

**GEORGIA SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, INC**

**2010 FALL COUNCIL MEETING**

*Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa, Young Harris, GA*

*November 8, 2010*

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board of Directors:**

Colin Blalock  
Walt Bryde  
Rodney Chandler  
Larry Cohen  
Royce Duncan  
Denise Grove  
Bo Jackson  
Michael Levine  
Lowell Mooney  
Marlan Nichols  
Bob Prator  
Joe Spradlin  
Darrell Thaw  
Gary Julian

**Past Presidents:**

William Bomar  
Stewart Carlin  
Mike Cauley  
John Cook  
Julian Deal  
John Giddens III  
J. Sam Johnson  
Paula Mooney  
Denise Mummert  
Allen Poole  
Carolyn Riticher  
Jim Underwood  
Mike Verner  
Bobby Whitmire

**GSCPA Staff:**

Don Cook  
Elizabeth Kistler  
Lloyd McCreary  
Jennifer Poff  
Deborah Reeder

**Council**

**Members-At-Large:**

Phil Alday  
Jenny Barber  
Alyssa Belcher  
K. Scott Collins  
Mark Dawkins  
Brad Dickson  
Barbara Evans  
Lee Ellen Fields  
Jeff Forrestall  
Jack Green  
John Holden  
Martha Merritt  
Chris Miller  
Richard Negus  
Martha O'Brien  
Denise O'Connell  
Terry Parker  
Ed Pease  
Kay Proctor  
Brad Reeder  
Geoff Rhines  
Lydia Rosencrants  
Emily Sanders  
Michael Skinner  
Debbie Thaw  
Brandon Verner

**Section Chairs:**

Ben P. Lee  
Tim Minster  
Wayne Nix  
Tracy Sharkey

**Section Representatives:**

William Harshman  
Greg Kordecki

**Chapter Presidents:**

Winter Arrington  
Jennifer Birtz  
Pam Clinard  
A. Harold Davis  
James Freeman  
Todd Giddens  
John Graham, Jr.  
Richard Hlozek  
Cynthia Johnson  
Jack Milner  
Margaret Waldrep

**Chapter Representatives:**

John Bingeman  
Michael Broughton  
Lisa Conti-Bacon  
Russell Goldman  
Jerry Maxwell  
Emilie McLaughlin  
Kenneth McLeod  
Elizabeth Morrison  
Abbie Gail Parham

**Guests:**

Jason Blair  
John Masters  
Paul Oddo Jr.  
Anita Pittman

**Committee Chairs:**

Ronald Thomas, Jr.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Royce Duncan called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**II. INVOCATION**

Rodney Chandler gave the invocation.

**III. RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS**

Royce Duncan recognized the Past presidents/chairmen in attendance. Also recognized were first time attendees.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was passed to approve the minutes of the 2010 Spring Council meeting as presented.

**V. SPECIAL COUNCIL ON TAX REFORM AND FAIRNESS**

**-A.D. Frazier  
-Brad Dickson**

A.D. Frazier, Chair of the Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness, and Brad Dickson updated council members on the status of their work to date. With tax collections in Georgia down 23% over the past two years this is an extremely important matter. The Tax Council is looking at a number of different approaches to change the effectiveness of the Tax code in the state. The Special Council on Tax Reform and Fairness is in place (per the legislation) until July 2012. Brad Dickson commented on the teamwork of the Special Council and the constructive proposals submitted by the members of the GSCPA.

**VI. ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**-Bob Prator**

Bob Prator submitted the ballot of Nominating Committee members for vote to members of Council. Results will be reported later in the Council meeting.

**VII. AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

**-Jason Blair**

Jason Blair presented the Audit Committee report to council members. The Audit Committee met with Frazier and Deeter in July and reported that no adjustments had been made to either the GSCPA or the Foundation's audited financial report. They also stated there were no disagreements or points of issue with GSCPA staff. This was Frazier and Deeter's third year conducting the audit, and, upon recommendation from the Audit committee, the GSCPA Board of Directors voted to extend the audit for another three years to Frazier and Deeter.

**VIII. ELECTION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**-Royce Duncan**

Royce Duncan appointed Mike Skinner, of Skinner, Barndollar and Lane, PC, to serve a three year term on the Audit Committee. A motion was made, seconded and approved.

**IX. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**-Marlan Nichols**

Marlan Nichols, treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. Of the \$156k positive change in net assets, \$170kis attributed to the investment portfolio. CPE is not performing up to budget due to lower attendance than anticipated in seminars and the SEAS conference. Membership dues revenue is below budget by \$15k. A total of 922 members were terminated due to nonpayment of dues; however, membership has recovered by 200 members. Approximately one-third of the members dropped were unemployed. The staff is monitoring expenses carefully.

