



2020, Quarter 2

Message From the President

Hello Great Lakes NSAC members!

The months seem to be flying by. It's hard to believe July is almost over and I'm sure I am not alone when I say it seems more hectic than ever.

There is so much going on nationally, locally, professionally and personally that it's quite the challenge to keep up with everything!

As this will be my last newsletter article as your Chapter President, I'll admit this isn't quite the ending I saw coming! Thank you for the opportunity to lead our chapter, with the great help of our directors, committee chairs and members! It's been a true pleasure and there is so much more to this organization than I imagined when I joined. There are some really awesome members who have great ideas to keep it thriving. There were definitely challenges this year and some stuff didn't come to fruition as I had hoped, but with our groups determination I'm sure they will in the future. It has been an honor!

The Great Lakes Board is hosting a virtual chapter business meeting and the details are on page three! Keep an eye on your email for additional information.

There is always room on committees for members who are looking to be more involved and share those great ideas you might have to grow the success of the Great Lakes Chapter! Don't hesitate in reaching out!

Best wishes,
Kristin



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Items of Interest

- Under Development

National Director Report

You might recall, my last newsletter article started with Spring is in the air! Flowers are beginning to emerge in St Louis, the 2020 baseball season has begun and your NSAC National board has been busy planning for the upcoming year. Well, the flowers are still beautiful, the baseball season was delayed but is restarting, and the NSAC National board has been continuing to address the needs of the membership.

However, who could have predicted that we would be talking about a serious virus that would change our lives and others around the world so much? Many of us have all been impacted in some way at work or personally. However, we have been required to adapt our lifestyles and take precautions to avoid either spreading the virus or getting it. While it might seem to be an inconvenience, there are many of our health care professionals that have continued to serve. If you know of someone in the healthcare field, please thank them for their service!

However, for many of us, we have been working from home since Mid-March, limited or no travel, etc. We have embraced “virtual” communication, with technology. Unfortunately, your NSAC board was advised that having more virtual meetings would be a necessity for the time to come. The TFACC scheduled for August in Portland was cancelled, and now is offered as a two day virtual session August 3-4. Please see the NSAC website for more information and to register. Registration is available up until August 3.

Also, the Great Lakes Chapter board was also advised to change our annual meeting format for 2020 rather than a face to face meeting. Please see the details regarding our plans.

One of the new initiatives is the NSAC [Member Forum introduced in 2020](#). You may have seen several emails from the National Office regarding this new networking and communication tool /platform which should help us as we move forward with national as well as chapter activities. If you have not received an email yet, please let Jeff Roberts in the National office know at Info@nsaccoop.org

As we continue to improve the communication process at the National level, the new platform will also assist us with Chapter communication and various committee activities. **Please also consider becoming involved with a chapter committee. We sincerely hope to expand our committees this year.**

Also, we would like for all members to consider becoming involved, rest assured that there are many resources to consult within the GREAT Lakes chapter. The chapter committee options include Newsletter, Annual Meeting Planning & Time and Place, Education, Membership, and Social Media.

Speaking of membership, please consider asking others to join who might benefit from being an NSAC member. The membership application can be found on the website. The chapter has a new program that is designed to attract and retain new members. Please also refer to the Membership Chair’s report.

The Cooperative Learning Network (CLN) is an excellent CPE source, and the CLNs are “FREE” with your membership.

The National Website includes both National and Chapter information. If you are not able to access the website, please contact Jeff Roberts in the national office.

Info@nsaccoop.org

The NSAC is also proud to be able to offer college scholarships. Please see the website for more information and the application or contact Jeff in the national office.

The Chapter Newsletters are also a key to communication with our members. The quarterly newsletter helps the chapter leadership communicate key initiatives, provide member news, provide minutes, financial reports, membership information, as well as provide information for the next chapter annual meeting. If you or someone on your staff is not receiving the quarterly newsletter, please contact Rebecca Smith, Rebecca.Smith@clconnect.com Thanks to Rebecca for joining the newsletter committee, she would love to have a few more members to serve. Please let her know if you can assist. And last but not least, is The Co-operative Accountant (TCA) quarterly publication. The board and the editor, Frank Messina, are looking at options regarding electronic distribution, if you would select this option at the time you renew your membership. The new TCA format is very appealing, while maintaining the same quality you have enjoyed and expected over the last 71 years. Frank is always looking for articles to include in the TCA and works diligently to assemble the publication each quarter. If you have written a contemporary accounting, finance, or tax article, or have read a relevant article, please let Frank know as others might also enjoy reading. Frank can be reached at fmessina@uab.edu.

