Volunteer for MSCPA **Committee Service**

MSCPA Committees meet Friday, May 16 for Committee Day at the MSCPA Building and members are encouraged to volunteer now for committee service.

The process is very easy:

Current committee rosters are carried on the Society's website at www.ms-cpa.org.
Click on The Association tab at the top left and then follow the link to Committee Rosters.
Review the committee titles and send an email to mail@ms-cpa.org listing up to three committee preferences.

President-Elect Karen Moody will make appointments this Spring and a confirmation will be sent to the committee member with details on your committee meeting on May 16. Continuing committee members will receive a notice of details on their committee meeting schedule.

Committees will meet during morning (9-11 a.m.) or afternoon (1-3 p.m.) sessions May 16.

Committees scheduled to meet in the morning starting at 9 o'clock include Accounting & Auditing, Governmental Accounting & Auditing, Health Care Services, Industry, Legislation, Non-Profits and the Young CPAs Liaison.

LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON: New this year is a leadership luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the MSCPA Building for incoming Committee Chairman, new Millennial Committee Chairmen, candidates for office this year and MSCPA officers. Guest speaker will be State Auditor Stacey Pickering.

The afternoon committee schedule starts at 1 p.m. and includes Awards, Education & Scholarships, Business Valuation, Continuing Professional Education, Firm Administration & Development, Insurance Trust, Long Range Planning, and Taxation.

Committees will plan their program of work for the new year. Minutes will be reviewed by the Board of Governors at the July meeting.

2014 MSCPA

Convention

June 26-29, 2014 Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort



2015 MSCPA Convention

June 25-28, 2015 Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort



President-Elect Karen Moody Names Chairmen for 2014-2015 Committees

President-Elect Karen Moody has named Committee Chairmen to serve in the 2014-2015 fiscal year. For all committees representatives of the Millennial Generation have been named as Millennial Chairs.

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Accounting & Auditing
Advisory to State Board
Awards, Education & Scholarships
Business Valuation & Litigation Support Ed Simmons, Ridgeland Millennial Chairman: Robert King, Jr., Hattiesburg
Continuing Professional EducationTela Hemenway, Pascagoula Millennial Chairman: Yale Murphy, Ridgeland
Firm Administration & Development
Governmental Accounting & AuditingWil Crawford, Jackson Millennial Chairman: Scott Adams, Natchez
Health Care Services
Industry
Insurance Trust
Legislation
Long Range PlanningLee Adams, Jackson Millennial Chairman: Thomas Walker, Forest
Non-ProfitsBrent Wilson, Jackson Millennial Chairman: Carley Moore, Jackson
Peer Review
Professional Conduct
Taxation
Young CPAs Liaison
TASK FORCE: State Board/Legislative Task ForceStacy Thomas, Jackson Members:Tommy Butler, Ridgeland, Bob Cunningham, Ridgeland,

Ed Jones, Pascagoula



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Certified Public Accountants

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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: Molly Elizabeth Bass, Jordan Ryan Church, Lori Knight Crocker, Laura Ashley D'Antoni, Meredith Coleman Fletcher, Bobby Joe Huffstatler, Jr., Michael Edward Ketchum, Sarah Frances Lutz, Piyush Mittal, James H. Quinn, Kathryn Schwartz Taylor, Marcia Lynne Watson, Florence Bell Williams, Henry Steven McDevitt, and John Harper Triplett.

Now completing the membership process are:

David Whitney Branch was born in Hattiesburg and received a B.B.A. in Managerial Finance and a Bachelor of Accountancy from the University of Mississippi. He is a Staff Accountant with Nicholson & Company, PLLC in Gulfport.

Honor an **Outstanding MSCPA Member**For **Public Service**

The membership is invited to nominate a member for consideration as the 2014 Public Service Award winner.

The winner will be recognized during the Annual Business Meeting Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort.

Qualifying activities for the award include service clubs, church work, children's programs, economic development and public service. Submit a nominee's name to: Public Service Award Chairman, c/o MSCPA, 306 Southampton Row, Ridgeland, MS 39157 for forwarding to the committee.

Our Members In The News

KING SELECTED TO MBJ 2014 TOP 40 UNDER 40 BUSINESS LEADERS

Rob King, CPA/ABV, CVA, CFE has been selected as one of the Mississippi Business Journal's Top 40 Under 40 Business Leaders for 2014. Rob is a shareholder with The Koerber Company, PA, a Hattiesburg CPA firm that provides business valuation and litigation services to attorneys, CPAs, and their clients.

SCHMITTLING OBTAINS CMEA CERTIFICATION

Brian D. Schmittling, CPA/ABV/CFF, CVA, CMEA has obtained the Certified Machinery & Equipment Appraiser certification from the National Equipment & Business Brokers Institute. Schmittling is a shareholder with The Koerber Company, PA in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. **Denise Howell** was born in Houston, Texas and received Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Accountancy degrees from Auburn University. She is President of Howell CPA, PA in Biloxi.

Richard C. Myers was born in Mobile and received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Accountancy from the University of Mississippi. He is a Staff Accountant with Piltz, Williams, LaRosa & Co. in Biloxi.

Cheryl G. Johnston was born in Memphis and received a BS in Mathematics/Computer Science and a Master of Professional Accountancy from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is a Field Auditor Specialist I with the Mississippi Office of the State Auditor in Jackson.

Andrew Paul Moroux was born in Lafayette, Louisiana and received a BBA in Accounting and a MAcc from Millsaps College. He is an Audit Associate with KPMG in Jackson.

Lindsey Marie Peresich was born in Biloxi and received Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Accountancy degrees from the University of Mississippi. She is a Senior Auditor with Hancock Holding Company in Gulfport.

Jennifer Michelle Scott was born in Morton and received her Associate of Arts degree from East Central Community College and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Mississippi College. She is a Senior Accountant with Precoat Metals in Byram.

Amanda Hope Sharp was born in Memphis and received Bachelor of Accountancy and Master of Accountancy degrees from the University of Mississippi. She is a CPA with C. Denise Woods, CPA in Oxford.

Jennifer Beasley Skrmetti was born in Hattiesburg and earned a degree in Mathematics from the University of Southern Mississippi and an Accounting degree from the University of South Alabama. She is on the staff of Harper Rains Knight & Company in Ridgeland.

Brian Keith Strickland was born in Hattiesburg and received BSBA and MPA degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is on the staff of Herzog CPA Company, PLLC in Hattiesburg.

