



Rusty Lacy
Nashville Chapter President
2013-2014

President's Message

I am writing this before Veteran's Day, which is November 11, 2013. Most people reading this will know that Veteran's Day is a national holiday so all government workers get the day off. From what I remember of my history studies, this day commemorates the signing of the armistice at the end of World War I, known as the Great War at that time. To be more precise the war ended on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

At our last meeting the Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) discussed a community service project directed at our country's veterans. Recently, I received an email from another chapter asking for support for a program called "Wreath's Across America." December 14 is national Wreath's Across America day and is a time for wreaths to be placed on the graves of veterans. The email encouraged each chapter to adopt this program for support. If you would like to give money to this worthy cause please do so. More information may be found at <http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/>.

The CEC looked at the Wreaths Across America and other programs that provide a service to veterans and their families. After much discussion the CEC decided to support a program sponsored by the Fisher House (<http://www.fisherhouse.org/>).

This organization provides housing near military and Veterans Affairs medical centers for family members to stay when visiting their recuperating military member or veteran. We felt supporting this organization would bring it closer to home since there is a Fisher House in Murfreesboro. There is also one in Kentucky near Fort Campbell. Hopefully, we will be able to get a representative from the Fisher House to attend one of our



meetings and tell us a little bit about the organization.

Even though you will not read this until after Veteran's Day, please remember those who have sacrificed to protect us. Many did not return to their loved ones and others have wounds that will never completely heal.

God Bless America.

Rusty

Inside...

- Luncheon Speaker Spotlight
- CEC Spotlight/Member News
- Training Opportunities
- Community Service

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 13, 2013 — Breakfast Seminar
- December 2, 2013 — Luncheon Meeting
- January 6, 2014 — Luncheon Meeting
- January 14—15, 2014—Winter Seminar at Clement Auditorium, Nashville State Community College
- February 3, 2014 — Joint Luncheon Meeting with ACFE and IIA.

December Luncheon Speaker — Vicki Updike, CPA
Vice President of Finance, Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation

Vicki Updike is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with more than twenty-five years of accounting experience in both the public and private sector. In January 2004, Ms. Updike accepted a position with the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation as Manager of Financial Reporting and Analysis. Within three short months, Ms. Updike was promoted to Vice President of Finance, responsible for financial accounting of statutory and financial

including – The Grand Ole Opry, Acuff Theater, Wildhorse Saloon in both Nashville and Orlando, the historic Ryman Auditorium and Corporate Magic. In addition, she was appointed accounting team leader for Gaylord Entertainment’s corporate-wide implementation of Oracle accounting software.

Ms. Updike also spent ten years of her career with regional public accounting firms practicing in both the audit and tax disciplines. Her work with State Farm Insurance



Vicki Updike, CPA

Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation

reporting for budgeting, advertising, and payables/receivables; retailer and game accounting, and cash management. Later, purchasing, prize validation, fleet services, and facilities and risk management were added to her responsibilities.

In 1998, Ms. Updike moved to Nashville, Tenn. to work for Gaylord Entertainment as both a Business Analyst and Senior Accounting Manager, where she was responsible for the overall financials of a number of Gaylord Entertainment’s vast holdings

Company at the regional level and later, corporate headquarters, led to her role as the Northeast Finance Team Leader for the implementation of Peoplesoft accounting software.

Ms. Updike enjoys competing in triathlons and has completed three Ironman distance triathlons in the



last five years, two of which resulted in top ten finishes for her age group. She has also earned the distinction of Honorable Mention by the USA Triathlon organization for her athletic endeavors.

Ms. Updike holds a bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Thomas College in Waterville, Maine and is a member of the Tennessee Society of CPAs. She currently resides in Brentwood, Tenn. with her husband, Dawson, and sons, Cooper and Dawson (Lil D).

Committee News

Education Committee

AGA Audio/Web Conference

The next audio/web conference will be held on November 20, 2013. The topic will be *How to Stay Cutting Edge in Tough Financial Times*.



AGA Breakfast Seminar

The Breakfast Seminar will be held November 13, 2013 at the Hard Rock Café. Registration is open. The registration deadline for members and non-members is November 8. Members who make a reservation will be responsible for the \$15 breakfast fee after November 8 but transfers to other members are permissible. Non-members are required to pre-pay \$20 and may also be transferred but no refunds will be permitted after the November 8 deadline.

Please email reservations@nashvilleaga.org to cancel or change a reservation before the deadline. If you have reservation questions, please call Chas Taplin at (615) 747-5287.

Education Committee Cont.

AGA Winter Seminar

The Winter Seminar is January 14 and 15, 2014 and will be located in the Clement Auditorium at the Nashville State Community College. Be sure to save the date, because this seminar offers up to 16 CPEs and will be and should prove to be a great event. Please make plans to attend.

Community Service

Hats, Coats, Gloves and Socks Drive

For the third year, our chapter is partnering with service provider **Samaritan Ministries**, a local 501(c)(3) organization, in our annual **Hats, Coats, Gloves, and Socks Drive**. Samaritan Ministries provides food, clothing items, and other services free of charge to our Nashville community Monday through Saturday.

