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Middle Cennessee Chapter of the Association of Certified Frand Examiners

April 2018

President's NotesBy Kesha Thomas, CFE, MCJ



The 22nd Annual Fraud Conference has come and gone, and what a success it was! Many thanks to everyone who worked and helped to make it a success! We had some phenomenal speakers, hopefully you all enjoyed their presentations. Congratulations to all our door prize winners and to those who won the special goodies from the ACFE! Also, congratulations are in order for Phyllis Pickett, the Points Contest winner! Phyllis will enjoy a trip to

the Annual ACFE Conference in Las Vegas in June.

CPE certificates and evaluation links have been emailed to everyone who signed in at the conference. If you signed in and do not get your certificate and/or evaluation link, please let us know.

Scholarship information will be coming out soon. If you know of any students (high school seniors or current college students) in the middle Tennessee area who qualify, please encourage them to apply. The information will be posted to our website.

Election time is nearing! If you are interested in serving on the board or on a committee, see the details later in this newsletter. After this month, we will have one more CPE luncheon and the June social before the chapter year comes to an end. Hope to see each of you all at the next luncheon April 19th.

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2017-2018 Calendar of Events

We will hold our 2017-2018 CFE luncheons at the Scarritt-Bennett Center located at 1008 19th Avenue South in Nashville, with the exception of the joint luncheon with Nashville AGA. You will find the calendar below. All luncheons will begin at 11:30 am.

CFE Prep Course Giveaway

The Middle Tennessee Chapter, ACFE, has a drawing each year to give away a CFE Exam Prep Course, valued at \$745 (member price) to a chapter member who is not yet a CFE. To be eligible:

- 1. Contestant must be a member of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the ACFE, in good standing for at least six (6) months (prior to the date of the drawing).
- 2. The Contestant must have not yet earned their CFE certification.
- 3. The Contestant must be eligible and willing to meet all requirements to become a Certified Fraud Examiner and sit for the CFE exam by December 31st of the year in which the contestant is determined to be the winner of the contest and receives the prep course.
- 4. Should it be determined the winning Contestant has not met the requirements set forth above, the winning contestant must reimburse the Chapter for the cost of the prep course by January 31st in the year following the drawing (i.e. Contestant wins the prep course in June 2018; reimbursement would be due January 2019).

To Enter:

All those who are eligible and agree to the terms of the drawing should contact Mark.Ingram@tn.gov to enter the drawing and submit the *CFE Exam Prep Course Giveaway Contest*, *Agreement to Terms and Conditions* form no later than June 1st.



^{*} member-only events

Chapter Scholarships

Our chapter gives away thousands of dollars in scholarships each year to deserving students. Please see our chapter website at

https://middletennesseecfe.wildapricot.org/Scholarships for more information.



CPE Certificates

How do attendees to events get a CPE certificate? Certificates are emailed out after the event. If you did not get a certificate, it may be that you did not pay, failed to sign in at the event, or gave a wrong email address. Please remember to update your information on the new chapter website to ensure that you will receive your certificate promptly.



Please email <u>info@middletennesseecfe.org</u> to request a copy of your CPE certificate.

Event Sign-In Sheets



Remember to complete the sign-in sheet at the event registration table to be eligible to receive your CPE credits and certificate. The Chapter will email your CPE certificate to you after the event. Once the event has ended, the sign-in sheets are completed. Signatures of the attendees on the sign-in sheet will be the only valid evidence of attendance. If you do not sign in, you waive your right to receive CPE credits.

Important Meeting Information

Luncheon Reservation/Cancellation Policy—Please Take Note!



Please be sure you make reservations for the luncheons prior to attending. We need the reservations to plan appropriately for our attendees and to eliminate confusion at the luncheons. You will receive a confirmation email after you submit your reservation.

Luncheons are \$10.00 for members who make their reservations by the reservation deadline, usually the COB one week prior to the luncheon. For members who make a reservation but do not attend or call to cancel, the cost is \$20.00. Individuals who at-

tend without making a reservation will also be charged \$20.00.

To cancel your reservation and avoid being invoiced for the event, you must notify the reservationist at nicolette.hudson@cot.tn.gov before the reservation deadline (usually one week prior to the date of the event). If you cancel after the deadline or fail to appear at the event, you will be invoiced for the full per-attendee cost, including other fees that apply as deemed appropriate by the Board. Any pre-paid fees that you have will be applied to the invoiced amount.

