

## **Roy Ward • Public Service Award Winner**

R. Roy Ward has been selected as the 2008 winner of the MSCPA Public Service Award. He will be recognized and honored during the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, June 28 at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort.

Roy is Chairman Emeritus of Horne LLP. He joined the firm in 1966, became a partner in 1971 and was President from 1977 to 2000 and CEO from 2000 through 2002. For over 30 years he has been actively involved in numerous civic, community and professional organizations serving in various capacities from contributing member to president.

Active in First Baptist Church of Jackson where he has been a member since 1989, he is an active Deacon and has served as a member of the Vision 2000 Committee, Personnel Committee, Vision for Life Steering Committee, Deacon Nominating Committee, Building Committee, Pastor Search Committee, a Delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention and was Co-Teacher with wife, Mary Evelyn, of a Young Married Adults Sunday School Class. Roy has served as Chairman of the Finance Committee, the Special Projects Committee, and in 2001-2002 was Chairman of the Deacon Body. He is currently Chairman of the Audit Committee and has served on the Credentialing Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A member of the Rotary Club of Jackson since 1991, Roy attained a perfect attendance for 15 years, was a member of the Board of Directors and Classification Committee, a Delegate to District Conference Meetings, Program Committee Chairman, Vice President and President in 2000-2001. He and his wife are Paul Harris Fellows.

Roy served as Chairman of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra in 1996-97. He also served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, is a past Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, Personal Contributor Chairman of the MSO 60th Anniversary Committee, and attended the American Symphony Orchestra League Conventions in Portland and Cincinnati.

He is Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Mississippi College and has served as Chairman of the Audit Committee and is a



member of the Investment/Finance Committee and Development committee. Roy and Mary Evelyn were presented the 2004 People of Vision Award and had previously served as emcees for that annual event.

Roy has served Junior Achievement of Mississippi as Chairman, Chairman of the Business Hall of Fame and Emcee of the Annual Hall of Fame Banquet. He has served as Treasurer, a member of the Finance Committee and on the Board of Directors. In 2006, he was a laureate in the Mississippi Business Hall of Fame.

He is Chairman-elect of the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi, past Chairman of the University Club, on the MEC Board of Directors and Treasurer of the MEC. He has served as a Unit Chairman of United Way, on the Andrew Jackson Council of Boy Scouts of America Board of Directors, Honorary chairman of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, as a member of Board of Directors of IA International, on the Board of Directors of 100 Club of Jackson, and received the Goodwill Industries Volunteer of the Year Award in 2000.

Roy served 3 years on the Federal Reserve Advisory Council in Atlanta representing Mississippi's small businesses.

A graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, Roy served on the Jerold J. Morgan Distinguished Professor of Accounting Selection Committee and was named Outstanding Alumnus of the Beta Alpha Psi, Zeta Mu Chapter. The Grand Hall in the College of Business building was named in honor of Roy and Mary Evelyn through donations by Horne LLP employees and friends.

Roy has served the MSCPA as Treasurer, Chairman of the Health Care Services Committee, a Board Member and was President in 1999-2000.

Members of the Public Service Award Committee for 2008 included Bryan Cherry, Jackson; Dr. Clyde Herring, Mississippi State; Jerry Levens, Gulfport; and Marsha Dieckman, Jackson. The MSCPA has been honoring a member for outstanding public service since 1983.

*In Memoriam*  
**John M. Marchbanks**  
Natchez  
Died May 6, 2008



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## **2008 Annual Convention June 26-29**

MSCPA's 2008 Annual Convention and Business Meeting is June 26-29, 2008 at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Destin, Florida. This marks the 23rd consecutive convention at the Sandestin Resort.

At press time for this Newsletter 168 members and 75 spouses had registered. Opening speaker at 9 a.m. on Friday of the meeting is Ernest Almonte, Vice Chairman of the AICPA. Almonte is the Auditor General for the State of Rhode Island. Following his update on professional issues, Tom Hoey discusses the FASB Codification Project. The Annual Business Meeting starts at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Colin Blalock, CPA, completes the Saturday morning session with a presentation on "Body Language – The Secret Language of Success."

