



ALASKA SOCIETY OF CPAs

# Anchorage 2015

## Annual Report

Schedule of Events  
Business Meeting  
Agenda  
Minutes  
Treasurer Report  
Committee Reports

## **Schedule of Events**

### **Wednesday \* May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Gary Zeune's Fraud & Abuse in Government & Nonprofits 2015 Update

4:30 p.m.

Opening Reception Meet & Greet at

La Cabana \* 312 East 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Appetizers Hosted By

Next GEN Alaska CPAs

*Dinner On Your Own*

### **Thursday \* May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

7:30 a.m. Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Alaska Specific Ethics

Lunch Break

12:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Alaska Statute and Regulations vs. Uniform Accountancy Act  
AICPA Guest – Suzanne Jolicoeur, State Regulations & Legislation

Panel Discussion with

Members of the AKCPA Legislative Committee &  
Karen Tarver, Chair Alaska State Board of Accountancy

4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Bus Tour & Progressive Dinner (Surprise Destinations)

### **Friday \* May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

8:00 a.m.

Breakfast Buffet

8:30 a.m.

Annual Business Meeting

Adjourn

**ALASKA SOCIETY OF  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
2015 ANNUAL MEETING**

**Agenda**

**Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

- 8:30 a.m.     **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Josh McIntyre, President  
Introductions – Outgoing Board & Incoming Board  
Lance Bodeen – Past President presides over meeting
- 2014 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES** – Cathleen Hahn, Secretary
- 8:35 a.m.     **TREASURER REPORT** – Jason Bontrager, Treasurer  
                  **Investment Report** – Amy Cooper
- 8:45 a.m.     **HAGELBARGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND REPORT** –  
Tracy Hartung, John Rodgers & Bethe Davis – Directors
- 9:00 a.m.     **AICPA COUNCIL REPORT** – John Rodgers, Elected Member of Council &  
Lance Bodeen, Designated Member of Council
- 9:15 a.m.     **ALASKA STATE BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY REPORT** –  
Karen Tarver, State Board Chairman / Rebecca Martin, Board Liaison  
Cori Hondolero, State Board of Accountancy Executive Secretary
- 9:30 a.m.     **BREAK**
- 9:45 a.m.     **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- 10:15 a.m.    **GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR** – Josh McIntyre, President

**ADJOURN**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS – TASK FORCE REPORTS (written reports)**

CPE – Jacque Briskey, Chair  
Ethics – Bethe Davis, Chair  
Financial Literacy – Josh McIntyre, Chair  
Legislative – Lisa Rogers, Chair  
Political Action Committee – Mike Cook, PAC President  
Management of an Accounting Practice Committee – Irina Morozova, Chair  
Meetings – Lisa Turner, Chair  
Relations with Education – William Kolski, Chair  
Tax – John Rodgers, Chair  
Technology / Website – Errol Russell, Chair

Alaska Society of CPA's  
Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes  
May 30, 2014

Call to Order

At 8:32AM Lance Bodeen, incoming President, welcomed the group and recognized new board members: Josh McIntyre, Jason Bontrager, Kara Moore, Chris Houde, Irina Morozova, Lisa Turner, Steve Pence, Stasia Straley, Therese Sharp. Amy Cooper, past President continued and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Amy's thoughts on encouraging our participation in the profession and Society: Live with enthusiasm and perseverance, never forget, and never quit!

Approval of prior meeting minutes

Don Rulien moved and Jacque Briskey seconded a motion to accept the prior year's minutes with no objections, and so they were approved as written.

Financial Report

Lance Bodeen presented Statements of Financial Condition, comparative for FY13 and FY14, and reminded us that CPE drives our revenue when we look at the Statement of Activities – budget to actual, also comparative.

Lance gave us an estimate of \$300K revenue expected for FY15, CPE being the driver once again. The Society is changing how it will charge for bulk CPE hours, encouraging members and firms to sign up and attend local CPE. In addition, he reminded us that we continue to search for alternative office space for the Society, our lease ending in the coming year.

Lance noted that the Society accepted a compiled FY2013 financial statement, instead of reviewed, as a cost savings, with the realization that as accounting professionals we have the skills, knowledge and ability to accept a lower level of assurance, while also receiving and paying attention to regular reports that mitigate acceptance of the lower level of service.

The expectation for FY15 is that it will be a break-even year, even with potential lower revenue, due to the cost savings the board has addressed and will continue to consider into the coming year.

Hagelbarger Scholarship Fund Report – Tracy Hartung

Of the nine applicants, four recipients were awarded scholarships:

Ksenia Polikakhina, UAA, \$3,000

Maria Van Hoef, UAF, \$3,000

Chalisa Attla, UAF, \$2,000

Heather Leggett, \$2,000

Market value of the fund grew by \$18,000 during FY14 of which \$10,000 was distributed to the above individuals, (see the Statement of Financial Condition for detail)



### AICPA Council Report

John Rodgers, Elected Member of Council, reported on the March 2014 meeting he and Amy Cooper attended. Peer review program 'not working as it should', a concern of the Council. Monitor the activities of the firm, want the review 'more timely', pass/fail, want more 'accountability' by the reporting firms. John fielded questions and comments from various members; John wants us to know the Council is considering how to address member concerns.

