

CalCPA Technology Committee
Aug. 26, 2011 • 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. • CalCPA

Meeting called to order at 10:10 a.m.

Attendees

(Live)

Milla Austin	Bruce Gray
Cliff Beacham	John Levy
David Cieslak	John Misuraca
George Chiu	Larry Russell
Janice Compton	Jim Sanders
Jim Counts	Lynne Walline
Ilene Eisen	Kendall Wheeler
Woody Fox (chair)	

(Virtual)

Charles Burak
Rob Campbell
Josh Cohen
Linda Heineman
Barry Hensiek
Arlynn Peavey
Pat Rogan

Minutes approved as presented (David Cieslak motioned, Bruce Gray second)

Chapter Reports

East Bay Chapter: Charlie Burak

- Held a local committee meeting recently
- Cloud computing, iPad and new technology discussion

Inland Empire: Bruce Gray

- Planning for committee meeting topics

Orange County: John Misuraca

- Networking for CPA firms
- Exploring optical text recognition for QuickBooks

Sacramento: Lynne Walline

- Planning committee meeting topics

LA: Larry Russell

- Planning for future topics: Social networking for CPAs and internet security
- Concerns that enthusiasm for the technology committee seems to be fading

Fresno: Kendall Wheeler

- Planning for committee meeting topics
- Looking for ways to boost membership

Silicon Valley San Jose (Monterey): Ilene Eisen

- Planning for committee meeting topics
- Looking for ways to boost membership

LA (Pasadena): Barry Hensick

- In the process of re-establishing the group
- Trying to meet once a month

Gadget Session:

- iPad keyboard
- 4G WiFi hotspot
- Wireless service providers/coverage
- Cell-phone signal booster
- WiFi hotspots

CalCPA Database Update (CalCPA COO Clar Rosso)

- Vendor selection from four vendors: selected Avectra
- Considered system/human resource readiness
- Planning to go live March 2012, then rolling basis for additional features
- CalCPA has hired a new IT director

Rosso also request volunteers to test Ed Foundation's new eBook functionality.

Adobe Connect at chapter level (Aldo Maragoni)

Any chapter can request a meeting to be set up

- A CalCPA staff member must set up the meetings, however, the meeting can be set up remotely.
- No CPE credits if meeting is performed online. All CPE requests must go through Education Foundation.
- Aldo to follow-up: Whether a routine meeting can be set up; Whether a meeting require approval if below certain participant threshold; Implement more relevant poll questions for the webinars

Webinar report (Arlynn Peavey)

- Tech Committee sponsors one to two free webinar(s) each year
- 2011 webinar presenters included Jim Counts, David Cieslak, Bob Gaby and Cliff Beacham
- Possible webinar topics: David Cieslak to provide a listing of topics to Arlynn, including cloud computing and SOC reporting
- Everyone can provide topics to Arlynn through email. Arlynn requests that topic suggestions to also include speakers
- Arlynn will provide a list of possible webinar dates. Anticipated around Thanksgiving (October/November) time frame. Planning for a full day event with four speakers/topics

Tour of CalCPA's new San Mateo headquarters**Encryption and Truecrypt (Woody Fox)**

- Encryption is important, because although system security can be bypassed by physical breaches.
- Passwords are different from encryption keys. Password protected files are not encrypted. Encrypted files are not readable, even with a correct password, without an encryption key.

Tech Committee collaboration (Josh Cohen)

Tech Committee to explore the following and report back on experiences at next meeting:

- Dropbox.com
- Google Group
- Google Doc
- Google+
- Doodle
- Facebook

Review of Tech Committee goals (Fox)

How can the Tech Committee contribute more to the community?

- Ideas: Tech Committee become more involved in “Ask a CPA” forum, like a RAM wiki with past questions/answers posted
- Publish a list of common software that committee members use. CalCPA does not endorse software/website recommendations
- Continue to contribute articles to *California CPA* magazine and the annual *Technology and Business Resource Guide*, published in May. Contact: Aldo Maragoni

RAM Session (All)

Jim Counts

- Custom built laptop

Jim Sanders

- Bluetooth device
- Looking for presenters for an upcoming tech presentation

Bruce Gray

- Harvey Mudd College will host and lunch time speaker for next Tech Committee meeting

John Musuraca

- Portable keyboard
- Portable monitor

Lynne Walline:

- VPN tunnel (net extender): A remote desktop differs from a VPN, VPN has a secured tunnel

George Chiu

- RSA App
- Inquired why there was no CalCPA App. Aldo responded that one is in the works. Developed has been slowed with recent redesigns of website and database conversion.

David Cieslak

- Web browsers would likely be the future for their universal adaptability. Drawbacks with Apps are the lower quality QC process and platform specificity
- Book suggestion: *The Comeback* by Gary Shapiro

Kendall Wheeler

- Tablets are amazing

Larry Russell

- Encase: Forensics

Cliff Beacham

- Listed companies may not adopt cloud computing
- Concerns on younger generation
- Concerns on transitioning to IFRS

Milla Austin

- iPad case: Otter Box
- Exercise watch

John Levy

- Toshiba Pad
- Android phone: HTC Sensation
- AWC: clean-up software
- Malware detector
- Hawaii Tax Institute

Ilene Eisen

- Google App compatibility
- Google Doc for wedding planning

Vic Republicano

- Shazam: available for both iPhone and Android

Charlie Burak

- Macintosh: well designed and low maintenance machine, however, over-priced

Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Tour of the Comcast Sports Net Studio (Optional)

Next Meeting: Friday, Oct. 21, Harvey Mudd College