Complete information on the meeting is carried on the Society's website at [www.ms-cpa.org](http://www.ms-cpa.org).

## **Dues Notices In the Mail This Month**

Dues notices for fiscal year 2008-2009 go in the mail in late June to the 2550 members of the Society. The dues rates include no increase over the year just ending. Dues are payable upon receipt of the statement and members may choose to pay by credit card. A copy of the 2008-2009 dues statement will also be posted to the Society's website ([www.ms-cpa.org](http://www.ms-cpa.org)) so members may download a copy.



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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 MSCPA members include: J. T. Blalock, Len H. Blanton, Whitney Laine Craig, Avery Nichols Edmonson, Matthew Martin Elkins, Patty Hays, Robert Allen Hearn, and Spencer Lawrence Holder.

**Laura Elizabeth Brame** was born in Mississippi and received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Mississippi. She is an Accountant with Holt & Associates, PLLC in Laurel.

**Kimberly H. Brandon** was born in Roanoke Rapids, N.C., and attended University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and UCT/Langston University. She is Finance Manager of Hattiesburg Paper Company in Hattiesburg.

**Marshall Haynes Conico** was born in Cleveland, Miss., and received his BBA from Delta State University. He is a Senior Accountant with Baird and Stallings, CPAs, P.A. in Indianola.

**Traci Osborne Forrest** was born in Starkville and received her Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Taxation from Mississippi State University. She is a Staff Accountant with Haddox Reid Burkes & Calhoun in Jackson.

**Stephanie Renee Guthrie** was born in

Laurel and received an Associate degree from Jones County Junior College, and a Bachelor of Accountancy, a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Master of Taxation from Mississippi State University. She is an Accountant with BKD, LLP in Ridgeland.

**Constance Newton Kirk** was born in Memphis and received her accounting degree from Mississippi State University. She is a Senior Credit Underwriter for Regions Bank in Grenada.

**Joseph R. Lalonde, II** was born in New Orleans and received his BS in accounting from Louisiana State University. He is Senior Director of Finance for Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc., in Westlake, Louisiana.

**Carol Anne Marion** was born in Jackson and received her Bachelor of Accountancy from the University of Mississippi and Master of Science in Accountancy from the College of Charleston, S.C. She is Assistant to the Dean for Development at the University of Mississippi in Oxford.

**Virginia Morris Mooney** was born in Ft. Lauderdale and received her BS in Business Administration from Mississippi College. She is a Staff Accountant with GranthamPoole in Jackson.

Continued on page 5



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The **Mississippi Society of CPA's** is partnering with CCH for **more** Member Benefits for you! We will still offer the Master Tax Guides through our resale program.

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## ***President Visits Southwest Chapter In Natchez***

President Linda Keng visited with members of the Southwest Chapter in Natchez on May 29 as Chapter members gathered at the historic antebellum mansion Rosalie. President Keng provided an update on MSCPA activities, reviewed business from the May AICPA Spring Council meeting and a preview of the MSCPA Annual Convention in late June. From left are Sim Mosby, currently serving as Statewide Secretary of the MSCPA; Chapter President Deanne Tanksley; President Keng; and Chapter Vice President Andy Montgomery.



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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

**Mark Ira Morgan** was born in Houston, Texas and received his MBA from Mississippi College. He is an Instructor at Mississippi College.

**Sandi A. Munden** was born in Hagerstown, Maryland and received a BS in Accounting from Pennsylvania State University. She is CFO of Mississippi Primary Health Care Association in Jackson.

**Joseph M. Richardson** was born in Vicksburg and received his BSBA and MBA from Mississippi College. He is Assistant Controller for Ergon, Inc. in Jackson.

