

2019-2020 OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARDS

By Rhonda Ledbetter, TXCPA Volunteer and Governance Specialist

To inspire chapters in their continuing work to elevate member service, TXCPA bestows Outstanding Chapter Awards to the small and medium-sized chapters.

Selection is made by a group of past presidents from chapters of all sizes who understand the work involved in successfully leading volunteers. Here are a few highlights about the chapters honored for the 2019-2020 year.

Outstanding Small Chapter

San Angelo President: Jacklyn Ochoa, CPA

To help develop the next generation of CPAs, TXCPA San Angelo put an emphasis on interaction with students at their local university. As a new project, they hosted their first-ever CPA2B Boot Camp at Angelo State University, attended by 47 students and 17 CPA chapter members. They involved department of accounting faculty in planning the event and encouraging students to register.

The chapter provided two panels of CPA speakers: one representing business and industry and one from public accounting. A key accounting faculty member moderated the panel discussions, engaging students in the conversation. The chapter obtained sponsorships from area CPAs for the event. Door



prizes were given to students who attended. TXCPA San Angelo's outreach to students also included presentation of three \$1,000 scholarships.

Its collaboration with Howard College was continued, providing 16 CPE hours for members attending qualified seminars focused on issues and best practices while volunteering or working with nonprofit organizations. Forty hours were available in chapter-hosted seminars. In addition, five free hours were provided at chapter meetings.

One of their outstanding achievements was a high number of attendees at chapter meetings and seminars. Also, members were engaged with the organization in a variety of ways.

The chapter gave \$2,000 to DESK (Donate Educational Supplies for Kids), coordinating its donation with the day of San Angelo Gives – an event when community members are encouraged to give to various nonprofit organizations in the area.

Outstanding Medium-Sized Chapter

Permian Basin President: Chad Valentine, CPA

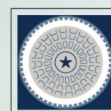
The chapter presented a \$65,000 check to The University of Texas Permian Basin. These funds were added to the scholarship endowment created last year to help students pursue their career in accounting. In addition, by sending fundraising letters to individual members, firms and companies, they achieved a 17% increase in money available for scholarships. A total of \$15,500 was granted to students at the university and at area colleges.

Several projects were implemented to accomplish their goal of attracting and engaging students. A Meet the CPAs panel discussion was held; two CPA Chats were held at UTPB; matching funds were provided to the university



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CHAPTERS

Accounting Association's Relay 4 Life team; and the Young and Emerging Professionals (YEP) Committee held two events.

Through its Outreach Committee, the chapter was involved in the community. Activities included:

- Members, families and students volunteering with Food 2 Kids, packing bags of food to provide weekend meals for children who might not eat
- between their school lunch on Friday and their school breakfast on Monday.
- The chapter being part of the Season of Sharing Food Drive benefitting the West Texas Food Bank, with members' offices serving as drop-off locations and donations being collected at the chapter CPE Expo; university students collected all donations at the end of the food drive.
- Holding a garbage pick-up day, with the chapter providing breakfast for volunteers.

Help Make Your Chapter Outstanding

Members are the key to – and the reason for – chapter success. Contact your local president or executive director and find out how you can get involved in making yours an award-winning chapter! You can get contact information through the TXCPA website at tscpa.org.



Christy Hudson
CBI
Broker

Kathy Brents
CPA CBI
Broker, Managing
Member

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Office: 866-260-2793
Kathy: 501-514-4928
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kathy@accountingbizbrokers.com *
christy@accountingbizbrokers.com
*member of the Texas Society of CPAs