Future of Learning Taskforce, a new AICPA committee, will address the delivery of CPE. Learning is a vital aspect of our profession, the AICPA recognizes the need to change how CPE is presented and received. They've started a strategy designed to make learning personal and measure what matters. John cautions us that this is in the thinking stages of how the profession will address this area.

1. Foreign income reporting has become much more recognized globally as an area of concern for non-U.S. countries
2. Potential of tax revision
  - a. How do we reduce rates and increase deductions?
  - b. Congress is in the most difficult grid-lock it has faced since the Civil War
  - c. The conclusion is that tax reform is not on the horizon
3. Bitcoin is recognized as an asset, not a currency, and yet it is being used to make purchases

### Alaska State Board of Public Accountancy Report

Melody Schneider made comments on behalf of Rebecca Martin, current Society board liaison. The large back-log of prior license issues has been cleared and various sanctions resolved; Leslie Schmidt is our current representative on the State Board of Public Accountancy.

Melody encouraged us to communicate our concerns, issues, questions to the liaison, Rebecca Martin.

### Committee Reports – presented in the annual meeting packet and accepted as written

Jacque Briskey reminded us how the CPE committee selects and organizes CPE, in addition to encouraging us to go to the Society website to sign-up for local classes and webinars. She informed us that the Society receives revenue from vendors who offer webinars through our site, 20 – 30% of their fee is sent to the Society. Discussion was held about how to consider changing fees to address revenue and encourage members to attend or purchase CPE. Jacque asked members to tell the committee what types of courses are desired.

Mike Cook commented on the Political Action Committee and asked for members to participate on the Legislative Committee.

### Round Table Discussion

Amy Cooper presented twelve areas for which the Alaska State Board of Public Accountancy wants comments from our members:

1. Various regulatory changes
2. Retired/Inactive professional status and the use of the CPA designation
3. Testing and licensure fee analysis – domestic vs foreign residency test
4. Define the practice of public accounting in statute and regulations
5. Monitor Uniform Accountancy Act changes and suggest areas to modify relative to Alaska members
6. Sole prop and individual permit requirement
7. Renewal timing related to license requirements
8. Review attest hour requirement and evaluate change statute and regulation requirements
9. Review forms used and processes
10. Partial credit for continuing professional education
11. Revisit ethic requirements compared to other states requirements
12. Evaluate all regulations regarding public protection

The Legislative Committee meets June 5, 2104 at the Anchorage Society office and Amy asked members to attend to give their comments to the committee.

Members made comments about a variety of the above twelve areas after Amy advised she needs some general input from members attending this meeting. Discussion of the licensing process and timing of the renewals was held, in addition, to the ethics requirement and how members should be meeting this requirement. Members suggested ways for the Society to address the large issues listed above, including the possibility of forming a task force to poll members and begin to formulate an approach to take; Lance will tackle the organization of this idea at the upcoming Legislative Committee meeting in Anchorage, including notifying members and firms and asking for their comments and suggestions.

#### Goals for the Next Year

Lance handled closing this year's meeting by asking Amy to come forward and thanking her for her outstanding service to the members. He continued with thanks to Linda and the CPE and Meetings Committees to organize the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

Lance recognized the following past presidents attending the meeting: Jacque Briskey, Amy Cooper, Don Rulien, Bethe Davis, Mike Kelliher, Tom Bartlett, Mike Cook, John Rodgers, Melody Schneider, and Tracy Hartung.

As incoming president, Lance encouraged us to pay attention to the many changes facing our profession, as represented by the twelve items. He sees revenue sustainability as a challenge to face and tackle. He sees bringing in younger emerging professionals as an important part of the future of growing the Society and our profession. The Leadership Academy, begun this year by Amy Cooper, is an important part of the Society's future.

It's important to be a CPA. Be proud of your profession and promote it, choose be active in the Society!

#### Next meeting

Expected to be in Anchorage, look for the announcement in upcoming newsletters.

Jacque Briskey moved and Don Rulien seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting adjourned at 10:27AM.

Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants, Inc.

Statements of Financial Position

April 30, 2015 and 2014

	<u>April 30, 2015</u>	<u>April 30, 2014</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings	\$ 58,638	\$ 42,795
Accounts Receivable	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	8,695	6,800
Marketable Securities	<u>83,084</u>	<u>82,465</u>
Total Current Assets	150,417	132,060
Fixed Assets (net of depreciation of \$75,122 and \$73,441)	6,518	8,199
Other Assets		
Hagelbarger Scholarship	<u>125,356</u>	<u>122,712</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 282,291</u>	<u>\$ 262,971</u>
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ -	\$ -
Accrued Liabilities	84	5,973
Deferred Revenue & Deposits	<u>65,695</u>	<u>50,090</u>
Total Current Liabilities	65,779	56,063
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Net Assets	206,908	197,697
Net Increase	<u>9,604</u>	<u>9,211</u>
Total Net Assets	216,512	206,908
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 282,291</u>	<u>\$ 262,971</u>

Presented to the membership of the Alaska Society of CPAs by Jason Bontrager, CPA

**Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants, Inc.**  
**Statement of Activities - Budget and Actual**  
**For the Year Ended April 30, 2015**

