HRP of CPA
Human Resource Professionals of Central PA

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 9 | SPECIAL EDITION [2 OF 2]
SEPTEMBER 2025





Honoring the Legacy of HRPCPA

In this final installment of our two-part series honoring HRPCPA's 25th Anniversary, we are proud to spotlight two more of our legacy members whose stories capture the heart of our chapter. From early morning breakfasts in the '80s to the digital transformations of today, their journeys reflect the evolution of our profession, and the enduring power of community.

Reflection: From HAPA to HRPCPA—A Journey Spanning Decades

Jim Troebliger shares how his journey began:

"My involvement began in 1980, when I joined the Harrisburg Area Personnel Association (HAPA) after relocating to Central PA. Back then, we were a small group meeting over breakfast, and the highlight of the year was always Norman White's annual employment law update. I eventually served as HAPA President in 1990—a role that would come full circle years later when someone who remembered me from that time offered me a position with the American Heart Association. Over the years, I've built lasting friendships with amazing professionals like Barb Roth and Joe Powell. Our field is constantly evolving, and it's critical we never stop learning. Whether it's staying on top of new legislation, earning credentials, or attending local law firm updates, HR professionals must keep growing. And HRPCPA has always supported that growth."

As a member, Jim's story reminds us that every meeting, every conversation, and every leadership opportunity can have lasting ripple effects—for your career and your community.

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Reflection: 20 years of Growth, Leadership, & Giving Back

Sara Kennedy *shares what 20 years has looked like:*

"I joined HRPCPA around 2005 while working in recruiting at UPS. My goal was to grow beyond talent acquisition, and the chapter helped me do just that. I started attending every monthly meeting, joined the PHR study group, and made real HR friendships, like Kim Nash. That study group changed my life: I passed my PHR in June 2005 and landed my first generalist role soon after. From volunteering on the Communications Committee to co-leading our SHRM Study Group, I've had the chance to give back in the same way others once supported me.

Serving as President alongside Karen Young, revamping our website, and building a dues system that ensured sustainability, those were transformative years. The HR world has changed dramatically. I've watched us move from paper files and handwritten benefits forms to e-I9s, HRIS systems, and ACA-era compliance. But through it all, HRPCPA remained my constant, fueling my growth and connecting me with professionals who challenge and inspire me. To anyone just getting started: attend every chapter meeting, join a committee, and build your network. HRPCPA is more than a chapter, it's a career launchpad. And 20 years from now, you'll be glad you invested in it."

From early-career determination to shaping the chapter's strategic direction, as a member, Sara's voice reflects the heart of what HRPCPA stands for—growth, connection, and purpose.

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A Message from Programs

MEET HRPCPA's PROGRAMS COMMITTEE!!

The Programs Committee is responsible for planning, coordinating and leading HRPCPA's monthly chapter meetings, both in-person and virtual. This committee provides members with valuable HR knowledge, information and training as well as an opportunity to network with fellow members. The committee sources and vets speakers and sponsors, coordinates with the meeting venue and runs the meeting on the back end. Our committee members play many different roles depending on interest and time available to commit.

This is a great opportunity to get involved and we would love to have you join us. Please reach out to programs@hrpcpa.org if you have any questions or would like to learn more!







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2025 Conference - Full agenda released!

CONFERENCE AGENDA - OCTOBER 8, 2025

LEGACY & LEADERSHIP: 25 YEARS OF SHAPING THE FUTURE OF WORK

PREMIER ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPONSOR - JFC GLOBAL

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM - CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST
SPONSORED BY LANGAN FINANCIAL

8:30 AM - 8:45 AM (CENTRAL BALLROOM)
OPENING REMARKS

8:45 AM - 9:45 AM (CENTRAL BALLROOM)
OPENING KEYNOTE
Topic: Hidden Gems In The Valley: Turning Obstacles, into Opportunities for Resilience
Scott Prendergast, Scotty P Inspiration LLC

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM - BREAK & SPONSORS

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - BREAKOUT #1

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM - BREAK & SPONSORS

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM - BREAKOUT #2

12:15 PM - 1:00 PM - LUNCH & EXHIBITORS
SPONSORED BY THE CARLISLE GROUP

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM - BREAKOUT #3

2:00 PM - 2:15 PM - BREAK & SPONSORS

CLOSING KEYNOTE
2:15 PM - 3:15 PM (CENTRAL BALLROOM)
Topic: Sought-After: How to Be Heard, Be Trusted, and Be Recognized for Your Expertise
Karen Young, HR Resolutions

3:15 PM - 3:30 PM (CENTRAL BALLROOM)
CLOSING REMARKS & RAFFLE PRIZES

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM (HOTEL ATRIUM)
HAPPY HOUR
SPONSORED BY GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES, INC

CENTRAL BALLROOM

TACTICAL BREAKOUTS

BREAKOUT #1
Topic: FMLA, ADA, & PWFA: A New Look at the Who, What, and How of Employee Leave
Austin Wolfe & Sarah McGowan, McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

BREAKOUT #2
Topic: Conducting Effective Investigations and Navigating Ethical Issues
Anne Zerbe, McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC

BREAKOUT #3
Topic: The Compensation Playbook: HR's Role in Getting Pay Right
Adley Satteson & Lauren Stricker, RKL Virtual Management Solutions

HERITAGE ROOM

STRATEGIC BREAKOUTS

BREAKOUT #1
Topic: Beyond Recruitment: How Talent Acquisition Drives Employer Branding and Strategic Workforce Planning
Bert Wendeln & Tony Frey, The Carlisle Group

BREAKOUT #2
Topic: Being Other-Oriented
Katie Schwienteck, CommuniKate Solutions

BREAKOUT #3
Topic: Rehumanizing the Digital Workplace: AI, Automation & The Empathy Gap
Rachel Hudzik & Michelle Small, Blue Bird People

THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

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As we close this special two-part series, we extend our deepest gratitude to all our legacy members—past, present, and future. Your stories are the building blocks of our history and the inspiration for what's to come. We look forward to seeing YOU and celebrating these members (and so many more!) at our 25th Anniversary Celebration on September 17th.

Let's raise a glass to 25 years of HR excellence—and the bright future ahead!

CONNECT WITH US ON YOUR FAVORITE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS!