

# BottomLine

Just a quick chat from your accounting firm

FREDRICKZINK & Associates  
A professional corporation. | CPAS

WINTER 2015

## 2015 – 40 Year Anniversary of FZA THE FIRM IS 40 AND LOOKIN' GOOD!

To some of us, 40 seems pretty young, but in business, celebrating 40 years is something of an achievement. It's a good long time to develop lasting relationships and 14,600 days of experience doing CPA things for our clients. All of that experience coupled with the fresh ideas and talents of a new generation of CPAs, tax preparers, auditors and support people give us that unique balance of long-time experience and real-time enthusiasm.

And since we're CPAs, and that set of initials can come with some stereotypes that include "boring, geeky, serious, and people you'd avoid inviting over for cocktails," we'd like to mention that we happen to share our 40th anniversary with what might be the polar opposite of those stereotypes...*Saturday Night Live*. If you didn't see the *SNL* 40th Anniversary Special, find someone who taped it and take a seat for about three hours of hilarity. Even boring, serious, geeky people enjoyed it...we sure did!

Over the years, we've invested thousand of hours into our community through volunteering and involvement in just about every way possible. For 17 years, Chuck served as a Charter Board Member of the Community Foundation Serving SW Colorado, 20 years as a member of the City of Durango Employee Retirement Plan Board, and 18 years as a member of the City of Durango Finance Advisory Board. And heck, Sid was even Durango's Mayor. And why not? We love it here. This is home.

We thank our clients and friends, the business community and our families for accompanying us on this journey. And we look forward to 40 more years with you...well....that's when that tweeting, instagramming next generation can take over.

**Thanks and Happy 2015.**



Chuck Fredrick,  
CPA, CGMA



Sidny Zink,  
CPA

## TAKE CARE TO CONSIDER AFFORDABLE CARE ACT CHANGES

**Make sure your taxes are covered when it comes to health insurance coverage!**

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) has expanded health coverage through some of the most significant regulatory changes of the U.S. healthcare system in decades, but it has also created a bit of confusion when it comes to your taxes. Since health insurance coverage was generally mandatory January 1, 2014, it is important to pay attention to these changes. What do taxpayers need to do to ensure they comply with the ACA's complex requirements?

**Questions to consider when gathering your 2014 tax information:**

- Did you, your spouse and your dependents have health insurance coverage for all 12 months of 2014? (Health insurance coverage includes Blue Cross, Kaiser, Tricare, Medicare, Medicaid, etc.)
- Did you buy insurance from the exchange? If so, we must report and reconcile the premium assistance credit on your tax

*Continued on page 3*

[durangocpas.com](http://durangocpas.com)  
970.247.0506

# Notes for Non-Profits

*“ It’s becoming known across the accounting industry that data analysis can dramatically impact management practices, and possibly the bottom line.”*

It was noted in the most recent AICPA Non-profit Economic and Industry Developments: despite the overall economic recovery, contributions and government funding have not yet returned to prerecessionary levels. Specifically, non-profits in general face increased competition for a smaller pool of contributions. Such constraints have forced nonprofits to become creative in managing a shrinking budget and making business operations more efficient.

Nonprofits can use data analysis as a way to tackle such restraints head-on and achieve their goals. Data analysis is achieved through the combination of skills and tools, enabling individuals to gain insight into business processes and transactions. The results of data analysis can be actionable measures, in-depth insight into trends, and an understanding of a population not gained through traditional management oversight.

There are many tools available to deliver insight, tailored for each organization. Such tools include Microsoft Access and Excel, available in most Microsoft Office Suites. Other tools are available, some more or less

advanced, but all can be tailored to deliver insight into all areas of business.

For example, in an analysis comparing vendor addresses to employee addresses, one employee’s household was paid a large sum of money, on multiple occasions, outside of general payroll. After further investigation by the Financial Manager, it was determined that the employee’s spouse was a contractor for a large construction project funded by the client. The payments were legitimate. None the less, this use of data analytics offered value to the organization’s disbursement process.

The options for data analysis within your organization are limited only by user creativity. It’s our belief that such tests, when performed regularly, can add value and oversight to an organization’s internal controls as well as deliver insight on efficient ways to achieve your not-for-profit’s goals.

