

June 19, 2024

Dear TXCPA Houston Member,

It is hard to believe almost 3 weeks have come and gone since I began my role as President of the TXCPA Houston Chapter. As it is said, time flies when you are having fun, and boy am I having fun! Although my first week started with some personal challenges, it has only made me more excited and driven to share my passion of being a CPA and the opportunities afforded us by choosing this path.

As a child I did not know any CPAs or even what it was, but I did have the opportunity to prepare taxes and perform some bookkeeping, which I enjoyed. When I took my first accounting course in high school, the teacher was a CPA. I LOVED the course, and the teacher was amazing. Unlike finding the "x" in algebra, accounting made sense to me. I wish my children would have had the option of accounting in high school, but it was not offered, and by the time I started college, two out of my three children were out of high school and my youngest was a sophomore. I missed the opportunity to share with them until they were grown.

When I was asked what I would like to do once my children were grown and out of the house, I said I want to be an accountant. I was granted the opportunity to fulfill a dream I had since my youth. A dream I had long since given up. When that opportunity presented itself, I knew that I was going to do whatever I needed to do to get my degree and finally sit for the CPA. As you all know, that was one of the most challenging times full of sacrifices and frustrations, but such a short time in the grand scheme of things. Now those sacrifices and frustrations have granted me the opportunity to serve an exceptional organization alongside all of you. Knowing what I know now, I would do it again with even more excitement for the future.

During the process of getting my degree I heard about the TXCPA Houston and a fraction of the benefits and opportunities. I had no idea of how truly life changing this organization can be. Once I received my CPA and became involved, I could not wait to share the word about the organization, but mostly about the people involved. The wealth of knowledge from any member with whom you choose to engage, within each committee of which you take part, the incredible leadership and the amazing staff. I knew that I was involved in an organization where I belong. An organization of which I needed to contribute.

In all my dreams and goals, never did I think I would be where I am now; working alongside such an incredible group of leaders, mentors, and members. I look forward to this next year of collaboration within our chapter and the state society, continuing to improve communication and outreach to our valued members and students of all ages, growing through diversity, and sharing the excitement of being a CPA and part of the TXCPA.

I cannot express my gratitude for your trust in me with this position; my honor to serve alongside so many great leaders and individuals in our community and industry; and my excitement to continue to spread the word about such an incredible opportunity to be a CPA and active part of the Texas Society, especially part of the greatest chapter in this state.

Thank you and have a FABULOUS day!

Katherine Rodriguez, CPA, CFE
Partner
979-548-3782