President’s Message

I cannot believe that this is my final newsletter as president of the Suffolk Chapter of the NYSSCPA. With that, I would like to start by saying thank you to everyone on the board, especially Amanda Sexton (past president) and John Hermus (president-elect) for all of the help this past year. Because I welcomed my second little one into my family during my term, your help was more meaningful than you can imagine. John, you will see what I mean in the upcoming year as you welcome your first little one. Congratulations again!

Being part of this board over the last several years has meant more than just being a board member. I have developed true friendships with the entire board and I would not trade anything for the experience I have had with all of you.

It has been an eventful year and I have had the privilege to work with an extremely active board and committee chairpersons. Our NextGen Committee hosted some wonderful educational, social, and networking events, plus the annual Marine Corps’ Toys for Tots Drive.

Our annual golf events, Banker/CPA networking events, as well as our annual Accounting and Auditing, Employee Benefit, and Tax Updates were all well attended. We will continue to bring these and other events to the Chapter in the upcoming year!

Again, I want to say congratulations to John Hermus, our incoming president, who, I know will be a great leader for our chapter during the upcoming year. And thank you to the entire board. It has been a pleasure working with all of you.

– Melissa Hicks

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Farewell from the Newsletter Editor

As I am writing this message it is hard to believe another year with the NYSSCPA Suffolk Chapter has gone by. I am excited to step into my next role as Suffolk Chapter President-Elect for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. It has been a pleasure to serve the chapter as Vice President and Newsletter Editor over the last year.

I would like to thank our membership for everyone’s continued hard work and dedication to make our chapter great. Your efforts to make our chapter run as it does are very much appreciated. Thank you to my fellow board members, committee chairs, and committee members for your articles, pictures, updates, and content for our newsletter over the past year.

There is one especially important person our chapter would like to acknowledge, Flo Federman of Marcum LLP. Flo puts forth an amazing effort to organize, design, and assemble our newsletter each issue. Flo, it has been a pleasure working with you this last year. Our committees greatly appreciate your help in creating their flyers and promoting their events. Everyone who has worked with Flo can attest to both her creativity and lightning quick turnaround. Thank you so much.

I encourage everyone to continue to support the chapter newsletter and remain current with all our happenings - there are quite a few! I am certain our next editor and chapter Vice President, Robert Huether, will do a great job in the role.

Wishing everyone a great summer and I look forward to seeing you out at our chapter events. Please feel free to reach out to me with any chapter related questions, or just to say hello and catch up.

- Ken Laks
Committee Report:
Members in Industry

The Suffolk Chapter NYSSCPA Members in Industry committee meets monthly from September through May. We welcome CPAs across all industries and practices. Our morning meetings start and end promptly, from 8 to 10 a.m. There are no entry fees and meetings earn two CPE credits. For more information: Janet Verneuille, JVerneuille@empirenb.com.

Marcum LLP graciously hosted our March joint session with the Nassau CFO committee. **Marie Elena Chindamo**, the president of ProTilly, Inc., spoke on the Seven Critical Factors of Leadership Intelligence.

Our April breakfast meeting was held at Empire National Bank with **Dawn Davidson Drantch, Esq.**, of AlcottHR presenting on HR Business Busters Impacting the Bottom Line.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, May 15 at Empire National Bank with **Zachary Gordon** of Janover LLC discussing CPAs and the Cannabis Industry in NY. Sorry, no samples but plenty of uplifting information:

**Wednesday, May 15, 8-10 a.m.**
**CPAs and the Cannabis Industry in NY**
**Speaker:** Zachary Gordon, Janover LLC
Hosted by Empire National Bank, 1707 Veterans Highway, Islandia.
**REGISTER HERE**
Mark Your Calendar...

**MAY 15, 2019**  
Members in Industry Committee: CPAs and the Cannabis Industry in NY. Details on page 3.

**JUNE 19, 2019**  
Employee Benefits Committee: Advanced Audits of 401(k) Plans. Details on page 5.

**JULY 10, 2019**  

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2019**  
Young Professionals Golf Classic. Details on page 7.

For up-to-the-minute NYSSCPA Suffolk Chapter activities  
CLICK HERE

Committee Chairs!  
Make sure to get all future meeting dates to Ken Laks at klaks@avz.com
An Advanced Course...

Auditors need to raise their game in order to provide the quality audits that plan stakeholders demand. The AICPA has reacted by issuing a proposed SAS that will significantly impact how audits of these plans will be performed. Now is the time to get up to speed on these significant issues and changes occurring in the world of 401(k) plan audits.

