



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



In April, 2014 Sharon Bujacich and I had the honor of representing AFWA-OC at 2013-2014 Cypress College Business and Computer Information Systems Advisory Committee meeting. We met with other business professionals, faculty, administrators and students; the purpose of this meeting was to give advisory committee members the opportunity to discuss vocational program issues of concern to the college, division and community.

Please mark your calendars to save these dates:

### Wednesday, June 18 - Monthly membership meeting and CPE

- Installation of 2014-2015 Board of Directors
- Speaker Scharrell Talley-Jackson CFO & CAO at Squar, Milner, Peterson, Miranda & Williamson LLP. **Topic:** Integration Specialists
- Member of the Year Award

### Saturday, July 19 - 2014-2015 Annual Planning Meeting 9am - 3pm

- Board of Directors, Committees and Members invited.

The national conference will be in New Orleans on 9/28-10/1/2014, please consider attending!

*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](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Blog](#)

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## National News

## Upcoming Events

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

05/15-16 2014  
SW Regional  
Conference

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

08/20/2014  
Dinner Meeting  
6:00pm Holiday Inn

09/28-10/01 2014  
2014 AFWA Annual  
Conference  
New Orleans, La.

10/16/2014  
19th Annual  
Remarkable  
Women Award  
Event

11/19/2014  
Student Night  
Scholarship  
Awards Dinner  
TBD

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

## Board of Directors

President  
Millie Culpepper

President-Elect  
Open

V.P. Membership  
Kristina Diaz

## AFWA Speed Networking Event - May 14th

Gina Webber

**The first 50 people to sign up for May 14th Mixer by Monday, 5/12/2014 at 12 noon will be entered to a drawing for FREE attendance to our JUNE 18th Dinner Meeting!**



**Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**Social/Mixer 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Holiday Inn Orange County Airport in the Atrium Area**  
**2726 South Grand Avenue**  
**Santa Ana, CA 92705**  
**Ph: 714 481-6300**  
**FREE Open Parking [www.holidayinn.com/jwa-airport](http://www.holidayinn.com/jwa-airport)**

**Have you wanted a chance to talk to another member or guest, get to know them better and get their contact information? Now is your chance at our May 14th Social/Mixer. We're going to be playing a Speed Networking game that will give you a chance to meet and interact with other members and guests. Be sure to bring lots of business cards to share during our Speed Networking game. Don't miss out on this great networking opportunity! Note: If you don't want to participate in the Networking event-that's ok just sit out the game and enjoy the fun!**

**Pre-pay at [www.afwaoc.org](http://www.afwaoc.org) PayPal \$15 MEMBERS, \$20 GUESTS**  
**RSVP: [networking@afwaoc.org](mailto:networking@afwaoc.org) or contact Gina Webber at 714.929.1320**

**Guest Business Card drawing Donated by AFWA-OC:**  
**June 18, 2014 AFWA-OC Dinner Meeting (\$45 value)**

**Thank you!!!!**

**Opportunity prize drawings:**

**Tickets sold at \$5, \$10, \$20**

*Proceeds support our scholarship fund. If you or your company would like to donate a bottle of wine, a gift certificate or other items to be used for our Opportunity Drawing to raise money for our Scholarship Fund, please contact Sandra Maldonado at [opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org](mailto:opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org)*

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



## AFWA-OC 2014-2015 Board Installation Dinner 6/18!

Gina Webber

**Featured guest speaker: Scharrell Talley - Jackson CFO & CAO at Squar, Milner, Peterson, Miranda & Williamson LLP**



**Guest Speaker:** Scharrell Talley Jackson currently serves as the CFO & CAO at Squar, Milner, Peterson, Miranda & Williamson LLP, one of the nation's 100 largest accounting firms, and one of California's leading independent advisory firms. She joined the firm in February 2000, and has played an integral role in the firm's growth and success, overseeing multiple mergers, and providing executive leadership to the Accounting, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Administrative teams. She is actively involved in all operational aspects of the firm, and serves as a strategic partner, working directly with the Managing Partner and Executive Committee.