Lauren Tipton Wrather was born in Amory and received a Bachelor of Accountancy from Mississippi State University and a Master of Accountancy from Mercer University in Atlanta. Lauren is a Senior Associate with Horne LLP in Ridgeland.

Andy Lee Wright was born in Yazoo City and received his BS in Business Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi. He is the Associate Director, Investigations, for the Mississippi State Board of Public Accountancy in Jackson.



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Thursday, June 26 - Sunday, June 29, 2014 GROUP CODE: 22X1P1

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Jerry L. Levens Becomes a Prestigious NACD Fellow

The National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) is pleased to announce that Jerry L. Levens, CPA, CFE, of Gulfport, has become an NACD Fellow, the highest level of credentialing for corporate directors and corporate governance professionals. Levens currently serves as a director on the board of Hancock Holding Company, parent company of Hancock Bank and Whitney Bank. In addition, he serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Infinity Science Center, Inc., Chairman of the Board

for the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Inc., and on the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau.

As an NACD Fellow, Levens has demonstrated his knowledge of the leading trends and practices that define exemplary corporate governance today and has



Jerry L. Levens

committed to developing professional insights through a sophisticated course of ongoing study.

"I am honored to join the distinguished and diverse group of individuals who make up NACD's Fellowship program and who have committed to advancing the highest standards of boardroom leadership," said Levens. "The resources, insights and connections I've made through NACD's Fellowship program will be key assets to the companies I serve, as well as to my professional growth as a director."

"We are proud to announce that Mr. Jerry L. Levens has joined NACD's credentialed directors and has taken the next step in the pursuit of boardroom excellence," said Ken Daly, president and CEO of NACD. "Our fellows help advance the highest standards for those who serve in the boardroom, strengthening our businesses and driving director professionalism. The impact of this program is unmatched and they should be

commended for their ongoing commitment to their own professional development."

Candidates for NACD's Fellowship Program complete a strong foundation course which focuses on topical matters and committee-specific issues, followed by additional NACD education within a 12-month period. NACD Fellows renew their status every year, maintaining and advancing their knowledge with continuous learning and peerled collaboration.

NACD's Fellows serve on boards of some of the largest and most diverse corporations in the world, including NASDAQ OMX-and NYSE-listed companies such as The Bon-Ton Stores, Ellie Mae, Foot Locker, Marsh & McLennan Cos., Monsanto, Nu Skin Enterprises, PICO Holdings, Pinnacle Entertainment, Retail Properties of America Inc., and Reynolds American.

NACD Fellows represent hundreds of companies and provide a snapshot of the caliber of corporate directors engaged in continuous learning with NACD--the leading organization that identifies, interprets and provides insights and information that boardroom leaders rely upon to apply their wisdom and knowledge and make sound strategic decisions.



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2014 Convention Set June 26-29 at Sandestin

Registration forms for the 2014 MSCPA Annual Convention (June 26-29, 2014) will be posted to the Society website in late March. This will be the 29th consecutive year for the Convention and Annual Business Meeting to be held at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Destin, Florida.

Among speakers confirmed by President Beth Burgess are Tommye Barie, Vice Chairman of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) and Dr. Jim Crockett, author of "Power, Greed and Hubris: Judicial Bribery in Mississippi". Both are Friday morning speakers. Comedian Jonathan Perry, "The Cajun Ambassador" will entertain at the closing banquet Saturday evening.

Two four-hour CPE programs will be offered Thursday. Donna Ingram, CPA, will

present a four-hour Ethics program in the morning and a four-hour fraud class ("A Closer Look at Some Real Life Fraud Cases") in the afternoon

The Annual Business Meeting starts at 9 a.m. Saturday with election of officers for 2014-2015 and reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, AICPA Council Representative, State Board, and Insurance Trust. Presentations will be made to the Outstanding Educator, Public Service Award Winner, and CPA Exam Medal Winners.

Complete convention details and registration materials will be posted to the Society's website at www.ms-cpa.org.

(See the Sandestin Room Reservation form on Page 3 of this Newsletter)

Technology Trends to Monitor in 2014

Thomas G. Stephens, Jr., CPA.CITP

With 2014 officially underway, our thoughts turn away from the Holiday season and back to helping our organizations run more smoothly, efficiently, professionally, and (hopefully!) profitably. To that end, we have identified six technology trends that may help you to achieve these objectives. While not all of the these technologies may be applicable to all organizations, the pervasiveness with which these tools, services, and devices are appearing, leave no doubt that these are the technology trends you should monitor and capitalize on as appropriate in 2014.

Software Licensing is Changing

In the past, most individuals and organizations did not spend much time at all considering how they licensed software. Rather, as needs arose, they simply purchased licenses of boxed software, such as Microsoft Office. While these options still exist and may be viable in many cases, for an increasing number of individuals and organizations, licensing software through monthly subscription plans provides not only more functionality, but it reduces costs.

For example, companies seeking to acquire "traditional" licenses of Microsoft Office
Professional Plus 2013 will pay over \$500
(MSRP) for each license of the software.
However, you can acquire the same software in an Office 365 subscription model for as little as \$12 per user, per month. Further, when acquired through the Office 365 subscription model, you can install the software on up to five computers that you use, as opposed to one computer in the traditional model. As you seek to update/upgrade/replace your current

software, inquire to see if your software publisher offers a subscription model and, if so, carefully weigh the merits of changing how you license your software.

Cloud Collaboration is Real

As workforces grow increasingly mobile and as professionals continue to need to collaborate with others both internal and external to their organizations, using the Cloud as a collaboration tool is gaining favor rather rapidly. In the past, team members would accomplish this by subscribing to individual accounts with services such as Dropbox, Box, SugarSync, and Google Drive. Although each of these services provides exceptional levels of functionality, challenges exist with respect to the ownership and security of organizational data stored in Cloud services licensed by individuals. Accordingly, many organizations desiring to reap the benefits of Cloud-based collaboration are turning to corporate-level services such as, SharePoint, AccountantsWorld, SkyDrive Pro, and ShareFile to use the Cloud safely and securely as a mechanism for collaboration.

By opting for corporate-level accounts, you can stay in control and ownership of the data that you and your team may choose to store in the Cloud, yet still receive all of the benefits of being able to collaborate with other users on critical documents. Further, storing critical documents in secure Cloud-based services allows you to retrieve those documents from most, if not all, devices you use, including your desktop, laptop, tablet, and smartphone. The combination of these factors leads to increased organizational efficiency, productivity, and

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TECH TRENDS 2014

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security and means that we cannot ignore the Cloud as a collaboration vehicle.

