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# Embracing Change

By Matthew Clark

**T**his edition of the newsletter will be published in September. Summer will be ending, football games will fill the weekends, and the SOA annual meeting will be just around the corner. Meanwhile, the editor (Lisa) has asked that I complete this article during the Fourth of July weekend. My procrastination is another topic for another time. The theme today is embracing change.

Change is upon us professionally. The IASB and FASB changes are arriving and will be the focus of attention between the time I write this and when you are reading it. I am anxious ... not the kid on Christmas Eve anxious, but more like the morning of the dentist anxious. I know what is ahead of us is for our own good, but at the same time I am aware that it will come with some discomfort. It is our responsibility as a profession and as individual practitioners to engage in this change. It has taken the time and effort of many to get us to where we are today. At a minimum, I ask that you spend the time to understand the changes and how they will impact you, the profession, and the industry. If the opportunity arises, I encourage you to embrace the opportunity to impact the proposed changes.

Addressing my current excuse for procrastination, I am in the midst of a move back to Chicago. Somewhere in the sea of boxes are my possessions. I always find it therapeutic to unpack after a move. Unpacking I find myself questioning the thought process I employed to rationalize packing many of the items I am finding in the boxes. Yet, I continue to find a place for them in a closet or a drawer. One of those items is the green jacket. To remind you, this jacket offends the color green. Finding it during the move and placing it into my closet is one of those moments I mentioned.

The good news is that change is right around the corner. Bill Sayre will be accepting the jacket during the annual meeting. While I am happy to pass along the jacket, I will miss my time on the council. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the council over the last three years. I would like to take the opportunity to also thank Dan Harris and Mark Yu as they join me as outgoing elected members of the council. I am certain that all of us will continue to contribute to the SOA and the section. This is a change that will continue to bring new faces and fresh ideas to the council. It is always great to see the energy and excitement of the new members.

I have encouraged each of you to get involved and make an impact on the profession. With so many changes in process, there are more opportunities than ever before. In conclusion, I thank you for the opportunity to serve on the Financial Reporting Section Council. ■



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