	CPE	General	Hagelbarger	Total	Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
CPE seminars	\$ 183,136	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 183,136	\$ 162,375
Dues	-	116,175	-	116,175	120,000
Initiation fees	-	570	-	570	600
Meetings income	-	22,330	-	22,330	19,750
Other income	-	5,560	-	5,560	8,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>183,136</u>	<u>144,635</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>327,771</u>	<u>310,725</u>
<b>Expense</b>					
Accounting services	-	1,852	-	1,852	3,000
Annual meeting	-	15,909	-	15,909	19,750
Automobile	77	52	-	129	200
Bankcard discount fees	-	9,789	-	9,789	9,500
Board Training	-	-	-	-	5,000
Committees	-	2,886	-	2,886	-
Copier charges	155	228	-	383	360
Depreciation	-	1,681	-	1,681	-
Discussion leader fees	76,515	-	-	76,515	49,865
Donations	-	2,500	-	2,500	2,500
ED discretionary	-	133	-	133	500
Employee retirement benefits	10,973	7,838	-	18,811	18,811
Facilities	18,758	-	-	18,758	11,450
Health insurance	1,698	789	-	2,487	3,200
Insurance	1,189	1,189	-	2,378	2,400
Legislation	-	1,000	-	1,000	5,250
Meetings	-	622	-	622	2,500
Miscellaneous	-	298	-	298	200
Newsletter & Printing	-	938	-	938	500
Participant materials	714	-	-	714	1,500
Payroll taxes	1,958	4,789	-	6,747	7,725
Postage	32	200	-	232	500
Promotion, dues, publications	-	250	-	250	300
Public relations	-	-	-	-	500
Rent	25,059	16,738	-	41,797	42,266
Salary and wages	24,426	55,662	-	80,088	77,245
Scholarship awards	-	-	7,500	7,500	-
Supplies	479	643	-	1,122	1,000
Technology	-	2,440	-	2,440	4,100
Telephone	2,171	2,172	-	4,343	4,500
Travel	14,416	10,313	-	24,729	33,450
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>178,621</u>	<u>140,909</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>327,030</u>	<u>308,072</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	4,515	3,726	(7,500)	741	2,653
<b>Other Income</b>					
Interest income	-	8	-	8	-
Gain (loss) on investments	-	(763)	6,295	5,532	-
Dividend on Investment	-	2,157	1,166	3,323	-
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,402</u>	<u>7,461</u>	<u>8,863</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Increase (decrease)</b>	<u>\$ 4,515</u>	<u>\$ 5,128</u>	<u>\$ (39)</u>	<u>\$ 9,604</u>	<u>\$ 2,653</u>



**Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants, Inc.**  
**Statement of Activities - Budget and Actual**  
**For the Year Ended April 30, 2014**

	<u>CPE</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Hagelbarger</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
CPE seminars	\$ 216,190	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 216,190	\$ 213,525
Dues	-	119,110	-	119,110	123,000
Initiation fees	-	750	-	750	600
Meetings income	-	30,490	-	30,490	13,250
Other income	-	7,233	-	7,233	4,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>216,190</u>	<u>157,583</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>373,773</u>	<u>354,375</u>
<b>Expense</b>					
Accounting services	-	2,565	-	2,565	4,000
Annual meeting	-	28,658	-	28,658	12,000
Automobile	-	24	-	24	200
Bankcard discount fees	-	10,477	-	10,477	8,000
Board Training	-	-	-	-	5,000
Committees	-	4,438	-	4,438	-
Copier charges	174	235	-	409	360
Depreciation	-	2,192	-	2,192	-
Discussion leader fees	89,850	-	-	89,850	89,718
Donations	-	500	-	500	2,500
ED discretionary	-	100	-	100	500
Employee retirement benefits	11,914	6,898	-	18,812	15,375
Facilities	18,261	(120)	-	18,141	18,425
Health insurance	6,210	4,397	-	10,607	19,908
Insurance	1,094	1,094	-	2,188	2,400
Legislation	-	6,250	-	6,250	5,250
Meetings	-	1,279	-	1,279	3,500
Miscellaneous	-	38	-	38	200
Newsletter & Printing	1,633	781	-	2,414	1,500
Participant materials	-	-	-	-	5,850
Payroll taxes	4,131	3,043	-	7,174	7,165
Postage	102	269	-	371	1,000
Promotion, dues, publications	-	250	-	250	300
Public relations	-	-	-	-	1,000
Rent	24,361	16,271	-	40,632	39,624
Salary and wages	46,765	34,226	-	80,991	71,662
Scholarship awards	-	-	10,000	10,000	-
Supplies	291	426	-	717	1,500
Technology	613	2,313	-	2,926	4,100
Telephone	2,122	2,161	-	4,283	4,300
Travel	20,629	13,651	-	34,280	36,400
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>228,150</u>	<u>142,416</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>380,566</u>	<u>361,737</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	(11,960)	15,167	(10,000)	(6,793)	(7,362)
<b>Other Income</b>					
Interest income	-	7	-	7	-
Gain (loss) on investments	-	(502)	12,200	11,698	-
Dividend on Investment	-	533	3,766	4,299	-
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>15,966</u>	<u>16,004</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net Increase (decrease)</b>	<u>\$ (11,960)</u>	<u>\$ 15,205</u>	<u>\$ 5,966</u>	<u>\$ 9,211</u>	<u>\$ (7,362)</u>