Everyone deserves a warm coat or pair of gloves on a cold winter day. Please take some time during your shopping outings in the next few weeks, and pick up a few items, or a lot of items, for this worthy charity drive. You will definitely put a smile on the face of a deserving and grateful person.

The current donation drop off locations are with Scarlet Sneed, on the 15th floor of the James K. Polk

Community Service Cont.

Hats, Coats, Gloves and Socks Drive

building Scarlet.Sneed@cot.tn.gov, Karen B. Hale at the William R. Snodgrass TN Tower, Karen.B.Hale@cot.tn.gov and Angela McElrath, Angela.McElrath@nashville.gov at the Howard Office Complex, 700 Second Avenue South. Please contact Scarlet if you would be willing to sponsor a drop-off locations. Donations will also be collected at the **DECEMBER and JANUARY Chapter Meetings**.

If you would like to contribute cash, please make your check payable to **AGA**. Please make sure to include your name on your donation; whether check or physical items. One check will be written from the chapter to Samaritan Ministries.

As a good friend of mine would say, "THANK YOU FOR CARING AND SHARING!"

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season!



CEC Member Spotlight — Andy McArthur

I grew up in Friendship Tennessee, a small town in Crockett County. My father tele-commuted while working for S&K Sales out of Connecticut. My mother was a stay-at-home-mom. I was fortunate to have both parents around almost my entire childhood. I have three older sisters and one younger brother. There is a 23 year gap between the oldest and youngest of my siblings. However, we are a very close family. We all worked together on the farm and enjoyed the tranquil country life.

I became active in sports at around 7 years old when my mother signed me up for taekwondo lessons. I was crazy about the movie Karate Kid and she thought a few lessons would be a good reward for doing well in school. She figured I would take a few classes and eventually move on to something else. But, I kept going to class and received my first degree black belt a little over five years later. After about another year and a half I received my second degree black belt. I also played football, basketball, volleyball and baseball along with riding horses. I was extremely busy with a game, tournament, and/or horseshow nearly every weekend. Amazingly, I cannot remember a single event where I did not have at least one person in the stands cheering for me. I am blessed to have such a supportive family.

Our bond was put to the test when I was 16. My father traveled some for his work and had gone to Frankfurt Germany just after my sophomore year. A couple days after he arrived in Germany he suffered a heart attack. We received a call from his employer that he was in the hospital and stable. S&K Sales actually sent the family to Frankfurt to be by his side. Unfortunately, he was sedated the entire time we were there and passed away a little over three weeks after the first heart attack.

I inherited a lot of responsibility at a young age. I knew I could not replace my father's income in the traditional sense. But, I did learn how to buy and sell real estate through our dealings in farm land. My mother and I continued farming while buying and selling farm land, houses, and commercial properties. We had some successes and some failures. The key to everything was that we kept working together. We remained a cohesive family unit. However, the real estate crash basically put an end to our operations.

Even before the real estate crash, I joined the Navy to study nuclear engineering. My family has a long military background and it seemed like the logical thing to do. I fully intended to fly but my eye sight would not allow me to enter flight training. So, I stuck with nuclear power and picked up a few other specialties along the way. Upon leaving the Navy I put myself through flight school where I earned a commercial pilot certificate. I taught karate through flight school and had several professional pilots as students. I quickly learned the importance of job stability. I watched several of my karate students that had 20 or more years of commercial pilot experience get laid off. Most of them took up non-flying careers just to keep an income. On the other hand, most of my fellow student pilots at the flight school were attorneys or accountants. I realized the accountants could fly when they wanted and had stable careers. Accounting seemed like a better alternative than gambling on a flying career that could easily end at the drop of a hat.

After flight school, I moved back to West Tennessee where I attended Jackson State Community College. The people there were great and pushed me to excel in many areas. I became a tutor in math, chemistry, physics, accounting, economics,



Andy McArthur

and Spanish. I received an Associates of Arts in Psychology and an Associates of Science in Accounting in the spring of 2009. I was also awarded the Transfer Trustee Scholarship to attend Lipscomb University to finish my undergraduate degree. I learned about the Master of Accountancy program when I arrived at Lipscomb and the Trustees agreed to fund my tuition through the entire program assuming I maintained an appropriate GPA. I had to drop psychology for the time I spent at Lipscomb, but I finished the Master of Accountancy program in May of 2012.

I began working as an Internal Auditor I for the Tennessee Department of Treasury on June 1, 2012. I honestly could not be happier. I have a great leadership team that supports me in my work and has given me numerous opportunities to develop professionally. I am currently attending Middle Tennessee State University in pursuit of a couple more graduate degrees; MA in Psychology - Behavior Analytics and MBA in Aerospace Business Administration. Also, I am taking the CPA exam and have passed one of the four parts. I stay busy to say the least. But, I believe my goals are attainable with the support of my family in West Tennessee and my Treasury family here in Nashville.