Any invoices that are unpaid after 60 days will result in the suspension of membership in the Middle Tennessee Chapter under the current Chapter Bylaws Section 3.09, Non-payment of Dues. As a result of suspension, any reservations you make for future events will not be **ACCEPTED** and you will not be allowed to attend Chapter luncheons or take advantage of member benefits until your outstanding invoices are paid.

We typically have a waiting list for our events, so if you must cancel your reservation, **PLEASE** notify the reservationist at nicolette.hudson@cot.tn.gov as soon as possible, or you may have someone attend in your place to avoid being invoiced for the luncheon. If you have someone take your place, you must notify the reservationist or have the substitution notify the reception/sign-in table at the luncheon when signing-in.

Other exceptions may apply in extreme situations (i.e. death of a family member) and will be reviewed on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Chapter Board at the member's request.

Members, if you are inviting nonmembers to attend who are not first-time attendees, please be sure that they are fully aware of their costs and our cancellation and invoicing policy. First-time guests eat free. After a guest's first visit, he or she will be charged \$20.00 according to the non-member fee schedule. No Free Guests are allowed at joint luncheons, due to elevated costs, or Member Benefits Events, such as the December Luncheon or January Member Benefit Training Day.

If you have any questions concerning the luncheon costs or the Chapter's cancellation policy, please feel free to contact Mark Ingram, Chapter Treasurer at mark.ingram@tn.gov.

2018 MTACFE Annual Fraud Conference

The 2018 Annual Fraud Conference took place March 5-6, 2018, at the One Century Place conference center. Thank you to all the speakers and attendees! We are already planning for next year's conference and hope to see you all there.









2018 MTACFE Annual Fraud Conference (continued)













New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to our chapter!

Rod Ballard Jackson Thornton Metro Nashville James Carson Kayla Chappell Kroll

Kristin Corning

Eddie Davis

TN Dept. of Commerce and Insurance

State of Tennessee

State of Tennessee

Charnell Edwards

Elizabeth Gordon TN Dept. of Human Resources

Karen Hensley Monique Joseph Maria McCormick Carmen Oprea Ben Rogers

Deloitte Erin Taack



New CFEs

Congratulations to John Stewart and Nathan Wilson, who received their framed CFE certificates at the January luncheon!



Kesha Thomas and John Stewart



Kesha Thomas and Nathan Wilson

January Meeting Minutes Prepared by Barry Pruitt, Board Member-at-Large



On Thursday, January 18, 2018, at 11:30 a.m., in the Laskey Great Hall, the monthly meeting for the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners convened. A luncheon buffet was offered and enjoyed by members and several guests. Short ribs and Shrimp Creole were the entrees followed by a delicious Carrot Cake dessert.

Chapter President Kesha Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Presi-

dent Thomas welcomed everyone and called on Training Coordinator Suzzie Singleton to introduce our guest speaker, Alanna Autler. Singleton introduced Autler, an investigative reporter with WSMV News Channel 4. Ms. Autler's presentation was titled "Power of the People – How to use sourcing to combat secrets."



After Ms. Autler's presentation, President Thomas asked her to pick a number, and the monthly door prize winner was Corey McMahan, who received \$25.00.

Two Chapter Members, John Stewart and Nathan Wilson were recognized and presented with their Chapter framed CFE certificate.

President Thomas announced that registration was open for the Annual MTACFE Conference, held March 5th and 6th.

President Thomas closed the meeting and invited everyone to the joint AGA meeting on February 12th at the Doubletree for the next monthly luncheon.

There were seventy-three members registered for this meeting.

February Meeting Minutes Prepared by Melissa Boaz, Chapter Secretary



The meeting, which was a joint meeting with the Nashville Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA), took place at 11:30am on February 12, 2018, in Salon E of the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Nashville. AGA President Britt Wood called the meeting to order. Jerry Durham gave the invocation. Britt then noted that the minutes from the AGA January meeting were available online. Britt asked members to introduce their guests, and she read a list of new

members. CFE President Kesha Thomas announced that the annual MTACFE fraud conference would take place March 5 and 6, 2018. She reminded CFE members that the deadline for submitting points for the national conference trip contest was February 28. She also noted that the chapter would frame CFE certificates for members.

