



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.

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## Upcoming Events

03/19/2014  
Dinner Meeting  
6:00pm Holiday Inn  
Santa Ana

03/27/2014  
Business Women's Mega Mixer  
5:30pm Doubletree Hotel  
Santa Ana

04/24/2014  
After Tax Dinner Mixer  
6:00pm Golden Dragon  
Costa Mesa

05/14/2014  
Networking Mixer  
5:30pm Holiday Inn  
Santa Ana

06/18/2014  
Dinner Meeting  
6:00pm Holiday Inn  
Santa Ana

[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

## President's Message



### Millie Culpepper

This month is an exciting time in the growth and development of the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA) and the Foundation of AFWA. National is partnering with a new management company, Associations International (AI) [www.theaiedge.com](http://www.theaiedge.com), effective March 1, 2014.

Come join us on **Wednesday, March 19th** for our chapter's dinner meeting when we welcome as our speaker chapter member **Karen**

**McGarrigle**, President at Accounting Technology Resources. She will provide insight on the **7 Common Assumptions that Can Doom Your New Accounting System to Failure!** For more information or to register visit our website at <http://afwaoc.org/afwa-march-dinner-meeting/>

Please join us for the first **Business Women's MEGA MIXER in Orange County Thursday, March 27th** from 5:30 - 8:00PM, DoubleTree OC Airport, Santa Ana.

\$35 early bird pricing (through March 13), after March 13th the price goes up to \$45 and at the door is \$55. To purchase tickets online

<http://businesswomensmegamixer.com/locations/orange-county/>

### Save the Date: Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> After Tax Fun Event!

Networking Dinner Mixer at Golden Dragon, Costa Mesa - Come and join us for an evening of fun and relaxation after the hectic tax season. This is a wonderful restaurant with delicious food. Even if you don't work the tax season, come anyway for some good networking, ambiance and comradery with your fellow peers. We had our Holiday event here and everyone loved it!

**Southwest Regional Conference Flagstaff, AZ** will be held on **May 15-16, 2014**. Regional Conferences are a great way to get great CPE and network with fellow members from other chapters. We encourage you to find ways to support the Regional Conferences, with the quality continuing education you may also request support from your employer. For more information, please visit <http://www.afwaflagstaff.com/2014swrc>

Looking forward to seeing you at these upcoming events,

**Millie Culpepper**, President  
[president@afwaoc.org](mailto:president@afwaoc.org)



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](#)

Recording Secretary  
Jessica Clarke

Treasurer  
Alison Aldrich, MBA

#### **Directors**

Sandra Maldonado  
Doris Cerna  
Cindy Taylor



## March 19th Dinner Meeting

### 7 Common Assumptions that Can Doom Your New Accounting System to Failure!

**Karen McGarrigle, President at Accounting Technology Resources**

#### Resources

**Date: March 19, 2014**

**Time: 6:00pm**

**Place: Holiday Inn**

**2726 South Grand Avenue**

**Santa Ana, CA 92705**

**Ph: 481-6300**



Karen McGarrigle started her career in the infancy of what was then called "PC-based accounting" systems. She and her team work to simplify and automate accounting and process flow for real-time decision making. In addition to assisting clients with everyday Accounting and Distribution problems, Karen has helped companies like Billabong USA, Brother's Desserts, Mother's Market, and Premier Business Centers establish and integrate systems with complex mergers and acquisitions, Implement Credit card processing, Process and procedures and much more. Her company, Accounting Technology Resources, has been serving Southern California businesses for over 20 years.

**7 Common Assumptions that Can Doom Your New Accounting System to Failure!**

Your entire organization depends on your accounting system. From processing orders and payments to tracking inventory and providing accurate and timely information for decision making purposes, your accounting system is mission critical. Selecting a new accounting system is therefore an extremely important decision with significant consequences if not done properly. Unfortunately, there are many common assumptions that are made when selecting a new accounting system - and these common assumptions can lead to failed software implementations. Come and hear tips on how to help your organization succeed at this very important process.