**Edward T. Simmons** was born in Jackson and received a BS in Petroleum Engineering from Mississippi State University and an MBA from the University of Alabama. He is Vice President of Operations for Stanford Group Company in Jackson.

**Donald Phillip Spencer** was born in Grenada and received his Bachelor in accounting and MBA from Mississippi State University. He is Financial Auditor with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Miss. in Flowood.

**Na'Son Scheppel White** was born in St. Louis, Missouri and received a Bachelor of

Science in Accounting from Tougaloo College. She is Internal Auditor for the Canton Public Schools in Canton.

**Jennifer Leigh Wilson** was born in Biloxi and is applying as an Associate

Member. She received her BSBA and MBA from the University of Southern Mississippi at Long Beach and is the Assistant Hotel Controller for the Beau Rivage in Biloxi.

## AICPA ADOPTS NEW ETHICS STANDARD ON USE OF INDEMNIFICATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY CLAUSES

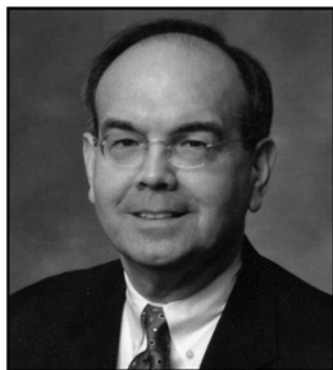
The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants adopted a new standard tightening ethics requirements for its members. Failure to comply with a regulator's requirements on the use of indemnification and limitation of liability provisions will be considered an act discreditable to the profession.

Regulators like the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, state insurance commissions and federal banking agencies presently prohibit organizations under their jurisdiction from entering into certain types of indemnification and limitation of liability provisions in agreements for the performance of audit or other attest services. A new interpretation by the Professional Ethics Executive Committee of the AICPA prohibits members from using their provisions when contracting for audit and other attest services when their employer or client is subject to the requirements of one of these regulators.

"The purpose of this standard is to remind practitioners of their responsibility to comply with regulators," said Susan Coffey, AICPA vice president – member quality and state regulation. "Current AICPA standards allow certain indemnification and limitation of liability provisions to be included in agreements for audit and attest services. However, in cases where a regulator's requirements are more restrictive than AICPA standards, our members must comply with the more restrictive standard."

The PEEC's standard, effective July 31, may be found at [http://www.aicpa.org/download/ethics/EDITED\\_Adopted\\_501\\_8\\_final.pdf](http://www.aicpa.org/download/ethics/EDITED_Adopted_501_8_final.pdf).

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## 2008-2009 President Jan Lewis, Jackson MEET THE CANDIDATES

### VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT



**BOB CUNNINGHAM, JACKSON.** Bob Cunningham is a partner with Grantham, Poole, Randall, Reitano, Arrington & Cunningham, PLLC. His responsibilities include auditing, corporate and individual tax planning and compliance, business valuations and litigation support. He is active in the MSCPA having previously served as Secretary and represented the Central Chapter on the MSCPA Board of Governors. He was previously chairman of the Management of an

Accounting Practice Committee, currently serves on the PEER Review Committee and is a former member of several other MSCPA committees. Mr. Cunningham is a 1978 graduate of the University of Mississippi and previously served on its Accountancy Alumni Board. He is also a Past President of the Jackson Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants and of the Jackson Club. Bob and his wife Anne have three children. They are members of First Presbyterian Church in Jackson where he has served as Chairman and Treasurer of the Diaconate and as a Sunday school teacher.



