

April 2018 Newsletter

Note from your Chapter President

Greetings! The El Paso Area Chapter of the ACFE is proud to have just wrapped up another successful year. 2017 chapter membership reached new heights, community service drives collected over \$1,500 worth of donations, and the President of the National ACFE conducted a training in our beautiful city of El Paso! The success of these efforts can be tied back directly to you, the members, and it is greatly appreciated.

The Board is currently working to roll out new and exciting ideas and opportunities for 2018. These ideas aim to create a strong network of professionals that may create opportunities in their profession and the community. Stay plugged in to our social media channels for updates. A training survey was recently sent out, as a tool to gauge interest in future training topics. Thank you for your feedback, as we will utilize the results to the best of our abilities.

The Board has annual openings and you are highly encouraged to volunteer to serve the Chapter. If you have any questions about serving on the Board and the associated responsibilities, feel free to reach out to any of the board members. The Chapter continues to serve the community and if there are causes you would like to take part in or bring to the table, you are encouraged to voice the opportunity.

Having achieved unprecedented heights in 2017, 2018 looks to build on that momentum and continue the growth, while increasing awareness of the Certified Fraud Examiner credential. We look forward to getting to know each of you and creating a strong community of professionals who share a common interest and make a lasting impact in the El Paso area community.

Cheers to another successful year filled with memories and development!

Anthony Morales, CFE
President, El Paso Area Chapter of the ACFE

Upcoming Events

May 19

Member social –El Paso Chihuahuas



Details coming soon!

June 18-20

[2018 Global Fraud Conference –Las Vegas](#)

April 23 & past events

[Pictures](#)

Become a Member!

[2018 Membership Application](#)

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Member Spotlight



Lyz Parra

Auditor II for the City of El Paso

What do you enjoy most in your current position?

I enjoy learning the functions of every department I audit. Every department is different. It's like putting a puzzle together. Some lengthier than others.

How did you become involved with the El Paso ACFE and/or auditing?

While going through school, I always said I wanted to work in Public Accounting. However, once I took an auditing class, I knew this was the fit for me. My first interaction with Internal Auditors was when I worked at GECU as a Teller Supervisor.

Once I finished school, my first Auditor position was with GECU.

If you were not an accountant, what would you be?

I truly enjoy audit. I have a passion for what I do. However, if I could do it all over again I would like to be a surgeon. More specific a Cardiothoracic Surgeon.

What is one interesting fact that people would be surprised to know about you?

My husband and I participate in obstacle course races.

What do you like to do outside of work?

Spending time with my husband, nine month old daughter, and working out.

What advice would you give to other ACFE professionals or those considering a career in accounting?

Internal Auditing sounds as if one would be stuck behind a desk surrounded by large stacks of unorganized papers looking for things that don't add up right. Internal Auditors have the dynamic task of helping an organization meet its objectives. In order to accomplish these tasks, internal auditing presents unique job opportunities that are not found in many other career fields. An Internal Auditor contributes to an organization's reputation, growth, and its impact on the environment. With solid ethical values and hard work, Internal Auditors will contribute to the task of restoring the public's confidence in the business world. Personally, this is the most enticing characteristic of the career.

Your Chapter in the Community

The chapter has a committee dedicated to community service. Last year we had several drives for donations for AOY elementary. Thanks to your donations and you spreading the word about the drives, we were able to provide many students with shoes, sweaters, and school supplies. Back to School drive is coming soon!

Tools

CFE Exam Preparation - Are you ready to earn your CFE credential? [Find](#) the product that best suits your needs.

Find a CFE - [Free search](#) to help you find fraud examiners throughout the world.

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2018 Chapter Goals

- **Increase Chapter awareness through partnerships with:**

- ✓ Young CPAs committee
- ✓ Local IIA
- ✓ Local Universities

Please help us meet our goals by volunteering and participating in future events!

- **Increase membership**

- ✓ Goal is 120
- ✓ Universities – meet the firms night may increase membership
- ✓ Possible Career days at high schools
- ✓ Build community by talking to new people
- ✓ Possible mentoring program

If you haven't already responded to our training survey, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CZWYJQ9>

Aoy Elementary Science Expo

By Susan Jacobs



Aoy Elementary hosted their first Science Expo for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. This was required for grades 3 - 5, but optional for k - 2 grades. They prepared for three weeks and had 240 participants.

Anthony Morales, Martha Piekarski, Jesus Villarreal and Susan Jacobs represented our chapter as judges. The students displayed real talent and knowledge in their projects ranging from volcanos, the solar system, the water cycle, electricity and the life cycle plus many more, including a project on a solar cooker making s'mores using a pizza box and foil. The students also pointed out why topics were important in everyday life and what careers utilized this knowledge. We judged not only their knowledge on the topic and board display, but also on the actual presentation - eye contact, posture, ability to answer questions, and speaking loud enough. It was very heartwarming to see the students excited and anxious about this Science Expo. The Aoy staff were very appreciative to the judges and provided snacks in the morning and a lunch at the end. I would definitely sign up for this activity again!



Celebrate Success!

We have new local CFEs! Please congratulate them if you know or meet them.

Mrs. Areli J. Carrillo, CFE

Mrs. Mayra Gabriela Martinez, CFE, CGAP

Mrs. Myrna Rodriguez, CFE

Congratulations!
Awesome Achievement!

WELL
done
you
Did
It!