**2014-15 Annual Report**  
**ASCPA CPE Committee**  
**By Jacque Briskey, CPA, Chair**

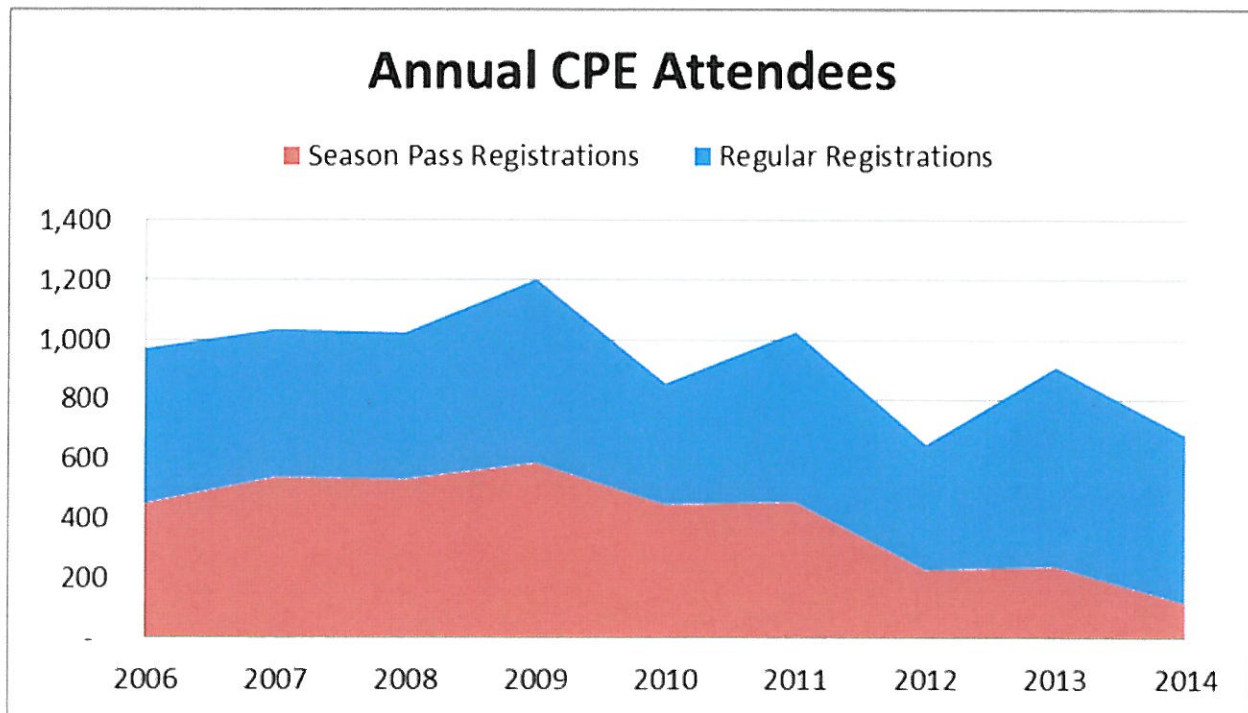
The primary objective of the CPE committee is to enable the members of the Alaska Society to develop and maintain high standards of competence by providing a variety of high quality, educational opportunities on a timely basis in convenient locations, and at a fair price. Specifically, we strive to

1. Select quality courses with quality instructors
2. Provide a mix of A&A, Tax, Governmental and Industry CPE
3. Provide a mix of CPE at varying levels (basic, intermediate or advanced)
4. Break even with CPE revenue and costs

Generally the committee only meets once or twice a year, or sometimes three times if necessary. During those meetings, we review and select courses to offer for the upcoming year. We also review the fees and policies surrounding CPE, and advise the Board and Executive Director of any changes. Anchorage and Fairbanks each hold separate meetings for the initial review and selection of courses. Juneau members also make suggestions for the courses to hold in Southeast.

Linda summarizes the course selections and distributes the list to the committee members for input and changes. She then assembles a proposed schedule of course offerings for final approval by the committee.

Since 2015 is a license renewal year for Alaskan CPAs, we would normally anticipate a bit more activity in the courses. However, overall participation in traditional classroom courses has been falling for the past several years. With that, the committee decided to not increase the number of live courses in 2015. We again selected highly rated instructors to insure maximum attendance at the courses that are offered, and tried a few new vendors to offer some variety.





All courses now include e-Manuals, but participants still have the option of purchasing a printed book. Only about 5% of attendees chose to purchase a printed book last year. We also continued to offer webinars from many different vendors through the AKCPA website, and tried to increase awareness of those courses. We received a revenue share of more than \$5,700 from our partners for webcasts and self-study courses. As in the past, the biggest hurdle continues to be getting the word out so members look to AKCPA first for all their CPE.

AKCPA continues to offer 2 Value Options in 2015. The Season Pass includes 6 full CPE days (up to 48 hours) for \$1,350. There is no registration deadline for the Season Pass. We also have CPE season ticket books available. Each ticket can be used for 8 hours of CPE. The tickets are good only for the current CPE calendar year and must be used by the CPA firm or Company that purchases them exclusively for their employees. They are not transferable outside the firm. A book of 10 tickets is \$2,500. No other discounts apply and they are non-refundable. The fee for an 8-hour course remains at \$295 for members (before discounts) and \$445 for non-members.