**Topic:** Integration Specialists

**Date:** Wednesday, June 18, 2014

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Place:** Holiday Inn  
2726 S. Grand Avenue  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
Ph: 714-481-6300  
FREE Open Parking

**Menu:**

**Mixed Greens Salad, Chicken Piccata, Rice Pilaf with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Dinner Rolls & Butter, Chef's Choice of Dessert**

**Vegetarian Option:**

**Pasta tossed with Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Served with Rich Alfredo Sauce**

**Advance reservations are requested and must be received by noon on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon.**

**Members: \$38 Guests: \$45 Students: \$30**

**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: [www.afwaoc.org](http://www.afwaoc.org)**

***Opportunity prize drawings***

***Tickets sold at \$5, \$10, \$20***

***Proceeds support our scholarship fund.***

If you or your company would like to donate a bottle of wine, a gift certificate or other items to be used for our Opportunity Drawing to raise money for our Scholarship Fund, please contact Sandra Maldonado at [opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org](mailto:opportunity.drawings@afwaoc.org)

## **Member of the Year Nominees**

### **Kristina Diaz**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I have the pleasure of announcing this year's Member of the Year Nominees. Each of these remarkable AFWA members has given generously of her time and talent, contributing richly to the ongoing growth and development of our chapter.

Please join us in congratulating three outstanding members of our chapter who have been recognized as this year's nominees:



**Gina Webber**

Gina has spent the last 30 years working in and helping put others to work in the field of accounting and finance. It is a field she loves and knows well. Searching for a way to help other women build their accounting careers, Gina joined AFWA in 2011. After regularly attending and participating as a member, she wanted to make a greater contribution to the organization. In 2013, she took on the role of VP of Special Events. Over this past year, she has enjoyed planning and organizing the Monthly Mixer networking events, identifying guest speakers for the dinner events, coordinating the 2013 Student Scholarship Award event as well as serving on the Board Nominating Committee. Of all the AFWA experiences, the most rewarding so far has been working directly with the CSUF accounting students conducting mock interviews. Being able to leverage her accounting background as well as her recruiting expertise to assist our future accounting and finance professionals is something she looks forward to every year.



**Karen McGarrigle**

Karen has been an AFWA member since 2013. She is new to the Board of Directors serving as our VP of Communications. Karen has been instrumental in upgrading our website this year as well as streamlining the process of monthly membership communications.

Karen 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.

Karen is honored to be nominated as AFWA's Member of the Year amongst this impressive group of accounting and finance professionals and looks forward to continuing as a member in the AFWA Orange County Chapter for many years to come.



**Millie Culpepper**

Member of the Orange County chapter of AFWA since 2004, in 2007 became active as Hotel Liaison for two years, holding several different board positions as VP of Special Events, VP of Membership. In January 2012 became President and will continue serving as next year's President. In addition to her local chapter responsibilities, Millie serves as AFWA Regional Director to Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Diego, San Francisco and Jackson, Mississippi.

Millie has actively volunteered in several not-for-profit organizations such as, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, March of Dimes, Beckman Women Club

philanthropic endeavor, as well as served sixteen years as Supervisory Chairman for Pacific Credit Union (formerly Beckman Employee Credit Union), then as a member of the Board of Directors.

Millie's educational background includes an AA degree in Accounting from Fullerton College, BS degree in Business and Management from the University of Redlands. Her concentration in International Business afforded her the opportunity to study abroad at the Institute of Economic and Political Studies at Cambridge, and began a lifelong love affair with traveling. Millie spent twenty-six years of her career at Beckman Coulter in Brea holding various accounting positions, including World Wide Financial Reporting & System Analyst. In 2003 Millie retired from Beckman Coulter to start a new chapter in her life, traveling extensively throughout Europe, Australia and the Mediterranean and in 2010 visited Costa Rica and Panama.

Millie loves the fact that AFWA attracts such incredibly talented women, and feels very fortunate to develop such rich and rewarding friendships along the way. She is honored to be nominated along with two other exceptional women for this award by a group that she admires so much.

**Voting for Member of the Year is open to registered AFWA members and will take place in-person via confidential ballot at the May 14th Speed Networking Mixer. Results will be announced during the June installation. If you are unable to attend the May meeting and still wish to cast your vote, please contact Kristina Diaz by phone (714) 726-0775 or e-mail: [kristina.diaz@accountemps.com](mailto:kristina.diaz@accountemps.com) no later than Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

## Recap AFWA-OC April After Tax Dinner

Gina Webber

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

We had a fun group attending this event at the Golden Dragon in Costa Mesa! In attendance were various Members including several CPA Service Business Owners, various Accounting & Finance Professionals, both working and in transition. Also in attendance was Claudia Quintana, CPA and President of the OC Chapter of ALPFA. It's always a pleasure to meet young professionals who are on the move!! We hope to see you at our next event, Claudia!





