



MSCPA

MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

VOLUME XLVIII

JULY 2013

2013-2014 MSCPAs OFFICERS



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Jackson
President



KAREN MOODY
Jackson
Vice President/President-Elect



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Magee
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Oxford
Secretary

Newly elected officers for the 2013-2014 MSCPAs fiscal year are: top from left, Beth Burgess, Jackson, President; and Karen Moody, Jackson, Vice President/President-Elect. Bottom from left are Charles Prince, Magee, Treasurer; and Anna Langley, Oxford, Secretary. Officers were elected during the Annual Business Meeting at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort on June 22. Photo coverage of the Business Meeting and convention will be in the August Newsletter.

IN MEMORIAM

HERMAN L. GRAY
Corinth

Died June 14, 2013

MSCPAs President 1976-1977



MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of
GERALD PILTZ
Biloxi

to the

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In Memory of
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to the

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2014 MSCPAs Convention

June 26-29, 2014

Sandestin Golf &
Beach Resort



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The CPA Newsletter is the official publication of the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants. The Newsletter invites articles of interest to the profession and gives credit to the author; however, it reserves the right to edit articles for correct spelling, wording and punctuation.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily the official policy of the MSCPA. Advertising is accepted in good faith that the product/services are of value stated.

Welcome **New Members**

New members include: Denise Ann Autin, Peyton Cole Cavin, Mary Maxwell Dennis, Melody DuBus Francez, Derrick Jerome Garner, Adam Everette Haywood, Edward E. Hollowell, Mark Allan Knight, and Amy Lynn McKinney.

Now completing the membership process are:

Gary Andrew Borgognoni was born in Clarksdale and received his BBA in Accounting from Delta State University. He is on the staff of Watts & Associates, P.A. in Clarksdale.

Cheryl Harrington Bowen was born in Houston, Miss., and received a Bachelor of Public Accountancy from Mississippi State University. She is an Accountant with the MUW Foundation in Columbus.

Devon D. Boykin was born in Gulfport and received a Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Taxation from Mississippi State University. He is an Associate with Horne LLP in Biloxi.

Mark A. Brantley received a BS

in Accounting from Jackson State University. He is the VP for Fiscal Services with MINACT in Jackson.

William Gordon Coleman, Jr., was born in West Point and received his Bachelor of Science from Mississippi State University and Doctor of Jurisprudence from the Mississippi College School of Law. He is self-employed as an attorney in Jackson.

Anisa Drane Hardin was born in Houma, Louisiana and received her Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Accountancy degrees from the University of Mississippi. She is a Senior Auditor with Harper, Rains, Knight & Company in Ridgeland.

Nathan Alan Holloway was born in Tupelo and received his Bachelor of Accounting and Master of Taxation from Mississippi State University. He is a Senior with Haddox, Reid, Burkes & Calhoun, PLLC in Jackson.

Chad Miller was born in Jackson and

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NOTICE OF POSITION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANCY

The Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy is the oversight agency responsible for regulating the practice of public accountancy in the State of Mississippi. The Executive Director reports to and works with the Board. A full job description of the position may be found at <http://www.mspb.ms.gov>.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide leadership, planning and coordination to implement the Board's programs and policies.
- Manage the Board's business affairs, finances, and personnel.
- Develop and maintain proper communications with Board members and licensees
- Work with the Legislature, executive and legislative budget offices, personnel board and other governmental agencies on budgetary and other compliance matters.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

- Licensed Certified Public Accountant in good standing with the licensing jurisdiction.
- Managerial experience in public accounting, industry government or education.
- Demonstrated ability in written and oral communications and interpersonal relations.

Compensation will be commensurate with candidate's qualifications. All applications must be submitted through the Mississippi Personnel Board Website <http://www.mspb.ms.gov>.

Questions may be addressed to Mr. Jim E. Burkes, jburkes@hrbccpa.com, 601-326-7118.