Thanks again, your National Director, Kent W. Erhardt

2020 Annual Meeting

After much discussion the Board of Directors has decided to hold a virtual annual meeting on **August 20th at 2pm CST**. This will provide an opportunity for members to connect virtually to catch up with each other, address chapter business that is essential such as board nominations, and discuss any other chapter or other matters. We are currently working with the national office to get the Zoom meeting set up so please watch your email for more meeting details. Please put a hold on your calendar for August 20th at 2 pm CST, we are very much looking forward to seeing as many chapter members as possible virtually.

As we look towards next year we hope to be seeing everyone in person, more details on the 2021 annual meeting will be forthcoming as soon as they are available.

“Life’s most persistent and urgent questions is, What are you doing for others?” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

Help Wanted

We are seeking additional member involvement on the following committees:

- Chapter Development = Coordinate with the national office as well as the national president, maintain chapter recognition program, update chapter leadership manual, attend calls with chapter leadership
- Education = Plan training programs for the chapter outside of the national training program
- Membership = Member recruitment and retention including membership campaign and Great Lakes Hall of Fame
- Newsletter = Publish chapter newsletters which keeps the membership updated on chapter and national activities.
- Social Media = Develop and maintain chapter’s social media account

Why get involved? Additional engagement and connection to the chapter, networking, positive contribution provides a sense of accomplishment and pride, and fun. So why not?

If interested please contact Kent Erhardt at kerhardt@cobank.com

Q2 Anniversaries

Nick Ajster—8
Sharon Allen—19
Jen Ayala—4
Sharon Ballweg—11
Joseph Barenys—5
Ken Bierman—17
Kari Camiller—9
DeAnne Chappell—14
Dan Coulthard—8
Henry Demlow—42
Robin Gloschen—26
Jeremy Gritton—5
Andy Gusa—12
Brian Haraga—14
Terry Hopman—1
Todd Hoppe—7
Mark Juedes—5
Nathan Kalepp—3
Jared Kempel—3
Barbara Koehnke—3
Eric Kroll—8
Terri LaFleur—26
Brad Lee—27
Jason Les—18
Greg Line—26
Mike Lorenz—1
Ken Malek—1
Nathan Meyers—1
Ralph Miller—46
Mike Minnihan—2
Stephanie Pauls—4
Rodney Powell—5
Blain e Priebusch—18
Amanda Pridemore—9
MC Rothhorn—3
Andy Ruck—9
Scott Swartzendruber—2
Becky Taylor—3
Tracy Umbenhour—17
Mona Willis—1
Jolene Wisinski—4

Membership Report



Membership totals decreased slightly in April 2020. As of April 30, 2020, and April 30, 2019, we had 109 and 114 paid members in the Great Lakes Chapter, respectively.

Although we will not be holding the annual meeting this year, we will be rewarding one member with a \$150 cash prize. Also, if you referred someone during the year, you will be entered for a \$100 cash prize. Both prizes will be drawn at the virtual meeting, we look forward to seeing you there. Winners will be notified after the

drawing and also announced in the next newsletter.

The Chapter would like to extend a warm welcome to all new members. As a friendly reminder, if the annual renewal of your dues is approaching, please begin the process of renewing them now.

If you have any questions regarding membership, you can contact Membership Chair Jeremy Gritton at jgritton@wipfli.com.

“Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging.”
- Joseph Campbell

Great Lakes Hall of Fame Nominations

The Hall of Fame honors members who have selflessly contributed to both the success and growth of the Chapter during their time as a member. The criteria for nomination is the nominee must have at least 10 years of service to the Chapter and must have served as a Board of Director or on an active committee for at least three years. You can nominate yourself or someone else by submitting the following information to the membership chair or a board member. Nominee name and why they are deserving and how the nominee contributed to the success and growth of the chapter. We are currently accepting nominations through January 2021 for recognition at the June 2021 annual meeting. Send nominations to Jeremy Gritton at jgritton@wipfli.com.