- Annual update of 401(k) plan changes
- Compliance issues
- Best practices
- Avoiding common mistakes
- M&A planning

Speaker:
Melissa Critcher — Surgent McCoy CPE LLC

Advanced Audits of 401(k) Plans: Best Practices and Current Developments

Wednesday, June 19
8 am to 4 pm
at the Hilton Long Island, Melville

By 5/29: $229 member, $329 non-member. After 5/29: Add $50

8 CPE credits (course code 33111021)

RSVP HERE
Or contact Felicia Paura, fpaura@sheehancpa.com
Golfing This Summer...

The NYSSCPA Suffolk Forensic and Valuation Services and East End Committees invite you to the 6th annual

Nine and Dine in Riverhead
Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

at Cherry Creek Golf Links
900 Reeves Avenue, Riverhead

Nine holes of golf (with cart) and practice at the driving range.

NEW THIS YEAR:
Expanded BBQ dinner! Plus beer/wine/soda.

Prizes: Longest drive, closest to pin (men/women)

For information:
John Spatola
631-756-9500, jspatola@nsslcpca.com

Proceeds to benefit:
See You in September...

The 24th Annual YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GOLF CLASSIC

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Willow Creek Golf and Country Club
Mount Sinai

SAVE THE DATE for the Suffolk Chapter NextGen Committee at our annual event.

7:00 a.m. Hot gourmet breakfast
8:00 a.m. Shotgun start
1:00 p.m. Cocktails, buffet, raffles

Fabulous raffle prizes!
Beat-the-hack competition!
Lunch at the turn!

PLAN TO JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER!

FOR INFORMATION: Robert Huether
rhuether@kpmg.com, 631-353-5354
Suffolk Chapter Board & Committees

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Joel Ackerman, CPA
Richards Witt & Charles LLP
(516) 741-0515
joel@autocpa.net

Frank Giambruno, CPA
Frank J. Giambruno, CPA PLLC
(631) 780-5444
frank@fgjcpapllc.com

Robert Huether, CPA
KPMG LLP
(631) 425-6542 | bobbyhuether@gmail.com

Michael T. Joy, CPA, CGMA
Raich Ende Malter & Co., LLP
(516) 228-9000 | mjoy@rem-co.com

Sean Kelly, CPA
Markowitz, Fenelon & Bank, LLP
(631) 727-3626
skelly@mbcpa.com

Thomas S. Pirro, CPA
Thomas Pirro, CPA, P.C.
(631) 472-7637 | tpirrocpa@optonline.net

Janet T. Verneuille, CPA
Empire National Bank
(631) 881-5380 | jverneuille@empirenb.com

ACCOUNTING & AUDITING
Paul Becht, CPA
Margolin, Winer & Ewens LLP
(516) 240-4295 | pbecht@mwellp.com

Michael T. Joy, CPA, CGMA
Raich Ende Malter & Co., LLP
(516) 228-9000 | mjoy@rem-co.com

COOPERATION WITH ATTORNEYS
David Okenhorn, CPA
Marcum LLP
(631) 414-4732
david.okenhorn@marcumllp.com

Matthew Ryan, CPA
matt127256@yahoo.com

COOPERATION WITH BANKERS & OTHER CREDIT GRANTORS
Danielle Schadler, CPA
Bethpage Federal Credit Union
(516) 349-6887
dschadler@bethpagfcu.com

COOPERATION WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
Melissa Hicks, CPA
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
(631) 719-3267
melissa.hicks@bakertilly.com

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS & REAL ESTATE
Brian Micheli, CPA
Michels & Hanley CPAs, LLC
(631) 360-2727
brian@mhmcpafirm.com

EAST END
Sean Kelly, CPA
Markowitz, Fenelon & Bank, LLP
(631) 727-3626
skelly@mbcpa.com

Amanda Sexton, CPA/ABV/CFF, CFE
Sheehan & Company CPAs, PC
(631) 665-7040
asexton@prattbrothers.com

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
Suzanne Breit, CPA
HMM, CPAs LLP
(631) 265-6289 | sbrett@horanmm.com

Felicia Paura, CPA
Sheehan & Company CPAs, PC
(631) 665-7040 | fpaura@sheehancpa.com

FORENSIC AND VALUATION SERVICES
Ernest Patrick Smith, CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA, CFE
Nawrocki Smith, LLP
(631) 543-1333 | esmith@nslpcpa.com

John Spatola, CPA/ABV/CFF, CFE
Sheehan & Company CPAs, PC
(631) 665-7040 | jspatola@nsllpcpa.com

GENERAL TAXATION
Joel Ackerman, CPA
Richards Witt & Charles LLP
(516) 741-0515
joel@autocpa.net

