A Message From the President

I hope everyone had a successful busy season and will now be able to take some well deserved time off.

As the weather starts to warm up and the flowers begin to bloom, my year as president begins to wind down. I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve you as your president.

I would also like to thank Vivian Jin, our immediate past-president, and my officers and executive board: Alyssa Schneider, Nick Theos, Anthony Perrone, Natalie Verbanac, Franco Martorana, Michael Katz, Ken Rick, Michael Holmstrom, Melissa Lehr and Kristina Albarella. Your hard work, dedication, guidance and support this past year has been one of the reasons why the chapter is as successful as it is. It’s been an absolute pleasure working with each of you and I look forward to continuing to support the chapter in any way I can.

Looking forward to our 2024-2025 fiscal year, we start the new year off by installing our new president, Alyssa G. Schneider. The 69th installation dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 29 at Chateau La Mer in Lindenhurst. Please come join me in celebrating her installation as well as the rest of the incoming and incumbent board. The night will be filled with fun, music and networking and always turns out to be a great night. See details on page 10.

I would also like to encourage all members to get involved with one of our chapters many committees. It’s a great way to develop a new skill set, meet new people and give back to the chapter and community. See our committee listing on page 14.

There are a bunch of meetings and events that are already scheduled as we head into the new fiscal year, including Enhancing Cash and Capital Management Tech Session on May 9 held by our CFO & Financial Executives committee, Real Estate Workouts Tech Session on May 21 held by our Real Estate committee (page 9), our Annual Golf Outing on August 5 (page 12), and our Annual Accounting & Auditing Conference on November 8 held jointly by the Nassau and Suffolk Accounting and Auditing committees (page 13).

Finally, our Women’s Focus Group is holding a very special event on June 27 in honor of Karen Tenenbaum, whom we lost too soon in December 2023. All profits will be donated to charity, so please come...
join us in honoring and celebrating the life of Karen, who did so much to support and help the members of this chapter. See page 11 for more details.

As I sit here and write my final president’s message, it makes me very proud to be a small part of and contribute to such a great organization and chapter. It truly is a rewarding experience to be involved in the chapter and to get the opportunity to meet with so many people. I look forward to continuing to be involved in the chapter, working with the board and my continued role as co-chair of the Accounting and Auditing committee.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or thoughts, please contact me at mark.cuccia@cbiz.com. Wishing you all a great summer and look forward to seeing you at future chapter events.

– Mark R. Cuccia
Franco Martorana, CPA, is Senior Manager at CBIZ Marks Paneth, NYSSCPA Board Member, Co-Chair of its Accounting and Auditing Committee, and recipient of the 2024 NYSSCPA Emerging Leaders Award.

Franco has had an interest in numbers since an early age. Math was his favorite subject as a kid and his curiosity was apparent. His mother would always say, “you’re going to be my little accountant.” Little did she know how true that would become. As Franco got older, his interest turned to passion. After taking his first accounting class in 11th grade, Franco knew he had found his career path. A college level class during his senior year of high school laid the foundation which Franco would build upon during college. In 2011, Franco graduated from Long Island University with a Bachelor’s of Science in Accounting and Master of Business Administration.

His accounting career began in 2009 as an intern at CBIZ Marks Paneth. Hard work and dedication led Franco to his current role as Senior Manager. Franco services large, privately held companies, which are involved in home heating oil, home security, printing, cooperatives and wholesalers of various products. Franco has extensive experience in many aspects of the field. This includes financial statements, tax returns and business planning. Franco is active in the daily operation and plays an integral part in the success of his clients. He also assists clients in obtaining financing and other services through his network of professional relationships.

In addition to his role at CBIZ Marks Paneth, Franco sits on the board of the Nassau Chapter of the NYSSCPA. He is involved in organizing charitable functions and facilitating conversations with members regarding any needs that arise. Franco also helps in recruiting new student members at various career events. It is important to recruit new student members to the society so they can begin to get involved with the profession and the various continuing professional education (CPE) and networking events that the society has to offer.

Franco also works as Co-Chair of the Auditing & Accounting Committee. He, along with his colleagues, Tina Fasano and Mark Cuccia (both CPAs at CBIZ Marks Paneth), are tasked with organizing technical meetings or CPE on various topics. The committee is focused on keeping members up to date of any new auditing issues and accounting standards. It seeks to serve members with all backgrounds as a think tank on various topics. Many of our attendees are often sole practitioners, who benefit from the resources available from bigger firms. Often times they are used as a spring board to gather information and answer questions related to accounting and auditing.

Franco credits his passion and work ethic to his parents. He spent countless hours growing up at the pizzeria his father and uncle owned. He quickly learned the crucial aspects of a successful business which has helped him relate to his current clients. Franco would often work as a counter person and cashier (occasionally helped flipping pizza pies in the back). This was the best fit for Franco as he was able to interact with the customers and work with numbers. Two key traits that would later become the cornerstones of his accounting career. Franco loves the constant interaction with his clients, always speaking professionally and personally, helping any way he can.