Windows 8 is a Substantial Player for Businesses

Though shunned by some upon its initial release, Windows 8 and Windows 8.1 are really beginning to shine for many individuals and businesses. Designed as a "dual-personality" operating system, Windows 8/8.1 allows users to work the way that they want, either in touchscreen mode or classic mouse and keyboard mode – or both at the same time!

Beyond user interface changes, you will likely find Windows 8/8.1 to be faster and more secure than prior versions of Windows. Coupled with innovative features such as Windows To Go, Picture Passwords, and the ability to search your computer and the Internet simultaneously, Microsoft's latest release of Windows is one that you should not ignore in business environments, particularly if you are considering how to replace existing Windows XP computers in your organization.

Touchscreen Devices are not Fads

Most accounting and financial professionals today carry a smartphone and/or a tablet that includes a touchscreen;

increasingly desktop and laptop computers offer touchscreens as options. If you use a touchscreen on your smartphone or tablet, why would you not want the same level of convenience to manipulate your desktop or laptop computer?

Touchscreen devices – including desktop and laptop computers – are mainstream computing tools today and viewing them as fads may be robbing you and your team of substantial opportunities for increased productivity. For example, consider the restaurant industry. The next time you visit a restaurant, notice the prevalence of touchscreen-enabled point-of-sale terminals in these establishments. Even in these high-volume environments, touchscreen devices have proven their worth. Is it time that you consider touchscreens in your organization, particularly if Windows 8/8.1 is in your future?

It's a Virtual World, After All

In today's computing environment, we seek the best of all worlds – low cost, high-speed, secure, and easily administered computing. When we design our computing infrastructures such that we have multiple physical servers and desktops to maintain, we likely are not able to meet all of our desired objectives. However, if we begin to *virtualize* our infrastructures – in either the Cloud or on-premise – the

opportunities for achieving our objectives increase, as does the ability to increase the return on our investment in technology.

Virtualization simply means that the "real" computing is being done on a computer other than the one we use to input and view data. Such a device could be a "thin client" connected to a virtual desktop in your office, or you could connect it to a virtual desktop hosted by a company such as IVDesk, Cloud9 Real Time, or Thomson Reuters. Likewise, we can choose to have our servers hosted by companies such as Rackspace, Amazon, or Dell. In a large percentage of cases, organizations find that not only do they save money when virtualizing some or their entire infrastructure, but the quality of their computing environment increases also.

Tablets are Growing Up and Ready for Business

iPad, Surface/Surface Pro 2, Nexus – these are just a few of the many tablet computers from which you can choose in today's market. Tablets are rapidly catching up with their laptop cousins in terms of computing power. For example, you can now obtain a Surface Pro 2 from Microsoft with an Intel i5 processor, 8 GB of RAM, and a 512 GB hard drive running Windows 8.1 Pro – in either words, a full laptop computer in the form factor of a tablet

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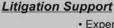
William T. Kelly, CPA/ABV, CVA

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- Charitable Contributions
- Sale, Merger, or Acquisitions



Leslie C. Bilancia CPA/ABV, CVA



- · Expert Witness Testimony
- Economic Damages
- Data Analysis
- · Personal Injury / Wrongful Death · Breach of Contract



Annette P. Herrin, CPA/ABV, CVA, CFE, CFF



Joe C. Travis, CPA, Cr.FA, CFF

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TECH TRENDS 2014

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computer weighing in at a paltry 2 pounds.

As you consider your next computer, do not overlook the possibility that you might be able to obtain all of the computing power you need in a tablet device. This could be particularly true if you virtualize your desktop and all you need is a device that allows you to access it remotely over the Internet.

Summary

Every individual and every organization is different. As such, not all of the technologies described in this article will prove to be useful to all readers. However, you should keep a close eye on each of the items mentioned and carefully consider whether implementing one or more of these technologies this year will prove to be beneficial. We believe that you will find many of these technologies to help make 2014 a very good year.

Mr. Stephens is a shareholder in K2 Enterprises, where he develops and presents continuing professional education programs to accounting, financial, and other business professionals across North America. You may contact him at tommy@k2e.com.

Top Accounting Solutions, Cloud and **On Premises** by Randy Johnston

No accounting software trend has been more interesting than the evolution of Software as a Service (SaaS) accounting that began in the late 1990's and has accelerated in the last few years. Products that effectively solve business problems from entry level to Enterprise complexity have been built by competent engineers with vision.

SaaS accounting solutions run entirely in a web browser. They eliminate installation of local software, or thick clients as they are sometimes called, on the desktop. SaaS also allows upgrades in mass inside a data center. SaaS products provide simpler integration with other accounting products whether they are SaaS or desktop based. Legacy products that run on premises or in hosted data centers that were developed using older technologies have found new life by adding SaaS and mobile modules. This mixture of desktop and SaaS or the hybrid approach seems to solve many business issues with minimal disruption. We expect continued innovation in products using the SaaS model because it drives out so much cost on the development and support side, and also provides benefit to the end user.

The Change Creates Opportunity

More new accounting products have been developed in the last three to five years than in the entire prior decade. In the U.S. market, there are over 30 SaaS accounting solutions and around 300 traditional solutions. The products are thoughtfully developed, have specific target markets, well-defined capabilities, and solve specific business problems.

Sometimes the products have been developed by well-established publishers such as Intuit, Sage or SAP, and other products have been developed by start-ups such as Aplos, Monchilla or Xero. If you believe that products that are SaaS can't solve your firm's business issues, you may wind up being sadly mistaken. Products that are quite robust such as SAP's Business by Design, NetSuite, Intacct or Financial Force have high end features similar to mid-market products of the past. Entry level products such as Accounting Relief, FreshBooks, Less Accounting, QuickBooks Online, SageOne, Wave Accounting, or Xero have evolved quickly over the last two years continued on page 18

AS YOUR COMPANY OUTGROWN THE FUNCTIONALITY OF QUICKBOOKS OR PEACHTREE? Let the team of DLD Business Solutions, Inc. assist your clients in implementing the Microsoft Dynamics GP (Great Plains) Accounting / ERP business software solution. Each one of our team members has over 10 years of experience implementing Microsoft Dynamics GP. ASK ABOUT OUR CURRENT PROMOTIONS. Phone 601.255.1678 support@dldbsi.com Email Web dldbsi.com BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC. DELIVERING TRUSTED SOLUTIONS CALL DENNIS L. DAY, CPA FOR A FREE INITIAL NEEDS ANALYSIS

Windows XP April 8, 2014 End of Life: Why Should You Care?