Welcome November Meeting Guests

Trent Andrews — guest of Rusty Lacy
Gyasi Kellam — guest of Melinda Crutchfield
Yaminah Mitchell — guest of Margaret Walker
Amanda Monroe — guest of LoriAnn Davis
Bettye Osborne — guest of Steve Henley
Drew Sadler — guest of Jerry Durham
Robin Sweet — guest of Margaret Walker



Welcome New Members!

Sandra Brown, Department of Finance and Administration, No sponsor
Hellens Cruz-Sanchez, Comptroller's Office (Returning Member), Sponsored by Clare Tucker
Atnafu Kelekay, Defense Finance and Accounting, Sponsored by Margaret Walker
Robin Sweet, Bureau of TennCare, No sponsor

News and Just the Facts!



LUNCHEON/CEC MINUTES

To read the minutes from the most recent CEC and luncheon meeting, please visit the chapter website at www.nashvilleaga.org. The luncheon minutes will be presented for approval at the next business meeting scheduled for November 21, 2013.

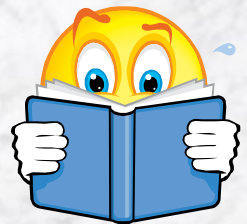
JOB OPPORTUNITIES

From time to time departments forward job opportunities to the Website Committee which are posted for members' convenience. If you are interested in new job offerings or know someone who is, go to this link for detailed information: <http://nashvilleaga.org/jobs.html>.



Editor's Corner

We truly enjoy reading articles submitted from our membership. Please share your thoughts and ideas or interesting news with us by submitting your article to Karen.B.Hale@cot.tn.gov no later than December 6 for the next edition of our newsletter. If you have any questions, please let me know.



Thanks!

2013—2014 AGA Nashville Chapter Leadership Directory

Officers

President

Rusty Lacy
(615) 401-7764
Rusty.Lacy@cot.tn.gov

President-Elect

Michele Earhart
(615) 253-6057
Michelle.Earhart@tn.gov

Immediate Past President

Ray Register
(615) 532-0216
Ray.T.Register@tn.gov

Secretary

Carrie Blair, CGFM
(615) 741-1264
Carrie.Blair@tn.gov

Treasurer

Kay Ulmer, CPA, CGFM
(615) 253-8203
Kay.S.Ulmer@tn.gov

One-Year Directors

Leigh Anne Hagar
Finance Co-Chair
(615) 862-6364
LeighAnne.Hagar@nashville.gov

Jacqueline Laws, CFE
Community Service Chair
(615) 747-5209
Jacqueline.Laws@cot.tn.gov

Ron Queen, CGFM, CPA
(615) 401-7862
Ron.Queen@cot.tn.gov

Chas Taplin
Education Chair
(615) 747-5287
Chas.Taplin@cot.tn.gov

Jennifer Whitsel
Membership Co-Chair
(615) 747-5265
Jennifer.Whitsel@cot.tn.gov

Jerry Durham, CGFM
CGFM Chair
(615) 401-7951
Jerry.Durham@cot.tn.gov

Two-Year Directors

John Dunne
Meetings and Attendance Co-Chair
(615) 747-5286
John.Dunne@cot.tn.gov

Michael Edwards
Awards Co-Chair
(615) 747-5277
Michael.Edwards@cot.tn.gov

Andrew Furlong
Finance Chair
(615) 253-2018
Andy.Furlong@tn.gov

Kandi Thomas
Membership Chair
(615) 747-5274
Kandi.Thomas@cot.tn.gov

Margaret Walker
Early Careers Chair
(615) 507-6688
Margaret.Walker@tn.gov

Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs

Nathan Abbott, CISA, CFE
Webmaster Co-Chair
(615) 401-7842
Nathan.Abbott@cot.tn.gov

Gerry Boaz, CGFM, CPA
Accountability Outreach Chair
(615) 747-5262
Gerry.Boaz@cot.tn.gov

Tammy Fruscione, CGFM
Community Service Co-Chair
(615) 747-5221
Tammy.Fruscione@cot.tn.gov

Jennifer Garoutte
Corporate Sponsorship Co-Chair
(615) 401-7950
Jennifer.Garoutte.cot.tn.gov

Nichole Curtiss
Corporate Sponsorship Co-Chair
(615) 401-7947
Nichole.Curtiss@cot.tn.gov

Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs

Karen B. Hale, MAOM, CGFM
Newsletter Editor
(615) 401-7742
Karen.B.Hale@cot.tn.gov

Barry Monson
Program Chair
(615) 401-7912
Barry.Monson@cot.tn.gov

Scarlet Sneed, CGFM, CPA, CFE
Meetings and Attendance Co-Chair
(615) 747-5243
Scarlet.Sneed@cot.tn.gov

Dan Willis, CGFM, CPA, CISA
Webmaster Co-Chair
(615) 747-5247
Daniel.Willis@cot.tn.gov

Jeff Hughes, MBA
Awards Co-Chair
(931) 729-5161
Jeff.Hughes@tn.gov

Chapter Address:

AGA Nashville Chapter
PO Box 198025
Nashville, TN 37219

Visit the Nashville Chapter website at
www.nashvilleaga.org