Columbus Chapter Chat
Volume 2 Issue 4 May/June 2007



Payroll is a Jungle Out There!

A recap of APA's 25th Silver Safari Anniversary Congress

Silver Safari Summary

The President's Letter by Robyn Maslouski CPP – President, Columbus Area Chapter

A big-game hunter went on safari with his wife and mother-in-law. One evening, while still deep in the jungle, the Mrs awoke to find her mother gone. Rushing to her husband, she insisted on them both trying to find her mother.

The hunter picked up his rifle, took a swig of whiskey, and started to look for her. In a clearing not far from the camp, they came upon a chilling sight: the mother-in-law was backed up against a thick, impenetrable bush, and a large male lion stood facing her.

The wife cried, "What are we going to do?"

"Nothing," said the hunter husband. "The lion got himself into this mess; let him get himself out of it."

Okay…if we heard one reference at Congress about payroll being a jungle, we heard 20 of them. "Payroll's a jungle out there." "The IRS is a big, bad gorilla." "Don't slither your way out of compliance." So, needless to say, I couldn't resist starting out this newsletter with a jungle reference myself.

As usual, this year's Congress was a great experience. We celebrated APA's 25th anniversary as well, bringing our overall theme to a "Silver Safari Congress." APA has a one-day event called Pre-Congress the day before Congress actually starts. This event is great to go to: it's all about how to invest in yourself. It doesn't include any of the technical topics that attendees get the rest of Congress. Strangely enough—or at least I was surprised—my favorite speaker at Pre-Congress was a photographer. I didn't quite figure out how his content would relate to something educational, but I sat in amazement looking at his photos that he shared with us. It was actually the most relaxing part of the conference for me.

Congress' general session was capped off with our keynote speaker, Jack Hanna. He brought animals and films to show us his love for animals. Seeing a film clip about mountain gorillas (only about 300 left in the world) and having a red-tailed hawk fly around the ballroom were the highlights for me.

Several awards were distributed and Columbus Area Chapter received third place—in conjunction with the other chapters in Ohio—for the Dream Theme contest. This was awarded for "Payroll Rocks" at the 2006 Ohio Conference for Payroll Professionals.

Two of the best gatherings were the CAC APA happy hour and breakfast get-togethers. About two dozen CAC APA members attended the conference and most made it to at least one of these events.

I came back from Congress, hoping that my next safari with the CAC APA is to get our chapter in contention for other awards. Let us know if you're interested in helping out out. Plus, read elsewhere in this newsletter on how you can become a chapter officer and continue the safari!

Robyn

Define Congress:
-Networking-
-Education-
-Fast-paced-
-Fun-

Join in the safari to make the Columbus Area Chapter one of the best!

Inside This Issue

1 President's Letter
2 Officer Election
2 2007 OCPP
2 Chapter Dashboard
3 Around the WWW
3 Newly Certified Members
4 New Minimum Wage
4 Military Appreciation
4 CAC²
5 Past due payments
5 Congress pictures
5 In Our Thoughts…
6 Birthday Bulletin
6 Upcoming Events
6 New Member Rollcall
6 Sponsors
6 Chapter Contact Info



Columbus Area Chapter Officer Elections Coming Soon!

In last month's Chapter Chat, the President's letter talked a lot about getting involved. I can honestly say that you do get a lot out of the APA compared to what you put into it. You can get friends, jobs, personal growth, and the best thing you get out of volunteering with the APA is FUN! Remember, Thomas Edison once said, "Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work." Consider this opportunity for you to grow personally & professionally!

July 2007 will mark the next round of elections for chapter officers to serve the chapter in 2008 & 2009. A few years ago the elections were moved up to July to allow plenty of time for on-boarding and training of the new officers before year-end hit.

The Columbus Area Chapter has seven officer positions, four of which are elected. The only requirements for serving as a chapter officer—whether elected or appointed—is that 1) the individual is a member of the national APA and 2) is a member in good standing of our chapter. The four elected positions:

3. ***President*** This role is the Chief Executive Officer of the chapter and is responsible for the chapter activities and members. This position monitors funds and approves spending, in addition to promoting the welfare of the chapter. The President resides over all chapter meetings, including board meetings. The President can serve an unlimited number of terms but only two terms can be consecutive.