By William C. "Will" Fleenor, CPA, Ph.D. *Member, K2 Enterprises*

On April 8, Microsoft will discontinue support for Windows XP, an operating system that still serves many businesses and families.

If you are still running machines on Windows XP, whether in your business or at home, you should be concerned, because you are about to experience a significant increase in information security risk. And if you do not have any Windows XP machines, you should still be aware of the potential for increased risk as a result of doing business with companies and people who still use Windows XP.

Here are some facts about the soon-to-beunsupported operating system:

- It was released to manufacturing 18 days before 9/11.
- Microsoft announced the official end-oflife date in 2010.
- According to NetMarketShare, Windows XP had a 29% share of the desktop market at the end of December 2013, with that figure much higher in some regions of the world. For example, in China, Windows XP enjoys a desktop market share of more than 75%.

- Windows XP with Service Pack 3 still has known security weaknesses, even when fully patched.
- According to Bloomberg Businessweek, 95% of the 420,000 ATMs in the USA run Windows XP. The majority of these machines cannot be upgraded to later versions of Windows because of their lack of hardware drivers.
- On Jan. 15, Microsoft announced extended malware support for Windows XP, which means Microsoft Security Essentials (free antivirus software from Microsoft for Windows) will be available for free for Windows XP users until July 14, 2015.
- Microsoft has cautioned, "Our research shows that the effectiveness of antimalware solutions on out-of-support operating systems is limited."
- According to Microsoft, new security patches and security updates will not be issued for Windows XP after April 8.
 Microsoft will not patch new security weaknesses discovered after that date.

What It Means for You

Running an unsupported operating system

on any machine, whether a desktop or laptop computer, a server, or a specialized device such as an ATM, can lead to legal problems, significant increases in information security risks, and operational issues.

Legal and Regulatory Compliance

Businesses that continue to run Windows XP after April 8 would be wise to make legal and regulatory compliance their primary concern. In October, the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council warned that banks that continue "to use XP after April 8, 2014, may no longer be compliant." Because the PCI Security Standards apply to most businesses, tens of thousands of businesses might be noncompliant. The UK's Information Commissioner's Office stated that retailers that fail to retain payment data in accordance with the PCI DSS "or [fail to] provide equivalent protection when processing customers' credit card details" could be deemed in breach of the Data Protection Act and thus subject to fines.

Because many businesses and organizations required to comply with laws such as HIPAA and Sarbanes-Oxley use non-supported operating systems, they likely

continued on page 10



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WINDOWS XP END

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will not be in compliance after April 8. Such affected parties include CPA firms that work with medical practices, which possibly have HIPAA-compliant information in their working papers. If these firms use Windows XP after the end-of-life date, they are expected to be in violation of HIPAA. Even peer review reports could be in jeopardy, due to the known security problems associated with running a non-supported operating system.

Should your business compromise someone else's confidential information as a result of your business running a Windows XP machine after April 8, it is highly probable that your business will be considered guilty of gross negligence, given that it knowingly and willingly put others' confidential information at risk.

Information Security

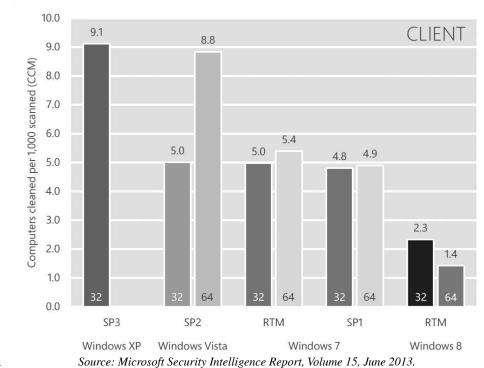
High-profile security breaches highlight just how serious a concern information security is. Microsoft has not resolved all the security issues discovered in Windows XP. MITRE Corporation (cvedetails.com) reports 721 security vulnerabilities since Windows XP was released, of which 228 are ranked 9 or 10 on a 1-10 scale, meaning that they are extremely dangerous.

In 2013 alone, 88 new vulnerabilities

were discovered in Windows XP. One of those vulnerabilities – known as CVE-2013-5065 – existed in the wild as a zero-day attack for almost three months before it was patched

in January. If this type of vulnerability is successfully exploited, an attacker can take full control of a Windows XP system. What do you think the chances are that new, similar continued on page 11

Figure 35. Infection rate (CCM) by operating system and service pack in 2Q13



One, Mississippi
Your Health Insurance Marketplace

New Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) For Mississippi Small Employers

The Affordable Care Act gives states the authority to create health insurance exchanges, which serves as marketplaces for purchasing insurance in the individual and small employer markets. Mississippi has decided to establish and operate a health insurance marketplace for small employers, known as *One, Mississippi*. *One, Mississippi* is available to small employers in Mississippi that employs fifty (50) or fewer full-time equivalent employees. The benefits of using *One, Mississippi* includes:

- Offering employees high-quality health insurance;
- A central location to shop and compare a variety of insurance plans;
- Simple online tools to help select and administer employees' health insurance benefits, including predicting employer costs;
- Assurance that qualified health plans meets basic minimum Federal and State requirements; and
- Possibly qualify for a tax credit.

One, Mississippi enrollment will begin spring 2014. Employers should monitor the *One, Mississippi* website at www.onemississippi.com, or call 1-855-9MS-SHOP (1-855-967-7467) for more information. Once enrollment opens, employers can enroll online with the help of certified licensed insurance agents or brokers.

WINDOWS XP END

continued from page 10

vulnerabilities will be discovered after April 8? If history is any indicator, the odds are pretty good. For comparison, consider that only six vulnerabilities have been discovered in Windows 8.1 as of Feb. 3.

As mentioned earlier, even businesses and home users who are not running Windows XP machines have reason to worry. Almost 30% of desktop computers in the USA run Windows XP, so it is probable that many of the customers and vendors you deal with will still be running Windows XP machines even after April 8. To the extent that you provide them sensitive information about your business or personal affairs, that information may be at risk. If you deal with highly sensitive information, such as HIPAA-compliant data, you will need to ensure that parties that run Windows XP are adequately securing their – and your – information.

If you work with companies outside of North America or Europe – particularly China – you should be especially concerned about these companies' handling of your information. More than 75% of businesses in China still run machines with Windows XP, and only a small percentage of these machines will be replaced before April 8, so you put your information at risk by giving it to these businesses. The end of support for Windows XP is going to

make doing business with foreign countries significantly riskier, at least until the majority of the XP machines are replaced.