**MARK WILDER, OXFORD.** Dr. Mark Wilder is Interim Dean and KPMG Professor in the Patterson School of Accountancy at The University of Mississippi. His educational background includes a bachelor's degree from The University of Alabama, an MBA from the University of South Alabama, and a PhD (in Accounting) from Florida State University. Mark has been on the faculty at Ole Miss since 1993. He has been active in the Mississippi Society of CPAs for the past decade, previously

serving as president of the Northeast Chapter, as state-wide Treasurer, an appointment on the Board of Governors, and as chair of the Awards, Education, and Scholarships Committee. Mark has recently received several honors and awards. He has received the top two campus-wide faculty awards at Ole Miss including the Faculty Achievement Award in 2004 and The Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher Award in 2005. In 2006, Mark was the University of Mississippi HEADWAE Faculty Honoree, and was also honored as the MSCPA Outstanding Educator for 2006. He is also a two-time winner of both of the Patterson School's top faculty awards (the Outstanding Teacher Award and the Outstanding Researcher Award). Mark was inducted into the Alabama Tennis Hall of Fame in 2004.

### TREASURER



**LISA SANDIFER, GREENVILLE.** Lisa Sandifer is the auditing and accounting partner of Sayle, Sandifer & Associates, LLP. She is also a full time instructor of accountancy at Delta State University. She holds an M.B.A. from Ole Miss and a B.S. from University of Houston – Clear Lake. Lisa is a past president of the Delta Chapter and has served as a member of the MSCPA Board of Governors. She is currently serving as treasurer for the Delta Chapter. Lisa continues

to serve on the Awards, Education and Scholarships committee of the MSCPA. She is on the board of directors of the Delta Center Stage of Greenville, and is a member of First Baptist where she teaches Sunday school.



**STACY THOMAS, JACKSON.** Stacy Thomas is a shareholder with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC in Jackson. He primarily practices in the areas of federal and state taxation, tax controversy and estate planning. Stacy is a graduate of Mississippi State University and serves on the Advisory Council for the Adkerson School of Accountancy at MSU. He received his law degree from Vanderbilt University. After

clerking two years with the Mississippi Supreme Court, Stacy continued his education at New York University where he received a Master of Laws in Taxation. He is a member of MSCPA Taxation Committee and recently represented the Committee at a national IRS conference in Washington, DC. Stacy has also held numerous offices in the Central Chapter (most recently president) and served as chairman of the Taxation Section of the Mississippi Bar Association.

### SECRETARY



**JACK OPIE, PASCAGOULA.** Jack Oppie is Managing Partner of Wolfe McDuff & Oppie, CPAs in Pascagoula and has twenty years of accounting and auditing experience, including five years of governmental auditing experience with the U.S. Department of Defense. He is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and a 1989 recipient of the Silas M. Simmons Bronze Medal. Most of Jack's experience has been in the areas of tax and audit of financial services firms,

manufacturing, construction, and retail, as well as audits of



**BILL TAYLOR, WATER VALLEY.** Bill Taylor is President of Renasant Bank in Water Valley, Mississippi and an Employee Benefit Advisor for Renasant Financial Services. Bill graduated from the University of Mississippi with a BBA in Banking and Finance and a Master of Accountancy in Taxation. He began his career in the Jackson office of KPMG Peat Marwick and has worked with several firms in the state as an employee benefit consultant while managing his own firm, Benefit Solutions, Ltd.

For the last five years he has served as Chairman of MSCPA's

Continued on page 7

Continued on page 7

**JACK OPPIE** continued from page 6

governmental units. Jack is very active in the profession. He has served two terms on the MSCPA Board of Governors, and has served on several MSCPA committees. Jack is also active with the AICPA Small Firm Network. Jack is a member and a past-president of the Coast Chapter of the MSCPA. Jack is very involved in his community. He is a member and past president of the Pascagoula Rotary Club, a past treasurer of the Southeast Mississippi Chapter of the American Red Cross. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and currently serves on the Board of Directors of Jackson County Civic Action Committee, Inc.

**BILL TAYLOR** continued from page 6

Continuing Education Committee and led many courses throughout the state. Bill has conducted seminars for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries, over 40 state CPA and Bar associations and other organizations. Bill is the author of Taxation of Employee Benefits Volume I and Volume II, and his articles have appeared in numerous publications.

**AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBER**

**BILLY GILLON, NATCHEZ.** A native of Leflore County, Billy moved to Natchez on completion of his studies at Mississippi State University in 1963 and entered public accounting the following year. He currently serves as manager of The Gillon Group, PLLC. He has continuously served the MSCPA in various capacities since 1970 including chairing the Ethics Committee, the Accounting and Auditing Committee, the Governmental Accounting & Auditing

Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee and serving as President in 2002. He has been active in the Natchez community having served as President of the Natchez Rotary Club, President of the Natchez Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees, and Senior Warden at Trinity Episcopal Church. He also served his alma mater as President of the Mississippi State University Alumni Association in 1992. He and his wife Elizabeth have two children and four grandchildren.



**DONNA INGRAM, VICKSBURG.** Donna Ingram is President of Donna M. Ingram, CPA, PC in Vicksburg, MS. She previously was a partner at May & Company, LLP for 18 years. In addition to being a CPA, Donna is a Certified Fraud Examiner and Certified Forensic Accountant. Donna is a graduate of Michigan State University. She was a member of the Mississippi Society of CPAs Peer Review Committee for over a decade, serving one term

as Chair. She also served as chair of the MSCPA's Accounting and Auditing Committee. Donna served on the AICPA's Peer Review Board from 2003 to 2005. Donna is involved in numerous civic and charitable organizations and is a presenter of accounting, auditing and fraud related courses around the country. Donna and her husband Paul have two teenage boys.

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INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**

To: Members, Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants

In accordance with the Bylaws, the members are hereby notified of the annual meeting of the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants to be held at the Sandestin Resort, Destin, Florida, on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 26-29, 2008.

The Annual Business Meeting will convene on Saturday, June 28, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. The election of officers, reports from officers, and other business will be conducted at this time. Candidates for office with biographical data are included in this Newsletter.

A special program has been designed to interest all members, their spouses, children and guests.

Linda Keng  
President



# AICPA COUNCIL APPROVES CREATION OF FORENSIC CREDENTIAL

## *New Designation to Be Launched in the Fall*

The governing Council of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants authorized the creation of a new CPA specialty credential in forensic accounting during Spring Council meeting in May.

The credential, Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF), will combine specialized forensic accounting expertise with the core knowledge and skills that make CPAs among the most trusted business advisors, according to Robert Harris, chair of the National Accreditation Commission.

"We anticipate the Certified in Financial Forensics credential will further strengthen the CPA's role in a rapidly growing service area," Harris said.

The CFF will encompass fundamental

and specialized forensic accounting skills that CPA practitioners apply in a variety of service areas, including:

- bankruptcy and insolvency
- computer forensics
- economic damages
- family law
- fraud investigations
- litigation support
- stakeholder disputes
- valuations

The credential will launch in early Fall. In order to qualify, a CPA must be an AICPA member in good standing, have least five years' experience in practicing accounting, and meet minimum requirements in relevant business experience and continuing professional education.

The CFF evolves out of the CPA's role as the premier provider of forensic accounting services. According to AICPA research, CPAs represented 94 percent of forensic experts hired over the past two years.

"We surveyed users of forensic accounting services to determine the desirability of a credential tied specifically to the CPA," Harris said. "The results showed the market would welcome this credential."

During November and December 2007, the Institute polled 150 law firms, one of the primary purchasers of forensic accounting

services. Three quarters of respondents said they expect a forensic accounting expert to have a specialized credential. Over half, 59 percent, prefer a CPA and said they would value the combination of the CPA license and the AICPA's credential over other combinations.

In addition, the Institute surveyed 2,627 AICPA members in August 2007. Sixty percent said the new credential would make CPAs more competitive in the forensic accounting service arena.

The CFF will be the fourth of the Institute's specialty credentials. The others are Personal Financial Specialist (CPA/PFS), Accredited in Business Valuation (CPA/ABV) and Certified Information Technology Professional (CPA/CITP).