4. ***Vice President*** In addition to being the immediate successor to the Presidency if the President cannot fill his/her full term, the Vice President is also primarily responsible for securing monthly meetings agendas, topics & speakers.

1. ***Treasurer*** As the main keeper of the financial assets of the chapter, the Treasurer is responsible for all banking transactions: reconciliation & maintenance of the checking account, payment of liabilities owed by the chapter, administration of the payment module of the website, and reporting of our financial status.

2. ***Secretary*** As the main keeper of the people assets of the chapter, the Secretary is responsible for maintaining membership records of active & inactive members. These duties include issuing membership certificates, taking minutes at meetings, coordinating the registration table at the monthly meetings, and working with the Treasurer on unpaid memberships.

The other three positions—Technology Officer, National Coordinator, and Government Liaison—are appointed by the President after the election results are tabulated and before the next term begins.

During the month of June, all chapter members will be sent a link to a web page on which you can see a listing of the officer positions available for election as well as then submit a form for nomination. Note: this link is also accessible from the right-hand navigation menu on our home page. The detail on the form will be shared with your fellow chapter members so that they can make an informed vote. All members will get another email in July requesting they vote for the chapter officers.

Until then think about what officer position you'd be interested in or contact a friend that you think might be good for the opportunity!

2007 Statewide Payroll Conference

The Columbus Area Chapter will once again host the Ohio Conference for Payroll Professionals in 2007. The OCPP planning committee will be meeting again in a couple weeks to continue planning the 2007 conference, *The Super Bowl of Payroll*.

The 2007 conference will be a half day conference on Thursday and an all day conference on Friday. Thursday evening will be great fun as conference attendees enjoy a tailgate party with their fellow Ohio payroll professionals.

Mark your calendars now for this year's conference, which will be held September 27th and 28th at Cherry Valley Lodge in Newark, Ohio.



September 27 & 28
Newark, Ohio



Chapter Dashboard

Fuel:	Speed:	Oil:	Horsepower:
$10,424.98	178	10 New	69 CPPs
$4,230 in receivables	Members	Members	22 FPCs

Around the World Wide Web

By Brad Patterson, CPP – Technology Officer, Columbus Area Chapter



I want to focus in particular on two features we have had established for awhile on the Right Hand Side Navigation menu to make both renewing your membership and paying membership dues or chapter events (meetings, etc.) that have become past due, easier.

Renew Your Membership - If you have previously been a member (at least since 2003 when our site went live) and want to renew your membership, you do not need to register as a new member. You simply click on **"Renew Your Membership"** and after selecting the type of member you will be—Regular or Associate—you will be linked to your database record to update any information that may have changed. Also during the process you will be linked to the payment page where you can pay your dues via credit card or set up a receivable. If paying via credit card you will have the ability to print a receipt and, if not, then you can print an invoice. As a reminder, you can renew at any time and your membership will automatically be active for one year from the date of renewal. You will receive automatic membership renewal reminder emails shortly before your membership expires.

New link on home page provides quick access to membership renewal and paying past due invoices

Pay Past Due Invoices – This was set up as a convenience solely to be used to pay via credit card for either membership dues you had forgotten to remit, or for chapter events for which you had registered and forgotten to remit payment. We have had members try to use this feature when renewing memberships and this is incorrect. **It should only be used when the Treasurer contacts you** indicating we have not received payment after a period of time for either dues or events and will provide a quick way to pay via credit card. You will be able to print a receipt upon payment.

Surveys – I also wanted to take the opportunity to encourage you to complete our surveys. After a meeting or an event, members who registered will receive an email with al link to the survey. The surveys are designed to be fairly quick and easy to navigate and your feedback is important. Historically in our chapter we do not get much feedback and as in any organization, we depend upon that to continually improve the quality of our events and the quality of your membership. So the next time you receive an email asking you to complete a survey, please consider doing so.

Our surveys provide quick ways for you to provide feedback!

Also, please remember to always keep your membership profile up-to-date; to do that, simply click on the "**Update Your Profile**" link which also appears on the right hand side navigation menu.

As always, we encourage your feedback to make your web site even better!

Newly Certified Members

The recent certification window has brought upon some new suffixes to the names of some of our chapter members. Please wish your fellow chapter members Congratulations for passing their certification exam!

