what topics you would like to visit. Is there a particular speaker you would like to hear from? When the perfect topic or influential speaker comes to mind, please take action—jot it down in an email and send your suggestions to [sheri@klbhcpas.com](mailto:sheri@klbhcpas.com). THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**AWSCPA Virtual Mall** – Keep this [opportunity](#) in mind... **AWSCPA** has partnered with several companies, who will donate a portion of each purchase made through the **AWSCPA Virtual Mall** to the **CPE Foundation**, which provides national scholarships and helps affiliates with their scholarship programs. See the Virtual Mall on [www.awscpa.org](http://www.awscpa.org) (from the home page click the “Useful Links” button, then choose “AWSCPA Virtual Mall”) for a complete listing.

**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](mailto:info@awscpa.org).

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**Baby Update** – Here is Logan Smith (Kristen Smith’s baby—she’s our immediate past president) at 3 months old. He has been accompanying mom to work, where he is learning to use a 10-key!



## WELCOME TO AWSCPA!

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**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 **Susan Brown** ([azbrowns@comcast.net](mailto:azbrowns@comcast.net)). 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!

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](http://www.awscpa.org).

## SPECIAL THANKS

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The Tucson AWSCPA would like to thank the following firms for their generous contributions to our affiliate:

- **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](#).
  - **CLIFTON GUNDERSON** for preparation of our member directory again this year.
  - **HAMMEL, BEAL & LAUER** for the use of their conference room for our board meetings.
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**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. This year we’re increasing our scholarships from two at \$500 each to **three at \$750 each**. For an application or more information, please contact Deborah Hutchinson at [Deborah.Hutchinson@cliftoncpa.com](mailto:Deborah.Hutchinson@cliftoncpa.com). The deadline for applications is **November 14, 2008**.

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: **Roberta McCue**, *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 2008-2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS...**



**President:**  
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## **JOB FORUM – IT’S ALL ABOUT YOU!**

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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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> 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**

This space is available! If you have any job openings, email them to Kelly ([kellyc@cpahammel.com](mailto:kellyc@cpahammel.com)) or Kristen ([kristensmithcpa@yahoo.com](mailto:kristensmithcpa@yahoo.com)).

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