



The General Ledger

A Publication of the Denver - Centennial Chapter



<http://www.denverima.org>

Rocky Mountain Chapter <http://www.imarockymountaincouncil.org>

November 2003

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Location: Holiday Inn Downtown
Redstone/Silver Plume Rooms
1450 Glenarm Place
Denver, CO
(303) 573-1450

Speaker: Mike Coffman, State Treasurer

Times: 5:30 p.m. Social Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:15 p.m. Program

Cost: \$25 Members with reservations
\$28 Guests and
Members without reservations
\$17 Students with reservations

Menu

Salmon Piccatta

or

Vegetarian Kabobs

For reservations for the dinner meeting please:

- call Brian Bedford (720) 480-3693 or,
- email b.bedford@att.net.

(Note: When you email Brian about your reservation please include the word IMA in the subject line, so your message is not discarded as spam; do not put quotes around IMA.)

Reservations not made by the Sunday before the meeting will be charged \$28. Please spell out last name & your company when calling.

Cancellations:

To cancel a reservation, please call Brian at (720) 480-3693 at least 48 hours **prior** to the meeting. If you do not cancel, you will be billed for the meeting.

Directions:

The Holiday Inn Downtown is located at the Corner of 14th Street and Glenarm Place.



November Speaker

Mike Coffman

State Treasurer

New Tax Initiatives

State Treasurer Mike Coffman has been a consistent voice for common-sense government and a devoted protector of the taxpayer throughout his tenure in public service. Mr. Coffman brings to the Colorado Department of Treasury a focus on government accountability and private sector solutions.

Before his election as State Treasurer, Mr. Coffman served in both the Colorado House of Representatives and the State Senate, where he was Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and sponsored legislation revising the investment statutes for the Colorado Treasury. In 1997, Mr. Coffman authored the groundbreaking "Colorado Works" legislation that ushered in a new era of welfare reform for the State of Colorado.

As Treasurer, Mr. Coffman developed Colorado's private-sector college savings program-Scholar's Choice. Recognized as one of the best programs of its kind in the country, Scholar's Choice provides parents with both tax deferred savings and a market rate of return.

In keeping with his role as guardian of the taxpayer and his focus on governmental accountability, Mr. Coffman has also fought to protect unclaimed property held by the state until its rightful owners are found. Mr. Coffman has worked diligently to ensure that unclaimed taxes and safety deposits are not reverted to the government.

Before he became State Treasurer, Mr. Coffman was an entrepreneur who started and owned several small businesses here in Colorado. Mr. Coffman also served with distinction in both the U.S. Army and the Marine Corps and voluntarily took an unpaid leave of absence from the Colorado Legislature in 1990 to return to active duty as an infantry officer in Operation Desert Storm. Mr. Coffman retired as a Major from the Marine Corps Reserve in 1994.

Mr. Coffman is a graduate of the University of Colorado and the Senior Executive Program for State and Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



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November 2003

Presidents Letter

Hello fellow IMA Members,

November is one of my favorite months. The world grows cold and the hint of winter will promise a wonderful holiday season. Memories of seasons past rushed to the forefront of my mind when I took that first deep and cold breath from the first snowfall.

I hope that you are all well. I look forward to seeing many of you at our November Diner meeting. We are very fortunate to have Mike Coffman, Stats of Colorado Treasurer. I know that he will have some very interesting things to say. Colorado has had to contend with the lower tax revenues that the economy has produced and Mike Coffman has helped the State a great deal with its predicament.

As accounting and finance professionals we are all aware of the requirements of spending less when revenues are down. The task of cutting costs is by no means fun.

I wish all a very good Thanksgiving.

Lou Sillstrop

President 2003-2004





SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT



STEPHEN THOMSON - REGIS UNIVERSITY

I am interested in a career in accounting because of the numerous possibilities that this field presents. Many people have the mindset when they think of an accountant as being boring, straight forward, sit in the office by themselves, don't bother me mentality. I welcome the challenge to help the accounting profession change this normal biased description of accountants. I find that accounting has opened numerous doors for people who don't necessary want to be a "bookkeeper" but have an understanding about finance that only few in the business world do. With this type of understanding for money and how a business runs, the sky is the limit for the difference an accountant can make in the business world.

My plans are to continue with an ongoing education. The idea would be to get a masters degree in either finance or economics and follow that up with a CPA, or vise-versa. From there, I would like to possibly get into Personal Financial Planning after a few years of learning in one of the big accounting firms.

What I enjoyed about Student Night last year, and what most of the other scholarship recipients are saying, is that the experience of talking to people who are actually in the profession is the best. Having the ability to talk to people who work in all different professions of accounting, in an informal atmosphere, is an experience I will remember. Learning either just a broad understanding of a profession or having an in-depth conversation about what type of work people must perform day in and day out is something that cannot be learned in the college classroom.

The best thing about receiving a scholarship through the IMA is the way that the scholarship is presented to you. The IMA is different from most every other scholarship because of the freedom you have with the money that you had worked so hard to receive. Sadly, with high cost these days, I did use most of the money on books in the following fall semester of school. However, with the rest of the award, I was able to put it into my savings account until I needed the money and actually earned interest on the principal.

The IMA has opened many doors. Not only am I part of a nationally recognized group, but I will forever have the contacts that I need to get my foot in the next door. After placing my membership and scholarship from the IMA on my resume, I have had interviews with Deloitte&Touche and KPMG, among other smaller companies. I am happy to say that I have heard back from these companies and will be attending second interviews soon. However, no matter what happens with the interviews, I have not quite decided what, if any, my next step in education will be. So as you can see, I have many opportunities and many decisions to make within the next few weeks.