You may be asking, "Can the machines be upgraded?" Unfortunately, the answer is no in most cases. Unless a machine was downgraded from a newer version of Windows to Windows XP, it probably will not have nearly enough RAM or a powerful enough processor. Further, newer versions of Windows are unlikely to have hardware drivers for Windows XP machines.

Lack of Hardware and Software Support

Hardware and software vendors build their products to support specific operating systems, so after April 8, they likely will not develop new code or maintain existing code for Windows XP. Similarly, hardware manufacturers probably will not build the drivers needed for Windows XP, and updates to printer drivers and other hardware drivers likely will exclude Windows XP. Vendors and manufacturers will not provide support for running their products on an unsupported operating system, which means you will be completely on your own if something does not work. Video cards and other critical components are prone to not work properly. Use Windows 8 Upgrade Assistant, which you can find at http://tinyurl.com/upgradexp, to determine whether you can upgrade your Windows XP machines.

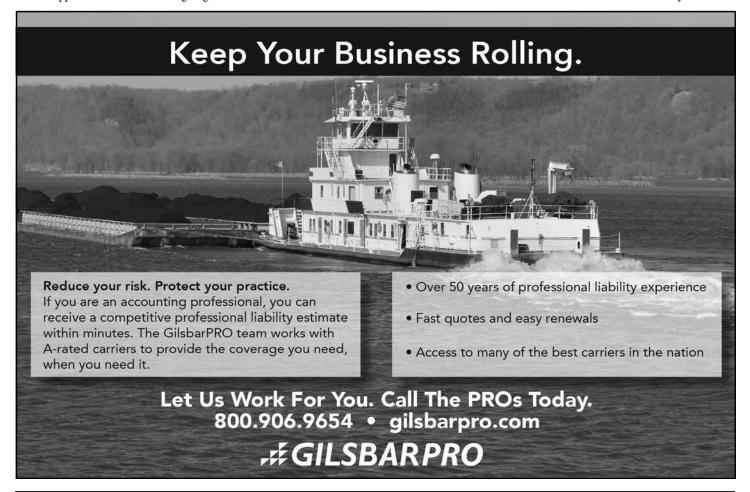
What You Should Do Next

If you are still running machines with Windows XP, replace them or take them off the Internet by April 8. Home users and small businesses generally do not have high-quality firewalls and other security controls, so they will be at the greatest risk, but any Windows XP machine connected to the Internet will not be immune from the increased information security risk beginning on April 8.

So once you stop using Windows XP, which operating system should you use? Windows 8.1 is your best choice and Vista your worst choice. In the middle is Windows 7, which improved upon many of Vista's shortcomings. Even though the minimum hardware requirements for both Windows 8.1 and Windows 7 are the same, Windows 8 is faster and leaner, meaning it can run on tablets and other handheld devices that do not have lots of horsepower. The research firm Usability Geek found that even Excel runs faster in Windows 8 than it does in Windows 7.

Conclusion

It is time to turn off Windows XP – forever. The risks associated with using Windows XP have been unacceptably high for a long time, and on April 8 these risks will increase significantly. Those who continue to use Windows XP machines past the operating system's end-of-life date will be putting themselves and others in harm's way.



THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL
ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING CONFERENCE
THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014
8:30-4:30
EMBASSY SUITES
RIDGELAND, MS

SPONSORED BY
ACCOUNTING & AUDITING COMMITTEE
MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY OF CPAS

PRESENTERS

DR. STEVE GRICE, CPA, PHD IS CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE ACCOUNTING FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM. PRIOR TO JOINING UAB, HE SERVED AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE TROY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY. DR. GRICE CURRENTLY SERVES AS A SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FOR THE FIRM OF CARR, RIGGS, AND INGRAM, LLC. DR. GRICE WAS ALSO RECENTLY NAMED DIRECTOR OF THE MASTER OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAM AT THE UAB SCHOOL OF BUSINESS.

J. Michael Inzina CPA, CGFM, CGMA IS A NATIVE OF MONROE, LOUISIANA AND IS THE PRESIDENT OF ALTEC, INC. HE HAS OVER THIRTY-FIVE YEARS IN PUBLIC PRACTICE EXPERIENCE, CONCENTRATED IN GOVERNMENTS AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPAS, THE SOCIETY OF LOUISIANA CPAS, THE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS AND THE GFOA, AND EARNED THE CEA IN GOVERNMENTAL IN 1990. HE WAS AWARDED THE CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGER (CGFM) DESIGNATION IN 1996, AND THE CERTIFIED GLOBAL MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT (CGMA) DESIGNATION IN 2012

ACCOUNTING & AUDITING CONFERENCE -- THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014

★★ Materials will be electronic only. ★★
(Available for downloading three days before event)

MSCPA MEMBERS: \$200 NON-MEMBERS: \$275

To register, detach and mail this form with a check to: Mississippi Society of CPAs, 306 Southampton Row, Ridgeland, MS 39157, or fax it to 601 856 8255. MSCPA Members may register online: www.ms-cpa.org. This conference has been recommended for 8 A&A Hours of CPE.

$601.856.8255$. MSCPA Members may register online: \underline{w}	ww.ms-cpa.org. This conference has been recommended for 8 A&A F	lours of CPE.
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REFUND POLICY: You will receive a full refund if cancellation is made seven days prior to the scheduled date of the course. If you cancel within the seven days, a fifty percent refund will apply. Refunds are not given for same-day cancellations	Account Number Billing Address for Credit Card including ZIP X Cardmember Signature I hereby authorize the MSCPA to charge \$	Expiration Date ZIP CCID Number
or no-shows. Personnel substitutions are permitted.	Master Card Master Card Master Card	DISCOVER

COURSE INFORMATION

Because of space limitations, course descriptions in this Catalog have been abbreviated. For a full course description – as provided by the CPE vendor – please see the MSCPA web site, www.ms-cpa.org, and click on the EDUCATION tab. You can also scan the QR Code at the right to access our web site. We have provided a link to a more complete description of each seminar to help with your selections. Course descriptions for seminars through AICPA, Executive Education, K2 Enterprises, and Surgent-McCoy are available on their web site.



Courses are shown with their vendor-assigned acronym (plus our number such as "-3" indicating the third offering of that course). When searching the vendor site using their acronym, do not include "- x". Some AICPA and Surgent-McCoy courses may be offered in 8-hour and 4-hour formats. You should take one or the other (but not both) to make sure you receive CPE credit for your investment.