Suzzie Singleton introduced the speaker, Special Agent Michael Klier from the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, Office of Inspector General. Agent Klier gave an overview of the role of his agency and talked about cases he had worked and had a question and answer session. Chase Tramel won the AGA door prize, and Kristen Thompson won the CFE door prize. Michael Winston announced that nominations were open for next year's AGA leadership. Keevia Battle announced that the AGA service project for February was the Nashville Humane Association. Britt reminded everyone about the upcoming AGA webinar on infrastructure financing. She also announced that March had been proclaimed CGFM month by Governor Haslam.



The meeting was then adjourned.

Newsletter Articles



Do you have a great article to contribute to the Middle Tennessee Chapter, ACFE newsletter? If so, we would love to hear from you! Please contact a member of the Newsletter Committee with your ideas and articles. Remember, you receive points for your articles that count toward the trip to the National ACFE conference! Also, if you note any corrections that need to be made, please contact one of us.

April Luncheon Information



We will hold our April luncheon on Thursday, April 19, 2018, at 11:30 am at the Raintree Room at the Scarritt-Bennett Center. Scarritt-Bennett is located at 1008 19th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212. Directions are available at http://www.scarrittbennett.org/about/maps-directions/.

Important Parking Information

Due to issues with unauthorized parking by Vanderbilt students, **Scarritt-Bennett requires** parking passes for those attending events on its campus. Scarritt-Bennett asked that our luncheon attendees place the parking pass at the end of this newsletter on their dashboard when parking at Scarritt-Bennett Center. You can also download the parking pass at http://www.middletennesseecfe.org/resources/Documents/Luncheon%20park-ing%20pass%20PDF.pdf.

You can use the same pass for subsequent luncheons. Please note that this pass does not guarantee parking will be available. Scarritt-Bennett staff will record license plates and tow repeat offenders without an identifiable pass.

Scarritt-Bennett visitor parking is available in Parking Lot A or Parking Lot B. Please be aware that parking can be limited due to other events held on the same day as ours. Other parking options include the Wesley Place Garage on Scarritt Place between 19th and 21st Avenues or the meters along 19th Avenue. Approximate prices are \$1.00 per half hour and the parking meters are \$1.50 per hour in the Central Business District. Members may want to consider carpooling or bringing cash or change to pay for parking if necessary.

April Luncheon Speaker

Our April luncheon speaker is Melinda Weir, Environmental Investigator for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Underground Storage Tanks. Melinda will be speaking about UST program integrity initiatives.

April Luncheon Speaker Melinda Weir, CFE, MCJ



Melinda Weir is the Environmental Investigator for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Underground Storage Tanks. Melinda is responsible for the creation and implementation of the Program Integrity Protection Plan to protect the division's \$50 million program fund from fraud, waste and abuse.

Before coming to TDEC in 2014, Melinda was a Legislative Audit Investigator for the State of Tennessee Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury Special Investigations Unit for over 15 years investigating allegations of complex fraud, waste, and abuse of public funds and property. Melinda has provided specialized training across the country on matters related to fraud and fraud auditing, interviewing and interrogation

techniques, behavioral analysis, detecting and identifying deceptive behavior, and program integrity.

Melinda has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in criminal justice, both from Middle Tennessee State University, and has been a Certified Fraud Examiner for over 18 years. Melinda is a graduate of the Tennessee Government Executive Institute, Tennessee Government Management Institute and served as president of the Middle Tennessee Chapter Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. Melinda also holds membership in the National Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and currently serves as the Region 4 representative for the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials State Fund – Financial Responsibility Task Force.

Melinda has served on several boards, including Middle Tennessee Chapter Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, Lebanon/Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, Wilson County Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program, and Wilson County Head Start School Program.

Speaker Search

Our chapter is always on the lookout for speakers for luncheons, the Member Benefit Day, and the Annual Fraud Conference. If you know of someone who might be willing to speak, please contact the chapter Training Director, Suzzie Singleton, at Suzzie.Singleton@cot.tn.gov.



2018-2019 Chapter Year Elections



If you are interested in serving as a board member or committee member for the upcoming chapter year, please contact John Gullett at jgullett@tsvh.org. Nominations will be announced at the May luncheon with voting to follow. The new officers will be installed at the June social.

Member Spotlight Sandy Kelley, CFE, GRCP

I was born in Alabama, and I relocated to Nashville in 1985. Currently I am the Mortgage Fraud Manager for FirstBank Mortgage. My background includes bank operations, training, Financial Crimes Investigation, and Risk Management.