**Menu: Small Mixed Green Salad  
Chicken Cordon Blue, Scalloped Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables  
Vegetarian Option: Eggplant Parmesan  
Chefs Choice Dessert**

**Advance reservations are requested and must be received by noon on Friday, March 14th. Free Parking! No cancellations or refunds after Friday March 14th.**

**Three convenient ways to register:**

**By phone: Contact AFWA voice mail at 949-862-0777**

**By email: Contact [reservations@AFWAoc.org](mailto:reservations@AFWAoc.org)**

**On-line: Register via our PayPal link at [www.afwaoc.org](http://www.afwaoc.org)**

## Member of the Year Nominations

### Kristina Diaz

Each year we recognize one outstanding individual as our Member of the Year for the AFWA Orange County Chapter. This honor is voted on by the membership in appreciation for the personal contributions and leadership demonstrated by one of our members. As we prepare to select our nominees for this year's honoree, please consider the following:

- Who consistently demonstrates a commitment and who sets a great example with personal and professional accomplishments?
- Who inspires you to be the best that you can be, to explore your professional potential?
- Who offers advice, encouragement, mentorship or professional guidance?
- Who consistently demonstrates a commitment to the growth and development of our local chapter, and to the goals of professional women in accounting?
- Who has made you feel welcomed, and made a difference in your life since you have been a part of AFWA?

Nomination forms will be available in April and voting will take place during the regular dinner meeting in May. The winner remains a secret, and will be revealed during our June installation and dinner meeting.

For more information, please contact:

Kristina Diaz 714-726-0775

[kristina.diaz@accountemps.com](mailto:kristina.diaz@accountemps.com)

## Recap February Networking Mixer

Gina Webber

### Thanks to those who attended our last Mixer!!

We kicked off 2014 with a successful networking mixer at the Holiday Inn, Santa Ana-Orange County Airport location on Grand Avenue. In attendance were women business owners, controllers, accounting and finance professionals - both working and some very talented candidates who are currently in transition, as well as recruiters from various local staffing firms. The food and service were great!



**Sandra Maldonado, Lorraine Shoun, Doris Cerna**



**Guest and Gina Webber**



Guests and Alison Aldrich



## Business Women's Mega Mixer March 27th

Millie Culpepper

The Orange County Business Women's Mega Mixer is  
just 1 month away!



Wouldn't you LOVE to showcase your business to hundreds of professional women AND celebrate Women's History Month with other like-minded women while helping to raise funds for this year's non-profit beneficiary, The National Women's Veterans Association?...

...Then you should  
**DEFINITELY** reserve your table top now!  
(Did we mention there is only 1 table top per business category/industry?!?)

**ORANGE COUNTY**  
**Thursday, March 27, 2014**  
**5:30 - 8:00 PM**  
**DoubleTree OC Airport**  
**201 E MacArthur Blvd, Santa Ana**

**[MAKE YOUR EXHIBIT SPACE](#)**  
**[RESERVATION ONLINE NOW!](#)**

## **AFWA National News**

**The Flagstaff Chapter #135 is Hosting the 2014 Southwest  
Regional Conference  
Get Your Accounting Kicks on Route 66**



**May 15-16, 2014 [High Country Conference Center](#)  
12 hours of CPE [www.AFWAflagstaff.com](http://www.AFWAflagstaff.com)**

**Registration Fees:** Early registration fees - \$250 for members and \$275 for non-members by **April 1st**. Friday only - \$200 for members and \$225 for non-members.

After April 1st - \$275 for members and \$300 for non-members. [Click here](#) to download a registration form (PayPal registration option coming soon).

### **Hotel Information:**

Click here [www.druryhotels.com](http://www.druryhotels.com) or call 1-800-325-0720 to make your reservations at the Drury Inn & Suites. Enter group # 2189609. Rates are \$124.95 per night single/double occupancy for a guest room. The Drury Inn offers "free hot breakfast" each morning and a 5:30 kickback hot food cold drinks. Travel options include flying directly to Flagstaff via US Airways. The airport is about 10 minutes

away from the hotel. If you prefer, you can fly into Phoenix, and Flagstaff is a beautiful two hour drive north on I17.

**Thursday, May 15:** Join the Chapter Exchange from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Then come see the stars at the world famous [Lowell Observatory](#). View planets, the moon, star clusters, the *Scanning the Skies: The Discovery Channel Telescope* documentary and more. Check out the Rotunda Museum which houses some of the most precious artifacts of Lowell's history. Transportation will be provided.

**Friday, May 16:** Join us for the National Board and Foundation Board Installation Dinner at the High Country Conference Center from 5:45 to 7:45pm. [Click here](#) to view the full schedule at a glance!