GOLF OUTING
John Hermus, CPA, CGMA
Sheehan & Company CPAs, PC
(631) 665-7040
john@sheehancpa.com

MEMBERS IN INDUSTRY
Ernest Patrick Smith, CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA, CFE
Nawrocki Smith, LLP
(631) 543-1333 | esmith@nslpcpa.com

Janet T. Verneuille, CPA
Empire National Bank
(631) 881-5380 | jverneuille@empirenb.com

MEMBERSHIP
John Hermus, CPA, CGMA
Sheehan & Company CPAs, PC
(631) 665-7040
john@sheehancpa.com

Melissa Hicks, CPA
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
(631) 719-3267
melissa.hicks@bakertilly.com

NEXTGEN
Robert Huether, CPA
KPMG LLP
(631) 425-6542 | bobbyhuether@gmail.com

Rebecca Brodsky, CPA
Sheehan & Company CPAs, PC
(631) 665-7040
rbrodsky@sheehancpa.com

NOMINATING
Felix Russo, CPA
BDO USA LLP
(631) 724-7900 | frusso@bdo.com

NOT-FOR-PROFIT & GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING & AUDITING
Kenneth R. Cerini, CPA
Cerini & Associates, LLP
(631) 582-1600
kenc@cerinianandassociates.com

Robert Craig, CPA
Craig, Fitzsimmons & Michaels, LLP
(631) 360-1400 | rrcraig@cfmllp.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Melissa Hicks, CPA
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
(631) 719-3267
melissa.hicks@bakertilly.com

SPONSORSHIP
Thomas S. Pirro, CPA
Thomas Pirro, CPA, P.C.
(631) 472-7637 | tpirrocpa@optonline.net

STATE SOCIETY DIRECTOR
REPRESENTING SUFFOLK
Thomas S. Pirro, CPA
Thomas Pirro, CPA, P.C.
(631) 472-7637 | tpirrocpa@optonline.net

The NYSSCPA Suffolk Chapter has a few committees looking for a chair! Contact Melissa Hicks for info on:

- EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES
- ESTATE/FINANCIAL PLANNING
- MANAGEMENT OF AN ACCOUNTING PRACTICE
- SMALL BUSINESS
Fun and Games – True or False

1. The biggest muscle in the human body is the gluteus maximus (buttock muscle).

2. The smallest country in the world is Monaco.

3. U.S. presidents originally lived in the "President's Palace," but the name was changed to avoid affectations of royalty.

4. Only Americans and Soviets have walked on the Moon.

5. Vampire bats feed on blood.

6. When Mickey Mouse debuted on screen in 1928, it was in a silent film.

7. A heptagon has six sides.

8. Lightning is seen before it's heard because light travels faster than sound.

9. Bollywood is the nickname of Britain's movie industry.

10. The Titanic had enough lifeboats to save almost everyone on board.

SOURCE: merriam-webster.com

SOURCE: merriam-webster.com
Get Involved with NYSSCPA Suffolk

COMMITTEE SERVICE APPLICATION

Here’s a way to get involved with NYSSCPA Suffolk and help make a difference! Please rank the top 3 committees in which you have an interest:

___ Accounting & Auditing
___ Community Affairs
___ Construction Contractors
___ Cooperation with Attorneys
___ Cooperation with Bankers and Other Credit Grantors
___ Cooperation with Educational Institutions
___ CPE/Professional Development
___ East End
___ Emerging Technologies
___ Employee Benefits
___ Estate/Financial Planning
___ Forensic and Valuation Services
___ General Taxation
___ Golf Outing
___ Management of Accounting Practice
___ Members in Industry
___ Membership
___ NextGen (Young CPAs)
___ Not-for-Profit & Government
___ Public Relations
___ Real Estate & Construction
___ Small Business

Please forward your response to:
Melissa Hicks, CPA: (631) 719 3267, melissa.hicks@bakertilly.com

SUFFOLK CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Here’s your chance to make the most of your membership! SPONSOR ONE OF OUR EVENTS and get in front of colleagues, referral sources, and potential clients.

Step One: Choose the type of event based on your target audience.
• golf outings
• networking events
• technical workshops
• informational seminars
• charitable events

Step Two: Become a sponsor. At a cost of $1,000 you receive:
• recognition in the Suffolk Chapter newsletter
• logo/recognition in all event flyers
• opportunity to speak at the event
• booth or table display space

To take advantage of this great offer, contact our Sponsorship Chair:
Thomas S. Pirro: (631) 472-7637; tpirrocpa@optonline.net

LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE SUFFOLK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER IN MAY