AICPA members may deduct \$30 PER DAY from the course fee for 8-hour AICPA seminars ONLY. This discount is NOT available for seminars from other CPE vendors. Non-CPA staff are not eligible for the AICPA discount.

Note: The "CPE Credit" shown is what has been recommended by the Vendor. The Mississippi State Board's ruling for seminars will be reflected on your registration confirmation and in future newsletters.

*** NEW *** For many events, <u>PARTICIPANT HANDOUTS WILL BE AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY</u>. For some Conferences the materials will be available **ONLY ELECTRONICALLY**. When registering, please indicate if you prefer to receive materials as a printed handout or as an electronic / PDF document. If you wish to receive materials electronically, it will be your responsibility to download materials from the MSCPA web site prior the event date. A password will be provided by MSCPA. This is an effort by the MSCPA to keep cost as low as possible.

May 9, 2014 Young CPA Conference

Friday Discussion Leader: Panel

Jackson Cost: Members: \$100 Non-Members: \$100 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

TBA Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As the date for this event approaches, please access the MSCPA web site for details

and registration information on this conference. www.ms-cpa.org

May 12, 2014 MS Sales and Use Tax

Monday Discussion Leader: Greg Duke, CPA

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

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar, led by a representative of the Mississippi Department of Revenue, will

include an introduction on *Sales Tax: Levies, Returns and Filing, and Exemptions; Use Tax; Casual Sales Tax; Industry-Specific Sales Tax; Contractor's Tax; and more. This seminar will be a great opportunity to get the latest Sales and Use Tax information directly from the Department of Revenue.

May 13-14, 2014 Program for Management Development

Tuesday-Wednesday Discussion Leader: Panel

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$260 Non-Members: \$340 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 16 TBA VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: PMD

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As the date for this event approaches, please access the MSCPA web site for details

and registration information on this conference. <u>www.ms-cpa.org</u>

May 15, 2014 Accounting and Auditing Conference

Thursday Discussion Leader: Panel

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$200 Non-Members: \$275 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Embassy Suites Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: AAC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: As the date for this event approaches, please access the MSCPA web site for details and registration information on this conference. www.ms-cpa.org

May 19-20, 2014 MS Technology Conference

Monday-Tuesday Discussion Leader: Panel

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$435 Non-Members: \$585 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Embassy Suites Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 16 General VENDOR: K2 ACRONYM: MTC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This conference is filled with 16 hours of fast-paced presentations designed to

maximize your time and enhance your learning. Nationally recognized speakers have extensive expertise in numerous software applications. They will share their knowledge with you in order to help you do your job

with efficiency and ease. Participants will receive helpful tips and advanced techniques, along with the tools and skills necessary to keep up with the ever-increasing pace of changes in computer technology. This conference is designed for CPAs in public practice or industry who want to take better advantage of technology to improve efficiency and effectiveness. Check the MSCPA web site (www.ms-cpa.org) in early April for details on 2014 topics and breakout sessions.

May 19, 2014 Fraud Happened Now What?

Monday Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA

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

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 4 A&A VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: FHNW

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: In this course you will step into the shoes of the investigator engaged to uncover the fact (who, how, and how much) of a fraudulent crime. Many small businesses have limited resources for sophisticated systems of internal controls to exist and when this is coupled with a lack of system enhancements that will not only apply in the sample case, but can be recommended in real life, too.

May 19, 2014 A Closer Look at Some Real Life Fraud Cases

Monday Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA

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

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 4 A&A VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: RLFC-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course will take a look at a selection of some high profile and not so high profile

fraud cases with a discussion on what happened, how it happened and what may have prevented or

detected these frauds.

May 20, 2014 MAP Conference

Tuesday Discussion Leader: Ellison Belt & Jennifer Hall

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Social Media: Why it Matters - This portion will take a look at developing your social

media strategy, budget, making the most of social media marketing and building your audience.

Nuts and Bolts of Employment Law – This portion will provide an overview of employment law and how it relates to your accounting practice. It will also cover Federal Employment Law; hiring, discipline, termination

and how to avoid common employment mistakes.

May 20, 2014 AICPA Peer Review Program Advanced Course

Tuesday Discussion Leader: Gloria Roberts, CPA

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

Grantham Poole Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Advanced CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: ADPRT

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This one-day, advanced course is designed for experienced reviewers who want to

heighten their peer review skills. It is an excellent follow-up to the AICPA's training course, *How to Conduct a Review Under the AICPA Practice-Monitoring Progam.* This course includes an analysis of the latest AICPA Peer Review Program Standards as well as materials focused on the areas of peer review guidance

which reviewers find the most problematic.

May 21, 2014 Ethics, Rules and Regulations

Wednesday Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

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

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 4 Ethics VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: ERR-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar satisfies the State Board's requirement for three hours of general ethics

and one hour of Mississippi Rules and Regulations.

May 21, 2014 Health Care Reform Act: Critical Tax and Insurance Ramifications

Wednesday Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

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

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 4 Tax VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: CL4HCRA-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Identify the tax provisions from the Health Care Reform Act that will be implemented

this year and in future years. This seminar will help you better understand the impact of the Act so you can describe to your clients how health care and paying for coverage will change in the future. In addition, you'll discover how to use this information for tax planning opportunities. This topic is constantly changing so

make sure you're up-to-date on the latest information, your clients are counting on you!

May 21, 2014 The Top 50 Mistakes Practitioners Make and How to Fix them: Individual Tax

and Financial Planning

Wednesday Discussion Leader: Sue Smith, CPA

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 8 Tax VENDOR: Surgent McCoy ACRONYM: INBB

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Every practitioner has been confronted with a client who had a different twist on a tax

idea. This course focuses on the "law" in order to break down 50 situations in which a taxpayer has attempted to push one of these ideas. The study of the law underlying the tax mistakes made will assist practitioners in satisfying their professional standards of practice. This course will give CPAs a deeper insight into underlying tax law for some common client transactions that many offices have seen, plus some

not-so-common client transactions.