For questions, please contact Kelly Robertson at 928-523-2017 or [Kelly.robertson@nau.edu](mailto:Kelly.robertson@nau.edu).



Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance  
CONNECT • ADVANCE • LEAD  
Orange County Chapter

## Calling All AFWA Members The Board of Directors Wants You!

### Millie Culpepper

**It takes a team of dedicated volunteers to keep our organization growing and thriving. Whether you're interested in contributing leadership skills that you already excel in, or want to try your hand at developing new ones, we need your expertise! Serving on AFWA's Board of Directors provides great opportunities for personal and professional growth, as well as developing lasting friendships along the way.**

**We are currently reaching out to all AFWA members who are interested in joining the 2014-15 Board of Directors, the Board meets once a month separately from our regular meetings. Not sure if you are qualified? There are plenty of experienced members who will be glad to show you the ropes.**

#### **Board of Directors Roles & Responsibilities**

Each member of the Board shall oversee such standing committees as are assigned by the president and approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall encourage the attendance of committee chairs at Board meeting. If the chair is unable to attend, another member of the committee may represent the committee at the Board meeting.

Members of the Board of Directors are expected to attend all meetings of the Board and at least 50% of the regular dinner meetings.

In order for business to be conducted at Board meetings a quorum of the Board must be present. If a Board member cannot attend a Board meeting, she/he should notify the President prior to the meeting. A Board member who must miss

a meeting and who regularly performs a significant duty at the meetings is responsible for suggesting to the president an alternate representative to perform that function. A representative from the general membership carrying out those duties would not be counted toward the quorum and would not carry a vote. Also, a Board member who must miss a meeting may submit a proxy to the president in advance of the meeting appointing any other attending Board member to vote on behalf of the missing Board member.

The following positions are available, and include a brief description of responsibilities:

**Chapter President:**

Serve as our President and leading us July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015, must have served on the board of directors at least one year.

**President-Elect:** This role focuses on finding great program speakers for our monthly dinner meetings and preparing to take over the reins in 2015-16.

**VP - Communications:**

The lifeline of our chapter, this position oversees our website and newsletter activities, as well as all special communications with our members.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP - Membership:**

Help us welcome new members and grow our chapter, as well as focusing on retaining our current members.

**3<sup>rd</sup> VP - Special Events:**

Put your event planning skills to work in planning chapter events like our popular networking mixers, as well as our annual scholarship dinner and holiday party.

**Treasurer:** Share your accounting expertise by handling all the chapter's financial transactions

**Recording Secretary:** Your great organizational skills will be a plus in recording the monthly meeting minutes of our Board meetings.

**Director (3 positions available):** These Board members are not committed to responsibility for a specific area, but contribute their expertise as needed to any of the Board's projects.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Millie Culpepper at [president@afwaoc.org](mailto:president@afwaoc.org), Doris Cerna at [director1@afwaoc.org](mailto:director1@afwaoc.org) or Gina Webber at [special.events@afwaoc.org](mailto:special.events@afwaoc.org) as soon as possible for further details. Come join us and make a difference!

## Opportunity Drawing Donations Needed

Sandra Maldonado

### Congratulations to Last Month's Opportunity Drawing Winners!

Millie Culpepper won a \$25 Gift Certificate to Elephant Bar, donated by Alison Aldrich



**Lori Kenney** won 2 tickets valued at \$70 to Business Women's Mega Mixer - Orange County, March 27<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm at The DoubleTree Hotel, Santa Ana, donated by Karen McGarrigle

**Lori Kenney** won Free Ticket to our next AFWA Dinner, donated by our chapter.

**100% of the proceeds from our monthly Opportunity Drawings go toward funding our annual scholarship awards.** AFWA Orange County Chapter's Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) charity which directly supports accounting students in Orange County.

#### **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 Sandra Maldonado at [opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org](mailto:opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org) or visit AFWA-OC website at [www.afwaoc.org](http://www.afwaoc.org).

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## **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:**

- [database@afwaoc.org](mailto:database@afwaoc.org)
- Go online to [www.afwa.org](http://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](http://www.afwaoc.org/membership.php)**

**Questions? Contact Us.**

**By Email: [membership@afwaoc.org](mailto: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](http://www.afwa.org/join)**

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**Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance Chapter #73  
949-862-0777**