



Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance

CONNECT • ADVANCE • LEAD

Orange County Chapter

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.

AFWA-OC 2015-2016 Board Installation Dinner & CPE

The Right Job and Career for You: How to Create One That You Really Love (tm)

The Orange County Chapter of Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance would like to invite you to our next dinner meeting, where our guest speaker, Dr. Miriam Reiss, will share her knowledge and expertise.

Wednesday, June 24, 2015 6pm - 9pm
Holiday Inn, 2726 S. Grand Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Featured guest speaker: Dr. Miriam Reiss



Dr. Miriam Reiss helps women in accounting and financial services create careers that bring them contentment and prosperity. Co-author of "Branding & Marketing Mastery" Miriam is a career development and business strategy speaker, trainer and master coach. Miriam's business clients have ranged from Fidelity and Boeing to the Washington State Bar Association. Individual clients have included CEOs, accounting professionals and financial service leaders. Past President, International Coach Federation, Washington State Chapter, Miriam holds degrees from Cornell and Columbia Universities. Her doctorate is from Peace Theological Seminary. Miriam has been quoted as an expert coach in publications including Good Housekeeping and The Wall Street Journal. Miriam can be reached at miriam@spiritedmarketing.com, www.spiritedmarketing.com.

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Upcoming Events

- 6/24/2015 5:30pm Installation Dinner Holiday Inn Santa Ana
- July 2015 Planning Meeting TBD
- 08/19/2015 5:30 pm Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn Santa Ana
- 10/26-28/2015 AFWA National Conference Pittsburgh, PA
- 11/18/2015 5:30pm Student Night & Scholarship Awards TBD
- [Visit our chapter website for more details](#)

Board of Directors

- President Millie Culpepper
- President-Elect Karen McGarrigle
- V.P. Membership Lily Gidcumb
- V.P. Special Events Doris Cerna
- V.P. Communications

Miriam has helped thousands of women to create careers they really love. Many of Miriam's coaching clients have been in accounting and financial services. Miriam worked in mortgage banking as a Director of Marketing. In her early career, Miriam consulted for Fidelity, helping them convert their written offerings into something that people would understand, find desirable and actually buy.

Learning Objectives & Program Content:

Program Level: Overview

Program Prerequisites/Advance Preparation: None

Instructional Delivery Method: Group Live Presentation

Recommended Amount of CPE Credit: 1 credit hour

Agenda:

6:00 - 6:30 Registration & Networking

6:30 - 7:00 Dinner & Installation of Officers

7:00 - 7:15 Announcements, Member of the Year

7:15 - 8:15 Speaker (CPE)

8:15 - 8:30 Closing Remarks & Opportunity Drawing

Price: Members: \$38, Guests: \$43, Students: \$30
(enrolled in 12 or more units)

Menu:

Salad, Chicken Breast with butter, lemon juice, caper sauce, garlic mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetables, rolls & butter and chef's dessert

Also available vegetarian Pasta Primavera, seasonal vegetables, Caesar salad, please specify your meal preference when you register.

Official National Registry Statement

The Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be submitted to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors through its website: www.learningmarket.org

Three convenient ways to register by Friday, 6/19, noon:

By phone: AFWA voice mail at 949.862.0777

By email: reservations@afwaoc.org

On-line: [Register here](#) (Add \$5 for late registration after 6/19)

President's Message

Millie Culpepper



All good things must end and as my term comes to an end, I reflect on my experience, in this, my last President's message. First, it has been an extreme honor to lead and serve you the members of the Orange County Chapter of the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance and work with the talented women Board Members and Committee Chairs. While it seems there is never enough time to do everything I want in life and my choices are limited, serving as your President was definitely a valuable

Karen McGarrigle

Recording Secretary
Zohra Cornin

Treasurer
Sandra Maldonado

Directors

Gina Webber
Kristina Diaz
Alison Aldrich



use of my time. I never thought that I would have so many personal challenges during my tenure, so it was especially meaningful for the Board to step in to do their part, as well as support me during some trying times.

Join us Wednesday, June 24, 2015 for a very special installation and end of year celebration! We will announce our 2015 Member of the Year; thank our 2014/2015 Officers and Directors, and install our new 2015/2016 Officers and Directors.

If you only come to one event a year, this is the one!
If you have ever wanted to know more about our organization, this is the meeting to attend.

By attending, you show your support for our local chapter and your appreciation for the hardworking volunteer Board for all of the events that have taken place since last July. This is your chance to let them know that you've enjoyed the events, your favorite speaker, topic and/or venue.

We are so pleased to have past President and 36 years member Ann Marie Broderick, CPA performing this year's installation. Ann Marie is an outstanding professional and strongly supports the Orange Chapter of AFWA.

I am grateful to AFWA and must give a heartfelt thank you to my 2014/2015 Board members:

President-Elect / VP Communications: Karen Espinoza McGarrigle
VP Membership: Lily Gidcumb
VP Special Events: Doris Cerna
Recording Secretary: Alison Aldrich / Zohra Cronin
Treasurer: Sandra Maldonado
Director/Reservations: Kristina Diaz
Director/Scholarship: Gina Webber

I also acknowledge and appreciate the committee chairs: Gail Campbell, Aleigh Dornbach, Dolores Lara and Marcy Beck.