The accounting profession presents challenges, especially during the long days of tax season. Franco credits his ability to overcome these challenges to his loving wife and two daughters. His wife is also an accountant who can relate to these challenges and offer her relentless support. Together they look forward to instilling the traits to their daughters that has led Franco to a successful career.
On Friday, April 26, 2024, the Practice Continuity Committee held its latest meeting with an excellent presentation entitled “The Success in Succession: A Comprehensive Look at Exit and Succession for CPA Firms.” It was presented by prominent members of Vishnick McGovern Milizio LLP – law partners Joseph G. Milizio and Morris Sabbagh, along with Steven Goodman, president and chief executive officer of SHG Planning. They spoke on exit and succession planning from multiple legal and financial perspectives, relevant to CPAs and their clients.

Astute attendees posed important questions to these speakers about matters and concerns in business succession and new ideas were presented by these speakers. They addressed important tax and other considerations and answered many questions, thoughts and ideas of the attendees. Thanks to Joe, Morris and Steven for an excellent presentation.

Our July meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 26 with a topic to be announced. Please see the next newsletter for specific details or contact crmorris@gmail.com to be added to our announcement mailing list.

Meetings are generally held at 8 AM at On-Parade Diner, 7980 Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury. They are announced by NYSSCPA emails and you can register online at NYSSCPA.org (then CPE, Find Courses - scroll down to our meeting).

Meeting fees, including a full breakfast and CPE credit are:

**Members**
- $35 per person (must be received by noon, Thursday, before the meeting date) or
- $40 per person at the door, subject to space availability

**Non-Members**
- $50 per person for online registration or
- $55 at the door.

Early registration is appreciated to allow for adequate accommodations for our group.

Please remember to schedule our events in your calendar now, to avoid conflicts. For more information on our next meeting or about our Committee, contact ginette@morriscapas.com. We appreciate your participation.

– Craig Morris, Chairman
By Juliana Shepetiak, Marcum LLP

In today’s digital age, manufacturing companies are increasingly adopting advanced technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and cloud computing to boost productivity, competitiveness, and efficiency. With the integration of sophisticated technology in manufacturing processes, the manufacturing industry is not immune to the growing threats posed by cyber-attacks. Consequently, the need for robust cybersecurity measures has never been more urgent. This is especially true when it comes to the accounting functions within the industry, where the accuracy and integrity of financial data are vital. This article will delve into the importance of cybersecurity in the accounting practices of the manufacturing industry and provide actionable insights on how to implement security measures.

Accounting professionals in the manufacturing sector handle sensitive financial data that, if compromised, could lead to fraudulent activities and considerable financial damages. As gatekeepers of financial integrity, accountants must prioritize cybersecurity to protect against unauthorized access to financial systems and ensure the accuracy of financial reporting. In a cyber landscape where threats evolve rapidly, the traditional skills of accountants must now be complemented with a firm grasp of cybersecurity principles. This includes understanding the nature of cyber risks, the potential impact on financial data, and the measures necessary to mitigate such risks.

The very nature of accounting work, which involves managing sensitive financial data, makes it an attractive target for cybercriminals. Accountants must contend with the growing sophistication of cyber-attacks such as phishing, ransomware, and advanced persistent threats, which can lead to data breaches, financial loss, and compromised customer trust. The obligation to safeguard against cyber threats demands continuous education, investment in advanced cybersecurity tools, and collaboration with IT professionals to develop and implement comprehensive risk management strategies. As such, there are some key strategies and best practices to consider for enhancing cybersecurity within the accounting realm in the manufacturing industry:

**ESTABLISHING A CULTURE OF SECURITY AWARENESS**

The first line of defense in cybersecurity is human vigilance. Employees should be educated about the importance of cybersecurity and trained in identifying and responding to potential threats. Regular training sessions can keep staff updated on the latest cyber threats, such as phishing, malware, and social engineering attacks. A culture of security can significantly reduce the risk of breaches resulting from human error.

(continued)
IMPLEMENTING ROBUST ACCESS CONTROLS
Access to sensitive information should be restricted to authorized personnel only. Strong user authentication protocols can ensure that access to sensitive accounting information is limited based on roles and that only authorized personnel can view and modify data. Additionally, access permissions should be regularly reviewed and adjusted as roles within the organization change.

ADOPTING ADVANCED SECURITY TECHNOLOGIES
Investing in advanced cybersecurity technologies can provide a challenging barrier against cyber-attacks. These include firewalls, antivirus software, encryption tools, and intrusion detection systems. Regular updates and patches are vital to address vulnerabilities and keep these tools effective against new threats.