## 2014 - 2015 Slate of Officers

### Millie Culpepper

The 2014 nominating committee, comprised of Millie Culpepper, Gina Webber and Doris Cerna, is proud to present the following slate of officers and directors for the Orange County chapter of the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance for the upcoming year.

Congratulations to all of our nominees, and thank you for volunteering to guide our chapter in the coming year!

President:	<b>Millie Culpepper</b>
President-Elect:	<b>Karen McGarrigle</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Sandra Maldonado</b>
VP - Membership:	<b>Lily Gidcumb</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP - Communications:	<b>Karen McGarrigle</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> VP - Special Events:	<b>Doris Cerna</b>
Recording Secretary:	<b>Open</b>
Director:	<b>Gina Webber</b>
Director:	<b>Open</b>
Director:	<b>Open</b>

If you are interested in any of the open Board positions, please reach out by E-mail to [president@afwaoc.org](mailto:president@afwaoc.org) or to any one of the nominating committee members for further information.

The proposed slate of officers will be presented for a vote by the general membership at our upcoming Speed Networking Mixer, Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Additional nominations may still be submitted to the nominating committee in advance, and will also be accepted from the floor that evening. Upon acceptance of the slate by our membership, the formal installation of our new 2014 - 2015 Board of Directors will take place during the June 18<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting.

## Opportunity Drawing Donations Needed

### Sandra Maldonado

Congratulations to the April Opportunity Drawing Winners!

**Ruth Zakowski** won a Deluxe Carwash valued at \$25. Ruth then gracefully donated the gift to Rhea Graf. The carwash gift certificate was donated by Sandra Maldonado.

**Claudia Quintana** from Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA) won a 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).

### Scholarship Fund donations are 100% deductible, here are three ways to contribute:

- 1) By mail in support of our **AFWA-OC scholarship fund** (Mail to 3857 Birch Street, PMB 169, Newport Beach, CA 92660)
- 2) By PayPal visit our website at <http://afwaoc.org/scholarship-donation/>.
- 3) At our events Opportunity Drawings

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## Membership Corner

Kristina Diaz

### **Please welcome our newest member!** ***Stephanie DeVoy***

#### Time to Renew/Apply For Your AFWA Membership

Lately, if you've had one of the questions below:

- ✚ My company says I need to learn to be a team player -where do I learn that?
- ✚ I am not as happy in my job as I used to be. Maybe it is time for a change - where do I begin?
- ✚ The continuing professional education (CPE) that I normally get is usually too simple and not specific enough. Where can I find the education I need?
- ✚ I recently did a technical presentation for my company; where else can I present this?
- ✚ I've put my time into public accounting and now I am ready to go out on my own. Is there someone I can talk to who has been successful at doing the same thing?
- ✚ My company has finally authorized me to hire an assistant. How can I find the right person?
- ✚ I work in a very narrow tax area; where else can I find others like me to exchange ideas with?
- ✚ The answer is AFWA.
- ✚ The Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance is the home for women in accounting and finance.

Follow the link to apply: [www.afwa.org/join](http://www.afwa.org/join) Orange County Chapter #073

#### Current Year 7/1/2013 - 06/30/2014 Membership Dues

	New Member			Membership Renewal			
	Regular Member	Affiliate Member	Student / Associate Member	Regular Member	Affiliate Member	Student / Associate Member	Retiree contact Nat'l
Annual National Dues	126	126	40	126	126	40	30
Annual OC Chapter Dues	56	56	21	56	56	21	4
One time Application Fee	25	25	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$207</b>	<b>\$207</b>	<b>\$61</b>	<b>\$182</b>	<b>\$182</b>	<b>\$61</b>	<b>\$34</b>

#### **Drawing for Guests Only**

**Did you know at every event we hold a drawing for guests to receive a free dinner meeting (a \$45 value)? So bring a guest to the next event and your guest has a very good chance of winning June 18<sup>th</sup> dinner meeting on us!**

## 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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## AFWA National News



Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance  
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### Save The Date 2014 AFWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Don't miss this opportunity to network with other women in accounting and finance from across the country. Join us in New Orleans and learn from leading experts on ways to develop a variety of your skills. The Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance Annual Conference will be loaded with opportunities for networking, leadership development, education - including CPE credit hours - and fun!

Updates will be posted on [afwa.org](http://afwa.org). Also, follow [@AFWANational](https://www.facebook.com/AFWANational) or like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/AFWANational) for all the latest on the Annual Conference

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