To encourage members to sign up earlier for classes, we apply an early registration discount of \$50 per 8-hour course (\$25 per 4-hour course) for registrations made by June 1. Early registration helps us plan so we don't hold classes that are not well attended. In addition, registrations received less than 21 days from the course date will be charged a late fee of \$50 for each 8 hour course and \$25 for each 4 hour course. This is a similar policy to what many airlines have for last-minute travelers.

And because we all like spreadsheets, here are comparisons of our past annual registrations –

	2014				2013				2012			
	Tax	A&A	Other	Total	Tax	A&A	Other	Total	Tax	A&A	Other	Total
Anchorage	9.5	3.5	1.0	14.0	10.5	7.5	1.5	19.5	12.0	9.0		21.0
Fairbanks	4.0	4.0	2.0	10.0	3.5	5.5	-	9.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	11.0
Juneau	1.0	1.0	-	2.0	1.0	1.0	-	2.0	1.0	2.0	-	3.0
Total Days	14.5	8.5	3.0	26.0	15.0	14.0	1.5	30.5	18.0	14.0	3.0	35.0

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006
Regular Registrations	563	670	422	572	408	618	493	498	521	493	498	521
Season Pass Registrations	118	240	229	456	447	586	532	538	450	532	538	450
Total Attendees	681	910	651	1,028	855	1,204	1,025	1,036	971	1,025	1,036	971
Season Passes Purchased	18	36	42	74	78	92	87	87	82	87	87	82
Season TicketBooks	16											

Member evaluations of instructors and courses are critical, and provide valuable input in the CPE planning process. We use them in planning future courses and choice of instructors. As always, the committee values any input on what types and levels of CPE to offer.

Finally, I really appreciate the efforts of the committee members this year. They all worked really hard to put together courses for 2015 that will be well attended, meet the needs of the members, and still keep AKCPA at least at break-even. Many of them have worked on the CPE committee year after year. I encourage others to join us and help shape the course of CPE offerings in the future.

# OUTLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORT

## ALASKA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

### ETHICS COMMITTEE

Report for Fiscal Year Ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Ethics and arbitration receives and monitors ethical complaints and other information of alleged unethical conduct involving our members. The committee also accepts requests for arbitration on alleged violations of the Code of Professional Conduct.

Any complaints received may be forwarded, as appropriate, to the Alaska Board of Public Accountancy or the AICPA Ethics Committee. Other small matters (not rising to the level of an ethical issue, but are communications received by our office) are resolved between related parties without additional referral.

No specific objectives were adopted during the year. No special projects were established for the committee. The committee is currently formed of two individuals.

The goal of this committee is to ensure ethical and licensing issues and complaints are followed-up and resolved efficiently.

The committee continues to monitor the progress of cases overseen by the AICPA regarding AKCPA members and provides information to the public as needed regarding the process of filing complaints.

Currently, the AICPA Professional Ethics Division has open cases involving five Alaska CPAs. We continue to monitor the progress of the cases involving these CPAs and are in communication with the AICPA Technical Manager assigned to the cases as needed.

The committee also received two communications not rising to an ethical issue from the public during the year that were resolved between the related parties without additional referral.

Bethe Davis



# ALASKA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## Financial Literacy Committee

### Report for Fiscal Year Ending April 30<sup>th</sup> 2015

The Financial Literacy Committee is part of a national effort for CPAs to promote financial literacy using tools provided by the AICPA. Our committee works to address areas of need that common the entire country, as well as issues that are unique to Alaska.

The Financial Literacy Committee is working on ideas to promote awareness and utilization of the AICPA's financial literacy tools among AKCPA members. These tools include specific volunteer kits on the topics of: Tweens & Teens, College Students, Employed, Couples, Parents & Children, Home Owners, Small Business Owners, Military & Reserves, Retirees, and In Crisis. There are talking points, handouts, and slide show presentations available for a variety of important financial issues impacting people in all areas.

During 2015, as a committee, we only met one time. We discussed the potential for Arctic Slope Regional Corporation to incorporate the AICPA tools into their shareholder facing financial literacy initiatives. Depending on the level of success, we may promote the use among other Alaska Native Corporations and organizations serving rural Alaska.

Additionally, at our meeting we discussed how to use a small core of committee members and volunteers to reach the widest audience. During fiscal year 2014, our committee put together a booth at the Eagle River Bear Paw Festival. This generated enough interest that an article was written on AccountingWeb, and we also had the opportunity to have committee member Jacque Briskey speak on the Hometown Alaska radio show on KSKA. Based on these experiences we decided that the way to get the best return on our investment of time and resources would be to make volunteers available for media interviews to discuss financial literacy topics.

Going forward, as a committee, we have some workable plans, but need a strong chairperson and additional committee members to commit to getting information out to members on Financial Literacy and also to reach out to members of the press to let them know that we have CPAs who are willing and available to speak on a variety of financial literacy topics.

Alaska Society of CPAs  
Political Action Committee  
For Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2015

**PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:**

Recommend legislative policies and goals to the Board of Directors and take necessary actions to achieve programs approved by the Board.