## **Introducing the New & Improved 2008 PCPS/TSCPA National MAP Survey!**

Ever wondered how your firm stacks up against other firms? Find out where your firm stands by taking part in the CPA profession's premier benchmarking study - the PCPS/TSCPA National MAP Survey.

The survey covers key practice management issues that will allow your firm to compare its management policies and financial results to other firms, and gain strategic guidance to build a more profitable and rewarding practice. Additionally, survey results will help accounting firms make core business decisions and also benchmark themselves against other firms in their region according to firms similar in size and to national averages.

For 2008, we have streamlined the survey process and enhanced overall value with:

- A shorter, more focused survey - 40% fewer questions;
- Results that are more targeted and "user-friendly";
- FREE summary results report for ALL participants;
- Results produced months earlier than in previous years.

The summary report will contain an extract of key performance metrics from the survey - such as billing rates, salaries, hours charged/compensated, services as a percentage of fees, major income statement statistics and more. The comprehensive report, available for purchase and free to PCPS members, will include every performance metric gathered by the survey crossed against many relevant comparison groups. It will also contain additional ratios and analyses of statistics.

The survey opened May 1 and closes on July 11, 2008. You'll want to be certain that you do not miss this golden opportunity that is more valuable than you can imagine... just ask one of the thousands of firms that have participated in the past. For more information, please visit <http://map.pcps.org>.

## **Do we have your email address?**

Check the online member directory on the Society's website ([www.ms-cpa.org](http://www.ms-cpa.org)) to see if your current email address is listed with your name and mailing address.

If not, send an email to [mail@ms-cpa.org](mailto:mail@ms-cpa.org) and we'll update the record.

