The New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants
Westchester Chapter
E-Newsletter
June 2014

NEXT GEN 2014
THE YOUNG CPAS CONFERENCE

When: Sunday, June 8th, 2014 through Tuesday, June 10th, 2014
Location: Hilton Long Island
598 Broad Hollow Road
Huntington, NY 11747
Course Code: 25000521

When: Sunday, June 15th, 2014 through Tuesday, June 17th, 2014
Location: Radisson Hotel
120 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14604
Course Code: 25000541

To register please visit:
http://nextgenconf.businesscatalyst.com/registration.html

What’s Inside ….

Young CPAs Conference
President’s Message
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Save The Date Events - Tax Conference Part 1 & 2
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2014 Calendar/Schedule of Events
Citibank (offers to Chapter Members)
**From Chapter President William Zeboris…**

**Excerpts from the May 21, 2014 Installation Dinner…**

Tonight is about change.

First, we recognize a changing of the guard in our chapter as my colleague Gina Linss completes her term as President. With our offices being literally 20 feet apart, I had a front row seat into what it takes to make a great President. Gina, you carried out your responsibilities diligently and professionally while still maintaining a significant client load and of course attending to your motherly duties. You lead this Chapter flawlessly and have certainly raised the bar for all that follow. Congratulations on a job well done.

Secondly, congratulations to our very talented and motivated George Mandel Scholarship winners. You and your families are in for a big change as well. Soon you will morph from high school seniors to college freshman in pursuit of an accounting degree. While the road may seem long, the rewards at the end of the rainbow will be plentiful. Don’t get discouraged, work hard and as soon as you possibly can, take and pass the CPA exam. Unfortunately those of us that have been in the business for a while know that the longer the period of time between the completion of college and the sitting for the exam, the harder it is to pass. So make it a priority. Having the initials CPA after your name gives you instant credibility in the market place, regardless of your career path.

From early on in my career, I have worked with firms that supported the NYSSCPA and who had partners in leadership positions both at the chapter and the state wide levels. In my office today I interact on a daily basis with five (5) past presidents (Roberta Bernhardt, Spencer Barback, Alan Badey, Howard Klein and of course Gina). In addition, Citrin Cooperman’s representatives currently fill four seats on the 2014/2015 board. Chapter involvement is part of the firm’s culture. Staff members are encouraged to participate in whatever capacity they desire. Even our administrative staff is there to lend a hand with event planning or registration at a moment’s notice.

The chapter has something for everyone. We present numerous non –CPE events including soft skills sessions, CPA Exam overviews, high school visitations to discuss career opportunities in accounting and public outreach to name a few. I would encourage all of you to take a fresh look at the offerings and to encourage your staff to check us out and see what it is all about.

For the upcoming year, we will be pushing hard to increase the number of members and firms participating in chapter activities I have three (3) ideas that I hope will help us to achieve that goal.
First, I will be working with Gina Goodenow and Spencer Barback on organizing a chapter wide charity event aimed at giving back to our communities. We have tried in the past to field a team of walkers or to assist in a food drive but to date the results have been less than stellar. We will be organizing an event where we can come together as a chapter, leave our firm affiliations behind for a few hours and do some good for others as a way to polish our image with the community at large.

The second initiative, I am calling the CPA Challenge Cup. I envision a series of friendly competitions to be held over the next year which will be designed to bring firms together to do battle in events that accountants typically excel at such as bowling, bocce ball, darts and trivia. These events will be designed for teams of four to five players. Over the course of the competition team members can be changed as needed. Points will be rewarded based on order of finish with the eventual winning team being presented with a Trophy at next year’s President’s dinner. A small entry fee will be required from each team and the money collected will be used for additional college scholarships and to support Chapter charitable efforts. Small firms, sole practitioners and members in industry can join together to form teams and all are encouraged to come to support their co-workers.

Finally, while our Young CPA’s are very active and growing in number, we have a responsibility to serve our more experienced constituents. Practice transition is a major agenda item facing many smaller firms and sole practitioners. Often times there is not a viable in-house solution and firms are forced to look outside the organization. I will work with some of our past presidents who have been involved in accounting firm merger and acquisition activity to present an informational session covering the basics of a typical accounting firm deal. We will gauge the interest level of the participants and determine the appropriate next steps.