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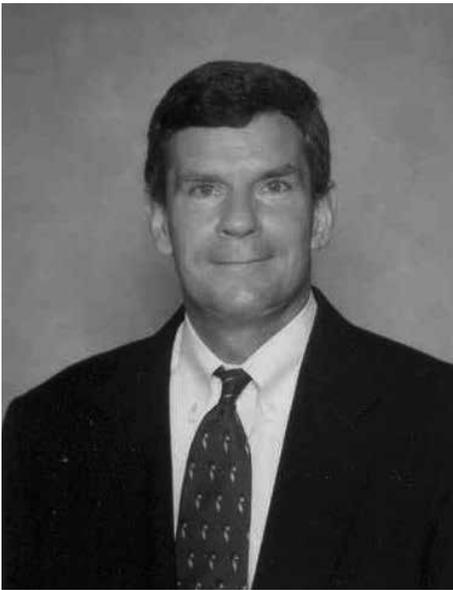
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Bob Cunningham of Jackson was elected to a three-year term as an at-large member of the Board of Governors during the Annual Business Meeting June 22 in Destin. Bob served as MSCPA President in 2009-2010.

Tech Bit 111: **We Know Who You Are**

There has been a lot of news about the NSA monitoring of cell phone and Internet usage.

It's not really that new. I remember interviewing for a job in 1979, the project was basically the same, take intercepted communications from around the world, pass them through a supercomputer looking for patterns of interest to whomever had contracted with the company that was interviewing me.

Back in 2010 I heard Jeff Jonas at Defrag talk about cell phone companies selling the very data the NSA is supposed to have "stolen" and how marketers were using that data to decide where to put the next department store. He also mentioned how easy it would be to take that anonymous data and figure out which identifier belonged to you. It was the first time I had heard about big data, he said his research often included databases with 100 Billion records. One scientific article I read on the subject reports AT&T has a database of 1.9 Trillion phone calls going back decades.

I am having a hard time believing that so many major on-line services have been giving the NSA direct access to their systems, although that same information

could easily be "sniffed" just watching Internet traffic, which many hackers can and often do, perhaps not at the massive scale I would expect the NSA to be doing. That's why you are told to be very careful to only use HTTPS connections at coffee shops to log into sites since there is a free add-on for Firefox that will let anyone else on that wireless network see your Internet traffic, including any passwords.

Of course, last year on 60 Minutes there

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State of Mississippi
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
 STACEY E. PICKERING
 AUDITOR

NOTICE

TO: CPA FIRMS INTERESTED IN PERFORMING FINANCIAL & COMPLIANCE AUDITS
 OF COUNTIES IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
 FROM: J. SCOTT SPEIGHTS, CPA, CIA, CGAP, MBA - DIRECTOR, COUNTY AUDIT SECTION
 DATE: JULY 8, 2013
 SUBJECT: COUNTY AUDITS TO BE CONTRACTED FOR FISCAL YEARS 2013 & 2014

The following counties will have a two-year contracted financial & compliance audit covering the 2013 and 2014 fiscal years:

Adams	Alcorn	Claiborne	Clay	DeSoto
Grenada	Harrison	Hinds	Humphreys	Jackson
Lafayette	Lee	Leflore	Lincoln	Marshall
Noxubee	Pike	Sunflower	Tunica	Washington
Wilkinson	Yalobusha			

If there is a single audit, the final audit report on your letterhead and copies will be due June 30, 2014 for the first year with a similar timetable for the second year. The draft report and working papers, if requested, are due for review by the Office of the State Auditor 60 days before the June 30 dates. If there is no Single Audit, the due date for the final audit report is extended until August 31 with the draft report and completed working papers due June 30. This review should not be considered as a quality control review, which is the responsibility of your audit firm. Audit reports should be reviewed by your firm prior to submission to the Office of the State Auditor as our review will be limited.

Development of the financial and federal (Single Audit) plans/programs will be the responsibility of the CPA auditor performing the audit. The Office of the State Auditor will provide a state legal compliance audit program which will be provided to aid in completing and reporting on the state legal compliance portion of the audit.

If interested in submitting proposals for any of the contract audits, please contact the chancery clerk or county administrator of the county. There will be an informational meeting at the MSCPA Building on Highland Colony Parkway in Ridgeland, Mississippi on August 23, 2013 starting at 9:00 a.m. for those wishing to propose. Attendance is optional but encouraged for the CPA firm.

