



IMA™

The Informer

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Volume VI

PEO's & the Co-Employment Relationship at March Meeting

Doug Walters, a sales leader at ADP TotalSource, will speak at the March 15 meeting to be held at the Rogers Auditorium on the FSC campus. Fellowship is at 5:15, dinner at 5:45, and the program begins at 6:30.

Mr. Walters will be speaking about the Professional Employer Organization concept. Specifically, his topic is "PEO's and the Co-Employment Relationship. What's in it for Me and My Clients?"

Prior to his employment with ADP, Walters was a Sales and Marketing Account Executive with The Personnel Department, Inc. in Colorado Springs. Prior to that, he served 13 years in the US Air Force, where he was a pilot and achieved the "Top Gun" award. He and his wife Cathy have a "miracle child," three-year Abigail whom Doug describes as "very much a Daddy's girl."

Members are reminded that the Board has taken steps to make it easier for you to participate in the meetings. If you cannot arrive in time for dinner, you may have dessert and coffee for only \$2.50 and still hear an excellent program. To encourage student attendance, the meal price has been reduced to \$5 for students.

Come for an enjoyable evening and get continuing education credit.

News, Comments, or Changes
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So *The Informer* will be more timely, the deadline for articles is now the 6th of each month.



This Just in...

Be part of a growing trend. Each month, more and more members are choosing the electronic option to receive *The Informer*. Get it first by e-mail. Just contact jstancil@flsouthern.edu.

Can't get to the meeting in time for dinner? Join us for dessert and coffee, only \$2.50, as recently approved by the Board.

Student members! Where else can you get a great meal, network with other accounting and finance managers, and learn about important issues in the accounting world? The Board has approved a reduced rate of only \$5 for you meal at Polk County IMA meetings.

Important Dates

March 15—Technical Meeting, Rogers Auditorium. Doug Walters of ADP is the speaker.

April 10 — Board meeting, 5:30 Ryan's US 98, Lakeland

April 19 —Technical Meeting, Luncheon, Location Bamboo Garden. Topic: Group Insurance Compared to Medical Savings Accounts.

April 27-28 — Florida Council and Seminar, Accounting Systems Technology for the 21st Century. Orlando.

From the President...

We had an excellent joint meeting with the FICPA in February. If you missed it, I believe you missed one of our best meetings of the year. Special thanks go to Andrea Bauman and Curran Porto for the informative program about serving as a bankruptcy trustee. I am certain that many of our members would be able to present outstanding programs.

This month our program will be presented by ADP, who is also our sponsor for the meeting. Our sponsors help the Chapter financially to provide our overall program. It is a win-win-win situation for everyone involved. Their program will be on effective the Professional Employer Organization concept and how it can benefit us and our clients. This is something most of our members can put to practical use in their work life. I encourage you to attend and to invite a business associate to accompany you. If this person is a potential member, we will cover the cost of their meal, PLUS, if they join our Chapter, you will be eligible for the \$125 cash prize we will award in May.

Our second luncheon of this year will take place on Thursday, April 19th, and the program will be on group insurance compared to medical savings accounts. Please mark your calendar and plan to be there.

I hope to see you this Thursday.

Finding Time for the Exams

By Keith Wade, CMA, CFM, CNA

First, apologies for this column being somewhat sporadic. I have a full time salaried job (i.e., 50 hours +). I have a part time job (teaching MBA courses, which sometimes feels like a full time job). I am Master of my Masonic Lodge (a full time job that doesn't come with a paycheck!) I sit on the Business Advisory Board of Webber College. And, my marriage is still young enough that most people call us "newlyweds". Many of you, I realize, wish you had so little to do and would trade schedules in a heartbeat! Which brings us to the point of this month's column – even if you forget studying, how does one find time to take 16 hours (presuming one uses all the time allotted on each exam) worth of exams?