Westchester is a very active chapter, presenting numerous programs throughout the year. No one person can pull together all that this Chapter offers. I am so fortunate to be going into the new fiscal year with a talented and dedicated board of directors and my committee chairs. In addition, we have numerous friends in the business community, some of who we honored tonight with a Chapter Appreciation Award, who are always there to lend a hand. I thank you for all that you do and am confident that together we can make 2014/2015 a very successful year.

Regards,
Bill

William Zeboris can be reached at: 914-949-2990 x3372 or by email at: wzeboris@citrincooperman.com
The NYSSCPA's Local Practitioners Committee Invites You To:

"Who will fill your shoes?"
The Merits and Mechanics of the Practice Continuation Agreement

A Presentation by:
Thomas R. Manisero, Esq.
&
Peter J. Larkin, Esq.
from Wilson Elser

What will happen to your accounting practice if you become disabled or die tomorrow?

At this session, participants will:

• Learn about the substantial benefits of having a plan and the potentially disastrous consequences of ignoring reality
• Learn how to prepare for and set up a practice continuation plan
• Learn what factors to consider in developing a practice continuation plan
• Discover risk management techniques to protect the CPA and his or her clients
WHEN: Thursday, June 12, 2014
TIME: 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
WHERE: Wilson Elser
1133 Westchester Ave
(Entrance C)
White Plains, NY 10604

1 CPE Credit Offered
Sponsored by Wilson Elser
National CPE Registry Number: 109329

Light snacks will be served

THIS EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE

To register, please contact Debra Manders at debra.manders@wilsonelser.com
or call 914.872.7312

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NYSSCPA | Local Practioners Committee
SAVE THE DATE!

Westchester Chapter Upcoming Events to Remember:

2014 Tax Conferences:

- Part 1 - Monday, November 10th, 2014
- Part 2 - Monday, December 8th, 2014

Location: Citibank Conference Center, Armonk, NY

Agenda and Registration to follow

ATTENTION:

WE WANT YOUR THOUGHTS:

Please advise us of Topics you would like to see at the upcoming Tax Conference

E-mail Tax Committee Chair Doug Ruttenberg at: druttenberg@odpkf.com
Chapter Committees and Major Events Planning 2014-2015

The Westchester Chapter has organized the following committees for the 2014 - 2015 fiscal year. Active committee service and participation is one of the most important ways you can contribute to the profession. Please take a few minutes to review the committees listed below, and contact the Chair/Co-Chair about becoming a member for any that spark your interest. It is never too late!

We need your support and participation!!!

** ACCOUNTANTS IN INDUSTRY  
(formerly CFO Committee) - A forum for NYSSCPA members who are senior financial executives in industry (CFO’s, Controllers, VP’s of Finance), to meet and exchange ideas and knowledge. Monthly informal hour-long breakfast sessions (3rd Wed)  
Deborah Rubin, Co-Chair, drubin@lepatner.com  
Michael Herz, Co-Chair, (914) 662-2525, michaelbherz@gmail.com

** ACCOUNTING CAREERS - Make presentations to high school and college students; coordinate summer COAP Program; Administer Chapter's high school scholarship program.  
Denise Stefano, Chair (914) 674-7779, dstefano@mercy.edu

** ACCOUNTING & AUDITING PRINCIPLES - Primary focus is to discuss current accounting and auditing topics, conduct future CPA seminars and involvement in community and profession-related activities.  
Denise Stefano, Co-Chair (914) 674-7779, dstefano@mercy.edu  
Gina Goodenow, Co-Chair (914) 997-4486, ggoodenow@marchofdimes.com

** ESTATE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING - One of the chapter’s most active committees. Annual conference, quarterly presentations and monthly breakfast discussion groups.  
Robert L. Ecker, Co-Chair (914) 273-0777, RLE@Ecker-Law.com  
Howard Klein, Co-Chair (914) 949-2990, HKlein@citrincooperman.com

** GOLF OUTING - Help organize the annual outing. Major networking opportunity!  
Jeffrey A. Schwartz, Chair, (914) 286-6908, jeff@stantonandleone.com

** GOVERNMENT RELATIONS - Coordinate activities with the State Society and legislators. To enhance government relations within our local region.  
Barbara Bel, Chair, (914) 341-7062 bbel@odmd.com