This year highlights:

- We networked nationwide, proudly representing our chapter at National Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) "Remarkable Women Dinner" AFWA 2014 Member of the Year - Millie Culpepper.
- We honored four Scholarship Award winners with \$3,000, thank you to our Corporate and Members Sponsors during our annual Student Night festivities.
- Celebrated with members and friends Holiday Breakfast at Citrus Café and donated food and personal items to the 2nd Harvest Food Bank.
- Participated in Vital Link & Orange County Department of Education - Regional Advisory Board Business, Finance & Marketing attended by Educators and Counselors from Community Colleges, Regional Occupational Programs (ROP'S) and High Schools Districts.
- Volunteered at CSUF Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) Mock Interviews Event to help students learn what to expect in a job interview as well as how to improve their self-

presentation.

- Represented our chapter at CSUF Irvine Campus Speaker Meeting to provide students with information about our organization (April 2015).
- Participated in Cypress College Business and Computer Information Systems Division 2014-2015 Advisory Committee (April 2015)
- April after Tax Season, members and guests came together for an informal Brunch in downtown Orange.
- May 2015 we tried our first Members Appreciation Mixer, it was very well received!

It takes the combined energy and talent of everyone in our chapter to make these events happen. Thank You to all volunteers - your contributions both large and small make AFWA the great organization that it is.

Millie Culpepper, President
president@afwaoc.org

AFWA Orange County's 2015 - 2016 Board of Directors

We are pleased to announce that the following 2015-2016 slate of officers and directors was unanimously elected by the members in attendance at the Orange County Chapter of the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance May 21st Member's Appreciation Mixer. Please join us for the formal installation of our new Board during our upcoming June 24th, 2015 dinner meeting.

Very special thanks to Millie Culpepper, Karen McGarrigle and Kristina Diaz nominating committee members.

Congratulations to all 2015-2016 Officers, and thank you for volunteering to guide our chapter in the coming year! If you are interested in any of the open Board positions, please reach out to any one of the nominating committee members for further information.

President:	Karen McGarrigle
President-Elect:	Kristina Diaz
Recording Secretary:	Open
Treasurer:	Alison Aldrich
VP - Membership:	Open
2nd VP - Communications:	Open
3rd VP - Special Events:	Sufen Wang
Past President / Director:	Millie Culpepper
Director:	Lily Gidcumb

Who Will Win Member of the Year?

The votes are in and we have our results! But it's a surprise so come out on June 24th and see if your favorite nominee will be "crowned" Member of the Year!



Gail Campbell

Gail has been an AFWA member since 1994. She is a Past President and served AFWA in many other board positions along the way. She is currently serving AFWA in creating and emailing the monthly newsletter. AFWA has been very instrumental in her leadership and networking abilities. Joining AFWA in 1994 was motivated by networking as a priority, but in the end true lifelong friendships became the priority and the networking became secondary.

Gail has over 30 years experience in the Accounting field with her last position as Controller before starting her own business "Profits Plus" in 1994. Profits Plus is a Sage Business Partner with expertise in the Sale, Installation, Implementation and support of the Sage 100 ERP Accounting Software.



Karen McGarrigle

Karen has been an AFWA member since 2013. She immediately became a member of the board and currently serves as the chapter's President-Elect and VP of Communications for 2013-2015.

Karen has worked in the software industry for over 25 years including being a business owner and founder of Accounting Technology Resources (ATR). ATR was recently sold to merge with another company, SWK Technologies, Inc. Her new title at SWK is Senior Sales Executive.

Join us June 24th to celebrate these women

Because we feel so honored by one very special woman who has chosen to be a member of our Chapter for most of her career, we would like to feature her in this month's newsletter. For so many of us, whichever way you look at it, it is an intellectual choice to join and maintain your AFWA membership for life. One woman in our chapter is celebrating a milestone 40th anniversary with our organization, and we want to share something about her. Marilyn J. Hall, attributes much of her professional success to AFWA. She has served as a chapter officer and on the National Board. Marilyn continues to support AFWA and specifically the Orange County chapter.



Marilyn Jane Hall - 40 Years our longest Orange County Chapter Member!

Marilyn J. Hall, CPA first started her relationship with the American Society of Women Accountants (now known as Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance) in the Fall 1972 as a student member of the Los Angeles Chapter. She started attending the Board meetings since they were said to be "open to all". She became active on several committees. She graduated from the University of Southern California and went to work for Coopers & Lybrand(C & L). In November 1974 she became a regular member of ASWA. Marilyn attended several national ASWA seminars with the assistance of C & L. She worked for ASWA's National Board as Assistant to the Treasurer... a great education in the consolidation of chapter financials and the filings for a national organization.

Marilyn then started the next phase of her professional life as Controller for a large community hospital. A friend who had started a new executive search firm asked a favor; would she do a job interview with a difficult client? This lead to Marilyn being the Corporate Controller of a multi-office multi-state design firm. Marilyn continued to work at various positions for the Orange County Chapter of ASWA. This included being co-chairman for a weekend long regional ASWA educational seminar.