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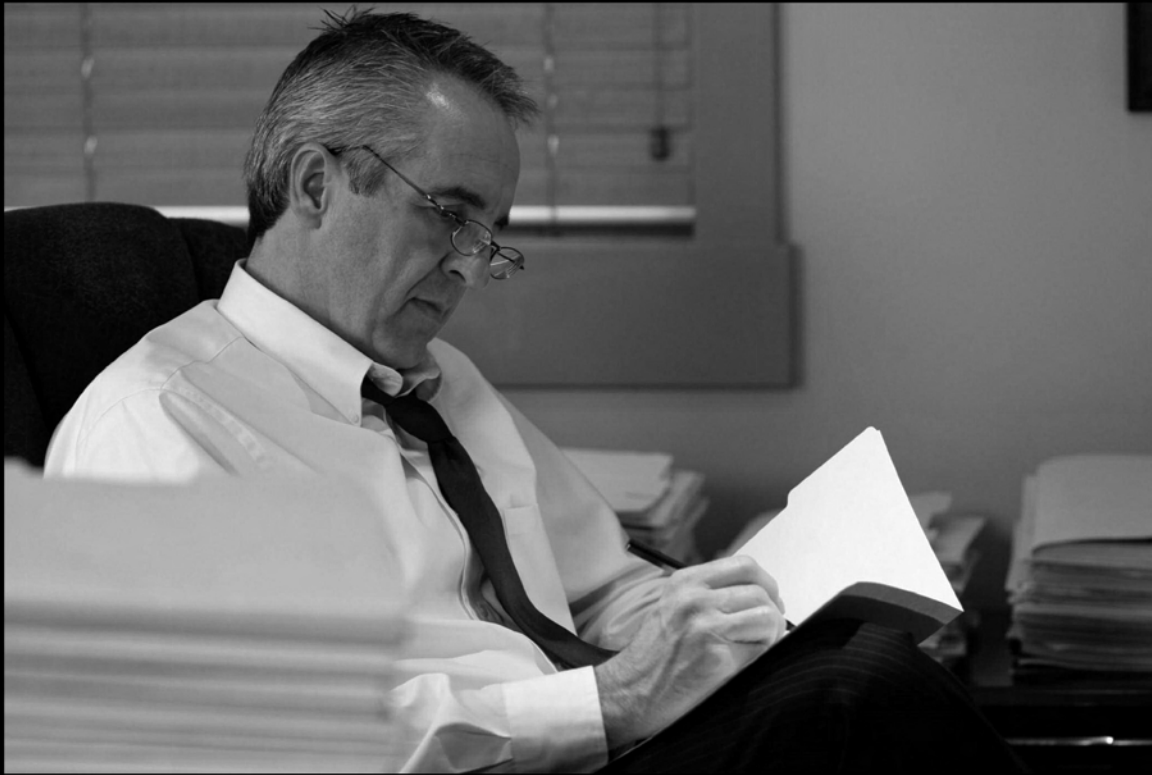
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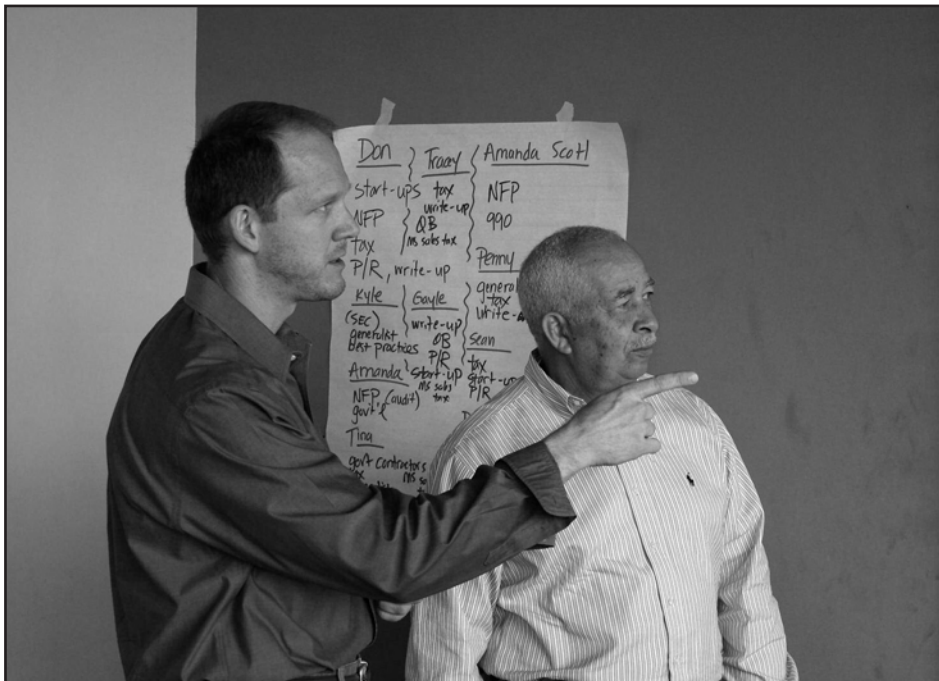
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David Ellis

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## Volunteers Contribute Time, Expertise to Gulf Coast Service Camp



CPAs from Mississippi, Alabama, Massachusetts and North Carolina volunteered their time and expertise in late May as part of the Young CPA Gulf Coast Service Camp. In addition to working on rebuilding projects, CPAs provided one-on-one counseling/coaching with local business people as well as group presentations. In top left photo are Tom Pender of the North Carolina Association of CPAs who coordinated the project along with Oliver Bell, Sr., of Operation Hope, a sponsoring organization. The Mississippi Development Authority was also a sponsor of this project and provided staff members and expertise throughout the week. The MDA also made available the facilities of the WIN Job Center in Gulfport as the home base for the project. More than 20 CPA volunteers plus staff from sponsoring organizations worked on the project and included Penny Watson, left, of Haddox, Reid, Burkes & Calhoun in Jackson, and Ben Young, below, of Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan, Levens & Favre in Gulfport. Tina Perkins of Biloxi also served as a volunteer for the week.



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