** LOCAL PRACTITIONERS -  
To coordinate monthly programs.  
Stephen E. Franciosa, Co-Chair, sfanciosa@cpa.com  
Catherine Censullo, Co-Chair, Catherine.Censullo@emcensullocpa.com

** PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Join a group of Business professionals. Coordinate events during the year to promote professional and community relations.  
Howard Klein, Co-Chair (914) 949-2990, HKlein@citrincooperman.com  
Mark G. Leeds, Co-Chair (914) 468-7313, mleeds@winprop.com

** ANNUAL RECRUITMENT EVENT -  
Coordinate annual event with local colleges, students and business people.  
Michele Lazzara, Co-Chair (914) 909-3421, mlazzara@markspaneth.com  
Heather Oboda, Co-Chair (914) 949-2990 x 3382, hoboda@citrincooperman.com  
Denise Stefano, Co-Chair (914) 674-7779, dstefano@mercy.edu

** SPONSORSHIPS - Coordinate with institutions who might sponsor Chapter events.  
Mark G. Leeds, Co-Chair (914) 468-7313, mleeds@winprop.com  
Gina Linss, Co-Chair, (914) 949-2990, ginss@citrincooperman.com

** TAX - Coordinates 2 all-day tax conferences in the October/November and December months: the first on Small Business Taxes and the second on Individual Taxes. Committee also hosts monthly breakfast routable discussion/meetings.  
Doug Ruttenberg, Chair, druttenberg@odpkf.com

** YOUNG CPAs - Coordinate different events and outings during the year for Young CPAs.  
Matthew Katz, Co-Chair (914) 949-2990, mkatz@citrincooperman.com  
Edward Wells, Co-Chair: EWells@pscpafirm.com
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>06/08/14 - 06/10/14</td>
<td>Young CPAs Conference</td>
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**2014-2015 CALENDAR**

**Newsletter Committee**

Licia Vizcarra  (914) 997-7724  Licia.Colamussi@cmcensullocpa.com
William Zeboris (914) 949-2990  wzeboris@citrincooperman.com

(E-mail submissions to the newsletter committee no later than the 10th day of the month prior to publication.)

For ALL Newsletter Mailing Issues - Use This Form or Call (212)719-8333

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Return this form to: Membership Dept., NYSSCPA, 14 Wall St, 19th Floor, New York, NY 10005

**FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS 2014**

(Board Meetings are generally the 3rd Thursday Morning of the month. Exceptions are noted)

06/09/14 @ 5:00 p.m. (Organizational Meeting)

Location: Rye Grill & Bar, One Station Plaza, Rye, NY

NEXT NEWSLETTER - JULY 2014

Happy Father’s Day! Happy Flag Day! Welcome Summer!
Mortgage Rate Protection

If mortgage rates drop, you can lower yours at no charge!

If you've been waiting to purchase or refinance a home because you thought rates might go even lower, you don't have to wait any longer! With Mortgage Rate Protection from Citibank, you can apply for a new mortgage today. If our rates go down in the next three years, you can lower your rate at no charge.¹

Please see important terms & conditions below:

- Competitive mortgage rates today, with protection if our mortgage rates decrease in the future
- Rate protection for 3 years
- Expert advice and help throughout the process

Contact Us

¹ Important Conditions:
- The Citibank First Mortgage Loan applications registered from July 25, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Offer not applicable on Home Equity Loans or Lines of Credit.
- Your eligibility for the program will be determined at the time you apply for a first mortgage loan on a specific property with a Mortgage Consultant.
- You must have a Citibank deposit account before closing. Prior to closing, we will verify that you have a Citibank deposit account. This can be an existing account or a new account.
- In addition, we will require you to establish direct deposit for mortgage payments from a deposit account.
- Both checking and savings account are allowed for this program.

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I help clients grow their businesses.
Citibank helps me grow mine.

With CitiBusiness® Solutions for Accounting Professionals, you gain greater efficiency for your business and personal finances so that you can focus on helping your clients grow their businesses.

Take advantage of special benefits for Accounting Professionals

For your firm's finances:
• CitiBusiness® Flexible Checking with no monthly maintenance fees
• Preferred rate on CitiBusiness® Insured Money Market Account

For your personal finances:
• Citigold®, premier personal banking, with waived monthly service fee

For your clients:
• $100 cash reward after they open a new business checking account

To enroll, talk to your Citibank Business Specialist