

AFWA Orange County Chapter Newsletter

Issue: # 27

January, 2014



Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance
CONNECT • ADVANCE • LEAD

The mission of AFWA is to enable women in all accounting and related fields to achieve their full personal, professional and economic potential and to contribute to the future development of their profession.

President's Message

Millie Culpepper



Welcome to 2014! It feels like just yesterday that we were welcoming 2013, and I have not a clue what happened to the entire year. If the last three months were any example, the year was filled with interesting, fun, challenging and exciting activities. In November, we had our annual Student Night and Scholarship Awards Dinner. Thank you to Gina Webber for organizing such a successful event and to Alison Aldrich for securing our guest speaker Karin Kricorian, PhD, Director, Consumer Insight Walt Disney Parks and Resorts. She provided a very interesting hour of CPE, as well as four Disneyland Park Hopper passes for the silent auction, which our scholarship fund generously benefited from!

For January, we thought it was a great time to give you a post-holiday break. So please join us on Wednesday, January 22nd for a **Non-Meeting** to be held on your couch, or at your gym, or at a table for two with a view of the water. Take the night off on us. But in return, we hope you will tuck your 100% deductible \$25 meal fee into an envelope in support of our scholarship fund (mail to 3857 Birch Street, PMB 169, Newport Beach, CA 92660) or to pay by PayPal visit our website at www.afwaoc.org Home Page click on Donate. AFWA Orange County Chapter's Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) charity which directly supports accounting students in Orange County. All **Non-Meeting** proceeds go directly to the Scholarship Fund, not to our general fund. The best thing about this fundraiser is that you don't have to attend.

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Upcoming Events

02/20/14

Networking Mixer

5:30pm Holiday Inn

03/19/2014

Dinner Meeting

6:00pm Holiday Inn

03/27/2014

Business Women's Mega Mixer

5:30pm Irvine TBD

04/24/2014

Golden Dragon Event

Costa Mesa

05/14/2014

Networking Mixer

5:30pm Holiday Inn

06/18/2014

Dinner Meeting

6:00pm Holiday Inn

[Visit our chapter website for more details](#)

[Board of Directors](#)

President

Millie Culpepper

President-Elect

Open

V.P. Membership

Kristina Diaz

V.P. Special Events

Gina Webber

V.P. Communications

Karen McGarrigle

Recording Secretary

Jessica Clarke

Treasurer

Alison Aldrich, MBA

[Directors](#)

Sandra Maldonado

Doris Cerna

Cindy Taylor

Join us for our next event on February 20, 2014 when we will be hosting a Networking Mixer at a new venue Holiday Inn, Santa Ana. We encourage you to take advantage of our networking mixer to expand and develop your contacts in a relaxed, business-casual atmosphere!

I'm really looking forward to seeing you.

Millie Culpepper

President



Please join our LinkedIn group

Connect and network online with other professionals, start discussions and more!

[Click here to view our group profile.](#)

For additional AFWA networking click links below:

[AFWA Orange County Chapter's Website](#)

National [Website](#)

National [Facebook](#)

National [Twitter](#)

National [Blog](#)

Save the Date February Networking Mixer

Gina Webber



Please Join Us for Our February AFWA-OC Mixer!!

Networking plays a vital role in the business world today. Deals are made, partnerships are formed, and employment opportunities arise, all as a result of business and social connections. We encourage you to take advantage of our networking mixer to expand and develop your contacts in a relaxed, business-casual atmosphere! This event is open to all (members and non-members) so feel free to invite your co-workers, clients, etc.

Place: Holiday Inn Orange County Airport in the Atrium Area at 2726 South Grand Avenue / Santa Ana, CA 92705 (714) 481-6300

www.holidayinn.com/jwa-airport

Date: Thursday, February 20, 2014
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Pre-pay at www.afwaoc.org PayPal \$15 MEMBERS \$20 NON-MEMBERS
or RSVP: networking@afwaoc.org or contact Gina Webber at 714.929.1320

***Bring a Non-Member Friend and Receive a
Discount!!!
2 Attendees (Member and Non-Member) for \$25
Opportunity Prize Drawing!!***

AFWA Chapter Dues to increase July 1, 2014

Millie Culpepper

As most of you are aware, AFWA's annual dues are comprised of both a national and a local chapter component. Last year, our National dues increased by a modest \$5, while our local chapter dues did not increase at all. Currently, AFWA's National dues are \$126 and our local Orange County chapter dues are \$56. An additional one-time application fee of \$25 is also required for new members.