**SPECIAL PROJECTS:**

Monitor the legislative session to see if any legislation of importance to the accounting profession is introduced. Take action on issues addressed by the Board of Public Accountancy.

**ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR AND MAJOR ACTIVITIES PLANNED NEXT YEAR**

Technical Meetings, seminars, etc. – The entire committee met several times and created task forces within the committee to address issues that the Board of Public Accountancy identified in its letter dated May 13, 2014 and addressed to the Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants and cross copied to Lisa Rogers, Legislative Committee Chair.

Long-range projects completed or in-process – The committee recommended that the Board of Directors of the Alaska Society of Certified Public Accountants adopt resolutions in support of the one-year experience and eliminating the attest function hour requirement for initial licensure. In addition, the committee recommended that the Board of Public Accountancy consider adding a d/b/a (doing business as) field in the license renewal so that it could be added to the database of licensees and the public would be able to search by business name as well as licensee name. The committee also recommended that the regulations be changed to eliminate a continuing education requirement that is specific to Alaska statutes and regulations if the Board of Public Accountancy could develop an alternative method of alerting licensees of differences between Alaska statutes and regulations and the Uniform Accountancy Act.

Proposed regulations were publicly noticed on April 2, 2015. On May 7, 2015, the Board of Public Accountancy passed a resolution in support of these regulations, as corrected. The regulations must be approved by the Alaska Department of Law and signed by the Lieutenant Governor before they become law.

**STATUS OF COMMITTEE'S CARRYOVER ITEMS**

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants has identified many differences between Alaska's statutes and regulations and the Uniform Accountancy Act. The legislative committee's responsibilities will be to continue to explore these differences, develop consensus for change, and assist in implementing change.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGES IN THE COMMITTEE'S SCOPE, SIZE, OR NAME**

Increase the number of active participants in the legislative committee. Find a new committee chair.

Lisa M. Rogers, CPA  
Legislative Committee Chair  
May 21, 2015

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOCIETY PAC  
May 2015

After the August 2014 primary elections the PAC contributed to the campaigns of five legislators of whom four were running for the House and one for the Senate and of those one is from Southeast, one from the Interior and three from South Central. They all have been helpful to our profession and all were elected.

This year's annual fund raising letter was sent in October 2014. The results are:

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Contribution Income	1,800
Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	<u>2</u>
Total Income	<u>1,802</u>
Expense	
Campaign Contributions	2,500
Licenses	50
Mailing Service	42
Operations	
Postage, Mailing Service	111
Printing and Copying	<u>212</u>
Total Expense	<u>2,915</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-1,113</u>
Net Income	-1,113
Cash balance, April 30, 2014	<u>7,484</u>
Cash balance, April 30, 2015	<u>6,371</u>

The officers of the PAC are:

President	Mike Cook
Treasurer	Lisa Rogers
Secretary	Steve Sheaffer

At a meeting before the end of September 2015 an election of officers will be held. The members of the Society Legislative Committee elect the Board of Directors which elects the officers.

The PAC appreciates the monetary and physical participation of the Society members. Thorny issues that affect CPAs regularly arise in the Alaska Legislature and elsewhere. It is very helpful to have developed positive relationships with legislators and officials and have them understand and act on what will be beneficial for our profession.

Thanks to you all, Mike Cook



# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

## ALASKA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

### MAP Committee

#### Report For Fiscal Year Ending April 30<sup>th</sup>

1. Brief general background information regarding the committee and its primary objectives.

MAP is a committee formed by the Alaska Society of CPA's to:

- Aid members in improving their ability to deal with the management of their practice.
- Identify and study problems relating to the management of an accounting practice, and to assist members in the effective management of their professional firms.

2. Specific objectives adopted at start of year and subsequently at committee meetings.

None

3. Special Projects:

None

4. Activities for the year and major activities planned for the next year.

- a. Technical meetings, seminars, etc. – Regular meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday after the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month
- b. Significant accounting, auditing or tax questions discussed –

5/20/14 Balancing Client Service and Practice Management

6/17/14 Social Media and Your Practice

7/22/14 Managing Client Meetings

8/19/14 Accounting Software

9/16/14 Cybersecurity Threats

10/21/14 How to Protect Client's Data

12/16/14 Getting Ready for the Busy Season

1/20/15 Develop and Expand Your Practice

2/17/15 How to communicate effectively with clients about the value of your services