**X. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**-Royce Duncan**

Royce Duncan, chairman, reported that he has been very pleased with the high activity level at the Society offices and the number of programs moving forward. Keeping with Bob Prator's A.C.E. (Advocacy, Community, Education) theme, the GSCPA continues to strive for a high level of education and celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Southeastern Accounting Show. New this year in education is the GSCPA online learning center which allows 24/7 access to on-demand courses. In terms of the community piece of A.C.E., Royce has visited with 6 chapters and has 6 additional visits scheduled. Section membership continues to experience growth (6%) with two sections (Taxation and CPAs in Industry) containing more than 1,000 members each. The economic climate affected retention of members and the Society staff is working to address the issue through outreach to members. The involvement of GSCPA with the Special Tax Council has been positive while the Society web page is keeps abreast of this subject matter, including recent recommendations from the Taxation Section. In comparison with other Big 14 states, dues in the GSCPA are quite low and Royce commended the staff on serving members well. Additionally, the CEO Search Committee is in the process of interviewing and anticipates making a final decision near the end of December 2010.

**XI. COUNCIL BREAKOUT GROUPS**

**-Royce Duncan**

Royce Duncan explained the breakout group process to council attendees.

**XII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE ELECTION REPORT**

**-Bob Prator**

After counting the ballots, Bob Prator reported the election results. The three members elected to the Nominating Committee are Alyssa Belcher, Denise Mummert, and Stewart Carlin.

**XIII. AICPA COUNCIL REPORT**

**-Carolyn Riticher**

Carolyn Riticher, AICPA Council Representative from the GSCPA, updated council members on the Fall AICPA Council meeting held in New Orleans. Issues for focus this year included SPX 404b exceptions, Dodd Frank legislation regarding broker/dealers, financial planner regulations affecting CPAs, uncertain tax position disclosures and PTIN registration. A major issue discussed at the AICPA Council meeting related to the blue ribbon panel and standard setting for private companies. Carolyn described the resolution adopted by members of the AICPA Council relating to support of a separate private company standard setting board. Carolyn also described the Pathways Commission and the future of accounting education and the profession as a whole.

**XIV. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

**-Gary Julian, CEO**

Gary Julian, CEO, showed a social media video and discussed the importance of including social media in the future. The Society has incorporated newer technologies into the daily business model. The Society anticipates presenting over 40 webcasts this year. The GSCPA also rolled out the House of Blogs. CPE is available on-line (including archived sessions of the Southeastern Accounting Show) and publications are now published in digital format. Statistics reflecting open rates of the publications is positive. CPE is not performing up to budget this year; competition is extensive. 2010 is a non-reporting year and the negative economic climate may also be affecting performance.

**XV. EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION MEETING**

**- Alyssa Belcher**

The Council meeting was placed in brief recess by Royce Duncan. Alyssa Belcher, President of the Educational Foundation, opened the floor for the Educational Foundation Meeting. She summarized some of the activities this year. The Foundation is working an action plan and accelerated certain deadlines forward this year to ensure adequate time is available to achieve goals. The scholarships and awards experienced a slight improvement over last year. Last night

they had an awards dinner during which Gregory Kordecki received the Outstanding Accounting Educator Award and Carolyn Riticher received the Howard Herman Distinguished Service Award. The investments are performing much better with all of the endowment accounts being above water. Also of focus, a new Image and Awareness Committee has been created. Their charge is to focus on the Foundations image and improve the awareness level. Last year over 600 students were touched by the Foundation in some way with 85% of the Foundations expenses being spent on scholarships or awards. This is the message they need to ensure reaches as many as possible.

### **XIII. OPEN FORUM**

Darrell Thaw, Chair of the Destination Convention Task Force, asked council members to vote on the pads of paper at their table for one of the following locations for Convention 2012:

- San Francisco, CA
- Seattle, WA
- Rockport, ME

Jim Underwood expressed thanks to the GSCPA from the Georgia Federal Tax Conference and presented a \$3,000 check to Royce Duncan in appreciation of the Societies assistance.


Mike Skinner let the group know that the mobility effort will soon launch a national website which will display all the states a CPA holds a license. With some states, if a CPA does not renew their license, then disciplinary action is taken. If you have let your license lapse in a state, it may show as “disciplinary action” on this website. Those who may fall in this category will want to contact the associated state board of accountancy prior to the launch of the website to get around this if there are issues.

The winners of the spouse/guest activity contest were announced as follows: John Clinard and Louse Bryge – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Three Js Creation – 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Jacque Thompson- 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

### **XIV. AJOURNMENT**

The Council adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary L. Julian, Secretary