



Chapter News and Events



January 2009

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President's Message

Hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. Now that we're all rested and refreshed, we should be ready to jump into the new year ready to make it a better one than the last. Our meeting this month will be about planning exit strategies for business owners. In these trying times, many people are just trying to figure out how they will stay in business. But for those that are successful, they should be planning for the continuation of their business for when they are ready to retire. This presentation will help those looking for exit strategies, and their advisors to assist them with that planning.

At this month's meeting, we will be announcing the Nominating Committee's slate of officers and board members to be voted on at the February 17 meeting. The Nominating Committee's slate is as follows: President - Larry Cohen; Vice President - Jennifer Birtz; Secretary - Lee Height; Treasurer - Bob Johnson; Chapter Representative to Council - Ellen Sweatt; Members of the Chapter Board of Directors (term expiring 5/31/2012) Marian Macleod-Elliott, Yujia Chen and Paula Sands.

For anyone who would like to run for an office or for the chapter board of directors, who was not selected by the Nominating Committee can still do so. The procedure, as outlined in our bylaws, is as follows: "Any twenty-five Fellow members of the chapter may nominate candidates within the qualifying provisions of Articles III and IV for all offices and council positions of the chapter by filing with the secretary a notice in writing at least 10 days before the date of the election. The written consent of the persons so nominated must accompany the notice when filed with the secretary."

I want to thank Jennifer Birtz for filling in for me at the last meeting while I was out of town.

Congratulations to Jennifer Birtz on winning last month's drawing.

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.

GSCPA Resources

[Career Center](#)

[Classified Ads](#)

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[GSCPA Training Center
Information](#)

[GSCPA Staff Directory](#)

Upcoming GSCPA CPE Courses

[01003 - Preparing
Corporate Tax Returns](#)

[01004 - Preparing
Individual Tax Returns](#)

[02001 - FASB Review for
Industry](#)

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.

Meeting Information and 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) of the chapter.

Reservations can be made by [email](#) or on the [North Perimeter Chapter web site](#).

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

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.

Chapter Officers

President: [Larry Cohen](#)
404-256-0056 x 12

Vice President: [Jennifer Birtz](#)
770-353-5093

Secretary: [Howard Drobos](#)
678-366-0392

Treasurer: [Bob Johnson](#)
404-591-3105

Directors

2009
Marian Macleod-Elliott
Dick Negus *
Robert (Lee) Height

2010
Dan Giannini
Ellen Sweatt*
Martha O'Brien*

2011
Brandon Verner*
Jerry Endsley
Phoebe Hiland*
* Denotes Past President of the chapter

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