In order to keep pace with our ever increasing costs, and in accordance with our bylaws, this notice is to inform you that the Board has authorized an increase in local chapter dues beginning in July 2014. Dues for **Retired** members in the 2014-15 fiscal years will increase by \$1, from \$4 to \$5. Regular, Affiliate and Student membership classifications will be exempt from this increase. Retired renewals membership received on or after July 1, 2014 will be processed according to the 2014-15 dues structure.

We value your ongoing participation in the local Orange County AFWA chapter, and welcome your feedback. If you have any questions or comments about this change, please feel free to reach out to me directly, or to any member of this year's Board of Directors.

Recap Student Night and Scholarship Awards Dinner

November 20th, 2013

Gina Webber

Thank you to all of the AFWA-OC Team Members who helped make our annual event a GREAT SUCCESS! A Special Thanks to our guest speaker: Karin Kricorian, PHD. Director, Consumer Insight - Walt Disney Park & Resorts!

Our annual Student Night Scholarship Awards Dinner was held on November 20th at the Holiday Inn Orange County Airport in Santa Ana,

CA where AFWA-OC, Ledgent and Robert Half partnered to help three hard-working students by providing the following scholarships:

- **Alison Ernst** was awarded the \$1,500 scholarship that was available to any full-time student enrolled in a 4-year college or university in the Fall 2013 semester/quarter with a major or emphasis in accounting.
- **Kristen Chin** was awarded a \$500 scholarship that was available to any full-time student enrolled in a 4-year college or university in the Fall 2013 semester/quarter with a major or emphasis in accounting.
- **Allison Bradley** was awarded the \$500 scholarship that was available to any part-time or community college student enrolled in the Fall 2013 semester/quarter with a major or emphasis in accounting that has completed at least 12 units in business administration classes.



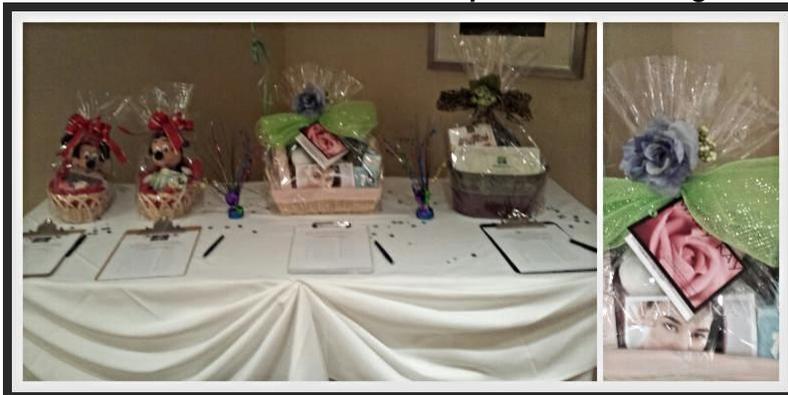
AFWA Student Night 2013



Millie Culpepper, President Orange County Chapter



Member Gail Campbell and San Diego Member



Silent Auction Gift Baskets



The Silent Auction Winners from Student Night were:

Holiday Inn Gift Certificate and Wine won by Millie Culpepper
Mary Kay Basket, provided by Millie Culpepper, won by Jennifer Cavender

Two each One Day Park Hopper Passes were won by Doris Cerna and Alison Aldrich

All proceeds went to the Scholarship Fund.

Recap Holiday Party Wednesday December 4, 2013

Gina Webber and Cindy Taylor

We had a great time at the Golden Dragon restaurant in Costa Mesa on December 4th! We had a number of guests and a new member! Thank you to Alison Aldrich for the theme - A Christmas Story. The theme was a big hit and we enjoyed seeing the movie playing in the background while we had a wonderful Chinese dinner. The food was terrific and John and his staff were so accommodating! Thank you to all of our greeters: Millie, Cindy, Sandra and Kristina and Alison for getting the movie setup.



AFWA National News



Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance
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Dear AFWA Member,

Welcome to AFWA's [2013 Member Satisfaction Survey](#)! This survey is conducted annually to ensure that AFWA member services reflect your needs. The goal is to make your membership in AFWA more meaningful to you, so your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated. This year, we are offering all participants the chance to win one of two \$200 Visa/MasterCard gift cards. If you wish to enter your name into the drawing, be sure to provide your first and last name as your "response" to question #1.

