



The Payroll Post

Volume 9, Issue 2

A publication for and by the members of the Greater Atlanta Payroll Association

From your President...

A lot of activity has kept your board busy this month. We spent quite a bit of time recapping our events and accomplishments in 2023 for our Chapter of the Year contest entry. I would like to give a huge shout out to Lisa Vandervelden, CPP for her efforts on partnering with me on our entry. Next up for the board will be completing additional annual contest entries for our statewide conference, website and a pictorial recap of 2023. All of the winners for these contests will be announced during Chapter Exchange during Congress in Nashville in May.

We are also preparing for our election of officers to replace two members on the board as well as electing a President Elect. You can learn more about our nominees in the newsletter. Finally, we are planning activities to celebrate our chapter’s 40th year! What an exciting start to our year!

Amleigh



Upcoming Events:

March 14, 2024 Monthly Meeting
Virtual, Online Meeting

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**Emerging Issues in State
Unemployment
Presented by
Matt Kaufer
Thomas & Company**



Our March Community Service Project will support the Lawrenceville Co-Op by providing volunteers for sorting food in their food bank and wherever else we are needed. Sign up here:

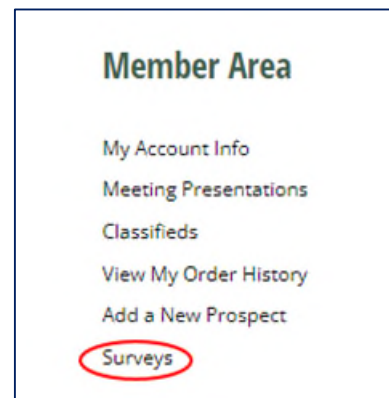
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090549AAAD2EA3FB6-47894074-lawrenceville#/>

Free Webinar for National Members!

Correcting the Form W-2 Without Making More Mistakes: February 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. EST
Have you received all the information required for your W-2 processing? We will focus on common fringe benefits that payroll professionals must seek out to ensure correct withholding and reporting on the 2023 Form W-2. Register [here](#).

Local Chapter News

It is time to vote for our open leadership positions in the chapter. This includes the President Elect as well as two Board Member Positions. To cast your vote, please login to our members only page: [Greater Atlanta Payroll Association - Member Area \(gapayroll.org\)](http://gapayroll.org) and select **Survey**:



Duties of the President Elect

The President Elect shall be an active member in good standing with PayrollOrg and the Greater Atlanta Payroll Association. The President Elect position's intent is preparation to be President. Responsibility may include but not limited to:

- Attend monthly meetings and other chapter events.
- In absence of the President, the President Elect shall preside over Member and Officer/Board meetings.
- The President Elect will fill in for any absence of other officers during Chapter meetings, Officer/Board meetings, and any other duties as the Board may prescribe.
- The President Elect reads emails that the President sends regarding inquiries, issues, etc. as training for assuming the role after the two-year term ends.
- Time commitment is about 8 - 10 hours a month.

President Elect Nominee: Amy Travis, CPP



“Hi, I’m Amy and I love everything about payroll. I have been in this field for more than two decades and I’m proud to be a Certified Payroll Professional since 2021. As the Payroll Director at Rexel USA, I oversee the payroll operations for over 7,000 employees across the country. I have a passion for excellence and innovation, and I enjoy leading and mentoring my payroll team. I also have extensive experience in managing mergers and acquisitions, and I work closely with our HR and Branch partners to ensure a smooth and compliant payroll process. When I’m not crunching numbers, I like to connect with people and give back to the community. I have been an active board member of the Greater Atlanta Payroll Association for the last two years, where I now facilitate the in-person study group for payroll professionals. I also volunteer at various local charities and causes that are close to my heart.

In my spare time, I love spending quality time with my family. I have a wonderful husband and four amazing children who keep me busy and happy. I also enjoy playing tennis and staying fit and healthy.