3/17/15 Managing Your Tax Season

4/21/15 Measure of Tax Return Client Satisfaction

- c. Number of committee meetings held (with quorum present) – 11

5. Status of committee's carry over items

N/A

6. Recommendations for changes in the committee's scope, size or name.

None

Irina Morozova, Chair



# ALASKA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## MEETINGS Committee

### Report For Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2015

1. Primary objectives: Produce and coordinate all activities necessary for the accomplishment of the ASCPA monthly luncheon/dinner meetings. To enhance and promote attendance of members at the ASCPA Annual Business meeting.
2. Specific objectives: Hold about 4 luncheon meetings yearly and plan and coordinate our Annual Business meeting.
3. Special Projects:
  - a. Activities and projects now completed, or which you expect to complete by April 30:
    - 2 luncheons completed
    - November 13, 2014 – State Board Update
    - January 21, 2015 - Outsmarting Investment Fraud, Michele Logan, Anchorage PD Financial Crimes Unit
  - b. Work which will be incomplete at May 1; - Annual Business Meeting in progress
    - Will take place in Anchorage on May 28-29
    - Alaska Statute and Regulations vs. Uniform Accountancy Act
    - Speakers will be AICPA Suzanne Jolicoeur, Chair AK State Board of Accountancy Karen Tarver & our own Legislative committee members
  - c. Luncheon meetings every few months seem to be popular. The State Board Update as well as Michele Logan's talk had a nice turn out.
4. Activities for the year and major activities planned for the next year.
  - a. 3 more luncheon meetings or social events before end of the calendar year to be planned.
  - b. Start planning Annual Meeting for 2016.
5. Recommendations: Finding more committee members as some of our members have served on this committee for past few years.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Turner, Chair

## COMMITTEE REPORT – RELATIONS WITH EDUCATION

The relations with education committee has one primary objective. Our goal is to enhance and maintain positive and lasting relationships with the educational institutions and outlets throughout the state. It is extremely important for the society and its members to engage and work with those that are the future of our profession. We are here to engage and educate about accounting as a profession.

The committee has continued to focus on how to get information out to schools and students about “what a CPA is,” what the accounting profession is and what can be done within the area as a career. Additionally, we have continued to focus on fostering the relationship with the university students across the system in the state of Alaska.

A major component or focus that was brought to the committee was taking over the legwork to integrate society membership and accounting club membership to students. Having major exposure available at all campuses and an avenue to link the membership with the society is a great idea. A few ideas have been considered and we will continue to solidify the ease of access to membership by students. Stasia Straley has had great success getting UAA started in tying society membership to their club. Each campus currently has a different form of membership application for their respective club. Providing easy access to the society and its resources to student members will benefit the students themselves and the society members as well. We as a society can have another exposure opportunity by having student members participate in local meetings or other activities available to all members.

Other activities that were covered throughout the committee year were some resume and interview presentations to the GAAP club in Fairbanks. The professional development events held throughout the year had great presentations by both members and students. An event was held in Fairbanks this year for a couple of local high schools. It is called the Reality Fair; students are given a role to play as a person in a family with a given career, income and other demographic data. The students are sent to various stations throughout the course of the event. They learn about budgeting and the importance of financial responsibility. The event was a success and has been held in other parts of the state as well. It is a great event to participate in.

We also had several members from the society attend the UAA accounting club fall and spring socials. These events are attended by about 150 students and professionals and provide networking opportunities. This is a great chance for CPAs to share with students the benefits of joining the society, as well as what it’s like to work as a CPA.

Availability of CPA exam study material to potential candidates has been one item the committee carried over from last year. We reviewed the information briefly and have come up with a few other avenues to explore and hope to do so in order to put something in place over the coming year. Other items that we plan to explore are the continued support of tying club and society membership together and in doing so providing some presentations to students each semester during “membership drive” events to provide background of benefits. Now that the Leadership Academy has been in place those participants may be able to assist in developing the kickoff presentations.

We will continue to move forward in attempting to develop enhancements to the student section of the website. This will be imperative as we integrate student membership with society membership. There are many great websites out there to garner information on the profession and its benefits. This also gives students easy access to the information. Overall, it was a good year to get some new things started and next year we will continue to enhance the relationship and move forward in a positive way.

Respectfully submitted,

William A. Kolski, CPA, MPAcc

Chair, Relations with Education Committee



# ALASKA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

*Taxation Committee - Report for Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2015*

The taxation committee consisted of John Rodgers, Chair and Board Liaison, Therese Sharp, and Irina Morozova.

The stated objectives of the tax committee are:

- To assist members in maintaining and expanding their professional competencies
- To maintain liaison with Alaska members of congress, the Alaska legislature, the Internal Revenue Service, appropriate state and local taxing authorities and the AICPA Federal Taxation Division
- To work for needed reforms in tax legislation, and
- To review existing and proposed legislation and regulations, initiating action as required.

The taxation committee has an ongoing responsibility to monitor proposed tax legislation in the state legislature and stand ready to suggest improvements in design and implementation should the legislature consider changes to the corporate tax system or adoption of any new tax measure, such as an income tax or sales tax.

## *Summary of Activities:*

### 1. Current year activities:

- a. The Legislator's Tax Guide was updated for 2014 by John Rodgers and Irina Morozova. The guide was provided to the Legislature with help of Linda Plimpton.
- b. The IRS/CPA Liaison Subcommittee met with the IRS twice this year and provided a report in the Society newsletter. Chairperson Therese Sharp, along with other members, solicited feedback from the Society membership about questions, concerns or issues they wanted the IRS/CPA Liaison Subcommittee to discuss with IRS representatives. The committee appreciates the input of the Society members who contributed their feedback. Due to IRS budget constraints, the most recent meeting was held via a group teleconference call. This worked quite well and will be used for future meetings. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 4, 2015 and is expected to be conducted via teleconference. Please use this as a reminder to call a committee member if you have a problem that is frustrating, unusual or which you think may be systemic in nature so the committee can address it during their IRS/CPA Liaison meetings. Thank you again to Therese for her continued efforts in running this committee and meetings.
- c. The Anchorage Tax Committee Roundtable met frequently throughout the year to discuss items of mutual interest. Thank you to Joan Henry for taking the lead in organizing these meetings.