May 21, 2014 Excel Tips, Tricks and Techniques for Accountants

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

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

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Excel is the accountant's tool of choice for analyzing and reporting financial data, yet

most accountants have never received any formal Excel training. As a result, many accountants use time-consuming and error-prone processes to complete everyday tasks. This highly acclaimed course contains hundreds of tips, tricks, and techniques to improve your productivity and accuracy. Its content is based on over twenty years of experience in delivering Excel training to accountants and on feedback from ten of thousands of accounting and financial professionals just like you. The course has six major areas of topical coverage: productivity tips and tricks, formatting essentials, customizing Excel, formula-building essentials, three-dimensional workbooks, and printing essentials. For more details and a complete list of course

highlights, please visit www.k2e.com.

May 22, 2014 Performing Compilations & Reviews

Thursday Discussion Leader: Kurt Oestriecher, CPA
Hattiesburg Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: PCRE-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for the accountant that performs compilation and review

engagements under SSARS. This is not an update course, but rather a comprehensive review of all that is required to successfully complete a compilation or a review within standards. Major topics include: Applicability of SSARS, Financial Reporting Frameworks, Engagement Issues, Performance Requirements, Reporting Requirements, Documentation Requirements and tips to make your practice more profitable.

May 22, 2014 Getting More Active with the Passive Activity Rules & the New Net Investment

Income

Thursday Discussion Leader: Sue Smith, CPA

Ridgeland New Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 8 Tax VENDOR: Surgent McCoy ACRONYM: PAIT

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Now more than ever, every business owner and real estate investor must determine if

they materially participate in any and all trades or businesses, even if they make a profit or a loss, because

of the new net investment income tax. These extremely complicated rules require an in-depth

understanding of election and planning issues that CPAs need to know. The IRS has been very aggressive in audits under the passive loss rules and will now expand their investigation to include the new NII tax.

May 22, 2014 Technology for CPAs - Don't Get Left Behind

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

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

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 General VENDOR: K2 ACRONYM: TEC-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: What new technology tools are available that could save you time and make you more

effective? Technology continues to accelerate rapidly, and CPAs need to keep pace. This course is designed for those who are not information technology (IT) experts, but who need an update of their base-knowledge level to serve their companies and/or clients more efficiently and effectively. For more details and

a complete list of course highlights, please visit www.k2e.com.

May 23, 2014 Annual Standards Update

Friday Discussion Leader: Kurt Oestriecher, CPA

Hattiesburg New Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: The annual standards update is a comprehensive overview of accounting, auditing, compilation and review, and ethics standards that have been issued within the past 18 months. In addition to the authoritative standards listed above, non-authoratative standards such as FRF for SMEs will be

covered in this class.

May 23, 2014 Handbook for Mastering Basis, Distributions, etc.

Friday Discussion Leader: Sue Smith, CPA

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 8 Tax VENDOR: Surgent McCov ACRONYM: HMBI

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: The most difficult concepts to master when dealing with flow-through business entities

are the basis and distribution concepts. Major error and malpractice issues occur if the CPA does not fully understand the impact of these rules. This course is designed to focus on the practical applications of these

rules.

May 23, 2014 Audits of 401K Plans

Friday Discussion Leader: Bill Felder, CPA, CISA

Hattiesburg Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

Lake Terrace Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: AFKP-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: 401(k) plans are a popular option for employee benefit plans, so you must have the

proper skill to audit these plans effectively. Every aspect of how to audit a 401(k) plan and prepare financial statements that satisfy ERISA and SEC requirements are covered in this course. Tap into ways to plan and conduct 401 (k) audits more efficiently and effectively, and understand the differences between 401(k) audits

and other employee benefit plan audits.

May 27, 2014 Estate and Life Planning Issues for the Middle-Income Client

Tuesday Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$0

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 Tax VENDOR: Surgent McCoy ACRONYM: PMIC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Clients think that estate planning only applies to the very rich. In truth, there are many

issues of critical concern for which the middle-income cliet needs to plan. This course is a must-attend for all CPAs who work with middle-income clients and are looking for ways to provide additional quality

services.

May 28, 2014 Internal Control Best Practices for Small and Medium Sized Entities

Wednesday Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: ICSM

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course provides practical guidance for those involved with internal control

responsibilities in adapting the updated COSO Internal Control Framework to small and medium-sized entities. This course will show you the best practices for designing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating,

and auditing cost-effective internal controls for small and medium-sized entities.

May 28, 2014 S Corporations: Key Issues, Compliance, and Tax Strategies

Wednesday Discussion Leader: Jan Lewis, CPA

Tupelo Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 Tax VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: SCORP-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Get the knowledge you need to speak effectively to new and current clients about how

you can make the S Corporation business model work for them. Be prepared to explain the benefits and drawbacks of electing S Corporation status and why more business taxpayers favor the pass-through entity over the C Corporation. Discuss the most misunderstood areas of S Corporations taxation and how

businesses and shareholders can use them to their advantage.

May 28, 2014 Ethics, Rules and Regulations

Wednesday Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

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

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 4 Ethics VENDOR: Self-developed ACRONYM: ERR-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This seminar satisfies the State Board's requirement for three hours of general ethics and one hour of Mississippi Rules and Regulations.

May 28, 2014 Healthcare Reform Act: Critical Tax and Insurance Ramifications

Wednesday Discussion Leader: William F. (Bill) Taylor, CPA

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

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Update CPE Credit: 4 Tax VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: CL4HCRA-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Identify the tax provisions from the Health Care Reform Act that will be implemented this year and in future years. This seminar will help you better understand the impact of the Act so you can describe to your clients how health care and paying for coverage will change in the future. In addition, you'll discover how to use this information for tax planning opportunities. This topic is constantly changing so

make sure you're up-to-date on the latest information, your clients are counting on you!

May 29, 2014 IT Risks and Controls in Current and Emerging Environments

Thursday Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

Ridgeland Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: ITRC

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Accounting transactions and other types of processing are conducted in a variety of IT environments. These IT environments could be traditional, such as Local Area Network, or emerging, such

as cloud and mobile computing. There are internal controls and risks that are common to all IT environments in both large and small entities. There are also IT internal controls and risks that are unique to less complex, more complex, traditional, and emerging technologies. This course will cover these topics and others including trust services associated with the internet and cloud computing, testing procedures, management controls, electronic evidence, COSO IT controls, and the most recently ranked top IT

technologies.

May 29, 2014 Audits of 401K Plans

Thursday Discussion Leader: Bill Felder, CPA, CISA

Tupelo Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: AFKP-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: 401(k) plans are a popular option for employee benefit plans, so you must have the proper skill to audit these plans effectively. Every aspect of how to audit a 401(k) plan and prepare financial statements that satisfy ERISA and SEC requirements are covered in this course. Tap into ways to plan and conduct 401 (k) audits more efficiently and effectively, and understand the differences between 401(k) audits

and other employee benefit plan audits.