President Elect Nominee: C.J. Easterling, CPP



“I graduated college in 1978 and began my accounting career with a local CPA firm handling all accounting/payroll functions for approximately 25 small clients. In 1981, I moved to the private sector where I have remained. I received my CPP designation in September of 2001. Currently I am the Director of Payroll, Benefits, and Employee Services for Community Loans of America, Inc. My responsibility lies in making sure our employees are paid correctly, their benefits are assigned correctly and to ensure the needs of our employees are met. This is achieved by a staff of 3 well trained and cross trained associates.

I have been in many kinds of industries throughout the years in many different accounting capacities, but PAYROLL is my PASSION.

My volunteer and past roles within the Atlanta Chapter of the American Payroll Association include: Chairperson, Co-Chair and Guest Instructor for CPP/FPC Study Groups from 2002 to present; Chapter Treasurer April 2019 to March 2022; Education Chair Person, Membership Chair Person; President April 2013 to March 2014; President Elect April 2012 to March 2013; Immediate Past President April 2014 to March 2015; Board of Directors April 2010 to March 2012 Board of Directors Advisor April 2015 to March 2019; Guest Speaker for Atlanta Chapter; Multiple Monthly Meetings; 2022 Statewide Chairperson; 2018 Statewide Volunteer & Treasurer; 2016 & 2017 Statewide Chairperson; 2015 Statewide Committee & Treasurer; 2014 Statewide Volunteer; 2013 Statewide Committee & Treasurer; 2011 Statewide Committee & Treasurer; 2005 GA Statewide Conference Speaker.

My volunteer and past roles within the American Payroll Association include: Hotline Referral Service 2011 to Present; CHAMPS; Congress Welcome Committee; Board of Contributing Writers; Chapter Recognition Committee; Administrator for APA classes held in Atlanta; Co-conducted CPP/FPC study group in private industry in 2004, 2005, 2006 & 2007.”

Board Member (2 Positions)

The Board of Directors shall be active members in good standing with PayrollOrg and the Greater Atlanta Payroll Association. Responsibility may include but not limited to:

- The Board of Directors will assist with providing information to be included in the Chapter newsletter.
- The Board of Directors will greet new members and visitors at in-person events and find a chapter member to sit with them at the in-person meetings.
- Board members must attend at least 2 board meetings per annum.
- Board members must attend at least 1 non meeting event held by the chapter. (Examples include but are not limited to Statewide, membership drive, volunteer projects).
- Time commitment is about 5 - 10 hours a month.

Board Member Nominee: Brandy Campbell, CPP

“I’m Brandy Campbell and currently I am the Head of the North American Payroll Shared Service Center, for WestRock. I have been in payroll my entire 20-year career, and I’ve found I love the challenge and reward that comes along with leading large scale payroll transformation projects. My current role is quite new and recently brought me to Georgia, so I am looking to get involved with the chapter. It would be an honor to sit on the board and make a difference where I can. I’ve held my Certified Payroll Professional (CPP) certification since 2009 and am considered a Subject Matter Expert in my field. In addition, I earned my SHRM-SCP designation in July 2023. Payroll is at the heart of many HR policies, and processes, so I thought it would be beneficial to add the additional knowledge that came along with certification.”



Board Member Nominee: Daniel Pate, CPP



“Experienced Payroll/Tax/HR Specialist with a demonstrated history of working pure excellence in the restaurant and retail industry. I’ve worked for Chick-fil-A, Inc. since 2015 and love my job! I have been an active member of APA since 2019 and the Greater Atlanta Payroll Association Chapter member since 2023. I have been a proud FPC professional since 2017. I have worked hard to get the word out about Payroll Org Certification, and continuing education classes. I’ve actively recruited a co-worker to the National and Local Chapter. In my personal life I enjoy Sports, Puzzles, Diamond Art, Watch Building & Collecting. I appreciate the consideration and honored with the nomination.