### 2. Activities planned for the next year:

- a. The Legislator's Tax Guide will be updated as usual.



- b. As mentioned above, the IRS/CPA Liaison Committee will meet with IRS this summer. Please forward your questions or problems to a committee member soon!
- c. The Tax Committee Roundtable brown bag lunch meetings will continue to be held at the Society office in Anchorage every other Tuesday. If you would like to be involved in organizing these or participating, please contact Linda Plimpton or Joan Henry.
- d. The Committee will continue to monitor tax related legislation introduced in the Alaska legislature. More information will come as this develops.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to Chair this committee for our state association. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss issues confronting you and how this committee can help.

Best regards,

John Rodgers, Chair

# ALASKA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

## Technology Committee

Report for Fiscal Year ending April 30, 2015

### General Background and Primary Objectives

The technology committee works to support the society's technological needs. The committee assists the Executive Director in making sure that the website is up to date and engaging. The society's presence and representation in social media is also a focus of the committee. The committee will actively search for new and innovative ways to integrate technology within the AKCPA.

### Specific Objectives Adopted

- Find a cost effective way to update the website, either through a new host or by utilizing the one hour service window each month.
- Administer the society's LinkedIn presence.
- Assist Society and director when hardware or software issues arise.

### Special Projects

- **Activities and Projects Completed**
  - Committees' descriptions updated on website.
  - Assisted in a few tech support calls with Linda.
- **Incomplete Work**
  - A website overhaul . The "look-n-feel" changes are not cost effective and an alternative has not been located.
- **Projects Recommended to be Continued, Revised, or Dropped**
  - Continue to research alternative web hosts and providers.
  - Continue to be available to provide support when needed.
  - Revise the approach to LinkedIn – it is not utilized. If email chains are going to remain more effective, then consider dropping.

### Activities for the Year and Planned for Next Year

- The Society office is in need of some new/replacement office hardware. The technology committee can assist with acquiring and installing it.
- Maintain the LinkedIn page and administer requests and membership.
- Find anything else on the website that needs correcting and updating.

May 21, 2015

The Alaska Society of CPAs (AKCPA) had a fantastic year. I want to highlight a few of our accomplishments and surprises.

The surprise is that we have a wonderful new Executive Director, Crista Burson, to replace our former fabulous Executive Director, Linda Plimpton, who has retired as of April 30<sup>th</sup>. Linda will be missed and Crista has been great to work with over her first month of service to our Organization.

In early May 2014, the AKCPA received a letter from the Board of Accountancy asking for assistance with recommendations on accounting regulation changes. These changes assist in mobilizing the way CPAs currently practice public accounting in Alaska and align Alaska with other States and Jurisdictions.

The Board of Accountancy has already reviewed and is currently recommending Regulation changes. Everyone should have received letters from the State Board of Accountancy outlining the changes in early April.

One highlight of the current regulation change is to eliminate the continuing education hour requirement of Alaska Specific Ethics for CPAs practicing in Alaska. This change does not reduce any of the current Ethics Hour Requirements for CPAs.

Another large change is to remove the 500 hour attest requirement for our current CPA Candidates. A majority of the States have already removed any stipulation regarding attest hours and this will eliminate an additional barrier on the ability to attain a CPA license in Alaska.

There will be additional language in the Regulations identifying a one year experience requirement needed for CPA Candidates looking to obtain their Alaska CPA license.

The Regulations are being updated to reflect that CPAs are allowed to obtain continuing education credit for classes less than a full hour.

A “doing business as” will be added to the current renewal of your CPA license for those individuals running businesses that do not use his/her current name. This will allow transparency for how practitioners run their practice.

Additional Regulation language cleanup is taking place to update the verbiage in the current regulations.

It was a very busy year for the Legislative Committee. Thank you.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Leadership Academy and its roster roll has been set. Amy Cooper will lead the current class of Academy Members. Thank you to Amy and our 1<sup>st</sup> Leadership Academy members who have already made a splash in the Alaska CPA community. I just got my flyer last week for the CPA Networking event. I know that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Academy Members will have an awesome opportunity as well to make a difference in their Firms and to our Profession. Thank you to Amy, our 1<sup>st</sup> Leadership Academy Members, and those candidates of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Leadership Academy; you are the future of our profession. Awesome.

I would like to thank the Meetings Committee for coming up with such a fantastic event for this year. What a great dinner experience and evening. There was fantastic CPE and a great speaker. Great job; thank you.

The CPE Committee has been hard at work as well; the Committee has streamlined the current CPE offerings based upon the feedback from the Members. The classes look great for the current year. If you have not already signed up you and your Firm; please take the time to review the offerings and sign up.

The Legislative Tax Guide was updated by the Tax Committee (Roundtable). Thank you to John Rodgers and the Tax Committee (Roundtable) Members for your efforts on this.

As with any Organization, it is the action of its Members that contributes to the success. I have been extremely blessed with an excellent Board of Directors, Membership Support, and a great Executive Director. Thank you to all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance Bodeen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "B".

Lance Bodeen, Past President