NEW MEMBERS

continued from page 2

received his BS in Accounting from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is the CFO with Tri Lakes Medical Center in Batesville.

Benson P. St. Louis received his Bachelor of Professional Accountancy from Mississippi State University. He is General Manager with BAE Systems in Hattiesburg.

Joseph Benjamin Newton III was born in Hattiesburg and received an Associate of Allied Arts from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and a BSBA-Accounting/MIS and MBA from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is an Accountant with Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston.

James Russell Persons II was born in Lucedale and received an Associate

in Arts and a Bachelors in Business Administration – Accounting from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is the President of J. Russell Persons II, CPA, PC in Lucedale.

Brett Antone Soldevila was born in Clarksdale and received Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Accountancy degrees from the University of Mississippi. He is Chief Compliance Officer with Security Holdings, LLC in Oxford.

Randall J. Spivey was born in Memphis and received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi. He is Director of Accounting for Alco Management, Inc. in Memphis.

Jody Derek Thornton was born in Hattiesburg and received his Bachelor of Accountancy from the University of Mississippi. He is a Staff Accountant with Holt & Associates, PLLC in Laurel.



MEMBERS OF THE MSCPA NORTHWEST CHAPTER met in Batesville on Friday, June 28 at the Panola County Country Club for a four hour seminar presented by Dr. Mark Morgan, professor at Mississippi College. Among those in attendance were, from left, Matt Person, Phillip A. Carr, Dr. Mark Morgan, Anna Langley, and Alex Sanders.

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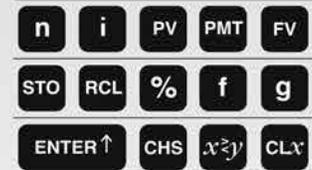
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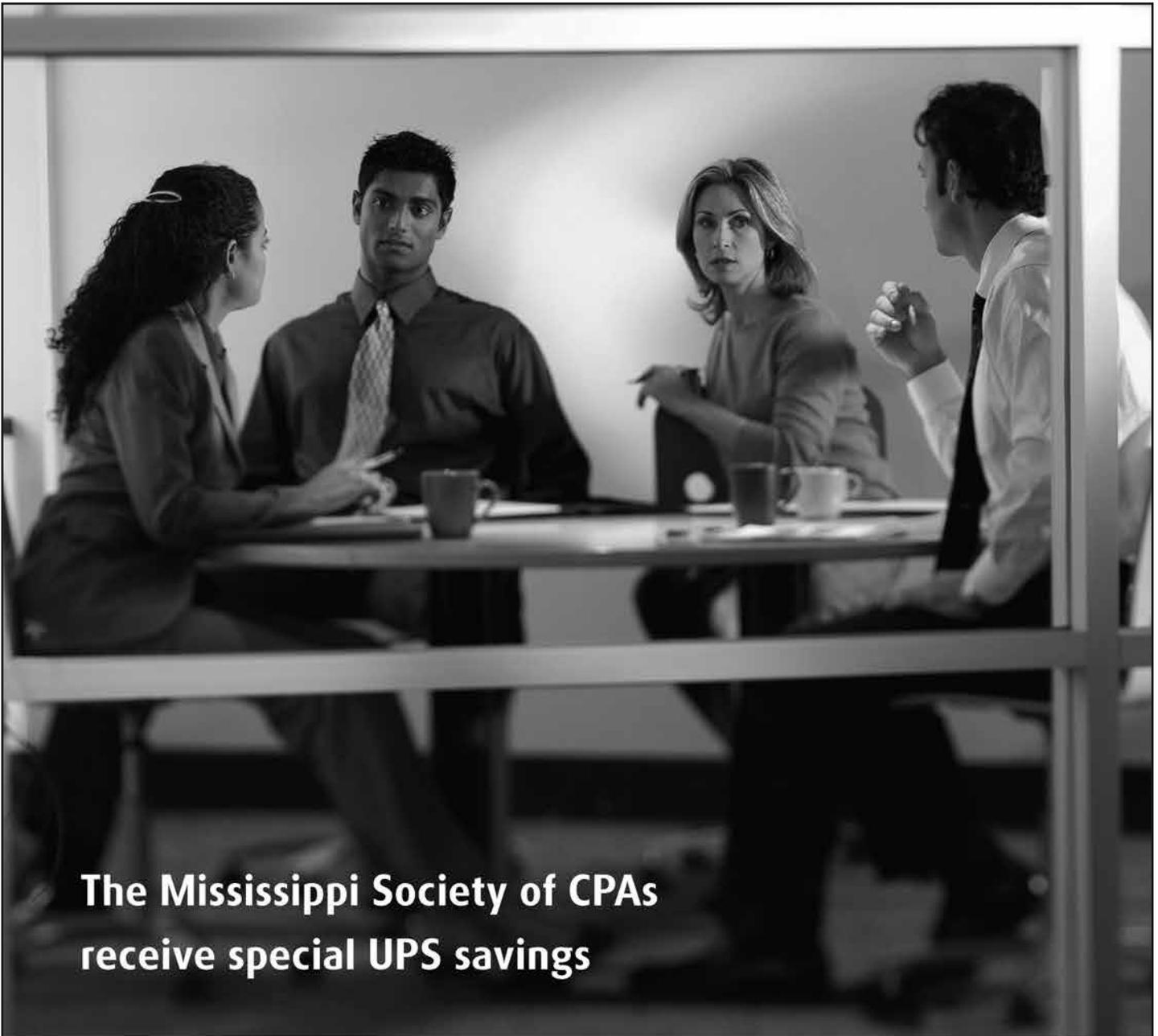
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Northeast Chapter Meets in June at Tupelo Country Club



