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Editor's Notes: The Changing Of The Guard

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The Changing Of The Guard

First-time visitors to London nearly always head to Buckingham Palace for the changing of the guard. Hundreds and hundreds of men, women, and children begin to gather several hours early to get a preferred position for viewing the ceremony through the iron fence surrounding the palace. The event is conducted with such pomp that it is easy for one to forget that the primary purpose of the guard is to protect those things held dear — the royal family, the traditions, the history.

To me, *The Woman CPA* is one of those things to hold dear — to be guarded. I'm protective of *The Woman CPA*, and I'm honored to have served as Captain of her guard.

The organizations that sponsor *The Woman CPA* would not have been created if ample opportunities had existed for women to hold leadership positions in the then male-dominated professional accounting organizations. And without our organizations, *The Woman CPA* would not have come into being as a "means of exchange of information . . . among members."

The Woman CPA is the only source of information available to all people everywhere that even comes close to being a chronicle of the pursuit of the accounting profession by women during the past fifty years. The first volume stated that there were 125 women CPAs in the United States. The second volume listed the names of the 51 members of AWSCPA. In several issues, *The Woman CPA* listed, by states, each woman who had passed the CPA examination. Then, as years went by, the "firsts" began to be printed in the pages — the first Beta Alpha Psi chapter to admit women to membership, the first woman to be a member of a state board of accountancy, the first woman to be president of a state

CPA society.

The firsts have long since been exhausted. That doesn't mean, however, that accounting is now an open field for women and that their opportunities equal those of men. Thus, the chronicle is still important — and deserving of a guard.

This is my last issue to serve as Captain of the guard. Pictured on this page are the new Captain and her First Lieutenant. They have both served with me, and I can leave the command post with the comfort that capable, experienced women are taking over.

When a captain moves to a new command, it's customary for him to bid farewell to those who have served under him. It's my time now. As I have told my staff each year, nothing would have been accomplished by me without their support. Thank you, staff, for your faithful and loyal service and may your future service be even more rewarding.

And this Captain also bids farewell and sends thanks to the civilian employees who have served in support roles. (Even though members serve in the staff positions of *The Woman CPA*, all of us are assisted and/or supported by numerous nonmembers.) I especially want to thank Francie Jeffery, a member of the English Department who I retained as copy editor; Shirley Garrett, our accounting department secretary; and all the graduate assistants and student workers who worked with me. Finally, I want to thank the administration at the University of Central Arkansas for giving me a reduced teaching assignment throughout the period of time I served as editor.

Until we meet again . . .

Lillian Caudill Parish



Betty C. Brown, Ph.D., CPA, CMA, CIA, will become editor in January 1990. Betty is an associate professor of accountancy at the University of Louisville. Previously, she worked in the tax department of a large trust company and for a regional CPA firm. Betty is a member of the Kentucky Society of CPAs, AWSCPA, AAA, ICMA, IIA, and AICPA where she serves on the editorial board of *The Journal of Accountancy*. Her articles have appeared in *The Woman CPA*, *The Journal of Accounting, Auditing, and Finance*, *The International Journal of Accounting Education and Research*, *The Journal of Accountancy*, *The National Public Accountant*, and *The Practical Accountant*.



Janet L. Colbert, Ph.D., CPA, has accepted the position of associate editor, manuscripts. Janet has been serving on the editorial board. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia in 1984 and is a CPA in Alabama and Illinois. She has taught at the university level for six years and is currently an assistant professor of accounting at Auburn University. Previously, she was an auditor with Peat, Marwick, Main for three years. Janet has published numerous articles that have appeared in *The Woman CPA*, *The Practical Accountant*, *Internal Auditor*, *Journal of Small Business Management*, *Certified Accountant*, *Accounting Horizons*, among others.