



Chapter News



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President's Message

As we approach this holiday season, it can only mean one thing . . . filing season is right around the corner. To get everyone in the mood, we have Carolyn Turnbull as our December speaker who will be giving us a year-end tax update.

Last month, was the GSCPA Fall Council meeting. There were several interesting topics discussed in breakout groups; issues that the Society is going to be addressing in the next year. These topics included: (1) whether we should support affinity programs and if so, how to determine what vendors to select; (2) whether the Spring Council Meeting and the Annual Convention should be combined into a single event; (3) whether the GSCPA should establish a political action committee; and (4) whether there should be a membership category, other than a Fellow Member, for non-CPAs (such as non-CPA owners of CPA firms, "friends" of the Society). If you would like to offer your opinions on any of these matters, please forward them to me. The Board of Directors of the Society is meeting on December 12 and will be discussing the feedback we got from the breakout groups. As a member of the Board, I can add your comments to those of the breakout groups.

We are still looking for volunteers to become active in the chapter, to help shape it for the future. If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, or would like to recommend someone to serve on the Board, please contact [Brandon Verner](#), [Jennifer Birtz](#) or myself.

Congratulations to Ellen Sweatt on her election to the GSCPA Nominating Committee. Also, congratulations to James Caylor on winning our drawing.

I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving. I'd like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Larry Cohen

Nominate a Deserving Colleague for the Outstanding Member in Industry Award

Each year, the CPAs in Industry Section seek nominations for the GSCPA Outstanding Member in Industry Award, which is presented at the Spring Decision Makers Conference. This award recognizes a member in industry who has made significant contributions, professional and civic, that reflect the values and ideals to which CPAs in this practice area should aspire. Nominees are required to be a GSCPA Fellow Member in good standing and be employed in practice in industry. Deadline for nominations is March 13, 2009. For more information and a nomination form, please [click here](#) to visit the GSCPA web site.

Nominees are often submitted to the AICPA for national recognition. The 2007 Outstanding Member in Industry, CB (Mike) Harreld, Jr., executive vice president and chief financial officer, Southern Company Transmission, Atlanta, was inducted to the 2008 AICPA Hall of Fame on November 13 at the Fall Controllers Workshop in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. [Click here](#) to read more.

2008-2009 Meeting Schedule

The cost is \$30 for current members of North Perimeter Chapter and \$35 for nonmembers. Payment is at the door by cash or check. The time of the meeting is 5 p.m. for registration. Student members of our chapter may attend free as guests (with proper RSVP) to the chapter. You can register for the meeting by [email](#) or on the [North Perimeter Chapter web site](#).

Directions:

The Ravinia Club is located just across from Perimeter Mall. Heading north from Ashford-Dunwoody and I-285, go to the third light and turn right (just after Crowne Plaza Ravinia) on Ravinia North into the Ravinia Complex. Take the first immediate right and proceed down the hill. Go past One Ravinia Building and turn left between Buildings One and Two. Turn into the parking garage on the right. There is no charge for parking.

Meeting Schedule

December 16, 2008 – Carolyn Turnbull – Current Hot Topics – tax update. (2 hours CPE)

January 20, 2009 – "Turning Exits Into Opportunities: Growing Your Business By Helping Business Owners Plan For Exiting Theirs." Presented By Patrick Ungashick Of E.M. Stephens PR (2 Hours CPE)

February 17, 2009 – 2 Topics Presented Consecutively

- "GSCPA Update" – Presented By Stewart Carlin President Georgia Society Of CPAs (1 Hr CPE)
- "Changes in the Georgia Tax Credits in 2008 and Proposed Changes in 2009" – Presented By Jim Tinsley of Alpharesults, LLC. (1 Hr CPE)

March 17, 2009 – "6 Things You Need to Know to Understand the Nation's Financial Crisis and What We Can Do to Survive It" – Presented By Bill McDermott Of Georgia Banking Company (2 Hours CPE)

April 21, 2009 – TBA

May 19, 2009 – "Pension Plans and the Use of Cash Balance Plans" Presented By Tony Brizzolara of Louis Kravitz & Associates.

2008-2009 Chapter Officers and Directors

Officers	Directors
President Larry Cohen 770-391-5802	<i>Term Expires 2009</i> Marion MacLeod-Elliott* Dick Negus* Robert Lee Height
Vice President Jennifer Birtz 404-898-7513	<i>Term Expires 2010</i> Dan Giannini Ellen Sweatt* Martha O'Brien*
Secretary Howard Drobos 678-366-0392	<i>Term Expires 2011</i> Brandon Verner* Jerry Endsley Phoebe Hiland*
Treasurer Bob Johnson 404-591-3105	* Past President of the North Perimeter Chapter