I would like to take a minute and thank everyone in the IMA for the benefits and opportunities that I have received. My gratitude for the scholarship and of my membership is second-to-none. Thank you.

CMA/CFM CERTIFICATION

Please contact Cynthia Berglund
for information regarding how
the Denver - Centennial Chapter
can help you.

2nd Annual "Clean out your Closet Drive"

Denver IMA Members, when you attend this fall's October and November dinner meetings be sure to take the opportunity to "Clean out your Closet" for some of Denver's poor and needy. Once again we will be giving our chapter the opportunity to bring in Women's business attire that will be used to support **Dress for Success**, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping low income women make tailored transitions into the workforce. Men's business clothing and any other clothing items such as men's shoes, coats, children's clothing etc. will be donated to the **Denver Rescue Mission**, a non-profit organization whose goal for over a century has remained the same, to return the poor, needy, and homeless to society as self-sufficient, productive citizens.

So please, take a moment before going to the next meeting and consider bringing a few items to help these worthy causes. If you are unable to attend the October and November meetings you can still contribute, just call Kevin Mann at 303-313-2412

CENTENIAL CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP/ATTENDANCE DRIVE CONTEST

Starting January 1, 2004 and continuing through May 31, 2004, the Board of Directors is sponsoring a membership and attendance drive.

The chapter member with the most guests during these months AND the member sponsoring the most new members will each receive a \$50.00 Gift Certificate to a Denver restaurant. (Not a fast food chain)

To facilitate your participation we ask that you make three phone calls each month inviting a guest or someone who might be interested in joining. These calls work on the same theory of the Kevin Bacon Game. If you are not familiar with that game let me explain. The theory is that everyone in the world is only 6 degrees removed from everyone else. The actor Kevin Bacon, (currently starring in the movie "Mystic River") is used as an example. If, for example, I know "Kerry", Kerry's cousin is Linda; Linda is a hairdresser in LA. Linda is the stylist for Meryl Streep, who starred in the "The River Wild "with Bacon.

If you don't know someone who wants to attend a meeting or join, maybe you are only 1 or 2 or 3 degrees of separation from someone who does. Maybe six, but we think that three calls will do it.

THREE CALLS A MONTH could win you a dinner certificate!!!!

Guests will be recorded at the meetings at sign in and membership sponsors must inform Joan Montgomery, Vice President of Membership of their sponsorship.

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**IMA BOARD MEMBER BIO
JOAN D. MONTGOMERY
VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP**

Joan is a co-owner of Murder By the Book, a mystery bookstore in Denver. She is also a Personal Financial Analyst for Primerica, a division of Citigroup.

Joan began her professional career in public accounting in Denver serving on the audit staff of "Big Six" firms for several years. During that time she also spent two years as Controller of a publicly held company. She was promoted to audit manager at Coopers & Lybrand in 1984. After moving to California in 1987, she continued working in public accounting for local firms until 1990, when she once again took a position as a controller with a national telecommunications company. Following several years of independent consulting, doing implementations of accounting systems, Joan returned to Colorado in 1999.

Joan was a member of the American Woman's Society of Certified Public Accountants from 1976 until 1999. She was instrumental in forming the Denver, and South Bay affiliates and has served as both a national and regional director. In the late 1990's Joan was Vice President of Membership and then President of the West Los Angeles chapter of IMA.

Joan earned her CPA certificate in Colorado in 1975, receiving reciprocity in California in 1987. She has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Nebraska, with additional accounting studies at Metropolitan State College in Denver.

**THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE RAFFLE PRIZES AT THE
OCTOBER MEETING**

Joan Montgomery, co-owner of Murder by the Book and Vice President of Membership, donated a book.

Tina McNally donated a beautiful hand quilted afghan.

The November meeting will feature a raffle prize from Blue Bonnet Restaurant

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2003-2004
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	<i>(vacant)</i>	-	-
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Member-At-Large (Former President)			
	<i>Gene Robbins</i>	303-973-2523 (H)	crob199727@aol.com

**2003 – 2004
Dinner Meeting Dates**

Wednesday November 19th, 2003
December (no meeting)
SOCIAL on Wednesday January 21st, 2004
Wednesday February 18th, 2004
Wednesday March 17th, 2004
Wednesday April 21st, 2004
Wednesday May 19th, 2004
Wednesday June 16th, 2004
Wednesday July, 14th, 2004
PICNIC on Saturday August 21st, 2004
Wednesday September 15th, 2004
Wednesday October 13th, 2004

**2003 – 2004
Board Meeting Dates**

Tuesday November 28th, 2003
Wednesday December 17th, 2003
Wednesday January 28th, 2004
Wednesday February 25th, 2004
Wednesday March 24th, 2004
Wednesday April 28th, 2004
Wednesday May 26th, 2004
Wednesday June 23rd, 2004
Wednesday July 21st, 2004
Wednesday August 25th, 2004
Wednesday September 22nd, 2004
Wednesday October 20th, 2004

December Newsletter deadline – 11/25/2003
Send articles or information to Cheryl Borgman at cborgman@graebel.com

IMA Denver - Centennial Chapter
c/o Lou Sillstrop
The Business Net, Ltd.
Suite 520
2851 South Parker Road
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**Denver - Centennial Chapter
November 2003 Newsletter**

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INFORMATION UPDATE (Please Print)

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I prefer to stay with my present chapter _____. I prefer to affiliate with the _____ Chapter.

Your signature _____ Date _____

(National requires your signature for any changes)

Please send all IMA correspondence to my: Business Address _____ Home Address _____

Please send this form to: Lou Sillstrop, The Business Net, Ltd., 2851 South Parker Rd. Ste 520, Aurora, CO 80014-2726