SECURING DATA STORAGE AND TRANSMISSION
The storage and transmission of financial data are critical points of vulnerability. Data encryption, both at rest and in transit, can prevent unauthorized access, even in a breach. Cloud services used for data storage should be thoroughly vetted for their security standards.

REGULARLY MONITORING AND AUDITING SYSTEMS
Continuous monitoring of networks and systems can detect suspicious activity early on. Periodic cybersecurity audits to identify and address any security gaps in the accounting processes.

DEVELOPING AN INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN
Creating an incident response plan is an essential component of cybersecurity strategy. Accountants should collaborate with IT to develop a response plan for potential cyber incidents, minimizing financial and reputational damage. As a risk transfer strategy, accountants should also consider advocating for cyber insurance to mitigate financial losses post-breach if one were to occur.

As the manufacturing industry evolves with technology, the convergence of cybersecurity and accounting must not be overlooked. Cybersecurity in accounting is not just a matter of installing software or drafting policies; it is a continual process of education, investment, and vigilance. Manufacturing firms rely on their accountants not just for financial stewardship but also for safeguarding against cyber threats. In the interconnected world of manufacturing, the emphasis on cybersecurity in accounting has never been more critical.

By implementing robust cybersecurity measures and remaining vigilant, manufacturers can protect their financial data from the ever-growing threat of cyberattacks, maintaining their financial integrity and reputation in the market.
Calendar of Chapter Events

MAY 21, 2024
Real Estate Workouts.
Details on page 9.

MAY 29, 2024
NYSSCPA Nassau Installation Dinner. Details on page 10.

JUNE 27, 2024
A Special Evening of Networking in Honor of Karen Tenenbaum. Details on page 11.

AUGUST 5, 2024
Nassau Chapter’s Annual Golf Outing.
Details on page 12.

NOVEMBER 8, 2024
Annual All Day A&A Conference.
Details on page 13.

DECEMBER 5, 2024
Annual All Day Tax Conference.
Details on page 13.

Watch for additional chapter events!
Unlocking the World of Numbers: A Journey into Accounting

Join us for two 1 hour webinars for high school students interested in exploring a future in the dynamic field of accounting!

This is an invaluable opportunity for high school students to gain insights, ask questions, and discover the exciting possibilities within the accounting profession.

Register here for May 7th from 4-5pm.

Register here for May 14th from 4-5pm.

Presented by Michael Potenza, CPA, JD, the Senior Director of Instructions at Becker Professional Education. He will discuss the dynamic world of accounting, outlining the numerous benefits and opportunities the profession offers! This high school student focused webinar will highlight the diverse career paths within accounting, as well as the advantages of obtaining a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license and what you need to know about the CPA exam. The session will conclude with a Q&A segment, allowing students to ask questions and explore their interests in accounting further. This is a presentation you will not want to miss!

For Questions Contact: Narissa Jones, M.S. 
MSF Program Manager 
njones@nysscpa.org

FREE ACCOUNTING WEBINAR FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!

When?
May 7th, 4–5pm 
May 14th, 4–5pm via ZOOM
Real Estate Workouts

Tuesday, May 21, 2024
5 to 8 p.m.
175 Broadhollow Rd., Melville

3 CPE credits
$35 members | $70 non-members
Includes refreshments and dessert

As market conditions change and interest rates rise, many rental and development projects are financially stressed and will require assistance in navigating debt restructuring and other workouts. Join the NYSSCPA Nassau Real Estate and Taxation Committees as we discuss:

- Cancellation of Debt Rules and §108 exceptions
- Special Partnership and S Corporation Rules
- Treatment of Recourse and Non-Recourse Debt
- Preparation of Form 982
- Tax Attribute Reductions and Recapture

RSVP HERE

Questions? Vivian.Jin@cbiz.com
Join the Nassau Chapter NYSSCPA as we install the 2024 Board, including incoming President Alyssa G. Schneider. This is the perfect opportunity to mix, mingle, and reconnect with your friends in the industry. We hope to see you!

SPONSORSHIPS

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  Full page ad in program
  Ten (10) tickets to the event
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  Half page ad in program
  Ten (10) tickets to the event
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  Signage at the event

☐ BRONZE SPONSOR: $2,000
  Recognition on the podium
  Quarter page ad in program
  Six (6) tickets to the event
  Signage at the event

☐ COCKTAIL SPONSOR: $1,500
  Recognition on the podium
  Four (4) tickets to the event
  Signage at the event

☐ GIFT SPONSOR: $1,000
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  Eighth page ad in program
  One (1) ticket to the event
  Signage at the event

☐ WINE SPONSOR: $750 (Limit one)
  Recognition in event program
  Signage on every table

☐ INDIVIDUAL TICKETS:
  $195 per person

PROGRAM ADVERTISING

☐ FULL PAGE: $1,000 (7.25” x 9.75”)
☐ QUARTER PAGE: $500 (3.5” x 4.75”)
☐ HALF PAGE: $750 (7.25” x 4.75”)
☐ EIGHTH PAGE/BUSINESS CARD: $250 (3.5” x 2.25”)

SPONSORSHIPS & ADVERTISING: Payable by mail only.
Sponsorship Reservations to: Kathleen.Becker@marcumllp.com, (631) 414-4404
Advertisements by Friday, May 10 to: Flo.Federman@marcumllp.com. PDF or .jpg format preferred.
Check payable to NYSSCPA Nassau Chapter. Mail to Kathleen Becker, Marcum LLP, 10 Melville Park Rd., Melville, NY 11747

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: Payable online HERE.