I remember as a child being so intrigued by "what makes things tick", "how is this built", and "what creates people's reactions." Through growth and experience it became clear that behaviors, patterns and methodologies are the roadmaps to discovery. Hence, my passion for detecting and defending against fraud.

My first experience with fraud was as a young Assistant Manager for a restaurant. I discovered an inventory fraud that was orchestrated by my manager. I was both terrified and excited about my discovery, and my investigative skills shut down his fraud scheme.

Several years later I was working in bank operations, and it was not unusual for bank employees to have what was referred to as "multiple hats". When I was graciously given the hat of "Security Officer", I was literally handed a banker's box of documents and told there is not much to it to do, just hold a meeting every quarter. Fortunately for me that statement was incorrect. I was knee deep in fraud, embezzlements, check fraud, check kiting...oh my, I have found where I belong! After working volumes of financial crimes in the Middle TN area, my favorite discoveries are still the same as a child— "how does this work" and "what creates behavior."

I became a CFE in 2010 and hold this certification as a great achievement for me personally as well as my career.

When I am not working, I am pretty simple. I enjoy time with family and friends. I have named my back yard my "happy place", where I just kick back and enjoy the pool and nature's beauty. Oh, and my fur babies are such the babies! If I am not in my back yard or working, I am at the beach. It is the small things that matter MOST.

Member Spotlight Volunteers Needed

The Newsletter Committee is looking for volunteers to be featured in the Member Spotlight! If you would like to volunteer, please contact a member of the Newsletter Committee. It's a great way to introduce yourself to the chapter!



Global ACFE Conference Points Contest



Congratulations to Phyllis Pickett, who won an all-expense paid trip to the 2018 global conference! Start compiling your points now for the 2019 global conference! To be eligible for the contest, you must be a member of MTACFE, in good standing, for at least 12 months, and you must have attended a prior MTACFE annual fraud conference. Submit a breakdown of your total points earned between January 2018 and December 2018 to mark.ingram@tn.gov by February 15, 2019. Please have supporting documentation available for your points.

Category	<u>Points</u>
Attending Monthly Chapter Meeting	1 point per meeting
Publish Article in Chapter Newsletter	2 points
Sponsoring a New Member	2 points per new member
Publish member profile in Chapter Newsletter	1 point
Contribution to "Been There, Said That, Done That"	1 point/contribution/month
Publication of Case Results	2 points
Participating as a speaker in the Chapter Speaker's Bureau	2 points per engagement
Publication of an article in the Association's Fraud Magazine	3 points
Attending the Chapter's Annual Fraud Conference	2 points
Service on Chapter Committee	2 points

ACFE Middle Tennessee Chapter 2017- 2018 Chapter Officers, Board Members, and Committee Members