Board Member Nominee: Kelly Young, CPP

Kelly Young is a Certified Payroll Professional with more than 15 years of payroll and accounting experience. She received her B.A degree in accounting from Kennesaw State University and started her career as an accountant with the Atlanta Braves in 2008. After holding many roles within the organization, Kelly began assisting the payroll team, eventually becoming the Payroll Manager. Since then, Kelly has developed a love for the payroll profession. She has been the Payroll Manager for a variety of companies, including the 2nd largest restaurant chain in the world and presently one of the top law firms, King & Spalding. She has worked as a subject matter expert on various implementations and projects for both the accounting and payroll departments. In her spare time, Kelly enjoys spending time with her three daughters, reading, and hiking.



Congratulations Leah Manderano, FPC:

Congrats to Leah Manderano, FPC from Moore Colson CPAs and Advisors for being selected as our random drawing winner from the pool of members who renewed their membership with our chapter or joined our chapter before the end of January. Amy received a complimentary registration to the 2024 Payroll Congress in Nashville, TN. Congratulations Leah!



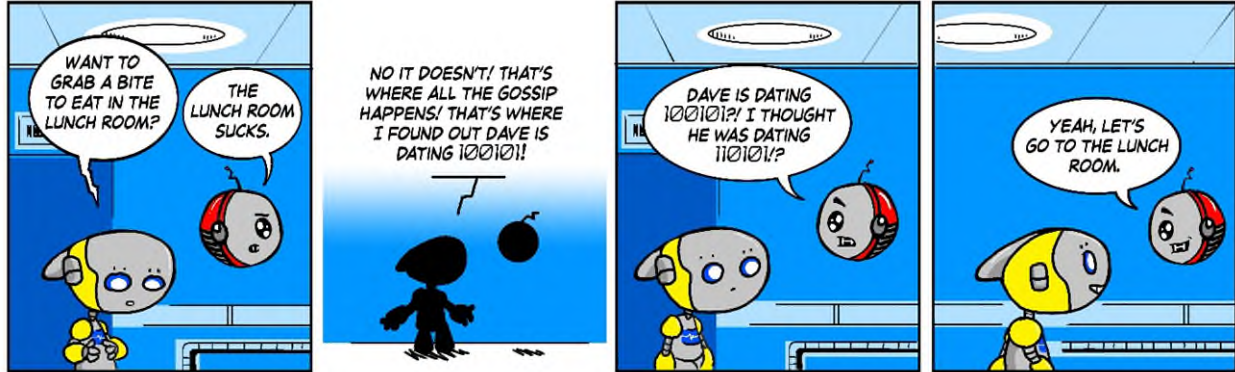
Congratulations to Amy Travis, CPP:

Amy was selected at random from all that completed the survey of volunteer committee participation. Amy received a complimentary registration to the 2024 Payroll Congress in Nashville, TN. Congratulations Amy!

Did you know? The reason our chapter is able to give away Congress registrations is due to our placement in Chapter Contests through PayrollOrg. You can help us! Make sure to check out the [article](#) in this month's PayTech Magazine.

The adventures of PAYBOT...

By Jim Kohl, CPP



National News



Free Webinar for Members:

Promoting Payroll as an Evolving Strategic Tool: February 28, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. EST. Join this discussion on the evolving needs of employees and how paycards are accelerating transition into the digital economy and becoming a strategic tool to retain and hire employees. Register here. Register [here](#).

Capital Summit:

The Capital Summit puts attendees on the leading edge of payroll compliance. Government insiders present the latest and still-developing payroll legislative and regulatory requirements that impact payroll operations. Click [here](#) for more information and registration.



11-12 March 2024
Hilton Arlington National Landing Hotel
Arlington, Virginia USA



There's still time to apply for one of six PayrollOrg payroll education grants. The continued education offered through these grants is essential for payroll professionals to stay informed. These grants honor payroll professionals for their commitment to education, and today, we urge you as a member of the payroll community to throw your hat in the ring! [Learn More!](#)

Six deserving PayrollOrg members will receive PayrollOrg education at absolutely no cost through these grants. **Applications are due by February 24, 2024.**

PayrollOrg Payroll Education Grants:

- One Complete PayrollOrg Payroll Training Package
- Two PayrollOrg Course/Conference Grants
- Three Payroll Source Plus Grants

2024 Congress Register [here.](#)

May 7-10, 2024 in Nashville TN.



