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ACCOUNTANTS CLUB OF AMERICA www.accountantsclubofamerica.org

Enduring Legacy

In 1906 a group of leaders in the newly-emerging field of public accounting gathered for lunch in the old Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. They were brought together by a deeply shared commitment to advancing professional ideals through interpersonal relationships and camaraderie. This group continued to meet in various forms over several years and eventually registered a formal charter with the State of New York in 1927. The firms they founded have evolved into some of the leading names in accounting:

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Deloitte Berdon LLP Ernst & Young KPMG



ACA recognizes and prioritizes the value of our shared identity across decades – and across generations.

Joanne S. Barry, CAE, Executive Director/CEO, NYSSCPA

Unique Mission

The organization that eventually became the Accountants Club of America had its origins soon after the incorporation of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, and it was founded to augment NYSSCPA's invaluable work. While NYSSCPA has always focused on creating technical excellence in the profession, ACA's emphasis has been on building the relationships and soft skills that help professionals evolve into successful business people.

6 ACA embodies the true notion of leadership, stewardship and excellence in our profession.

Salvatore A. Collemi, CPA, Managing Member, Collemi Consulting & Advisory Services LLC



Intriguing Dialogue

ACA cultivates thought leadership in a variety of ways: informal conversations, roundtable events and expert presenters. Regular ACA meetings feature a range of insightful speakers who are recognized leaders in their fields, including: accounting, business, public policy, publishing, sports & entertainment.

Notable presenters over the years have included: Joanne S. Barry, CEO, New York State Society of CPAs (NYSSCPA)

Barbara Corcoran, Founder, Corcoran Group Diane Crittenden, casting director Aaron Elstein, journalist, *Crain's New York Business* Walt Frazler, NBA Hall of Fame Ellis Henican, Syndicated Columnist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Environmental Activist Zarin Mehta, President and Executive Director,

Barry Melancon, President and CEO, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) George Plimpton, Author and Celebrity Gary Sheinbaum, CEO Hilfiger Americas

The New York Philharmonic

Steven Spinola, Chair, Real Estate Board of New York

Scott M. Stringer, Comptroller, New York City Paul Sullivan, wealth columnist, *The New York Times* Richard F. Syon, Chairman and Chief Executive Director, American Stock Exchange

Jeffrey Thomson, President and CEO, Institute of Management Accountants (IMA®)

Topics are varied, and include innovations in the accounting profession, legal and regulatory developments and reflections on notable careers. We have also taken on a number of cutting edge issues in finance, accounting and business, including blockchain technology, artificial intelligence and creation of a fashionable line of adaptive clothing for persons with disabilities.

It is important to understand how current events and other industries work to shape the accounting profession.

> Ashleigh Wessing, Senior Manager, Financial Advisory Services, Marks Paneth

Rare Connection

ACA members are lively, engaged professionals at various stages of their careers. Some are partners at some of the nation's best-known accounting firms. Others practice public accounting at some of the greater New York metro area's best-known mid-size and boutique firms. Still others work in auxiliary fields helping CPAs provide even better service to their clients. We are especially proud of the significant number of retired senior CPAs who continue to share their knowledge and professional relationships through ACA.

ACA members and event participants are among the most influential business leaders anywhere. In recent years, we have seen a steady increase in membership; for 2018, our membership is more than 20% greater than in 2015.

6 This group can certainly refute the notion that accountants are boring bean counters.

Joan Schultz, CPA (retired)

Profound Impact

What goes on at Accountants Club events is considered so significant that we enjoy regular press coverage from *Accounting Today* and other publications. Here is a sample of recent articles about ACA members and events:

- AICPA CEO Melancon sheds light on tax reform lobbying
- Accountants Club of America Celebrates 90th Anniversary
- IMA CEO Jeff Thomson Favors Accountants Over Robots

Walt Frazier meets the accountants

- Accountants discuss bridging the generations
- Accounting Today: AICPA CEO Melancon Anticipates Major Tax Reform
- Accountants Club of America Announced its 2016-2017 Officers and New Board Members
- Ralph Albert Thomas, Accounting Firms Face up to Diversity Challenges

66 The Accountants Club is one of New York's best-kept secrets.

The Trusted Professional









BUILD New Relationships GET a Fresh Perspective STAY on the Cutting Edge



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