- **Cheryl Fowler FPC**
- **Judy DePinto FPC**
- **Karyn Luke FPC**
- **Leslie Qualls CPP**

Congress Approves Minimum Wage Increase



On May 25, President Bush signed legislation increasing the federal minimum wage for the first time since 1997. The increase was tacked onto an unrelated "war supplemental" appropriations bill and approved by the U.S. House and Senate by large margins.

Title VIII, Subtitle A, of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007 is the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007, which increases the minimum wage. Title VIII, Subtitle B, is the Small Business and Work Opportunity Tax Act of 2007, an accompanying package of business tax incentives.

The Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 increases the federal hourly minimum wage rate to

- $5.85, effective 60 days after the date of enactment (i.e. July 24, 2007)
- $6.55 effective 12 months after that 60th day (i.e. July 24, 2008)
- $7.25 effective 24 months after that 60th day (i.e. July 24, 2009)

July 24, 2007 - $5.85/hour

July 24, 2008 - $6.55/hour

July 24, 2009 - $7.25/hour

Military Appreciation

The month of May marked National Military Appreciation Month. Since we didn't have a monthly meeting in the month of May, the CAC APA will be celebrating National Military Appreciation Month during our June meeting on June 14, 2007.

Soon, we will be getting an email to our chapter members indicating how they can help. A number of organizations offer means for associations such as ours to help support the men & women overseas. We'll provide you more details on how you can show support with donated cash or goods or even simple letters and cards for the troops.

Regardless of how you personally feel about the war, everyone has room in their hearts to support our young men & women overseas, who are defending our freedom and preserving our way of life.

CAC APA members will have the opportunity to show support to our young men & women overseas

CAC²

***C**olumbus **A**rea **C**hapter **C**ares **A**bout the **C**ommunity*

The month of May provided the Columbus Area Chapter an opportunity to donate to one of its sponsored charities, the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. A few CAC APA chapter members participated in the 15th Anniversary Komen Columbus Race for the Cure. Congratulations go out to members Jenny Smith and Shirley Berrisford for their participation. The CAC APA donated $250 for this cause.

Held May 19, 2007, this year's Race for the Cure in Columbus had a record-breaking 37,278 participants, raising nearly $2 million.

CAC APA donates $250 to the cause

Payment Due Dates



Unfortunately, the Columbus Area Chapter has seen an increase in the number of members who are not paying their dues and fees in a timely manner. We wanted to take this opportunity to remind all of our members of when payments are due and what CAC APA will do to work with you to collect the payment.

- **All payments are due within 30 days** from registration – this applies to memberships, meetings fees and other events
- If payment is not made within 30 days, the Treasurer will contact you about how to remit payment.
- If **payment is still not remitted** within 15 days from the reminder**...**
  - And the payment is for membership, your **membership will be suspended** until payment of the dues is received
  - And the payment is for chapter activities, your **participation** in future chapter activities **will be prohibited** until payment of the fees is received

Payments are due within 30 days of registration –

Failure to pay may result in suspension from the chapter

We appreciate everything you can do to pay the chapter liabilities on time. If you have questions, please contact treasury@apacolumbus.org or feel free to get more details by reading the Columbus Area Chapter's by-laws on the chapter website at http://www.apacolumbus.org/associations/1633/files/Chapter%20Bylaws2007.pdf.

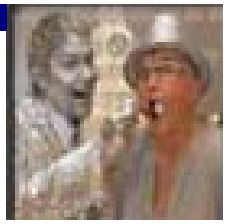
APA's 2007 Congress Snapshots

Photos of Congress, including CAC APA members

1



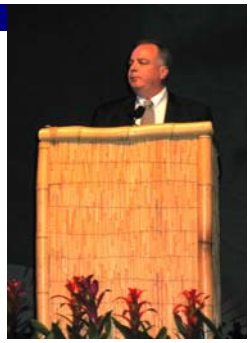
2



3



4



5



6



7



1 – CAC APA members Pat Langley CPP, Doris Greenwell CPP, Leslie Qualls CPP and Sheryl Hatcher CPP enjoy a general session. 2 – APA Executive Director Dan Maddux and APA President Nancy Larmore CPP shine in silver as APA celebrates its 25th anniversary. 3 – CAC APA member Sheryl Hatcher CPP listens intently to one of her sessions. 4 – CAC APA member Brad Patterson CPP delivers his speech for being named APA's 2006 Payroll Man of the Year. 5 – Trophy won by Columbus Area Chapter & other Ohio chapters for third place in the Dream Theme contest for the 2006 Ohio Conference for Payroll Professionals. 6 – Dan Maddux arrives at the Safari Soiree party on an elephant. 7 – We enjoyed our keynote speaker, Jack Hanna, the director of the Columbus Zoo.