Leadership

Submitted by Lisa Vandervelden, CPP

Being part of the local chapter of a professional association offers unique opportunities for individuals to enhance their leadership skills, contribute to their professional community, and drive meaningful change. However, along with these benefits come a set of challenges that require adept navigation. In this article, we will explore the multifaceted landscape of leadership within a local chapter, delving into its benefits, opportunities, and challenges.

Benefits of serving in a leadership role provides invaluable opportunities for personal and professional growth. Leaders often gain experience in strategic planning, event management, budgeting, and team building, which can enhance their skill set and make them more marketable in their careers. Leadership positions within a local chapter facilitate connections with like-minded professionals in our field of payroll. These connections can lead to collaborations on projects, mentorship opportunities, and access to a broader network of resources and expertise. Assuming a leadership role can elevate an individual's visibility within their professional community as well. Through their contributions to the local chapter, leaders can gain recognition for their expertise and dedication, which may open doors to new career opportunities for advancement.


There are opportunities for Leadership Growth. Leaders have the opportunity to drive innovation within the payroll profession by spearheading new initiatives, programs, or events that address emerging challenges or trends. Leadership positions provide a platform for advocating for important issues facing the payroll profession. Serving in a leadership role also allows individuals to mentor and develop the next generation of leaders within their profession. By providing guidance, support, and opportunities for skill-building, local chapter leaders play a crucial role in nurturing talent and fostering a culture of leadership excellence.

With benefits, there will always be challenges of the leadership. Leadership roles within our chapter often require a time commitment, including attending meetings, planning and organizing events, and communicating with members. Balancing these responsibilities with other professional and personal commitments can be challenging. We consist of diverse members with varying perspectives, interests, and priorities. We may all encounter conflicts or disagreements among members, requiring effective conflict resolution skills and diplomacy to maintain cohesion and harmony within the chapter.

In conclusion, leadership in a local chapter of any professional association offers a wealth of benefits, opportunities, and challenges. By embracing these roles with enthusiasm, dedication, and a commitment to serving their members and the payroll profession, leaders can make a meaningful impact, foster collaboration and innovation, and contribute to the growth and success of their local chapters and the broader payroll community.

"PayTalk"

PayTalk is a monthly podcast created with the goal of sharing earned knowledge from high-level payroll professionals to the greater industry at large. Click [here](#).



Roberto Masiero
SVP of Product Development, ADP

EPISODE 46: AI-Powered Payroll: Redefining the Future of WFM


In this podcast:

- How AI is reshaping the payroll industry
- Benefits/Risks of incorporating AI into payroll processes
- Advice on how to navigate AI integration, data analysis, and more

Unscripted Conversations With Leading Experts

▶

[Transcript](#)



Jennifer Russell, Head of Payroll Governance and Compliance at Pearson

EPISODE 45: Merge With Caution: Emotional Intelligence in M&A

In this podcast:

- Areas of expertise payroll should focus on
- How to prepare for future M&A activity
- Tips for handling high employee emotions

Unscripted Conversations With Leading Experts

[Podcast](#) | [Transcript](#)

Compliance TV

In the February edition of [Compliance TV](#), these items are covered:

- DOL Issues Final FLSA Worker Classification Rule
- DOL, IRS Issue Guidance on New Emergency Savings Accounts
- Three States, Virgin Islands May Face Credit Reduction for 2024
- Student Loan Garnishments Remain Canceled Through September



Greater Atlanta Payroll Association

Meetings held the second
Thursday of the month
Alternating Breakfast and
Dinner Meetings

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<https://apaatlantachapter.com/index.php>



About Our Organization



We are a nonprofit organization centered on providing continuing education to payroll, accounting and human resource professionals. Along with education, we offer community service opportunities for all members. We are an autonomous and independent Chapter of Payroll.org.



Thank you to our Greater Atlanta Payroll Association Partners!

Titanium:



onesource
VIRTUAL

rapid!

PAYCARD
ON DEMAND
DISBURSEMENTS

Steel:

BSI® | *Setting the Standard* ➔
in *Payroll Tax Solutions*