Have questions? Need to bounce ideas around on how data analysis can be used to better your organization? Contact Zebulon Smith, CPA at [zsmith@durangocpas.com](mailto:zsmith@durangocpas.com). Or give him a ring at our office, 970-247-0506.

## WHAT A BUNCH OF PUNKS!

Long-time Follies man Chuck Fredrick graced the 2015 Steampunk Stage for Snowdown again this year. Here Chuck is shown with some of the famous Follies cast! And for FZA’s Kristi Cowham, Steampunk is a family affair. Kristi, her husband Jake and son Finley got all decked out in the very best of steampunk fashion. Funky Punky!



# C.P.A.s

## Company Personnel Announcements



Melanie McLean

### **Melanie McLean and Jan Murphy Embark on New Adventures!**

It is with both pleasure and regret that we announce Melanie’s retirement after 24 years of loyal service at FZA. Starting as a staff accountant, Melanie became an asset in both the tax and audit departments. She was promoted to Tax Manager in 2007 and continued to excel, becoming an expert in the field. For 24 years, Melanie’s dedication and commitment to this firm, our staff, and our clients has been second to none. Melanie, on behalf of everyone at FZA and the many clients you have helped over the years, we wish you an active and happy retirement.



Jan Murphy

After 24 years of devotion and diligence as an accounting technician for FredrickZink & Associates, Jan Murphy has retired. Jan’s retirement is our loss, but a gain for her and her family, especially the grandchildren. Jan has been an outstanding professional of this company and was responsible for providing accounting services to a variety of FZA clients. She has a helping nature that was demonstrated through her dedication and sincerity and contributed to our success in many ways. Although we will miss her in the future, she now deserves time for family & personal interests. On behalf of the whole staff, we wish her a happy and fulfilling future.



Lisa Feldman

### **Welcome Lisa Feldman!**

Lisa Feldman, our newest Accounting Manager, has over 20 years experience managing the accounting activities of small businesses in the health and government sectors, specializing in billing function processes. Lisa grew up in Los Alamos, NM and graduated from University of New Mexico with a degree in finance, and later an MBA in accounting. In her spare time, Lisa loves to design and knit sweaters. Starting Custom Knitwear in 1996, Lisa sells custom-designed machine-knit cashmere camisoles and most recently won a champion ribbon at the La Plata County Fair for one of her pieces.

### **Sidny Zink is Durango’s 2014 Citizen of the Year!**

Congratulations to our own Sid Zink on receiving the Durango Chamber of Commerce-sponsored award - CITIZEN OF THE YEAR. This award is certainly well-deserved for all Sid has done professionally, politically, and personally for our community. Yeah!

### **New Faces for The Busy Season!**

We welcome Jamie Avila as our new Tax Intern, and Blossom Valdez, as our new Administration Assistant. You’ll see Jamie and Blossom during our busy season (now)! And we thank them for being part of our team during the “season of crazy!”



## AFFORDABLE CARE ACT CHANGES

*Continued from page 1*

return. Please include the Form 1095-A that the exchange sends you with your tax information.

- Did your insurance company or employer send you a Form 1095-B or Form 1095-C? If so, please include the forms with your tax information.

*\*This reporting by the provider was optional in 2014, but mandatory in 2015.*

- Did you, your spouse or any of your dependents NOT have qualifying health insurance (called minimum essential coverage) for any full month in 2014?

If so, we must report on your tax return, and calculate a penalty. If you did not have insurance for each month of 2014, please provide details of insurance coverage for each family member by month. If you did not have coverage during any month in 2014 and you believe you qualify for an exemption of the penalty, please let us know.

Most importantly, make sure you have the appropriate paperwork before you file your tax return. We know that change can be hard, but we’ve got you covered with tips to make it easier. Let us know if you have any questions!



# A GREAT TEAM. A GREAT PLACE. A GREAT TIME.

Our team put the tax and audit stuff down for a full day and came together at the amazing Glacier Club for our annual Corporate Retreat. We're not sure why people call these "retreats" – because it certainly advanced us as a firm – coming together on ideas for growth, client-service enhancements and more. If you don't do a "retreat" in your company, we highly recommend it and we'd love to be part of it too.

Death. Taxes. Childbirth.  
There's never a convenient time for any of them!  
– Margaret Mitchell, *Gone With The Wind*

954 East Second Avenue | Durango, Colorado 81301



**FREDRICKZINK** & Associates  
A professional corporation | CPAS