She then became the Vice President of Finance - General Manager for a multi-office specialty design firm which led to working for an international design firm overseeing the financial operations of several mega joint venture rail projects. When the projects ended, she became a troubleshooter for the regional office of another large design firm until it was sold and the transition was complete.

Few of the companies she worked for still exist by their original name and those that do, have new owners operating them, often from another state or country. She elected not to chase the jobs but to remain local and turn a hobby into a business. Today she manages an on-line boutique design studio/workshop specializing in stitchery, including needlepoint, and counted thread embroidery.

Congratulations and thank you for forty years of Support!

Other Orange County chapter members celebrating milestone anniversaries:

- 25 years - Anne Christensen
- 20 years - Alison Aldrich
- 20 years - Ruth Zakowski
- 15 years - Diane Ravenscroft, CPA
- 10 years - Donna Bernbrock, CPA
- 10 years - Penelope Kinnear

Congratulations and thank you for your continued years of service and support!

Opportunity Drawing

Alison Aldrich

Congratulations to these individuals who won prizes from May 21st Member's Appreciation Mixer!

Opportunity Drawing benefits our chapter's Student Scholarship program:

\$25 Darden Restaurant Gift Card Donated by: Millie Culpepper Won by: Maria Beechan.
Free June Installation Dinner Donated by: AFWA-OC Won by: Anh Nguyen

Thank you Millie Culpepper for your donation, AFWA appreciates your support!

Two Business card drawing winners, for free June installation dinner - valued at \$43:
Mary Di Lucca and Jeff Lobel

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) which directly supports accounting students in Orange County.

It's Membership Renewal Time!

Alison Aldrich/Lily Gidcumb

On behalf of the AFWA, we thank you for your continued support of this professional organization. We are privileged to count you among the 4,000 members of AFWA nationwide. Your participation is vital to the future of AFWA, and we are asking you to renew your commitment by completing this year's membership renewal.

One of the objectives of our organization is to provide a pathway to networking and education opportunities for our members. The importance of networking cannot be stressed enough, especially in today's unpredictable job market. The Orange County Chapter Board of Directors is currently working hard in planning our summer and fall events with these objectives in mind.

We also offer opportunities to participate in our organization's leadership. We will be looking to fill leadership positions and committees in the near future. If you have any suggestions or comments you would like to share with us regarding the organization, events, etc. we would love to hear them.

Hopefully last month you received a renewal notice from National because once again, it's membership renewal time for the majority of our members. If you received the notice, the link will take you to the AFWA National site (www.afwa.org). You will then need your membership number, and your password. We can help you with this, please send a note to (aaldrich7@yahoo.com) and we will get your membership number to you. When you're on the National site, please take a moment to update your personal information. If you did not receive an email notice, then it might be because your email has changed. The directions above are the same once you get to the site.

Members expiring in June (report as of 5/06/2015):

First Name	Last Name	Join	Expire	Anniversary	
Marilyn Jane	Hall	11/01/1974	6/30/2015	40	Longest Member
Anne	Christensen	01/18/1990	6/30/2015	25	
Alison	Aldrich	08/19/1994	6/30/2015	20	
Ruth	Zakowski	03/16/1995	6/30/2015	20	
Marcy	Beck, CPA	05/01/1979	6/30/2015		
Ann Marie	Broderick, CPA	04/23/1984	6/30/2015		
Gail	Campbell	04/01/1994	6/30/2015		
Maria	Beechan	11/19/1998	6/30/2015		
Donna	Bernbrock, CPA	09/07/2005	6/30/2015		
Jessica	Clarke	06/30/2006	6/30/2015		
Kristina	Diaz	07/01/2011	6/30/2015		
Rita	Gittings, CPA	05/25/1997	6/30/2015		
Rhea	Graf, CPA	07/22/1997	6/30/2015		
Penelope	Kinnear	04/12/2005	6/30/2015		
Dolores	Lara	05/01/1986	6/30/2015		
Irene	Mack, CPA	03/25/2003	6/30/2015		
Diane	Ravenscroft, CPA	10/04/1999	6/30/2015		
Deborah	Szul	11/01/1976	6/30/2015		

If you are interested in becoming a member of AFWA, please fill out a registration form at www.afwa.org. Members: Keep our records current--log into AFWA National at www.afwa.org to update your contact information.

National News

Dolores Lara Selected as a 2015 AFWA National Conference Speaker



Dolores Lara, a member of the Orange County Chapter and past National Board member, will be speaking at the upcoming 2015 AFWA Conference, which will be held at the Westin Convention Center in Pittsburgh October 26 - October 28.

The conference will present three tracks providing up to 20 hours of CPE credit in the areas of Accounting & Audit, Tax Finance & Industry, and Professional Development. Dolores' topic is Negotiate The Salary You Deserve. Women still earn just 77% of men's earnings. As women, you need to sharpen your negotiation skills and get what you deserve when asking for a raise or entertaining an offer. As a seasoned executive recruiter, Dolores Lara has placed over 1,000 people. Learn negotiation tactics that work.

Mark your calendars for this great event!

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