Membership Campaign

First Timer Prize—\$150 cash prize. Each NSAC GL Chapter member who is attending the Great Lakes Chapter annual meeting for their first time will be entered to win a \$150 cash prize. Entrants do not need to be new to NSAC, just new to the annual meeting. One prize will be awarded per annual meeting. Must be present to win.

New Member Referral Prize—\$100 cash price. For every new member referred to NSAC GL Chapter during the year, the referring NSAC member will be entered to win a \$100 cash prize to be drawn at the Great Lakes Chapter annual meeting. One prize will be awarded per annual meeting. Must be present to win. Year runs from June 1 – May 31. The referred member must indicate the referral source on his/her membership application.

Treasurer Report

Hello everybody. I hope you are keeping cool! In southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois we are in the middle of a long stretch of very hot and very humid weather. Rain has been somewhat spotty with very heavy rain in some places and little rain in other places. I guess that's the way Mother Nature works! The fund balance continues to run strong and is very healthy.

Stay safe!

Tyrone Lein

	5 Months Ended <u>5/31/2020</u>	Year Ended <u>12/31/2019</u>
JANUARY 1 FUND BALANCE	\$ 26,645	\$ 26,650
JUNE ANNUAL MEETING		
Registration Fees	-0-	10,360
Expenses	<u>-0-</u>	<u>(9,839)</u>
Net Income (Expense) From Annual Meeting	-0-	521
OTHER REVENUE		
Membership Dues	340	1,180
A&A Seminar	-0-	-0-
Other	<u>-0-</u>	<u>4</u>
Total Other Revenue	340	1,184
DOWN PAYMENT ON (NEXT YEAR'S)/ PREVIOUS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING	-0-	(500)
OTHER EXPENSES	<u>(1,398)</u>	<u>(1,210)</u>
PERIOD END FUND BALANCE	<u>\$ 25,587</u>	<u>\$ 26,645</u>

Upcoming CLN

There are no upcoming CLNs at this time. Past CLNs can be accessed at https://nsacoop.org/cooperative_learning_network.php

2020 TFACC has gone Virtual!

This year's two-day, August 3-4, virtual program offers proven strategies, tools and resources to help your co-op, company or firm increase efficiencies, improve financial controls, streamline regulatory compliance and make transactions manageable. Although this year's in-person conference was cancelled due to COVID-19, you can still hear from industry experts on a range of topics that impact the profession, network with colleagues, share expertise, successes and lessons learned through our virtual platform. The agenda is designed to accommodate the needs of remote attendees providing added flexibility to attend sessions according to your schedule. Registrants will receive access to all session recordings following the event, providing the ability to earn up to 56 hours of CPE in a variety of fields of study to view on demand.

To register go to <https://www.cooperative.com/conferences-education/meetings/2020-virtual-tfacc/Pages/default.aspx>

NSAC

The National Society of Accountants for Cooperatives (NSAC) is comprised of professionals actively involved with the financial management and planning of cooperative business. NSAC strives to provide accounting, tax and business education uniquely tailored to cooperatives, supports cooperatives in business interests, and offers networking and professional development opportunities.

From the Editor



I hope you enjoyed the newsletter, please let me know what else you want the Chapter to share. The newsletter's purpose is to share information with members and keep all of us informed within the chapter including some highlights from national. Since this is the members newsletter I would like to incorporate as much as I can from chapter members in each quarters newsletter. Please send me your ideas for future newsletters and any thing you would like to share with others. Maybe an interesting article you read or authored, a significant event in your personal or professional life, the possibilities are endless. And we always love photos so include those as well. Send your information to me at Rebecca.Smith@claconnect.com. I hope you took something valuable away from this edition; I look forward to sharing some new items in upcoming newsletters such as a member spotlight, get to know your chapter leadership, and education updates.

Rebecca Smith

Officers and Board of Directors

Kristin Emming - President and Board Member

Nick Ajster—Vice President and Board Member

Ty Lein—Treasurer

Mark Juedes—Secretary and Board Member

Molly Costaris—Board Member

David Loyd—Board Member

Julie Luedtke - Board Member

Rebecca Smith—Board Member

We are here to serve you, please do not hesitate to contact any officer or board member.