Members of the Northeast Chapter met Tuesday, June 11 at the Tupelo Country Club for a luncheon meeting and one-hour CPE Presentation by MSCPA President Lee Adams. Chapter President Jonathan Hagood presented a \$12,000 contribution to President Adams to benefit the MSCPA Education Foundation. From left are MSCPA President Adams, Chapter President Hagood, Chapter Vice President Lane Poland, and Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Jon Pernell.

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TECH BIT 111

continued from page 4

was a whole segment on the very large NSA facility in southern Utah designed to store the massive amounts of data being collected. It's hardly a big secret.

Last year at Defrag, Ian Glazer introduced me to the concept of identity entropy and how easy it is to identify someone on the Internet.

The concept is relatively interesting. There are roughly 7 billion people in the world. Since computers work on the binary (base 2) system, that's 33 bits of information (log2 of 7 billion).

If you visit a web site, the web browser sends a user agent string to the web server. They look something like "Mozilla/5.0 (iPad; U; CPU OS 3_2_1 like Mac OS X; en-us) AppleWebKit/531.21.10 (KHTML, like Gecko) Mobile/7B405". It turns out your user agent string has about 11 bits of information, coming from the unique combination of browser, computer, versions, etc. That means there are fewer than 2,000 other people using the Internet with that exact same user agent string. Add in the information on what add-ins you have installed, and you can be identified as one of a handful of people.

There is also your IP address, which many websites use to indicate what country

you are browsing from and adapt their site accordingly. It has been big news that the old 32 bit IP address system had officially run out of numbers late last year. But since IP addresses are not permanently assigned (for the most part), there really isn't 32 bits of identity in them. At the very least, your IP address unambiguously identifies your Internet provider.

If you happen to use a zip code to search for something that's 14 to 22 bits of identity information depending on the population density of that zip code.

Of course your phone reports you uniquely, giving out your exact location, and in some instances, the IMEI of the phone itself. As we shift more and more of our Internet access to mobile devices, the amount of information made available, even "anonymously" increases dramatically.

Even more identifying is how you type at the keyboard. Every person types differently, something that could be measured using JavaScript in your browser. Typing speed, patterns of key strokes, whether you use the left shift or right shift, all can be combined to identify you. There already are commercial products that use typing patterns as part of their security systems for identification.