Registration deadline: May 10.  Questions? apopov@bdo.com
A Special Evening of Networking in Honor of Karen Tenenbaum

Thursday, June 27, 2024
5:30 p.m.
at Westbury Manor, 1100 Jericho Turnpike, Westbury

All net proceeds will be donated to charity.

Join the NYSSCPA Nassau Women’s Networking Committee for a special networking event honoring our friend Karen Tenenbaum. Karen was known for her infectious enthusiasm for networking and forging connections.

As we come together to engage in the very activity she so passionately promoted, we also reaffirm our commitment to support one another in our professional endeavors.

Let us raise a glass in Karen's memory and to the flourishing of connections that she always championed.

SAVE THE DATE. DETAILS AND REGISTRATION TO COME...

Questions? Natalie.Verbanac@marcumllp.com

ALL are welcome to attend: women and men!
MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024
Harbor Links Golf Course
1 West Fairway Drive, Port Washington

10 to 11:30 a.m.  Check in, Brunch
12:00 p.m.  Shotgun Start
5 to 8 p.m.  Open Bar, Dinner

$1,180  Golf Foursome (includes tee sign)
$295  Individual golfer
$85  Dinner only

VIP SPONSOR: $1,850
Display table at brunch, cocktail hour
Golf foursome
Two tee signs
Recognition in announcements

CART SPONSOR: $500
Signage on 18 carts.
Limit two. First come, first served

COCKTAIL/DINNER SPONSOR: $450
Display table at cocktail hour/dinner
One tee sign
Two tickets for dinner

BRUNCH SPONSOR: $350
Display table at brunch
One tee sign
Two tickets for brunch

GIFT SPONSOR: $200*
Name/logo on event signage
*$200 or actual gift (tickets, baskets, etc.)

TEE SPONSOR: $175
Name prominently displayed on one tee sign

GIVEAWAY ITEMS
We are accepting items as giveaways at registration:
(golf balls, tees, divot tools, towels, etc.)

Reservations on a first-come, first served basis with receipt of payment.  RAIN OR SHINE.

REGISTER HERE
RSVP by July 15.  Questions?  Contact Vivian Jin: vivian.jin@cbiz.com
SAVE THE DATES!

Annual All Day A&A Conference

Friday, November 8, 2024
8:50 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
at the Hyatt Regency, Hauppauge

8 CPE credits
Course Code: 28113522
Member/Non: $379/$479

REGISTRATION HERE

Annual All Day Tax Conference

Thursday, December 5, 2024
8:50 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
at the Melville Marriott

8 CPE credits
Course Code: 28603525
Member/Non: $379/$479

REGISTRATION HERE

RECEIVE A $204 DISCOUNT AT CHECKOUT:
For 11/8 use promo code NASUF1124 | For 12/5 use promo code NASUF1224
Chapter Officials

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Michael Katz, CPA
Melissa Lehr, CPA
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Natalie Verbanac, CPA

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Tina M. Fasano, CPA
Franco Martorana, CPA

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Franco Martorana, CPA

MANAGEMENT OF ACCOUNTING PRACTICES
Louis Grassi, CPA

MEMBERSHIP
Scott Sanders, CPA

NETWORKING WITH PROFESSIONALS
Kristina Albarella, CPA
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NEWSLETTER
Alyssa Popov, CPA

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Robert J. Schaffer, CPA

WOMEN’S FOCUS GROUP
Lisa Haynie, CPA
Natalie Verbanac, CPA

Committee Involvement

Nassau Chapter members have the opportunity to advance their knowledge and meet other professionals with similar interests. Our chapter is made up of many technical committees to assist our members in staying current on a wide variety of topics.

Join a committee today!

To find out more about how to get involved with our committees contact Mark R. Cuccia, mark.cuccia@cbiz.com.

Advertising & Sponsorship

As you are reading this, so too, are those who could use your services. Please consider advertising in the Nassau Chapter newsletter.

Chapter events are also a great way to publicize your organization. The Nassau Chapter offers sponsorships of their committee events.

To find out more about advertising or sponsorship, contact Mark R. Cuccia, mark.cuccia@cbiz.com.

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