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For assistance, information or feedback, please contact Chapter Administrator, **Melanie Batcheller**, at 407-277-8383 or at: melanie@fei-centralflorida.org.

fei national resources

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president's letter



To Our Central Florida Members, Sponsors and Friends:

Welcome to November with our Central Florida Financial Executives International chapter. We are continuing our exciting programs for 2008-09. Our committee chairs have been active planning excellent programs, meetings, and member services. See more inside.

We had a great meeting last month hearing from Doug Sullivan, the President and CEO of Stonewood Holdings LLC. This month we talk IFRS with **Eileen M. McGinley, CPA**, Associate Director for the Southeast Region of **BDO Seidman, LLP**. She'll help us think about changes looming on the horizon.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for our December social sponsored by **Vaco**. This promises to be another fun holiday event.

Welcome, too, to **Casey Fernandez** and **Sihle Insurance Group** as our newest Gold Sponsor. Casey's been very engaged as a Bronze sponsor, so we're excited about the presence of Sihle at the Gold level. He's already provided an article for you on page 3. Take a read.

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upcoming events of note

our next monthly meeting

- **November Dinner Meeting — November 6th**
IFRS — An Overview
Eileen M. McGinley, CPA — BDO Seidman, LLP
Audit Partner, Associate Director for Southeast Region
sponsored by

CFR *CROSS, FERNANDEZ & RILEY, LLP*
Accountants & Consultants

save these dates!

- **December Holiday Social — December 4th**
Sponsored by Vaco

dinner meetings are held at the
Grand Bohemian Hotel
325 S. Orange Avenue, Orlando, Telephone: 407.313.9000

platinum partner



Stephen P. Elker, Managing Partner
407.563.2228 · selker@kpmg.com

gold partners



James B. Cross, Managing Partner
407.841.6930 · jcross@cfrcpa.com



Sonya Dixon, Partner
407.481.5100 · sonya.dixon@gt.com



Jim McIlrath, Esq.
407.843.8880 · jimcillrath@gray-robinson.com



Jason A. Johnson, CIMA, ARPC, CFM
Vice-President, Wealth Management Advisor
407.333.8326 · jason_johnson@ml.com



John Gill, Director of Client Service
407.835.2287 · john.gill@resources-us.com



Project Financial Professionals

Noel Tiell, Division Director
407.422.1120 · noel.tiell@rhmr.com



Casey Fernandez,
407.389.3515 · cfernandez@sihle.com



Denise Bennett-Walls, Managing Partner
407.712.7878 · dwalls@vaco.com

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Our continued growth makes it nearly impossible for any other professional organization to match your local FEI Chapter. As with all professional organizations, continued success is dependent on the active involvement of the Members and Sponsors. For those of you already participating, we thank you. If you have an interest in active involvement, please contact me or any of our Board members.

Enjoy the evening with Gold Sponsor **Cross, Fernandez & Riley, LLP**. The Board of Directors and Sponsors of Central Florida FEI appreciate your participation in the Chapter's activities, with many thanks for your continued support.

Warm Regards,

Debbie

Deborah S. Adkins
President – FEI Central Florida Chapter 2008/2009

november 4th dinner meeting speaker—

Eileen M. McGinley, CPA
BDO Seidman, LLP
Audit Partner
Associate Director for Southeast Region



Eileen has over 25 years of public accounting experience, serving both publicly-traded and privately-held organizations. From BDO's Memphis office, Eileen serves the region as the technical director of assurance services. She consults with firm personnel and their clients on a wide range of accounting, financial and SEC reporting and auditing practice issues. Her professional involvement spans a broad scope of industries, with focus on growth-oriented companies engaged in manufacturing, retailing, real estate, distribution, licensing and technology. Her experience includes mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings and the spectrum of registration statements. Eileen serves as instructor for BDO's national accounting and auditing and SEC reporting courses.