In our thoughts...

Please keep in mind our fellow chapter members and their families



Please keep in your thoughts **Dedra Hall** – Delaware County Auditor – who was involved in a head-on collision in March and has spent the last few months bed-ridden. Please wish her well thoughts to a speedy recovery.

May Birthdays

Kathryn Young FPC – Columbus Regional Airport	May 11
Janet Stevenson – Sequent, Inc.	May 13
Melinda Warner CPP – Worthington Industries	May 17
Judith DePinto FPC – The Steiner Companies	May 17
Angela Vazquez FPC – Sterling Commerce	May 20
Leslie Qualls CPP – National Church Residences	May 21
Pam Watson – Bisys	May 23
Debra Dains –Sequent, Inc.	May 23
Charissa Fuller CPP –OCLC	May 28
Linda O'Rourke – Delaware County Auditor	May 28
Sujanya Sananikone FPC – Sequent, Inc.	May 28
Jeanne Them – Honda of American Manufacturing	May 28

June Birthdays

Janet Fickle – Bob Evans Farms	Jun 1
Teresa Kackley – Columbus State Comm College	Jun 1
Krista Crippen – Motorists Insurance Group	Jun 1
Tena Wilson CPP	Jun 6
Cheryl Fowler FPC – EDS	Jun 6
Carrie McPeek CPP – OSU Physicians, Inc.	Jun 10
Cheryl Krauss CPP	Jun 11
Lynne Stephens – Edison Welding Institute	Jun 13
Lisa Clark – OCL	Jun 15
Vicki Smith – Bravo Development	Jun 17
Shirley Berrisford – Worthington Steel	Jun 22
Terri Lucas CPP – Children's Hospital	Jun 22
Marcia Aamodt – Abercrombie & Fitch	Jun 22
Leigh Chaffin CPP – Sequent, Inc.	Jun 24
Daria Gibson-Kingrey CPP – Standard Register	Jun 24

Upcoming Events

For more info, visit our calendar at http://www.apacolumbus.org/calendar.cfm



Time is upon us again for the **Wage & Hour Seminar**, hosted by the Miami Valley and Greater Cincinnati & Kentucky chapters. Held Friday, June 8 at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center, this one-day conference details the basic requirements under the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Family Medical Leave Act. Topics include independent contractor vs. employee, wage & hour investigations, exempt vs. nonexempt, child labor laws, overtime pay issues and the FMLA. Details & the registration form - visit the Calendar of Events.

CPP Exam Study Group starts Tuesday, June 12th at Worthington Industries.

Our next monthly CAC APA meeting is Thursday, June 14th. "**Payroll Accounting**" will be discussed during a breakfast meeting at the Airport Concourse Hotel. Deadline to register is Monday, June 11th.

Mark Monday, June 18th on your calendar for **APA's Payroll Tax Forum**, a one-day conference to learn more about 2006 legislative changes affecting payroll, new rules on questionable Form W-4, nonqualified deferred compensation plans and Section 409A requirements, and supplemental wage withholding rules .

New Member Rollcall



Please extend a big welcome to the newest members and renewals* of the Columbus Area Chapter!

Miranda Moore – Acloche Staffing

Susanne Schwier* – USi

Kimberly Wood – Exel Inc.

Lisa Fluhart – Maverick Builders

Becky Green – Atrium Living Centers

Rebecca Barnhart – Horizon Chillicothe Telephone

Evelana Wilson – Children's Hospital

Jamie Beach – EDS

Jeanne Them* – Honda of American Manufacturing

Cheryl Fowler* – EDS

CAC APA Sponsors

accountemps
Specialized Financial Staffing℠
Columbus Area Chapter Gold Sponsor

WORTHINGTON INDUSTRIES
CPP Study Group

Keep in touch with your payroll chapter:

Website: ***www.apacolumbus.org***
Membership Questions: ***membership@apacolumbus.org***
Treasury Questions: ***treasury@apacolumbus.org***
General/Web Questions: ***admin@apacolumbus.org***