Please note that outside of the gift card drawing, all individual responses are kept confidential; results will be compiled in aggregate form only, unless survey respondents wish to provide their names for volunteer opportunities (in the final 2 questions of the survey). Also, this survey is designed to allow only one set of unique responses per member.

The survey will be open until 11:59 pm ET on Friday, January 24, 2014.

Please [click here](#) to begin the survey!

Thank you,

AFWA Headquarters Staff



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Be a Part of the AFWA Board of Directors

Becoming involved in chapter activities is the best way to take full advantage of your AFWA membership. We offer many opportunities for networking, learning, mentoring being mentored, and for leadership positions, all of which will help you in your accounting career. AFWA's Orange County Chapter is looking to fill board and various committee positions for the coming year. Getting involved is a great way to make the most of your AFWA membership!

The benefits of volunteering include:

- Developing strong professional relationships with other members and chapter leadership
- Parliamentary Procedure using Robert's Rules of Order
- Exploring new areas, technologies, and tools

- Honing presentation, public speaking, and writing skills
- Gaining management and leadership skills
- Contributing to events and initiatives that will benefit all AFWA members
- And much more!

There are three ways to get involved. Choose one, or all!

- Committees: If you'd like to be involved in long-term projects and help guide the direction of our chapter, check out descriptions on our website [committees](#).
- One-time events: If you'd like to help out with fun events such as Student Night, the Scholarship selection process, or dinner meetings.
- Donate: If you're short on time, but would still like to make a contribution, donate to the AFWA Scholarship Fund through our secure website at www.afwaoc.org.
- I am the chairing the Accounting and Financial Women's Alliance nominating committee this year. If considering a board position, please complete a bio form. I would be glad to answer any questions you have about board service if you are interested in pursuing a greater leadership role in AFWA. I can say that it has been the best leadership experience and strongly recommend it to anyone who has a passion for our great organization. I look forward to hearing from you!

Bio Form, please contact Millie Culpepper via email at president@afwaoc.org or call 714 402-5535.

November Opportunity Drawing Winners

Kristina Diaz

The special night was a HIT! Congratulations to these individuals who won prizes from our monthly Opportunity Drawing that benefits our chapter's Student Scholarship program:

Quicksilver Tablet Case Prize Pack won by Guest Maria Little, Robert Half donated by Gina Webber

4 Tickets to Orange County Museum won by Student Alison Ernst donated by Orange County Museum

Quicksilver Backpack Prize Pack won by Guest Angela Bucur, Robert Half donated by Gina Webber

\$50 Gift Card Ruby's Diner won by Member Nancy Bocalan-Misey, San Diego Chapter donated by Alison Aldrich

\$25 Shell Gas Card won by Sponsor Peggy Baggot, Ledgent donated by Alison Aldrich

\$250 Certificate for Roger CPA won by Student Allison Bradley donated by Roger CPA Review
Sharon Bradley won the guest drawing for a complimentary future dinner meeting!
Looking forward to seeing you again soon.

Congratulations to all of these winners and we look forward to more winning in 2014!

DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are in need of donations to continue our monthly Opportunity Drawing which funds our scholarships. Many companies which have donated in the past are no longer able to make a donation. Please consider donating a gift card, or whatever you'd like to see in the Opportunity Drawing! If you have something you'd like to donate, please contact Kristina Diaz at opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org or visit AFWA-OC website at www.afwaoc.org.

Membership Corner

Kristina Diaz

Our Mission

The mission of the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance is to enable women in all accounting and related fields to achieve their full personal, professional, and economic potential and to contribute to the future development of their profession.

Women are still largely underrepresented in leadership positions in the accounting and finance industry. The Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance identifies this gap as a major problem that needs to be remedied. Under our new name Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance members achieve their full personal, professional and economic potential and contribute to improvements in the accounting and finance industry.

DO WE KNOW WHERE YOU ARE?

To update our Chapter Directory:

- Email your information to Lorraine Shoun - Database / Member Directory
- database@afwaoc.org
- Go online to www.afwa.org to update National's Database > click on the "Members Only" link at the top of the page and follow the instructions to change your member profile.

Join today at www.afwaoc.org/membership.php

Questions? Contact Us.

By Email: membership@afwaoc.org

By Phone: 714 726-0775

By Mail: 3857 Birch Street, PMB 169

Newport Beach, CA 926680

National website: www.afwa.org/join

Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance Chapter #73

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