bronze partners

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Electronic Arts
Career Management Committee
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FEI National Liaison
- **John A. Webb**
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P/R & Communications Committee

sponsor article

Solvency Concerns About Your Insurance Carriers in the Midst of Financial Volatility

Financial executives need prudent steps to minimize concerns about insurer financial strength. Such steps can help avoid having to retain losses that were thought to be insured. Here are a few ideas:

1. Ask for the most recent three years of financials from the carrier you have now. What trends are evident in those financial statements from year to year?
2. Question your agent — such as “what alternatives do I have if my workers’ compensation insurer is financially unable to respond to claims?” (In most situations, for a standard carrier in Florida, a state fund provides a path for receivership: <http://www.myfloridacfo.com/Receiver/index.htm>. You may have help for “Plan B.”)
3. Ask for AM Best ratings on any carrier proposed to you. How has the rating changed in the last few years? Remember also that AM Best ratings are, at best, using 6 month old information — maybe older. You may also want to compare ratings with various carriers.
4. Find out what reinsurance carrier (the insurance company who insures the insurance company) your carrier uses. See items 1 & 3.
5. Work with an insurance professional who can access a variety of insurance carriers. Well meaning agents can be restricted by only having one or two options to offer.
6. Invite a representative of your insurer’s loss control, underwriting,

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dinner meeting menus

November 2008—Dinner Meeting

- **Field greens in cucumber ring**, smoked almonds, parmesan, basil oil, gazpacho shot
- **Beef Duo – petite pepper seared filet and braised short rib**, red wine risotto, Vidallia marmalade, red wine jus, chivry sauce
- **“Tres Leches” poundcake** with dulce de leche

December 2008—Holiday Gathering

- **A festive collection of the Bohemian’s amazing hors d’oeuvres**

new members 2008-2009

- **Kathy Alaskiewicz**
Director
Harris GCSD
- **Devon Lewis**
Controller
Wharton-Smith Inc.
- **John Palcher**
CFO
Total Medical Solutions
- **Robert Pass**
Sr. Finance Manager
Disney Worldwide Shared Services
- **Randy Roffers**
VP, Finance
Magellan Health Services
- **Wendy Wolfswinkel**
CFO
Family Services of Metro Orlando

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marketing, or management to meet with you directly. Ask questions and find out how things are going within their company.

Establish relationships with insurance professionals who are not currently serving you. You don't have to buy anything or even have them quote coverage for you. An honest, straightforward approach should be welcome by an insurance professional committed to the industry. You prepare financially for possible challenges, why not prepare your business network as well?

For additional information feel free to call me at 407.492.4248 or e-mail me @ cfernandez@sihle.com. Be well.

From the Membership Committee

We've had a great start to the year in FEI Membership. We've signed up six new members and several others are in discussion with our membership committee. This is a great beginning and we extend our thanks to all of those individuals who have helped with the recruiting efforts thus far.

Remember that the membership committee needs everyone to participate. Our membership raffle is continuing. For each name you submit between now and the December Social, your name will be entered in the raffle to be drawn for more great prizes at the Social. So send us your names, be entered in the raffle, win great prizes, and help your chapter continue to grow.

Be aware that we offer a special opportunity for members in job transition. FEI National offers half off on the National membership dues and Central Florida FEI chapter also offers half off on our local dues to Members in Transition. Pass the word to anyone that you know may be in transition.

Contact us at michael.duncan@wyndhamvo.com or smichels@stetson.edu



career management news

The National FEI Career Services website makes several tools available to members which include:

- Job positions available both on the Central Florida as well as National FEI websites
- Resume Bank - posting of your resume
- Career toolkit
- Executive Search firm contacts
- Networking and FEI career alliances
- Various articles and guides
- Discounted services for resume package, 360-Degree Assessment, etc.
- FEI Career Services Value Proposition
- CPE credits
- Complimentary subscription to the Financial Management Network (FMN) to any members in transition

Please contact Rahul Khanorkar at (407)386-5894 for further information and assistance.