The good news is that Sylvan has lots of blocks of time to chose from. Better news is that there are Saturday hours available as well (though they tend to fill up very quickly). The bad news is that none of their Polk County locations offer exams – one needs to go to Temple Terrace or Orlando. Com-

plicating things a little more is that while the exams are "on demand", they are not offered every day (certain parts are offered certain weeks). While many of us began studying in sequence, few of us took the exams in sequence... it *greatly* helps the studying effort to schedule things well in advance so you know the order you'll be taking them in.

Now, this is the really cool part... You get to keep credit for passed parts of the exams *forever*, providing you meet a few qualifications. First, you have to maintain membership in the IMA; drop out for a day and your passed parts are lost forever. Second, you have to complete 20 hours of CPE each year (something you'd have to do as a CMA or CFM anyway). Third, you have to take – not pass, just take – one exam part every two years. Meet the qualifications, and you never need retake a passed part!

Yes, there's a significant investment of time involved. But, as we all know, the sooner you get started, the sooner you'll have passed the exams and added three (or six) very valuable letters behind your name: the CMA and/or CFM appellation.

The Lighter Side

Accountants never grow old... they just lose their balance!

Q: How was copper wire invented? A: Two accountants were arguing over a penny.

There is untold wealth in the US -- especially at tax time!

A taxpayer is someone who works for the federal government but who doesn't have to take a civil service examination

Q. What's the difference between an overzealous IRS agent and a rottweiler? A. A rottweiler eventually lets go!

A penny saved is bound to be taxed.

Why do you bury IRS agents 12 foot down instead of six foot? Because deep down they're really quite nice.

Golf is a lot like taxes -- you drive hard to get to the green and then wind up in the hole

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Career Audit

Over the course of your career, few situations are as frustrating as those times when you find yourself uncertain of your next career move. When faced with this situation, try conducting a "career audit" to focus in on your objectives, attitudes and professional aspirations.

Think back to your original career goals to gain perspective on the expectations and desires you brought to your current job. This form of self-awareness is critical if you want to determine what circumstances or events have dampened your original enthusiasm.

Take a look, too, at your preferred work style. Perhaps you approach problems methodically, with a view toward the long term; or maybe you work best under intense deadline pressure. You may be the kind of person who excels at marshaling the skills and resources of others. Whatever your personality type, identifying what style works best for you will help you better evaluate whether your present environment is the source of your dissatisfaction and allow you to take steps toward making your work more personally satisfying.

You should also spend time deciding whether your professional skills need improvement. In terms of technical proficiency, examine your knowledge of leading-edge technologies. Are you up to date? Make sure you also develop "soft skills," such as written and verbal communication abilities, management skills and business acumen. Conducting a career audit may be all you need to begin moving toward a greater sense of fulfillment in your work. By looking at your career ambitions from many angles, you will have a broader sense of what you have accomplished and what factors contributed to your success. If the process results in a job move, your self-evaluation will help you ensure that your next position is a better match for your skills and work style.

Article courtesy of Accountemps, the world's first and largest temporary staffing service for accounting, finance and bookkeeping professionals

The Informer

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Help clients rediscover the power of strategic thinking.

As a leading Professional Employer Organization (PEO), ADP TotalSource delivers solutions and expertise that have helped thousands of businesses meet their strategic goals — and we can do the same for your clients.

The next time a client complains about labor costs, workforce turnover or administrative hassles, tell them about us and our integrated package of professional employer services:

- Complete human resources management
- World Class employee benefits: health, life, disability, 401(k) and much more
- Regulatory compliance guidance
- Workers' compensation coverage, safety and risk management and related services
- Automated payroll and tax processing and administration
- Leading-edge training programs

With ADP TotalSource on their team, your clients will be better able to...

- Attract, retain and develop skilled employees
- Increase productivity
- Manage risk
- Reduce liability
- Improve return on human capital

ADP TotalSource. We are the professional's choice — and the smart choice for your clients.

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