It doesn't take too many data points to have 40 to 60 bits, or more, of identity information. Even allowing for

overlap, such as your IP address location overlapping the zip code location; it is easy to see that translating that information into a unique identity is relatively straightforward.

The bottom line is you shouldn't ever presume that anything you do on-line, either from a desktop or a cell phone, is anonymous. There's just too much information available.

Ironically in 2011 the show "Person of Interest" premiered based on the premise that machines were already monitoring our every move. I'll leave you with the opening monologue:

"You are being watched. The government has a secret system--a machine that spies on you every hour of every day. I know because...I built it. I designed the machine to detect acts of terror but it sees everything...violent crimes involving ordinary people; people like you, crimes the government considered irrelevant. They wouldn't act so I decided I would, but I needed a partner--someone with the skills to intervene. Hunted by the authorities, we work in secret. You will never find us. But victim or perpetrator, if your number's up, we'll find you."

Gregg Marshall, CPMR, CSP, CMC is a speaker, author and consultant. He can be reached by e-mail at gmarshall@vendor-tech.com, or visit his website at <http://www.vendor-tech.com>.

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

AUGUST 2013

August 5, 2013

Monday

Tupelo

NEW

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Excel Best Practices

Discussion Leader: Robert H. (Bob) Spencer, PhD

Cost: Members: \$270 Non-Members: \$345 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 8 General **VENDOR:** K2 Enterprises

ACRONYM: EBP-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As spreadsheets continue to evolve, so too must your practices for creating, editing, and auditing them. In this program, you will gain an in-depth understanding of the best ways to work with Excel. The topics covered in this seminar include best practices associated with Excel spreadsheets in each of the following areas: creating and editing Excel workbooks, securing Excel workbooks, collaborating with others in Excel, and reporting on data contained in Excel. Today's best practices for Excel differ significantly from those used in the past and you will learn the best ways to work with Excel spreadsheets in this "must see CPE" program. Course materials include relevant examples to enhance your learning experience. Participate in this program to help ensure that you utilize Excel to its fullest potential. This course covers features in Excel found in versions 2007 and higher and is new for 2013. For more details and a complete list of course highlights, please visit www.k2e.com/ebp.

August 6, 2013

Tuesday

Tupelo

NEW

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

Technology Update

Discussion Leader: Robert H. (Bob) Spencer, PhD

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 8:30-12

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 General **VENDOR:** K2 Enterprises

ACRONYM: TUP4-3

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Are you ready to learn about the latest trends in technology? Do you sometimes feel lost in the technology jungle? Would you like clear guidance regarding Windows, Office, the cloud, security, and other technology-related issues? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then make plans now to invest four hours in this fast-paced and highly informative seminar that is sure to ramp up your return on technology investment. The technology tools available to all have never been better, but many are not taking full advantage of these tools. This course helps professionals at all levels understand the major trends in hardware, software, and services and how to utilize these tools to meet organizational objectives both efficiently and effectively. More than just a seminar on the latest computers, you will learn about the full spectrum of practical technology available to you and your team and how to implement these tools for maximum impact. This course is new for 2013! For more details and a complete list of course highlights, please visit www.k2e.com/tup-4.

August 6, 2013

Tuesday

Tupelo

BancorpSouth Conf. Cntr.

PDF Forms - What Accountants Need to Know

Discussion Leader: Robert H. (Bob) Spencer, PhD

Cost: Members: \$140 Non-Members: \$180 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate **CPE Credit:** 4 General **VENDOR:** K2 Enterprises

ACRONYM: PDF4-3

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: You've worked with PDF files for years, but did you know that you can quickly and easily turn routine forms into interactive, fill-in PDF documents? Imagine converting timesheets, expense reports, job applications, time-off requests, and all of your other forms into interactive PDF documents that are automatically distributed. Now, also imagine responses collected and summarized using just a few keystrokes. Additionally, think about extending this functionality to transactional documents such as estimates, invoices, and purchase orders so that these documents can be prepared as interactive PDF forms and then imported into leading accounting applications, including QuickBooks. In this half-day seminar, you will learn about the near limitless possibilities associated with PDF forms. You will learn how to create PDF forms from existing paper forms, existing electronic forms, and even from scratch. You will also learn how to add calculations to your forms and how to automate the process of distributing forms, collecting responses, and summarizing the responses in one file. For more details and a complete list of course highlights, please visit www.k2e.com/pdf-4.