May 29, 2014 Excel Financial Reporting and Analysis

Thursday Discussion Leader: Karl W. Egnatoff, CPA, CITP

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

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Advanced CPE Credit: 8 General VENDOR: K2 ACRONYM: EFR

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Microsoft Excel is a powerful tool for analyzing financial data and preparing financial reports, but like most powerful tools, it contains hidden features and functionality useful for these purposes that are not obvious to users, both novice and expert alike. The purpose of this course is to uncover these hidden features so that users may prepare computationally accurate and aesthetically pleasing reports in a more effective and efficient manner. For more details and a complete list of course highlights, please visit

www.k2e.com.

May 30, 2014 Fraud In Purchasing and Cash Disbursements Cycles

Friday Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

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

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 8:30-12:00

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 4 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: CL4PCD

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Purchasing and cash disbursements are common targets for fraud in any entity's

environment. While business owners and managers are aware that internal controls seem to be very important, they often don't know whether the entity's system is adequate. While accountants instinctively know that internal controls are important and necessary, it is sometimes difficult to effectively communicate this with business owners. It is Important to focus on common frauds and internal controls over the purchasing and cash disbursements processes. This course teaches you to hone in on smaller businesses and nonprofit entities where cost/benefit analysis is extremely important and fraud is more likely to occur. Learn how to efficiently analyze controls to ensure you're getting the "biggest bang for your buck" when

considering a control to implement and/or test.

May 30, 2014 Fraud and Cash Receipts: Common Frauds and Internal Controls

Friday Discussion Leader: Glenn Helms, PhD, CPA, CISA, CIA

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

MSCPA Center Course Hours: 1:00-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 4 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: CL4RCR

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: Revenue and cash receipts are two critical areas that require strong controls to prevent intentional fraud or unintentional misstatements. While there is well-publicized fraud in these areas in larger companies, it also occurs in smaller businesses and nonprofit entities. A sound system of internal controls is needed to help prevent fraud. All too often, a one-size-fits-all system is put in place without considering the uniqueness of each entity. It is crucial that an internal control system is tailored so that the areas of greatest

risk receive the most attention.

May 30, 2014 Forensic Accounting Investigative Practices

Friday Discussion Leader: Donna Ingram, CPA, CFE, CRFA

Tupelo Cost: Members: \$255 Non-Members: \$330 AICPA Member Discount: \$30

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Intermediate CPE Credit: 8 A&A VENDOR: AICPA ACRONYM: FAIP-1

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: This course dives into the unique investigative and communications skills and analytical practices required of the best forensic accountants by teaching you how to provide expert witness testimony

in mediations, arbitrations, and governmental hearings. You'll also learn how to use proven research, investigative methods, and proper documentation of evidence to successfully complete a forensic

accounting engagement.

May 30, 2014 Technology for CPAs - Don't Get Left Behind

Friday Discussion Leader: Karl W. Egnatoff, CPA, CITP

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

BancorpSouth Conf. Ctr. Course Hours: 8:30-4:30

LEVEL: Basic CPE Credit: 8 General VENDOR: K2 ACRONYM: TEC-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION: What new technology tools are available that could save you time and make you more

effective? Technology continues to accelerate rapidly, and CPAs need to keep pace. This course is designed for those who are not information technology (IT) experts, but who need an update of their base-knowledge level to serve their companies and/or clients more efficiently and effectively. For more details and

a complete list of course highlights, please visit www.k2e.com.

TOP SOLUTIONS

continued from page 8

to become much more robust than when they were first released. If you have not looked at a SaaS product within the last six months, you can't be sure of what the product looks like or what it is capable of accomplishing. For example, QuickBooks Online has just undergone a complete overhaul with a new look, feel, and feature set. Most vendors have updated their product to be more mobile or tablet friendly. The software publishers are learning about what makes a SaaS product easy to use and what makes them more functional and faster. Usability features including colors, dashboards and quick lists are all features of the latest SaaS applications. As an interesting example of focusing on accountant usability, Xero has the capability to generate a financial statement package as part of the base offering. QuickBooks Online has banking matching feature that allows for rapid import of electronic banking transactions as well as classifying and reclassifying transactions in

Even traditional desktop products are now routinely hosted in cloud data centers. Products in this category include QuickBooks, Sage 50 (formerly Peachtree), Sage 100 (formerly MAS 90), Open Systems TRAVERSE, Dynamics GP and many other mid-market products. Beyond simple hosting, these publishers are routinely

extending their product offerings by adding a SaaS service such as Sage Payments. A number of these products have been mobilized by synchronizing key data into a web site and/or by creating a mobile application. Products may be extended by adding a more sophisticated capability such as Avalara AvaTax for sales tax calculation and filing or Concur Small Business for expense reporting. Also of note, these publishers are not standing still and are simplifying and improving their products' interfaces.

Other products are extending their capabilities by offering SaaS enabled modules. For example, CYMA has an extensive Human Resources system to support their payroll processing that is web-enabled and "SaaSy". Sage developed some of the best mobile applications we have seen to date that integrate into their traditional desktop offerings such as Sage 50, Sage 100, Sage 300 and Sage 500 for CRM, order taking and dashboards.

The Results

This SaaS shift into web and mobile by most software publishers has provided endusers the capabilities they need without large infrastructure investments. More important, new capabilities can be added for monthly fees in the \$5-29 range per user. Even high end, complete SaaS solutions keep costs below \$200/user/month.

One caution is in order, though. SaaS applications may not be as sophisticated or

robust as traditional applications. You'll need to check the capabilities you need against the features of a new application. However, for many users, a system that works reliably, is quick to deploy and implement and has well-defined interfaces provides a solution that will accomplish most of what is needed for most businesses.

The Opportunity

SaaS software gives us the opportunity to 1) work collaboratively with our clients, 2) replace aging systems with minimal up-front capital, 3) acquire new capabilities by simply adding on SaaS applications to solve specific problems, or 4) completely replace aging systems with new systems with sufficient capabilities.

How do these new capabilities fit into your needs and your firm? Can you create a new, higher value added service with these tools? Do you have clients that are processing accounting or payroll manually, or with traditional desktop products or with older generation products that should be replaced?

SaaS may not be best for every situation.

Alternatively, hosting of traditional desktop applications can also enable collaboration.

What are your needs? Can they be met through the new generation SaaS applications? If you haven't looked at accounting applications lately, you may be surprised at how much has changed.

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