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Kesha Thomas, CFE, MCJ	747-5397	kesha.thomas@cot.tn.gov
Vice-President	Andrew Hawkins, CFE	401-7743	andrew.hawkins@cot.tn.gov
Past President	Jason Conner, CFE	747-5398	jason.conner@cot.tn.gov
Pres. Emeritus	Dennis Dycus, CFE, CPA, CGFM	794-0836	dfdcpa@bellsouth.net
Treasurer	Mark Ingram, CFE	532-5060	mark.ingram@tn.gov
Secretary	Melissa Boaz, CFE, CPA, CGFM, CGMA	747-5305	melissa.boaz@cot.tn.gov
Training Director	Suzzie Singleton, CFE, CGFM	401-3037	suzzie.singleton@cot.tn.gov
Member at Large	Teri Williams	782-3953	twilliam@nashville-mdha.org
Member at Large	Barry Pruitt, CFE, CFI, CCTA	270-780-2971	bpruitt@houchensindustries.com
Member at Large	Sharon Matheny, CGFM	744-4326	sharonmatheny@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS					
Budget & Finance	Barry Pruitt, CFE, CFI, CCTA 2	70-780-2971	bpruitt@houchensindustries.com		
	Jessica Scouten, CFE, CPA, MAFF	346-2436	jscouten@kraftcpas.com		
	Phil McGovern, CPA, CFE, MACC	479-4917	mcgovpm@comcast.net		
	Mark Ingram, CFE	532-5060	mark.ingram@tn.gov		
	Andrew Hawkins, CFE	401-7743	andrew.hawkins@cot.tn.gov		
Conference	Bob McCloud, CFE, CGFM (Chair)	747-5210	bob.mccloud@cot.tn.gov		
	Jonathan Sanders, CFE, CICA	327-6374	jsanders@mmc.edu		
	Phyllis Pickett, CFE	661-4929	ppickett@deloitte.com		
Historic	Britt Wood, CFE, CPA, CGFM, CISA, ACDA (Chair)		<u>britt.wood@cot.tn.gov</u>		
	Cindy Vaughn, CFE	428-0969	cynthia.vaughn@tn.gov		
	Vincent Finamore, CFE	401-7898	vincent.finamore@cot.tn.gov		
Hospitality	Nicolette Hudson (Chair)	747-5293	nicolette.hudson@cot.tn.gov		
	Judy Tribble, CFE, CPA	253-1760	judy.tribble@tn.gov		
Job Placement	Amanda Cain, CFE	747-5364	amanda.cain@cot.tn.gov		
Membership	Demetra Pulley, CFE, MBA/HRM, CICA (Chair	•	<u>dpulley@mmc.edu</u>		
	Kesha Thomas, CFE, MCJ	747-5397	kesha.thomas@cot.tn.gov		
	Nicolette Hudson	747-5293	nicolette.hudson@cot.tn.gov		
	Tom Stoquert, CFE, MBA	507-6996	thomas.e.stoquert@tn.gov		
	Jessica Scouten, CFE, CPA, MAFF	346-2436	jscouten@kraftcpas.com		
Newsletter	Melissa Boaz, CFE, CPA, CGFM, CGMA (Chair)		melissa.boaz@cot.tn.gov		
	Jennifer Whitsel, CFE, CPA, CGMA	747-5265	jennifer.whitsel@cot.tn.gov		
	Melinda Weir, CFE, MCJ	532-0955	melinda.weir@tn.gov		
Nominating	John Gullett, CFE, CPA, LNHA (Chair)	225-1814	jgullett@tsvh.org		
	Britt Wood, CFE, CPA, CGFM, CISA, ACDA	401-3006	<u>britt.wood@cot.tn.gov</u>		
	Andrew Hawkins, CFE	401-7743	andrew.hawkins@cot.tn.gov		
Scholarship/	Scarlet Sneed, CFE, CPA, CGFM (Chair)	747-5243	scarlet.sneed@cot.tn.gov		
Outreach	Danny Hall, CFE	741-4314	danny.hall@tn.gov		
	Phil Job, CFE, CPA	401-7895	phil.job@cot.tn.gov		
	Bridget Carver, CFE	401-7959	bridget.carver@cot.tn.gov		
	Melissa DeBerry, CFE	747-5214	melissa.b.deberry@cot.tn.gov		
Social Media	Danielle Gwin, CFE (Chair)	401-3038	danielle.gwin@cot.tn.gov		
	Teri Williams	782-3953	twilliam@nashville-mdha.org		
	Kristina Straumfjord, CFE	224-0832	kristina.straumfjord@mapcoexpress.com		
	Jessica Scouten, CFE, CPA, MAFF	346-2436	jscouten@kraftcpas.com		
Website	Nathan Abbott, CFE, CISA, EA	401-7841	nathan.abbott@cot.tn.gov		

NOTE: Chapter officers and board members comprise the Annual Fraud Conference Committee

Contact Us



Middle Tennessee Chapter, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners:

Email: info@middletennesseecfe.org

Website: www.middletennesseecfe.wildapricot.org

Mailing address: P.O. Box 198361

Nashville, TN 37219

Follow MTACFE in social media:



www.facebook.com/ACFENashville

www.twitter.com/acfenashville

Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Headquarters:

Email: memberservices@ACFE.com

Website: www.acfe.com

Mailing address: The Gregor Building

716 West Avenue Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 800-245-3321

512-478-9000

Fax: 512-478-9297

Follow the ACFE in social media:





https://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=66889

https://www.facebook.com/AssociationofCertifiedFraudExaminers

https://twitter.com/TheACFE

https://www.youtube.com/user/TheACFE

Scarritt-Bennett Center



Middle Tennessee Chapter #27

Scarritt-Bennett Parking Pass

Valid Day of Event Only

Scarritt-Bennett Center



Middle Tennessee Chapter #27