August 15 & 16, 2013 GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CONFERENCE

Thursday-Friday

Jackson

Hilton Jackson

Discussion Leader: PANEL

Cost: Members: \$275 Non-Members: \$375 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Update **CPE Credit:** 16 A&A YB **VENDOR:** n/a **ACRONYM:** GAAC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Please access the MSCPA web site for details and registration information on this conference. www.ms-cpa.org.

CPE

REGISTRATION

Due to space constraints, the previous course descriptions have been condensed. The full descriptions – as provided by the CPE vendors – are available through links on our web site: www.ms-cpa.org under EDUCATION. You may register through the members' portion of the web site or by mailing or faxing the registration portion below with your check or credit card number to: Mississippi Society of CPAs, 306 Southampton Row, Ridgeland, MS 39157. Fax: (601) 856-8255. Please check each course you wish to attend and circle each amount included to ensure we enter your payment correctly.

(<input type="checkbox"/>) DATE		COURSE TITLE	CITY	LOCATION * AICPA	MEM\$	NON-MEM\$	Rec'd Hrs.	Area
(<input type="checkbox"/>) Aug 5	M N	Excel Best Practices	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Conf. Cntr.	270	345	8	General
(<input type="checkbox"/>) Aug 6	Tu N	Technology Update	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Conf. Cntr.	140	180	4	General
(<input type="checkbox"/>) Aug 6	Tu	PDF Forms	Tupelo	BancorpSo. Conf. Cntr.	140	180	4	General
(<input type="checkbox"/>) Aug 15-16	Th-F	Governmental Accounting & Auditing Conference	Jackson	Hilton Jackson	275	375	16	A&A;YB

The member rate for CPE programs is available to all members of the MSCPA. **Non-certified staff may also claim the member rate.**

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 at www.ms-cpa.org

CLASSIFIEDS

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Excellent opportunity for a full-time CPA in Ocean Springs, MS. The ideal candidate should have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in accounting, CPA license, and 5+ years of recent public accounting experience with emphasis in Corporate and Individual Tax Preparation. The candidate should be organized, efficient and dependable. They should also have a working knowledge of financial statement prep, payroll processing, payroll taxes, sales taxes and various accounting software programs including Quick Books. Knowledge of Ultratx and/or Accounting CS is a plus. Strong research and analytical skills are desired. We offer a competitive salary, full benefits, and a strong opportunity for growth and advancement with partner potential. To learn more about our firm, please visit our website at www.hookerwalsh.com. Please submit resume to sfountain@mrgllc.net or mail to 22 Doctors Drive, Suite C, Ocean Springs, MS 39564.

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Carr, Riggs & Ingram, LLC is seeking a tax staff accountant with a minimum of five (3) years of experience. CRI tax accountants are directly responsible for various client accounts which are assigned to them. Under the direction of a supervisor or senior, a tax

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PILTZ, WILLIAMS, LAROSA & COMPANY, CPA - Gulf Coast firm seeking experienced professionals (3-5 years) with CPA or aspiring that enjoy working in both audit and tax. We are members of CP America International and our office is conveniently located near I-10. We have been in business for almost 75 years and offer competitive compensation packages. Contact Yvonne Gajewski (work@pwlcpa.com) or mail resume in confidence to PO Box 231 Biloxi, MS 39533. Visit our website at www.pwlcpa.com for more information.

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WM. F. HORNE & CO., PLLC, CPA'S and Business Advisors seek a full-time Tax Manager or Senior Tax Manager for their Hattiesburg and Laurel, Mississippi offices. A minimum of 5 1/2 years experience and CPA license is required. Benefits include 401 K and profit sharing, life, health, disability insurance, as well as a liberal paid time off policy and enhanced opportunity for advancement. To apply, email info@wfhorne-co.com or fax resumes to 601-649-5233.

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